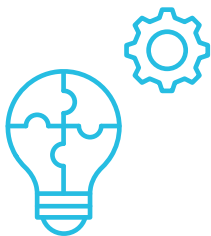


SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE UN FOOD SYSTEMS COORDINATION HUB

In the pursuit of harnessing science to support countries in transforming their food systems and accelerating progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub has established a Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)¹. This diverse and independent group is comprised of prominent scientists from around the world, with Dr. Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted serving as the SAC Chair, along with four Co-Chairs. The SAC is dedicated to offering robust, credible, timely, impartial, and legitimate advice, ensuring a comprehensive and unbiased foundation for the SAC's mission in advancing sustainable global food systems through science. The SAC plays a vital role in advising both the Hub and the countries² it supports, helping them to advance sustainable global food systems.

The SAC has identified four priority thematic areas, each addressing critical aspects of food systems transformation. Each thematic area is led by a Co-Chair who works together with SAC members to develop comprehensive outputs that support local, regional, and global food systems transformation processes. This collective approach ensures the integration of diverse expertise and perspectives, fostering a holistic and inclusive decision-making process.

EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE OF FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION



The thematic area of “Effective Governance of Food Systems Transformation” is led by Co-Chair Dr. Shenggen Fan. This area aims to strengthen governance mechanisms across the entire spectrum of food systems, focusing on utilizing data and evidence to achieve targets outlined in national food systems transformation pathways. Emphasis is placed on inclusivity and leaving no one behind, while identifying gaps and solutions for enhanced intergovernmental cooperation, as well as collaboration with other sectors.

This will be achieved through the analysis of challenges and opportunities in global trends and national and sub-national pathways, supported by sound science, technology, and innovation (ST&I) data and evidence in food systems transformation.

PLANETARY BOUNDARIES IN FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION



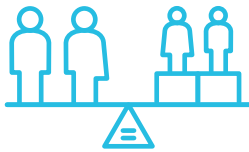
The thematic area of “Planetary Boundaries in Food Systems Transformation” is led by Co-Chair Prof. Jean Francois Soussana. This area centers on sharing knowledge, assessing policy gaps, and providing a landscape of recommendations to enhance the resilience, adaptation, and mitigation potential of food systems, while integrating biodiversity and ecosystem conservation. The work conducted in this area will provide thought leadership on how to use ST&I to make food systems more sustainable.

¹ To learn more about the SAC members: <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/about-us/structure/scientific-advisory-committee/en>

² An updated list of National Convenors and national food systems transformation pathways is available on the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub's website: <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/member-state-dialogue/dialogues-and-pathways/en>



EQUITY AND JUSTICE IN FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION



The thematic area of “Equity and Justice in Food Systems Transformation” is led by Co-Chair Dr. Hilal Elver. This area focuses on addressing equity and justice in food systems policies and decision-making. The work carried out by this group will provide measures to rectify gender inequality, promote social inclusion, and engage various actors within food systems. A systemic analysis will be carried out to identify opportunities and solutions for integrating ST&I into critical areas such as healthy diets, food security, nutrition, and the right to food.

METRICS, DATA, AND EVIDENCE FOR FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION



The thematic area of “Metrics, Data, and Evidence for Food Systems Transformation,” is led by Co-Chair Prof. Barbara Burlingame. This area focuses on identifying tools and techniques that address interdependencies and trade-offs in food systems. Outcomes across diverse social groups and regions will be highlighted. Moreover, interactions with relevant rights holders and stakeholders will be carried out to support the implementation of science-based policies and actions. Transition costs and means of implementation will be analyzed, utilizing suitable metrics, to evaluate progress and explore alternatives to support and strengthen the integration of ST&I in food systems transformation at scale.

UNPACKING SHORT-, MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM ACTIONS

In the short-term (by August 2024), the working groups are set to produce policy briefs in each thematic area, addressing key aspects of food systems transformation. Additionally, regional webinars will be conducted. In the medium and long term (until December 2025), specific recommendations for supporting food systems transformation at the regional, national, and sub-national level will be developed and shared with relevant stakeholders. Attention will be given to ensure meaningful inclusion of small-scale farmers and fishers, women, youth, and Indigenous Peoples. Workshops will be organized to provide technical support for interdisciplinary research, aiming to achieve sustainable, healthy diets for all that are culturally acceptable and affordable. In all thematic areas, traditional knowledge and approaches will be combined with new scientific technologies and digital tools to ensure the best results. Working closely with the Food Systems National Convenors, the SAC will contribute to training programs, with the goal of ensuring just, equitable and sustainable food systems that leave no one behind. Additionally, the SAC will take concrete actions to advocate for the explicit recognition of food systems transformation, based on scientific evidence, in achieving the SDGs.

By focusing on the four thematic areas: governance, planetary boundaries, equity, and metrics, the SAC will make a major contribution to the mission and purpose of the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub.