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IAG
International Advisory Group

Recommendations for Developing Commitments on Transition Towards Resilient and Sustainable Food Systems for Nutrition

Background

The urgency of transforming food systems to favour human and planetary health has never been greater. Food systems are not currently optimized to enable sustainable, healthy and nutritious diets for all – i.e., systems that ensure nutrient adequacy without excess, energy balance, diversity and moderation in consumption of unhealthy foods, while protecting and enhancing the environment, protecting consumers' health, respecting consumers' choices and cultures, supporting social equity and promoting the resilience of food systems in the face of climate change and other global challenges. As of 2024, an estimated 2.8 billion people cannot afford a healthy diet and progress to address all forms of malnutrition has stagnated.[1] Poor diets, a common cause of all forms of malnutrition, are shifting throughout the world in ways that are unhealthy for both humans and the planet. Multiple factors determine what people eat, including economic, cultural and individual preferences. Access to nutritious foods is a challenge for many while commercial interests also play a role.

In fragile settings, the situation is exacerbated by a combination of mutually reinforcing drivers, such as conflict, weak governance, political instability, extreme poverty and environmental threats. The proportion of the population that cannot afford the lowest cost nutrient-adequate diet can be as high as 60-80% in fragile settings, and the affordability gap (i.e., the gap between the lowest cost and what households are able to spend on food), can be very large (>50%), especially among the poorest households.[2]

At the same time, food systems profoundly affect and are affected by climate change, biodiversity loss and more broadly, environmental degradation. Food systems account for one-third of global greenhouse

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1 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations Children's Fund, Word Food Programme and World Health Organization, *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2024 – Financing to end hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms*, FAO, Rome, 2024, <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd1254en>.

2 World Food Programme, *Food Systems in Fragile Settings: Identifying gaps and opportunities to support access to improved diets - Fill the Nutrient Gap*, WFP, Rome, 2020, <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000118080/download/?_ga=2.170353056.1242015096.1678951933-633098164.1591685439>.

gas emissions[3] and 70% of global freshwater withdrawals;[4] they are the single greatest cause of terrestrial biodiversity loss.[5] These systems are highly vulnerable to climate-related disruptions, with extreme weather events such as droughts, floods and heatwaves threatening food and nutrition security through reduced crop yields, higher food prices, reduced purchasing power and fluctuating supplies, particularly for communities in vulnerable situations.[6] Additionally, climate change could also negatively impact the availability of key nutrients; for example, rising CO2 levels can reduce the iron, zinc and protein content of staple foods by an estimated 3–17% and modelling suggests that these CO2-driven micronutrient losses could result in an additional 175 million people who are zinc deficient, an additional 122 million people who are protein deficient[7] and 1.4 billion women and children who face increased iron deficiency risk by 2050.[8] Simultaneously, the loss of biodiversity at genetic, species and ecosystem levels significantly affects food systems and livelihoods and their resilience to shocks and stresses, exacerbating the effects of climate change.[9] This complex interplay between climate change, biodiversity loss and food systems underscores the need for integrated solutions that address environmental sustainability, food and nutrition security.

As the world grapples with the realities of unhealthy diets, loss of biodiversity and a changing climate, the call for a transition to resilient and sustainable food systems that support nutrition alongside other social and environmental outcomes has gained momentum. The 2021 Tokyo Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit underscored the interconnectedness of nutrition, agriculture and climate resilience, aligning closely with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 2: Zero Hunger and Goal 13: Climate Action. Recognition of the role of sustainable food systems in enabling healthy diets for better nutrition outcomes was a key commitment area for the Summit. Among the commitments made were the promotion of practices that enhance biodiversity and sustainability in agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, while ensuring equitable access to contextually appropriate safe and nutritious foods for all. The Summit also underlined the potential for adopting innovative approaches, effectively implementing and scaling up existing interventions throughout food systems to change the trajectory on climate and biodiversity risks and human health as well as global social and gender inequalities.

Policy and programmatic approaches must be informed by data and best-available evidence to identify critical points of action across food systems with environmental, health and nutrition benefits. There is some evidence for actions, but also a strong need to act despite imperfect data and evidence, and to build evidence through action. Drawing on the food systems framework developed by the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE),[10] actions must span from food production, through supply chains, markets and food environments, to consumer behaviour, purchasing, preparation, consumption and disposal, including the various enabling factors that can facilitate (or impede) progress. A critical starting point is to understand the foods needed to achieve healthy dietary patterns in specific contexts (i.e., local dietary guidelines), including the moderation of foods that may have negative health effects particularly if consumed in high quantities.

