



**THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND THE FUTURE OF FOOD:
THE SALZBURG PROCESS**

SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTH DIETS HOT TOPIC DISCUSSION PAPER

May 2020 (revised version) | Draft for Discussion



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Contents

WELCOME TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND THE FUTURE OF FOOD: THE SALZBURG PROCESS

The COVID-19 Crisis, the Climate Emergency, and the Future of Food

Salzburg Process Objectives and Co-Creating a Shared Action Framework

HOT TOPIC DISCUSSION PAPERS

SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY DIETS

AUTHORS

INTERVIEWEES

REFERENCES

WELCOME TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND THE FUTURE OF FOOD: THE SALZBURG PROCESS

When we started planning for this convening one year ago, we never could have imagined the state of the world today. We planned the Climate Emergency and the Future of Food international dialogue in anticipation of 2020 being a ‘Super Year’ in terms of key international milestones— the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP15 in October, the UNFCCC COP26 in November, and others — all oriented toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Now we find ourselves in the midst of the global coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic which has revealed our deepest vulnerabilities, compounded existing inequalities, and highlighted the fragility and interconnectedness of human, animal, and ecosystem health.

Although key political international milestones have been postponed to 2021 due to the lockdowns and travel restrictions caused by COVID-19, they remain, nevertheless, critically important opportunities for aligning around key messages, forming communities, and building momentum for leadership at all levels in support of resilient, healthy, sustainable, and equitable food systems as fundamental components to any national and international effort to address the climate emergency. If anything, the pandemic has made this collective agenda, and the need to address the food-climate nexus, even more pressing and urgent.

Towards this end, and to maintain momentum, we transformed our international in-person dialogue on the Climate Emergency and the Future of Food, originally planned to take place in Salzburg, Austria, on 4-6 May 2020, into a virtual online dialogue which we renamed “The Salzburg Process.” Our overarching objectives remain the same: to build strategic alignment on key issues in food and climate and to accelerate the actions, investments, and policies needed to transform food systems – holistically and systemically.

Over the course of six weeks, The Salzburg Process will engage over 300 geographically and sectorally diverse participants to deliberate over five “hot topics” and four “levers of change”. The hot topics are nature-based solutions, livestock production, sustainable and healthy diets, food loss and waste, and just transitions. Each of these areas are the critical nexus where the food and climate agendas come together. Food systems are a significant factor in the creation of the daunting challenges we face in these areas and, importantly, they can provide brilliant pathways to the solutions. Meanwhile, the levers of change are policy reform, financial reform, practice reform, public narratives and strategic political communications. The discussions will feed into the development of a shared narrative and a “Shared Action Framework” for food systems transformation in the context of the climate emergency. The Shared Action Framework seeks to comprehensively identify opportunities, levers of change, and priorities across sectors, scales, and policy processes. And, of course, we hope this process will lead to strengthened networks, relationships, and innovations that sustain engagement.

“People who have managed to intervene in systems at the level of paradigm have hit a leverage point that totally transforms systems. So how do you change paradigms? In a nutshell, you keep pointing at the anomalies and failures in the old paradigm, you keep coming yourself, and loudly and with assurance from the new one, you insert people with the new paradigm in places of public visibility and power.... You work with active change agents and the vast middle ground of people who are open-minded.”

– Donella Meadows, pioneering environmental scientist, teacher and writer

The Salzburg Process is co-organized by the Global Alliance for the Future of Food and Salzburg Global Seminar. The [Global Alliance for the Future of Food](#) is a strategic alliance of philanthropic foundations working together and with others to transform global food systems now and for future generations. [Salzburg Global Seminar](#) is a non-profit organization that fosters lasting networks and partnerships for creative, just and sustainable change.

Together, we are thrilled to welcome you to The Salzburg Process, and look forward to the critical work we are embarking on together over the next weeks and months.

The COVID-19 Crisis, the Climate Emergency, and the Future of Food

Over the past several weeks, many of us have tried to take the time to understand what the COVID-19 pandemic means for our world, as a deeply transformative force. We are being tested in ways none of us ever imagined. As countries work to control the spread of the virus, there will be vast political, economic, social, and environmental consequences which will last for many years -- if not decades.

