European Parliament

United Nations Food Systems Summit 2021

Process, challenges and the way forward

SUMMARY

The culmination of two years' preparatory work and worldwide mobilisation events, the United Nations Food Systems Summit took place on 23 September 2021. The idea behind the summit, initiated by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, was to start a process of transforming the way the world produces, consumes and thinks about food – as a crucial step in progressing on all 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs).

The summit was announced in October 2019 – before the Covid-19 pandemic became a hunger crisis in many parts of the world – and the stakes have since risen acutely, bringing a new sense of urgency and creating an opportunity to boost the level of reform ambition for global food systems.

More than 150 countries took part in the event, which took place entirely on line, wrapping up a process that has generated a remarkable level of mobilisation and public debate through multiple platforms. Although the summit revealed ample consensus on the need for a radical reform of food systems, it also evidenced profound divergences as to how to approach the daunting tasks ahead.

A follow-up mechanism has been designed to advance the national and global transformative actions announced at the summit, and the United Nations Secretary-General will convene a global stock-taking meeting every two years to measure progress.

This briefing updates an earlier edition, published in September 2021 ahead of the Summit.

IN THIS BRIEFING

- Introduction: Why a food systems summit?
- Summit vision, governance and process
- Critical voices
- EU position and contributions
- Summit highlights, outcomes and the way forward

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Introduction: Why a food systems summit?

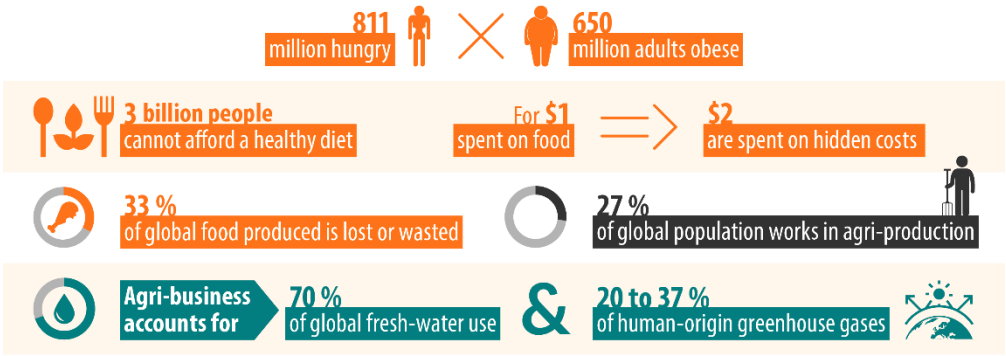
On 16 October 2019 – World Food Day – the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General called for a UN Food Systems Summit (UN FSS) to be held in 2021, with a view to transforming 'the way the world produces, consumes and thinks about food', as a crucial step to progress on all 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs). Since then, the consequences of the pandemic have raised the stakes in terms of the need for food systems to change and provide a vector for positive recovery.

The UN FSS was intended to mark a decisive step in the 'decade of action' towards achieving the SDGs by 2030. A growing number of stakeholders, including governments, policy-makers and corporate business, acknowledge the crucial role played by food systems in delivering sustainable growth. The summit therefore represented a call to make systemic changes to address the daunting triple challenge the world faces today: **feeding** a growing population, due to reach 10 billion by 2050, **protecting** agri-food related livelihoods for more than 500 million farmers worldwide, and **preserving** the natural resources that are the basis of food production.

The world is currently failing on all three challenges. The recently published UN 2021 report on 'The state of food security and nutrition in the world' confirms the negative trend in the fight against global hunger and malnutrition, dramatically aggravated by the effects of the pandemic. Around a tenth of the global population – up to 811 million people – were undernourished in 2020, a figure that is 15 % higher than in 2019. Meanwhile, approximately one third of the food produced in the world is lost or wasted. At the same time, more than a third of the world's population (3 billion people) cannot afford a healthy diet, one in ten people is obese or at risk of obesity, and 3.9 million deaths per year can be attributed to unhealthy diets.

