

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) and Mr. Thembani Malapela (Thembani.Malapela@fao.org) by Tuesday 1st August COB

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

Leveraging Urbanization for Food Systems Transformation

24 July 2023 : 16.30-18.00 CET

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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
1. Corinna Hawkes, Director, Food Systems and Food Safety Division, FAO	Moderation	As urbanization expands, many cities and local governments are potentially in a more powerful position than before to provide an enabling context that facilitates reshaping food systems at all scales. However, unless we convert potential city power into actual power, which enables cities and local governments to properly act as major players in inclusive and sustainable food systems transformation, we will miss the tremendous opportunity that the urbanization process is creating.
2. Marco Sanchez, Deputy-Director, Agrifood Economics Division, FAO	Keynote Speech	Key highlights of SOFI 2023: In the context of rapid urbanization, the traditional concept of the “urban-rural divide” cannot help in understanding the challenges and opportunities facing food systems. A “rural-urban continuum” approach is needed to better understand the growing connectivity and interlinkages (including those related to food systems) across urban, peri-urban and rural areas.

<p>3. Ms. Amy Pope, Director General-Elect, IOM</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<p>Connecting cross-border and rural-urban migration, with displacement and food and nutrition security is a priority issue in many contexts - with reference to migration across borders and in-country migration from rural to urban areas. Two concrete strategies IOM is implementing: a) engaging with mayors for example through the Mayor Migration Council; ii) partnering with the Global City Funds led by the mayors migration council.</p>
<p>4. Enrique Regalado Gamonal, Vice Minister of Policies, Supervision and Agrarian Development, MIDAGRI, Peru</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<p>Cities and national governments are advancing fast in the agenda of food systems transformation. At national level, COMSAN, the permanent multistakeholder commission of food security and nutrition have been established. At city level, the Peruvian municipalities of Lima, Huancayo, Arequipa, Piura and Maynas signed an agreement with the objective of strengthening agrifood systems linkages across the rural–urban continuum. In addition, Lima established the Food System Council of Metropolitan Lima (CONSIAL). The council has enacted several local ordinances to promote healthier urban food environments, urban agriculture, the use of public spaces for agroecology farmers’ markets, and the recovery of unsold food in wholesale markets.</p>
<p>5. Mr. Mohamed Sefiani, Mayor, City of Chefchaouen</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<p>The role of intermediary cities is crucial in connecting rural hinterlands to large cities in terms of food systems. Key advancements include: i) At global level, UCLG has recently been nominated as an ad hoc member of the Bureau and Advisory Group of the United Nations’ Committee on World Food Security (CFS); ii) at city level, food culture has been considered an important entry point for raising awareness on the importance of sustainable food systems transformation in Chefshaouen.</p>
<p>6. Ms. Anna Scavuzzo, Vice Mayor, City of Milan</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<p>Milan Urban Food Policy Pact -MUFPP (including 270 cities) leverages the convening power of bringing mayors, from different contexts, across the world, together to strengthen and elevate their voices as well as foster peer-to-peer learning. Networks are fundamental for engaging mayors in food systems transformation. The “people centered approach” can be reached through cooperation “without people we cannot have transformation of food systems”.</p>

		Multi-level governance is key which is not about displacing responsibilities, but it is about cooperation among different levels of government. For example: MUFPP, in collaboration with partners, is promoting national dialogues to bridge the gap between national and local governments.
7 Mr. Joao Campari, Global Leader of WWF's Food Practice, WWF and Representative from TURFS	Panel	Global commitments are insufficient when it comes to delivering impact on the ground. TURFS Consortium is committed to providing tangible impact through tailored technical support and resource mobilization so that cities and key local stakeholders can implement their commitments and better leverage their ability to drive inclusive and sustainable food systems transformation. There is an enormous but largely under-appreciated potential of cities as a key constituency especially in terms of technical support and funding. There is an urgent need to empower cities with the resources, tools and capacities they need to implement and accelerate actions. TURFS is developing a programme to unlock the power of cities, at scale, building on existing efforts and local-global relationships of the Consortium members across the world. Many cities are already leading actions in this space including the ones under the C40 Good Cities Accelerator. Innovations such as the establishment of food boards and food councils, are strategic forms of infrastructure which bring together different departments, academic institutions, city administrations, civil society organizations and small scale producers. WWF's "Solving the Great Food Puzzle: "20 levers to scale national action" is another innovative initiative which is context sensitive, and designed to consider critical responses and innovation needed to change food systems in a manner that strives to realize co-benefits for people and the planet. Climate and biodiversity food system action is part of the puzzle from supply to demand.
8. Jane Battersby, Senior Lecturer, University of Cape Town	Panel	In an increasingly urban world, just and sustainable urban food systems transformation is characterized by progress and bottlenecks linked to efficacy of multilevel governance. Policy and planning decisions taken now will affect present and future urban populations.

