2026 WORLD FOOD FORUM FLAGSHIP EVENT

8 – 16 OCTOBER 2026

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SEEDS TO FOODS EXHIBITION								
				GO01 WFF 2026 Grand Opening		FAO ONE COUNTRY ONE PRIORITY PRODUCT(OCOP) INITIATIVE		GO06 World Food Day
				ROME WATER DIALOGUE				GO08 WFF Closing Ceremony
				GLOBAL YOUTH FORUM				
				HAND-IN-HAND INVESTMENT FORUM				
				CROSSCUTTING SIDE EVENTS				
				SCIENCE AND INNOVATION FORUM				
				GLOBAL-HUB ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' FOOD AND KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS				

CROSSCUTTING | YOUTH | HAND-IN-HAND INVESTMENT | SCIENCE AND INNOVATION | INDIGENOUS PEOPLES | WORLD FOOD DAY | ROME WATER DIALOGUE | OCOP

2026 WORLD FOOD FORUM FLAGSHIP EVENT

MONDAY | 12 OCTOBER 2026

	PLENARY	SHEIKH ZAYED CENTRE	RED ROOM	FAO MUNE FOODS LAB	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TERRITORY
09			**WD01** Rome Water Dialogue: Technical session on strengthening governance of water tenure through innovation and inclusive dialogue	**GS22** Clean cooking as an energy-smart agrifood system solution to improve food security	**HA01** Global-Hub on Indigenous Peoples' Food and Knowledge Systems Meeting 2026 – High-Level Opening
10	**YM01** Global Youth Forum Opening Ceremony				
11			**WD02:** Rome Water Dialogue: Technical Session on restoration of degraded agricultural lands: Innovation from policy to practice for water and food security		
12					**HA02:** Exchange of Knowledge: Indigenous Peoples as Rights and Knowledge Holders in the Context of the 20th Anniversary of UNDRIP
13				**GS23** Act Local, Think Global: Innovating Today to End Urban Food Poverty	
14	**GO01** World Food Forum 2026 Grand Opening				
15					
16					
17					
18		**YM02** Youth Opening Concert			**HA04:** Indigenous Peoples' Wisdom from the Snowlands of Earth – From the Arctic to the Andes and the Himalayas
19					

CROSSCUTTING | YOUTH | HAND-IN-HAND INVESTMENT | SCIENCE AND INNOVATION | INDIGENOUS PEOPLES | WORLD FOOD DAY | ROME WATER DIALOGUE | OCOP

2026 WORLD FOOD FORUM FLAGSHIP EVENT

TUESDAY | 13 OCTOBER 2026

	PLENARY	RED ROOM	GREEN ROOM	SHEIKH ZAYED CENTRE	IRAN ROOM
09	**IM01** Official Opening of the Hand-in-Hand Initiative Investment Forum	**WD03** Rome Water Dialogue: Technical session on innovation, planning and investment in drought management and irrigation		**YM03** Leading from the Front: Africa's youth driving agrifood systems transformation	
10			**YM04** World Food Forum Global School Assembly: Young minds nourish agrifood systems		
11				**YM05** Investing in Youth Infrastructure for Resilient Agrifood Systems	**YM22** Youth Leadership across the Rio Conventions: Integrated action for sustainable agrifood systems
12					
13				**GO02:** Second Anniversary Celebration of the FAO Four Betters Courses Initiative	
14	**SP01** Science and Innovation Forum Opening: Accelerating science and innovation for food security impacts	**IM02** Hand in Hand Regional Initiative: Amazon Bioeconomy Investment Program	**IM03** Hand in Hand Regional Initiative: Scaling Regional Investment for Agrifood systems transfor-mation in Southern Africa		**IM04** Hand in Hand Regional Initiative: Scaling Public and Private Investments for the Transformation of Agrifood Systems in the Pacific SIDS
15				**YM06** It Takes a Village: From barriers to leadership for young women across the agrifood value chain	
16		**IM07** Presentations of agrifood investment plans by Jordan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan and Tajikistan	**IM06** Presentations of agrifood investment plans by Angola, Benin, Ethiopia, Ghana and Nigeria		**IM05** Presentations of agrifood investment plans by Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico
17	**SP02** Seeds of Trust: Rethinking science communication for food security			**YM07** Generational Renewal in Agrifood Systems: Do we have the human capital?	
18		**IM08** Thematic Session: How can innovative finance foster agrifood systems transformation?			
19				**YM08:** World Food Forum Film Festival: Young storytellers inspiring the world	

