



Harvesting Insights: Outcomes and impact from UNFSS+2



Italy 2023

**UN FOOD SYSTEMS
SUMMIT + 2**

STOCKTAKING MOMENT

Harvesting Insights: Outcomes and impact from UNFSS+2

CONTENTS

Foreword	iv
Acknowledgements	v
Acronyms and Abbreviations	viii
1. INTRODUCTION	1
Background	1
Scope and approach of the report	1
2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	2
Framing the Summit theme	2
The UNFSS+2 at a glance	3
UNFSS+2 achievements and outcomes	5
3. PAVING THE WAY TO THE UNFSS+2	8
Preparatory work for the organization of the UNFSS+2	8
Engagement Calls and initiatives for UNFSS+2 participation	10
Regional contributions and priority setting for UNFSS+2	10
Global Engagement and Collaborative Efforts in UNFSS+2 Preparations	11
4. THE UNFSS+2 STOCKTAKING MOMENT	12
Official Programme: structure and sessions	12
UNFSS+2 key takeaways	16
A detailed account of the three-day Summit	17
5. CHARTING THE PATH AHEAD	70
6. DOCUMENTATION AND REFERENCES	71
7. ANNEX	73
UNFSS+2 Sessions: Reports and Recordings	73

FOREWORD

BY DR. STEFANOS FOTIOU, DIRECTOR, UN FOOD SYSTEMS COORDINATION HUB

Embarking on the urgent journey of food systems transformation demands the collective commitment and collaboration of all individuals, organizations, and nations worldwide. As we present the UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment (UNFSS+2) Report, we are reminded that transforming food systems requires all hands on deck. From the outset, this journey has been a demonstration of the power of multilateral collaboration and shared ambition.

The UNFSS+2 marked a pivotal moment. It provided a platform to re-energize the spirit of cooperation among governments, global leaders, policymakers, experts, stakeholders, and the UN system. Through meaningful face-to-face exchanges and open sharing of experiences, the Stocktaking Moment revealed valuable lessons learned and deepened our shared commitment to the transformation agenda.

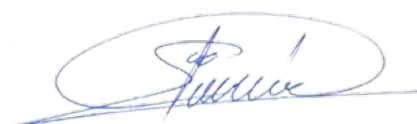
Reflecting on the progress since the landmark 2021 UN Food Systems Summit, the Stocktaking Moment showcased countries' active implementation of their National Pathways, offering tangible examples of advancements made. Nations are adapting programs and policies to accelerate food systems transformation, as evidenced by bold commitments and leadership in global initiatives. Announcements of significant financial support for developing countries further underscored the growing centrality of agrifood systems in national development agendas. The event demonstrated that food systems transformation is no longer a peripheral effort—it is a strategic imperative for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The contributions gathered through the UNFSS+2 process highlight food systems' immense potential for positive change. Addressing the interlinked challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss, and food and water insecurity requires placing food systems at the heart of global action. By prioritizing the health and nutrition of future generations, promoting environmental stewardship, and fostering equity and resilience, we can reshape agrifood systems into robust foundations for sustainable development. The path forward must be rooted in science and innovation, guided by inclusive governance, and strengthened through international collaboration.

The UNFSS+2 was not simply a moment of review—it was a renewal of our collective commitment to action. As we look ahead, I hope this report will inspire all actors to deepen their engagement and deliver concrete, measurable outcomes. Despite the persistent challenges facing global food systems, I remain confident in the process and in the collective will of people to drive meaningful change.

Together, let us now turn our attention to the next milestone: UNFSS+4. With renewed determination, we reaffirm our shared commitment to the SDGs and to building food systems that work for people, for the planet, and future generations. The journey continues—and we remain firmly on deck.

Dr. Stefanos Fotiou



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Sincere appreciation is extended to the UN Member States delegations and distinguished guest speakers from Non-State-Actors, the UN system, and the broader Ecosystem of Support, encompassing coalitions, action areas, stakeholders, and other pertinent entities who engaged actively in the preparations of the UNFSS+2 and travelled to Rome to participate in person in the Summit. Their invaluable contributions have been instrumental in delivering an inclusive and impactful UNFSS+2.

The successful organization of the UNFSS+2 was ensured through a collaborative effort amongst the Government of Italy, the Executive Office of the UN Secretary General, FAO, IFAD, WFP, and the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, which collaborated with the wider UN System and the Food Systems Ecosystem of Support. A remarkable aspect of this effort was the joint preparation of all sessions by groups that included at least 3 agencies per session, reflecting a synchronized approach towards achieving the event's objectives.

The dedicated efforts of Session Leads and co-Leads greatly enabled the production of the UNFSS+2 Report. Their invaluable contributions, as detailed in the individual session reports shared post-Summit, allowed for a bountiful “harvest of insights” and served as the yeast shaping the contents of Section III to this report.

Ultimately, the UNFSS+2 owes its success to the dedicated efforts of hundreds of individuals who played pivotal roles in both its preparation and successful implementation. A number of them stood at the forefront, steering the UNFSS+2 toward an impactful outcome, including but not limited to the following.

The members of the Operations Committee, namely Mr. Stefano Gatti (Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation), Ms. Lara Blanco (Executive Office of the Secretary General, UN), Mr. Máximo Torero Cullen (Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN), Ms. Satu Leena Elina Santala (International Fund for Agricultural Development), Mr. David Kaatrud (World Food Programme), and Mr. Stefanos Fotiou (UN Food Systems Coordination Hub).



Under the guidance of FAO Assistant-Director-General Mr. Maurizio Martina, the FAO Task Force operated with a dedicated team, comprising of Christian Abi Nassif, Massimo Albanesi, Marcio Alonso, Andrea Bergagna, Jeanne Blandine, Yasmina Bouziane, Jeffrey Brez, Paolo Cardellino, Paolo Cardellino, Andrea Concer, David Conte, Daniele De Mitri, Stefano DiFilippo, Paola Dini, Sergio Ferraro, Serena Forastiere, Deborah Fuxa, Tszmei Ho, George Kourous, Giorgio Lanzarone, Natasha Little, Walter Macaddino, Peter Mayer, Elisa Milanesio, Tina Mittendorf, Claudio Montesi, Rosine Ndiokubwayo, Simplicie Nghathe, Andrea Picchi, Donatella Pichinon, Daniel Pierini, Laura Quinones, Rafael Rodriguez, Alejandro Sandoval, Friederike Schlegl, Rosa Storto, Onelia Tilli, Piergiorgio Trentinaglia, Daniel Tripodi, Daniele Volpe, Sabina Zaccaro, Michele Zaccheo.

The Sessions Principal Leads and Co-leads of the UNFSS+2 Programme: Víctor Aguayo, Lavinia Antonaci, Ludovico Banova, José Valls Bedeau, Juan Bello, Boubaker Ben Belhassen, Omar Benammour, Dubravka Bojic, Francesco Branca, Marco Bravo, Mollie Brennan, Christopher Ian Brett, Anne Brunel, Carmen Burbano, Volli Carucci, Lola Castro, Andrea Cattaneo, Michael Clark, Sophie Cowppli-Bony, Nicole de Paula, Sylvia Ekra, Diana Fernandez, Yon Fernandez Larrinoa, Carlos Fuentevilla, Nadine Gbossa, Corinna Hawkes, Svante Helms, Ophelie Hemonin, Anselm Hennis, Shannon Howard, Salman Hussain, Joao Intini, Dejan Jakovljevic, Mimansha Joshi, Inkar Kadyrzhanova, Deborah Kahatano, Talla Kebe, Paul Kiernan, David Laborde, Raphael Leao, Preetmoninder Lidder, Lucas Lindfors, James Lomax, Filippo Lonardo, Ileana López, Mario Lubetkin, Lina Mahy, Tania Martinez Cruz, Yasaman Matinroshan, Leendert Nederveen, Lynnette Neufeld, Divine Njie, Joyce Njoro, Eugenia Palagi, Abigail Perry, Sarah Piccini, Juan Jose Pineda, Rossana Polastri, Nenad Rava, Rebecca Richards, Susana Rico, Janie Rioux, José Rosero Moncayo, Jeannette Sanchez, Miho Shirotori, Roberta Trevisi, Suzanne van Tilburg, Adrian Vargas.

The colleagues that directed all other aspects of the UNFSS+2 including organization of side events and exhibition booths, drafting of various reports and documents, and provision of support for the event and its preparatory meetings: Meriem Achouri, Kennedy Baruta, Maria Berenguer, Arnljotur Bjarki A.B. Bergsson, Elena Bertusi, Pilar Bravo de Rueda, Mauro Brero, Anders Brudevoll, Anne Brunel, Giulia Chiaventi, Paola Conti, Nita Dalmiya, Edona Dervisholli, Khaled Eltaweel, Gianluca Ferrera, Natalia Galat, Upali Galketi Aratchilage, Vittoria Gemelli, Juana Giraldo Gonzalez, Alison Graham, Agustina Grossi, Halima Hodzic, Anna Horner, Samira Hotobah-During, Romain Houlmann, Noran Ibrahim, Alejandra Jiménez Tabares, Themban Malapela, Irini Maltoglou, Davide Marino, Cecilia Marocchino, Tania Eulalia Martinez Cruz, George Mermigkas, Keya Mukherjee, Hernán Daniel Muñoz, Francesca Nardiello, Jutta Neitzel, Yota Nicolarea, Arne O'Donoghue, Giulia Orlandi, Ben Idrissa Ouedraogo, Olena Ovchynnikova, Alessandro Pastore, Olivia Pauner, Constanza Pena Ugarte, Hajnalka Petrics, Lauren Phillips, Katarina Polomska, Kunthara Poonjaruwat, Anna Rappazzo, Manuela Rizza, Mariajose Rojas, Soraya Sadeghi, Ilaria Schibba, Claudia Scuriatti, Michelle Seck, Marjolein Anna Smit, Abigail Smith, Kiran Subedi, Angela Towey, Annie Trevenen-Jones, Christine Trudel, Roberto Villa, Katinka Weinberger, Cinar Yavuz.

Production team (ARIM Video): Alessio Guerrini, Alessia Magnano, Salvatore Tranchina, Paolo Andreucci, Elena Onem.

The volunteers and interns who brought their enthusiasm and youth spirit to the overall support of the UNFSS+2: Athira Aji, George Akoko, Sabine Altendorf, Benedetta Aridon, Javier Bonilla, Anastasia Copettari, Maher Dahman, Lynn El Hadj Ali, Andrea Felici, Sophie Juillard, Maria Kolesina, Giulia Margiotta, Abdullah Maruf, Sofia Mauceri, Nozheen Murad, Ludovica Nesbitt, Virginia Pignata, Valentina Polacchi, Mosaic Shrestha, Leticia Tanchella Niehues, Sindi Vangjelaj, Effimia Vyza, Cynthia Yue.

Last but not least, the colleagues who took the heavy lift to ensure logistic arrangements for hundreds of sponsored participants who travelled to Rome: Priscilla Ako, Yi-Ann Chen, Diego Antonino Cimino, Hebatallah Fahmy, Jessyama Forlini-Ochoa, Valentina Gasbarri, Luc Genot, Linda Haas, Mary Kenny, Fiasili Sridhar Dharmapuri Lam, Martha Martinez, Solange Matta Saade, Margaret Omumbwa, Nora Ourabah Haddad, Valeria Rocca, Pamela Rosero, Adriano Timossi, Daniel Tripodi, Maria Antonia Tuazon, Assane Zara, Agustin Zimmermann.

The UNFSS+2 stands as a testament to collective dedication and collaboration, and thanks are reiterated to all those who contributed with diligence, enthusiasm, and commitment in its successful preparation and implementation.



ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AU	African Union Commission
AUDA-NEPAD	African Union Development Agency-NEPAD
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
EC	European Commission
EOSG	Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FLW	Food Loss and Waste
Hub (The)	UN Food Systems Coordination Hub
IDLO	International Development Law Organization
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
NSAs	Non-State Actors
RBAs	UN Rome-Based Agencies
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SENA Group	Stakeholder Engagement and Networking Advisory Group
STI	Science, Technology, and Information
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN	United Nations
UNDSG	Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations
UNSG	Secretary-General of the United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
UNESCWA	UN Economic Commission for Western Asia
UNFSS	United Nations Food Systems Summit 2021
UNFSS+2	UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Background

The UN Secretary-General, in his [Chair Summary and Statement of Action on the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit \(UNFSS\)](#), committed to convene “a global stocktaking meeting every two years to review progress in implementing the outcomes of this process and its contributions to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.”

The first UNFSS Stocktaking Moment (UNFSS+2) took place in Rome, from 24 to 26 July 2023, on the premises of the UN’s Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). UNFSS+2 was hosted by the Government of Italy, in collaboration with the wider UN system – including the Rome-based Agencies; FAO, the World Food Programme (WFP), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), along with support from the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub (the Hub).

Scope and approach of the report

This report provides a comprehensive narrative of the three-day Summit. By prioritizing an in-depth exploration of the Summit’s proceedings, it sets forth key highlights, thematic discussions, and noteworthy outcomes. By doing so, the report aims to not only account the events but also to highlight the key messages that emerged during the discussions.

At the same time, the report goes beyond the Summit documentation by tracing the diverse range of activities and concerted efforts that led to the delivery of the UNFSS+2. It is important to highlight these processes, considering their pivotal role in shaping the trajectory of the entire event. They provide a holistic perspective on the multifaceted dimensions of the 2023 UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment.



CHAPTER 2

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Framing the Summit theme

An overall framing for the Summit and the programme was crafted around the narrative of “Sustainable Food Systems for People, Planet and Prosperity: Diverse pathways in a shared journey”. Starting from this idea, the event served as a make-or-break moment to maintain and generate further momentum on action for food systems transformation in support of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) acceleration. To do that, the UNFSS+2 focused on three objectives:



CONVENE countries and stakeholders to review progress on the commitments to action that were made during the 2021 UNFSS and identify successes, enduring bottlenecks, and priorities to close the implementation gap by effectively and efficiently utilizing the Means of Implementation for food systems transformation.



SOCIALIZE the powerful role of sustainable, equitable, healthy, and resilient food systems as critical SDG accelerators and key to reducing humanitarian needs, among world leaders, national decision-makers, practitioners, and food systems actors.



ADVOCATE for urgent action at scale, building on the latest evidence that sustainable food systems contribute to better and more sustainable outcomes for people, planet, and prosperity, leaving no one behind, by sharing concrete cases of transformation action led by state and non-state actors.

The UNFSS+2 at a glance

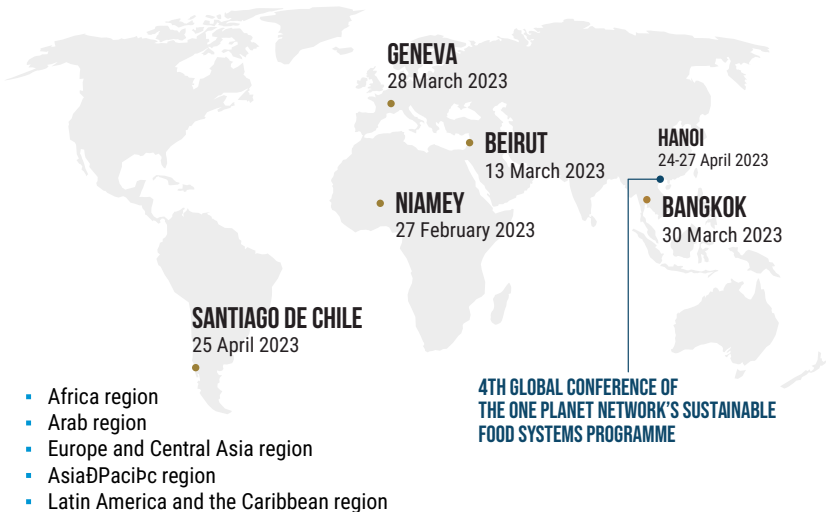
BUILDING MOMENTUM: ROAD TO THE UNFSS+2

19 FOOD SYSTEMS
SOLUTION DIALOGUES
conducted



5 REGIONAL **+1** GLOBAL
PREPARATORY MEETINGS

OVER
1200 PARTICIPANTS



126
COUNTRIES WITH
NATIONAL PATHWAYS



106
COUNTRY VOLUNTARY
PROGRESS REPORTS

on Food Systems
Transformation submitted



2
BRIEFINGS TO
THE MEMBER STATES
by the UNDSG and Italy



155
NATIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS
CONVENORS



Database repository containing
415
GOOD PRACTICES RECEIVED
on Food Systems Transformation



**SURVEY FOR
THE STAKEHOLDERS'
CONTRIBUTION REPORT**



28
COALITIONS OF
ACTION



**CALL OF INTEREST FOR
NON-STATE ACTORS
PARTICIPATION**



ENGAGING WITH UNFSS+2: NUMBERS THAT DEFINE IMPACT

3300+

ATTENDEES IN-PERSON



225

NON-STATE ACTOR
ORGANIZATIONS



850+

UN SYSTEM AND OTHER
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
REPRESENTATIVES



1938

NATIONAL DELEGATES

from

182

MEMBER STATES



21

HEADS OF STATE
AND GOVERNMENT

- Head of States
- Vice-Prime-Ministers
- Prime-Ministers
- Vice-Presidents

126

MINISTER-LEVEL
PARTICIPANTS

- Ministers
- Vice-Ministers

DOCUMENTATION

- Report of the UN Secretary-General
- UN Secretary-General Call to Action
- Stakeholders' Contribution Document
- Roadmap to the UNFSS+2

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- Information Note to Member States
- Guidance Note for UNFSS+2 National Delegations
- Information Note for UNFSS+2 Participants
- UNFSS+2 Frequently Asked Questions
- Note to Correspondents



Building Momentum: Road to the UNFSS+2

An extensive and inclusive preparatory phase set the stage for the UNFSS+2 that included the direct voices and ideas of more than 2000 experts from Member States, the UN, and international organizations, and diverse stakeholders. This preparatory work spanned continents with regional and global preparatory meetings, global, regional, and thematic dialogues and touchpoints, briefings with Member States, and interactions with stakeholders that facilitated in-depth discussions, shaping the Summit's agenda and collecting valuable insights. The global community actively engaged in surveys, publications, and knowledge-sharing through voluntary progress reporting and contributed to building a rich repository of good practices and innovative solutions for sustainable food systems transformation.