Food accessibility is not optimized to achieve climate resilience, and healthy diets for all. Rather, many food systems pathways developed in the context of the 2021 Food Systems Summit are silent on the role of food systems for enabling healthy diets. This must change. A series of complementary commitments for action are needed, along with efforts to embed nutrition in other processes, including on food systems, climate, biodiversity and other areas, to support and enable this change.

3 Crippa, M., et al., 'Food systems are responsible for a third of global anthropogenic GHG emissions', *Nature Food*. vol. 2, 2021, pps. 198–209.

4 FAOSTAT ANALYTICAL BRIEF 1 The share of agriculture in total greenhouse gas emissions Global, regional and country trends 1990–2017, FAOSTAT analytical Brief, FAO. 2017.

5 United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, *The Global Land Outlook, Second Edition*, UNCCD, Bonn, Germany, 2022.

6 Mbow, C., et al., 'Food security', In: P.R. Shukla, J. et al. (eds.) *Climate Change and Land: an IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems*. pp. 437–550. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Geneva, 2019.

7 Smith, M. and Myers, S., 'Impact of anthropogenic CO2 emissions on global human nutrition', *Nature Climate Change*, vol. *8*, no.9, 2018, pps. 834-839.

8 Smith, M. Golden, C. and Myers, S., 'Potential Rise in Iron Deficiency Due to Future Anthropogenic Carbon Dioxide Emissions', *GeoHealth*, vol. 1, no. 6, 2017, pps. 248–57. **https://doi.org/10.1002/2016GH000018**.

9 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*, FAO, Rome, 2019, <**https://doi.org/10.4060/CA3129EN**>.

10 High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition, *Nutrition and food systems. A report by the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security*, Rome, 2017, <**https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en?details=I7846E**>.

Opportunities for N4G Paris

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The following opportunities draw on the HLPE food systems framework and its core constituent elements with the aim of achieving a multi-stakeholder engagement:

1. **Production: Prioritize safe and nutritious food production through sustainable food systems, setting priorities to enable access to a contextually appropriate and environmentally sustainable healthy dietary pattern (as defined in local food-based dietary guidelines)**
   - Ensure that areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed sustainably.
   - Enable smallholder producers, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), women, youth and other vulnerable communities to be key actors in transforming food systems.
   - Advance research and the wider use of biodiversity for food and nutrition, including neglected and underutilized species.
   - Scale up and strengthen biofortification within plant breeding and production efforts.
   - Incentivize innovative approaches, such as regenerative and sustainable practices to improve soil health and plant nutrition as a foundation for nutrient-dense foods.
   - Support sustainable urban and peri-urban agriculture.
   - Scale up circular economy approaches in food production.
   - Integrate nutrition awareness and behaviour change into agricultural extension activities.
   - Support the production of aquatic foods by reinforcing their importance as micronutrient-rich, low-carbon protein sources in food policies.

2. **Supply chains: Enable access to healthy diets through sustainable food systems**
   - Support appropriate and environmentally sound infrastructure development as needed, such as ports, rural roads, warehouses and packhouses, cold chain, urban planning, wholesale and markets, recognizing that such infrastructure improves food accessibility and diversity which further down impact the access to a diverse diets for individuals and communities. Build efficient post-harvest systems that incorporate proper food storage, processing, packaging, distribution and transportation to reduce food loss.
   - Promote the use of renewable energy across supply chains.
   - Support MSMEs through inclusive rural financing and technical support to improve market access, enabling them to support access to sustainably produced nutritious food.
   - Highlight the nutritional and environmental benefits of healthy foods through nutrition front-of-package labelling, eco-labelling, carbon credits, sustainability certifications, including participatory guarantee systems and traceability.
   - Support short circuits and regional transaction.
   - Facilitate the production of nutritious food (e.g., tariffs for inputs and specialized machinery needed for production of nutritious food, including fortified staple foods and condiments).
   - Support local consumption of food through investment in nutritious food value chains in contrast to exports for national revenues.

