



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



## UN FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT

GLOBAL DIALOGUE ON

## EMPOWERING CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO IMPROVE FOOD SYSTEMS GLOBALLY

28 June 2021 / 14.30 – 17.30

Virtual Event (Zoom)

Livestream: [www.fao.org/urban-food-agenda](http://www.fao.org/urban-food-agenda)

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### Rationale

Given the rates of urbanisation and high prevalence of different forms of malnutrition in urban areas, it is critical to mainstream the role of urban food systems in the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) alongside national governments. Currently, 70 percent of food is consumed by urban inhabitants, with this share expected to increase. Cities and local governments are the crucial entry points for transforming food systems for improved nutrition and influence food systems governance: they can assess, strengthen and integrate the links between food and connected areas, such as public health, social development, employment, etc.

To facilitate the engagement of cities and local governments to the UNFSS and other global policy processes, the Urban Food Systems Working Group (UFS-WG) was created in 2020 by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) which includes international city networks, academia, civil society organizations, and UN Agencies.

This Global Summit Dialogue is jointly organised by FAO and GAIN on behalf of the UFS-WG, the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments and the UN Food Systems Summit Secretariat.

## The Global Dialogue

Main purpose of this Global Dialogue is to bring political attention and to promote significant actions and commitments towards sustainable urban food systems transformation, and to exchange perspectives of local governments representatives and various urban food systems stakeholders.

**OBJECTIVE 1** – Share the results of city consultations and independent dialogues at city level that have been supported by the UFS-WG with the decision makers and bring the findings to their attention for integration into the UNFSS Process, including Pre-Summit and Summit Event.

**OBJECTIVE 2** –Through exchanging perspectives, unpack bottlenecks and facilitate an evolution of solution clusters that are relevant to, and implementable by, the stakeholders of urban food systems.

## Format and Access

The dialogue will be a three-hour virtual event on zoom platform. The plenary part of the event will have interpretation in three languages (English, French, and Spanish) and is open to all to join. The breakout rooms will be held in one of the three languages, and is by invitation only.

The event can be accessed in two ways:

- On Zoom platform - registration required at this [Link](#)
- Public Livestream (no registration needed) on [www.fao.org/urban-food-agenda](http://www.fao.org/urban-food-agenda)

## AGENDA

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14:30	<b>OPENING OF THE MEETING</b> <i>Curator – David Nabarro, Strategic Advisor to the Food Systems Summit Dialogues</i>
14:35	<b>WELCOME REMARKS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Agnes Kalibata</b>, Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General for the Food Systems Summit 2021</li></ul>
14:40	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Jamie Morrison</b>, Director, Food Systems and Food Safety Division, FAO</li><li>▪ <b>Lawrence Haddad</b>, Executive Director, GAIN</li><li>▪ <b>Souad Abderrahim</b>, Mayor of Tunis, Tunisia</li><li>▪ <b>Manuel Alculete Lopes de Araújo</b>, Mayor of Quelimane, Mozambique</li><li>▪ <b>Alexandre Kalil</b>, Mayor of Belo Horizonte, Brazil (tbc)</li><li>▪ <b>Jane Battersby</b>, University of Cape Town</li><li>▪ Representative from Italian National Government (tbc)</li><li>▪ <b>Melana Roberts</b>, National Food Policy Council, Canada</li></ul>
15:20	<b>KEY MESSAGES FROM URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS WORKING GROUP</b> <i>Outcomes of cities consultations, independent dialogues and other discussions – emerging themes</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Peter Defranceschi</b>, Global Food Program Coordinator, ICLEI</li></ul>
15:30	<b>BREAKOUT ROOM DISCUSSIONS (by topic)</b> <i>(See Annex below)</i>
16:40	<b>PLENARY DISCUSSION</b> <i>Reporting back of each breakout room &amp; Discussion</i>
17:20	<b>WRAP-UP AND CLOSING</b> <i>Curator</i>

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## ANNEX: discussion topics

N	DISCUSSION TOPIC
1	Integrating food systems transformation into the overall urban and territorial governance and planning
2	Promoting sustainable urban food systems through public procurement and school meals
3	Urban and local actions for sustainable food systems: food environments, urban food waste reductions, circular economy
4	Financing mechanisms for sustainable urban food systems solutions
5	Leveraging urban and local food system to strengthen social protection and inclusion including through school food and nutrition programmes
6	Building resilience of urban food systems to shocks and stressors through local-national action

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