

## **UNFSS Action Track 3 Public Forum**

### **April 27, 2021 | 8:00 - 10:00 AM EST**

Facebook Live Link: <https://www.facebook.com/UNFoodSystems/videos/629437914680736>

Action Track 3 met for a public forum on April 27th. Joao Compari provided a detailed overview of the efforts to date, and other members of the action track explained the focus of each action area, including protect, manage, and restore. The term “nature positive” and its defining principles were emphasized throughout the forum.

Joao Compari, Opening Remarks - Update on AT3

Overview of AT 3 Efforts

- Our goal: to boost nature-positive production systems at scale to globally meet the fundamental human right to healthy and nutritious food while operating within planetary boundaries.
  - The last forum provided the opportunity for participants to ask what nature positive means. We have a science team that provides support and guidance on this area.
- Definition: Nature-positive food systems are characterized by a regenerative, non-depleting and non-destructive use of materials. It is based on stewardship of the environment and biodiversity as the foundation of critical ecosystem services, including carbon sequestration and soil, water and climate regulation. Nature Positive Food Systems refer to protection, sustainable management and restoration of productive system. Finally, nature positive food systems cover the growing demand for food in a sufficient way and include sustainable and healthy nutrition.
- Action Areas: Protect - Manage - Restore
  - Resilient land/river/seascapes for human, animal and environmental health
- SDGs
  - Principles: SDG 1, SDG 5, SDG 9, SDG 10, SDG17
  - Delivery: SDG2, SDG3, SDGE 12, SDG 13, SDG 14, SDG 15
  - Contribute: SDG6, SDG8, SDG 16

Developing Game Changing Solutions

- 1200+ Solutions suggested so far across the Summit (still coming in)
  - Public Forum
  - Multi-stakeholder outreach
  - Online survey
  - Food Systems Summit Dialogue
  - Literature Review
- Solutions generation is an ongoing and interactive process
- 220+ ideas received by AT 3 from Divers Group of Stakeholders
  - UN Agencies (8%), Individuals (8%), Member States (16%), Civil society (22%), Private Sector (22%), Producers Associations (7%), Research and Academic Institutions (18%)

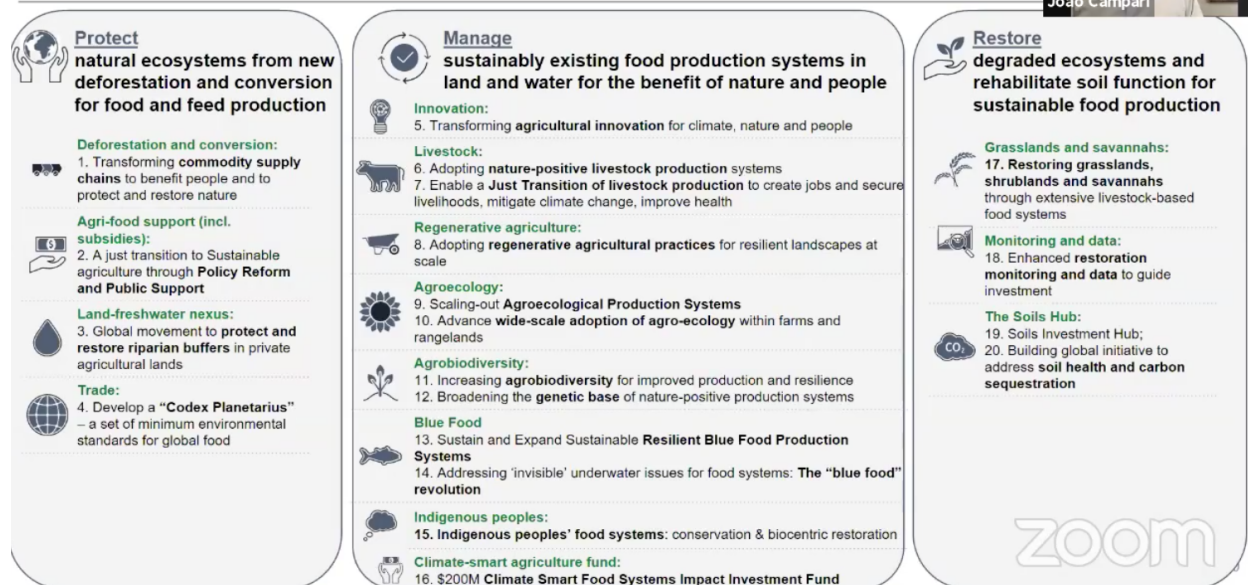
Game Changing Solutions: Methodology

- Wave 1: Leadership Team of AT 3 assessed and consolidated an initial list of 24 solutions. The Criteria used to define a game changing and systemic solution are:
  - Impact potential at scale (including ROI)
  - Actionability (policy, capacity, costs)
  - Sustainability (the ability to deliver the SDGs)
- Wave 2: Processing all input received to date as well as accepting new ideas for “second wave” of ideas from AT 3
- Public survey will close on May 1, but collecting and selecting ideas into AT 3 will remain an ongoing process)