Engaging with UNFSS+2: Numbers that Define Impact

The summit itself witnessed remarkable participation, with an impressive number of country delegations and non-state actors converging to share and discuss the challenges and solutions for global food systems. The geographical representation underscored the global nature of the discussions, bringing together voices from diverse regions and sectors. This reflects a collective commitment, with figures showcasing the scale and reach of the event.

UNFSS+2 achievements and outcomes

The UNFSS+2 was characterized by active participation and engagement, drawing in a diverse assembly of over 3300 in-person participants, including 182 National Delegations, 21 Heads of States or Governments, 126 Minister-level participants, more than 200 organizations from Non-State-Actors, and almost 900 participants from the UN and other International Organizations (IGOs).

UNFSS+2 provided a platform for countries to **share their food systems transformation journeys** and offered vivid **accounts of achievements, pointing to the challenges** encountered along the way. The global community highlighted the importance of accelerating progress on access to financing, emphasizing the urgent need for debt relief and increased liquidity for developing countries facing crises. Many additional insights surfaced during the discussions, as delineated in the key takeaways section.

The UNFSS+2 **built momentum** for the implementation of **national food system transformation pathways** developed in the context of the 2021 Food Systems Summit. As of the writing of this report, 126 countries have established their national pathways. The event brought together countries, stakeholders, and the food systems ecosystem of support to report on the progress they have made, but also to highlight and commit to addressing bottlenecks through bolder action.

The high-level event witnessed robust participation, which **provided evidence to assess the advancements made by countries** post the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit. Additionally, over 100 Food Systems National Convenors, who are tasked to organize the National Food Systems Dialogues within their respective countries, actively engaged in the UNFSS+2. The event also served to take stock of the **progress made by the Coalitions** launched during the Food System Summit in 2021, showcasing impressive commitments by countries in leading these initiatives in the past two years and providing initial results and impact, such as through the School Meals Coalition. Moreover, the three-day event garnered an extensive online audience, with thousands of virtual participants and thousands more online views in real time across various sessions.

The participation of Heads of State and Government at the UNFSS+2 **elevated the event's stature** and underscored its significance as a high-level platform for global food systems transformation. Their active participation throughout the sessions showcased their commitment to addressing food system challenges and driving impactful change. Attendance of 21 Heads of State and Government from diverse nations added a dimension of leadership and political will to the proceedings, highlighting the recognition of food systems as a critical component of sustainable development national agendas.

Furthermore, the participation of 126 minister-level delegates from various ministries brought a diversity of positions and ideas to the discussions. Their engagement signaled a shared understanding of the urgent need for bold and comprehensive practical action to address food system issues and bottlenecks from a systems perspective. By participating in the event, Heads of State and Government and Ministers demonstrated a commitment not only to highlighting the progress achieved but also to forging a collective push to tackle existing challenges head-on.

UNFSS+2 served as a platform for Governments to showcase their efforts, exchange best practices, and foster international collaboration. Furthermore, their presence added **a layer of accountability and urgency**, motivating stakeholders across sectors to work collaboratively towards achieving the SDGs, reflecting a shared determination to create more sustainable, equitable, healthy, and resilient food systems for the future.

Fostering a collaborative environment, emphasizing the crucial role of sustainable food systems, and advocating for impactful actions, the UNFSS+2 contributed substantively to the preparations for the UN SDGs Summit and established a robust partnership with the UNFCCC COP28 presidency.

In conclusion, the UNFSS+2 effectively **delivered on its three core objectives of convening, socializing, and advocating** the value of food systems transformation through a strategic and cohesive approach.



© FAO/Giulio Napolitano

Through its participatory-structured Programme, featuring a diversity of sessions with different formats, and the engagement of an array of actors, the event enabled an **open dialogue** and knowledge exchange, catalyzed awareness, and tangible progress towards transforming food systems, in alignment with the SDGs. The event not only highlighted the critical role of food systems transformation but also galvanized momentum and a sense of shared responsibility for actionable commitments. Specifically,

- a. The event convened countries and stakeholders to assess the progress and commitments made since the 2021 UNFSS. By engaging representatives from various countries and sectors, the UNFSS+2 facilitated a dialogue to assess the commitments to action that were initially pledged. This enabled participants to identify not only successes but also bottlenecks and priorities, thus addressing the implementation gap. This was achieved through focused sessions that allowed for the exchange of insights, lessons learned, and best practices, fostering an environment of collective accountability and commitment.
- b. Socializing the crucial role of food systems transformation as catalysts for accelerating SDGs was accomplished by engaging political leadership, national decision-makers, and leaders from both state and non-state sectors in meaningful conversations. The event provided a platform to highlight the interconnectedness between food systems and broader global objectives, including health, equity, and environmental preservation.
- c. UNFSS+2 was a strong advocate for urgent and impactful action at scale. By presenting concrete cases of food systems transformational actions led by both state and non-state actors, UNFSS+2 substantiated the claim that sustainable food systems contribute to improved outcomes for people, the planet, and prosperity. The shared evidence-based insights effectively underscored the urgency of food system transformation. The advocacy aspect was reinforced by demonstrating how the implementation of sustainable food systems positively affects various aspects of life, fostering equitable growth and leaving no one behind.

CHAPTER 3

PAVING THE WAY TO THE UNFSS+2

Preparatory work for the organization of the UNFSS+2

The UN Deputy-Secretary-General, on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy jointly [announced on 3 February 2023](#) that Italy would host the inaugural UN Food Systems Summit Stocktaking Moment. Following this pivotal announcement, a meeting convened at FAO in Rome, where the UN Deputy-Secretary-General, the Director-General of FAO, and representatives of the Principals of IFAD and WFP jointly agreed on further steps for the upcoming event.

Following this meeting, the Executive Office of the Secretary-General issued an [Information Note](#), disseminating key aspects of the organization of the 2023 Stocktaking Moment to Member States and key partners. Recognizing the importance of broad engagement, two briefings for Member States were organized by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representation of Italy in the United Nations. These briefings extended invitations to Permanent Representatives in New York, Rome, and Geneva, fostering an inclusive dialogue that garnered valuable inputs.

The insights garnered from these briefings, the regional preparatory meetings, and the dialogues with the Food Systems National Convenors played a pivotal role in shaping the [Roadmap to the UNFSS+2](#) and crafting the detailed Programme for the event. This iterative process, marked by collaboration and consultation, ensured a comprehensive and inclusive approach to the planning and organization of the UN Food Systems Summit Stocktaking Moment (UNFSS+2).

Guided by the Hub's Oversight Steering Group, the establishment of an **Operations Committee** emerged as a pivotal mechanism for steering the programmatic aspects of the UNFSS+2. The Committee, featuring representatives from the Government of Italy as the host country, the Executive Office of the Secretary-General of FAO, IFAD, WFP, and the Hub, convened bi-weekly sessions. Chaired by two Co-Chairs from Italy and the Hub, the Committee engaged in a dynamic exchange of updates and advancements, discussed perspectives on pivotal milestones and deliverables. Through this iterative process, the Committee ensured effective coordination, aligning actions toward the overarching objectives of the UNFSS+2.

Parallely, the FAO Director-General took decisive action in establishing a dedicated **FAO Task-Force**. Tasked with overseeing organizational, managerial, and logistical aspects of the UNFSS+2, the Task Force ensured efficient and effective preparation and delivery of all necessary products and services at the highest quality standards. Operating within a framework of accountability to the FAO Director-General, the Task Force conducted regular meetings, demonstrating its commitment to guaranteeing the successful organization of the UNFSS+2. This dual-pronged approach, marked by collaboration and efficient coordination, underscored the dedication to realizing the objectives of the 2023 UN Food Systems Summit Stocktaking Moment.

Responding to numerous requests from several countries, the Hub developed a template, voluntarily adopted by countries to streamline their preparations for the UNFSS+2. This tool enabled countries to offer **voluntary progress reports** on their initiatives in food systems transformation post-UNFSS. It is important to underscore that using this template was entirely voluntary, carrying no mandatory reporting obligation for the UNFSS+2. Impressively, 106 countries have submitted their voluntary progress reports, and the count is ongoing. The inputs collected from these country reports were used inter alia to inform the UN Secretary General's report, titled "[Making Food Systems Work for People and Planet: UN Food Systems Summit +2](#)".

In tandem, the Hub developed another template, focusing on the **collection of practices** and stories related to food systems transformation. An impressive response ensued, with over 400 submissions from countries, stakeholders, and Coalitions. These submissions form an integral part of the Hub's "[Database of Practices](#)", providing a valuable resource for sharing successful approaches and inspiring narratives on food systems transformation.

To provide comprehensive information to UNFSS+2 participants, the Hub has released detailed and accurate responses to a set of Frequently Asked Questions ([FAQs](#)), an [Information Note tailored for UNFSS+2 Participants](#), and a [Guidance Note for National Delegations](#).



Engagement Calls and initiatives for UNFSS+2 participation

To ensure inclusivity at the UNFSS+2, the Hub issued a [Call for Expression of Interest for Non-State Actors](#) (NSAs) to engage in the UNFSS+2. Numerous applications were received. Following a thorough validation and due-diligence process, a total of 225 NSA organizations were approved to participate in the UNFSS+2.

The Hub has also issued a [call for Stakeholders' Inputs](#) for the UNFSS+2. The inputs of this call were used to inform the “[Stakeholders' Contribution Document to the UNFSS+2](#)” that was issued by the Hub’s Stakeholder Engagement and Networking Advisory Group (SENA Group).

A [call for side events](#) was also issued by the Hub. A total of 112 applications were received, of which 21 were allocated a space to organize in-person events at FAO, and another 15 events were organized virtually.

A [call for exhibition booths](#) was also published, and a total of 20 booths were hosted at the FAO Atrium, presenting a variety of products and innovations from countries and stakeholders.

Regional contributions and priority setting for UNFSS+2

In pursuit of a high-quality and inclusive approach to organizing the UNFSS+2, along with the development of its program and substantive sessions in response to the needs of countries and stakeholders, the Hub facilitated a series of **regional and global activities**. To ensure that regional priorities were identified for the UNFSS+2, the Hub collaborated with the UN Regional Coordinators, the FAO Regional Offices, and other regional partners to organize a series of five regional preparatory meetings. Held in Niamey, Niger (27 February 2023), Beirut, Lebanon (13 March 2023), Geneva, Switzerland (28 March 2023), Bangkok, Thailand (30 March 2023), and Santiago, Chile (25 April 2023), these meetings served as pivotal gatherings, attracting approximately 800 participants. They brought together Food Systems National Convenors, representatives from the UN system and regional bodies, civil society, private sector representatives, academia, youth, and other stakeholders. The collective insights from these sessions played a significant role in shaping the preparatory groundwork for the UNFSS+2. The impact of the regional engagements was further amplified by the occurrence of the 4th Global Conference of the One Planet network’s Sustainable Food Systems (SFS) Programme. Hosted in Hanoi, Viet Nam, from 24 to 27 April 2023, this conference drew the participation of 350 attendees. Their contributions informed the preparation of the UNFSS+2, underscoring the importance of food systems transformation to address multiple challenges such as food insecurity, malnutrition, climate change, and biodiversity loss. The conference emphasized the necessity of aligning short-term actions with long-term strategies, advocating for a holistic approach to governance and policy-making of food systems. Together, these regional and global activities with over 1200 participants set the stage for a comprehensive and inclusive 2023 UN Food Systems Summit Stocktaking Moment.

These preparatory meetings served as a platform for sharing experiences, good practices, and lessons learned following the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit. Their primary objective was to identify priority actions and key messages for each region, and the outcomes were synthesized in a comprehensive [technical report](#).

Global Engagement and Collaborative Efforts in UNFSS+2 Preparations

A significant level of global involvement and active engagement of countries and from a wide spectrum of stakeholders marked preparations for the UNFSS+2. Governments, international organizations, civil society groups, academia, private sector entities, Coalitions, and individuals collectively contributed to shaping the event's agenda, discussions, and outcomes. This robust participation showcased a shared commitment to addressing the challenges of global food systems and finding transformative solutions. The engagement spanned across regions, sectors, and expertise, reflecting a comprehensive approach to driving meaningful change. This inclusive and diverse participation not only highlighted the urgency of food system transformation but also demonstrated a collective recognition that effective solutions require a collaborative effort on a global scale.

The extensive involvement of various stakeholders signified the growing importance of food systems as a cross-cutting issue that intersects with multiple dimensions of sustainable development, including health, environment, livelihoods, and social equity. As a result, the preparations for UNFSS+2 not only underscore the significance of the event itself but also emphasize the growing momentum and collective determination to address the complexities of our global food systems and work towards a more sustainable and equitable future.

In addition to the voluntary country reports template, the Hub proactively supported countries in showcasing their achievements, presenting challenges, and outlining future directions. This support extended to the organization of [19 Food Systems Solution Dialogues](#) from May 2022 to July 2023, with thematic subjects directly linked to the UNFSS+2. This ongoing dialogue process has continued, with two additional dialogues held in September and October 2023.

The Hub has also provided technical support to its “Stakeholders Engagement and Networking Advisory Group” (**SENA Group**) for the stakeholders to present their contributions and actively participate in the UNFSS+2.

The Hub has worked with the **Coalitions of Action** and ensured that they got a prominent space in the UNFSS+2, including a dedicated session for all Coalitions, several technical sessions, as well as participation of the Coalitions in many side events and special events.

Another result of the active engagement of the UN Food Systems Ecosystem of Support towards the UNFSS+2 was the development of the [Food Systems Assistance Gateway](#) to facilitate connections between governments, stakeholders, coalitions, and organizations. The gateway serves as a tool for governments to access food systems transformation products and services from the Food Systems Ecosystem of Support.

CHAPTER 4

THE UNFSS+2 STOCKTAKING MOMENT

Official Programme: structure and sessions

To achieve the Summit objectives, its Programme included “**three plus one**” streams of sessions around the following narrative.

To convene countries and stakeholders to review progress and to identify challenges and opportunities, the event includes **four Plenary Sessions** that focus on answering the following questions: i. How is food systems transformation happening in practice? (Plenary 1); ii. How can we advance food systems transformation for a more resilient future? (Plenary 2); iii. How can we use Means of Implementation in an effective and efficient way? (Plenary 3); iv. How is the food systems agenda linked to other transformation areas? (Plenary 4).

To further socialize with leaders and practitioners, the powerful role of sustainable, equitable, healthy and resilient food systems in rescuing the SDGs, the UNFSS+2 **opening session**, in the first day, was complemented by **three high-level sessions** on school meals, finance, and climate that showcased the transformative potential of food systems across all the dimensions of sustainable development. These sessions featured the participation of Heads of States/Governments and other leaders from the wide food systems community of state and non-state actors.

To advocate for urgent action at scale, building on the latest evidence that sustainable food systems contribute to better and more sustainable outcomes for people, planet and prosperity, leaving no one behind, the event included: a) **Leadership Dialogues** that are intrinsically linked to the plenary sessions; and **Special Events** to contribute towards a very practical and solutions-oriented global learning.

Overall, the [UNFSS+2 official programme](#) featured an extensive lineup of 33 sessions within the three streams of Plenary Sessions, Leadership Dialogues, and Special Events. This encompassed a high-level opening segment, three high-level sessions on the first day, four plenary sessions spanning the second and third days, ten leadership dialogues, and fourteen special events distributed across the three-day event. The program concluded with a high-level closing session.



