

## Action Track 1 Ensure Access to Safe and Nutritious Food for All

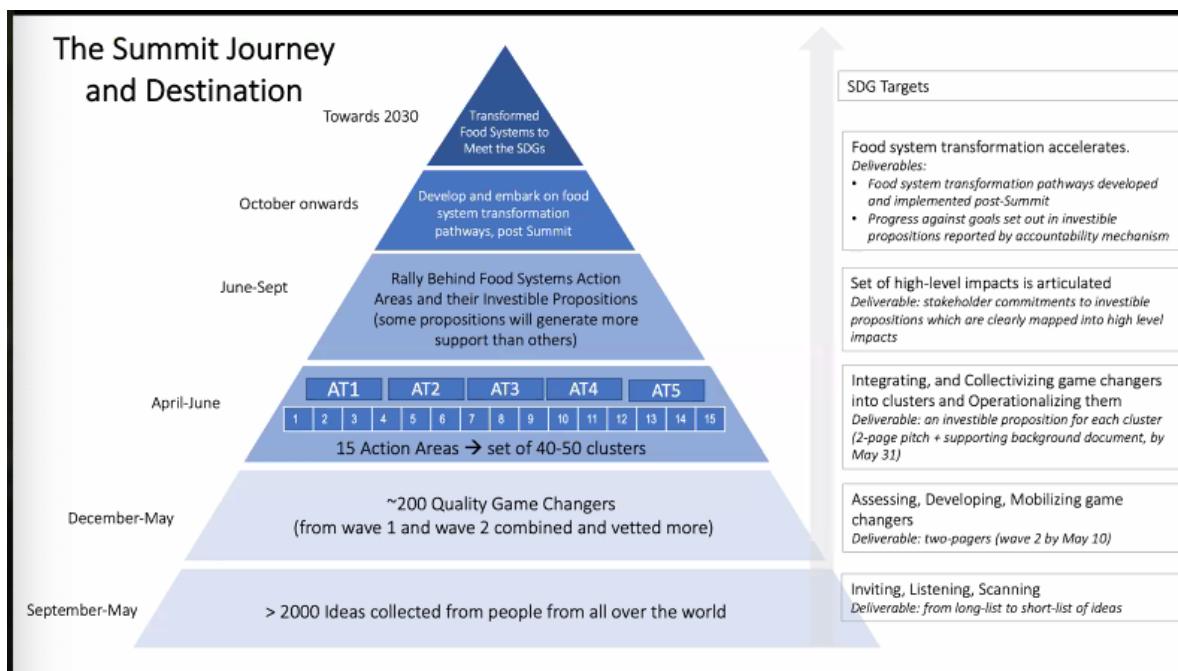
### Public Forum | May 4, 2021, 8:00 -10:00 AM EST

Facebook Live Link: <https://www.facebook.com/UNFoodSystems/videos/1182439755546989>

Ndid Nwuneli - Moderator, Opening Remarks

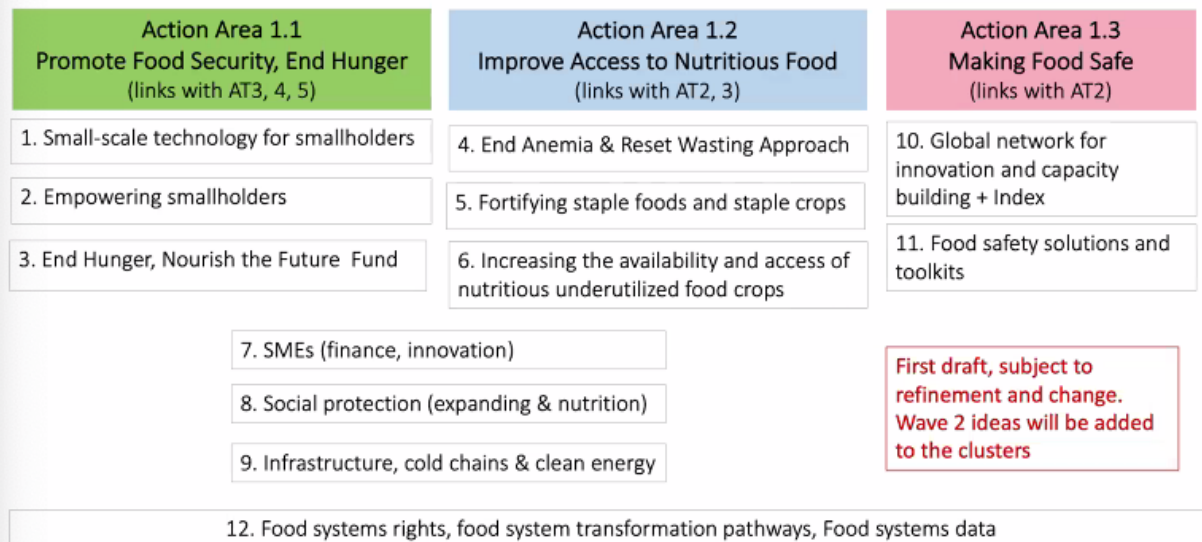
- AT1 team members will share current thinking of game changing ideas and actions completed to date.
- Summary report will be available in a couple of weeks and will include answers to any questions asked in the chat box.