#### Introducing Action Areas

- The propositions fall under 15 action areas
- AT 3: Nature Positive Production
  - Protect Natural Ecosystems
  - Manage sustainability existing food production systems
  - Restore degraded ecosystems


## ACTION TRACK 3 | ALL ACTION AREAS



#### Presenting Action Areas

Fabio Scarano

## Protect



**Protect**  
**natural ecosystems from new  
deforestation and conversion for  
food and feed production**

**This Action Area will:**

- propose ways and means to safeguard natural ecosystems (on land, inland waters and oceans)
- ensure natural ecosystems are not further converted for food and feed production.

In particular, we will work to eliminate deforestation and conversion of natural habitats and overfishing from food supply chains.

### Our working groups:



#### Deforestation and conversion:

1. Transforming **commodity supply chains** to benefit people and to protect and restore nature



#### Agri-food support (incl. subsidies):

2. A just transition to Sustainable agriculture through **Policy Reform and Public Support**



#### Land-freshwater nexus:

3. Global movement to **protect and restore riparian buffers** in private agricultural lands



#### Trade:

4. Develop a “**Codex Planetarius**” – a set of minimum environmental standards for global food

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- Our agenda connects to the UN CCD agenda and to the UN CDB and with links to climate

Juan Lucas Restrepo

## Manage

- Action area 2 aims to identify pathways to nourish people within planetary guidelines
- We have been able to produce more than enough food, but there are concerns with distribution but that is another issue
- Diet has become more homogenous with less diversity on our plates - which means we have less
- Production needs to change because of deforestation and greenhouse gas emissions
  - Give back land for restoration
- Biodiversity has been affected because of production practices
- We need to see how we produce more food, but focus on sustainability of the production and distribution and ensure appropriate nutrients are on our plates
- We are open to receiving ideas - no one size fits all



**Manage**  
sustainably existing food production systems in land and water for the benefit of nature and people

**This Action Area will:**

- design nature-positive and context-specific solutions increase input efficiencies;
- internalize externalities;
- increase yields within planetary boundaries;
- scale out agroecology and agro-biodiversity to reduce pressure on ecosystems while improving nutrition, livelihoods and enhancing resilience to climate change

Since there are no one-size-fits-all solutions, we embrace all nature-positive approaches, from digital farming to traditional and indigenous knowledge and seek to enable farmers and fishers to design nature-positive solutions for their own geographies and socio-economic contexts.

#### Our working groups:


-  **Innovation:**  
5. Transforming **agricultural innovation** for climate, nature and people
-  **Livestock:**  
6. Adopting **nature-positive livestock production systems**  
7. Enable a **Just Transition of livestock production** to create jobs and secure livelihoods, mitigate climate change, improve health
-  **Regenerative agriculture:**  
8. Adopting **regenerative agricultural practices** for resilient landscapes at scale
-  **Agroecology:**  
9. Scaling-out **Agroecological Production Systems**  
10. Advance **wide-scale adoption of agro-ecology** within farms and rangelands
-  **Agrobiodiversity:**  
11. Increasing **agrobiodiversity** for improved production and resilience  
12. Broadening the **genetic base** of nature-positive production systems
-  **Blue Food**  
13. Sustain and Expand Sustainable **Resilient Blue Food Production Systems**  
14. Addressing 'invisible' underwater issues for food systems: **The "blue food" revolution**
-  **Indigenous peoples:**  
15. **Indigenous peoples' food systems:** conservation and biocentric restoration
-  **Climate-smart agriculture fund:**  
16. \$200M **Climate Smart Food Systems Impact Investment Fund**



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Leann Ann Winnawiki

Restore



**Restore**  
degraded ecosystems and rehabilitate soil function for sustainable food production

**This Action Area will:**

- propose ways and means to safeguard natural ecosystems (on land, inland waters and oceans)
- ensure natural ecosystems are not further converted for food and feed production.

In particular, we will work to eliminate deforestation and conversion of natural habitats and overfishing from food supply chains.

