



FAO Conference 40th Session

Rome, 3 - 8 July 2017

40th Session of the FAO Conference 3 to 7 July 2017

High-Level Event

“Launch of the Global Action Programme (GAP) on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)”

4th July 2017, Rome, FAO HQ

19.00-20.30

Green Room (Building A, 1st floor)

The Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition

In 2014, nations met in Samoa for the Third International Conference on Small Island Development States (SIDS). The S.A.M.O.A. Pathway, the outcome document of the conference, emphasized the need for national leadership and international cooperation to overcome the unique sustainable development challenges faced by SIDS.

Ensuring improved food security and nutrition was identified as one of the most relevant challenges to be addressed. In its **Paragraph 61**, the S.A.M.O.A. Pathway invited FAO to facilitate a biennial forum in order to develop an action programme to address food and nutrition challenges in SIDS. These challenges were reiterated during the second International Conference on Nutrition in 2014 which highlighted that many Small Island Developing States (SIDS) face the complex burden of malnutrition, with undernourishment, micronutrient deficiency and obesity can coexisting within the same communities, households, and in the same individual over their lifetime.

In this context, FAO has worked closely with DESA and OHRLLS to respond to the invitation to facilitate the development of a food security and nutrition action programme for SIDS. This resulted in the Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition (GAP) for the SIDS which will be officially launched on the sidelines of the 40th session of the FAO Conference, in July 2017, in Rome.

The GAP focuses on three mutually reinforcing objectives:

1. Enabling environments for food security and nutrition
2. Sustainable, resilient food systems that support healthy diets and nutrition and
3. Empowered people and communities for improved food security and nutrition, with a focus on vulnerable groups.

It addresses the recognised need for a more integrated, multi-stakeholder approach to address the unique, but diverse food security and nutrition challenges faced by SIDS. It aims to accelerate action on food security and nutrition in SIDS to support their efforts towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, bringing the SAMOA pathway and the SDGs together.



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The GAP is intended to support and strengthen the implementation and alignment of existing global, regional, national and community level strategies and plans, within the framework of the 2030 Agenda.

Next Steps

During the consultation phases of the development of the GAP, it has been strongly emphasised that the implementation of the GAP must be a joint effort with actions requiring the involvement and strong leadership of SIDS Member States with support of the UN agencies and development partners at all level (regional, national and community level).

Implementation of the Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) calls for

- (i) Identify specific needs to ensure that GAP complements and fits national food and nutritional security strategies in place,
- (ii) Develop joint regional and national actions programmes;
- (iii) Work together with member countries in resource mobilisation at international, regional and national levels. The adoption of the GAP by SIDS member counties offers significant potential for future resource mobilization in support of its implementation.

FAO, DESA and OHRLLS are committed to accompany the process and leverage their technical capacity and knowledge expertise to facilitate GAP implementation. FAO had developed an interregional Initiative on SIDS as a delivery mechanism on specific actions mentioned at national and local levels.

High Level Event

The event marks the **official launch in Rome of the Global Action programme (GAP) on Food Security and Nutrition in SIDS**, prepared in response to Paragraph 61 of the S.A.M.O.A. Pathway that invited FAO to facilitate the development of an action programme to address food and nutrition challenges in SIDS.

The event will be organized by FAO on 4 July 2017 during the FAO 40th Conference in close collaboration DESA, OHRLLS and SIDS countries. It seeks to garner support for the implementation of the GAP and to provide a platform to present and exchange views on the GAP as a programme for addressing the growing challenges associated with food security and nutrition in all SIDS. It will discuss and elaborate on specific actions that SIDS member countries need to undertake at global, regional, national and community level.



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Within this context, participants will highlight:

- Key areas of support and alignment of priorities of GAP with existing strategies and the 2030 SDG Agenda,
- The way forward regarding implementation of the GAP at global, regional, national and local level;
- Possibilities for partnerships, innovations and resources leading towards the coherent implementation of GAP.

The event will include a symbolic **ceremony of Endorsement of GAP and a moderated dialogue on 'Filling the Gap'**.

For additional information, please contact us via email:

SIDS-2017-Conference-Side-Event@fao.org