While there is undeniable evidence that agri-business is a key driver of climate change and biodiversity loss, the reverse is also true: climate variability and extreme shocks are one of the leading causes of severe food crises and rising global hunger. The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report waved a red flag for human-driven global warming, stating that without immediate, rapid and large-scale reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, it would be impossible to limit global warming to close to 1.5°C or even to 2°C. The 'hidden costs' of food – indirect, adverse effects of policies on climate change, biodiversity loss and health consequences – are estimated to be twice the current food market value.

Figure 1 – Why a food summit?



FAO, 2021, WHO, FAO 2021, United Nations, 2021, SAVE FOOD, World Bank Group, UN IPCC.

Although exacerbated by the pandemic, the profound imbalances and distortions inherent to current global food systems were present well before. Figure 1 illustrates some of the poignant paradoxes of the current production and consumption of food in the world, depicting a global food system that is unsustainable, unhealthy and unfair.

The summit was announced before the pandemic engendered a hunger crisis in many parts of the world, raising the stakes acutely and bringing a new sense of urgency. This situation has created an

opportunity to be more ambitious about global food system reform, but has also sparked a heated debate around the direction of change, and how to share the costs and benefits fairly.

Summit vision, governance and process

Defined by the UN Secretary-General as a people's and a solutions summit, the UN FSS has appeared to differ from previous UN food summits from the outset, in every respect, including leadership, stakeholders, discussion forums, agenda inputs and expected results.

Summit vision: The 'food systems' approach

The summit's goals, as stated by its organisers, were to:

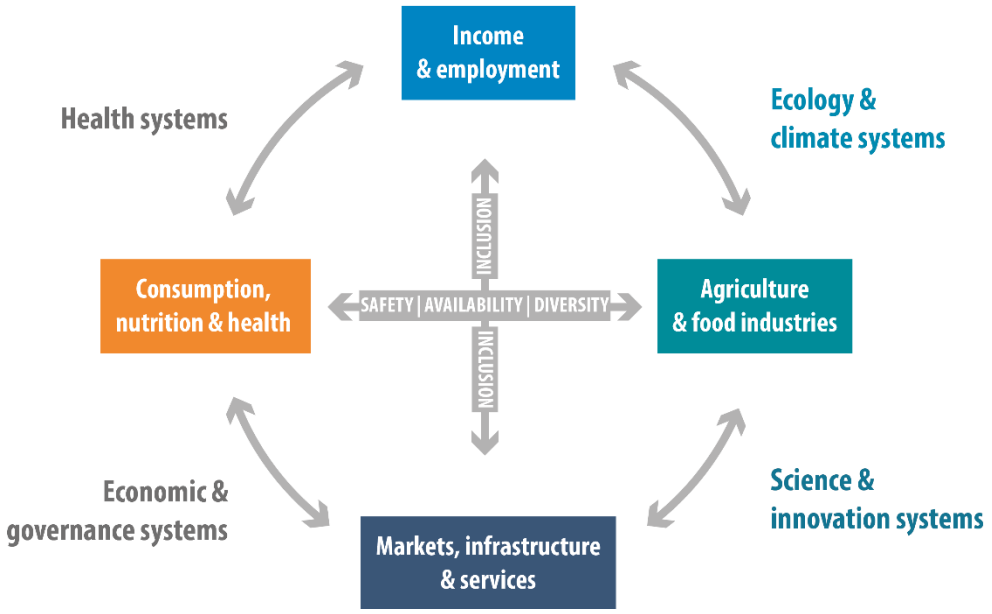
- elevate public discourse about the importance of food systems leading to the achievement of the SDGs;
- spark significant action, with measurable outcomes that enable achievement of the 2030 goals. This would include highlighting existing solutions and celebrating leaders in food system transformation, as well as calling for new action worldwide by many actors, including countries, cities, communities, companies, civil society, citizens and food producers;
- establish a high-level set of principles to be distilled through the summit preparation process, to guide UN members and other stakeholders in leveraging their food systems' capacity to support the SDGs. These principles would set out an optimistic and encouraging vision in which food systems could play a central role in delivering the 2030 Agenda vision;
- shape a system for follow up and review to drive new actions and results, allow for sharing of experiences, lessons and knowledge, and incorporate new metrics for impact analysis.