Lawrence Haddad - Overview of AT1 Action to Date



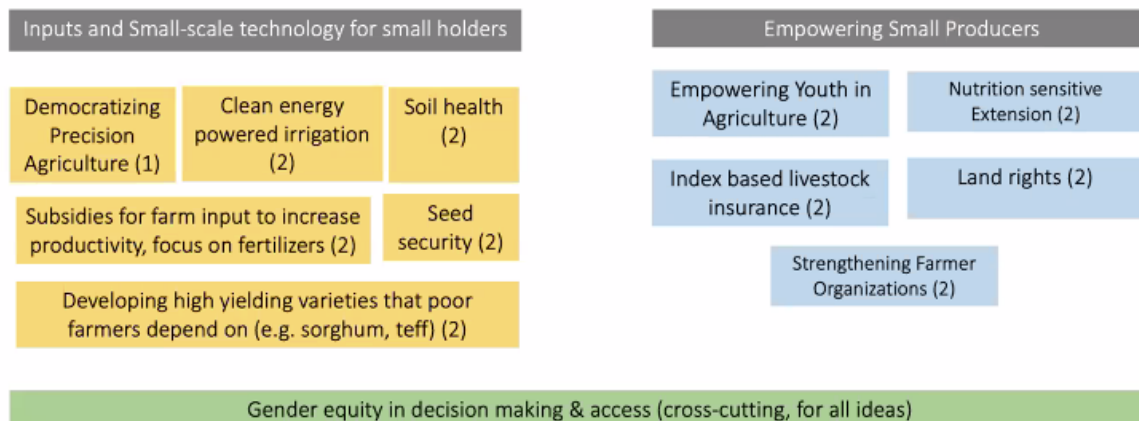
- Our job is to make game changing ideas operational
- Each action track is charged with 3 action areas
  - 3 solution clusters per action area
- This is a complicated process -multi outcomes, multi-action tracks, and many people coming together to create these outcomes
- April - June: Preparing 12 solution clusters for July meeting
  - Most of the hard work begins after the Summit

## Action Areas 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3: Draft Clusters



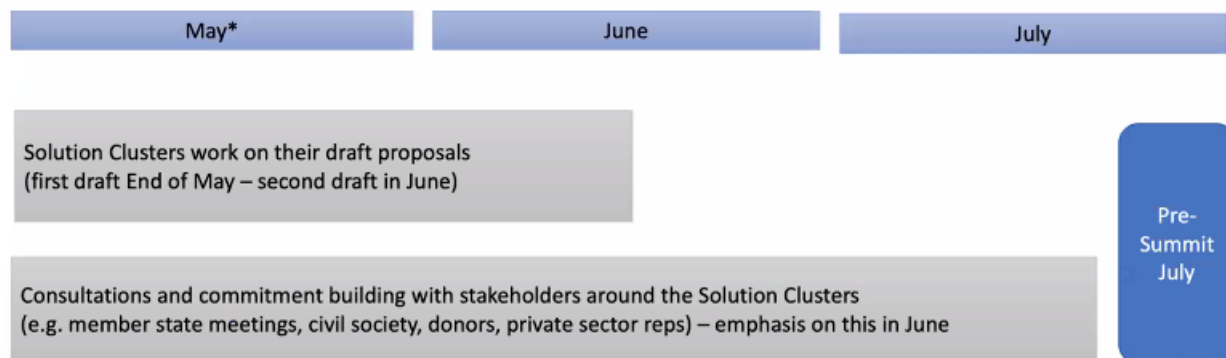
- This is an emerging set of clusters (solution clusters) - constantly changing

### Example of bringing game-changers together into clusters for AA 1.1 (wave 1 or 2 in parentheses)



- Number in parenthesis signifies the wave (1 or 2). We received more game changers in wave 2.

## Simple Timeline for Solution Clusters



\*Wave 2 finalised by 10 May, no wave 3.