Despite many emerging efforts around on urban food systems in African cities, national governments typically do not involve local governments in food policy agendas. This is attributed to the consideration of food as a “national agenda”. It is vital to develop a deep analysis to better understand urban food systems, how they link with rural areas, how they link with each other, how food fits in with other local and national agendas, and to gathering evidence and practices about what are what is working as well as the main barriers in terms of vertical and horizontal food systems integration. These are vital elements that can shift the urban food systems agenda from an inspirational vision to effective integrated actions that responds to needs. The Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Food Systems Coalition is a strategic space for better linking and sharing learnings regards national and sub-national governments. This coalition, upon request from various stakeholders, is in the process of developing a guidelines on engaging cities in multi-level food systems governance based on experiences from in various contexts. These guidelines will frame a set of guiding principles and will introduce key entry points to foster vertical food systems integration.

Interventions from the floor

SPEAKER	QUESTION OR KEY POINT OF INTERVENTION
1. Pramisha Thapaliya – Leader of Youth Action and Policy Track, World Food Forum	In the context of promoting urban food systems, how do you integrate the views of the most vulnerable population and ensure a just transition when leveraging urbanization for creating inclusive food systems?
2. <u>Christine Muller</u> Principal Administrator - European Commission- DG Climate Action	The EU Covenant of mayor for Climate change was launched in 2008; it brings together thousands of local governments and connect local actions to global initiative in the context of global target such as achieving zero hunger, climate biodiversity target, land restoration target. Would make sense to explore the possibility to give priority of cities and food systems in the context of Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28)? It is fundamental to develop digital early working systems on urban food systems.

<p>3. <u>Lawrence Haddad</u> - GAIN Executive Director.</p>	<p>Urban communities are increasingly powerful nodes of governance which can be harnessed to address inequalities and accelerate food systems transformation. In relation to the power imbalances and distribution of responsibilities between national and local governments re: food systems, there is a need to invest in and strengthen governance to ensure that the poorest in urban settings are not missed out; and that the growth of cities leverages and stimulates growth in local-urban-rural-national linkages. What can be done to better manage the balance of power and responsibilities between national and local governments in a way that enhances cooperation across government levels for food systems transformation?</p>
<p>4. <u>Irmgard Jordan</u>, <u>Alliance Bioversity International and CIAT</u></p>	<p>In relation to the African context, are there any good practices on gender sensitive infrastructure (e.g. markets including spaces for childcare) and spatial planning which will ensure that the most vulnerable women and children are closer to outlets selling nutritious and affordable food?</p>
<p>5. Remy Sietchiping, UN- HABITAT</p>	<p>Cities are increasingly engaging more explicitly in food systems transformation at scale. It is important that in doing so cities design and implement appropriate policies and regulatory frameworks.</p>

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

1. Special session: organized by the Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Food Systems Coalition and the Transforming Urban-Rural Food Systems Consortium (TURFS). Activities and learnings shared by various stakeholders spanning international organizations, national governments, local governments, networks of local governments, civil society organizations, academia and youth. There has been a definitive evolution since UNFSS2021 in how stakeholders think and act in reshaping urban food systems towards a broader, more integrated perspective across sectors, agendas and scales.
2. Champion cities and sub-national governments are doing a lot. However, unless we convert potential city power into actual power, which enables cities and local governments to properly act as major players in inclusive and sustainable food systems transformation, we will miss the tremendous opportunity that the urbanization process is creating.
3. A “rural-urban continuum” approach is needed to better understand the connectivity and interlinkages across urban, peri-urban and rural areas as well as consideration of the characteristics of large, intermediary cities and small towns.
4. Investments are needed on urban food systems specifically on: infrastructure and solutions that inclusively address diverse relationships between cities, food systems and those most vulnerable like women, children, poor, migrants, displaced and youth.
6. Moving beyond talk: Pragmatic and adequate multi-level governance mechanisms regards cooperation between different levels of government and other stakeholders, with the aim of coordinating coherent and integrated policy, plans and investment beyond administrative boundaries is needed in addition to the implementation of the food systems approach with effective integrated food systems actions at urban, territorial levels and across the rural-urban continuum.