In pursuing these objectives, the summit fostered a systemic change approach, looking into transformative drivers of food systems at every level. The 'food system' concept is understood as the constellation of all elements and activities related to producing and consuming food, as well as their effects and interactions, including economic, health and environmental outcomes (see Figure 2).[1]

Food systems are, by definition, dynamic structures, in a state of continuous flux and adaptation. A transformative approach, as pursued by the summit, means identifying which policy mix, innovations and institutions are needed at each level to enhance positive side-effects or mitigate the unintended consequences of policies, programmes or other activities related to food system changes.[2]

Working systemically implies a paradigm shift among policy-makers, legislators and stakeholders. It demands that existing policy silos be broken down and that the debate be refocused, from the concept of 'food' as a 'normal commodity' to the concept of food as a public good, with public costs and benefits that need to be redistributed all along the food system chain.

Figure 2 – The food system in the context of other systems



Data source: Food Systems – Definition, Concept and Application for the UN Food System Summit, the Scientific Group for the UN FSS, Joachim von Braun et al., March 2021.

Summit governance, discussion process and agenda

In December 2019, shortly after the announcement of the summit, UN Secretary-General António Guterres appointed Agnes Kalibata as UN special envoy for the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit, in charge of outreach and cooperation with key leaders, including governments. A former Rwandan Minister, Agnes Kalibata has been President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) since 2014. Under her leadership, a complex ad hoc organisational structure was put in place for the summit, including an advisory committee, chaired by UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed; a scientific group; a UN task force; and a summit secretariat. Although these bodies involved the relevant UN agencies, personalities and existing structures, the UN summit was not under the direct leadership of any specific UN agency or body.

Preparation of the summit agenda, content and space for discussion reflected the declared principles of pragmatism and inclusiveness of a 'solutions and people's summit'. An extensive outreach campaign and communication effort was carried out to inform the process with the widest possible evidence, ideas, initiatives and alliances from around the world. The exponential growth of virtual platforms in the pandemic year facilitated the participative process. Inputs to summit preparation were therefore collected from very different streams, the most relevant of which are summarised below.

1. Five action tracks for multi-stakeholder discussion

Multi-stakeholder discussions organised by the UN to feed the summit agenda were structured around five action tracks, in support of its broader vision of progressing on all 17 SDGs:

- **Action Track 1**: Ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all (enabling all people to be nourished and healthy, progressive realisation of the right to food)
- **Action Track 2**: Shifting to sustainable consumption patterns (promoting and creating demand for healthy and sustainable diets, reducing waste)
- **Action Track 3**: Boosting nature-positive production at sufficient scale (acting on climate change, reducing emissions and increasing carbon capture, regenerating and protecting critical ecosystems and reducing food loss and energy usage, without undermining health or nutritious diets)

- **Action Track 4**: Advancing equitable livelihoods and value distribution (raising incomes, distributing risk, expanding inclusion, promote full and productive employment and decent work for all)
- **Action Track 5**: Building resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress (ensuring the continued functionality of healthy and sustainable food systems)

Each action track, chaired by an expert[3] and led by a UN agency, provided a space for multi-stakeholder constituencies to share, learn and propose new actions or amplify existing initiatives through public forums, online consultations and calls for submissions.

Between December 2020 and May 2021, more than 2 200 ideas and submissions were channelled from all summit actors and constituencies through the actions tracks discussions; from representatives of national (and subnational) governments to civil society, youth, food producers, research and academia, indigenous peoples, the private sector, UN system organisations and other development partners. These were consolidated into more than 100 proposals and clustered thematically into 56 solution clusters, constituting a menu of possible game-changing actions for national and global food system transformation. Among these game-changing solutions were initiatives to rethink children's diets and school meal programmes to ensure good nutrition for every child; proposals to address the true cost of food via global partnerships; ideas to empower indigenous people's food systems and boost the transformative power of agro-ecology and regenerative agriculture; and concrete measures to halve food loss and waste by 2030. These solution clusters were the basis for the final compendium prepared for the summit, and supported and informed the shaping of the 'coalitions of actions' announced during the pre-summit phase.

2. UN FSS dialogues

In an effort to reach 'everybody, everywhere', bring in a healthy diversity of viewpoints and encourage new ways of working together, three types of UN summit dialogues were organised to prepare for the summit:

1. 420 UN member state summit dialogues, organised by national governments under the leadership of 140 national food dialogue convenors;
2. 10 global summit dialogues, aligned with global events on major issues such as climate, water, youth, the role of international trade, and health;
3. 720 independent summit dialogues, organised by individuals ('food systems champions').

