

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Monday, 26 April 2021 13:30 GMT +01:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Health and Well-being of People and Society
CONVENED BY	Sinéad McPhillips, Assistant Secretary-General (ASG) with Responsibility for Agri-food Strategy and Sectoral Development, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/9820/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Ireland

The outcomes from a Food Systems Summit Dialogue will be of use in developing the pathway to sustainable food systems within the locality in which they take place. They will be a valuable contribution to the national pathways and also of interest to the different workstreams preparing for the Summit: the Action Tracks, Scientific Groups and Champions as well as for other Dialogues.

1. PARTICIPATION

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

903

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

19-30

31-50

51-65

66-80

80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

Male

Female

Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

Agriculture/crops

Fish and aquaculture

Livestock

Agro-forestry

Environment and ecology

Trade and commerce

Education

Communication

Food processing

Food retail, markets

Food industry

Financial Services

Health care

Nutrition

National or local government

Utilities

Industrial

Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Small/medium enterprise/artisan

Large national business

Multi-national corporation

Small-scale farmer

Medium-scale farmer

Large-scale farmer

Local Non-Governmental Organization

International Non-Governmental Organization

Indigenous People

Science and academia

Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

Local authority

Government and national institution

Regional economic community

United Nations

International financial institution

Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

Consumer group

Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

HOW DID YOU ORGANIZE THE DIALOGUE SO THAT THE PRINCIPLES WERE INCORPORATED, REINFORCED AND ENHANCED?

Ireland strongly supports the call for a 'people's summit' and a 'solutions summit'. Ireland has prioritised the seven principles of engagement as the overarching framework for the planning and preparation of its four National Dialogues. This will ensure a people and solutions focus throughout the national level engagement in the Summit process. The National Dialogues coincide with the launch for public consultation of Ireland's draft Agri-food Strategy to 2030. This new 10-year Strategy has been developed using a food systems approach, making Ireland one of the first countries in the world to implement this approach in national level agriculture and food planning. Ireland is committed to maximising the contribution of the four National Dialogues to the future sustainability of Ireland's food system. The Dialogues will provide an opportunity for all food system actors and stakeholders, from farmers and fishers to consumers, to learn more about Ireland's food system, build a shared understanding of the challenges and the opportunities we face, and enable us to work together to address them. The outcomes of the National Dialogues will be considered in finalising the draft 2030 Agri-food Strategy.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

The following are some examples of how Ireland's National Dialogues reflect specific aspects of the seven principles of engagement: 1. Act with urgency Ireland has responded to the call for urgent action by launching a series of four National Dialogues. These coincide with a public consultation on the draft 2030 Agri-food Strategy. This coherence allows for a comprehensive consultation on the future of Ireland's food system in the shortest possible time. 2. Commit to the Summit Ireland has identified the National Dialogues as a central part of its strategic engagement with the Summit. Ireland has demonstrated its commitment to the Summit by aligning the National Dialogues with the national agriculture and food planning process to develop its Agri-food Strategy to 2030. 3. Be respectful Through the involvement of a wide and diverse range of food systems actors and stakeholders in the National Dialogues, Ireland is ensuring that everyone has an equal opportunity to contribute to the discussion on the future sustainability of Ireland's food system. We are all part of Ireland's food system, and so we must respect and listen to all participants. 4. Recognise complexity To reflect the public consultation on its draft Agri-food Strategy to 2030, Ireland has created a series of National Dialogues to discuss the complex and interlinked social, environmental and economic challenges and opportunities we face. 5. Embrace multi-stakeholder inclusivity Ireland's Food Systems Summit Steering Committee, an inter-departmental group tasked with coordinating Ireland's involvement in the Summit, has proactively engaged multiple food systems stakeholder groups and provided regular briefings on Ireland's participation in the Summit Action Tracks and the National Dialogues.

DO YOU HAVE ADVICE FOR OTHER DIALOGUE CONVENORS ABOUT APPRECIATING THE PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT?

Contd In selecting participants to be involved in the various panel discussions, the Steering Committee actively sought experts from across the entire food system, from civil society, private and public sectors, primary producer organisations, research and academia, youth etc. Ireland created a dedicated webpage for the National Dialogues, and advertised the Dialogues widely through multiple media platforms and partner organisations. To facilitate the broadest possible engagement during the Dialogues, Ireland live-streamed each event on multiple platforms, including YouTube, Twitter and Facebook. Participation was further encouraged through questions and answer, which could be submitted before the event to a dedicated email address, or submitted during the event in real-time using Sli.do. 6. Complement the work of others The Steering Committee has actively consulted with, supported and participated in the many Independent Dialogues that have been held in Ireland since the start of the Summit's Dialogue process. In addition, Ireland will incorporate the official feedback from all Independent Dialogues held in Ireland into its final synthesis report, to ensure the views and opinions of all food systems actors and stakeholders are recorded and reflected in the final outcomes of the National Dialogues. 7. Build trust By ensuring the widest possible engagement, and respectfully listening to and answering questions on the most important and challenging areas of our food system, Ireland will look to recognise and respond to the concerns raised during our discussions. We will focus on solutions that can play a role in the continued enhancement of the sustainability of our food system, to reassure all stakeholders of our shared commitment to future sustainability.