- 2 pagers (summary/pitch document) and 10 pagers behind each solution cluster being drafted and will be the building block for the presentations/discussions at the July pre-Summit Meeting

Daniela Godoy Gabler - Chile

Game Changing Solution Proposal: Healthy Food Card

Background

- Obesity has tripled since 1975, one of the biggest problems is hunger and malnutrition worldwide
- Most people don't eat enough fruits and vegetables
- COVID-19 has posed new challenges and has increased the number of people with food insecurity

Evidence and Justification

- Healthy diets cost 60% more than diets that meet only essential nutrient requirements
- Subsidies on healthier food can significantly increase the purchase and consumption of these products
- Subsidies on fruit and vegetable directed toward low socioeconomic status households may change eating behavior and reduce weight

Proposal: Healthy Food Card Subsidy to promote purchase and consumption of fruits and vegetables

- Increase purchasing and consumption of fruits and vegetables in vulnerable households
  - Improve diet quality for vulnerable households

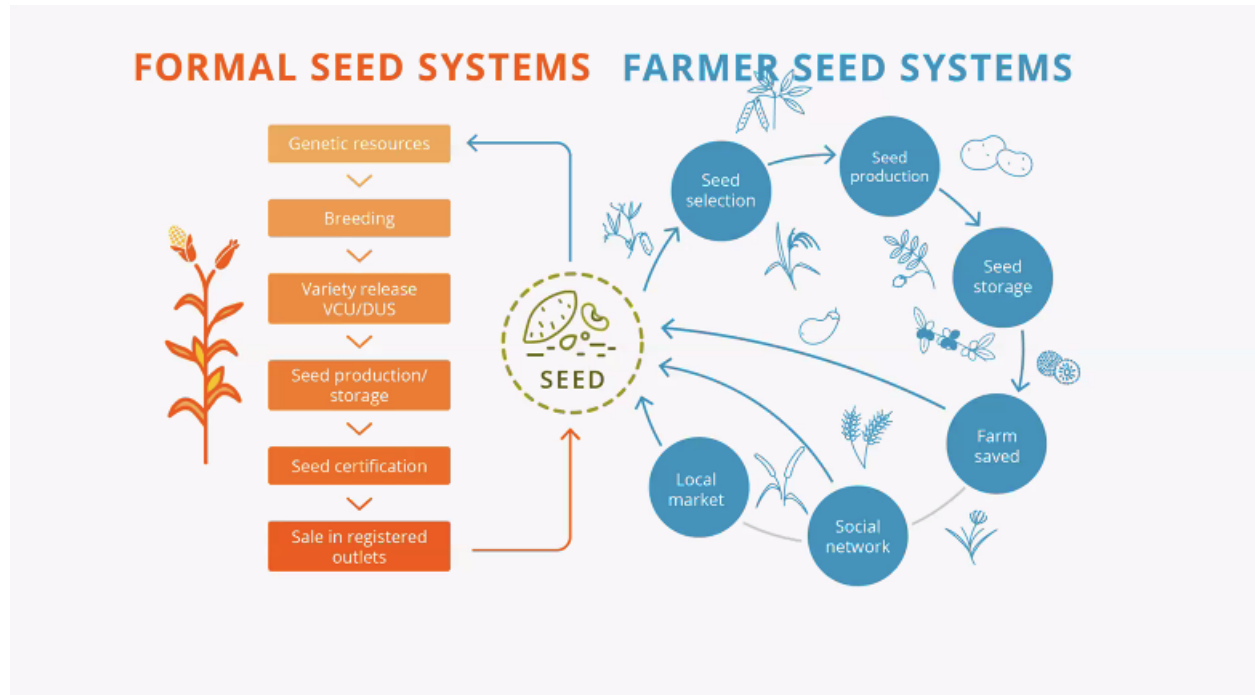
How it would work:

- Electronic card or application with which they can buy fruits and vegetables from street markets and other vendors

