



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



State of Israel  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## INNOVATION ON PERSONALIZED NUTRITION, POLICY MAKING AND RESEARCH FOCUSED ON THE ROLE OF MICROBIOME AND HEALTHIER FOOD CHOICES

### Overview

All forms of malnutrition (undernutrition, micronutrients deficiencies, obesity and other diet related non-communicable diseases), costs the global economy as much as 5% of global GDP in loss of productivity and direct health spending. At the same time, sustainable healthy diets not only contribute to food and nutritional security and healthy lives, but are also protective and respectful of biodiversity and ecosystems.

Against this context, we aim to further broaden FAO's work on nutrition by demonstrating the benefits of collaboration between experts in biodiversity, nutrition and information technology for public health nutrition and governmental actions preventing diet-related non-communicable diseases. This side event will also introduce microbiome as a promising new variable in the equation linking biodiversity, diets, nutrition and health.

This side event is organized by the Permanent Representation of the State of Israel and the Nutrition and Food Systems Division in collaboration with the Climate, Biodiversity, Land and Water Department and Information Technology Division of FAO.

### DRAFT AGENDA

Friday 6 December | 13.00-14.30 | Sheikh Zayed Centre

A light lunch will be served after the event

#### Welcome

Mr Daniel Gustafson, Deputy Director-General for Programmes, FAO

#### Opening remarks

H.E. Yael Rubinstein, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the State of Israel to FAO

#### Moderator

Mr René Castro Salazar, Assistant Director-General, Climate, Biodiversity, Land and Water Department, FAO

#### Keynote Presentations

- Mr Stephan Weise, Deputy Director-General Research, Bioversity International
- Mr Omry Koren, Head, Microbiome Research Lab, School of Medicine, Bar-Ilan University, Israel

#### Panelists

- Ms Ronit Endevelt, Head, Department of Health Promotion, Haifa University, Director of Nutrition Department, Ministry of Health, Israel
- Ms Anna Lartey, Director for Nutrition and Food Systems Division, FAO
- Ms Meng Zeng, Team Lead of Digital Agriculture, FAO
- Mr Omry Koren, Head, Microbiome Research Lab, School of Medicine, Bar-Ilan University, Israel
- Mr Stephan Weise, Deputy Director-General Research, Bioversity International

#### Discussion

#### Closing remarks

Ms Maria Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General for Climate and Natural Resources, FAO

This event will involve a set of presentations followed by a dynamic panel discussion with opportunities for Q&A with the audience.