

Session Brief

Side Event SE-06b: The role of Science and Innovation in implementing the UN Food Systems National Pathways

Date: Tuesday 6 June 2023@ 1615 – 1715 SAST

Format: Hybrid

Venue: Durban (Meeting Room : ACCRA-B)

Zoom Link: <https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEsce2oqzwiE9e7azjZCjcq5i56WxtOd1yT>

Synopsis

This side event will discuss two questions that were at the heart of the webinar hosted by GFAR in partnership with the UN Food System Coordination Hub on 19 January 2023.

- i) how can we engage and support the implementation of the UN Food Systems (UNFSS) National Pathways and
- ii) how can we catalyze innovation and research to support these pathways.

Welcoming more than 250 people across the world, this knowledge sharing webinar provided a valuable space for participants to discuss progress in developing and implementing national pathways toward resilient, inclusive and sustainable food systems as well as report on achievements to date. The event will provide an overview of the conclusion of the UN Food Systems held in September 2021, feedback on the outcomes of the GFAR/FSS Coordination Hub webinar held in January and plans for the stocktaking moment. It will provide an opportunity to discuss ways in which GFAR and its members can support the implementation of FSS recommendations through science and research. (Refer to the below link for the summary record of the webinar).

https://www.gfar.net/sites/default/files/Report%20GFAR%20Soil%20Fertility%20webinar_0.pdf

The objective of the event is to share the conclusion with a wide range of stakeholders in food systems across all regions. It will inform discussions on the outcomes and implications of the FSS particularly regarding ways in which GFAR Regional Fora and members can engage in efforts to catalyze innovation and research to support the development of national pathways. An update will be provided to participants on the 2023 UN Food Systems Stocktaking to be held in Rome from 26-28 July 2023 and the establishment of a Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) in late 2022 to work with the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub in support of country action. The SAC has been established based on a recognition that science and innovation play a crucial role in accelerating transformations for healthier, more sustainable and resilient food systems. It comprises 33 eminent scientists from around the world, dedicated to addressing systemic challenges that exist in transformation pathways through credible evidence-based and science-driven solutions.

Program

| Sr | Time | Activity | Facilitator |
|----|------|--|-------------|
| A | 1615 | Opening Thoughts GFAR Secretariat | |
| B | 1620 | Key Presentations Overview of the UN FSS outcomes, National Pathways and the July 2023 Stocktaking Moment Nicole de Paula, FAO Office of the Sustainable Development Goals, FAO Asia experience (Martina Spisiakova, APAARI) Youth Perspective YPARD / UN Food Systems Coordination Hub – Michelle Seck Discussion/Q&A | |
| C | 1655 | Wrap-Up/Closing remarks | |

Speakers



Nicole DePaula,
Office of the
SDG,FAO



Martina Spisiakova
Knowledge Management
Coordinator, APAARI



Michelle Seck
YPARD



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