With the rapid introduction of emergency lockdown measures, the closure of borders, and the disruption of global and local supply chains, the fragility of our food and health systems has never been more painfully apparent.

As a stark reminder of the deep interconnections that exist between human, animal, and planetary health, the COVID-19 pandemic highlights just how much our food systems are locked into cycles that produce poor health, for people and the planet alike. Indeed, we know that the emergence of zoonotic disease and other infectious diseases, like Ebola, SARS, bird flu, and now COVID-19, are inextricably linked to how our food systems operate. As industrial food production encroaches onto formerly untouched land and ecosystems, often via land-use change and deforestation, humans and domestic animals are, in turn, increasingly exposed to wildlife and the diseases they carry.

What’s more, this crisis is exacerbating the existing inequities in our societies, with the devastating impacts of the virus and associated emergency response measures being most unequally felt by the most marginalized and racialized -- including women, small-holder farmers, low-paid and frontline workers, those in precarious employment and living conditions, and those already struggling with food

insecurity. We know from the headlines that workers in the restaurant, catering, and retail industries are laid-off, farm labourers are unable to get to the farms that need them, farmers are unable to get their products to markets, food markets are closed, and many communities are lacking access to sufficient, diverse, and nutritious food. At the same time, global and local supply chain disruptions are further straining existing systems and contributing further to food inequalities, from the wastage of vast quantities of commodities such as milk and eggs to the increase in the consumption of highly processed foods. The food systems we have built are no longer fit for purpose.

Yet, in the midst of this waking reality of food systems that don't serve us, we are learning that profound change is possible. Not only has the COVID-19 crisis revealed how swiftly and decisively change can be implemented, but that single-focussed interventions and siloed approaches aren't enough when facing a "shock" of this scale and magnitude. This is a pertinent lesson for how we tackle the climate emergency, which we are all already living through.

Now, more than ever, we need transformative systems change. Food systems are at the centre of many of the interconnected crises we face, including climate change, epidemics of non-communicable diseases, biodiversity loss, the decline of rural economies, and global trade vulnerabilities.

We need major global transformations in our political institutions, corporate structures, energy systems, governance arrangements, land use, food and agriculture practices, and every other human-made system that guides our actions and interactions. The status quo is not a viable path forward. It is only by addressing these interconnected challenges holistically that we will move from incremental shifts to the kind of profound shifts necessary to realize the transformation required of us, as a global community, now.

The Global Alliance's vision and its actions are guided by a set of shared principles -- renewability, health, equity, resilience, diversity, inclusion, and interconnectedness. When taken together, these principles help us to see the whole system in necessary and powerful new ways; they tell us how to act and enable us to make better choices about the future of our shared food systems. For participants entering The Salzburg Process, these principles create a useful, actionable framework through which to approach our upcoming conversations about food systems transformation in the context of both the immediate COVID-19 crisis and the ongoing climate emergency.

Participants in The Salzburg Process are uniquely poised to connect and to collaborate, to leverage current global attention on food insecurity, supply chain disruption, and system inequality, and accelerate the actions, investments, and policies needed to transform food systems.

Climate-resilient food and agriculture systems can powerfully contribute to a 1.5°C world by 2050, and a future that is healthy, sustainable, and equitable for all on our shared planet -- but, we must all act now, together. Genuine systems transformation takes place when diverse individuals, actions, and networks intersect across sectors and issue silos, the global and local, the macro and the micro.

PRINCIPLES AND THE FUTURE OF FOOD

RENEWABLE

Address the integrity of natural and social resources that are the foundation of a healthy planet and future generations in the face of changing global and local demands.

RESILIENT

Support regenerative, durable, and economically adaptive systems in the face of a changing planet.

EQUITABLE

Promote sustainable livelihoods and access to nutritious and just food systems for all.

DIVERSE

Value our rich and diverse agricultural, ecological, and cultural heritage.

HEALTHY

Advance the health and well-being of people, animals, the environment, and the societies that depend on all three.

INCLUSIVE

Ensure meaningful and authentic engagement of diverse people and organizations in transparent deliberations, shared power, democratic decisions, and collective actions affecting food systems for the public good.

