## INTRODUCTION

**Food brings us together as families, communities and nations.** It underpins our culture, our economy, and our relationship with the natural world. The world's food systems touch every aspect of human existence – making them not just essential but also valuable and important instruments of change.

In 2019, the U.N. Secretary-General called for a Food Systems Summit and engagement process to unleash the power of food and deliver progress on all 17 U.N. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In preparing for the Summit a diverse range of stakeholders – from youth activists to indigenous leaders, smallholder farmers to scientists and CEOs – are invited to identify the most powerful ways to make food systems stronger and more equitable; ultimately driving progress in all of the SDGs.

**Preparations for the Summit are underway.** In the months before the Summit, the people of every country are invited to engage. After all, each of us plays a role in our food systems, and we all have a responsibility to ensure that they function well. By coming together to tackle this vital issue, we can all contribute to a world in which no one is hungry, no one is poor, and no one is left behind. As every one of us continues to adjust to the impacts of COVID-19, the Summit is an opportunity to focus on the fragilities in food systems that are being exposed by the crisis – and to regenerate these systems in ways that respond better to everybody's needs.



The Food Systems Summit has five objectives which are being addressed through five working groups, Action Tracks, which are considering and validating options for game-changing propositions for action. These propositions require action through four "levers for change" (Gender, Human Rights, Finance and Innovation) and are for consideration as key elements in shaping pathways to sustainable food systems.

In addition, an independent Scientific Group garners the latest scientific evidence, knowledge, approaches, and tools for driving sustainable and equitable food systems. And, a network of Champions contribute to substantive discussions, generate ideas and take action to strengthen food systems

The Summit is an exceptional opportunity to nurture the world's people and our planet. All with an interest are invited to contribute to shaping the pathways that will lead to collectively determine sustainable food systems everywhere and to indicate how they will contribute to making this vision a reality for all.