

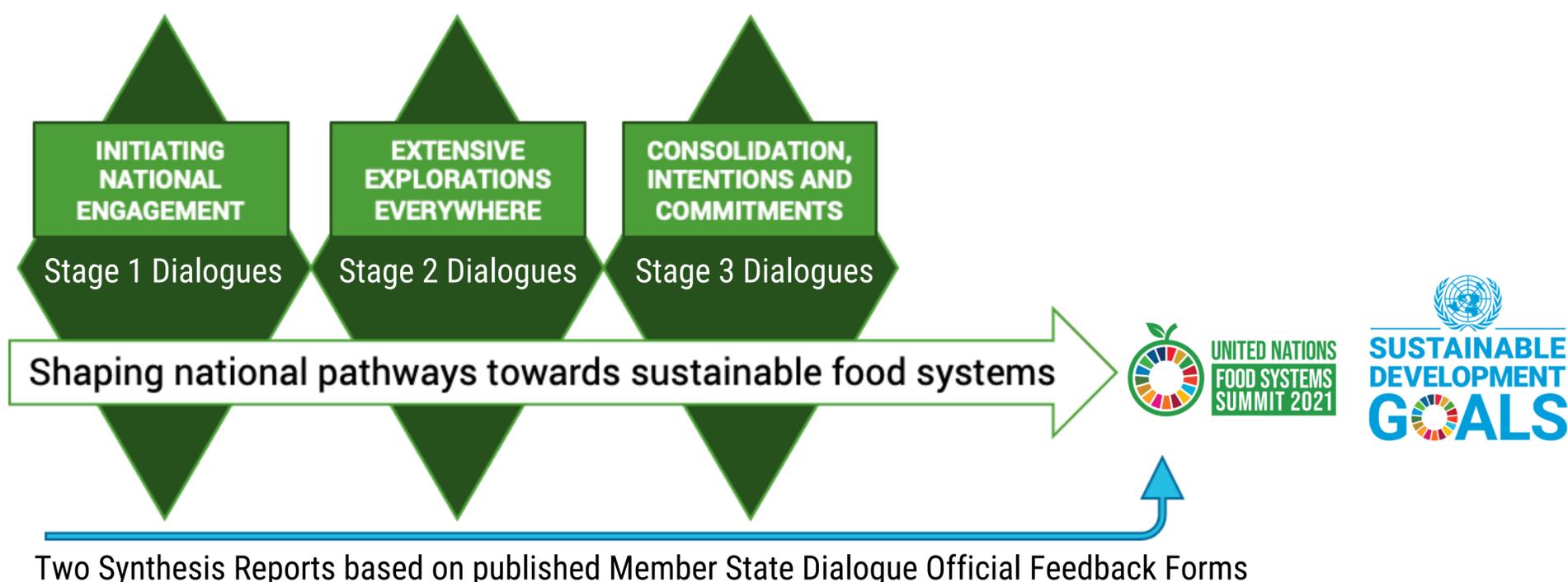
ARTICULATING NATIONAL PATHWAYS FOR FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF THE 2030 AGENDA: CONSIDERATIONS FOR A STRATEGIC NATIONAL PATHWAY DOCUMENT

The purpose of this note is to assist Convenors of Member State Food Systems Summit Dialogues in the articulation of national pathways to sustainable, resilient and equitable food systems, and in a manner that contributes to the realization of the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

National Dialogues are being consolidated into clear visions of what governments, together with different stakeholders, expect of food systems by 2030. The Member States Dialogues are designed to enable diverse participants to work together on exploring challenges and options to transform food systems in a country. They are guided by seven principles of engagement, all of which are underpinned by the Summit's vision of an equitable and healthy future for all, and contribute to the progressive realization of the right to food.

Outcomes of the Dialogues are intended to inform the articulation of national pathways to sustainable food systems. These pathways can serve as points of reference across government and for all stakeholders in coming years.

The route to achieving each nation's food systems vision will be presented as a pathway document which focuses particularly on those sections of society who have the least resources and influence, and who tend to be hardest to reach. There is no prescribed length for the pathway document, but around five pages should allow space for depth and nuance while also remaining sufficiently concise.



THE PATHWAY IS A STRATEGIC DOCUMENT. THERE ARE IMPORTANT FACTORS TO CONSIDER AS IT IS ARTICULATED, NOTABLY:

- **Appreciate the purposes of current food systems.** Explore how food systems function, drawing on existing analyses, and including: What purpose they serve; Who they serve, and whether they enable all people to access safe and nutritious food and respond to their specific needs; and, How food systems function and do they contribute to all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?
- **Clarify and agree on the expectations of national food systems in the coming decade.** Framed in terms of the SDGs, including how food systems will contribute to: the good health and nutrition of everyone; livelihoods of those working in food systems; resilience of people's lives and livelihoods in the face of climate change, health hazards including pandemics, violent conflicts, and other unknowns; well-being of women and children (especially between conception and a child's second birthday); regeneration of natural ecosystems and substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Identify changes to be made and decisions that must be worked through in the coming three years.** What changes are needed for national food systems to meet the defined expectations by 2030? Which decisions must be worked through? Consider the challenges that must be addressed and the ways in which equity, justice, empowerment and sustainability are taken into consideration for all people.
- **Define how stakeholders can work well together for collective action.** This may include forging powerful partnerships and creating mutually reinforcing interventions that foster a cycle of continuous learning. Collective action should draw on strong foundations of science and traditional knowledge and sharing of policy choices and practices that contribute to sustainable food systems. Include—and an appreciation of who sees value in supporting the change and who opposes it.
- **Highlight and reinforce connections between the pathway and other planning documents.** Connections may include existing policies, national budgets as well as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and, as relevant, United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.
- **Indicate key milestones along the timeline of the pathway.** These milestones can help identify how to share progress, identify emerging challenges and reconsider the approach of the pathway as needed.

The national pathway document can include accompanying voluntary commitments from different stakeholders who undertake to support the transformation of food systems as a contribution to realizing the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

HOW WILL NATIONAL PATHWAYS BE FEATURED AT THE SUMMIT?

The focus of the Summit is on transforming food systems to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. The Heads of State and Government that will participate in the Summit are encouraged to focus on the future vision of their national food systems and how this future will be achieved.

When the intentions expressed in strategic pathways are in synergy with those of others, there will be opportunities for highlighting the role of partnerships in support of national and international objectives. These partnerships could emerge as “coalitions” and include other relevant stakeholders.

It is anticipated that Heads of State and Government who can present strategic pathways to 2030, highlighting specific actions and partnerships that will underpin these pathways, will have priority for speaking roles at the Summit.