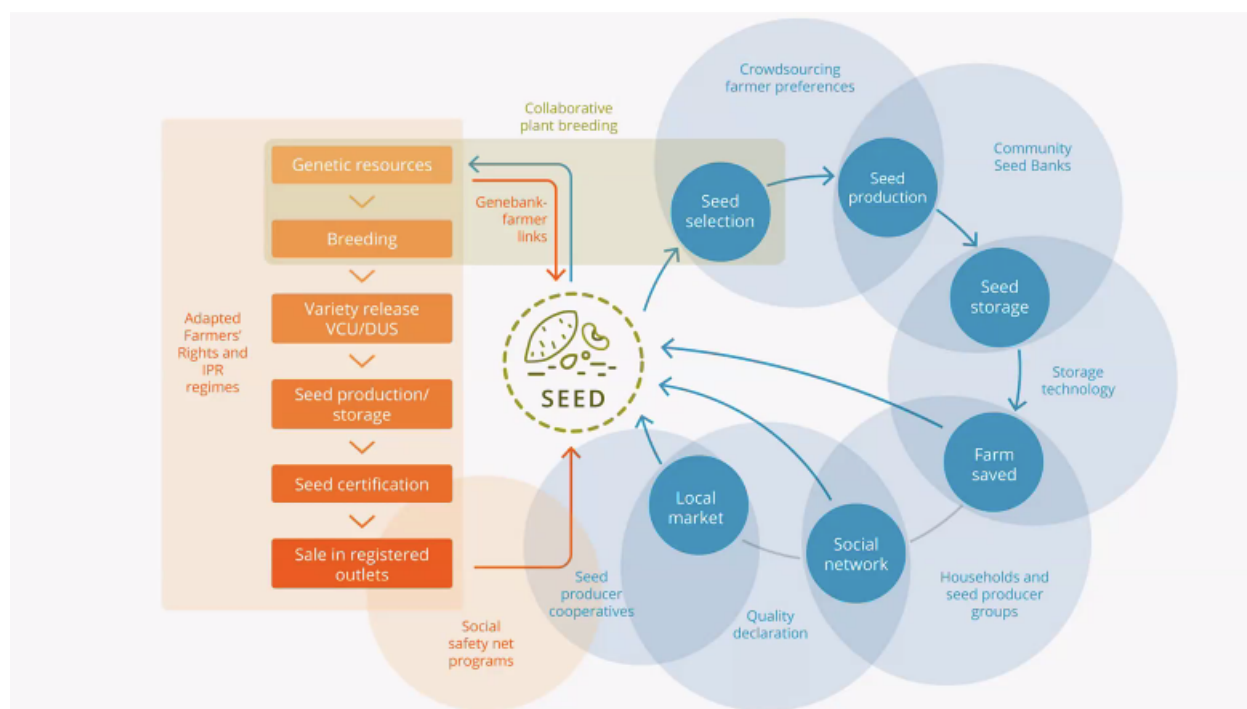
- Food education that raises awareness of the benefits of these foods and the importance of their consumption
- People eligible: households with high levels of food insecurity or malnutrition (low income, rural, female-headed households with children)

Ola Westengen

Seed Security for Smallholder Farmers - a game changer from Norway



- Linear process is supported by many governments worldwide
- In developing countries we see the system depicted in blue



- Seeds are vital for food security and deserve more attention

Farmers first in seed policy and practice

- Seed security exists when men and women within the household have sufficient access to quantities of available good quality seed and planting materials of preferred crop varieties at all times in both good and bad cropping seasons (FAO, 2016)

A coalition for seed security

- Member states, UN Organizations, Other international organizations, Farmer organizations, NGOs, Private Sector, Academia, and many more
- International Treaty on Plant Genetic resources for Food and Agriculture

### Question + Answer

- Question: Healthy Food Card: How would you handle the supply side of your game changing idea?
  - Answer: Main focus is on addressing small markets
- Question: Healthy Food Card: How can you control the use of the card? (ie avoiding purchases of alcohol and tobacco)
  - Answer: We have a policy in Chile for students that allows them to get subsidies on certain purchases in our country. This card technology is already set up in our country and therefore we can apply it to our game-changing idea.
- Question: Can we have more information on the business model related to the seed game changing ideas?
  - Answer: The key idea in our proposal is that all ideas (including our idea) should be evidence based.

Natalia Winder-Rossi

## Nutrition Sensitive Social Protection- Game changer towards healthier diets for all

### What is the challenge?

- 3 Billion people cannot afford a healthy diet
- Affordability and access are limited
  - Lack of information

### Why social protection?

- Well designed social protection can have positive impacts on:
  - Food and nutrition security
  - Socio-economic drivers of various forms of malnutrition
- Current scale of national cash transfer programmes across regions
- Commitment to enhance these programs to achieve food security and nutrition outcomes in champion countries (Peru, Dominican Republic, Kenya, Ethiopia, Pakistan, etc.)