3. **Food environments: Enable healthy food environments that make healthy diets through sustainable food systems the easy choice**
   - Adopt market disincentives on unhealthy foods (e.g., taxes, labelling with effective monitoring and enforcement; restrictions on marketing).
   - Enforce responsible and Code/ restriction-compliant marketing by companies, especially when children are targeted.
   - Incentivize the sustainable production of safe and nutritious foods (e.g., subsidies, streamlining regulations, tax benefits).
   - Forster government leadership to understand commercial interests and strengthen related capacities to ensure actions.
   - Prioritize the purchase of safe and nutritious food produced sustainably from smallholder farmers for public procurement programmes, including for school meals, to stimulate changes in production systems and deliver cascading effects on children's nutrition.
   - Strengthen the linkages between supply chains and demand through social protection and school meals.
   - Promote the role of wholesale and retail markets in ensuring access to nutritious food and reducing food waste.
   - Design and effectively implement large-scale fortification programmes where needed.

4. **Consumer behaviours: Ensure consumers are protected, informed, motivated, engaged and enabled on the nutritional and environmental aspects of healthy diets**
   - Facilitate consumer education, extending to remote areas, through behaviour change communication, the promotion of healthy diets through sustainable food systems and the reduction of food waste.
   - Foster gender equality and women's empowerment to enable more influence over the distribution of resources, particularly food, within the household.
   - Strengthen governance and private sector engagement to enhance worker well-being standards through the implementation of workforce nutrition interventions (e.g., breastfeeding support, access to healthy food at work, wellness checks, protection from extreme heat, etc.).

- Update and develop dietary guidelines as a tool to inform priorities, taking food systems considerations into account (i.e., sustainability of production etc.).
- Promote social and behaviour change to shift socially stigmatized perceptions of traditional and local nutritious foods and promote healthy diets.
- Encourage awareness-raising around food and nutrition in school curricula and educational institutions.
- Encourage and enable shifts away from consumption of foods with negative health and environment impacts, in contexts where they are currently high.

5. **Enabling environment and governance: Establish inclusive and effective inclusive and effective multi-level governance mechanisms, policy coherence and integration and data systems for decision-making**
   - Implement policies that support the right to adequate food by favouring sustainable, locally sourced nutritious food and discouraging the consumption of unhealthy foods.
   - Leverage multi-stakeholder platforms/collaboration, engaging governments, civil society, the private sector, communities and other food systems actors to ensure inclusive, effective solutions to food system challenges that integrate nutrition, climate and other food-related agendas.
   - Integrate food, nutrition, climate and environmental agendas at different levels of government, aligning goals, policies and strategies to create synergies for sustainable development (e.g. Non Communicable Diseases Plans, National Biodiversity Strategies and Actions Plans, National Adaptation Plans, National Nutrition Plans and National Food Systems pathways and policies) and investing in interventions with benefits on climate and nutrition outcomes across the food value chain.
   - Support multi-level governance, coordinating policies across local, national and global levels to enhance coherence and effective implementation.
   - Support women's empowerment through education, training and skills development and reinforce their involvement in decision-making.
   - Implement and track results of fiscal policy repurposing for nutritious food access and consumption.
   - Invest in data systems for decision-making by strengthening data collection, analysis and integration to ensure evidence-based, adaptive policy decisions.

6. **Research and innovation: Invest in research and innovation that takes a sustainable food systems approach targeting nutrition, climate and biodiversity**
   - Invest in research and innovation in agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry to identify and develop climate-resilient crops, fisheries management, fish stains and sustainable practices in agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry. Public and private partnerships can drive advancements in technology that enhance productivity while reducing environmental impacts.
   - Explore more targeted nutritional approaches: diagnose needs quickly to provide an effective and sustainable solution for better nutrition.
   - Identify scalable approaches to prolong the shelf life of fresh, nutritious foods (e.g. level of processing, packaging, cold chain, expiry indicators, etc.).
   - Explore and gather evidence on the role of women, youth, indigenous peoples and other vulnerable communities as drivers of the transition to resilient and sustainable food systems for better nutrition.
   - Invest in research on product development, environmental and economic potential of diverse local foods, including neglected and underutilized species (e.g., studying their domestication, market value and demand), in order to promote product developments with nutritive value from species resilient to climate change).

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Call to action

The transition to resilient and sustainable food systems is both a global necessity and a moral imperative. The commitments made at the 2021 N4G Summit in Tokyo marked a pivotal moment in recognizing the deep interconnections between nutrition, agriculture and environmental considerations, such as climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental degradation. Agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, forestry and food systems more broadly are strategically positioned in the fight against climate change, biodiversity loss and other environmental issues. Their importance is reflected in the ever-increasing role they play in international conferences, such as the United Nations Food Systems Summit and the Conferences of the Parties to the Rio Conventions. Achieving the SDGs, particularly those related to Zero Hunger, Climate Action, Life Below Water and Life On Land, hinges on our ability to deliver healthy diets through sustainable food systems for all.