#### Our working groups:



##### Grasslands and savannahs:

**17. Restoring grasslands, shrublands and savannahs** through extensive livestock-based food systems



##### Monitoring and data:

**18. Enhanced restoration monitoring and data** to guide investment



##### The Soils Hub:

**19. Soils Investment Hub;**  
**20. Building global initiative to address soil health and carbon sequestration**

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- These game changing solutions recognize a systems approach -we need to acknowledge connections across soil, forestry, foods/fruits, health, livelihood, etc.
- Need to use more data to guide investment

Rattan Lal

## Zero Net Land Degradation

- 30% of all soils in the world are degraded
  - Feedback to climate change
- Fertilizers are not effective - leak back into water
- Restoration is very critical
- There is a need to produce more - does that mean more land or restoring the degraded land?
- 1200 solutions have been submitted, these must be organized/streamlined and only ~20-25 should be highlighted so that they can actually be implemented
  - Soil Health 4 sub themes
    - What are the recommended game changing solutions that feed the under soil? What are the themes?
      - One Health
    - Conservation agriculture, precision farming, agroforestry, complex farming systems
    - Implementation: education, public private partnership, soil protection policy (national, regional, continental level),
    - Impact: What is the impact of all these activities?
- Many game changing solutions need to be streamlined - the number of game changers is overwhelming. It is wonderful but we can't implement this (1200) many game changing solutions.

## Question + Answer

- Question: How do you see cross-cutting themes being put into action?
  - Answer: Fabio Scarano - We have been asking our teams to identify groups they can collaborate with. Our goal is to protect - example would be making land productive - this would help protect the land, but there is a lot of work that must go into making the land productive. It is more work, but it is very exciting.
- Question: How do you see the goals of advancing human rights for those affected by the food system entering into the criteria for selection?
  - Answer: Christine Campeau: Human rights is at the center of our work. This is how all the ATs are focusing. We have global rights representatives on our team, and are welcoming more experts.
  - Answer - Juao Campari: Rights based approaches is at the foundation of the Action Tracks. Anything we do in the ATs must be focused within rights based approaches. Our goal statement is to meet the global right for nutritious food for all. Being nature positive means being people positive.
- Question: How is food loss and waste being considered in this AT?
  - Answer: Juao Campari: Putting them together in one action area is now being led by AT 2. Initially they were separated issues in different ATs.

## Action Track Lead Session

What does nature positive mean to you and your AT?

#### Lawrence Haddad (AT1)

- Doing a lot of work on anemia and wasting on children. Animal sources (eggs, dairy, fish, red meat) are important for this, but we must be aware of greenhouse gases.
- We are doing a lot of work on promoting vegetables.
- Food safety - there are worries about pesticides and herbicides when consuming fresh foods. If we can reduce the use of these items, then it is better for food safety, environment and consumption of nutritious food.

#### Gunhild Stordalen (AT2)

- We are all about shifting to sustainable consumption, but it also has to be healthy. Nutrition for all.
- We are recognizing food has a huge impact on the environment and we are running on deficits.
- Sustainable or do no harm agriculture is not good enough. Failing to recognize that we are way beyond boundaries.
- We eat what we grow - unless we break the trendlines of only eating a few sources grains and cheap industrial meat, then we can't meet sustainable meal patterns. This also goes for overly processed foods.
  - Shifting to sustainable diets is not possible without shifting how we make the food.

#### Jaou Campari (AT4)

- We are all working across ATs toward a sustainable future.
  - Create resilience and meet fundamental human rights. This is how we are all connected.
- This is only possible through nature positive practices
- Nature positive means people-positive and we need solutions that deliver both.
- The work of ATs is fundamental, especially agroecology.
  - It delivers social and environmental outcomes. It ensures dignified livelihoods as much as it ensures nature positive outcomes.
- Agroecology needs to be aligned with the UNCCC agenda, UNCBD, UNCC, etc.
- Need to work hand in hand with CFS - and leverage the great work and resources they have

#### Sandrine Dixon-Decleve (AT5)

- Nature is the underbelly of resilience, and we are the resilience action track.
- We need to put in place a systems approach and take down all the silos.
  - Climate change hits us all.
- Need to look at fragile zones (ie Blue Food)
- Need to look at agroecology but also forestry (use of the land)
- Need to include more integrated approaches

#### Question + Answer (Chat)

How are we really getting buy in? How are member states getting involved? How are inter-governmental agencies getting involved with proposition development?

Lawrence Haddad

- It is an open door, everyone invited to join the fun.
- Agencies - everyone is welcome.
- Member states - paying particular attention to Member States - if they are not engaged we have failed. This Summit is for the Member States. Updated every week, must have one-on-ones with the AT leaders. Priorities are shared, outcome expectations explained, which game changers are priority and which do they want to work on with the AT leaders.

Gunhild Stordalen

- The action areas are wide open and Member States are contributing where they would like to.
- We are lucky to have Member States co-leading action areas.
- We have been hosting policy boot camps to help Member States develop\_\_\_\_\_
  - Without Member States we are not getting anywhere.

