



JOINT ROADMAP FOR DEEPENED STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

UN Food Systems Coordination Hub and the UNFSS Coalitions of Action

2026-2027

Background

A total of 31 Coalitions of Action emerged from the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) as self-organizing, multistakeholder platforms, organized around various thematic areas, to support governments in advancing national food systems transformation and accelerating progress towards the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The multistakeholder nature of the coalitions was seen as an innovative way of building synergistic action for food systems transformation, since they bring together a broad spectrum of actors, including governments, UN agencies, intergovernmental and regional organizations, financial institutions, academic and research bodies, civil society, philanthropy, trade unions, private sector entities and sub-national actors such as cities and local networks.

Five years after the UNFSS, the coalitions vary in maturity stages and roles, and the number of active coalitions has decreased to around 20. Those that remain operational have made significant contributions to transforming food systems through global advocacy work, knowledge generation, the establishment of global and regional communities of practice and country-level support. As highlighted in the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub's (the Hub) coalition survey summary reports from 2024 and 2025, coalitions have analyzed national pathways to better capture country priorities, provided specialized knowledge and technical policy support to countries in operationalizing and implementing national food systems transformation pathways or related strategies, convened various stakeholders at national level, and conducted country analysis and diagnostics work.

The coalitions' experiences have demonstrated that collaborative, multistakeholder engagement is essential for achieving legitimacy and accelerating progress, while national ownership and locally led approaches are key for sustaining that progress. However, their operational effectiveness has been slower and less systematic than initially foreseen. Coalitions report facing significant operational challenges that limit their effectiveness and impact. Unpredictable and insufficient funding remain the most significant barrier, limiting the ability of coalitions to fully deliver on their objectives, scale or sustain long-term impact. Moreover, coordination with national processes to operationalize food systems pathways has proven difficult for many coalitions due to a lack of formalized communication channels, and unclear expectations around the Hub's role in facilitating coalition engagement with governments, National Convenors, Resident Coordinators, and UN Country Teams. As a result, coalitions struggle to align their support with national processes, missing opportunities for timely collaboration, joint planning, or integration into government-led food systems efforts. At a systems level, coalitions also report a disconnect between global ambition and national-level implementation and limited cross-coalition coordination.



In preparing for the second UN Food Systems Summit Stocktake (UNFSS+4) held in Addis Ababa in July 2025, the coalitions called for a clear definition of the Hub's role vis-à-vis coalitions, as well as more in-depth UNFSS+4 discussions about the added value, strategic positioning and future evolution of coalitions within the broader UNFSS Ecosystem of Support. In response, the Hub and the coalitions organized a joint meeting at UNFSS+4, which provided a collaborative platform to share updates, identify shared priorities, and explore opportunities for enhanced coordination at national and global levels. The discussions underscored a shared commitment to strengthening coherence, complementarity, and coordinated support to countries as they advance their national food system transformation agendas. The Hub committed to working with the coalitions to develop a joint roadmap to guide collective action beyond UNFSS+4, focusing on improving communication and visibility, reinforcing country-level engagement, and enhancing collaboration between coalitions and with the Hub.

Further, at the UNFSS+4 it was reaffirmed that food system transformation relies on a strong and well-aligned ecosystem of support, with the coalitions playing a central role in mobilizing technical expertise, facilitating partnerships for investment and fostering coordinated action to assist countries in advancing their national food systems transformation work. In his Call to Action, the UN Secretary-General reaffirmed the role of the Hub to continue to coordinate country-level support through Resident Coordinators and UN Country teams, lead on advocacy and convening, and mobilize the wider Ecosystem of Support including coalitions, the scientific community, private sector and civil society. Within this architecture, the coalitions remain essential working alongside countries to translate commitments into concrete implementation, accelerate progress and foster coordinated support across the Ecosystem of Support.

Objective

This Joint Roadmap will enhance the strategic collaboration between the Hub and the coalitions, including inter-coalition collaboration, under the UNFSS process, and strengthen the operational effectiveness of coalitions support to country-led implementation of food systems transformation, in line with the Hub's new Biennial Work Plan 2026–2027 and its strategic pillars: Pillar 1 - Enabling Country Solutions (including in Complex Settings); Pillar 2 - Global Advocacy & Convening; Pillar 3 - Science, Innovation & Knowledge and the cross-cutting pillars on Strategic Financing and Strategic Partnerships. The co-created roadmap aims to strengthen the capacity of coalitions to develop fit-for-purpose offers that are tailored to country needs, support effective in-country coordination, foster alignment and coherence, catalyze collective investment, mobilize resources and facilitate knowledge exchange. The roadmap also aims at promoting inter-coalition collaboration for a strengthened ecosystem of support and more integrated approaches across food, livelihoods, climate, health, biodiversity and nutrition agendas, ensuring coherence between global agendas and national implementation processes, and contributing to a more coordinated, action-oriented and impact-driven approach to accelerating food systems transformation globally.

Strategic objectives, activities and key milestones

Strategic Objective 1: Enhanced coalition alignment with national food systems transformation priorities and country-led implementation. This objective contributes directly to Pillar 1 - Enabling Country Solutions (including in Complex Settings) , Pillar 2 – Global Advocacy & Convening; and the Cross-Cutting pillar on Strategic Financing of the Hub’s Biennial Work Plan 2026–2027.

