



FOOD SYSTEMS SOLUTIONS DIALOGUES 2026

Leveraging cities, municipalities and urban stakeholders to advance food systems

Wednesday, 13 May 2026 | 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 food systems stakeholders to discuss and exchange experiences, reflect on challenges, and advance practical solutions for sustainable food systems transformation. The dialogues build upon the global commitments and outcomes of the UN Food Systems Summit +4 Stocktake and the Secretary-General's Call to Action, empowering National Convenors to develop coordinated and actionable strategies for the implementation of national pathways. The Dialogues facilitate technical deep dives, peer exchanges, and country-led reflections on challenges and opportunities and aim at strengthening the operational capacity of National Convenors as they drive forward their countries' food systems agendas.

Purpose of the Dialogue

This Dialogue will focus on the critical role of cities, municipalities and urban stakeholders in driving food systems transformation, recognizing that urban areas are increasingly shaping food demand, consumption patterns, nutrition outcomes and market dynamics. Recent global policy processes have also reinforced the importance of addressing food systems transformation across the rural-urban continuum. In October 2025, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) endorsed the Policy Recommendations on Strengthening Urban and Peri-Urban Food Systems, providing an intergovernmentally agreed framework to help countries strengthen policy coherence and connect national food systems pathways with action at local and territorial levels.

The Dialogue will explore innovative solutions for how national and local governments can work together to align urban food policies with national food systems priorities. Through country and city-level experiences, the session will examine practical entry points to connect local action with national priorities, including governance and implementation mechanisms, such as national-municipal coordination platforms, territorial food planning processes, local public procurement, and investment pipelines. Particular attention will be given to how National Convenors can engage municipalities and metropolitan authorities as strategic partners, strengthen multi-level coordination, and leverage urban innovation to accelerate progress across food systems outcomes.

The Dialogue will also introduce emerging global collaboration mechanisms that support urban and territorial food systems transformation, including the evolution of the Urban Food Systems Coalition toward a broader Global Partnership, as a way to connect national governments, city networks and development partners around implementation.

Agenda

Time	Session
5 min	<p>Welcome and opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Carlos Watson, Director a.i. UN Food Systems Coordination Hub
30 min	<p>Panel of speakers:</p> <p>AM session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Jane Battersby, Report lead for the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition 2024 Report Ms Priscilla Muiruri, Coordinator, Food Systems Technical Working Group, Kenya Ms Chiara Mandelli, Milan Urban Food Policy Pact Ms Isis Nunez Ferrera, Coordinator, Urban Agrifood Systems, FAO on the Global Partnership for Transforming Urban Agrifood Systems <p>PM session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Jane Battersby, Report lead for the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition 2024 Report Ms Gisele Bortolini, Coordinator of the Alimenta Cidades Strategy, Ministry of Social Development and Fight against Hunger, Brazil Ms Chiara Mandelli, Milan Urban Food Policy Pact Ms Isis Nunez Ferrera, Coordinator, Urban Agrifood Systems, FAO on the Global Partnership for Transforming Urban Agrifood Systems
40 min	<p>Dialogue with National Convenors</p> <p>Moderators:</p> <p>Ms Mia Madsen, Policy Officer, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub (AM session)</p> <p>Mr Guido Santini, Programme Coordinator, Plant Production and Protection Division, FAO (PM session)</p>

	<p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can National Food Systems Convenors effectively engage cities and metropolitan authorities as partners in implementing national food systems pathways? • What concrete policy or implementation entry points have proven effective for linking city-level action with national food systems priorities (e.g. public procurement, territorial food planning, wholesale markets, food loss and waste)? • What partnerships, investment mechanisms or collaboration platforms can help countries scale local urban food systems solutions and connect them with national implementation priorities?
10 min	Reflections from the Dialogue
5 min	Closing remarks