

Food systems for health and nutrition

Session I – 8:00 – 9:30 AM CET | Session II – 16:00 – 17:30 CET

Virtual – Zoom | 6 UN languages

Wednesday 23 November	Food systems for health and nutrition	<p><u>Pathways:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How are actions to improve access to healthy diets and better nutrition/health reflected in your country's food system transformation pathway? 	08.00-9:30 CET	https://bit.ly/23NovemberAM	English with interpretation in Chinese, Russian and Arabic
		<p><u>Coordination:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How are you coordinating with your government colleagues in charge of nutrition? How do you liaise with different non-state nutrition actors? <p><u>Challenges, opportunities and needs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the opportunities and challenges in creating synergies between food systems transformation and health/nutrition agendas? What are the most urgent actions needed to ensure that the implementation of food system transformation leads to improved nutrition in your country? 	16.00-17.30 CET	https://bit.ly/23NovemberPM	English with interpretation in French, Spanish

Background:

Transforming food systems for better health and nutrition is a unique and powerful opportunity to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

And yet, poor diets have become a leading global health risk and every year account for 8 million premature deaths globally. A shocking 828 million people are chronically hungry, while one third of what we produce is never eaten¹. Our diets have also become the leading contributor to global environmental degradation, affecting land, water and oceans, biodiversity, climate, and air quality.

In September 2021, UN Secretary-General António Guterres convened the United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) as part of the Decade of Action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The UNFSS created a global moment to catalyze action toward food systems transformation for people, planet, and prosperity. Action for stronger food policies is thus imperative.

Today's food systems fail to deliver healthy diets for all through sustainable production methods. If food systems are transformed, they can become a powerful driving force toward

¹ [UN says a third of food wasted - The Lancet](#) (2022)

ending hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition in all its forms. It can also support climate change mitigation and help vulnerable populations adapt.

In this Food Systems Solutions Dialogue, the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub is pleased to host a session led by nutrition stakeholders, including WHO, UN Nutrition and the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement (SUN). Dedicated to National Convenors, UN Resident Coordinators, SUN country focal points and UN agency regional and country teams, this session will draw attention to the need to put health and nutrition central to food systems transformation. The Dialogue will also highlight the win-wins at the nexus of climate and nutrition action, fostering peer-to-peer learning and identifying opportunities to scale up policy action and multistakeholder collaboration to achieve more sustainable, healthier, and equitable food systems.

The Dialogue will start with an Impact Panel of representatives of organizations working in the health, nutrition, and food systems nexus. Through their short talks, these guest speakers will highlight the need for food systems transformation to result in better health and nutrition, to present an analysis of national pathways using a nutrition lens, share experience of multisectoral and multistakeholder collaboration; and highlight good examples of nutrition-sensitive food system transformation action. After three short presentations, Convenors will be invited to break out in groups to share their reflections and country experience. After this exercise, participants will reconvene in plenary to debrief on the main findings.

The guiding questions for the Dialogue break-out groups are:

Pathways:

- How are actions to improve access to healthy diets and better nutrition/health reflected in your country’s food system transformation pathway?

Coordination:

- How are you coordinating with your government colleagues in charge of nutrition? How do you liaise with different non-state nutrition actors?

Challenges, opportunities and needs:

- What are the opportunities and challenges in creating synergies between food systems transformation and health/nutrition agendas? What are the most urgent actions needed to ensure that the implementation of food system transformation leads to improved nutrition in your country?

AGENDA

Duration	Item
10 min	<p>Fire side chat:Setting the scene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stefanos Fotiou, Director UN Food Systems Coordination Hub • Gerda Verburg, SUN Movement Global Coordinator
15 min	<p>Impact panel: Global and country level policy action</p> <p>Moderator: Stineke Oenema (Executive Secretary, UN Nutrition Secretariat)</p> <p><i>In plenary (with interpretation), guest speakers will provide 5 min input each The Moderator will introduce the theme of the Sessions. Further discussion will follow in break-out groups.</i></p>

	<p><i>MORNING</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Francesco Branca, Director, WHO Department of Nutrition and Food Safety • Dr. Sok Silo, SUN country focal point/national convenor in Cambodia • Filipe Da Costa, SUN country focal point/national convenor in Timor Leste <p><i>AFTERNOON</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lina Mahy, WHO Department of Nutrition and Food Safety • Dr. Carlos Alvarenga, Vice Minister of Health Management and Development, Ministry of Health, El Salvador • Juan Roberto Mendoza, Monitoring and evaluation coordinator of the secretariat of Food and Nutrition Security, SESAN
35 min	<p>Breakout groups (depending on number of registrations)</p> <p><u>Pathways:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are actions to improve access to healthy diets and better nutrition/health reflected in your country's food system transformation pathway? <p><u>Coordination:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are you coordinating with your government colleagues in charge of nutrition? How do you liaise with different non-state nutrition actors? <p><u>Challenges, opportunities and needs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the opportunities and challenges in creating synergies between food systems transformation and health/nutrition agendas? What are the most urgent actions needed to ensure that the implementation of food system transformation leads to improved nutrition in your country?
25 min	<p>Presentation of key points from the breakout sessions in plenary</p> <p>Time for feedback per group is depending on the number of break-out groups (normally 3 in the morning and 3 in the afternoon)</p> <p>Moderator: David Nabarro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Corinna Hawkes, Director, Centre for Food Policy, City, University of London, Member of the Core Group of the Coalition of Action on Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems • Dr. Nancy Aburto, Deputy Director Nutrition, FAO and Member of the Core Group of the Coalition of Action on Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food System <p>After listening to Convenors during the breakouts, selected rapporteurs will provide 2-3min insights from the group discussion. Following this short report back, an invited food systems expert will be invited to reflect on these insights and provide some recommendations on how the Hub could support countries implementing their Pathways for Food Systems Transformation for health and nutrition.</p>
5 min	<p>Wrap-up and next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stefanos Fotiou, Director UN Food Systems Coordination Hub