



## Background

The Food and Nutrition Security Working Group (FNSWG) promotes quarterly thematic meetings to engage members and stakeholders and foster discussions to gather substantive contributions and recommendations towards promoting and advocating for food and nutrition security in southern Africa. The first quarterly thematic session of 2021 is entitled Food Systems in Southern Africa. This is in recognition of food systems' centrality as a tool for collectively addressing food and nutrition security challenges in the southern Africa region. The FNSWG recognises the threat of Climate Change in Southern to food and nutrition security in southern Africa. With its 2-pronged approach to 1) Strengthen diagnostics and analytics and 2) To track response strategy towards climate-induced episodes consisting of turning early warning to early action, managing risk to protect people and assets and climate-proofing development, the Group seeks to strengthen the food systems dimension of its work in southern Africa region.

More information about the thematic session topic and details is provided below.

### Food Systems Summit

*In 2021, UN Secretary-General António Guterres will convene a Food Systems Summit as part of the Decade of Action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The Summit will launch bold new actions to deliver progress on all 17 SDGs, each of which relies to some degree on healthier, more sustainable, and equitable food systems.*

*The Summit will awaken the world to the fact that we all must work together to transform the way the world produces, consumes, and thinks about food. It is a summit for everyone everywhere – a people's Summit. It is also a solutions summit that will require everyone to take action to transform the world's food systems.*

*Guided by five Action Tracks, the Summit will bring together key players from the worlds of science, business, policy, healthcare, and academia, as well as farmers, indigenous people, youth organisations, consumer groups, environmental activists, and other key stakeholders. Before, during and after the Summit, these actors will come together to bring about tangible, positive changes to the world's food systems.<sup>1</sup>*

The **five Action Tracks** are aligned with the Summit's five objectives:

1. Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all.
2. Shift to sustainable consumption patterns.
3. Boost nature-positive production.
4. Advance equitable livelihoods.
5. Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks, and stress.

*In advance of the Summit, Member States are encouraged to explore pathways towards sustainable food systems. This will mean examining, and then building on, existing food and agriculture policies and plans using a broad systems perspective. Through the Food Systems Summit Dialogues (FSSDs) various stakeholder groups within food systems, multiple sectors from national and local governments as well as the local and national scientific community, will have the opportunity to connect, explore options for the future, and together shape both local and national pathways towards sustainable food systems so that by 2030 they are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals.*

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<sup>1</sup> Information on the summit available at: <https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit/about>

# Q1 Thematic Session: Food Systems in Southern Africa

Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Time: 09:30 am – 12:30 pm Via Zoom



FNSWG

Food and Nutrition  
Security Working Group



*To move ahead with shaping and developing the national pathway towards sustainable food systems in the months before the Summit, Member States are invited to bring together different stakeholders from within national food systems to contribute. They are encouraged to organise and curate a programme of progressive multi-stakeholder Dialogues- the Food Systems Summit Member State Dialogues - both nationally and sub-nationally.*

*The work done in preparation for the Summit will be of crucial value as national efforts to adapt food systems - in line with the national pathway - are taken forward in-country during the coming decade. Due to the involvement of such diverse stakeholder groups, it is anticipated that action in line with the pathway will be strongly supported by local, national, regional, and international stakeholder groups.<sup>2</sup>*

## Focus

The FNSWG is promoting a collaborative platform to bring its members together to foster a discussion about Food Systems in Southern Africa. The focus of the thematic session is to support FNSWG members in anticipation of the Food System Summit.

## Objectives

- To brief members about Food Systems, the National Dialogues, and the Summit and its objectives.
- To facilitate a discussion about each Summit's action track; To Identify key messages from considering (1) COVID-19 Impacts; (2) the Support to Member States in preparation for the Summit.
- Identify opportunities and entry points for supporting SADC member states in preparing for the National Dialogues and the upcoming UN Food Systems Summit.

## Target Audience

FNSWG Members and interested stakeholders.

## Thematic session set-up

Speakers: WFP, AUDA-NEPAD, SADC, Member States, WVI, FAO, IFRC, TWG-N.

Format: Presentations, Breakaway Groups & Plenary Discussion, Q&A.

Duration: 3h

Via Zoom

Date: March 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 09:30 to 12:30

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<sup>2</sup> More information available at: <https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/201124-Food-Systems-Summit-Dialogues-QA-Member-States.pdf>



10.35 – 10.55

Breakaway session (20 min)

Action Track no.	Facilitator	Discussion Questions
<b>Action Track 1</b> <i>Ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all</i>	FAO	<i>What is the impact of COVID-19?</i> <i>How can you support the Member States?</i> <i>Action track specific question (facilitator to provide)</i>
<b>Action Track 2</b> <i>Shifting to sustainable consumption patterns</i>	TWG-N	<i>What is the impact of COVID-19?</i> <i>How can you support the Member States?</i> <i>Action track specific question (facilitator to provide)</i>
<b>Action Track 3</b> <i>Boosting nature-positive production at scale</i>	SADC	<i>What is the impact of COVID-19?</i> <i>How can you support the Member States?</i> <i>Action track specific question (facilitator to provide)</i>
<b>Action Track 4</b> <i>Advancing equitable livelihoods</i>	IFRC	<i>What is the impact of COVID-19?</i> <i>How can you support the Member States?</i> <i>Action track specific question (facilitator to provide)</i>
<b>Action Track 5</b> <i>Building resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks, and stresses</i>	WFP	<i>What is the impact of COVID-19?</i> <i>How can you support the Member States?</i> <i>Action track specific question (facilitator to provide)</i>



## Food Systems Summit & National Dialogues supporting documentation:

- [FSS FAQ Link](#)
- [Member States Dialogues FAQ](#)
- [MS Dialogues List of Convenors](#)
- [MS Dialogues Guidance Note](#)
- [Dialogues Reports](#)

## Breakaway session facilitator's guide:

1. Facilitators to review the Action Tracks' documentation, available at:
  - a. [Action Tracks](#): access Discussion Paper Stater and other information available.
  - b. Mural outcome on food systems drivers (to be sent prior to the session).
  
2. Structure the breakaway session in:
  - a. Short Presentation (5 minutes)
  - b. Invite members to Q&A (5 minutes)
  - c. Collect key messages and recommendations about the three main questions for each track – please see the suggested schema below.

*Action Tracks guiding questions schema.*

Guiding Questions	Answers	Recommendations & Next Steps
<b>What is the impact of COVID-19?</b>	▪ ▪ ▪	▪ ▪ ▪
<b>How can you support the Member States?</b>	▪ ▪ ▪	▪ ▪ ▪
<i>Action track specific question (facilitator to provide)</i>	▪ ▪ ▪	▪ ▪ ▪