SPECIAL EVENT 1

Arab Regional Food Systems Dialogue

Monday 29 March 2021, 17:30-19:00 Beirut time, Online

Background and objective

ESCWA, FAO, WFP, WHO, IFAD, and AOAD are organizing an Arab Regional Food Systems Dialogue during the 2021 AFSD in preparation for the 2021 Food Systems Summit. The Arab regional dialogue will be organized around the five action tracks of the Summit and examine them through the lens of the different stakeholders (NGO, research and academia, government, private sector, etc.), and will consider cross-cutting issues such as finance, innovation, and empowerment of youth, women, and other vulnerable groups.

In addition, the Regional Dialogue is envisioned to raise awareness about the critical issues to be discussed during the Food System Summit and complement and contribute to National Dialogues that the Arab countries along with all UN member countries are invited to undertake.

A diverse range of stakeholders is expected to participate in order to consolidate regional views, perspectives and experiences regarding pathways and actions for equitable and sustainable food systems transformation and support the implementation of the SDGs within the context of current realities.

Questions to be addressed

What could be the game changing actions and solutions to transform the Arab Region’s food systems within the context of current realities facing the region and along the five action tracks identified for the 2021 Food Systems Summit?

This Special Session will be organized over Zoom. Registration at: https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvf-2vqDgtGNF3KoXEj-5fG-rQeTAbfy7a

Facilitator

- Ms. Nawal Al Hamed, - Deputy Director General - Public Authority for Food and Nutrition - Kuwait

Opening

- Ms. Rola Dashti, Executive Secretary ESCWA
- H.E Mr. Dy Ould Zein, Minister of Rural Development, Mauritania, Chair of General Assembly of AOAD

2021 Food Systems Summit

- Mr. Martin Frick, Deputy of the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Food System Summit 2021
- Mr. David Nabarro, Senior Advisor for the FSS Dialogues

Views and Perspectives on Food Systems

- H.E. Ms. Jihad Abdullah Alfathel, Member of Shoora Council of Bahrain, Deputy Chairman, Parliamentarian Network for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa and Arab World
- Ms. Fatima Eltahir Alhassan, Secretary General of the Food Security Technical Secretariat, Sudan
- Mr. Tareq Hassan, Head of the Arab Youth Sustainable Development Network (AYSNDN)

Interactive Discussion

- Mr. Rami Zurayk, Professor and Chairperson, American University of Beirut, Lebanon

Closing

- H.E. Mr. Ibrahim El Dukhairi, Director General, AOAD