

Food Systems Dialogues In Yemen

14 June 2022

By: Karima Al-Hada'a



SUN-YEMEN

#SummitDialogues



@foodsystems



Food Systems Pathways Republic of Yemen

Culmination of the **government's commitment** to the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit.

A result of a combination of research, strategies and policies **review** and the **outputs of the national dialogues** for the United Nations Food Systems Summit in Yemen held during 2021 and 2022.

The national dialogues focused on the most **vital sectors** of agriculture, fisheries, industry, education, social protection, water, environment, health and finance.

More focus on the **Game-Changers** that target a wide scope of the most **vulnerable communities**.

Food Systems Pathways: Focus

- Rehabilitating/building **national systems**, by strengthening infrastructure, information, communication, coordination and learning;
- Eradicating **hunger** in Yemen;
- Raising the **demand for healthy and nutritious food**, and changing behavior and practices that promote healthy diet;
- Promoting **access to nutritious and healthy food**, especially for the most vulnerable groups such as women (mothers and adolescents), children and the elderly;
- Promoting **food safety**, along the value chains of food systems (from seed to fork);
- Increasing the **agricultural and fisheries investments**: focus on improving the accessibility and availability and reducing food insecurity;
- **Empowering the most vulnerable** (women and children): demonstrating the long-term impact of improving women's and children's health, education, and participation in the economy and society;
- The **resilience of food systems** in the face of crises;
- Promoting effective integration and coordination through **Strategic Development Partnerships** between government, local communities and international partners;
- Sustainable **funding mechanisms** from local and innovative resources.

Health Sector

- Expanding the scope of **nutrition interventions** in the health sector to include all vulnerable groups;
- Strengthening nutrition **interventions in hospitals**;
- Building the **capacity of the health staff** to link nutrition with therapeutic protocols;
- Strengthening **food safety** interventions, controlling children's food; and
- Promoting **environment health** interventions.

Fisheries Sector

- A **promising sector** that can be relied upon to contribute to the revival of the national economy, enhancing food security and raising the level of nutrition in Yemen.
- The government is seeking to implement a **package of priorities to increase local production** and **ensure sustainable livelihoods** for fishermen and **coastal communities** that enable them to recover and be more resilient to resist future economic shocks.

Social Protection Sector

- It pursues policies aimed at integrating a range of **nutrition-sensitive programs**: enhancing healthy **diet practices**;
- Review **social protection mechanisms**;
- To expand the scope of **nutrition in schools** by expanding the provision of school meals in addition to distributing biscuits to students and providing nutritional supplements for adolescent girls.
- To rehabilitate **health facilities in schools**, providing safe water and a healthy environment to limit the spread of diseases.

Agricultural Sector

- Increase **agricultural growth** rates to achieve food and nutritional security;
- **Combat poverty** through increasing the **local production** of food commodities for consumption and marketing;
- **Ensure sustainable livelihoods** for **farmers and rural communities** with a focus on **women**;
- Improve and diversify **sources of nutrition**, increase dependency on **natural micronutrients**, access to food, and improve the relationship between consumers and food sources;
- Reduce **food waste** and promote **Circular Food Systems** for regenerative production.

Finance Management

Sustainable funding for sustainable development

- Review the **current funding mechanisms** and explore options for improving the **government entities' capacities**;
- Exploring the **local innovative financing** resources;
- Expand/explore **partnerships** with financial instruments and mechanisms.
 - ❖ *Funding and financing green and circular economy solutions*
 - ❖ *Financing for Development*
 - ❖ *Regional initiatives*



United Nations Food Systems Summit

Republic of Yemen

**National Pathways: Transforming Food Systems in
Yemen by 2030**

Yemen National Food Systems Pathways

Priority topic 1: Expanding social protection

- 1.1 - National Working Group on Social Protection Mechanisms and Zero Hunger
- 1.2 - National Working Group on Subsidized Bread
- 1.3 - National Working Group on Domestic Food Industries
- 1.4 - National Working Group on Home Economics (family and consumer Sciences)

Priority topic 2: Expanding the scale and quality of agricultural and fishery products

- 2.1 - National Working Group to achieve food self-sufficiency
- 2.2 - National Working Group to Increase Domestic Agricultural Production
- 2.3 - National Working Group to Support the Agricultural and Fisheries Investment Environment
- 2.4 - National Working Group for Government Support to Fishermen
- 2.5 - National Working Group to Support Aquaculture
- 2.6 - National Working Group for the Protection from Qat's Effects
- 2.7 - National Water and Environment Working Group
- 2.8 - National Working Group on Innovation for Food

Priority Theme 3: Providing lifelong nutrition, health education and awareness raising

3.1 - National School Meals Working Group

3.2 - National Hospital Nutrition Working Group

3.3 - The Higher National Committee for Awareness of Healthy Diet

3.4 - National Working Group on Healthy Diet for Children and All

Priority Theme 4: Ensuring food safety from a multisectoral perspective

4.1 - National Food Safety Regulatory Committee;

4.2 - National Working Group for the Control and Use of Agricultural Pesticides and fertilizers

Priority Theme 5: Building strategic collaboration and partnerships across sectors and multiple stakeholders

5.1 - Food Policies Dialogue Forums (Food Security Secretariat)

Priority Theme 6: Scaling up the National Readiness for Positive Transformations and Responding to Emergencies and Shocks

6.1 Working Group on Building National Capacity to Respond to Emergencies and Shocks

Priority Theme 7: Sustainable financing for comprehensive and sustainable development

7.1 - National Working Group to Ensure Sustainable Financing Mechanisms for Comprehensive Development





Taking The National Pathways Forward

Ambitions

- Operationalize the National Working Groups;
- Develop action plans to realize the strategic objectives of the National Working Groups;
- Embed the outputs into the national and sectoral plans;
- Create linkages with the humanitarian-development-peace nexus;
- Resource mobilization efforts.

Required Support by Donors

- Support the operationalization process of the National Working Groups;
- Align support with the national action plans to realize the strategic objectives of the National Working Groups;
- Support the linkages between the national pathways and the humanitarian-development-peace nexus efforts;
- Support joint initiatives relevant to the national pathways;
- Link the Food Systems Pathways to the **Global Framework For Financing Sustainable Development**;
- Support peer-to-peer learning.

Taking The National Pathways Forward

Opportunities

- The existence of the national pathways;
- The political support at national levels;
- The strong relevance of these pathways to people's needs and aspirations;
- National pathways are part of the global momentum which gives them acceptance among the different stakeholders;
- The global initiatives linked to the food systems pathways...

Challenges

- Competing national pathways for limited resources;
- Ambitious pathways;
- Limited buy-in by stakeholders – requires more sectoral advocacy at the national level.

Thank you 😊