

## Empowering Transformation: The Role of Multi-Stakeholder Approach in Food Systems and Climate Action

18 November, 09:30 – 10:30 (local time)

COP29 NDC Partnership Pavilion

Livestream link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T\\_22xHqe-QY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T_22xHqe-QY)

### Background

The [Secretary-General Report of the Food Systems Summit Stocktaking Moment](#) (UNFSS+2) emphasized interlinkages between food systems transformation (FST) and climate action (CA), underscoring that current food systems continue to generate soil degradation, and water and air pollution.

Food systems contribute to over one-third of greenhouse gas emissions, are responsible for up to 80 percent biodiversity loss, and consume as much as 70 percent freshwater resources. Increasing instances of extreme weather and climate events have exposed millions to acute food insecurity and reduced water security, contributing to inequitable and harmful food systems.

The [Secretary-General's Call to Action](#) called upon leaders to incorporate food systems strategies into their national policies, including those related to climate action and nature. Global coordinated efforts are needed to reduce vulnerabilities faced by communities, particularly rural communities, food producers, women farmers, and indigenous peoples, who rely on natural systems and livestock for their livelihoods. The Call to Action also highlighted the importance of the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) Loss and Damage Fund's design and operationalization, the full funding of the Green Climate Fund, and the implementation of the Sharm El Sheikh Adaptation Agenda's Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation (FAST) as top priorities.

To support these efforts, the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub has established multi-stakeholder processes such as the Stakeholder Engagement and Networking Advisory (SENA) group and the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) to ensure that the perspectives and views of various stakeholders are integrated into food systems transformation. These mechanisms aim to enhance effectiveness, transparency, and inclusiveness throughout the process. Additionally, the Hub has launched initiatives like the Youth Leadership Programme, which empowers young leaders to advocate for sustainable and resilient food systems while holding stakeholders accountable. The Corporate Accountability initiative has also been introduced to actively involve the private sector as a key actor in advancing food systems transformation and achieving the SDGs, ensuring that all sectors contribute to an inclusive and transparent transformation process.

The Hub's Convergence Initiative, supported by The Netherlands, further aligns the FST and CA agendas by facilitating multi-stakeholder collaboration at the national level, enabling governments and partners to coordinate synergetic actions that enhance food systems

resilience and promote sustainable management of natural resources. This initiative is pivotal in advancing the goals of the SDGs and the Paris Climate Agreement, positioning sustainable agriculture and food systems as central to global climate strategies.

Building on the outcomes of UNFSS+2 and COP28, this side event will explore how stakeholders beyond the government are contributing to the alignment of food systems transformation with climate action within the Convergence Initiative pilot countries. It will feature discussions on how various partners, including the private sector and civil society, are supporting countries in transforming food systems, achieving climate objectives, and ensuring sustainable resource management, ultimately contributing to the SDGs and the Paris Agreement. The event will showcase national and regional progress, offering insights from leading country pilots.

Building on the outcomes from UNFSS+2 and COP28, this side event will explore how partners beyond the government are advancing the alignment between food systems and climate action within the Convergence Initiative pilot countries. It will highlight how these partners are supporting countries in transforming their food systems while achieving climate goals and ensuring long-term sustainability. The event will showcase this support under the initiative, featuring insights from country pilots who are leading efforts to integrate food systems transformation with climate action.

### Objective

The objective of this side event is to explore the role of multi-stakeholder initiatives and the broader ecosystem of support in advancing the alignment between food systems transformation (FST) and climate action (CA). Through the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub's multi-stakeholder platforms such as the Stakeholder Engagement and Networking Advisory (SENA) group, the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC), and key initiatives like the Youth Leadership Programme and Corporate Accountability, the event will highlight how diverse partners—including governments, the private sector, youth leaders, and civil society—are collaborating to drive food systems transformation.

By building on the outcomes of UNFSS+2 and COP28, the event will showcase how these coordinated efforts, both globally and nationally, are contributing to resilient, sustainable food systems while achieving climate goals. The discussion will emphasize the critical role of inclusive, transparent, and accountable multistakeholder platforms in addressing key challenges such as food insecurity, natural resource management, and climate resilience, with a focus on the Convergence Initiative pilot countries.

### Moderator

**Mr Khaled Eltaweel**, Senior Programme Coordinator, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub

### Panelists

- **Ms Wampie Libon**, Director Inclusive Green Growth Department and Ambassador Sustainable Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands.
- **Mr Stefanos Fotiou**, Director, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub.

- **Ms Shakuntala Harakshingh Thilsted**, Director for Nutrition, Health and Food Security Impact Area Platform of CGIAR & UN Food Systems Coordination Hub SAC Chair.
- **Ms Nazgul Serikkaliyeva Khatepova**, Director of the Department of Agri-Food Markets and Processing of Agricultural Products & Food Systems National Convenor. Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan.
- **Mr David Nabarro**, Strategic Director, 4SD Foundation.
- **Ms Amanda McKee**, Director for Knowledge and Learning, NDC Partnership.

### Proposed Agenda (60 min)

Time	Topic	Speaker
5 mins	Welcoming	<b>Ms Wampie Libon</b> , Director Inclusive Green Growth Department and Ambassador Sustainable Development. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands.
5 mins	Setting the scene: Linkages between Food systems transformation, and climate action, and the role of external partners.	<b>Mr Stefanos Fotiou</b> , Director, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub.
40 mins	Roundtable Discussion: "Leveraging Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships for Advancing Food Systems Transformation and Climate Action: The Role of the Science, Financing, and Collaborative Strategies for Sustainability"	<b>Ms Shakuntala Harakshingh Thilsted</b> , Director for Nutrition, Health and Food Security Impact Area Platform of CGIAR & UN Food Systems Coordination Hub SAC Chair (online).
		<b>Ms Nazgul Serikkaliyeva Khatepova</b> , Director of the Department of Agri-Food Markets and Processing of Agricultural Products & Food Systems National Convenor. Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan.
		<b>Mr David Nabarro</b> , Strategic Director, 4SD Foundation.
		<b>Ms Amanda McKee</b> , Director for Knowledge and Learning, NDC Partnership
		<b>Moderator: Mr Khaled Eltaweel</b> , Senior Programme Coordinator, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub
5 mins	Q&A from the audience	
5 mins	Closing remarks	<b>Mr Stefanos Fotiou</b> , Director, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub.