

Ministerial Statements

Government of Nepal

Pre-summit of UN Food Systems Summit 2021

The Constitution of Nepal has included the right to food as a fundamental right of citizens. The Government of Nepal has issued Right to Food and Food Sovereignty Act **to ensure affordable, healthy and nutritious food for all Nepalese citizen**. Realizing this, Nepal has taken UN Food System Summit 2021 as an important opportunity to examine its food systems and identify pathways for the equitable, sustainable and resilient food system.

Within this context, the National Planning Commission has organized National and sub-national level Food Systems dialogues with the theme "**Nepal towards an equitable, resilient and sustainable food system**". Key actors and stakeholders attended the dialogues and examined the food system at the national and sub-national levels. The dialogues focused on examining the five action tracks of UN Food System Summit and a policy environment.

Food System dialogues **examined the expectations of current food system, its operation, issues and options for transformation**. These Dialogues were crucial to build and strengthen linkages and collaboration with different stakeholders across the country, and to generate an extensive discourse on food system and general awareness. The stakeholders realized that **the Food System is critical to achieve national aspirations**, fulfill the objectives of national plans and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The feedback from **these nine dialogues organized under the stage I and Stage II food system dialogues process** revealed important aspect of food system at the different agroecological regions and administrative provinces. Following are the key suggestions:

1. **Develop and strengthen infrastructures** (such as roads, irrigation, market, collection centers, chilling centers, warehouse/storage, and cold chain).
2. **Attraction of youth towards the agriculture and gender sensitive programming** (to address gender friendly agriculture system)
3. Exploring innovation ways to **conserve and continue Nepal's unique mountain Food System** (utilize the indigenous and nutrition rich crops and forest foods).
4. **Linkage of School Meal Programme to the homegrown food** (to promote local food systems and economy).
5. **Build climate resilient systems**, (to boost nature friendly local food systems, and promotion of local seeds and varieties).

6. **Emphasis on achieving self-sufficiency on key food items for substitute import** (Strengthen coordination and triple nexus of agriculture, food security, nutrition and effective growth)
7. **Information management system** (for strengthening and scale up food security monitoring system, early warning and anticipatory early action mechanisms)
8. **Food System governance** (for implementing existing policies and increase accountability, especially on the part of duty bearers, market, supply chain, equitable descent wages to the actors engaged in different levels of food systems).
9. **The right to food and food sovereignty Act** (to facilitate and transform food system through making all actors accountable).

Way forward: Third national dialogues will be organized to explore the commitment, partnership and collaboration for transforming food systems in Nepal.

DAY	SESSION (CEST)	TIME PREFERENCE <i>Mark Preference with an X</i>	LIVE FORMAT <i>Will the live statement be delivered virtually or in person? Please indicate with an X</i>	
			VIRTUAL	IN-PERSON
Monday, 26 July	11:30-12:30	x	x	
	12:30-13:30			
Tuesday, 27 July	11:30-12:30			
	12:30-13:30			
	17:30-18:30			
	18:30-19:30			

Additional information

1. Statement will be delivered In live virtually
2. Member State: Nepal
3. Head of Delegation: Mr Kewal Prasad Bhandari, Secretary, National Planning Commission (NPC), Nepal
4. Mr Basu Dev Sharma, Joint-Secretary, NPC
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