

Private sector ambition, action & accountability towards food systems transformation: Where are we now and where do we need to go next?

Wednesday 26 July 2023, 13:30 – 14:25 CET – Philippines Room

International
Agri-Food Network



Background and objectives

In the preparation for and at the United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) in 2021, the Private Sector Guiding Group convened private sector players and business leaders, contributing to the many discussions, participating in Coalitions and advancing a number of Game Changers that contribute to transform the food system and provide healthy and sustainable diets to all.

220 senior business executives signed a Business Declaration outlining priority areas for action and presenting the private sector ambition to increase investments and enhance collaboration that can contribute to positive transformation of food systems.

The Zero Hunger Private Sector Pledge was also launched at the UNFSS in 2021, along with the Zero Hunger Coalition, to mobilise private sector investments towards SGD 2 – i.e., investments aligned with 10 high-impact intervention areas and 90 priority countries.

Following the 2021 Food Systems Summit, the private sector has continued to undertake investment and action towards food systems transformation and collaborated with other stakeholder groups to streamline mutual accountability. The event will review progress on the implementation of Private Sector

Commitments and discuss additional options for effectively mobilising the private sector

towards impactful action for a regenerative and equitable food system that provides healthy, safe and nutritious food for all.

The proposed side event will specifically address how the private sector is advancing the zero-hunger goal and sustainably transforming food systems, taking forward commitments, such as those made as part of the Zero Hunger Private Sector Pledge. The event will also be an opportunity to reflect on the investments pledged to date (more than half a billion dollars committed by 44 companies in 47 countries) as well as on ambitions for the future.

Objectives:

1. Discuss Private Sector ambition, action and accountability to Food Systems Transformation
2. Highlight meaningful investments made through the Zero Hunger Pledge
3. Review action on commitments made through the Business Declaration
4. Look into new areas of focus for deepening private sector impact in sustainable food systems transformation.

Expected outcomes

1. Partnerships with stakeholders, including member states
2. Further collaboration and momentum around specific projects
3. Identification of member states/partners needs to target assistance/efforts
4. Creation of pathways for increased business engagement with the UN Food Systems Summit process, the multi-stakeholder coalitions of action and the national pathways

Programme

- 13:30 Introduction
- 13:35 Opening remarks- Ms. Beth Bechdol
- 13:40 Interactive panel discussion
- 14:05 Interactive Q&A
- 14:20 Closing remarks- Dr. Agnes Kalibata

Moderator

Mr. Michael Keller

International Seed Federation

Panellists

Ms. Beth Bechdol (TBC)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the
United Nations

Dr. Agnes Kalibata

AGRA

Dr. Leonardus Vergütz

OCP Group

Ms. Eija Hietavuo

Tetra Pak

Ms. Gabriela Wurcel

FMC Corporation and Food and Agriculture
Committee, Business at OECD