Overall, more than 45 000 participants took part across all dialogues, generating an impressive and diverse amount of information and ideas. Summary reports reflect the diversity of national scenarios and local constituencies' challenges. While the priorities and approaches vary considerably, a number of issues, sometimes in the form of open questions, reappeared frequently across dialogues:

- The right to food should be one of the principles on which societies are organised.
- The true cost of food should be reflected in its price.
- International trade is one of the key drivers in food systems transformation.
- Who makes the choice on healthy diets, the government or the individual?
- Skills gaps among farmers limit food system change ambitions.
- Food systems transformation requires major systemic reforms, not just incremental marginal changes.
- The question of long-term reform versus urgent responses poses a dilemma for policy-makers.
- 'Closed door deals' and suspicion about whose interests are being served can quash the momentum of initiatives for change.

3. Science and knowledge

The scientific group, chaired by Professor Joachim von Braun and composed of leading scientists in relevant disciplines, was tasked with ensuring that the science underpinning the 2021 summit was robust, broad and independent, as well as being accessible to policy-makers and practitioners. In addition to preparing an exhaustive review of existing literature in food systems' spanning disciplines, the Scientific Group has engaged with extensive networks of independent experts during the preparatory process, to ensure that a diversity of voices is represented and heard in the summit's scientific discussions. The scientific group subsequently produced a series of reports summarising basic concepts, scientific findings, and a diversity of viewpoints on key issues, including each action track, intended to facilitate summit discussions and follow-up implementation.

In an article published in Nature Today on 30 August 2021, the chair and vice-chairs of the scientific group warned that the breadth of the 2021 Food Systems Summit could present a hindrance to achieving its goals, and invited participants to focus on concrete deliverables. They listed seven priorities to end hunger and protect the planet where science-driven advances may be decisive, and proposed three concrete follow-up implementation actions:

1. boosting financing of food research and the fight against hunger, devoting 1 % of gross domestic product (in least-developed countries by directing development programmes to this purpose);
2. increasing global scientific capacity and information sharing in food systems;
3. working towards an intergovernmental treaty or framework convention on food systems, analogous to the Rio 1992 Conventions on climate, biodiversity and desertification.

Critical voices

While the summit generated impressive mobilisation and participation among stakeholders worldwide, it also sparked an intense debate. Critical voices emerging from various sectors contested several aspects of the UN FSS organisation, including its leadership, selection of agenda priorities and the role of corporate business organisations.

As early as a few months following the announcement of the UN FSS, a group of 550 civil society organisations (CSOs), including farmers, social movements and academics, addressed a letter to the UN Secretary-General. They expressed concerns about the genesis of the UN FSS, the nomination of Agnes Kalibata, President of AGRA, as the UN special envoy, and the role of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in the summit's governance. Gathered around the Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism (CSM) for relations with the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS), they further decided to issue a call for engagement, to challenge the way the UN FSS was organised and launch a parallel process.

Michael Fakhri, UN special rapporteur on the right to food, echoed the CSOs' concerns and called on the UN FSS to refocus the discussion around a human rights approach, reconsidering the role of the CFS in the summit's governance. Two former UN special rapporteurs on the right to food, Hilal Elver and Olivier De Schutter, joined Michael Fakhri in a blunt opinion article published in March 2021, alerting that, unless some critical issues were reconsidered, the UN FSS would fail to be a 'people's summit'. Their concerns included the right to food approach, the role of agro-ecology and the place of the CFS in the summit's governance. The ad-hoc committee on UN FSS Governance, including more than 100 UN FSS stakeholders, published an open letter in July 2021, pointing to a number of issues that threatened the UN FSS's legitimacy, including ambiguity, lack of transparency and accountability.

Despite some changes introduced during the process, and several calls from UN FSS organisers for all stakeholders to take part in the process, more than 300 organisations, including major players

such as Action Contre la Faim (Action Against Hunger - ACF), Action Aid International and Slow Food, announced their refusal to take part in the UN pre-summit in Rome, participating instead in an alternative forum. The International Experts Panel on Sustainable Food Systems, IPES-Food, chaired by Olivier De Schutter, special rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, also announced its withdrawal from the process.