CROSSCUTTING | YOUTH | HAND-IN-HAND INVESTMENT | SCIENCE AND INNOVATION | INDIGENOUS PEOPLES | WORLD FOOD DAY | ROME WATER DIALOGUE | OCOP

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TUESDAY | 13 OCTOBER 2026

	AUSTRIA ROOM	ETHIOPIA ROOM	PHILIPPINES ROOM	YOUTH NETWORKING ROOM	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TERRITORY
09	**GS01** AgriThreads: From farm to fashion innovation challenge				**HA03** Exchange of Knowledge: Conflation of Indigenous Peoples with "Local Communities"
10		**YE17:** Youth shaping sustainable pastoralist futures: From national dialogue to joint action			
11	**GS02** Rethinking Fertilizers and Soil Health: From uncertainty to resilience	**YE16** Future of Food Showdown – an interactive game show to play, learn and shape the future of food.	**YE02** Protein Diversification for the Global South Youth Engagement Workshop		
12					
13				**YE18:** FAO Career Booth: Exploring Career Pathways and Opportunities for Youth with FAO HR	
14	**YE03** Youth in agrifood systems: Advancing education, innovation and rmployment in the Near East and North Africa (NENA)	**YA01** Youth leadership in FAO regional conferences: Advancing impact 2026-2028	**GS03** Evaluating Readiness to Scale for Agricultural Water Innovations		
15					
16	**GS04** DIGICHILD: GIS innovation against child labour	**YA02** Indigenous Youth Roundtable	**YE04** Shaping the Agrifood Youth Pulse: From collecting data on youth to generating evidence with youth		
17					
18		**YA09** Farmers' dialogue: Paving pathways for generational renewal in agriculture			**HA05** Indigenous Peoples' Wisdom from Asia and North America – Dignity, Self-determination and Collective Prosperity
19					

CROSSCUTTING | YOUTH | HAND-IN-HAND INVESTMENT | SCIENCE AND INNOVATION | INDIGENOUS PEOPLES | WORLD FOOD DAY | ROME WATER DIALOGUE | OCOP

2026 WORLD FOOD FORUM FLAGSHIP EVENT

WEDNESDAY | 14 OCTOBER 2026

	PLENARY HALL	RED ROOM	GREEN ROOM	SHEIKH ZAYED CENTRE	IRAN ROOM
08					
09	**WD04** High-level Rome Water Dialogue – Global Dialogue on Water Tenure: Innovative water governance for food and security	**ST02** From Field to Future: Reimagining agricultural extension for smallholder food security	**ST01** Lost in Translation? Strengthening science–policy interfaces for evidence-informed decision-making	**YM09:** The Forgotten Investment: Generational renewal in Europe and Central Asia's agrifood systems	**IM10:** High-level Event: Livestock Transformation Pathways: Investing in better nutrition, stronger livelihoods and climate-resilient growth
10					
11		**IM11** Presentations of agrifood investment plans by Bolivia (plurinational State of), Colombia, Chile and Ecuador	**IM12** Presentations of agrifood investment plans by Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic Congo, Malawi, Mozambique and Sierra Leone	**YM10** Transformative Research Challenge Finals: Science for impact	**IM13** African SIDS Hand in Hand Regional Initiative: Big Ocean States leading the wave of agrifood systems transformation in Africa
12					
13		**ST12:** Launch of the fifth round of the Accelerator Mentorship Programme for Women-led SMEs in Africa	**YM11:** Young Scientists Group: Young women navigating agrifood systems in conflict settings		**IM14** High-level Event: From Bean to Bar: Ensuring chocolate's value reaches cocoa farmers
14					
15	**GO03** The High-Level Event on the Implementation of the FAO One Country One Priority Product Initiative	**IM15** Hand in Hand Regional Initiative: Building Resilience in the Dry Corridor and Arid Zones of the SICA region	**IM17** Presentations of agrifood investment plans by Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe	**YM12** Startup Innovation Awards Finals: Accelerating innovation, scaling impact	**IM16** Presentations of agrifood investment plans by Cabo Verde, Djibouti, Eswatini, Liberia and Madagascar
16					
17	**ST03** Growing the Future: Botanic gardens as agrifood allies	**IM18** Special Event: Investing in Haiti's Coffee Value Chain: A lever for resilience, growth and rural employment	**IM19** Special Event: Financing the future of food markets along the Lobito Corridor	**YM13** Youth Food Lab: Cultivating entrepreneurship	**IM20** Presentations of agrifood investment plans by Fiji, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Tonga
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CROSSCUTTING | YOUTH | HAND-IN-HAND INVESTMENT | SCIENCE AND INNOVATION | INDIGENOUS PEOPLES | WORLD FOOD DAY | ROME WATER DIALOGUE | OCOP