© FAO/Riccardo De Luca

The three-day comprehensive Programme was meticulously developed in close coordination with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the Operations Committee, which was entrusted with this responsibility under the mandate of the Deputy Secretary-General. This inclusive approach ensured the alignment of efforts, resources, and expertise from the RBAs, contributing to a seamless execution of the event.

A detailed presentation of all UNFSS+2 Sessions, complete with session reports and recordings, can be accessed on the Hub's website. To facilitate easy reference, these materials are listed in the [Annex](#) of this report.

In addition to the UNFSS+2 official program, the **side events stream** complemented the Summit experience. [This Summit stream](#) featured a total of 39 side events, including 22 in-person events, 2 high-level special events hosted by the governments of Nigeria and Italy, and 15 virtual side events. This stream provided a space for peer learning and brainstorming on various aspects of the food systems transformation agenda.

Lastly, the [exhibition space](#) at the Atrium, located on the ground floor of FAO, stood out as a central hub for engagement and interaction throughout UNFSS+2's duration. This strategically positioned area served as a focal point for networking and exploration. The booths in this area were thoughtfully selected to represent a diverse array of initiatives and projects dedicated to advancing the goals of the 2030 Agenda. With a specific focus on Food Systems Summit Coalitions and key actors within the Ecosystem of Support, these booths brought to life a spectrum of initiatives and projects, including thematic focuses such as agroecology, rule of law for food systems governance, research innovation, and technology for food systems. Additionally, they highlighted different dimensions of food systems in various geographic regions, such as Food Systems in Latin America and the Caribbean, in Africa, in Europe and Central Asia, among others. The booths also presented the viewpoint of different Coalitions, like the Coalition of Youth, showcased pathway stories from member states like Bhutan and Bangladesh, UN interagency initiatives such as One UN for Nutrition, SDG Action Awards, becoming not only informational stations but dynamic contributors to the overall backdrop of the Summit.

NAVIGATING THE UNFSS+2: PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME



CONVENE

countries and stakeholders
to review progress



SOCIALIZE

the powerful role of
sustainable food systems



ADVOCATE

for urgent action
at scale

370+ SPEAKERS
IN PANELS



44% FEMALE



56% MALE

3 MAIN PROGRAMME
STREAMS ↘

33 SESSIONS WERE
CONDUCTED IN TOTAL

↳ REVIEWING PROGRESS



4

PLENARY SESSIONS

with 61 speakers

↳ HIGHLIGHTING IMPACT



3

HIGH-LEVEL SESSIONS

with 39 speakers

↳ URGENT ADVOCACY



10

LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES

with 108 speakers

↳ URGENT ADVOCACY



14

SPECIAL EVENTS

with 138 speakers



2

HIGH-LEVEL OPENING SEGMENTS

with 27 speakers

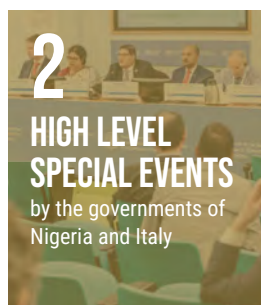
1 STREAM OF
SIDE EVENTS

EXHIBITION SPACE



22

IN-PERSON SIDE EVENTS



2

HIGH LEVEL SPECIAL EVENTS

by the governments of
Nigeria and Italy



15

VIRTUAL SIDE EVENTS



20

EXHIBITION BOOTHS

NAVIGATING THE UNFSS+2: PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

MONDAY, 24 JULY 2023																																									
09:00		09:30		10:00		10:30		11:00		11:30		12:00		12:30		13:00		13:30		14:00		14:30		15:00		15:30		16:00		16:30		17:00		17:30		18:00		18:30		19:00	
Plenary Sessions				School Meals Powering Food System Transformation				Financing Food Systems Transformation																Official Opening				Food Systems and Climate Action													
Leadership Dialogues				Healthy Diets, Cultures and Traditions				How do Coalitions Support Governments?																				Stakeholder Roundtable													
Special Events				Measuring Food Systems Transformation		The True Cost of Food		Fertilizers: Meeting Short-Term Needs While Working Towards Sustainable Solutions		Side Events																Leveraging Urbanization for Food Systems Transformation															
TUESDAY, 25 JULY 2023																																									
Plenary Sessions				Food Systems Transformation in Practice - Successes, Challenges and the Way Forward																Reversing the Food and Hunger Crisis: Building Resilient Food Systems																					
Leadership Dialogues				Food Systems for the People				Food Systems for the Planet												Food Systems for Prosperity				Science, Technology and Innovation																	
Special Events				Blue Transformation - Advancing Aquatic Food Systems for People, Planet and Prosperity		Building Africa's Food Sovereignty and Resilience through Sustainable Investments		Governance for Food Systems Transformation		Side Events								Digitalization for Resilient Food Systems		Value Chains for Resilient Food Systems		Private Sector																			
WEDNESDAY, 26 JULY 2023																																									
Plenary Sessions				Mobilizing Means of Implementation for Food Systems Transformation																Towards the SDG Summit, the Summit of the Future and the 2025 UNFSS+4								Official Closing													
Leadership Dialogues				Partnerships for Food Systems				Empowering National Convenors Towards 2025 - Systems Leaders for Transformative Action												Food Loss and Waste Prevention and Reduction: A Key Lever for Food Systems Transformation																					
Special Events				Aerospace Technology for Food Systems		Trade		Presenting the Food Systems Window of the Joint SDG Fund		Side Events								Indigenous Peoples Food Systems																							

UNFSS+2 key takeaways

Throughout UNFSS+2 talks, several key messages surfaced across different session streams. These shared messages suggest that all Summit participants shared a common understanding of the main issues and strategies needed to make global changes to food systems.

Main messages identified are set forth below, summarizing the most important principles and priorities that were highlighted during the Summit.

- **Global commitment for food systems transformation.** The UNFSS+2 saw extensive global engagement involving diverse stakeholders, including national and local governments, international organizations, civil society, academia, the private sector, and individuals, from farmers to practitioners and activists. This collective effort shows a shared commitment to addressing global food system challenges, emphasizing urgency, and highlighting the need for collaborative, transformative solutions.
- **Food systems transformation is recognized, more than ever, as a driver and a cross-cutting issue for sustainable development,** emphasizing momentum for transformative action. The recognition of food systems transformation as a cross-cutting issue for sustainable development underscores its pervasive impact across various dimensions. This acknowledgment emphasizes the current momentum and collective drive for transformative action. In acknowledging food systems as interconnected with broader sustainability goals, there is an emphasis on the need for comprehensive changes that address environmental, social, and economic considerations. This recognition sets the stage for concerted efforts to implement transformative actions that can positively influence global food systems.
- **Collective acknowledgment of complexity.** UNFSS+2 underscored the collective awareness that the dynamics of food insecurity and malnutrition have evolved into a more intricate landscape, exacerbated by the interwoven challenges of economic shocks, climate change, and ongoing conflicts.



Key messages from each session stream

HIGH-LEVEL SESSIONS

- **Global commitment:** Speakers emphasized a global commitment to addressing challenges in food systems and acknowledged the importance of concerted efforts to bring about transformative change.
- **Urgency for immediate action:** There is a shared sense of urgency in mobilizing resources and taking immediate action to transform food systems. Speakers stressed that delays will not only hinder the achievement of the SDGs and climate agreements but will have a severe impact on global food security.
- **Increased and redirected financing:** The importance of financing food systems transformation was highlighted in all sessions. Whether it through financial tools to understand where the resources are going and from what source, innovative financial mechanisms, or encouraging collaboration between public and private capital, the sessions underscored the need for creative approaches to funding the transition to healthier, more equitable, and sustainable food systems.
- **Collaboration and cooperation:** Beyond financial considerations, the sessions emphasized the necessity for cooperation and a whole-of-society approach. This includes involvement from governments at different levels, the private sector, civil society, and international entities to address the complex challenges in food systems.
- **Role of youth and marginalized groups:** Acknowledging the role of youth, women, indigenous people, and marginalized groups is a recurring theme. Sessions emphasized their importance in shaping sustainable solutions and stressed the need for policies that consider their specific needs.
- **Integration of climate action:** The interconnectedness of climate action and food systems emerged as a central theme. The sessions underscored the importance of aligning global efforts, especially considering the upcoming UNFCCC COP28, to address both climate change and food security.

PLENARY SESSIONS

- **Practical transformation efforts:** All sessions emphasized the need for practical, transformative actions in food systems, moving beyond conceptualization to implementation. Stakeholders globally are actively engaged in transforming their food systems, contributing to progress, successes, and identifying good practices.
- **Need for holistic transformation:** An integral transformation of food systems was emphasized, requiring coordinated efforts in policy, innovation, investment, and governance. Sessions underscored the importance of tailored, context-specific solutions to address diverse challenges globally.
- **Global collaboration and shared learning:** Speakers highlighted the importance of global collaboration, shared learning, and collective action at scale. Countries shared insights, challenges, and successes, aiming to inspire each other in the pursuit of sustainable and resilient food systems.
- **Central role of food systems in promoting people's nutrition and health, and the urgency to combat rising malnutrition.** Contributions from various speakers, including those from the private sector, advocated for supporting consumers in making healthy and sustainable dietary choices. The role of healthy diets, grounded in cultures and traditions, and the prioritization of healthy food choices were underscored in different sessions as pivotal for addressing malnutrition, enhancing people's health, and steering food systems towards resilience and sustainability.
- **Financial mechanisms and Means of Implementation:** Financial aspects of food system transformation were discussed in many sessions, advocating for increased financing, improved financial mechanisms, private sector involvement, and innovative approaches. Beyond finance, the Means of Implementation, including data, trade, governance, and science, were highlighted as crucial to enable food systems transformation.
- **Embedding food systems in sustainable development policies:** Sessions emphasized embedding food systems in sustainable development policies and called for inclusive governance. They emphasized, how healthy public food procurement (national school meal programmes and others) can shape the demand and the offer of food, and therefore support food system transformation in countries. The importance of cross-sector collaboration and integration of various elements for comprehensive and sustainable transformation was stressed.
- **Role of key stakeholders:** The involvement of diverse stakeholders, including governments at different levels, development partners, non-state actors, the private sector, youth, and citizens, is crucial for successful food system transformation.

- **Youth engagement:** The active engagement of youth in discussions and implementation emerged as a recurrent theme among stakeholders, including the youth themselves. Sessions recognized the importance of youth perspectives, calling for collaboration and support for their meaningful involvement in food system transformation.

LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES

- **Interconnected nature of food systems:** Speakers underscored the complexity of food systems, recognizing that they are not isolated but intricately linked with cultural, economic, environmental, and social factors. The interlinkages between food systems and other pressing global challenges, such as health and climate change, have also been identified.
- **Multi-stakeholder approach:** A recurring theme across the Dialogues is the recognition of the need for collaboration among different actors, including governments, businesses, civil society, and international organizations. A multi-stakeholder approach is consistently employed to ensure the complex challenges within food systems are addressed.
- **Global collaboration and partnerships:** A consistent call for cooperation, collaboration, inclusion, and partnerships, emphasizing shared responsibility, resonated throughout the discussions. Recognizing that in today's interconnected world, global challenges require global solutions, the importance of working together to address challenges in food systems was highlighted.
- **Coalitions in food system transformation:** Coalitions, operating globally and at various maturity levels, were acknowledged for their diverse roles, from global advocacy to in-country support. Strengthened collaboration among coalitions emerged as a significant factor for effective food system transformation, underlining the importance of a collective effort.
- **Diets and traditional food culture:** Diets were emphasized as more than just sustenance. They are integral to life, involving cultural, economic, and environmental dimensions. Traditional food culture and diets emerged as a cornerstone contributing not only to longevity but also sustainability of food systems and social justice.
- **Sustainability and environmental and climate resilience:** The urgency of achieving resilient and sustainable food systems and commitment to sustainability were key themes to all discussions, involving circular economy practices, reducing environmental impact, soil restoration, integration of sustainable practices, and promoting sustainable consumption. Such strategies were emphasized as critical elements in achieving environmentally friendly food systems.

- **Empowerment and inclusivity:** Empowering all actors, especially women and youth, took center stage in discussions. Inclusivity, gender equality, and addressing power imbalances are recurrent themes, highlighting the transformative potential of an inclusive approach in reshaping food systems.
- **Youth engagement and education:** Recognizing the pivotal role of young people in not only engaging but driving food system transformation, discussions underscored the importance of education for a healthy lifestyle and sustainable diets.
- **Importance of health and nutrition:** Health and nutrition emerge as central themes, emphasizing the critical role of accessible, healthy, and nutritious foods. The importance of public policies in promoting positive health outcomes was highlighted, underscoring the need for a holistic approach to food system transformation.
- **Data-driven policy and knowledge sharing:** Discussions emphasized the need for robust data collection and data-driven decision-making for food systems transformation. The importance of data and knowledge sharing is emphasized for effective policy design and implementation.
- **Science and evidence-based approaches:** Science, technology, and innovation were recognized as accelerators of positive change in addressing the complexities of food systems. Multiple sessions highlight the importance of science and evidence-based approaches in shaping food systems. Calls for informed policies, data-driven strategies, and holistic approaches grounded in scientific knowledge are recurrent.
- **Addressing Food Loss and Waste:** The environmental, economic, and social implications of food loss and waste (FLW) were mentioned in different interventions, as well as the urgency to reduce FLW for a sustainable and resilient food future.



SPECIAL EVENTS

- **Food systems transformation urgency:** Urgency for change was a prevailing theme, with speakers recognizing the need for faster, broader, and deeper changes in food systems to address global challenges.
- **Sustainability and transformative potential:** The consistent theme of sustainability was reaffirmed through discussions, emphasizing both short-term solutions and long-term strategies. Various initiatives and technologies were spotlighted for their transformative potential, underlining the need for approaches that address immediate challenges while building a basis for sustainable agrifood systems. Policy recognition of traditional knowledge is received as a means to achieve sustainability and resilience of food systems.
- **Inclusivity and collaboration:** Calls for inclusivity in governance, legal frameworks, and stakeholder participation underscored the importance of collective efforts. The emphasis on collaboration and partnerships among governments, the private sector, and development organizations emerged as a common theme, highlighting the interconnection of stakeholders in achieving meaningful and equitable food systems transformation.
- **Importance of local perspectives:** Local governments and communities were recognized as important players in shaping sustainable food systems. Insights from regional officials and mayors highlighted the importance of local perspectives in promoting sustainable production and fostering collaboration among local and national governments.
- **Private sector engagement:** Private sector engagement was identified as an important factor in achieving the SDGs and boosting transformative change, including public-private partnerships. Sessions often called for private sector involvement and investment in reshaping food systems, including actions to create an enabling environment for this. There was a shared recognition that the private sector bears a responsibility to lead in adopting sustainable practices and driving positive change.
- **Digitalization and digital food systems innovation:** The discourse surrounding digital technologies as agents of transformation was emphasized. Speakers highlighted the significant role of digitalization in making agrifood systems more efficient, inclusive, and sustainable. The need for global collaboration and initiatives focused on data and digital food systems innovation was emphasized as well.

A detailed account of the three-day Event

The following sections provide a comprehensive day-by-day recount of the three-day Summit, providing a brief overview of each session. Each day is documented by Session Stream, capturing the essence of the discussions in Plenaries and High-Level events, Leadership Dialogues, and Special Events that contributed to UNFSS+2's multifaceted narrative. This chronological breakdown serves as a resource for readers, allowing them to navigate through the Summit's dynamic schedule and gain insights into the diverse topics and outcomes that marked each day.

MONDAY 24 JULY. SUMMIT DAY 1

The inaugural day of UNFSS+2 featured a schedule encompassing the three High-Level sessions, and a series of Leadership Dialogues and Special Events, with a notable highlight being the **Official Opening of the Summit**, marking a pivotal moment in the event. This session was characterized by influential speeches that established the atmosphere and direction for the entire Summit, featuring the keynote address by the UN Secretary-General, opening remarks by the Prime Minister of Italy, and addresses from five heads of state and government and the RBAs Principals.

The UN Secretary-General António Guterres presented a comprehensive vision for global food systems in his keynote address. Beginning with the intrinsic **human right to food**, the UNSG criticized the paradox of global hunger despite ample resources. The termination of the Black Sea Initiative was underscored as a significant threat to global food security, accompanied by a specific call for the Russian Federation's return. **Urgent action** was declared imperative in key domains, particularly with emphasis on fostering collaboration and ensuring accountability. Mr. Guterres articulated his **vision for the future**, urging a transformation of food systems to guarantee universal access to safe and nutritious food.