### What is this game changer?

- Enhance the impact of cash transfers on Food Security and Nutrition:
  - Build on existing national systems and new programs
  - Reaching nutritionally vulnerable groups
  - Different cash-based mechanisms depending on context and adjust transfer size to make sure it covers the cost of healthy diets
  - Effective linkages with food supplements and key services in other systems
  - Leverage digital innovation for delivery in support of healthy diets and communications
  - Financing options to ensure scale and adequacy
- And, accompanying measures in the food environment

### National governments can...

- Commit to prioritize nutrition sensitive social protection in legislation and budgets
- Expand and scale up social protection, focusing on malnutrition of vulnerable groups
- Provide leadership and ensure a multisectoral approach and coordination for nutrition sensitive social protection
- Facilitate the participation of private sector and civil society
- Facilitate multi-country learning agendas on the best operational and financing practices for nutrition sensitive social protection programs at scale

## The Problem

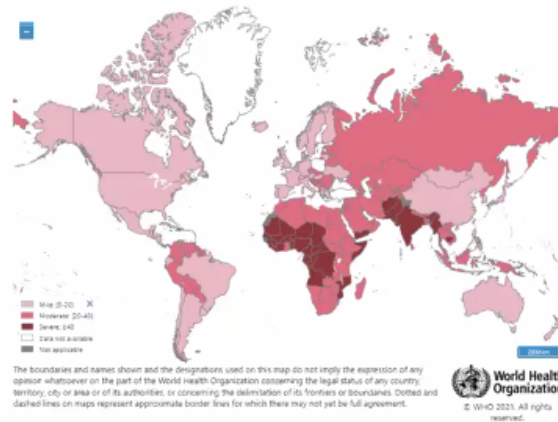
- Almost 40% of young children and 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of all women globally suffer from anemia
- Anemia reveals many underlying limitations in health, environment, and diets
- There are risks of immediate and lifelong consequences for health and survival because of anemia or its causes
- Anemia impairs health and economic productivity of women, and consequently also of the next generation
- Coordinated action on anemia is an equity issue and has women empowerment at its core: women bear the greater burden and have the biggest potential to benefit.



WHO: <https://www.who.int/data/stories/anemia-in-women-and-children>

A 50% reduction of anemia in women by 2025 is the only SDG target related to micronutrient nutrition and women nutrition.

Yet, since 2000 the reduction of anemia in women has been stagnant (WHO, 2021).



## Why haven't we made progress?

## We need an integrated approach.

- New evidence illustrates the need for a radical change in how we measure anemia to improve targeting and progress tracking.
- In addition, a complex, multi-causal health issue requires a coordinated, multi-sectoral food-health-environment response
- To date, evidence and actions to address anemia have been generated and advanced in silos, hampering progress
- Many country programs operate in silos, making it difficult to hold anyone accountable for the current lack of progress
- Accelerated progress is possible if we break the silos and integrate food and health system actions responsive to specific contextual needs

- We need food system action, but alone will not be sufficient
  - Need to support health and environmental action



# Alliance for Anemia Actions

The solution: The Alliance will act to address anemia in a way that leverages the knowledge, tools, and capacities of multiple sectors.



Forms a cross-sector alliance



Focuses on the right populations



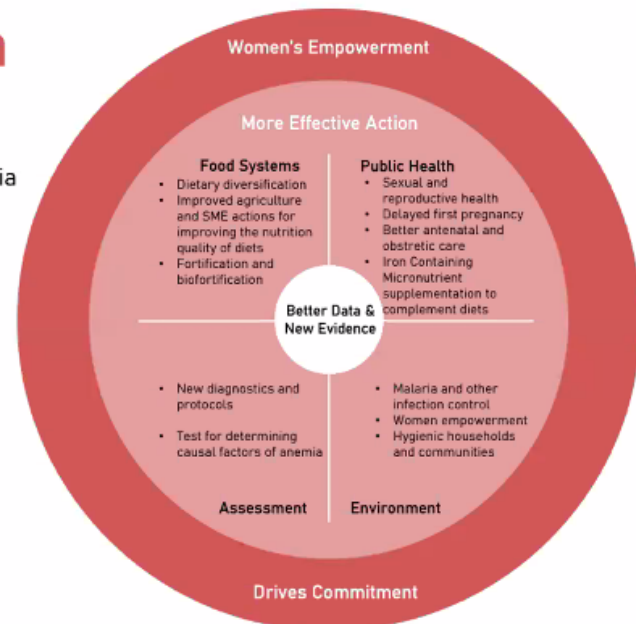
Brings together the right set of interventions



Demonstrates success that fosters further progress



Blends public (government, foundations), and private (food and malaria control) financing



- These actions must happen simultaneously
- Coordinate response across sectors, that are actionable - this alliance me country led, globally funded
- Convene multi-stakeholder consultation to gather information, develop action plan, develop global investment strategy, seek commitments from countries