3. METHOD

The outcomes of a Dialogue are influenced by the method that is used.

DID YOU USE THE SAME METHOD AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CONVENORS REFERENCE MANUAL?

Yes

No

4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

Ireland's second National Dialogue focused on 'Health and Wellbeing of People and Society'. The Dialogue was opened with a key note address by Dr David Nabarro, UN Special Envoy on COVID-19 and Senior Advisor to the UN Food Systems Summit National Dialogues. Dr Nabarro briefly outlined the ambition of the Food Systems Summit and the role of the National Dialogues in complimenting the technical discussions taking place in the Summit Action Tracks. Dr Nabarro detailed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on global hunger and malnutrition, which is highlighting problems in local, regional and global food systems. Dr Nabarro complimented Ireland on its 2030 Agri-food Strategy, and explained that a multi-stakeholder food systems approach is the only way to build more sustainable food systems for the future. The opening address was followed by two separate panel discussions. The first Panel discussion focused on 'Healthy Diets for all: Sustainable food systems for Safe and Nutritious food'. The draft 2030 Agri-food Strategy proposes that the issue of food and health should be brought to a new level of political and policy importance. This recommendation has been reinforced by the COVID-19 pandemic. The panel discussed what needs to be done by government, primary producers, food industry and consumers to improve the consumption of nutritious, healthy foods. The second panel addressed 'Social Sustainability: Preserving our Communities and Culture'. The importance of achieving social sustainability is a key conclusion of the draft 2030 Agri-food Strategy. The panel discussed how local leadership, innovation and technology can combine to increase income and employment opportunities in rural and coastal areas.

ACTION TRACKS

- ✓ Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
- ✓ Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
- ✓ Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
- ✓ Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
- ✓ Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

- Finance
- ✓ Innovation
- ✓ Human rights
- ✓ Women & Youth Empowerment
- ✓ Policy
- ✓ Data & Evidence
- ✓ Governance
- ✓ Trade-offs
- ✓ Environment and Climate

MAIN FINDINGS

- Healthy people with access to safe and nutritious food, along with the ability to make informed choices about the food they eat, are the foundation of a healthy society.
- Sustainable consumption of food is a key element of the transition to a sustainable food system and plays an important role in supporting better health outcomes for society, better outcomes for our environment and better outcomes for our economy.
- Understanding consumer behaviour will be important in successfully transitioning to sustainable food consumption patterns.
- Communication of both the positive and negative health impacts of foods needs to be improved.
- Education is key to achieving positive behaviour change for improved nutrition and health.
- The food environment is critically important to consumer behaviour, and to achieve better nutrition we must compliment communication and education with healthier food environments.
- Nutrition is a key consideration for consumers when buying food.
- Healthy diets are defined by their nutritional profile, and can contain all food types from whole fruits and vegetables to whole animal source foods.
- Ensuring the availability and affordability of nutritious food will be key to achieving healthy and sustainable diets.
- There is a growing awareness of the social and environmental benefits of locally sourced foods, which is increasing demand and creating opportunities for local supply chains.
- Primary producers are more than just food producers, they play an important role in social and environmental sustainability, and they must be at the centre of the transition to a more sustainable food system.
- The Draft Agri-Food Strategy 2030 commits to providing food that is safe, nutritious and appealing, trusted and valued at home and abroad.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/2

See attachment for details of Panel A (exceeds 3600 characters).

ACTION TRACKS

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/2

See attachment for details of Panel B (exceeds 3600 characters).

ACTION TRACKS

- ✓ Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
- ✓ Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
- ✓ Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
- ✓ Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
- ✓ Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Both panels demonstrated considerable consensus across all issues discussed. While not challenged by any of the panelists, there were references made by primary producers to the justification and validity of the negative commentary surrounding food production, and the impact of the 'policy-people disconnect' of some EU policies on the social sustainability of rural Ireland.

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ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

ATTACHMENTS

- <https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/OFFICIAL-FEEDBACK-Health-and-Wellbeing-of-People-and-Society-FINAL.pdf>