Activity	Responsibility	Key milestones
Convene online coalition touchpoint meetings to foster enhanced collaboration with the Hub and between coalitions, define shared priorities, strategize on joint work in support of national pathways implementation, share results and lessons learned, updates on publications, and encourage peer-to-peer learning among coalitions	Hub lead, in collaboration with the coalitions	4 touchpoint meetings organized per year
Organize biannual meetings between coalition representatives and National Convenors aimed at facilitating coalition offers of technical assistance with country needs	Hub lead, in collaboration with the coalitions	2 biannual meetings organized
Leverage the coalitions as strategic partners to the Hub’s flagship initiatives (Convergence Initiative, Youth Leadership Programme, Joint SDG Fund, and The Scalable Success Model), in coordination with Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams, by engaging coalitions in the provision of technical and analytical support and identifying ways that the Hub initiatives	Hub lead, in collaboration with the coalitions	Number of coalitions providing technical support to countries through the Hub’s flagship initiatives

can further the work of the coalitions		
Develop coalition offers of technical assistance based on country needs identified in the Hub's country needs assessments or through other channels	Coalitions	Number of coalition technical offers developed
Link coalition offers of technical assistance to countries, either through Hub convened national dialogues and touchpoints with National Convenors, the Hub's Gateway of Assistance platform or the Agrifood systems Accelerator	Hub	Number of coalition technical offers linked to country needs or technical assistance requests
Utilize Hub and coalition data/analysis on countries' national food systems pathways priorities to pilot and organize demand-driven policy labs between coalitions and countries to advocate and promote a food systems approach, including opportunities for providing technical assistance to countries	Hub in collaboration with the coalitions	2 Policy Labs tested and piloted

Strategic Objective 2: Enhanced global advocacy, communications and knowledge-sharing. This objective contributes directly to Pillar 2 – Global Advocacy & Convening and Pillar 3 – Science, Innovation & Knowledge of the Hub's Biennial Work Plan 2026–2027.

Activity	Responsibility	Key milestones
Distribute and publish coalition achievements, resources, knowledge products through the Hub's various communications channels (website, newsletter, social media)	Hub lead, in collaboration with coalitions	Number of coalition achievements, resources, and knowledge products disseminated through Hub's communication channels

Promote and showcase coalition achievements in Hub-led publications and other reports linked to the UNFSS process (UNGA, HLPF). Hub to seek input from coalitions in the drafting process	Hub lead, in collaboration with coalitions	Number of coalition contributions reflected Hub-led publications and other reports linked to the UNFSS process
Develop joint publications and policy documents co-authored by the Hub and coalitions (e.g., policy briefs, technical reports, country diagnostics)	Hub in collaboration with coalitions	2 publications and policy documents co-authored by the Hub and coalitions
Engage coalitions as strategic partners in the Hub's Food Systems Solutions Dialogues (FSSDs) and Food Systems Solutions Webinars (FSSWs) ensuring that coalitions' expertise and work is embedded and shared	Hub lead, in collaboration with the coalitions	Number of Food Systems Solutions Dialogues (FSSDs) and Food Systems Solutions Webinars (FSSWs) co-organized with coalitions or where coalitions are included as speakers
Establish an online tracker for coalitions to proactively propose advocacy and knowledge-sharing activities at global forums where the Hub can provide strategic support (e.g., facilitating side events, amplifying visibility, connecting key advocacy messages to global forums)	Coalitions lead, in collaboration with the Hub	Online tracker established where coalitions can indicate planned engagements and seek collaborations with the Hub or other coalitions
Engage coalitions as strategic partners in Hub convened regional meetings, global forums and the UNFSS+6	Hub lead, in collaboration with the coalitions	Number of coalitions engaged as strategic partners in Hub convened regional meetings, global forums and the UNFSS+6
Development of a post-UNFSS+4 Advocacy Framework to align agendas and key messages at global food systems forums	Hub in collaboration with the coalitions	Online "live" Advocacy Framework established which includes key advocacy messages for various thematic areas that coalitions and the Hub are working on

Strategic Objective 3: Enhanced coordination for improved data collection, analysis and learning. This objective contributes directly to Pillar 3 – Science, Innovation & Knowledge of the Hub’s Biennial Work Plan 2026–2027.

Activity	Responsibility	Key milestones
Conduct an annual coalition engagement survey to collect key coalition data, achievements, tools developed and ongoing initiatives. Synthesize key survey findings in a coalition survey summary report	Hub	1 Survey conducted and survey summary report published annually
Coordinate coalition-led country surveys or national pathways analysis as a way of increasing coalition collaboration and information sharing	Coalitions in collaboration with the Hub	Online tracker with an overview of conducted or planned country survey or national pathways analysis Online shared folder with country survey documents and national pathway analysis reports
Update the Hub’s internal coalition database periodically with coalition focal point updates, coalition membership data (including country membership), coalition focal points at country level, and key knowledge resources and tools developed by the various coalitions	Hub lead, in collaboration with the coalitions	Hub coalition database updated and shared with coalitions
Map coalition engagement at country level (periodically) and develop an online tool to visualize coalition in-country work engagement in support of national food systems transformation	Hub	Online visualization tool developed and included in the Hub’s coalition database