Although voiced differently from constituency to constituency, criticisms of the UN FSS process emerged from two structural factors:

1. failure to build on the legacy of previous world food summits,[4] essentially de-legitimising existing UN bodies and agreements;
2. adoption of a purely multi-stakeholder approach, in the name of inclusivity, rather than the traditional UN multi-governmental approach. Pure multi-stakeholder models tend to reproduce existing power asymmetries. Critics consider that, unless mechanisms are put in place to rebalance these, the results are bound to favour the more powerful actors disproportionally, while the political accountability of governments is also lost in this model.

Closing the pre-summit in Rome on 28 July 2021, UN Deputy Secretary-General, Amina Mohammed urged that 'the next step before the summit is to find ways to make sure that everyone is in the room. We can agree to disagree, but everyone needs to be in the room'.

Despite these calls for unity, the coalition of groups boycotting the UN FSS went ahead and co-organised a parallel three-day counter-event, releasing a report and a declaration that accused the FSS of having been captured by corporate interests.

EU position and contributions

The EU is well positioned to shape the debate; it made a substantial contribution to preparations for the UN FSS and will be involved in the follow-up process, having prepared the ground with the adoption of the European Green Deal and the farm to fork strategy – the first blueprint for a sustainable food system model. The international cooperation aspects of the farm to fork strategy, still to be developed, should open a space for EU participation in global initiatives.

The Council adopted its conclusions on the EU's priorities for the United Nations Food Systems Summit in May 2021, welcoming it as 'landmark event and a real opportunity to reshape food systems at the global level'. The Council stressed that actions should be driven by overarching human rights principles and the right to food approach, as well as building on ongoing UN initiatives and existing intergovernmental institutional mechanisms.

The Council set out six thematic priorities to be advanced by the UN FSS:

1. strengthening sustainability and resilience;
2. promoting healthy diets through sustainable food systems;
3. strengthening food safety and public health;
4. contributing to the sustainability and resilience of food systems through trade;
5. introducing new finance solutions and business models;
6. improving scientific knowledge and ensuring a strong science-policy interface.

The conclusions restated the EU's commitment to reaching an ambitious outcome and called for a clear actionable agenda, aligned with the SDGs and guided by the 2030 Agenda. The Council confirmed that the EU aimed to lead by example in taking forward the post-summit transformation process, both in and outside the EU. Internally, by fully implementing the provisions of the European Green Deal and the farm to fork strategy, and delivering on agreed targets and actions, such as the 2021-2027 action plan on organic farming and the EU Code of Conduct on Responsible Food Business and Marketing Practices. Beyond EU borders, the EU intended to foster alliances and partnerships, and the conclusions mentioned in particular the inclusion of a sustainability clause in EU trade agreements, and the operationalisation of a global network against food crisis.

The Council stressed that effective follow-up to the summit would require close collaboration and coordination between relevant UN agencies and forums, including the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). It also pointed out that, to be effective, the summit's outcomes would need to be taken into consideration in ongoing multilateral initiatives and inter-governmental conventions: on nutrition (Nutrition for Growth Summit, Tokyo, December 2021), climate (UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties 26, Glasgow, November 2021) and biodiversity (UN Convention of Biodiversity, 15th Conference of the Parties, Kunming, October 2021), for instance.

The European Economic Social Committee (EESC) organised a public hearing on inclusive, fair and sustainable food systems and adopted a contribution to the UN FSS based on previous relevant opinions, underlining the need to foster comprehensive and integrated food policies, healthy diets, fair prices, short food supply chains and agro-ecology, and ensuring civil society's structured involvement.

In February 2021, as a contribution to the UN FSS, the European Commission established a 19-member high-level expert group (HLEG) to explore the needs, gaps and options to strengthen the international science-policy interface (SPI) for food systems transformation. The experts' initial findings were reflected in a short concept note with recommendations to the United Nations Food Systems Summit scientific group, and further developed in the report entitled Everyone at the Table – Co-creating Knowledge for Food Systems Transformation (July 2021). The report stresses that 'the legitimacy, and hence value, of SPIs require a commitment to scientific independence (avoiding bias and capture), transparency of process, relevance and validation of findings, and full engagement of all stakeholders'. The HLEG report concludes that, while the existing SPIs do exemplary work, the current landscape is not sufficient, and points at different options to enhance SPIs' capacities, to be further explored in a second phase after the UN FSS.