Through a multi-stakeholder approach, a concerted and long-term commitment to action from governments supported by donors, private sector, civil society, research and development partners is urgently needed to ensure that food systems are resilient, sustainable, equitable and enable healthy diets for all as equally critical outcomes. These actions must encompass all aspects of food systems, from food production, through supply chains and markets, to purchase, preparation, consumption and disposal of food by consumers. In parallel, these actions must cut across and involve multiple scales, from multilateral organizations and international stakeholders to national governments, regional bodies, local authorities and communities.

The road to Paris is clear: we must act now with urgency and resolve. Positioned on the heels of the three Conferences of the Parties to the Rio Conventions and preceding the UN Food Systems Summit +4, the N4G Paris Summit represents a unique opportunity to accelerate progress towards a future where healthy diets through sustainable food systems are the foundation for human health, planetary health and global equity. Let us seize this moment and commit – within each of our unique contexts – to achieve that changes in our food systems that will favour healthy diets, biodiversity and the fight against climate change and environmental degradation. Let us commit to the policy coherence needed to achieve this within our governments, businesses, universities, institutions and organizations, and multilateral processes. Let us commit through these actions to enhancing the resilience of local and national systems to enable access to healthy diets in contexts of fragility. Together, we can transform food systems for healthy people and planet; the time is now.

Examples of commitments

Scope	Commitments	Opportunities					
		Production	Supply chains	Food environments	Consumer behaviours	Enabling environment and governance	Research and innovation
Global context	Funding multisectoral climate-nutrition initiatives	■	■	■	■		
	Support for policy and programme coherence					■	
	Promoting nutritious food through sustainable food systems	■	■	■	■		
	Investing in nutrition-sensitive climate-smart agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries	■					
	Universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Developing evidence on climate-biodiversity-nutrition linkages						■
	Translating knowledge into practice						■
National context	Place healthy diets and sustainability at the centre of food systems transformation pathways	■	■	■	■	■	
	Integrating nutrition and climate change into national policies, pathways and actions plans	■	■	■	■	■	
	Ensure coherence between nutrition and environment plans, policies and strategies					■	
	Increase funding for nutrition-sensitive and climate-smart interventions	■	■	■	■	■	
	Integrating climate and nutrition in national health and agricultural policies	■	■	■	■	■	
	Targeted subsidies for nutritious food with low environmental footprint	■				■	
	Context-based nutrition education campaign with climate lens				■	■	
	Food systems waste and circular economy	■	■	■	■		
	Pursue an end-to-end policy approach to food systems in fragile settings	■	■	■	■	■	
	Trade policies favour healthy diets					■	
Regional context	Establishing regional food systems transformation hubs						■
	Regional investment in climate-resilient staple crops						■
	Regional data and accountability systems for climate-nutrition linkages						■
	Regional trade policies prioritizing sustainably produced, nutritious foods	■	■				

Subnational context	Support for local food systems and community-based climate action plans	■	■	■	■	■	
	Subsidies for sustainable school feeding programmes		■	■	■		
	Community-led monitoring of climate and nutrition outcomes					■	
	Building capacity and advocacy for sustainable food choices				■	■	
	Enabling community food security initiatives	■	■	■	■		

For the global context: Multilateral organizations and international stakeholders

Funding multisectoral climate-nutrition initiatives

Example: Donors pledge to fund initiatives that address the climate-nutrition nexus, focusing on actions that strengthen food security and nutrition, enhance biodiversity and contribute to low-carbon development. This includes prioritizing grants that benefit smallholder producers, women, youth and marginalized communities who produce one-third of the world's food, as well as investments supporting the conservation and wider use of biodiversity for food and nutrition, including neglected and underutilized species.

Supporting policy and programme coherence

Example: Multilateral organizations commit to supporting countries in aligning national policies and programmes with both the N4G goals and climate adaptation strategies. This might include technical assistance for policy reforms, support for the implementation of recommendations and voluntary guidelines (such as the Committee on Food Security Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition), monitoring frameworks and progress tracking.

