

Convergence Initiative Touchpoint

Tuesday 29 April 2025 | Virtual

Session I - 8:00 - 9:30 AM CEST | English, Arabic, Chinese, Russian

Session II - 16:00 - 17:30 PM CEST | English, French, Spanish

Background:

The Convergence Initiative supports national efforts to advance the alignment between the food systems transformation and climate action agendas to better enable governments and stakeholders at national and subnational levels to strengthen synergetic action that will simultaneously support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement.

It is expected that the Convergence Initiative will strategically contribute to change in (i) governance, (ii) policy, and (iii) implementation.

[The Convergence Initiative Framework document](#) further describes the origins and objectives of the initiative, the envisaged convergence process, and a framework to monitor progress at the country level.

The national process includes i) establishing a multi-sectoral Convergence Group, ii) convening multi-sector and -stakeholder dialogues to identify and explore opportunities and challenges for convergence, and iii) the identification of convergence interventions with milestones, iv) monitoring and evaluation.

Through the Convergence Initiative, the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub offers two approaches for the national convergence process based on national demand:

- **Deep dive countries** (Convergence Action Blueprint): Provides extensive technical and logistical support to countries for developing a Convergence Action Blueprint and establishing a Convergence Group. The process starts with the development of a Background Paper and convening a National Inception Workshop organized by the National Convenor Office, the Hub, the UN Resident Coordinator and Country Team, and the support of 4SD.
- **Dialogue countries:** With the strategic support of the Hub, the National Convenor establishes a National Convergence Group or enhances an existing group with the support of the UN Country Teams, , and 4SD. This dialogue process brings together and aligns the relevant stakeholders and sectors involved in food systems and climate action to identify synergistic actions and priorities.

On the 9th of April 2025, national inception workshops and the development of Convergence Action Blueprints have been conducted in seven countries: Brazil, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, and Türkiye. Upcoming workshops are planned for Egypt, Thailand, and Somalia. Preparations for pilot dialogue countries are currently underway, with discussions in progress. These dialogues are expected to launch soon across all regions in 10 to 12 countries.

Convergence Initiative Touchpoint with National Convenors

On April 29, 2025, the Hub, supported by 4SD, will convene a dedicated touchpoint for National Convenors, their teams, and UN Country Teams involved in the Convergence Initiative. This

session aims to provide an interactive platform for National Convenors to connect, share progress, discuss challenges, and exchange experiences on advancing national convergence processes.

Noting that Convergence Initiative countries are currently at different stages of preparations and implementations, this touchpoint provides an opportunity for country-to-country learning and experience sharing.

Meeting objectives:

The touchpoint will facilitate peer-to-peer learning, encouraging countries that have made progress in convergence to share their lessons learned, strategies, and practical advice. Countries in the preparation and early stages of their engagement in the Convergence Initiative will have the opportunity to seek guidance from more experienced peers, as well as from the Hub and 4SD.

Discussions will cover key aspects such as:

- The role of the convergence initiative in supporting policy coherence at the national level
- How to shape a dialogue-based process supporting the convergence of agendas and actions and how to prepare and run a Convergence Dialogue.
- Steps on preparing for and running a Convergence Dialogue effectively.
- Deliverables in UNFSS+4 and COP30

Expected outcomes:

This touchpoint will contribute to fostering stronger collaboration among countries engaged in the Convergence Initiative, reinforcing shared learning and action towards integrated food systems solutions.

A meeting report with key learnings will be drafted following the meeting to share with participants. Existing templates and guidance notes may be adapted based on feedback received. The outcomes will be used to inform future convergence processes, including national workshops, UNFSS+4, and COP30.

Register:

To accommodate different time zones, the touchpoint will be held virtually in two sessions on April 29, 2025:

- **Morning session 8:00 – 9:30 CEST:** (English with interpretation in Arabic, Chinese, Russian) <https://bit.ly/CI29APRAM>
 - **Afternoon session 16:00 – 17:30 CEST:** (English with interpretation in French and Spanish) <https://bit.ly/CI29APRPM>
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Agenda

Duration	Item
15 min	Introduction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and background – Stefanos Fotiou, Director, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub Welcome Remarks from the Netherlands Framing the session - Khaled Eltaweel, Senior Program Coordinator, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub
60 min	Group discussion for country-to-country learning Moderator: David Nabarro , 4SD and Khaled Eltaweel , the Hub <i>Country experiences:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Morning session: Kazakhstan, Indonesia, Türkiye, Ethiopia, Jordan</i> <i>Afternoon session: Brazil, Cameroon</i>
15 min	Conclusion: Stefanos Fotiou , Director, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub

The summary of key points will be shared with participants shortly after each session.