



FAO 41st Conference Concept Note for a Side Event

Zero Hunger in Asia and the Pacific On the road to Zero Hunger in Asia and the Pacific

Date: Tuesday, 25 June 2019

Time: 12.30 – 13.30 hrs

Venue: Sheikh Zayed Center, FAO, Rome

Objective:

This session will review the status of and progress made in the eradication of hunger and malnutrition in Asia and the Pacific. Country experiences and lessons learnt will be shared, and a discussion will examine the actions needed and the ways forward to achieving Zero Hunger by 2030.

Content:

The Asia and Pacific Region, as a whole, has fallen behind in progressing toward its goal of achieving Zero Hunger (SDG2) by 2030. The participants and speakers will examine why this is the case and what can be done to change the situation. The session will be informed by data and analysis on undernutrition trends, the prevalence of stunting, obesity and overweight in the region. Many countries in the region are taking bold and ambitious actions targeting malnutrition and hunger and the participants will hear from two of them in detail – Fiji and Nepal – on combatting malnutrition and national actions to achieve Zero Hunger. The audience will hear how FAO will continue to actively support member countries and their efforts to achieve the Zero Hunger target by 2030. The main take-away message will be straightforward – we know that we must accelerate progress and we know what works. This session will conclude with a look at the way forward.

Programme:

Kundhavi Kadiresan, Assistant Director General and Regional Representative of FAO for Asia and the Pacific will open the event with an introduction, and the Director-General of FAO, José Graziano da Silva, will deliver a global analysis on the status of Zero Hunger, and the necessary political will and cooperation needed to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030. Ms. Kadiresan will then resume the floor to speak specifically about the situation in the region, the status of achieving Zero Hunger, FAO's collaboration with countries and accelerators that are required to achieve the main goal.

Following this regional overview two speakers will take the floor. The first speaker will be H.E. Dr Mahendra Reddy, Minister for Agriculture, Waterways and Environments, of Fiji who will present an in-depth look at Fiji's experience with the impact of climate change on food security, obesity and the campaign to promote production and consumption of local foods.



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The second speaker will be H.E. Ram Kumari Chaudhari, State Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Development of Nepal. She will share Nepal's experience in enshrining the right to food in the constitution and the development of legal frameworks and policy to promote food security and nutrition.

We anticipate that the presentations by the FAO Director General, the Assistant Director General of Asia-Pacific and the country experiences of Fiji and Nepal will prompt discussion, and questions and answers from the open session scheduled for the final portion of the side-event.