Following UN guidelines, the EU has also organised EU food system dialogues with various constituencies: stakeholders and citizens, as well as a conclusive high-level event with policy-makers in July 2021. The dialogues have been guided by the designated EU food dialogue convenor, Ladislav Miko, Head of the EU Representation in Slovakia. In partnership with the European Parliamentary Alliance against Hunger and Malnutrition, FAO Brussels convened a discussion group between parliamentarians and the UN scientific group, to explore ways to translate scientific findings into concrete action and policies for the transformation of agri-food systems.[5]

In its June 2021 resolution on the role of the EU's development cooperation and humanitarian assistance in addressing the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic, the European Parliament set out challenges and priorities to ensure food security in the world, while also combating other consequences of the pandemic.

Copa-Cogeca, the broad platform representing EU farmers, agri-food, forestry, and fishery cooperatives issued a statement on the UN Food Systems Summit, underlining that European farmers and agri-cooperatives were part of the solution, and should be given the opportunity to contribute to a sustainable food system. The statement also highlights the leading role that the EU could play in the debate, while warning that a high price will be paid by EU producers should the rest of the global players not apply the same food sustainability standards.

Summit highlights, outcomes and the way forward

The UN FSS was preceded by an intensive three-day pre-summit in Rome on 26-28 July 2021, where more than 500 delegates from 108 countries, many at ministerial level, convened physically. Together with 17 000 online participants, representing 190 countries in total, they prepared the conclusions and calls for action to be adopted at the UN FSS. The EU was represented by Commissioner for Agriculture Janusz Wojciechowski, who outlined the EU vision for sustainable food systems underpinned by the European Green Deal and its farm to fork strategy. The pre-

summit processed the vast number of inputs generated over 18 months through the various platforms and mechanisms put in place by the UN FSS. They 'pre-baked the cake and set the table', as many speakers repeated over the sessions.

The summit itself took place, as planned, on 23-24 September 2021, and was a one-and-a-half day completely virtual event, during the high-level week of the 76th UN General Assembly, (New York, 14-30 September 2021). The summit included a 15-hour marathon succession of pre-recorded statements, from Heads of State and of Government and constituency leaders, without debates, supporting the goals of the summit and describing how transformative action would take place in the national context.

The EU was represented by Commission Vice-President Frans Timmermans, who in his statement underlined the urgency of the task ahead and the commitment of the EU: 'In this make-or-break decade, humanity faces one overarching challenge: learning to live within planetary boundaries …. Food production and consumption are major drivers of the climate crisis and looming ecocide. And yet, agriculture and farmers are the first to suffer the consequences if we fail …. Europe is working to make EU food systems the global standard of sustainability. And we invite everyone to join us, so that, together, we can make sustainable food the global standard'.

The main outcomes of the summit were the following:

- the Secretary-General's chair summary and statement of action, highlighting the key messages of the summit and pointing the way forward:
  - transformative action through food systems can play an essential role in driving the global post-Covid-19 recovery, shaping progress in three fundamental areas: people, planet and prosperity;
  - transformative action in all five action tracks should be driven at country-level by governments in their local context, following national pathways to 2030, and supported by UN resident coordinators and UN country teams;
  - at global-level, follow-up and support will be ensured by a coordination hub to bring expertise national-level teams led by the three Rome-based UN agencies (see below);
  - a global stock-taking meeting will be convened every two years by the Secretary-General;
- a compendium of the rich inputs from all of the summit's preparations, including a summit science reader summarising the inputs of the scientific group;
- a register of national and/or regional pathways for food systems transformation to deliver the SDGs by 2030, tailored to local context and priorities. More than 100 countries had already developed detailed national pathways, while an additional 50 made commitments at the summit;
- a register of 'coalitions of action' developed under the action areas, and a record of the commitments made by all organisations and groups lodged in the online commitments registry. Among these concrete initiatives and calls for action, the following can be highlighted:
  - a coalition of action for achieving zero hunger, supported by the Zero Hunger Private Sector Pledge;
  - the Food Producers' Declaration for the United Nations 2021 Food Systems Summit, a seven-page declaration signed by 16 food producer organisations[6] worldwide. Among other things, they warn against the excessive concentration of power in the hands of few economic actors and the marginalisation of family farmers, and call for a redistribution of risks and benefits throughout the value chain;
  - a coalition on indigenous peoples' food systems supported by New Zealand, Canada, Mexico, Spain, Norway, Finland and Dominican Republic;
  - a school meals coalition, led by the WFP;