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WEDNESDAY | 14 OCTOBER 2026

AUSTRIA ROOM

GS05
Connecting Continents: From Climate Innovation to Impact across Africa and Asia-Pacific

GS06
Young women transforming food systems: Evidence, innovation and partnerships

GS07
Women in agrifood systems: Breaking barriers at the frontlines of crises

GS08
Turning National Agrifood Systems Investment Plans Into Action

ETHIOPIA ROOM

IM24
Central Asia bread basked initiative

YA06
From Consultation to Action: Youth shaping the future of fisheries and aquaculture governance

YA07
From Vision to Voice: Launching the Global Youth Constituency on Forestry

PHILIPPINES ROOM

YA04
Thematic Youth Assembly session on livestock and One Health

YA05
From Loss to Leadership: Empowering youth to shape climate-resilient agrifood systems through loss and damage

YE05
How can young leaders drive water action? Building capacity and leadership in FAO and beyond

YE06
Young chefs shaping the future of food

FAO MUNE FOODS LAB

GS16
Launch of A taste of SIDS: Food, culture and resilience of Small Island Developing States, FAO's SIDS Recipe Book that celebrates the cuisines and food heritage of SIDS

GERMAN ROOM

YE01
XPRIZE Water Scarcity: Exploring the value of water

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TERRITORY

HA06
Indigenous Peoples' Wisdom from Africa – Mobility as Knowledge, Adaptation and Resilience

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CROSSCUTTING | YOUTH | HAND-IN-HAND INVESTMENT | SCIENCE AND INNOVATION | INDIGENOUS PEOPLES | WORLD FOOD DAY | ROME WATER DIALOGUE | OCOP

2026 WORLD FOOD FORUM FLAGSHIP EVENT

THURSDAY | 15 OCTOBER 2026

	PLENARY	RED ROOM	GREEN ROOM	SHEIKH ZAYED CENTRE	IRAN ROOM
09		**ST05** Resilience to Disasters and Pandemics: What can a One Health approach deliver?	**ST04** Drowning in Data, Starving for Evidence-informed Decisions: What futures for scientific evidence synthesis?	**YM14** Driving Change Across Asia and the Pacific: Youth transforming agrifood systems	
10					**IM21:** High-level Event: Capitalizing on Opportunities: The next wave of investments for blue transformation
11	**GO04** Junior World Food Day	**IM22** High-level Event: Unlocking finance for resilient coffee value chains through data and innovation	**ST06** Broken by Design? Rewiring investment and partnership models for research and innovation	**YM15** Future-ready Agrifood Governance: Are we ready to listen to youth?	**ST07** Women Farmers in the Digital Age: From access to agency
12					
13					**ST13** From Forecast to Action: Leveraging science and innovation to reduce climate risks for agriculture and food security
14	**GO09** FAO 100 Women Heroes Presentation Ceremony	**ST08** How can entrepreneurship accelerate food security progress?	**ST09** Towards water-efficient agrifood systems that deliver food security for all	**YM16** How to Reboot Agrifood Investment for a New Generation?	
15					
16		**IM23:** Joint Thematic Session HIH Initiative Investment Forum and Science & Innovation Forum: Artificial Intelligence: Bridging the investment gap for agrifood systems transformation	**ST10** Tipping points, cascading risks, and limits to adaptation for agrifood systems and food security	**YM17** Youth in the Americas Have the Solutions – Are We Ready to Invest?	**GO05** Food Safety and Trade Facilitation for Agrifood Systems Transformation
17					
18				**YM18** Empowering Women Farmers through Innovative Policy Solutions	**GO10** Investing in Resilient Durum Wheat
19					

CROSSCUTTING | YOUTH | HAND-IN-HAND INVESTMENT | SCIENCE AND INNOVATION | INDIGENOUS PEOPLES | WORLD FOOD DAY | ROME WATER DIALOGUE | OCOP

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THURSDAY | 15 OCTOBER 2026

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AUSTRIA ROOM

GS09
Youth-forward investment in sustainable food systems

GS10
Empowering women and the next generation of forest entrepreneurs

GS11
From pathways to investment readiness

GS12
Innovation Policy Lab: How can we rethink women's access to finance in forestry? Lessons from Forest and Farm Facility