Additionally, the essential need for **debt relief and sustained investments**, especially in developing countries, was emphasized to achieve the outlined goals. Italy's Prime Minister's remarks, which highlighted Italy's commitment to food security, were followed by leaders from Ethiopia, Samoa, and Nepal, who contributed diverse perspectives. The Director-General of FAO, Dr. Qu Dongyu, emphasized the urgent need for global agrifood systems transformation. The panel discussion featured the Principals of RBAs and spoke on sustainable agriculture, the hunger crisis, and the pivotal role of young people. The Opening of UNFSS+2 set forth a robust agenda for tackling global challenges and the imperative for concerted, transformative, and inclusive actions to address them.

In the **Plenaries workstream**, the day commenced with a comprehensive exploration of the School Meals Coalition during the first High-Level Session. This session showcased government commitments and advancements in leveraging school meal programs for food systems transformation, emphasizing positive outcomes in areas such as improved nutrition,

sustainable value chains, and climate action in schools. The following High-Level Session shifted to a critical discussion on financing strategies for food systems transformation. Concluding the day in this stream was the third and final High-Level Session, which explored the intersection of food systems and climate action. This session underscored the intricate relationship between food systems and climate change, emphasizing the imperative for coordinated efforts to address these interconnected challenges.

Simultaneously, the Leadership Dialogues and Special Events streams were taking place. The **Leadership Dialogues stream** commenced with an exploration of traditional diets, highlighting their cultural, social, economic, environmental, and health significance. The session “Healthy diets, cultures and traditions: Lessons from the Mediterranean Diet”, using the Mediterranean diet as a prime example, aimed to underscore the importance of traditional healthy diets in tackling malnutrition and driving the transition of food systems towards resilience and sustainability. Subsequent Dialogues focused on the post-2021 UN Food Systems Summit position of emerging Coalitions and the Stakeholder Roundtable, emphasizing community ownership in food systems transformation and the pivotal role of stakeholders in the process.

The **Special Events stream** commenced with two sessions dedicated to metrics concerning the transformation of food systems. The first session emphasized the importance of monitoring food systems through science-based approaches to track progress and guide action. The subsequent session looked into the True Cost of Food approach, highlighting its potential to strengthen the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of food systems. Transitioning to the domain of agricultural production, the following special event addressed concerns related to the affordability and accessibility of fertilizers while simultaneously addressing environmental considerations. Concluding the first day, there was the special event on urbanization and food systems, focusing on the role of cities as pivotal entry points to catalyze food systems transformation at both the national and the local levels.





OFFICIAL OPENING

The UNFSS+2 Opening Session was a momentous occasion, marked by a series of impactful speeches and discussions, setting the tone for the Summit.

The session commenced with welcome remarks by H.E. Mr. Antonio Tajani, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation of Italy. Minister Tajani emphasized Italy's commitment to prioritizing food security, particularly in the face of potential wheat shortages from Ukraine. He stressed the urgency of combating climate change and championing scientific research for global well-being. Italy pledged to take a leading role in supporting those in need, highlighting access to adequate nutrition as a fundamental right.

Following the welcome, the UN Secretary-General Mr. António Guterres, in his keynote address, called for urgent action in three critical areas. Firstly, there is a plea for a substantial investment in sustainable, equitable, healthy, and resilient food systems. Chronic hunger is highlighted as increasing in regions with weak and underfunded food systems, necessitating a call for an SDG Stimulus to provide affordable long-term financing globally. Secondly, Mr. Guterres urged governments and businesses to collaborate in building systems prioritizing people over profit. This involves exploring new ways to make fresh, healthy food more accessible, keeping food markets open, removing trade barriers, and leveraging science and technology for improved efficiency. Thirdly, the focus shifted to the necessity of food systems transformation to combat climate change. The Secretary-General stressed the importance of reducing carbon emissions, limiting global warming, and adopting sustainable practices in food processing, packaging, and transportation. Commitment to net-zero emissions by developed countries by 2040 and emerging economies by 2050 was emphasized as well.

The Secretary-General acknowledged the collaborative spirit that has characterized efforts so far, citing national dialogues, the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, and the involvement of National Convenors in countries' transformation efforts. The call to transform food systems for a future where every person has access to safe and nutritious food was reiterated. Mr. Guterres concluded with a reminder of the essential need for debt relief and long-term investments for developing countries to achieve these transformative goals.

Italy's Prime Minister, in her statement, highlighted Italy's commitment to food security and addressed challenges stemming from the pandemic, disruptions in international trade, and Russia's war on Ukraine. She emphasized the interconnectedness of migration and development, and advocated for the importance of research and technology in agrotechnology, introducing Italy's commitment to investing in agritech research. Food sovereignty, the Mediterranean diet, and large-scale financing were also focal points in her discourse. Italy's commitment to international cooperation, as reflected in the Matera Declaration and upcoming G7 presidency, was underlined.



© FAO/Giulio Napolitano



© FAO/Giuseppe Carotenuto



© FAO/Giuseppe Carotenuto



© FAO/Giulio Napolitano

Leaders from other countries contributed to the narrative, each offering a unique perspective on global food systems. The Bangladesh Prime Minister outlined the urgency to act on ensuring food security through food systems transformation and elaborated on several initiatives her Government is leading towards this objective. The Prime Minister of Ethiopia highlighted the paradox of oversupply and wastage amid global undernourishment. He called for a new agricultural finance model to support global food security. He highlighted the government's efforts over the past three years in rolling out the national school feeding program and reminded the audience that while such programs are prevalent in most developed nations, their implementation remains limited in low and middle-income countries, where the need is more pronounced. Prime Minister Fiamē Naomi Mata'afa of Samoa expressed concerns and hopes for small island developing states (SIDS), emphasizing the need for a holistic approach to address challenges and tailored financial mechanisms. Nepal's PM focused on the need for practical means of implementing global ambitions. He highlighted the transformative impact of school meals, shared Nepal's success story, and urged global efforts to scale up school feeding programs. Post-2021 UN Food Systems Summit initiatives in Nepal included food systems dialogues and joining the School Meals Coalition.

Following the speeches by world leaders, the Director-General of FAO, Dr. Qu Dongyu, emphasized the urgent need to transform global agrifood systems for efficiency, inclusivity, resilience, and sustainability. FAO's strategy involved science and innovation, improved data capabilities, finance, and governance. He called for continued collaboration for a better world, focusing on people, the planet, and prosperity.

The session included a panel discussion with prominent speakers such as H.E. Mr. Vahagn Khachaturyan, President of Armenia, Dr. Agnes Kalibata, President of AGRA, Mr. Alvaro Lario, President of IFAD, Ms. Cindy McCain, Executive Director of WFP, Ms. Inger Ashing, CEO of Save the Children International, Lady Suzzanne Heywood, Chair of the Board of Directors at CNH Industrial, and Ms. Sophie Healy-Thow from Act4Food/Act4Change. Discussions ranged from the private sector's role in sustainable agriculture to the severe global hunger crisis, highlighting the significance of inclusive collaboration and the vital role of young people in food systems transformation.

The session set a comprehensive agenda for addressing global food system challenges, emphasizing the urgent need for transformative actions, international cooperation, and innovative solutions.



HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY SESSIONS

SCHOOL MEALS POWERING FOOD SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION

The School Meals Coalition session at UNFSS+2 began with welcome remarks by Ms. Cindy McCain, the WFP Executive Director. In her role representing the Coalition's Secretariat, she highlighted the coalition's history, goals, and the crucial role of collaboration among the 85 Member States and 95 partners of the Coalition. The session showed how School Meal programmes can operate across policy siloes and – above all – produce results. Sierra Leone's President discussed their national school feeding program, launched in 2018, supporting 800,000 children with 80 percent government funding. Nepal's Prime Minister mentioned his government quadrupled the budget to reach 3.3 million children and aims for further expansion. Niger's Prime Minister plans to reach 50 percent of children with school meals by 2030, with 50 percent food sourced from smallholder farmers.

The Minister of State for Development, Francophonie, and International Partnerships of France further outlined the achievements of the School Meals Coalition, including restoring school meal programs to pre-pandemic levels, reaching 418 million children, securing 5 USD billion in additional domestic funding, and creating 4 million jobs, primarily for women. Finland's Deputy Minister of Agriculture discussed the coalition's success factors, such as high-level commitment and a flexible governance structure.

During the opening of the panel discussion, the UN Under-Secretary-General, Ms Cristina Duarte, highlighted home-grown school feeding's potential for job creation, local economies, social cohesion, and climate action. During the ministerial segment, representatives from Rwanda, Brazil, the United States, Bangladesh, Norway, and Germany shared progress and commitments. Bangladesh joined the School Meals Coalition, and aims to reach 20 million schoolchildren with meals by 2041; Rwanda expanded support from 680,000 before 2021 to over 3.5 million children in 2022 with a USD 120 million domestic investment; Germany announced a EUR 22 million grant for Sierra Leone and Laos for a food systems approach to school meals; the UAE urged global support for school meals in the context of climate action, leading towards COP 28. The Rockefeller Foundation stressed the role of school meals in shaping dietary habits and the role of partners in supporting governments in achieving objectives.

The session concluded with the UN Deputy-Secretary-General, Ms. Amina Mohammed, who emphasized four key actions for governments: ensuring nutritious meals for 730 million school children by 2030, promoting sustainable and climate-friendly programs, integrating school meals into climate finance, and developing a USD 1.7 billion mobilization plan for low-income countries via debt relief.



HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY SESSIONS

FINANCING FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATIONS

The session highlighted the urgency of joint mobilization of additional resources for food systems transformation involving both public and private capital, and that food system financing should shift towards healthier, more equitable and sustainable ways of producing and consuming food.

Speakers, including state leaders from Somalia, Kenya, Nigeria, and top representatives from international financial organizations and institutions, such as the President of IFAD and the World Bank's Vice President & Chief Economist, emphasized the urgency of financing for healthier and more equitable food systems. The session stressed that without adequate financing, the SDGs and climate agreements will be out of reach. According to the Deputy President of Kenya, estimates indicate a requirement of USD 300-400 billion annually for food systems transformation. It was also underscored that more capital is not enough. We must also drastically change what gets financed to move away from practices that harm the people and the planet. Both Kenya and Nigeria viewed school meals investment as a crucial tool for ensuring food security and food system transformation, highlighting the importance of aligning their national interventions with global objectives.

Challenges faced by low-income countries in mobilizing resources were acknowledged and presented by panelist speakers, and innovative financing solutions, including increased Official Development Assistance (ODA), private investment, and a new international financial pact, were proposed.

During the session, the 3FS tool was highlighted as a pivotal support for food systems transformation, as it is a financial tracking tool that provides up-to-date information on food system financing at country and global levels, enabling decision-makers to track, allocate resources, and optimize financing flows for food system transformation. Two of the pilot countries for the 3FS tool, Niger and Peru, shared their successful experiences, highlighting the tool's significance in providing crucial data on financial flows to food systems, as it enabled their governments to assess whether the spending and development financing align with priorities.

In summary, the session emphasized the collaborative effort needed to mobilize and redirect funding for food systems transformations, innovate financing, and utilize data for transformative investments in food systems to achieve the SDGs and climate agreements.

HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY SESSIONS

FOOD SYSTEMS AND CLIMATE ACTION

The session featured key speakers who emphasized the interconnected challenges of the climate crisis and food security.

Italy's Deputy Prime Minister highlighted Italy's and the UAE's collaboration in the context of UNFCCC COP28 and emphasized the commitment to keeping agriculture and food security a top priority during the Italian Presidency of the G7 in the upcoming year. The Minister of Climate Change and Environment of the UAE outlined the country's four-pillar agenda for UNFCCC COP28, addressing climate and agriculture at the state and non-state levels. FAO's Director-General stressed the urgent need for agrifood system transformation in light of the climate crisis and announced FAO's roadmap for SDG2 and SDG13 agrifood sector solutions at UNFCCC COP28.

State leaders from various nations, including Mauritania, Tunisia, Bangladesh, Samoa, Egypt, and Djibouti, shared their experiences and proposed strategies. In particular, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh presented five proposals to prioritize climate-adaptive agrifood systems, knowledge management, private sector engagement, technology strengthening, and the activation of the Coalition for climate-resilient food systems. Common themes included the impact of climate change on food security, the need for multidimensional approaches, and calls for international collaboration to address the global surge in food prices.

In the closing remarks, Italy's Minister of Environment and Energy Security highlighted the central role of food systems in achieving food security, emphasizing the necessity for innovative solutions, ambitious policies, and a closer link between climate and food diplomacy.

From the floor, the EU Commissioner for Environment, Oceans, and Fisheries, stressed the EU's commitment to sustainable food initiatives and climate finance.

The session concluded with a call for international cooperation, improved climate finance for agrifood systems, and a holistic approach to address the multiple challenges associated with climate change, including biodiversity loss and the water crisis. Youth engagement and the consideration of marginalized groups' specific needs were highlighted as crucial elements in shaping climate and food policies.



© FAO/Alessandra Benedetti

LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES

HEALTHY DIETS, CULTURES, AND TRADITIONS: LESSONS FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN DIET

The session on Healthy diets, cultures, and traditions opened, featuring prominent speakers emphasizing the cultural, health, and environmental dimensions of the Mediterranean diet. The Italian Minister of Agriculture, Francesco Lollobrigida, highlighted the Mediterranean diet as a virtuous model for longevity and sustainability, recognized by UNESCO and FAO. The World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, stressed the importance of understanding what makes a diet “healthy” and outlined key common elements shared by healthy diets.

The Albanian Minister of Agriculture and President of CIHEAM discussed the urgency of addressing global food insecurity and highlighted the role of the Mediterranean diet as a sustainability model that can bring structural transformation across food systems. Nasser Kamel, Secretary-General of the Union of the Mediterranean, emphasized the diet’s potential as a tool for achieving the SDGs and the need for knowledge, skills, and partnerships. The moderator of the session, Lynnette Neufeld of FAO, emphasized the benefits of the Mediterranean diet and called for action to sustain it.

Local perspectives were brought in by the President of the Calabria region in Italy, the Governor of Medenine in Tunisia, and the Mayor of Byblos in Lebanon, focusing on sustainable production and collaboration amongst local governments. The panelists underscored the role of Mediterranean cities and local communities in promoting the diet.

During the second panel discussion, Ettore Prandini, the President of Coldiretti, emphasized that the Mediterranean diet represents an identity intertwined with culture, sustainability, and the environment. Mr. Prandini highlighted the critical role of food in shaping the future of the Mediterranean, advocating for countering artificial and processed food products that pose health risks and threaten the region's socio-economic development. The President of Federalimentare (an Italian Food and Beverage Federation), contributed to the discussion by showcasing Italy's commitment to a circular economy in food production. Over the past 30 years, Italy has made substantial progress in reducing water and energy consumption, along with lowering CO2 emissions through technological innovations. Gunther Beger, Managing Director of the Directorate for SDG Innovation and Economic Transformation at UNIDO, underscored the need to invest in promoting healthy and sustainable food production supply chains in developing countries, aiming for comprehensive food safety. The closing statement by Orazio Schillaci, Minister of Health of Italy, emphasized the diverse impacts of traditional diets on health, the environment, and culture.

The interventions from the floor, including perspectives from Colombia, Japan, India, and the Philippines, highlighted the importance of local food systems, traditional diets, and education.

In conclusion, the session emphasized that diets are integral to life, encompassing cultural, economic, environmental, and social aspects. Many speakers emphasized the importance of food education for a healthy lifestyle and highlighted shared principles for healthy diets that can be promoted globally, with crucial support from governments, stakeholders, and the valorization of local production. Traditional food culture, exemplified by the Mediterranean diet, contributes not only to longevity but also to sustainability and social justice. The intergenerational collaboration and international cooperation are key to realizing a sustainable food future.





LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES

HOW DO COALITIONS SUPPORT GOVERNMENTS?

Two years after the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit, the session examined the current standing of coalitions. These coalitions, operating at various maturity levels, serve diverse functions, ranging from global advocacy to providing in-country support for food system transformation. The session showcased the roles of several coalitions in supporting governments, recognizing their different stages of maturity and functions, and emphasized the necessity for strengthened collaboration among coalitions and integrated support at both global and in-country levels with food system partners.

In setting the scene, the session's moderator emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts by coalitions in addressing the needs of countries. The [UN Food Systems Summit +2 Report of the Secretary-General](#) highlights the progress made by the 31 existing coalitions with 131 Member States, the EU, and the AU, along with private sector involvement. Dr. Agnes Kalibata underscored the central role of governments in food systems transformation, with Coalitions filling gaps outside government capabilities. The discussion involved various coalitions, such as Ethiopia's food system alignment to the Climate Resilient Food Systems Alliance, Sudan's Humanitarian Development Peace Nexus Coalition, and the Agroecology Coalition in Switzerland. Speakers presented coalitions' unique approach, challenges, and contributions to food system transformation. Furthermore, the session included insights from diverse coalitions such as the Social Protection and Food Systems Transformation in Chile, Healthy Diets Coalition, and the Coalition on Sustainable Productivity Growth. The session shed light on the multisectoral nature of coalitions, emphasizing collaboration, data use, and the need for continued support and integration to achieve sustainable food systems.

LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES

STAKEHOLDER ROUNDTABLE

The opening segment featured the Irish Government's Special Envoy for Food Systems, who shared insights from Ireland's experience in developing national pathways for the country's agrifood strategy. He emphasized the importance of a realistic starting point, political understanding, stakeholder committee composition, sustainability dimensions, and the need for collaboration and compromise.

During the panel discussion, the CEO of Compassion in World Farming (CIWF) underscored the centrality of food in addressing global crises and advocated moving away from industrial animal agriculture. The Executive Vice-President of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development highlighted the role of businesses in driving food systems transformation and mentioned private sector engagement in UNFCCC COP28 and UNFCCC COP30. The Secretary General of the International Food and Beverage Association stressed the slow integration of food systems into global agendas and the importance of policy coherence at the national level. The discussion then delved into addressing power imbalances and inequities in food systems. Young Professionals for Agriculture Development's (YPARD) representative challenged the economic system prioritizing profit over people, advocating for a redesign of failing food systems. The subsequent speakers, including Mr. Geoffrey Roth on Indigenous Peoples' sustainable practices, Ms. Arianna Giuliadori from the World Farmers' Organization, and Ms. Mansi Shah representing the Self-Employment Women Association (SEWA), discussed rebalancing power in the food value chain, emphasizing farmer-centric approaches, and the need for inclusive policy dialogues.

The interventions from the floor covered various topics, including GHG sequestration in agriculture, consumer engagement, education, the role of new business models, and the views of small farmers in policy design.

The overall conclusions highlighted the need for a multi-stakeholder approach, better inclusion of stakeholders, rebalancing power in the food value chain, and generating data on informal workers for informed policymaking. The session emphasized continued efforts to extend beyond food and include social policy and equity agendas in the transformative process.



SPECIAL EVENTS

MEASURING GLOBAL FOOD SYSTEMS

The session highlighted the urgent need for a scientifically grounded monitoring system for food systems transformation. Such a system should be built on a clear set of indicators that can guide policymakers in designing, monitoring, and evaluating public policies, while also capturing the systemic nature of food systems—mapping interactions, identifying synergies, and recognizing trade-offs.

The **Food Systems Countdown Initiative (FSCI)** was presented as a viable starting point, offering a framework of 50 indicators based on existing global data. These indicators were selected through a rigorous, independent, science-based, and consultative process, which participants were able to explore in detail during the session.

Discussions emphasized the value of using the FSCI framework to integrate monitoring into national pathways and coalition plans of action, supporting progress toward food systems transformation. There was broad recognition of the importance of establishing global-level monitoring, with participants encouraged to champion its inclusion in implementation strategies.

Next steps include developing mechanisms to support stakeholders interested in applying the FSCI framework, as well as establishing a forum for feedback and ongoing refinement of the framework and indicators as new data and metrics become available. Additionally, the FSCI will collect and share stories of adoption, including examples of countries adapting the framework for national and subnational contexts.



SPECIAL EVENTS

THE TRUE COST OF FOOD

The session convened a panel of speakers to discuss the multifaceted challenges facing current food systems, ranging from hunger and malnutrition to issues of environmental sustainability. The overall session underscored the importance of a comprehensive understanding of food system costs, advocating for true cost accounting as a transformative tool.

The CEO of GIST Impact emphasized the need for a holistic approach and standardized metrics for true cost accounting, stressing that “you cannot manage what you cannot measure”. The panel included insights from different Ministers and officials along with sector experts from Kenya, Brazil, Indonesia, Switzerland, and the World Benchmarking Alliance, illustrating diverse efforts to understand food system costs and implement interventions. Key themes included the impact of high production costs, labor, food loss, and climate change on the overall cost of food. Notable initiatives, such as the Andhra Pradesh Community-Managed Natural Farming study in India and Brazil’s policies for agroecology and organic production, were highlighted.

The private sector, represented by Rabobank, expressed the need for a broader consideration of true value in decision-making and the wish to be able to issue true value bonds in the market. The Executive Director of the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) discussed the challenges of true cost accounting in animal source food consumption.

In closing, FAO’s Chief Economist emphasized the commitment to integrating true cost accounting into agrifood system assessment for positive change.

SPECIAL EVENTS

FERTILIZERS: MEETING SHORT-TERM NEEDS WHILE WORKING TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

The session discussed the global issue of rising fertilizer prices, addressing geopolitical and economic impacts on accessibility and affordability. Urgency for short-term solutions and long-term sustainability was emphasized by the Chief Economist of FAO, with a focus on increased production.

The Director General of the International Fertilizer Association stressed collaborative action for affordability, urging emerging markets to prioritize fertilizers. Perspectives from the World Farmers' Organization highlighted prioritizing farmers' needs, echoed by a female farmer. Mr. Mizzi, representing the European Union, highlighted the centrality of the fertilizer issue amid Ukraine-related tensions, emphasizing collaboration to analyze food production and soil maps. The USA's Special Envoy underscored the importance of efficiency, tangible benefits for farmers, and sustainable agrifood systems. Environmental considerations were highlighted, and floor interventions discussed research, synthetic biology, and trade restrictions.

In conclusion, the session recognized the immediate challenges posed by the fertilizer crisis, advocating for short-term measures to address accessibility and affordability issues. At the same time, it emphasized the transformative potential of fertilizers for a sustainable agrifood system.





UN FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT + 2

STOCKTAKING MOMENT

July 2023



© FAO/Riccardo De Luca

SPECIAL EVENTS

LEVERAGING URBANIZATION FOR FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION

The session showcased insights from diverse stakeholders. FAO Director of Food Systems and Food Safety Division stressed the need to ‘translate’ urban potential into actionable power for sustainable food systems. The keynote speaker from FAO’s Agrifood Economics Division highlighted the inadequacy of the urban-rural divide concept and advocated for a ‘rural-urban continuum’ approach. The IOM Director General-Elect brought to the discussion a perspective connecting migration, displacement, and food security.

Peru’s Vice Minister of Policies, Supervision and Agrarian Development showcased the country’s efforts in food system transformation at the national and city levels. The Mayor of Chefchaouen (Morocco) discussed the role of intermediary cities, and the Vice Mayor of Milan emphasized multi-level governance and networks in transforming urban food systems.

Mr. Joao Campari of WWF/ Transforming Urban Rural Food Systems (TURFS) Consortium emphasized the Consortium’s commitment to tangible impact and empowering cities. Professor Jane Battersby from the University of Cape Town highlighted the challenges in integrating local governments into national food policy agendas in African cities.

Floor interventions raised questions on inclusivity, climate initiatives, power imbalances, gender-sensitive infrastructure, and spatial planning in urban food systems.

Overall, the need to convert urban potential into actionable power was emphasized. A ‘rural-urban continuum’ approach was also underscored, along with the necessity for investments in urban food systems, multi-level governance mechanisms, and pragmatic, integrated actions at various levels to transform food systems.

TUESDAY 25 JULY. SUMMIT DAY 2

Following the Summit inaugural day, a structure featuring three concurrent session streams, the second day of the UNFSS+2 commenced with the first Plenary session on “Food Systems Transformation in Practice” in the Plenaries workstream and followed in the afternoon by the second Plenary session on building resilient food systems. The sessions collectively emphasized the importance of collaboration, technology integration, and sustainable practices in addressing global food system challenges and fostering resilience.

The Plenary stream was complemented by four Leadership Dialogues and six Special Events, enhancing the comprehensiveness of the overall workstreams. In the Leadership Dialogues, "Food Systems for People's Nutrition and Health" emphasized public actions for accessible, nutritious diets. "Food Systems for the Planet" explored the intersection of food systems and the environment. "Food Systems for Shared Prosperity" sought to balance economic prosperity, sustainability, and nutrition. The "Science, Technology, and Innovation Roundtable" highlighted the role of interdisciplinary approaches in transforming food systems.

In the Special Events stream, "Advancing Aquatic Food Systems" highlighted the critical role of transformed aquatic food systems in addressing global challenges. "Building Africa's Food Sovereignty" emphasized achieving food sovereignty through sustainable investments, with speakers urging transformative actions and inclusive financing. "Governance for Agrifood Systems Transformation" stressed the important role of governance, advocating for inclusive participation and strong leadership. "Digitalization for Resilient Agrifood Systems" underscored the role of digital technologies in transforming global food systems, emphasizing the potential for resilience and efficiency. "Value Chains for Resilient Food Systems" focused on the necessity of resilient value chains, promoting sustainability and inclusivity. The "Special Event with the Private Sector" underscored the pivotal role of private sector engagement in transforming food systems, emphasizing transformative investments and collaborations for sustainability.





© FAO/Cristiano Minichiello

HIGH LEVEL PLENARY SESSIONS

FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION IN PRACTICE - SUCSESSES, CHALLENGES, AND THE WAY FORWARD

The session served as a platform for the exchange of practical insights and experiences related to the transformation of food systems. A persistent gap exists between what is conceptualized on paper and its practical implementation. The session recognized that stakeholders across the globe are actively involved in transforming their food systems, contributing to progress, successes, and the identification of good practices. The focus on diverse experiences aimed to inspire collective action by learning from each other's challenges and successes in the shared pursuit of sustainable and resilient food systems.

In the opening remarks of the session, the FAO Director-General delivered a compelling intervention, emphasizing the pivotal role of food system transformation in achieving the SDGs. He underscored the immense potential inherent in food systems, urging collaborative efforts grounded in science and evidence. Dr. Qu highlighted the importance of context-specific solutions, emphasizing the need for tailored approaches in policy, innovation, and investment. His intervention underscored the call for a holistic and informed transformation to address global challenges and set the course for a sustainable and resilient future.

The Prime Minister of Nepal, in his keynote address, acknowledged the uncertainties in achieving SDG2 (Zero Hunger) in the post-COVID era. He also emphasized the urgent need for transforming food systems. His Excellency outlined Nepal's steadfast commitment to food sovereignty, citing national dialogues and the formulation of a Food Systems Transformation Strategic Plan as crucial strategies. He also shared the challenges faced by Nepal, including low productivity, climate shocks, and substantial funding gaps. In a call for global collaboration, he urged stakeholders to join hands in the transformative journey, emphasizing the importance of shared efforts in addressing these challenges and building a sustainable and equitable food system.

In the first panel discussion that followed, the representative of AUDA-NEPAD emphasized the complexities in reshaping African food systems, noting progress through frameworks like the Malabo / CAADP framework. She pointed out challenges, including climate change and inadequate infrastructure, stressing the need for innovation and investment. Bangladesh's Minister of Agriculture shared his country's transition from famine challenges to food self-sufficiency, outlining goals like doubling productivity and promoting agro-industries. H.E. Ms. Mariam Bint Mohammed Saeed Hareb Almheiri highlighted the UAE's innovation-driven ag-tech transformation and addressed challenges in food sovereignty, emphasizing engagement with small-holder farmers and the interest of the youth in agriculture, including food production in cities, due to food innovations and technologies. USA's Under-Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs discussed her country's substantial USD 5 billion investment in food system transformation, advocating a comprehensive approach involving farmers, processors, distributors, and consumers. The Coordinator of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement advocated for nutrition-focused food systems to address malnutrition, emphasizing coordination and highlighting financial challenges.

In the second panel discussion, speakers highlighted diverse strategies. The Minister of Agriculture of Ethiopia stressed the necessity of holistic food system transformation, outlining concrete actions to achieve this. Ireland's Secretary-General of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine discussed the importance of mobilizing people around a shared vision, emphasizing economic, environmental, and social sustainability. The Secretary-General of the International Chamber of Commerce underscored the private sector's critical role, urging a shift from moral pressure to market incentives to drive change. The Executive Director of the Food Rights Alliance Uganda emphasized the human rights dimension, calling for an enabling environment. The Youth Representative in the panel highlighted the need for education, support for farmers, and collaboration for a sustainable food system.

The session concluded with approximately 20 countries participating actively from the floor, sharing insights into their national strategies and challenges, emphasizing the importance of cooperation, technology integration, and sustainable practices.



©FAO/Cristiano Minichiello

HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY SESSIONS

REVERSING THE FOOD AND HUNGER CRISIS: BUILDING RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS

The session focused on translating ambitious goals into concrete actions for the development of more resilient food systems. The discussion was structured around "five asks," outlining crucial priorities for various stakeholders, including governments, development partners, non-state actors, the private sector, and citizens. These priorities encompassed increasing local production, embracing regenerative agricultural practices, reducing post-harvest losses, utilizing institutional procurement to link farmers with markets, and centering efforts on the empowerment of youth and women.

The session began with the Executive Director of WFP advocating for resilient food systems amid compounding challenges like climate shocks and macroeconomic instability. The President of Somalia emphasized connecting farmers to markets and adapting financing for resilient food systems. Dr. Mayaki, the African Union Special Envoy for Food Systems, highlighted national, regional, and continental-level actions with global partnerships to increase food supply, including access to finance and prioritizing youth.

In the panel discussion, Italy's Minister of Agriculture discussed the country's focus on sustainability, food security, and technological innovation. The Minister of Agriculture of Liberia outlined efforts in catalyzing agro-industries, while Mr. Rotimi, Founder of JR Farms, stressed the need for the public sector to create space and incentives for private sector involvement and investment in youth agrifood businesses.

Representatives from the Asian Development Bank and the CGIAR discussed financial commitments and research roles. Ministers from different countries detailed efforts to build resilient food systems, emphasizing inclusivity, sustainability, and non-state actors highlighted humanitarian needs, system-level improvements, and efficient agrifood value chain management.

In the second panel discussion, the Minister of International Development of Norway, the Minister of Agriculture from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Minister of Agriculture and Forests of Bhutan, the National Secretary of Food and Nutrition Security of Brazil, the Minister of the Environment in Colombia and the Director of Programme Implementation of AUDA-NEPAD reiterated the need to build on practical actions which create the capacities and incentives for all actors to contribute to more resilient food systems.

The session, building on the insights from the School Meals High-Level Session, emphasized the significance of home-grown, nutritious, and diverse food to support countries' school meal programs and robust institutional procurement mechanisms in bridging local production with farmers and markets to fortify food systems.

Finance and investment, particularly linking climate financing to support resilient food systems, emerged as a recurrent theme, with calls for shifting existing financial structures and increased domestic investments. The disruption of the Black Sea Grain Initiative was addressed, with a plea for all parties to return to negotiations. The session provided actionable insights to advance the resilient food systems agenda, reshape global relationships, and address challenges to local food supply and food security.





© FAO/Giulio Napolitano

LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES

FOOD SYSTEMS FOR PEOPLE'S NUTRITION AND HEALTH

The session emphasized the central role of public actions and strategies in transforming food systems to ensure accessible, nutritious, sustainable, and affordable diets globally.

The session commenced with an introduction by the WHO Director of the Department of Nutrition and Food Safety, emphasizing the centrality of people's right to nutrition and health in the core transformation of food systems. Dr. Li Ailan, Assistant Director-General at WHO, highlighted the profound implications of current food systems on nutrition, health, and the planet, emphasizing the imperative to prioritize the nutrition and health rights of individuals, particularly children.

Prof. Patrick Webb, Technical Advisor at the Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems, delivered a keynote stressing the interconnectedness of planetary health, nutrition, and prosperity. He underscored the negative impact of existing food systems on planetary and human health, calling for a transformation that ensures the production, accessibility, affordability, and desirability of healthy foods. Professor Webb emphasized the need for people-centric policy actions and universal access to healthy diets.

The first panel discussion of the session focused on improving access and affordability of healthy foods. The Chief Economist at FAO highlighted fiscal policies as a critical mechanism for food system transformation. The Executive Director at Access to Nutrition Initiative discussed concerning trends, including the unhealthy nature of a significant portion of the world's food supply. The Vice Mayor of Milan shared the city's success in promoting healthy and sustainable school meals, while Yemen's Shadow National Convenor underlined the challenges of promoting healthy diets in the political agenda amid conflict and fragility. In navigating these difficulties, the public sector must strike a balance between short-term needs and long-term strategies, placing emphasis on local value chains, supporting smallholder farmers and SMEs, and ensuring healthy school meals. The Convenor highlighted the significance of leveraging the humanitarian peace nexus as a crucial mechanism for securing long-term financing in such complex contexts.

The second panel explored public sector policies and strategies for improving food environments. Panelists included Dr. Patrick Amoth (Kenya), Hon. Vatimi TTK Rayalu (Fiji), Dr. Simón Barquera (Mexico), and H.E. Ms. Anne Beathe Tvinnereim (Norway). They discussed experiences, challenges, and successful approaches in their respective countries to enhance healthy diets.

