

FOOD SYSTEMS SOLUTIONS DIALOGUES

Strengthening accountability by engaging parliamentarians in food systems transformation

Wednesday 11 June 2025 | Virtual

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

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

Background

The UN Food Systems Coordination Hub hosts virtual Food Systems Solutions Dialogues (FSSDs) as a collaborative platform for National Convenors and stakeholders to discuss and share practical solutions for sustainable food systems transformation. The FSSDs build on global commitments and outcomes of the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit, the 2023 UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment and the Secretary-General's Call to Action, empowering governments to develop actionable strategies for implementing their National Pathways.

The themes for the 2025 Food Systems Solutions Dialogues (2025 FSSDs) are aligned with the objectives of the forthcoming UN Food Systems Summit +4 Stocktake (UNFSS+4), scheduled in July 2025, focusing on **reflecting on progress, partnerships and tracking commitments, and unlocking finance and increasing investments** for food systems transformation. The 2025 FSSDs are designed to support governments in preparing their contributions to UNFSS+4 to document country progress at UNFSS+4 and beyond.

Purpose of this Dialogue

This Dialogue aims to explore the critical role that parliamentarians can play in effectively supporting and accelerating food system transformation at country level. Topics to discuss include parliamentarians' role and responsibilities as leaders and advocates for sustainable food systems, the use of legislative tools to drive reform, accountability, and budget oversight functions to promote a food systems approach. The Dialogue will explore how to build the capacity of parliamentarians to develop sustainable food systems strategies and policies, ensure government policy coherence and strengthen engagement with the local food systems ecosystem of support. In addition, it will highlight how parliamentary engagement can elevate food systems within national development agendas while strengthening cross-sectoral coordination and citizen participation.

Agenda

Duration	Item
5 min	Welcome and opening remarks: Ms Lena Savelli , Deputy Director, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub
30 min	Setting the scene: Panel of speakers AM session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hon. Lissouba Jeremy, Secretary General, African Food Systems Parliamentary Network (AFSPaN) to highlight the role of parliamentarians in advancing food systems transformation and share a regional perspective from empowering parliamentary networks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Rami Zurayk, Professor at the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences at the American University of Beirut to share experience of building parliamentary capacity to support Lebanon's food systems transformation • Ms Aleksandra Blagojevic, Programme Manager for International Development, Inter-Parliamentary Union on IPU's work to encourage parliaments and policymakers worldwide to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into their functions and legislative efforts • Mr Juan José Echanove, Right to Food Lead, FAO, on the importance of anchoring the Right to Food in food systems transformation and how parliamentarians can play an important role in addressing hunger and malnutrition <p>PM session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Kritza Pérez, Parliamentarian, Vice President of the National Congress of Honduras, and Regional Coordinator for Mesoamerica of the Parliamentary Front Against Hunger for Latin America and the Caribbean to highlight the role of parliamentarians in advancing food systems transformation and share a regional perspective from empowering parliamentary networks • Dr Inaya Ezzeddine, National Convenor, Lebanon and member of parliament to share experience of building parliamentary capacity to support Lebanon's food • Ms Aleksandra Blagojevic, Programme Manager for International Development, Inter-Parliamentary Union on IPU's work to encourage parliaments and policymakers worldwide to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into their functions and legislative efforts systems transformation • Mr Juan José Echanove, Right to Food Lead, FAO, on the importance of anchoring the Right to Food in food systems transformation and how parliamentarians can play an important role in addressing hunger and malnutrition
45 min	<p>Dialogue with Convenors:</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Dora Siliya, former Minister of Agriculture of Zambia and member of AFSPaN (AM session) Ms Mia Madsen, Policy Officer, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub (PM session)</p> <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In your national context, what roles do parliamentarians play in strengthening accountability to advance food systems transformation? • What key challenges have you encountered in engaging parliamentarians or parliamentary committees in food systems-related efforts? • What are some effective approaches or strategies for building the capacity of parliamentarians to engage meaningfully in food systems transformation?
5 min	<p>Reflections from the Dialogue (panelists to share brief reflections)</p>
5 min	<p>Closing remarks: Ms Lena Savelli, Deputy Director, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub</p>