GS15
Partnerships and knowledge for agrifood transformation in Latin America

ETHIOPIA ROOM

GS20
Multidimensional poverty and hunger looking at rural areas and Indigenous peoples: Launching the White/Te Oranga Paper

YE14
Rethinking food processing for socioeconomic gains

YA08
Rome Water Dialogue – Youth Assembly Session

YE15
Intergenerational Dialogue: Women Leaders of Science, Technology, Innovation in Agrifood Systems

PHILIPPINES ROOM

YE07
Two sides of the deal – What it takes to ACCESS capital for women-led agri-businesses

GS14
Two sides of the deal - What it takes to COMMIT capital for agri-investors

YE13
WFF Educators Network Roundtable: Building the global agrifood systems education partnership

YE10
Youth Innovation Showcase 2026

GERMAN ROOM

IS01
Commit to Grow Equality Inaugural Partnership Exchange

ACCELERATION ZONE

ST11
Science with Ambition: Accelerating early career impact on food security

FAO MUNE FOODS LAB

GS21
Dining with Pastoralists
A tavola con i pastori

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TERRITORY

HA07
Indigenous Peoples' Wisdom from Africa – Mobility as Knowledge, Adaptation and Resilience

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2026 WORLD FOOD FORUM FLAGSHIP EVENT

FRIDAY | 16 OCTOBER 2026

	PLENARY HALL	SHEIKH ZAYED CENTRE	AUSTRIA ROOM	PHILIPPINES ROOM	IRAN ROOM	FAO MUNE FOODS LAB	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TERRITORY
09				**YE11:** Small Grants for Big Impacts: How can youth and women access Global Environment Facility financing to advance global environmental benefits through agrifood systems?	**ST14:** Strengthening the evidence base for agricultural science, research and innovation: How ASTI supports agrifood systems transformation		
10	**GO06** World Food Day	**YM19:** Custodians of Food Heritage: Young chefs shaping our food culture					
11			**GS17** Scaling agrifood innovation and private sector engagement	**YE12** TRC Connect: From research to impact			
12		**YM20** Youth-Led, Regionally Rooted: Nourishing the future of the Near East and North Africa					
13			**YD01:** Youth Innovation and Climate Finance: Empowering the Next Generation to Transform Agrifood Systems in Eastern Africa		**GO11** The impact of the current escalation in the Back Sea on global food security – What can we do to prevent the next global food crisis?	**GS24** Biodiversity on the Plate: Promoting Local Foods through Gastronomy	
14							
15	**GO08** World Food Forum Closing Ceremony						
16							
17							
18							**HA08:** Indigenous Peoples' Wisdom from Central and South America and the Caribbean – Territory, Collective Well-being and Future Generations
19							

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YOUTH EXHIBITIONS

MONDAY | 12 OCTOBER

BIOCULTURAL AND FOOD HERITAGE PAVILION

BP13
Living Rice Heritage of the Lower Meghna

BP10
Youth-Led Innovation for Urban Gastronomy: Macao, UNESCO Creative City

BP01
Fairies of Holy Mountains: How matsutake nourishes Shangri-La people

YOUTH BOOTH 1

YB01
Inclusive Innovation for Food Systems

YB02
From Seed to Solution: Young women transforming agrifood systems

YOUTH BOOTH 2

YB10
Innovation in Agrifood: Youth driving change

YB11
Beyond Ideas: Youth-led innovation for a better food future

YB12
Nomadic Youth for Future Food Systems

TUESDAY | 13 OCTOBER

BIOCULTURAL AND FOOD HERITAGE PAVILION

BP15
Serving the Future: Youth, Culture and Food Heritage Across Generations

BP05
Georgian Wheat: Tradition feeding tomorrow

BP03
One Heritage, Many Landscapes

BP14
Seeds of Sovereignty: Science, Women, and People's Knowledge

YOUTH BOOTH 1

YB03
WFF National Youth Chapters: Youth-led action in Latin America and the Caribbean

YB04
WFF National Youth Chapters: Youth-led action in Europe and Central Asia

YOUTH BOOTH 2

YB13
FAO elearning Academy: Empowering youth for agrifood futures

YB14
Tradition and Innovation: Young pastoralists on the move

YB15
A Nourishing Tomorrow: Dim sum and beyond

WEDNESDAY | 14 OCTOBER

BIOCULTURAL AND FOOD HERITAGE PAVILION

BP06
From Land to Craft: How women and youth in Serbia turn heritage into bioeconomy