## Question + Answer

- Question: Nutrition sensitive social protection solutions are also on the radar of AT 4 and AT 5 - they could be looked at from a livelihood perspective. Are you planning to join these clusters into one social protection cluster?
  - Answer: Natalia Winder-Rossi - Social protection is being recognized across action tracks. Maybe don't need to bring all these ideas together, but rather provide optionality to governments. Umbrella of impact and government priorities.
- Question: Does nutrition sensitive protection address anemia?
  - Answer: Natalie Winder-Rossi - Social protection is a key linkage to other services and ideas. See social protection as a system and a linkage to different programs.
- Question: What are the plans for helping people around the world to understand sources of food for iron and why the nutrient matters?
  - Answer: Saskia Osendarp - This is a problem that requires cross-sector action. It is important now especially to recognize the availability of has decreased, especially during the pandemic. This requires education which comes from the health system - this is why we are proposing an integrated approach.



Jamie Morrison, FAO - Director and Strategic Program Leader of the Food and Agriculture Organizations Food Systems Program

- Will explore the importance of national dialogues in a brief panel discussion.
  - Daniela Alfaro - Uruguay
  - Ferew Lemma, Ethiopia
- Why do you think the national food system dialogues are of value to Ethiopia?
  - Ferew Lemma:
    - High rates of malnutrition in Ethiopia
    - Adverse effects because of climate change (ie flooding)
    - Imperative for us to consider ways to make sure people are receiving healthy diets but also ensuring positive environmental impact
  - Daniela Alfaro:
    - Preparing a sub-dialogue
    - Culturally we have worked with the producers and work with the challenges they face and provide them with technology they need
    - We have not worked well on the demand side - so we are now joining forces with the demand side - from the point of the food and diets
      - Example: Ministry of Public Health -prepares food and dietary guidelines (Police of food). Lack guidance on concepts and roles.

#### Question + Answer

- What is entailed when a country makes commitments to the Summit within their dialogues?
  - Answer: Jamie Morrison - The Summit guidance is helping form pathways for the nations involved - we hope the pathways for various nations eventually form commitments. They are not a binding commitment but they do provide a solid basis for taking us forward with food transformation. Because they have been developed in a participatory way - the stakeholders involved will be active in taking the commitments forward.
- How can we mitigate political resistance in relation to social protection?
  - Answer: Natali Winder-Rossi - Debunk the myths - it is not a handout, and show how other countries are effectively using it within their nutrition programs and while supporting food security.
- How will the important role of fish be integrated into this action track?
  - Answer: Lawrence Haddad - Each of the action tracks are very integrated (they are not siloed). Just because you don't see aquatic foods outlined here, does not mean we are not working on game changing solutions related to aquatic foods.
- SMEs and food systems are critical - yet they are rarely involved in shaping future food systems. How have they been involved in the dialogues? What is the progress on this?
  - Answer: Daniela Alfaro - *No translation*
  - Answer: Ferew Lemma - Not easy to get SMEs engaged. Working to engage small and medium sized enterprises.

Taylor Quinn, Social Entrepreneur

Act4Food, Act4Change - A Youth-Led Campaign

- WHO-Leaders for the Pledge - The pledge is led by youth members of the FSS Action Tracks
  - Presence across the globe

## WHAT– Act4Food Act4Change



The Pledge Act4Food is a youth-led promise galvanising action to defeat hunger, improve health and heal the planet.

The 'Act4Change' are the means by which we the young people can make change happen at a national and community level.

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## WHY & WHAT – The Pledge (Text)

We know our current food systems contribute to ongoing health, climate, and biodiversity crises, and violation of human rights. We will only be able to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals with a fundamental transformation of our food systems.

While we as young people have been excluded from most political and economic decision-making processes, we are also the ones who will live the longest with the consequences of decisions made today.

We pledge to act. And we demand urgent large-scale action from others, especially from decision-makers in government and business.

As youth we **#Act4Food #Act4Change** to support **#GoodFood4All**



## WHAT are the Actions 4 Change?

ACT4FOOD  
ACT4CHANGE

1. A list of actions that youth want businesses and policy makers to make to create the food system of the future
2. Actions are universally relevant and can be applied globally, nationally and locally
3. Actions aim to align with the UNFSS Action Tracks' game-changing solutions
4. Actions will cover every issue in the food system.
5. Actions are supported by tools and resources, providing youth with the skills needed to take action in their own community