The National Secretary for Food and Nutrition Security in Brazil delivered closing remarks, emphasizing the need to diversify and ensure quality food for all. She underscored the role of states and the centrality of the human right to adequate food in building healthier, more sustainable, inclusive, and fair food systems. She also stressed the importance of multisectoral collaboration and international cooperation in improving the global food and nutrition governance system.

The floor intervention from a youth representative highlighted the crucial role of young people in food system transformation. She emphasized the need for better education on healthy and sustainable diets, stressing the importance of a common narrative and encouraging less meat consumption, especially in high-income countries.



LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES

FOOD SYSTEMS FOR THE PLANET

Speakers in this session offered insights on the critical intersection between food systems and the environment. The session's moderators emphasized the interlinkage between food systems and nature, highlighting the urgent need for resilient and sustainable food systems and underlined the challenges posed by cascading crises, emphasizing the unique potential of agri-food systems in addressing the triple planetary crisis.

The panel discussions explored key aspects of food system transformation. The State Secretary of the German Economic Cooperation and Development Ministry stressed the importance of soil restoration and repurposing agricultural subsidies. The representative of Lesotho called for holistic approaches to food system transformation, emphasizing the need for integrated action and alliances, while the Secretary General of the Asian Farmers' Association (AFA) highlighted the pivotal role of small producers and outlined requirements for their participation in the national food systems pathways. Mr. Umunay from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) discussed the inadequacy of current financial resources in food systems transformation, advocating for private sector involvement and repurposing subsidies. The Executive Vice President of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) emphasized the potential of major agribusiness players in driving positive change and listed opportunities for businesses in food system transformation. The Global Leader, Food Practice of the Worldwide Fund (WWF) emphasized the localization of global targets for food systems transformation, collaborative partnerships, and integrated approaches like agroecology to be mainstream in national food systems pathways. The Vice President of Corporate Affairs from Tetra Pak International outlined the role of private companies in building sustainable food value chains, reducing food waste, and encouraging sustainable consumption. The representative of the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) addressed the underutilized potential of women in global food systems, emphasizing the need to address gender inequalities and empower women in decision-making processes.

The intervention from the floor from a small horticulture farmer from India highlighted the transformative potential of gender-responsive and planet-smart technologies, citing an example of solar-hydraulic precision irrigation technology positively impacting productivity, income, and education in her community.



© FAO/Giulio Napolitano

LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES

FOOD SYSTEMS FOR SHARED PROSPERITY: ACHIEVING EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE, AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY IN FOOD SYSTEMS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Dialogue aimed to address the complex challenge of improving the environment, society, and health while fostering economic prosperity in agrifood systems by identifying concrete policy approaches and national pathways that manage tradeoffs effectively, promoting solutions for income and gender equality, environmental sustainability, and improved nutrition.

Diverse speakers shared their insights. Dr. Qu Dongyu, the Director-General of FAO, emphasized the vital role of agrifood systems in economic prosperity and stressed the need for increased investment and enabling policies globally. He underlined FAO's commitment to inclusivity, highlighting the importance of addressing inequalities in various dimensions.

In the panel discussion, Ms. Jyotsna Puri, Associate Vice President from IFAD, who moderated the session, set the technical scene by pointing out persistent global hunger, emphasizing the need to tackle various forms of inequalities in food systems. The discussion covered food insecurity along the rural-urban divide, the prevalence of food insecurity among small-scale producers, and the challenge of accessing diverse food options, particularly in rural areas.

Speakers like Ms. Wenche Westberg, State Secretary of Norway's Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Mr. Christian Hofer, the Director of the Federal Office for Agriculture in Switzerland, and H.E. Mr. Girma Amente, Minister for Agriculture in Ethiopia, discussed challenges and strategies for sustainable food systems. Ms. Westberg highlighted the importance of empowering all actors, especially women, and creating interesting jobs for youth in agriculture. Mr. Hofer emphasized the balance between environmental and economic considerations in Switzerland, calling for private and public alignment for sustainability. Minister Amente outlined Ethiopia's goals, including enhancing production and building resilience, while addressing challenges such as smallholders having limited access to rural finance and post-harvest losses.

The panel also included perspectives from Viet Nam, where Mr. Dao The Anh, the Vice President of the Vietnamese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, outlined challenges facing agriculture in production, trade, and consumption areas, including the overarching issues of lack of coordination and insufficient investments. The Deputy Director-General of the World Trade Organization, Mr. Jean-Marie Paugam, discussed the challenge of balancing policies supporting global trade and domestic food production. Although the WTO holds tools to address this balance, such as redirecting subsidies for environmental goals and disseminating climate-friendly agricultural innovations, these tools are underutilized. He also emphasized the importance of avoiding policies that hinder the free flow of food during crises. Ms. Jemimah Njuki, Economic Director of Economic Empowerment at UN Women, highlighted the interconnectedness of gender equality and food systems transformation, emphasizing the need for investment in women.

Interventions from the floor addressed critical issues such as the true cost of food, breaking silos in food systems, empowering women in agriculture, managing the impact of foreign food imports on domestic markets, reconciling conflicting interests, and improving land rights for women.



LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION ROUNDTABLE
WITH THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The session highlighted the crucial role of STI in transforming food systems, with a focus on interdisciplinary approaches, collaboration, and inclusive science.

Ms. Shakuntala Thilsted, Chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), opened the session, emphasizing the role of science, technology, and innovation (STI) as accelerators of change, calling for integrated solutions and the scaling up of appropriate technologies.

The Director-General of FAO stressed the importance of science in shaping public policies and highlighted the need to avoid a silo approach, extending FAO's scope beyond land-based agriculture.

At the impact panel, Italy's Minister of University and Research underlined the vital role of innovation in addressing global food challenges, emphasizing the practical application of scientific solutions. UAE's Minister of Climate Change and Environment showcased how STI has driven progress in the UAE's national food security strategy. The Under-Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs at the United States Department of Agriculture emphasized climate-smart agriculture and the role of science in providing tools for farmers.

During the SAC Roundtable, SAC Co-Chairs provided their insights. Ms. Barbara Burlingame stressed the importance of studying past summits on STI for insights. The UN's priority is global food system transformation, requiring compromises. The SAC aims to mobilize science and innovation while respecting traditional knowledge of indigenous populations. Ms. Hilal Elver underscored the significance of involving all stakeholders in decision-making processes and echoed an equal recognition of both scientific (peer-reviewed) and traditional knowledge. Mr. Jean-Francois Soussana highlighted the need for interdisciplinary research to address climate change, biodiversity erosion, and inequalities. Mr. Shenggen Fan emphasized the role of the SAC in supporting countries at the national level. Lastly, Mr. Ibrahima Hathie from the UN Global Sustainable Development Report Group referred to the GSDR report, which suggests a reflective and actionable framework, drawing inspiration from past successes.

Interventions from the floor included remarks on the need for concrete indicators, the mobilization of indigenous knowledge, and addressing the gap between politics and scientific knowledge.

SPECIAL EVENTS

ADVANCING AQUATIC FOOD SYSTEMS FOR PEOPLE, PLANET, AND PROSPERITY

The session emphasized that transformed aquatic food systems are crucial for addressing challenges in feeding a growing population, providing essential nutrients, and reducing the environmental footprint. Blue Transformation, aiming at sustainable aquaculture, effective fisheries management, and upgraded value chains, requires partnerships, research, technology transfer, and investments to maximize its potential for food security, nutrition, and climate resilience.

In the opening remarks, Ms. Shakuntala Thilsted emphasized the critical role of Blue Transformation in addressing global food and nutrition security and poverty while ensuring sustainable use of natural resources. Ms. Maria Helena Semedo underscored the significance of aquatic foods in combating global hunger and achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. She underscored that failure to accelerate Blue transformation can put land-based food systems under greater pressure.

In the panel discussion, Iceland's Special Envoy on Ocean Affairs emphasized the need for aquatic food programs to incorporate environmental and social protection principles, with a focus on quality nutrition. AU Commissioner for Agriculture, H.E. Ms. Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko, called for active collaboration, increased investments, and the establishment of a network of centers for fisheries and aquaculture. The Minister for International Development of Norway, H.E. Ms. Anne Beathe Tvinnereim, shared Norway's efforts in supporting knowledge-based management of fisheries and aquaculture for environmental and economic sustainability. Ms. Vivi Yulaswati, Deputy Minister for Maritime Affairs and Natural Resources of Indonesia, underscored the significance of the Blue Economy and Blue Transformation for Indonesia's economic growth. She supported FAO's Blue Transformation, emphasizing benefits beyond increased protein sources, such as a lower carbon footprint and community strengthening. H.E. Ms. Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile, Ambassador of South Africa to FAO, expressed Africa's endorsement of FAO's Blue Transformation to combat hunger and protect coastal livelihoods. H.E. the Ambassador of Tanzania, Mr. Jestas Abuok Nyamanga, highlighted the vital role of Blue Transformation in the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States' (OACPS) agenda, emphasizing inclusivity, sustainability, and the need to address challenges like overfishing. The closing remarks by Mr. Gonzalo Munoz, UNFCCC COP 25 High-Level Climate Champion, and Mr. Peter Thomson, UN Special Envoy for the Ocean, underscored the necessity of collaboration, governance improvements, and the transformative potential of Blue Transformation in addressing global food systems challenges.

The interventions from the floor highlighted the EU's commitment to value chain development and the importance of monitoring initiatives to attract investments.



SPECIAL EVENTS

BUILDING AFRICA'S FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND RESILIENCE THROUGH SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENTS

The session began with a keynote from H.E.Ms. Amina Mohammed, UNDSG, stressed the importance of achieving food sovereignty to advance Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Key messages included the need for strengthening domestic resource mobilization, improved climate investment, harmonized food standards under the African Continental Free Trade Area, and a global financial system that allows fiscal space for African countries. Addressing the high cost of debt and making financial institutions more inclusive were also emphasized.

H.E. Mr. Ahmed Mathobe Nunow, Somalia's Minister of Agriculture, presented the country's Food and Agriculture Delivery Compact, emphasizing the urgency of mobilizing resources, particularly long-term finance, for import substitution and enhancing the agricultural sector, highlighting the role of the private sector, public-private partnerships, and infrastructure investment. Following this, H.E. Dr. Fitsum Assefa of Ethiopia discussed the country's strides in agricultural transformation and underscored the need for international finance mobilization. H.E. Mr. Ildephonse Musafiri, Rwanda's Minister of Agriculture, focused on investments in irrigation and crop intensification, de-risking agricultural production, and stressed inclusivity, research, and innovation. Finally, H.E.Ms. Josefa Sacko, AU Commissioner for Agriculture, issued a call to action, emphasizing Africa's untapped potential and advocating for self-organization in financing while criticizing the prevalent focus on evaluating member states over providing essential investment.

FAO Director General, Mr. Qu Dongyu, emphasized Africa's youthful population and the need for concrete plans, particularly in digital agriculture. Mr. Alvaro Lario, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, outlined the substantial financial opportunities in Africa's food imports, committing significant resources to foster transformative projects. Ms. Cindy McCain, Executive Director of the World Food Programme, detailed WFP's commitment to supporting African countries in achieving food system transformation through sustainable investments, emphasizing the importance of local markets and the role of the private sector. Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Special Envoy on Food Systems of the African Union, highlighted the inseparable link between Africa's structural transformation, industrialization, and the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement. Dr. Agnes Kalibata, President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa, called for a rethinking of financing anchored around Africa's trade and food corridors. Other speakers, including representatives from Pan-African Farmers Organization and African Food Changemakers, stressed the need to channel financing to farmers, revamp funding flows to local organizations, and eliminate gender bias in investment mechanisms. The EU emphasizes the importance of establishing effective financial systems for African countries, particularly in the Sahel, highlighting the need to empower the continent's youth in leading key sectors, advocating for the private sector, and preserving African lifestyles.

Overall, the speakers conveyed a unified message: Africa possesses the potential to nourish itself and the world, but transformative actions, political will, and inclusive financing are crucial to realizing this potential.



SPECIAL EVENTS

GOVERNANCE FOR AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION

Inaya Ezzedine, a Member of Parliament from Lebanon, emphasized the significant responsibility parliaments hold in transforming food systems, stressing the need for legislative adaptation, oversight, and budgeting support to facilitate the necessary changes. Mr. Edward Walugembe discussed Uganda's institutionalized coordination approach, focusing on the importance of rural development and political commitment. Mr. Jarot Indarto highlighted Indonesia's territorial approach, incorporating food systems into national planning with a focus on evidence-based efforts. Mr. Alwin Kopse, Head of International Affairs and Food Systems & National Convenor, discussed Switzerland's citizens' assembly on the Future of Food, emphasizing the importance of citizen engagement and leadership.

Interventions from the floor by Mr. Franco Sanchez-Hidalgo, Director of Programmes at IDLO, and Ms. Lany Rebagay from the Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development underscored the need for inclusive governance, legal frameworks, and substantial participation of stakeholders, particularly producers. Ms. Florence Égal, representing UN-HABITAT, highlighted the importance of better coordination across institutions and forums to capitalize on experiences and lessons learned in governance issues.

The overarching conclusion of the session emphasized that governance is foundational to the success of food systems transformation. Inclusive participation, protection of the right to food, cross-sectoral coordination, and strong leadership are identified as crucial elements to ensure equitable, resilient, and sustainable outcomes in the quest for improved food systems globally.



SPECIAL EVENTS**DIGITALIZATION FOR RESILIENT AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS**

The session's speakers focused on the crucial role of digital technologies in transforming and fortifying global food systems. Dejan Jakovljevic, FAO's Chief Information Officer, set the stage by emphasizing the significance of digitalization in achieving sustainable food systems and stressed the need for systemic, country-driven support.

Máximo Torero, FAO's Chief Economist, echoed this notion, emphasizing the "4 Cs" – Connectivity, Cost, Content, and Capabilities – as essential elements for accelerating digital transformation. Hon. Franklin Mithika Linturi, Cabinet Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development in Kenya, positioned Kenya as a digital champion and highlighted the transformative potential of digital innovation in making agrifood systems more productive, efficient, inclusive, and sustainable.

At the panel discussion, Ms. Tania Strauss from the World Economic Forum, Ms. Alessandra Zampieri from the EU Joint Research Center, Mr. Martien Van Nieuwkoop from the World Bank, and Mr. Massimiliano Giansanti, President of Confagricoltura, offered diverse perspectives on digitalization. They stressed the importance of global collaboration, geospatial data, and artificial intelligence in transforming agriculture, and highlighted initiatives such as the Global Coalition for Data and Digital Food Systems Innovation and the European Union gateway. The closing remarks by Mr. Jakovljevic reiterated the potential of digital technologies in enhancing food supply chain resilience, supporting livelihoods, and ensuring sustainable access to nutritious food globally. The session concluded with a call to embed digitalization as a key policy objective in building resilient agrifood systems, acknowledging the challenges posed by the digital divide and emphasizing the need for public investments, improved regulations, and coherent policy frameworks.

Interventions from the floor, including insights from Mr. Rikin Gandhi, CEO of Digital Green, emphasized the transformative potential of agricultural extension through digital technologies, allowing farmers to become decision-makers and contributing valuable data for refining models and research.



SPECIAL EVENTS

VALUE CHAINS FOR RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS

The session commenced with the Chief Economist of FAO, Mr. Máximo Torero, emphasizing the need to build resilience and efficiency throughout agrifood systems. Mr. David Laborde, FAO Director of Agrifood Economics, provided a technical presentation emphasizing the importance of understanding resilience drivers and proposing solutions at various levels.

Government perspectives were shared by H.E. Mr. Bryan Acheampong from Ghana and H.E. Mr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque from Bangladesh, who highlighted the urgency of addressing hunger and malnutrition. Both advocated for climate-resilient practices and sustainable innovations. Ms. Fernanda Machiaveli Morão de Oliveira from Brazil emphasized the commitment to building resilient food systems, with a focus on supporting family farmers and implementing climate-resilient agriculture practices. Mr. Cary Fowler, USA's Special Envoy for Global Food Security, stressed the vulnerability of relying on a few crops and advocated for promoting resilient crops. The session featured insights from Mr. Redouane Arrach of Morocco, Mr. Jean Balié of the International Rice Research Institute, and Mr. Roy Steiner of The Rockefeller Foundation. Discussions covered the importance of context-specific solutions, science, innovation, and collaboration. Mr. Gerrit-Jan van Uffelen from Wageningen University underscored the need for a better understanding of food systems and the value of involving youth. Mr. David Kaatrud, Director Programme at WFP, concluded by highlighting the growing interest in value chains and the need for more context-specific research.

The overall consensus emphasized the necessity of resilient value chains for more sustainable agrifood systems to address shocks and crises. Key recommendations included boosting private-public financing, government support for stakeholders, and prioritizing economic outcomes alongside inclusivity and environmental sustainability. The importance of women's participation, local partnerships, and engaging marginalized groups was raised throughout the discussion. The session concluded with a call for more research on the impact of value chain analysis, especially in fragile environments.

