

## UN Food Systems Summit+2 Stocktaking Moment

### SESSION REPORT

All session recordings will be available after the conclusion of the session. Please send the report of your session to Ms. Yota Nicolarea ([Panayota.Nicolarea@fao.org](mailto:Panayota.Nicolarea@fao.org)) and Mr. Thembani Malapela ([Thembani.Malapela@fao.org](mailto:Thembani.Malapela@fao.org)) by Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August COB

Type (click one):  HLS/PLENARY –  LEADERSHIP DIALOGUE –  SPECIAL EVENT

### FOOD SYSTEMS FOR THE PLANET

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List of speakers, in all segments, and key messages

NAME AND TITLE OF SPEAKER	SEGMENT (opening, panel, closing, etc.)	KEY MESSAGES OR/AND RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS
Ms. Susan Gardner	Moderator	Food systems and nature are interlinked. About 75% of the world's food crops depend on natural pollinators (insects, birds, other animals), healthy soils, and stable water supply. Whereas the production of food requires a healthy environment, the current means of production are unsustainable and contribute to the triple planetary crisis of biodiversity loss, climate change and pollution burden. There is an urgent need to build resilient and sustainable food systems. This requires us to take critical look at the impact of food in our environment, understand the essential reliance of food systems on the environment and transform current production, processing, distribution and consumption practises. The dialogue session explored how environmental sustainability has been considered at country level actions, barriers to farmers and other stakeholders as well as enabling frameworks for scaling up food systems transformation helping to deliver on SDGs.

<p>Mr. Kaveh Zahedi</p>	<p>Moderator</p>	<p>The Food Systems Summit Stocktaking Moment is taking place at a time of cascading crises involving a changing climate, pollution and degrading environment and soaring food and living prices in a landscape of worsening food insecurity, with many places in the world facing deepening food crises, pollution burdens and growing poverty.</p> <p>Agri-food systems have a unique potential tackling these challenges as they offer solutions that bring multiple outcomes, helping to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals. Agri-food systems and communities that depend on them must be part of the solution to the triple planetary crisis.</p> <p>Systemic changes in food systems can occur through integrated solutions, scaling up and overcoming some of the key barriers including finance. We need to work closely with our partners and with countries to enhance capacities and channel investment in real effective and targeted solutions. So, the Stocktaking Moment should therefore be seen as a first step in a collective journey, towards more synergetic environment and food initiatives at all levels.</p>
<p>Mr. Jochen Flasbarth,        State Secretary, Federal        Ministry of Economic        cooperation and        Development, Germany</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<p><b>It begins with the soil:</b> Loss of fertile soil is one of the biggest and underestimated environmental crises.</p> <p><b>Restoration is key to making food systems more sustainable:</b> There is a huge potential to increase food production by restoring degraded ecosystems and landscapes at the same time generating benefits for the planet (soil and water conservation, climate change adaptation, reducing biodiversity loss) and for people through job creation.</p> <p><b>Subsidies and Incentives:</b> Consider repurposing existing agricultural subsidies and orient to support environmental and socially responsible practices across the entire food value chain. Integrate ecosystem services into the market systems such as by providing incentives to eco-friendly farmers.</p>
<p>Mr. Masia Johane, Deputy        Principal Secretary,        Ministry of Agriculture and        Food Security, Lesotho</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<p>Food systems are complex and have multiple entries and transformation should be addressed holistically, considering sum of all components as well as actors and their interaction along the value chain.</p> <p>Need to carefully identify touch points for integrating environment considerations into food system pathways. This may include analysis of various frameworks such as national food system pathways, National Adaptation Plans, NBSAPs, NDCs to identify entry points and opportunities for integrating food and environment action and develop implementable action plan.</p>

		Build alliances for food and environment action to mobilize implementation and continue in a collective journey towards resilient, inclusive and sustainable food systems.
Ms. Estrella Penunia, Secretary General Asian Farmers' Association (AFA)	Panel	<p>Small producers are the backbone of national food systems and integral to their transformation. Most of them are already implementing agricultural practices that contribute to nature positive, climate negative and pollution free agriculture and offer so much potential for learning and upscaling. For them to participate in the national food system pathways, they need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobilization and facilitation to participate in dialogue to influence process of mainstreaming environmental considerations in national food system policies and to be co-designers of the solutions.</li> <li>• Empowered by favourable policy environment that incentivise production, processing, marketing and distribution in environmentally friendly manner.</li> <li>• Support access finance to increase productivity and accelerate good practices and innovation.</li> </ul>
Mr. Peter Umunay, Senior Environmental Specialist, Global Environmental Facility (GEF)	Panel	<p>Food systems transformation requires significant investments but the financial resources currently available are grossly insufficient. This calls for a fundamental change in the current food system financing architecture, paying particular attention to innovation and leveraging.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private sector needs to be involved as part of the finance solution. However, agricultural investments are considered high risk and private sector is risk averse. Creative approaches to de-risk the investment, backed by public funds, would contribute towards encouraging private sector involvement.</li> <li>• Public sector funding (government, development banks, donors) need to play a catalytic role to crowd in private investment as well as concessional financing to support investment at scale.</li> <li>• Need to repurpose agricultural subsidies to incentivise sustainable practises across the entire food value chain.</li> </ul>
Ms. Diane Holdorf, Executive Vice President, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)	Panel	Major agribusiness players have enormous potential to accelerate food systems transformation, but they need to acknowledge their potential as positive agents of change and take part in driving collective action for agriculture food systems transformation.