Promoting nutritious food through sustainable food systems

Example: Companies commit to reformulating products to enhance their nutritional profile while reducing environmental impacts, using low-emission production processes, sourcing through sustainable supply chains and providing transparent labelling on nutrition, complying with marketing codes/standards. This might include advancing the use of neglected and underutilized species, biofortification and large-scale food fortification.

Investing in nutrition-sensitive climate-smart agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries

Example: Private sector stakeholders in agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries commit to investing in nutrition-sensitive climate-smart agricultural practices that support smallholder farmers, aquaculture and fisheries producers, particularly in low-income countries. This includes providing training and resources for innovative approaches (such as regenerative and agroecological practices, and deep-pond aquaculture techniques), supporting traditional and local knowledge, facilitating access to nutritious climate-resilient seeds, fostering collaborative fisheries management and promoting low-emission fishing practices.

Enabling universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water

Example: Multilateral organizations and international stakeholders commit to supporting countries in achieving universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water. This includes providing technical assistance for infrastructure investments to improve clean water supply systems, facilitating knowledge exchange and mobilizing financing mechanisms to support communities in situation of vulnerability.

Developing evidence on climate-biodiversity-nutrition linkages

Example: Universities and research institutions commit to advancing the evidence base on climate, biodiversity and nutrition linkages, especially on the nutrition outcomes of climate-smart agriculture, agroecology and other integrated and innovative approaches, such as regenerative production systems. This involves collaborating with governments and other stakeholders to ensure data drive practical, impactful actions.

Translating knowledge into practice

Example: Academic bodies partner with governments, national and international country-based research and development agencies to translate, pilot and apply the latest evidence on local food systems practices that favour healthy diets. This includes development, implementation and evaluation of novel evidence-informed actions, capacity-building efforts, community outreach and interventions, real-time monitoring approaches and evaluation for continual learning.

For national contexts: Governments

Placing healthy diets and sustainability at the centre of food systems transformation pathways

Example: Countries commit to developing and implementing national food systems transformation pathways that ensure access to healthy diets through sustainable food systems as key outcomes. Governments develop and implement coherent policies and actions across agriculture, health and trade sectors to ensure food systems deliver diverse, safe and nutritious foods in a sustainable manner.

Integrating nutrition and climate change mitigation into national policies, pathways and actions plans

Example: Governments commit to incorporating nutrition-sensitive and climate-smart actions into their national agriculture, fisheries and food and nutrition policies, as well as their food systems pathways and actions plans. This could include support to local and sustainable agriculture and small-scale artisanal aquaculture and fisheries, as well as commitments to reduce food system emissions, fortify staple foods, and develop/update food-based dietary guidelines with sustainability in mind.

Ensuring coherence between nutrition and environment plans, policies and strategies

Example: Governments commit to ensuring policy coherence between nutrition and environmental plans, such as programmes and policies supporting their global targets under the Rio Conventions, including through their Nationally Determined Contributions, National Adaptation Plans, National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, and strategies on desertification.

Increasing funding for nutrition-sensitive and climate-smart interventions

Example: Allocating an equitably substantive budget to nutrition-sensitive and climate-smart interventions, ensuring tracking mechanisms are in place while identifying entry points to leverage financial instruments for nutrition outcomes, such as climate financing and sustainability-linked/result-based nutrition bonds. This approach aims to harness the linkages between malnutrition, climate change and environmental degradation more broadly to accelerate efforts in favour of the environment and simultaneously address these mutually reinforcing challenges.

Integrating climate and nutrition in national health and agricultural policies

Example: The government commits to integrating nutrition-sensitive, climate-resilient measures within national health and agriculture policies. This may involve a national action plan that aligns public procurement and agricultural support programmes with nutrition goals, such as promoting neglected and underutilized species, biofortified and drought-resistant crops, and fortified foods, in public procurement programmes for schools and hospitals.

Using targeted subsidies for nutritious food with low environmental footprint

Example: Government may commit to creating subsidies and insurance incentives for nutritious food producers who practice sustainable, climate-smart agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries. By engaging with the private sector and insurance companies, governments can develop innovative models that reduce the financial risks for producers transitioning to sustainable practices. This could include support for reducing chemical inputs, conserving water and using innovative approaches – such as regenerative practices that enhance soil health and nutrition density in crops in land-based agriculture as well as support for sustainable ecosystem-based fisheries co-management and aquaculture farmers producing low-carbon low-trophic species based on agroecological principles.

