

Science Policy Updates for All – Webinar series

Strengthening National Governance to Accelerate Food Systems Transformation

07 July 2025 – 13:30 GEST | Virtual

The soon to be published policy brief “*Strengthening National Governance for Accelerating Food Systems Transformation*”, developed under the leadership of Prof. Shenggen Fan and endorsed by the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, provides an in-depth analysis of the critical role national governance plays in translating global food systems commitments into concrete actions.

The brief underscores that, despite considerable international momentum since the first UN Food Systems Summit in 2021, implementation has lagged and progress remains fragmented. With the upcoming 2nd UN Food Systems Summit Stocktake (UNFSS+4) in Addis Ababa and increasing urgency to align food systems with global goals on climate, biodiversity, and health, strengthening national governance structures is both timely and imperative.

Building on the insights from the brief, this webinar will explore how national governance can be transformed to deliver systemic, inclusive, and rights-based food systems policies. It will examine key dimensions such as cross-sectoral policy integration, institutional capacity, local government empowerment, rights-based frameworks, evidence-based decision-making, and sustainable financing. The discussion will also consider case studies from countries actively advancing governance innovations, such as Vietnam, Ethiopia, Ghana, and Bangladesh.

Bringing together policymakers, academics, and practitioners, the event aims to stimulate dialogue on enhancing policy coherence, participatory processes, and state accountability, contributing to the evidence base and political momentum necessary for accelerated transformation.

Agenda

Time	Item
5 min	Opening Remarks: Stefanos Fotiou , Director of the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub
30 min	Impact panel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Shenggen Fan, Chair Professor and Dean of the Academy of Global Food Economics and Policy (AGFEP) at China Agricultural University (CAU), SAC Co-chair • Dr Corinna Hawkes, Director, Office of Food Systems and Food Safety, ESF – FAO • Dr Dao The Anh, Vice-President of Vietnamese Academy of Agricultural Sciences – National Convenor, Vietnam Moderator – Dr Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted , Director, Nutrition, Health and Food Security Impact Area Platform, CGIAR, SAC Chair
15 min	Q&A
5 min	Final remarks Dr Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted , Director, Nutrition, Health and Food Security Impact Area Platform, CGIAR, SAC Chair

Zoom link: <https://cutt.ly/SAC-W07JULY>