- a public development banks (PDB) coalition, led by the IFAD, to help public development banks scale up PDB finance for sustainable and inclusive agro-business worldwide, and to measure the social and environmental impacts of their investments;
- Youth Declaration on Food systems Transformation, a strong call for action from 'half of the population of the planet';

- a follow-up and review process supported by the UN and its agencies, and coordinated by a new coordination hub led by three Rome-based UN agencies – the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The hub will establish a 'Champions Advisory Group', with representatives of priority constituencies, namely young people, indigenous peoples, producers, women and the private sector, to ensure a robust follow up to the summit.
- Although the UN FSS was not meant to be a pledging conference, a function in principle reserved for the Nutrition for Growth Summit taking place in Tokyo (N4G Tokyo, 7-8 December, 2021), some delegations anticipated substantial commitments during the conference or in the margins of it, namely:
  - USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack and USAID Administrator Samantha Power announced a planned investment of US$10 billion over five years to promote food security and food systems transformation, of which US$5 billion will be channelled through the 'feed the future' initiative.
  - The President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, speaking at the Global Citizen Live event, announced that the European Union was pledging €140 million to support research in sustainable food systems and to tackle hunger via CGIAR, formerly also known as Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research. The Netherlands joined the pledge with €75 million, as did Belgium with a €6 million pledge for the same purpose.
  - In the realm of philanthropists, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced a new US$922 million, five-year investment in nutritious food systems.

The summit leaves behind a bewildering volume of policy papers, ideas and national transformation pathways, along with lively local and youth platforms, networks and social media campaigns. The follow-up mechanism will be in charge of supporting and monitoring progress, and preparing the stock-taking meeting to be convened in two years. The summit has demonstrated ample consensus on the need for a radical reform of food systems, and has managed to push food systems transformation much higher up the political agenda. It has also shone a light on profound, seemingly irreconcilable, divergences as to how to the daunting tasks ahead should be approached, with only nine years left until 2030.

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ENDNOTES

1 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Making Better Policies for Food Systems, 2021.

2 J. von Braun et al., Food Systems – Definition, Concept and Application for the UN Food System Summit, The Scientific Group for the UN Food Systems Summit, March 2021.

3 Action tracks (Chairs) Lawrence Haddad, Gunhild Stordalen, Joao Campari, Christine Campeau, Sandrine Dixson-Decleve and Salemu Huq.

4 Five previous world food conferences or summits have taken place: in 1943 (creation of the FAO), in 1974 (reform leading to CFS formation), in 1996 (Rome consensus on food security), in 2002 (human right to food) and in 2009 (common systems for food-price crises).

5 See the executive summary, recording and statement by Professor von Braun during the FAO-EPA workshop.

6 The signatories of the declaration are: the Asian Farmers' Association (AFA); the Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO); the World Farmers' Organisation (WFO); the International Pole and Line Foundation (IPNLF); the Intercontinental Network of Organic Farmers Organisations (INOFO); the Global Farmer Network (GFN); Copa-Cogeca, European farmers and agri-cooperatives; European Carbon Farmers; the European Council of Young Farmers (CEJA); Bharat Krishak Samaj (Farmers' Forum, India); Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (the Farmers' Empowerment Corporation), A.P. India; the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA); the Environment and Development Association JASIL, Mongolia; the Mongolian National Federation of Pasture User Groups; the Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU); the Jamaica Network of Rural Women Producers (JNRWP); the Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum; the Village Farmers Initiative; Dhivehi Masverin; and the Tanzania Tuna Fishery National Alliance (TuNA).

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