Asia Pacific Regional Food Systems Dialogue
10 June 2021, 13.30 – 16.15 (BKK time, UTC +7)

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE

The Asia Pacific regional food systems dialogue is being organized in preparation of the Global Food Systems Summit. It will provide insights from the national dialogues that are currently being convened on the five action tracks, and identify opportunities for regional and sub-regional collaboration. It will also consider cross-cutting issues such as digitalization, data, urban agriculture, and women and other vulnerable groups that have emerged as priority areas for action during the recent Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development.

A diverse range of stakeholders is expected to participate in order to consolidate regional views, perspectives and experiences regarding pathways and actions for equitable and sustainable food systems transformation to achieve healthy diets for all people in Asia and the Pacific and support the implementation of the SDGs within the context of current realities.

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

| 13.30 – 14.00 | Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP |
| Welcome and Opening (30 min) | Mr. Jong-Jin Kim, Assistant Director-General and FAO Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific |
| | Special address: Dr. Agnes Kalibata, UN Secretary General’s Special Envoy to the 2021 Food Systems Summit |
| | H.E. Dr. Phet Phomphiphak, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry of Lao PDR (pre-recorded) |
### 14.00 – 15.00
**Round 1: Messages from the countries (60 min)**

What are the priority action areas to transform the food systems in A/P along the five action tracks identified for the 2021 Food Systems Summit?

**Moderator: Dr. David Nabarro**  
Senior Advisor to the Food Systems Summit Dialogues

Moderated panel discussion with national dialogue convenors or their representatives

- 2-3 Immediate/key actions to be taken by the government to reshape food systems to deliver healthy diets to all
- What are some recommendations on developing sub-regional/regional co-operative approaches through the UN, regional bodies etc.

**H.E. Sok Silo**, Secretary General for the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development, Cambodia, Cambodia

**Prof. Ramesh Chand**, Member Secretary, Niti Aayog, India

**H.E. Azamat Mukashev** Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Kyrgyzstan

**Dr. Ting Jun PENG**, Deputy Director General of the Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, China

**Ms. Regina Nukundj**, Acting Deputy Secretary for Policy and Planning, Department of Agriculture and Livestock, Papua New Guinea

**Mr. Ritesh Dass**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fiji

**Mr. Anang Noegroho**, Director for Food and Agriculture, Ministry of National Development Planning, Indonesia

### 15.00 – 16.00
**Round 2: Opportunities for regional action (60 min)**

What are some cross-cutting areas to accelerate the five action tracks at regional level, including digitization, Data collection, and improved

**Moderator: Professor Emorn Udomkesmalee**  
Senior Advisor and Former Director of the Institute of Nutrition, Mahidol University, Thailand

Representatives from global and regional organizations representing a mix of government,
surveillance to monitor nutrition, food security, and livelihood indicators, urban agriculture, social protection systems, and increased access of women.

civil society, private sector, international organization will discuss

- What is their role in making food systems more sustainable?
- What are major issues that are possibly being missed in the conversation?
- Are there signs of a change to ‘building back greener and better’ after the pandemic and what regional action is required to make this happen?

Dr. Jaqueline Hughes; Director General, ICRISAT

Ms. Ma. Estrella Penunia, Secretary General, Asian Farmers Association

Mr. S. M. Nazer Hossain, Vice President, Consumers Association Bangladesh

Mr. Paul Nicholson, Vice President; Head of Rice Research & Sustainability at Olam

Mr. Salman Hussain, Coordinator, The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity, UNEP

Mr. Omer Zafar, Principal Agriculture and Natural Resources Specialist, ADB

| 16.00 – 16.15 | Mr. John Aylieff, WFP Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific |
|  | Dr. Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia (pre-recorded) |
|  | Ms. Dechen Tsering, Regional Director and Representative for Asia and the Pacific, UN Environment Programme |

**OUTCOME**

A meeting report summarizing main messages and recommendations for action at regional level will be prepared and submitted as an input to the Global Food Systems Summit.
PARTICIPANTS

Government representatives from the Asia Pacific region (national dialogue conveners), United Nations Country Teams, civil society, private sector.

PLATFORM

Zoom and public screening on YouTube. Dial-in/connection details and information will be sent to registered participants 24 hours before the event via the e-mail provided.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Ms. Katinka Weinberger, Chief, Environment and Development Policy Section, ESCAP is the focal point. She can be reached via email at escap-edd-edps@un.org.

REGISTRATION

For registration, please click here (https://forms.office.com/r/LgxXcBYWg8). The registration will be closed on 8 June 2021 at 23.30 (BKK time, UTC +7).