## What YOU can do – Our asks

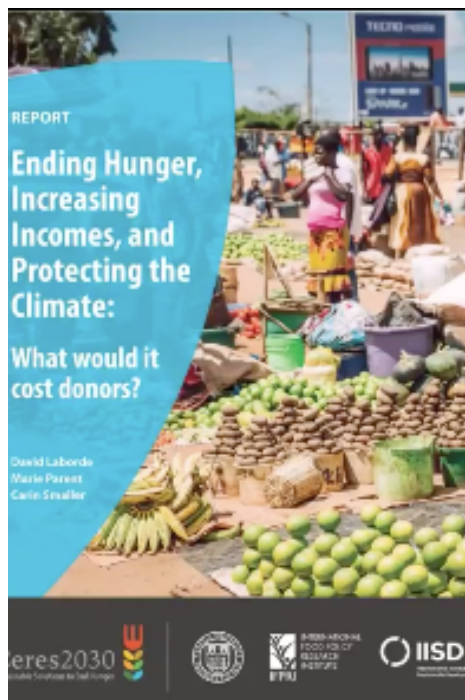


Together, the 'Actions for Change' and unified voice of young people taking the pledge will **encourage bold actions by governments, businesses and communities** to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

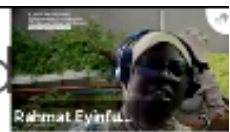
Our ask:

1. **Showcase the movement around pledge at the summit plenary session and present the 1M signatures at the summit**
2. **Help us promote the Actions 4 Change**
3. **Recognise and promote our campaign as the youth engagement for the UNFSS and beyond**

Rahmat Eyinfunjowo  
Coalition for Youth in African Agriculture  
What does the data say?



## What does the data say?



Donors must double their investments between now and 2030 to help end hunger, double smallholder farmer incomes, and protect the climate.

Agricultural interventions are more effective with a population that enjoys at least a minimum level of income, education and access to networks and resources.

It is more effective to create integrated portfolios of interventions rather than seek improvements in isolation from one another

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<https://eres2030.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/eres2030-what-would-it-cost.pdf>  
<https://eres2030.org/en/about-us/who-we-are/who-we-are-and-what-we-do>



## The Unique Youth Opportunity

Africa has a population with over 60% below the age of 25. By 2030, the number of youth in Africa is projected to increase by 42%

80% of Africa's food consumption is marketed and handled mostly through private operations, driven mainly by the youth

Youth-led and youth-focused initiatives emerging across Africa empower youth and connect them to support services in the agri-food ecosystem

Through their power of convention, youth associations engage and connect with rural and urban youth at all levels and in ways that other organizations cannot

**Youth organizations are fragmented, work in silos with no connection to each other, and are unable to achieve impact at scale**

<https://aara.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/AASE2019-The-Hidden-ValueWeb.pdf>

## Strategic Aim

**How can we harness the unique youth opportunities for bigger results and sustainable impact?**







## Game-changing solution

### A Coalition for Youth in African Agriculture

- **Fostering coordination:** The coalition will attract, convene and equip youth-led and youth-serving networks, associations, and organizations.
- **No youth is left behind:** The Coalition will engage youth at all levels and in all youth categories: **rural youth** – **young people in academic/vocational training** – **young professionals** – **SMEs**.
- **Integrated portfolios of interventions:** The Coalition will act as a conduit through which stakeholders including investors can advance an ecosystem of integrated support to youth interventions across multiple areas.

## Expected Outcomes for the agriculture sector

Increased investment

Emergence of a sustainable talent pipeline and workforce

Increased innovation and adoption of technology

Increased production and flow of (nutritious) foods to low-income populations

Resilient livelihoods



## Question + Answer

- What is youth perception of how human rights is a relevant concern in food systems?
  - Answer: Taylor Quinn - when we look at a food system we examine the impact of environment, economy, human health. Looking closely at human right to nutritious food and right to environment and a healthy planet.
- During pandemic, the youth have been very active in responding. How do you think these efforts from youths can be leveraged for food systems transformation?
  - Answer Taylor Quinn- It is important for us to look at game changing solutions for the future, but it is also important to recognize solutions that are happening right now, especially with the pandemic. Young people are taking matters into their own hands at the local, national and global level. Look at current examples as bright spots for future change.
- How do governments link with youths and work collaboratively?
  - Answer: Rahmat Eyinfunjowo - Reaching out to youth groups and initiatives. Leveraging platforms that already exist. Beauty of the platform is it brings people together.