SPECIAL EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENT WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

The Special Event underscored the pivotal role of private sector engagement in achieving the SDGs and transforming food systems. It highlighted the significance of transformative investments from both public and private sources and recommended effective public resources, incentive frameworks, and the removal of barriers hindering SME participation. Accountability mechanisms, supported by scientific data, were emphasized for engaging leading companies and investors committed to sustainable food systems. Collaborations and partnerships involving governments, the private sector, financial institutions, and development organizations were deemed crucial. The event stressed the importance of directing investments toward smallholder farmers, who currently receive only 3 percent despite contributing significantly to global food production. Aligning investment prospects with sustainability objectives was identified as a key strategy, necessitating the combination of public and private resources. The initiative proposed partnerships fostering ecologically conscious supply chains to reduce investment risks. To incentivize private sector investment, especially in low-income countries, it was proposed to simplify regulations, improve property rights, and provide investment protection measures. Additionally, panelists called for an enhanced allocation of Official Development Assistance (ODA) and the repurposing of agricultural subsidies. In conclusion, the Special Event acted as a catalyst, recognizing the private sector's crucial role, emphasizing transformative investments, collaboration, and environmentally friendly practices to drive positive change and make substantial progress in food system transformation.



Ms. Viktoria de Bourbon de Parme, Food Transformation Lead at WBA, opened the session by stressing that current business models are off track for achieving the SDGs, urging the private sector to close financial gaps while being accountable. Ms. Diane Holdorf, Executive Vice President at the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, emphasized the necessity of private sector leadership and performance in successful transitions towards sustainable practices, particularly through scaling innovation, technology, and investment measurement.

In the panel discussion, Mr. Jochen Flasbarth, Secretary of State at BMZ, emphasized the need for improved financial products, supporting sustainable agriculture, and addressing barriers to attract private sector investment. Mr. Mizuno Masayoshi, Director-General at the Ministry of Agriculture of Japan, highlighted their investment in sustainable food systems and initiative at the G7, fostering collaboration with small-scale farmers in developing countries. Mr. Mohamed Beavogui, Former UN Assistant Secretary-General, discussed incentivizing the private sector in low-income countries through simplifying regulations and improving property rights. Ms. Temiloluwa Okeowo, an SME representative from Nigeria, raised concerns about SMEs' limited access to financial resources and suggested facilitating private capital, leveraging technology, and fostering financial inclusion. Ms. Geraldine Matchett, Co-CEO of DSM-Firmenich, emphasized the need for partnerships to ensure overall public health and advocated for an 'outcomes-based' approach to finance. Mr. Lawrence Haddad, Executive Director of the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition, stressed accountability across different food system outcomes and the importance of inclusivity in private sector and financing commitments. Katherine Pickus, SVP of Sustainability at Tysons, highlighted the significance of data in private sector investments, referencing the WBA report for guidance.

In the closing remarks, Mr. Greg Garrett, Executive Director of the Access to Nutrition Initiative, called for commitments from CEOs to achieve the 2030 CEO Initiative objectives for healthier and sustainable diets. Ms. Shalini Unnikrishnan, Managing Director at Boston Consultant Group, concluded by outlining UNFCCC COP28's 2030 regenerative action agenda, focusing on collaborative efforts. Dr. Jyotsna Puri, Associate Vice-President at IFAD, closed by emphasizing incentives and accountability and the need for aligning public and private resources for sustainability. Martien Van Nieuwkoop, Global Director at the World Bank, concluded by urging public-private pacts for repurposing investments and de-risking private sector involvement.

WEDNESDAY 26 JULY. SUMMIT DAY 3

The third and final day of the Summit commenced with a Plenary session focusing on the Means of Implementation. This session served as a comprehensive recapitulation, looking into the enabling environment necessary for the successful implementation of food systems transformation. The subsequent Plenary session directed our attention towards the future, outlining key sustainable development milestones paving the way to 2030.

As the day unfolded, three Leadership Dialogues and four Special Events covered diverse topics such as partnerships for food systems, empowering National Convenors, Food Lost and Waste, aerospace technologies for food systems, trade, the Joint SDG Fund, and Indigenous Peoples' knowledge on food systems.

The conclusion of the Summit was marked by the **Closing session**, bringing a fitting end to the UNFSS+2. The Closing session echoed the sense of urgency and commitment to reform global food systems. Key speakers highlighted Africa's pressing need for change, presenting strategic plans. Emphasis was placed on citizen dialogues, scaled-up investments, and tailored financial models for farmers. Youth representatives advocated for collaboration, underscoring their pivotal role in the process. UN leaders outlined actionable areas, emphasizing local production, climate sensitivity, and community benefits. They stressed the cost of inaction, the importance of infrastructure, and the centrality of people. The call for embedding food system strategies in national policies and inclusive governance echoed a holistic approach, recognizing the role of women, youth, and indigenous communities. Geopolitical concerns underscored the complexity of global collaboration in food systems. The closing ceremony highlighted a unified commitment to transformative and sustainable actions in the face of pressing challenges.



HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY SESSIONS

MOBILIZING MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION FOR FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION

The session explored how finance and the other Means of Implementation (data, trade, governance, and science and innovation) should align and interact to strengthen transformative actions. It brought together a diverse group of participants and speakers, including country leaders, development actors, private sector representatives, and SMEs to share thoughts and build a collective understanding on the key components for transforming food systems, as identified by the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit.

Speakers, including H.E. Mr Themba Masuku, Deputy Prime Minister of Eswatini, stressed the urgent need for food system transformation, highlighting the importance of stakeholder engagement, improved financing mechanisms, and robust information systems. Donal Brown, Associate Vice-President at IFAD, and Christopher Brett, Lead Agribusiness Specialist at the World Bank, emphasized the need for evidence on how countries and the global community are doing on financing for food systems transformation. Results from the 3FS tool were showcased, which is a financial tracking tool that provides up-to-date information on food system financing at country and global levels, enabling decision-makers to track, allocate resources, and optimize financing flows for food system transformation.

Key themes of the session also included private sector involvement, incentivizing investments in low-income countries, and employing blended financing approaches. The significance of engaging rural farmers, providing equitable pricing structures, and creating incentives for both private sector actors and smallholder farmers emerged as important points. Digitalization's role in accelerating progress, particularly through precision agriculture techniques and supply chain optimization, was underscored. Effective governance, with the participation of relevant stakeholders, was identified as critical, emphasizing inclusive decision-making.

The session highlighted the need for evidence-based policy and action, institutional support, and incentives for achieving food systems transformation. Integration of science, technology, and innovation, along with access to finance, were emphasized as key drivers. Challenges such as inclusive access to technology and data were acknowledged. The transformative approach, integrating trade, financing, agriculture, nutrition, and health, was advocated. The active engagement of youth in discussions and implementation was a recurring theme, recognizing their unique perspectives and contributions. In conclusion, the session laid a robust foundation for driving transformative change in food systems, emphasizing evidence-based approaches, incentives, and the integration of various elements for comprehensive and sustainable transformation.

HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY SESSIONS

TOWARDS THE SDG SUMMIT, THE SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE, AND THE 2025 UNFSS+4

Amidst key sustainable development milestones leading to 2030, the central focus of the session was on integrating food systems objectives into global discussions. In her opening remarks, Deputy Director-General of FAO, Ms. Maria Helena Semedo, emphasized the urgency of addressing hunger, linking national food systems with climate action, and the central role of agrifood systems transformation.

In the interactive part of the session, Qatar's Minister for Municipality stressed the importance of keeping food accessible, citing sustainable practices like water recycling in Qatar's agriculture. Country perspectives were shared by Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera of Sri Lanka, H.E. Mr. Fred Mitchell of the Bahamas, and others. The Bahamas announced they have introduced a national breakfast program for all primary school children, aligning its efforts with global initiatives. EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski discussed the geopolitical impact of food, emphasizing the EU's funding for food systems assessments and the importance of sustainable agricultural practices globally. Ms. Lana Weidgenant, as youth representative, highlighted the engagement and activism of young people, urging collaboration with governments. Dr. Shakuntala Thilsted emphasized the role of science, technology, and innovation in food systems transformation. The President of the World Farmers Organisation emphasized the centrality of farmers, calling for their inclusion in policy discussions. Mr. Vital Bambanze focused on the importance of protecting indigenous traditions and practices. Mr. Michael Keller, Chair of the International Federation for Agrifood Companies, stressed engaging SMEs and creating win-win situations for private-public partnerships. The session also heard from representatives of Brazil and Albania, showcasing successful strategies in addressing hunger and vulnerabilities in food systems. Brazil emphasized the need for increased support and visibility for various groups engaged in sustainable food production, including family farmers, rural women, youth, traditional communities, and Indigenous People, as they reinvigorate the coordination of food security policies, including food acquisition programs for the national school feeding program.

Interventions from the floor from Cambodia, Thailand, Ireland, Palestine, and Turkey highlighted the diverse challenges and needs globally, from climate impact to water scarcity.

In conclusion, the session emphasized collective efforts for food systems transformation, recognizing the need for inclusive, equitable, and just approaches. It called for collaboration at the global level to address the complex challenges facing food systems.

LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES

PARTNERSHIPS FOR FOOD SYSTEMS

The session, convened by the Sahel and West Africa Club and the Global Network against Food Crises, featured a lineup of speakers who addressed crucial issues in the Sahel and West Africa concerning food security, nutrition, and the interconnected challenges of health, economy, security, politics, and climate.

Mr. Thomas Laurent, Deputy Director-General of FAO, opened the session by emphasizing the compounding nature of food security and nutrition crises with other crises in the region. FAO is fully supportive of the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Nexus approach, highlighting the need for substantial and continuous investments in agri-food systems as a logical and cost-effective strategy to prevent and respond to food crises. Mr. Ali Bety, High Commissioner of the 3N Initiative in Niger, discussed the integration of Niger's national pathway into main national policies, aligning with the HDP Nexus approach. He underscored the role of food systems transformation in contributing to peace, improving access to natural resources, stability of food access, and social cohesion. Mr. Martien van Nieuwkoop, Global Director at the World Bank, highlighted the importance of the Global Network Against Food Crises in fostering cooperation for recognizing and preventing food crisis. National pathways and Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus approaches are crucial for empowering countries, enhancing resilience, and allocating financial resources effectively, with the Global Network playing a pivotal role in providing a framework for the implementation of HDP roadmaps.

During the panel discussion, representatives from Burkina Faso, Chad, and Mali discussed their commitment to transforming food systems through national pathways and the HDP Nexus approach. The speakers emphasized the need for multisectoral cooperation on national and regional levels to guarantee synergies at scale. Civil society's role, exemplified by Mali's local food banks, was stressed, along with the importance of financial commitments for achieving food systems transformation by 2030.

The closing remarks by speakers from the WFP, the European Commission, and USAID emphasized the deteriorating food security situation in the Sahel and West Africa, the need for investments in local communities, and the mobilization of financial resources to strengthen local resilience.



© FAO/Riccardo De Luca

LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES

EMPOWERING NATIONAL CONVENORS TOWARD 2025: SYSTEMS LEADERS FOR TRANSFORMATIVE ACTION

In this session, National Convenors have taken center stage, sharing their experiences and insights from being at the forefront of driving forward the outcomes of the 2021 UNFSS and striving to accelerate the pace of food systems transformation in their countries. The session facilitated engagement among the Convenors themselves and with the audience, and provided an opportunity to reflect on progress, enduring challenges, effective strategies, and identify specific support and resources required to be adequately capacitated to continue to advance the priorities outlined in national pathways.

Ms. Sylvia Ekra, Deputy Director of the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, set the stage by acknowledging the challenging context halfway to the SDGs, where poverty and hunger are on the rise. She applauded the significant work of national convenors, citing 155 convenors, 126 pathways, and over 100 Voluntary Country Reports. Ms. Ekra encouraged convenors to embrace their role as systems leaders for transformative change, urging their active participation in global events like the SDG Summit and UNFCCC COP28.

During the panel discussion, Mr. Andres Suarez, National Convenor of Ecuador, provided a glimpse into the Ecuadorian pathway, highlighting the involvement of local governments, academia, and producer associations. He underscored the crucial role of rural women and addressed challenges such as strengthening activities, supporting small agriculture, and the growing concern of an aging rural population. Ms. Mary Mpereh, National Convenor of Ghana, emphasized the importance of building on established networks and treating the national pathway as a living document. She shared challenges her country is facing, including a cost-of-living crisis and debt distress. Mr. Ramesh Chand, National Convenor of India, stressed the significance of aligning food system discussions with the SDGs, particularly SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities). He highlighted the importance of creating a master plan specific to each country and the need for champions to promote food system transformation. Mr. Chand discussed stakeholder consultations, the preparation of documents, and ongoing efforts to influence policy through media communication. Ms. Reem Al Fulaij, National Convenor of Kuwait, shared Kuwait's experience in convening various stakeholders through dialogues. She emphasized the need to strengthen food systems to reduce import dependency and discussed initiatives targeting childhood obesity. Mr. Alvin Kopse, National Convenor of Switzerland, reflected on Switzerland's journey, describing the opportunities provided by dialogues in shaping national policy. Thanks to the Dialogues, he noted a shift from discussions centered on agricultural production to a focus on food system transformation.

The floor interventions by other National Conveners further enriched the narrative, featuring experiences and challenges from fourteen countries. Overall, the session offered a comprehensive overview of progress and challenges, illustrating the diverse approaches undertaken by countries in implementing their food systems pathways.

Sir David Nabarro, representing the 4SD Foundation, masterfully moderated the session, guiding discussions and interactions among speakers.



LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES

FOOD LOSS AND WASTE PREVENTION AND REDUCTION: A KEY LEVER FOR FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION

The session highlighted the environmental, economic, and social implications of Food loss and waste (FLW) as well as the global strategies being implemented to tackle it. The urgent call to action resonated throughout the session, emphasizing the critical role of FLW reduction in achieving sustainable food systems.

Opening the session, Mr. Máximo Torero Cullen, Chief Economist at FAO, emphasized the difference between "food loss" and "food waste" and presented estimates showing that 13.2 percent of global food production is lost, with Sub-Saharan Africa facing the highest levels. Furthermore, 70 percent of national pathway documents identified FLW as an important issue.

During the panel discussion, the Minister for Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries Water and Rural Development in Zimbabwe discussed specific losses in his country and outlined targeted interventions, including awareness campaigns and increased infrastructure capacity. The Executive Secretary of UNESCWA emphasized the economic impact of FLW in the Arab region (USD 60 billion) and advocated for data collection, circular economies, and partnerships. Ms. Jennifer Moffitt, Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs in the USA, outlined the USA's goal to reduce FLW by 50 percent by 2030 and detailed collaborative efforts with the private sector and international partnerships. The Deputy Director-General of DG SANTE at the European Commission presented the EC's proposal for legally binding targets and highlighted the benefits of waste reduction.

MS. Geeta Sethi from The World Bank described FLW as a symptom of a broken system and emphasized the importance of political commitment, diagnostics, awareness, and partnerships. The discussion also explored the role of energy, water, and incentives in reducing FLW. Mr. Divine Njie, Deputy Director at FAO, introduced the #123 Pledge for Climate Action, inviting stakeholders to join the Food Is Never Waste Coalition. Stefano Gatti, Special Envoy for Food Security in Italy, closed the session by expressing Italy's commitment to addressing FLW and encouraging continued global collaboration.

Interventions from the floor included insights from representatives of various countries and organizations, highlighting the importance of multi-disciplinary approaches, national campaigns, and policy interventions. The participants underscored the need for behavior change, innovative technologies, and sustainable practices to reduce FLW effectively.

In conclusion, the session emphasized global collaboration, continuous advocacy, and innovative solutions to address FLW. The Food Is Never Waste Coalition emerged as an important initiative.

SPECIAL EVENTS

AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY FOR FOOD SYSTEMS

This special event explored how aerospace technologies can transform agri-food systems, improve resilience, and accelerate progress towards the SDGs. Speakers emphasized the potential of satellites and space-based data to optimize resource use, improve crop yields, reduce costs, and strengthen early warning systems for climate-related risks.

The Prime Minister of Djibouti highlighted the country's use of nanosatellites and regional climate observatories to address chronic food insecurity, while the UN Deputy Secretary-General stressed that aerospace tools can drive rural transformation, environmental protection, and targeted policy interventions. The African Union outlined initiatives under Agenda 2063 to expand access to space technologies, including multi-hazard early warning systems and regional "situation rooms."

Italy showcased its expertise in space-based monitoring, precision agriculture, and public-private partnerships, committing to share know-how globally. FAO underscored the need for inclusive digitalization that benefits smallholders as well as large farms.