BP07
Young Chefs as Cultural Diplomats for Sustainable Food Systems

BP04
The Youth Taste of Transformation: Food heritage in action

BP08
Touching Time – Exploring the World: Biological culture and food heritage in China's rural revitalization

YOUTH BOOTH 1

YB05
WFF National Youth Chapters: Youth-led action in Asia and the Pacific

YB06
WFF National Youth Chapters: Youth-led action in the Near East and North Africa

YOUTH BOOTH 2

YB16
4Better Global Coalition: From local roots to global change

YB17
ALEP on Water Action - Building capacity and leadership in FAO and beyond

YB18
Roots of Resilience: Food systems in action

YB19
RWFF National Youth Chapters: Youth-led action in Small Island Developing States

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YOUTH EXHIBITIONS

THURSDAY | 15 OCTOBER

BIOCULTURAL AND FOOD HERITAGE PAVILION

BP09
From land and water: Recipes from women pastoralists, producers, fishers and farmers

BP02
Young Women as Leaders of Agrifood Futures: Gender, STEM and Biocultural Heritage in Brazil

BP11
Nomadic Food Heritage: Youth innovating Mongolia's living traditions

YOUTH BOOTH 1

YB07
WFF National Youth Chapters: Youth-led action in Africa

YB08
ATIO KB full mobile: From hackathon to impact

YOUTH BOOTH 2

YB20
Circular School Agrifood Systems: From waste to nutrition

YB21
Seeding the Future Global Food System Challenge Winners Showcase

YB22
North America Showcase: Penn State University and WFF Canada Youth Chapters

YB23
From the regions to Rome: youth recommendations in FAO Regional Conferences

FRIDAY | 16 OCTOBER

BIOCULTURAL AND FOOD HERITAGE PAVILION

BP12
Tharu Food Heritage: Ancestral wisdom for sustainable futures

YOUTH BOOTH 1

YB09
Youth Toolkit Lab for Agrifood Futures

YOUTH BOOTH 2

YB25
Meet and Engage: The Youth Food Lab Innovation Harvest

2026 WORLD FOOD FORUM FLAGSHIP EVENT

DECENTRALIZED FORUM EVENTS

FRIDAY | 9 OCTOBER

08:00 CEST – 14:00 Philippines time

YD03
Innovate Today, Nourish Tomorrow: Young Filipinos reimagining the future of food

Virtual event

10:00 CEST

YD09
Building on Progress, Rethinking What's Next: Innovation for agrifood systems transformation

Virtual event

TUESDAY | 13 OCTOBER

10:00 CEST – 11:00 Moscow time

YD06
From Ideas to Actions: Launch of the World Food Forum National Youth Chapter in the Russian Federation

Hybrid - HSE University (National Research University Higher School of Economics), Moscow

WEDNESDAY | 14 OCTOBER

07:00 CEST – 12:00 Chile time

YD08
Financial Inclusion for Rural Youth in Agrifood Systems

Virtual event

10:00 CEST – 11:00 Moscow time

YD07
Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems: Knowledge, practices and development prospects

Hybrid - RUDN University (Patrice Lumumba Peoples' Friendship University of Russia), Moscow

THURSDAY | 15 OCTOBER

08:00 CEST – 10:00 Liberia time

YD02
From Innovation to Impact: Youth and women nourishing Liberia's future

Hybrid – Day 1: FAO Liberia Conference Room, 1st Street, Sinkor, Monrovia, Liberia

FRIDAY | 16 OCTOBER

08:00 CEST – 10:00 Liberia time

YD02
From Innovation to Impact: Youth and women nourishing Liberia's future

Hybrid – Day 2: Ministry of Agriculture, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Ministerial Complex, Congo Town, Monrovia, Liberia

08:30 CEST – 09:30 Ethiopia time

YD01
Youth Innovation and Climate Finance: Empowering the next generation to transform agrifood systems in Eastern Africa

Hybrid – Austria Room, FAO headquarters

09:00 CEST – 16:00 Seoul time

YD04
Harvesting Tomorrow with AI: Women farmers and artificial intelligence innovation

Hybrid - Ondream Society, Myeong-dong, Seoul, Republic of Korea

13:00 CEST – 16:00 Seoul time

YD05
Innovating Together: Empowering youth to shape sustainable and inclusive agrifood systems

In-person - İzmir –Yaşar University premises