Adrian De Groot Ruiz

True Cost and True Price of Food

Need to Redefine Value of Food

- A common goal is to realize healthy and sustainable food for all
- To transition to a system that provides this, it is key to reduce the environmental, social & health costs of food while making sure it becomes affordable to all
- A major blocker to such a transition is the way food is valued:
  - Currently food is valued through market prices, which do not include external costs & benefits
  - Hence, by valuing food through current market prices, we ignore the impact on climate change, biodiversity loss or health

Root Cause: Externalisation of Costs and Benefits

- Market prices do not take benefits of affordable or healthy food into account
- Market prices do not take costs into account of unhealthy or unsustainable food
- Business' profits do not reflect the value they create or reduce for society
- GDP contribution of food system does not reflect its contribution to welfare

As a result:

- Sustainable and healthy food is too expensive
- Unsustainable and unhealthy food is too cheap

Potential Game Changer: True Cost Accounting | Make True Costs Visible

- Integrate information about true costs and benefits in: food systems, states, businesses, investors, consumers

Potential Game Changer: True Pricing | Internalize True Costs

- True pricing is the inclusion of externalities in prices, making:
  - Sustainable and healthy food cheaper
  - Unsustainable and unhealthy food more expensive
- Optimal ('first best') true pricing mechanism include:



- Taxation proportional to external costs
- Subsidize food with external benefits and/or increase income optimally via redistribution
- Simpler ('second best') true pricing policies also exist:
  - Stimulate transparency about true prices by businesses
  - Make relative healthy and sustainable food - 10% cheaper
  - Finance this with a carbon tax on GHG-emissions by businesses
- True costs are a major barrier in realizing standard food systems

#### Joao Campari - Commentary on Discussion

- 1920 was the first time that true cost of food was discussed
- Need urgent action on climate emergency and action to fix our food system
- Need to act in the next 9 years to reach SDGs
- Must capture true value of food - including all costs associated with food along the food chain and price accordingly
- What is our food system doing to the health of the population?
- Hidden costs of the food system are immense
- True cost of food needs to incorporate cost of time - can't delay actions any longer
  - Rarely taken into account of our analysis

#### Question + Answer

- How can these two costs influence government decisions and private investment?
  - Answer: Adrian De Groot Ruiz- Governments can incorporate this into policy (subsidize the "right" foods), include it in public procurement, and set standards for the market. Investors can look at maximizing their profits and maximizing contributions to society.

Hilal Elver

How to make violations of the Right to Food harder to ignore?

## Why the right to food must be a cross cutting issue in FSS agenda



- Right to food **frames every aspects of FSS**
  - “Availability, Accessibility, Adequacy and Sustainability” are the core components of food system
- Human rights consist of **universal, legally accepted, concrete norms and principles**
- Right to food is a **fundamental right**, but frequently **ignored & violated**



## Why do we need a human rights-based approach to food security?



- It gives people the essential legal basis for **challenging corruption, gross negligence, and wrongdoing.**



## GC Proposal:

### How to prevent violations of the RTF?

States, institutionalize, finance, implement, enforce and **monitor** RTF

#### – International level

- **Empower the Committee of Food Security (CFS)**
  - It is the foremost inclusive, multi-stakeholder, innovative, unique intergovernmental platform to monitor RTF.
  - The voluntary guidelines of CFS monitors the progressive realization of the RTF.

#### – National level

- Establish a **Special Rapporteur for right to food or other mechanisms** to monitor RTF violations



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## “Targeted monitoring” with SDG indicators

- It will assess the effectiveness of RTF implementation and exposes right violations.
- It complements with all AT proposals and monitors many of the existing solutions
- By focusing on a limited number of indicator can provide key structural issues that need to be addressed



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# How to make businesses respect to human rights?

THREE PILLARS of the UN GUIDING PRINCIPLES



## Many rights are vital for Food Systems: the Dashboard may grow



#### Christine Campau, Response to Discussion

- One challenge as a leader of this Action Track is finding a way to streamline human rights into the ideas we have received
- We have received an overwhelming amount of solutions
  - Some touch on human rights
- Looking for ways of strengthening human rights for solutions we are putting forward
- Need to look beyond right to food (ie education)
- AT 4 has pulled together human rights experts to provide guidance in our approach

#### Question + Answer

- How can we empower citizens to push for food as a human right?
  - Answer: Hilal Elver - Decision making process needs to be more transparent, then we can empower ourselves and ask about violations and remedies. We need a democratic system in order to ensure the right to food.

#### Lawrence Haddad, Closing Remarks

- A comment of significance - "rights gives a formal recourse mechanism" - this is very important
  - Can there be some sort of whistle blower mechanism for rights violations in food systems? I don't know if this is desirable, feasible or possible
    - This is the ambition we want to see
- Impressed by country Member States participation
  - This is where it all comes to life - when government representation voices what should be happening
- Things are really coming together for the Action Track
  - The hardest three months are yet to come - must make solutions tough, context specific, have to get ownership from all stakeholders - if we do this, then we have done something special