Industry leaders from ESA, Telespazio, and Thales Alenia described advances in crop monitoring, climate risk assessment, and open-access satellite data. Guatemala shared its experience in establishing a strategic information center for disaster preparedness.

The session concluded that strategic investment, partnerships, and capacity building are essential to harnessing aerospace innovations for sustainable, equitable food systems.



SPECIAL EVENTS**TRADE FOR FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION**

The session emphasized the crucial role of international trade in national and global agrifood systems, advocating its integration to address global food deficits and surpluses, aligning to achieve Zero Hunger (SDG 2). Recent global challenges, including extreme weather events, the pandemic, economic downturns, and the Ukraine war, underscore the importance of maintaining open and predictable trade to ensure the sustainability of agrifood systems. The session acknowledged the disproportionate impact of these shocks on small and remote countries. It highlighted the significance of open and well-functioning global markets in the context of climate change, as they can enhance adaptation efforts and promote food security and nutrition in regions affected by rising temperatures and extreme weather. It also emphasized that successful contributions from international trade to food security and sustainable development require active international cooperation and collaboration among all stakeholders at the national level.

The speakers addressed different aspects of the relationship between trade and agrifood systems. Ms. Lauren Philips from FAO and Ms. Miho Shirotori from UNCTAD set the stage by highlighting the essential role of trade in transforming global agrifood systems for efficiency, inclusivity, resilience, and sustainability. World Trade Organization's Director-General underscored the significance of open and predictable trade, emphasizing its impact on food access globally. The panel discussion included diverse perspectives, such as the role of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in boosting agricultural trade and the need to make trade fair and equitable for all. Minister Mohammad Abdur Razzaque outlined Bangladesh's reliance on trade for agrifood transformation, addressing challenges and initiatives. Representatives from the EU and the WTO discussed sustainability in trade agreements and the importance of combating export restrictions for price stability. Ms. Olga Algayerova, UNECE's Executive Secretary, emphasized safety, sustainability, and digital tools in the value chain, while Prof. Joachim von Braun stressed the significance of a rules-based trading system for achieving SDG 2. The event concluded with a call for international cooperation and collaboration, recognizing trade's integral role in achieving food security and sustainable development amidst global challenges.



© FAO/Cristiano Minichiello

SPECIAL EVENTS

CATALYZING FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATIONS: THE FOOD SYSTEMS WINDOW OF THE UN JOINT SDG FUND

The session highlighted the urgency of food systems transformation as a key lever to reinvigorate progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Ms. Amina Mohamed, UNDSG, set the stage by emphasizing the need for faster, broader, and deeper change in food systems to address global challenges. The Food Systems Window, introduced as part of the Joint SDG Fund, was presented as a crucial mechanism to mobilize financing and expertise from diverse stakeholders for national food systems transformation. Representatives from Colombia, Mali, and Indonesia outlined their countries' unique challenges and expressed how the Food Systems Window could offer financial support to implement effective solutions. The session also featured insights from partners such as the Islamic Development Bank, African Development Bank, Rockefeller Foundation, and the International Agri-Food Network, emphasizing the importance of collaboration, innovative financing, and private sector engagement.

The session concluded with the recognition that a fully capitalized Food Systems Window would play a critical role in mobilizing support and financing from various sources, turning national priorities into impactful realities that extend beyond food systems and contribute to achieving all SDGs. The importance of collaboration, partnerships, and a multi-sectoral approach was underscored as essential for building a more resilient, sustainable future for global food systems.

SPECIAL EVENTS

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' FOOD SYSTEMS FOR THE FUTURE OF FOOD, BIODIVERSITY, AND CLIMATE ACTION

The session featured key messages aimed at recognizing and empowering Indigenous Peoples in shaping sustainable global food systems. The overall narrative underscored that the Coalition is not merely for Indigenous Peoples but a collective effort for humanity's future. Transforming food systems, achieving the SDGs, and addressing global crises require the active participation of Indigenous Peoples.

Kicking off with opening remarks, Mr. Vital Bambanze from the Batwa people urged Member States and stakeholders to join the Coalition on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems, emphasizing the need for active inclusion in UN Food Systems coordination. Chef Jose Andrés passionately stressed the rich, diverse, and sustainable nature of Indigenous Peoples' food systems, calling for their rightful place at decision-making tables. High-profile representatives, including H.E. Ms. Jhenifer Mojica of Colombia and H.E. Mr. Jonas Gahr Støre of Norway, highlighted their nations' commitments to working with Indigenous Peoples. H.E. Ms. Sonia Guajajara Minister of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil, proposed a Global Alliance to protect biodiversity, underscoring the crucial role of Indigenous Peoples' relationship with nature.

A panel discussion followed, featuring government and Indigenous Peoples representatives, including Mr. Bah-Phrang Roy, Ms. Tania Eulalia Martinez-Cruz, Ms. Rochelle Diver, H.E. Ms. Karla Mena Soto, Mr. Phoolman Chaudhary, Mr. Rajan Humagain, and Ms. Jessica Vega. They collectively emphasized Indigenous Peoples' sacred connection with nature, called for policy recognition and protection, opposed harmful agricultural practices, and advocated for Indigenous youth as change agents.

In the closing remarks, H.E. Mr. Miguel Garcia-Winder acknowledged Italy's role in hosting the session and stressed the Coalition's importance. He outlined specific actions needed for the Coalition's success, including collective support, political backing, financial support, and engagement with partners.

Interventions from the floor further emphasized global support. H.E. Mr. Beduram Bhusal from Nepal highlighted the country's commitment, while H.E. Mr. Moisés Morera from Spain expressed ongoing support. H.E. Mr. Thesele John Maseribane from Lesotho proposed holistic approaches, emphasizing education reform and collaboration with the private sector.

OFFICIAL CLOSING

The Closing Ceremony brought together prominent speakers who emphasized the importance of taking action on food systems, as discussed throughout UNFSS+2.

In the opening remarks, Commissioner Josefa Sacko emphasized Africa's urgent need for food system reform, unveiling plans for a three-year African Union operation plan. EU Commissioner for Agriculture Janusz Wojciechowski stressed the necessity of citizen dialogues and scaled-up investments for collective food system transformation. Minister Laura Suazo of Honduras underscored commitments to multi-sectoral engagement and a tailored financial model for farmers. The Minister for Agriculture in Fiji highlighted Fiji's commitment to involving young people in agricultural development.

The session featured youth representatives advocating for meaningful collaboration, financial support, and youth inclusion in the envisioned coalition.

RBAs' Principals and the UN leadership shared further insights. Ms. Cindy McCain, Executive Director of WFP, outlined five key action areas, emphasizing local production, climate-sensitive practices, reduced post-harvest loss, rural community benefits, and prioritizing young people and women. She also highlighted that we must continue building on the success of the School Meals Coalition and take up the challenge from the Deputy Secretary General to expand School Meal Programmes, so they reach all the world's 730 million primary children. IFAD President Mr. Alvaro Lario, FAO Director-General Dr. Qu Dongyu, and the UN Deputy Secretary-General highlighted critical issues such as the cost of inaction, the importance of infrastructure, and the centrality of people, particularly farmers. The UN Deputy Secretary-General called for embedding food system strategies in national policies, inclusive governance, and partnerships with the private sector. She emphasized the role of women, youth, and indigenous communities in implementation and sought support for African countries. Deputy Prime Minister Antonio Tajani addressed geopolitical concerns related to the Russian government's withdrawal from the Black Sea agreement.

The session's key takeaways centered on embedding food systems in sustainable development policies, inclusive governance, private sector engagement, and cross-sector collaboration.



CHAPTER 5

CHARTING THE PATH AHEAD

The UNFSS+2 culminated in the launch of the [UN Secretary-General's Call to Action](#) for accelerated Food Systems Transformation. Crafted as a comprehensive roadmap, the Call to Action outlines six concrete objectives that echo the event's core themes and priorities: embedding food systems strategies in national policies; establishing food systems governance with a whole-of-society approach; investing in research, data, innovation, and technology capacities; promoting business engagement and accountability for sustainability; including full participation of marginalized groups including women; farmers, youth and Indigenous Peoples; and ensuring long-term, concessional finance for food systems transformation.

The Call to Action signifies a turning point, marking a resolute commitment to a future where food systems serve as catalysts for positive change. **It presents a robust mandate for the Hub**, outlining the priorities for its operation in the coming years, which include a focus on increasing the capacity of National Food Systems Convenors to shepherd inclusive national processes as well as coordinating UN entities, leveraging international Coalitions of Action, and aligning with other actors to optimize support for national and global action. In line with this directive, the Hub will continue its pursuit of evidence-based and multistakeholder food systems transformation processes through the promotion of independent scientific advice.

The Call to Action underscores the strategic utilization of resources, tasking the Hub to draw on the newly created Window for Food Systems Transformation within the UN Joint SDG Fund to enable fast-tracked transformation processes, working with the Resident Coordinators, the UN Country teams, and the broader ecosystem of support.

Looking ahead to the next Stocktaking Moment, scheduled to take place in 2025, it will be an opportunity to build on the momentum generated by the UNFSS+2, a moment in time to collectively reflect on the progress achieved thus far and to continue the work outlined in the Secretary-General's Call to Action. As countries and stakeholders respond to this call, the UNFSS+4, in essence, represents a continued commitment to building a world where our food systems are not only resilient and sustainable but also contribute significantly to the broader goals of the Agenda 2030.

CHAPTER 6

DOCUMENTATION AND REFERENCES

- UN Secretary-General Chair Summary and Statement of Action on the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS), accessible at <https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit/news/making-food-systems-work-people-planet-and-prosperity>
- 2023, February 03: Note to Correspondents: Stage set in Italy to take stock on progress towards the transformation of food systems across world at critical half-way point of the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2030, accessible at <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/note-correspondents/2023-02-03/note-correspondents-stage-set-italy-take-stock-progress-towards-the-transformation-of-food-systems-across-world-critical-half-way-point-of-the-sustainable>
- Information Note to Permanent Missions and Permanent Observers to the United Nations on the 2023 United Nations Food Systems Stocktaking Moment, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/information-note-to-all-permanent-missions-and-observer-missions-to-the-united-nations-in-new-york-re-2023-stocktaking-moment.pdf>
- 2023, July 21: UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment Roadmap, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/unfss-2-roadmap-executive-version.pdf>
- UN Food Systems Summit +2 Report of the UN Secretary-General accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/un-secretary-general/unfss2-secretary-general-report.pdf>
- Database of Practices for Food Systems Transformation, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/hub-solution/database-of-practices/en>
- Frequently Asked Questions, UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/fs-stocktaking-moment/frequently-asked-questions/en>
- Information Note for UNFSS+2 Participants, accessible at https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/unfss-2-information-note_final.pdf
- 2023, July 19. Guidance Note for National Delegations, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/unfss-2-guidance-note-national-delegations-final-public.pdf>

- Call for Expression of Interest for Non-State Actors Participation at the UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment. Accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/fs-stocktaking-moment/non-state-actor-participation/en>
- Call for stakeholder input for the UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/latest-updates/news/detail/call-for-stakeholder-input-for-the-first-un-food-systems-stocktaking-moment/en>
- Stakeholders' Contribution Document to the UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/stakeholders/stakeholder-contribution-document-unfss2.pdf>
- 2023, April 05. Call for Side Events: UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/latest-updates/news/detail/call-for-side-events-un-food-systems-stocktaking-moment/en>
- 2023, May 12. Call to Exhibit at UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/latest-updates/news/detail/call-for-exhibition-booths-un-food-systems-stocktaking-moment/en>
- 2023, June. Synthesis Report on the Regional Preparatory Meetings for the UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/regional-preparatory-meetings/synthesis-report-regional-preparatory-meetings-of-the-unfss-2.pdf>
- Online Schedule of Food Systems Solutions Dialogues, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/hub-solution/food-systems-solutions-dialogues/en>
- Food Systems Assistance Gateway, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/hub-solution/food-systems-assistance-gateway/en>
- Programme for the UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/fs-stocktaking-moment/programme/en>
- Side Events at the UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/fs-stocktaking-moment/programme/side-events/en>
- Exhibition booths during the UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/fs-stocktaking-moment/exhibition-booths/en>
- UN Secretary-General Call to Action for accelerated Food Systems Transformation (FST). Launched at the UNFSS+2 on 26 July 2023, accessible at <https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/fs-stocktaking-moment/documentation/un-secretary-general-call-to-action/en>

CHAPTER 7

ANNEX

UNFSS+2 Sessions: Reports and Recordings

The Annex includes links on the Hub's website to reports from individual sessions as submitted by the respective organizers. The reports are arranged chronologically based on the daily programme and clustered according to the Programme streams. Additionally, the session recording links for each session are also available here.

HIGH-LEVEL SESSIONS



School Meals Powering Food System Transformation Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/hls_school-meals-coalition_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pgxue2-o6lU>



Financing Food Systems Transformations: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/hls_financing_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSW5b8fqYlk>



Food Systems and Climate Action Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/hls_food-systems-climate-action_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ccFfy1-XBd4>

PLENARY SESSIONS



Official opening Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/hls_official-opening_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MRbCPcgEJw>



Food Systems Transformation in Practice - Successes, Challenges and the Way Forward Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/pl_1_fst-in-practice_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GHQrjYm4VaQ>



Reversing the food and hunger crisis: building resilient food systems: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/pl_2_resilience_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VW7zbool7qA>



Mobilizing Means of Implementation for Food Systems Transformation Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/pl_3_means-of-implementation_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2DEAg88tQ4>



Towards the SDG Summit, the Summit of the Future and the 2025 UNFSS+4 Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/pl_4_towards-the-sdg-summit_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f4WutGN31FM>



Official Closing Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/pl_official-closing_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwBzMft9MIU>

LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES



Healthy diets, cultures and traditions: Lessons from the Mediterranean Diet Session Report : https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/ld_healthy-diets-cultures-and-traditions_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MvIm8pVd6kc>



How do coalitions support governments? Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/ld_how-do-coalitions-support-governments_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zxdQfpuk7ug>



Stakeholder Roundtable Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/ls_stakeholder-roundtable_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXDCY5Yi9bQ>



Food Systems for People's Nutrition and Health Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/ld_food-systems-4-people_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eg-NoKKowkc>



Food Systems for the Planet Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/ld_sfs-for-the-planet_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxasGzfJHBA>



Food Systems for Shared Prosperity Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/ld_food-systems-for-prosperity_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfqloutC5Vk>



Science, Technology, and Innovation Roundtable with the Scientific Advisory Committee
Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/ld_science-technology-and-innovation_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yy9e6crkFok>



Partnerships for Food Systems Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/ld_partnerships-for-food-systems_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GdLvAlWu3Mg>



Empowering National Convenors towards 2025 - Systems Leaders for Transformative Action: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/ld_empowering-national-convenors-towards-2025.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NgYYWguM-0k>



Food loss and waste prevention and reduction: a key lever for food systems transformation Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/ld_food-loss-and-waste-prevention-and-reduction.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J3rTCvn0Rs>

SPECIAL EVENTS



Measuring Global Food Systems Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_measuring-fs-transformation_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf















Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjPFI9v5io>



The true cost of food Session Report : https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_true-cost-of-food_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cP9ARlv_OVo

-
-  Fertilizers: Meeting short-term needs while working towards sustainable solution
Session Report : https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_fertilizers_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf
-  Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FXuAoXppjNY>
-
-  Leveraging Urbanization for Food Systems Transformation Session Report : https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_leveraging-urbanization-for-fst_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf
-  Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3uDIRakK0w>
-
-  Advancing aquatic food systems for people, planet and prosperity Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_blue-transformation_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf
-  Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1SEduM5--Xw>
-
-  Building Africa's Food Sovereignty and Resilience through Sustainable Investments
Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_africa-special-event_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf
-  Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szaT6meXxXs>
-
-  Governance for agrifood systems transformation Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_governance-for-food-systems-transformation_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf
-  Session recording: <https://youtu.be/eqdUWyLkdrY?si=wwE1BA9XfkJycYON>
-
-  Digitalization for resilient agrifood systems Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_digitalisation_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf
-  Session recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnD1Mj_5SVs



Value Chains for Resilient Food Systems: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_value-chain_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4wjz8Y_CRtE



Special Event with the Private Sector Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_private-sector_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h97MHnytD-Y>



Aerospace Technology for Food Systems: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_aerospace_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GzY0vjr3UM>



Trade for food systems transformation Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_trade_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iO150jAXHx4>



Catalyzing Food Systems Transformations - The Food Systems Window of the UN Joint SDG Fund Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_food-systems-window-of-the-joint-sdg-fund_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8VTH06NZ1ZU>



Indigenous Peoples' Food systems for the future of food, biodiversity and climate action Session Report: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/session-reports/se_indigenous-peoples-food-systems_post-fss-2-session-report.pdf



Session recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9GEz9ls3LKw&t=1s>



Italy 2023

**UN FOOD SYSTEMS
SUMMIT + 2**

STOCKTAKING MOMENT