		<p>Opportunities for businesses to lead food systems transformation include but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investing in approaches that deliver climate and nature-based solutions and maximize bioeconomy benefits.</li> <li>• Introducing and using technology minimizes food loss and waste across the supply chain.</li> <li>• Advocating for policy and economic enablers.</li> <li>• Providing innovative finance and other solutions to empower small producers to increase productivity and farm generated income.</li> <li>• Supporting consumers to make healthy and sustainable dietary choices, while shaping demand through new product formulations and effective marketing.</li> </ul> <p>The business-led solutions in food systems pathways must deliver positive outcomes for people and planet.</p> <p>If businesses do not transform their operations and supply chains, their own resilience and future are at stake. While there will be trade-offs to address, those companies that lead, managing through the disruption, will thrive.</p>
<p>Mr. Joao Campari, Global Leader, Food Practice, Worldwide Fund (WWF)</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global targets for food systems transformation need to be downscaled to local contexts, at national and sub-national level, where implementation occurs.</li> <li>• Collaborative partnerships involving governments, businesses, civil society, small producers, Indigenous Peoples and communities are key to deliver action on the ground.</li> <li>• Integrated approaches such as agroecology and land restoration offer pathways to generate food, environment and economic outcomes. They need to be mainstreamed in national food systems pathways and development plans.</li> <li>• The value of coalitions of like-minded cannot be overstated. They present leveraged opportunities to support food systems transformation more effectively.</li> </ul>
<p>Ms. Eija Hietavuo, Vice President Corporate Affairs, Tetra Pak International</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<p>Private companies can play a part in making food systems more secure and sustainable by focusing on solutions and partnerships in areas where they have an inherent potential to make the greatest contribution. This can be through:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building sustainable food value chains by promoting and implementing solutions that encourage sustainable production, processing, packaging, distribution, and consumption of food.</li> <li>• Reducing food waste and loss through implementation of circular solutions.</li> <li>• Building capacity of small farmers to transition to more sustainable practices.</li> <li>• Encouraging consumers' behaviour change towards sustainable consumption.</li> <li>• Demonstrating commitment towards sustainable sourcing.</li> </ul>
<p>Ms. Mansi Shah, Senior Technical Coordinator, Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA)</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<p>Women farmers play a vital role in global food systems yet their contributions are not formally recognized. They also face many challenges and limitations (social, institutional and cultural) that hinder their meaningful participation in the food systems transformation agenda.</p> <p>The potential of women as change agents in food systems is underutilized. Women and girls are the main holders of Indigenous knowledge on nature-based solutions that offer so much potential for learning and upscaling.</p> <p>Addressing gender inequalities and power imbalances is imperative to increasing the participation of women in food systems transformation. Some of the key pathways include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enabling and empowering women and girls to participate in national food systems transformation dialogue and decision-making platforms.</li> <li>• Removing barriers that women and girls face to access agricultural information, technologies, opportunities, resources and services.</li> <li>• Empowering women to strategic choices about their involvement in food systems.</li> </ul>

### Interventions from the floor

SPEAKER	QUESTION OR KEY POINT OF INTERVENTION
1. Bhavanaben Rathod, Small horticulture farmer from Arvalli District, Gujarat, India	<p>Technologies that are gender-responsive and planet smart have a potential to deliver multiple outcomes for women, girls, and their communities as well as the environment. To demonstrate this point, this farmer shared an example of how she and other female farmers in her village have been supported to access and use a solar-hydraulic precision irrigation technology. This technology enabled them to increase productivity while reducing the cost and amount of water used as well as labour and time required to attend to crops. Increased yield and quality of harvest generated enough income to repay for service the investment of cost of technology to use the balance to improve the quality of education for her children by taking them to better schools. The technology also helped her to save time to address other social responsibilities.</p>

### Overall summary, conclusions and recommended actions (max 250 words)

1. Food systems and nature are interlinked. In order to deliver multiple outcomes, food systems transformation solutions need to be integrated and aligned with global environmental agreements and frameworks. Rio conventions such as UNFCCC, CBD, UNCCD need to align their respective agenda and do more in increasing multilateral commitment to food systems transformation.
2. One of the most important drivers of food transformation is finance and currently available financial resources are grossly insufficient. We need to do more to leverage private, market-driven sources to close the financing gap, leveraging international and national public sources.
3. In addition to finance, other levers for food systems transformation include governance and policy, innovation and multi-stakeholder dialogue.
4. Non-state actors have a role to play in triggering policy transformation, elevation of finance and partnerships that are needed to transform food systems. They need to be included in national conversations and dialogue on food systems, biodiversity conservation, climate change action and enabled by favourable policy environment to be part of solution.
5. Ensuring that women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and the vulnerable segments of communities are included right from the start will contribute to shaping inclusive, equitable and just food systems transformations.