



Informational Note for the CFS

Post-Summit
Engagement Opportunities



Post-Summit Engagement Opportunities for the CFS

The 2021 UN Food Systems Summit is driving unprecedented engagement and action on food systems transformation around the world among Member States, CSOs, producers, the private sector, youth, indigenous leaders, and other stakeholders. The connectivity, energy, and focus catalyzed by the Summit are invaluable, but it must yield results: solutions and actions to drive transformative change.

To ensure that meaningful change is enacted, the commitments and coalitions formed through the Summit process need continued coordination. As the United Nations' foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for all stakeholders to work together on food systems transformation, the Committee on World Food Security could provide a well-established and powerful platform to follow up and support implementation of solutions and actions elevated by the Summit - including through targeted promotion of its policy convergence products that can be utilized by coalitions as key, globally negotiated reference documents aimed squarely at ending global hunger and malnutrition.

The Food Systems Game Changers Lab serves as a clearinghouse for resources available to initiatives formed at and for the Summit. This note explores an opportunity for the CFS and Food Systems Game Changers Lab to promote and support one another's activities stemming from the Summit to ensure the potential for food systems transformation embodied in these many new initiatives is actualized.

Food Systems Game Changers Lab

The Food Systems Game Changers Lab (FSGCL) is a multi-phase program conceptualized by partners of the UN Food Systems Summit. Phase I, The Global Open Call, sourced over 500 ideas, initiatives, and innovative solutions from organizations, individuals and networks hailing from 83 countries. Over 70% of these submissions were unique to this process and represented constituencies not previously engaged with the Summit. Phase II, the Solutions Accelerator, unites selected applicants into Solutions Cohorts to develop Action Agendas that define their solutions' systemic impact, identify opportunities, and address barriers to implementation of the collective solutions sets they represent. Phase III will match these Solution Cohorts with governments, companies, civil society organizations, and citizens that can bring these Action Agendas to reality via a series of matchmaking events immediately following the Summit.

The program provides a unique opportunity to engage interested stakeholders in co-creating game changing solutions tailored to tackle specific food systems challenges in response to real needs. More broadly, the Lab is poised to support additional coalitions developed after the Summit is over. The Lab sees CFS as an ideal platform to support and cross-promote the relevant initiatives to its mandate by pointing them toward visible actions and initiatives occurring worldwide. CFS's involvement would add international legitimacy to the program given CFS's global, inclusive, UN platform.

The Food Systems Game Changers Lab is already working to align with other initiatives and organizations committed to solutions, results, and impact to offer a wide range of opportunities to game-changing coalitions, including policy bootcamp offerings and a peer-to-peer network for systems leadership cultivation. CFS could point relevant initiatives and organizations to the Lab for CFS members to avail these various services to pilot, test, refine, and implement their solutions. The CFS-Lab affiliation could be structured in a variety of ways, ranging from affiliation to embeddedness. The following opportunities represent a first sub-set of aligned services and initiatives ready to connect with CFS as part of the Lab.



Cambridge University and EAT Policy Lab

Policy “boot camps” will enable Member States with solution teams to stress-test their emerging Action Agendas against the complexities of real-world food system challenges faced by governments, companies and other actors. Guided and supported by expert facilitators and mentors, teams experience a boot camp-style approach to examining and overcoming political economy impediments that could thwart the realization of innovative food systems policy. EAT and Cambridge have piloted this approach with the Government of Sweden, resulting in policy uptake by the Government on the role of schools/education in shaping adolescent food consumption patterns.

World Food Programme Innovation Accelerator

The WFP Innovation Accelerator sources, supports and scales bold new solutions to achieve Zero Hunger. With over \$120 million in investment leveraged and 3.7 million lives impacted in 2020 alone, the WFP Innovation Accelerator can offer acceleration support to entrepreneurs and startups with scalable solutions for developing countries. This opportunity is a fit for solutions that are more developed and are ready to be scaled, funded, and implemented in developing countries.

Transformation Leaders Network

The Transformation Leaders Network is a community of systems leaders united to accelerate the transformation towards a more nutritious, sustainable, and equitable food system. The network aims to convene individual and institutional leaders, including government, civil society, entrepreneurs, and systems thinkers from global food systems. This opportunity could be a natural next step for those who want to connect with other leading game-changing efforts and be a part of a community of systems leaders eager to develop the specific leadership capabilities needed for systems change.

Thought for Food Solutions Accelerator

Some coalitions formed around game-changing solutions under the Action Tracks may need support to develop specific, implementable Action Agendas that spell out the how-to entailed in scaling specific solutions. The Solutions Accelerator, run by Thought for Food, fuses tailored mentorship, facilitation, expert masterclasses, and partnership formation. Through this opportunity, coalitions will co-develop action agendas and refine their solutions for implementation.

Conclusion

Some solution cohorts borne through the Food Systems Game Changers Lab may fit seamlessly into larger, existing coalitions. Other efforts that result in coalitions will find utility in accessing the types of services described to develop the coherence, commitment, and implementation frameworks needed to sustain effort and drive results. The Food Systems Game Changers Lab stands ready to engage with CFS and all partners to explore how best to convert potential into impact.