Sandrine Dixon Declève

- Member State participation - more than half of our solutions are coming from Member States. In the second wave we received 40+ solutions from Member States.
- We need to remain open to all stakeholders. Need to work with Member States to break down the silos within their own countries.

Rattan Lal

- Agroecology - big confusion, but it is a science

What are entry points for those on the call today

Joao Campari

- 15 action areas - leads and co-leads for each.
- 16% of game changers submitted by Member States
- Having bilateral conversations, dedicated conversations with 24 Member States that have promised to support our AT.
- There are lots of Member States from the North. We do need to increase the participation of the global south, especially low and middle-income countries. They may not have capacity to participate.

Chris Buss

- Nature based solutions
- High level champions team and work with Marakesh Partnership
  - Race to zero, race to resilience - mitigation and adaptation
  - Protect, restore, produce
    - How can we accelerate action in these areas?
- Protect - fact dialogue (forest and commodity supply chains), working to sign up actors to accelerate drive to net zero, finance alliances
- Restore- regenerative agriculture, strong focus on Africa (due to COP27) -driving land restoration, working on forest and farm interface
- Produce- large program around regenerative agriculture (tied to restore efforts), looking at agriculture yields, carbon markets, underpinned by the nature positive agenda, and strong farmer engagement



David Cooper, CBD COP

- When we look at the future of biodiversity and the changes that are need to reach 2050 vision, nothing is more important than the way we manage food and agriculture
- The biggest drivers related to biodiversity loss is due to food and agriculture production
  - Need to reduce these drivers to protect biodiversity
- Need to look further in the food system - meat production and food waste
- Can't just look at biodiversity as a victim, it can be part of the solution
  - Must make a better use of biodiversity - we can contribute to sustainability, and reduce the need for expanding agriculture
    - Invest in soil diversity and soil health
    - Restore pollinators - produce lots of calories, but not enough nutrients

Sasha Alexander

Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and Food Systems

Land Degradation Neutrality - For Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security

Linking LDN and Food Systems

- Estimated 98% of our food calories are derived from land and soil
- The UNCCD and partners established target setting and implementation mechanisms and are actively building capacity to achieve this LDN target
- To date, over 125 countries have engaged in land and soil assessments, identifying hotspots and priority action areas to avoid, reduce and reverse degradation
- Land degradation directly undermines our ability to deliver food and nutritional security
  - By 2050 crop yields estimated to decrease by 10% globally due to land degradation and climate change
  - Land degradation is projected to fuel an estimated 30% increase in world food prices over the next 25 years
- The FSS offers a timely opportunity for countries pursuing LDN response actions to align with the Summits game-changing solutions, new business models and innovative partnerships

Tom Grasso, Ocean Summit

- EDF has been involved in the development of ideas in AT3 related to blue food
- SDGs of highest concern:
  - SDG 1: No poverty
  - SDG 20: Hunger
  - SDG 5 : Gender inequality
  - SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth - small scale fisheries
  - SDG 12: Responsible consumption - 10% of the world's population susceptible to malnutrition
  - SDG 13: Climate change - reforming fisheries can help feed the world, reducing climate impact (blue carbon)

What is meant by invisible blue foods? Integration of blue foods in policy?



- The Earth is known as the blue planet.
- Need to make it more visible, UNFSS is a good place for this.
  - Game changer - blue foods can help solve food security across all ATs.

Sandrine Dixon-Decleve:

- Not only do we need to ensure cross fertilization in terms of how we interact with governments, hold governments accountable to pledges, but also bring in cross fertilization (bring down silos) and cross-reference.
- Blue food - interaction between oceans and the land is important.

Question: How is the Summit engaging farmers?

- Tom Grasso - Interactive website - small scale fishery hub is an opportunity for fisheries to learn about solutions for their work. The Summit needs to small scale fisheries guidelines language.
- Chris Buss -Partnerships of non-state actors. Farmers are critical for the strategy. We had a campaign around Africa. Accountability and opportunity critical. Nature positive farming and action.
- Rettan Lal - Ideally UNFSS must come up with solutions for the dignity of farming production. There must be improvement in this area.
- Joao Campari - Blue food cuts across ATs. In the works of creating an event specifically for farmers and fishers public forum.
- Tom Grasso: EDF hosting a dialogue with fishers and farmers

Joao Campari, Closing Remarks -

- 15 action areas finalized consultation last week. This is brand new and now working assigning co-leads for them and creating the working groups. This should be published on the Summit website soon (maybe this week) on the UNFSS website.
- Transformation of the UNFSS is not easy. We need to push each other. We have 9 harvest ahead of the change.