How to re-set the table? Challenges and opportunities for civil society actors and marginalized groups in shaping the governance of Food Systems transformation

Tuesday, 25 July 2023, 12:30 - 13:25 (CET) – Ethiopia Room

Background and objectives

Through the UNFSS-process, governments have committed to national pathways for food systems transformation. However, many countries have yet to define truly holistic food system goals and coherent targets to guide policy action. These need to be developed in a participatory and inclusive way.

Despite their crucial role in shaping food systems transformation, civil society actors and marginalized groups face significant barriers to meaningful participation in food systems governance, particularly as civic space is increasingly restricted in many countries.

The side event will explore how transparent and inclusive processes can be established and strengthened at national and subnational levels. What are promising mechanisms that address power imbalances to ensure that civil society actors can participate on an equal footing in shaping decision-making on food systems transformation and holding governments accountable?

Expected outcomes

The side event will highlight challenges and bottlenecks for meaningful participation of civil society actors and marginalized groups in policy processes on food systems transformation. It will also identify a set of actionable steps by relevant actors at different levels to create an enabling governance environment and inform follow up dialogue processes in countries.

Moderator

Alexander Müller
TMG Think Tank for Sustainability

Panellists

Michael Fakhri
UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food

State Secretary Jochen Flasbarth
German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Mathias Mogge
Deutsche Welthungerhilfe e.V. (WHH)

Mary Njeri Karanu
Rural Outreach Africa (ROA), Right to Food Coalition Kenya

Juan Sanchez
Red de Agricultura Ecológica (RAE) Peru

Shamika Mone
Inter-continental Network of Organic Farmers Organisations (INOFO)

Programme

12:30 Welcome and opening statements
12:40 Keynote
12:45 Panel Discussion
13:20 Closing