Implementing context-based nutrition education campaigns with a climate lens

Example: Ministries of health, agriculture, fisheries, environment and education work together on a public campaign (at national, subregional, local level) to educate the population about healthy diets through sustainable food systems. This includes integrating appropriate curricula in schools and technical training institutions to foster the reduction of food waste, the adoption healthy diets and awareness-raising about the health and environmental impacts of dietary choices.

Reducing food systems waste and advancing circular economy practices

Example: Government commits to reducing food systems waste and advancing circular economy practices by establishing and enforcing policies that promote food recovery programmes to redirect surpluses to vulnerable populations. This could include investing in waste-to-energy projects, supporting composting systems and encouraging innovations that upcycle food byproducts.

Pursuing an end-to-end policy approach to food systems in fragile settings

Example: Government may commit to integrating the design, financing and implementation of actions ranging from emergency response to long-term development in fragile settings. These actions should be seen as complementary and mutually reinforcing investments aimed at avoiding and minimizing the impact of future shocks and stress.

Developing trade policies that favour healthy diets

Example: International trade can enhance the availability and affordability of nutritious foods but may also increase access to unhealthy foods. Governments commit to adopt, or adapt if already existing, trade policies that enhance access to nutritious foods while mitigating the risks related to unhealthy foods.

For regional contexts: Regional collaboration

Establishing regional food systems transformation hubs

Example: Countries in the same region commit to creating regional food systems transformation and learning hubs focused on nutrition-sensitive climate adaptation in food systems. These hubs can centralize efforts to develop, share and scale best practices in climate-smart agriculture, resilient food supply chains, and urban food systems across countries, strengthening regional food and nutrition security.

Fostering regional investment in climate-resilient staple crops

Example: Nations within a specific region commit to jointly investing in research and development for climate-resilient crop varieties that suit shared agro-ecological zones, increasing the region's capacity to combat both malnutrition and climate challenges, including in urban and peri-urban areas. Regional organizations (such as the Economic Community of West African States or the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) could facilitate collaboration, ensuring that improved crop varieties reach vulnerable communities.

Enabling regional data and accountability systems for climate-nutrition linkages

Example: A regional coalition forms to improve data collection and analysis on the relationship between climate impacts and nutrition outcomes, including in urban- and peri-urban settings. A standardized data system across participating countries could help in tracking progress, identifying nutrition gaps and aligning climate resilience strategies to advance food and nutrition security.

Adopting regional trade policies that prioritize sustainably produced nutritious foods

Example: Regional trade bodies commit to fostering intra-regional trade policies that prioritize sustainably produced, nutritious foods through harmonized standards for healthy food products, reducing tariffs on climate-resilient crops, and creating trade agreements that streamline logistics for sustainably produced foods.

For subnational contexts: Local governments and communities

Supporting local food systems and community-based climate action plans

Example: Local and urban governments commit to developing action plans that support community-led, climate-resilient agricultural practices. Drawing on N4G best practices, municipalities work with local farmers, civil society and nutritionists to promote neglected and underutilized species, community gardens and urban agriculture initiatives that enable healthy diets.

Introducing subsidies for sustainable school feeding programmes

Example: Municipalities or regional bodies commit to funding school feeding programmes via the support of sustainable public food procurement practices, the design of healthy and nutritious menus for all and the implementation of education campaigns. A focus on sustainable procurement of foods from short food supply chains promotes local economies and minimizes the carbon footprint associated with food transportation, directly benefiting both nutrition and climate.

Conducting community-led monitoring of climate and nutrition outcomes

Example: Subnational governments commit to establishing participatory monitoring frameworks that allow communities to report on and influence local climate and nutrition initiatives. This may include community dashboards or periodic assessments involving local councils, enabling citizens to contribute to accountability and adapting projects based on real-time feedback.

Building capacity and advocacy for sustainable food choices

Example: Civil society organizations commit to raising awareness about healthy diets through sustainable food systems and environmental impact, creating local networks to champion food systems transformation. They can also advocate for the right to nutritious food in policy discussions and encourage community-led actions that align with sustainable dietary shifts, with a special focus on the most vulnerable communities.

Enhancing community food security initiatives

Example: Civil society organizations support community gardens, local markets and alternative food systems that minimize food waste and encourage sustainable practices. This also involves building resilience by helping communities grow diverse, nutrient-rich crops adapted to climate conditions.

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Contact N4G Paris Summit
n4g.dgm-dag-huma@diplomatie.gouv.fr