INTERCONNECTED

Understand the implications of the interdependence of food, people, and the planet in a transition to more sustainable food systems.

To read more about our principles, visit the Global Alliance for the Future of Food's [website](#).

The Salzburg Process Objectives and Co-Creating a Shared Action Framework

The Salzburg Process has three interrelated and mutually reinforcing objectives:

1. Creation of a shared narrative that emphasizes the imperative for food systems transformation and presents key messages about collective priorities.
2. Development of a Shared Action Framework connected to five “Hot Topics” for food systems transformation that identifies opportunities, priorities, and levers of change across sectors, scales, and policy processes.
3. Formation of shared networks, relationships, and innovations that sustain engagement and connection across local, regional, and global levels; bridging sectors and silos, connecting the micro and the macro.

We recognize the growing number of movements and initiatives seeking transformative change and aspire for this process to celebrate and/or augment existing activities and a diversity of approaches while also catalyzing new forms of collaboration.

Following the virtual convenings in May, a draft shared narrative and Shared Action Framework will be circulated to participants and a broader network of stakeholders with the goal of socializing, further developing, and refining the framework. It is our hope that the framework and narrative are taken forward by participants and the broader community of allies in ways that are appropriate to their mission, resources, and capacity.

The Global Alliance is committed to active ongoing engagement with this process, and will be determining its role in advancing the framework and narrative. This will include: (1) disseminating the outcomes of The Salzburg Process to our broad network of stakeholders; (2) actively engaging Global Alliance members and other philanthropic partners in how they can independently incorporate the outcomes and priorities in their work; and (3) identifying ways in which the Global Alliance can collectively use the outcomes and priorities to influence and inform international policy processes. This will not include Global Alliance funding for all ideas generated; this is intended as a collaborative process with shared ownership and the identification of the “best and highest” role for each participant in moving the agenda forward.

HOT TOPIC DISCUSSION PAPERS

Food systems are significant contributors to, and heavily impacted by, climate change. Agriculture, food production, and deforestation are major drivers of climate change, and represent up to 37% of anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.¹ At the same time, climate change is exacerbating negative impacts to food systems, livelihoods, biodiversity, human and ecosystem health, and infrastructure.

Once rescheduled, the UNFCCC COP26 will represent the five-year anniversary of the Paris Agreement adopted in 2015 and the first deadline for signatory countries to deliver their 'Nationally Determined Contributions' to achieving a well-below 2°C world by 2050. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, this requires us to reduce our GHG emissions by 45% by 2030 and to reduce our emissions to net-zero by 2050.² Getting to a level of GHG emissions that keeps us within a warming range of only 1.5°C means we must radically transform our resource use, our economic system, and our food systems.

Coordinated action by a diverse range of stakeholders, across food systems, to tackle climate change, could simultaneously improve land, food security and nutrition, and, if managed well, reduce pressure on land and support biodiversity conservation. There is increasing consensus that the critical priorities to advance the climate-food agenda includes: nature-based solutions, livestock production, food loss and waste, diet shifts, and just transitions,³ as well as increasing interest across a wide group of stakeholders in the emissions abatement opportunities inherent in these priorities. But, more needs to be done to build strategic alignment around these areas of transformation and to accelerate system-wide action.

As such, to support The Salzburg Process, we commissioned five discussion papers on these "hot topics" central to the food-climate nexus: nature-based solutions, livestock production, sustainable and healthy diets, food loss and waste, and just transitions. We anticipate that these discussion papers will serve as 'food-for-thought' and act as a catalyst for informed debate amongst participants from a diversity of sectoral, geographical, and cultural perspectives.

The discussion papers are not meant to be comprehensive overviews of each topic, but instead an entry point for discussion, debate, and deliberation, ultimately leading to deeper understandings of areas of convergence and divergence across participants, and the identification of priorities to be included in the Shared Action Framework.

The authors of the discussion papers were asked to: a) bring their own expertise to bear, b) do desktop research, and c) conduct up to 10 interviews reflecting diverse opinions and perspectives on the hot topics.

¹ The range of 21-37% includes Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) as well as emissions associated with pre- and post-production activities in the global food system. IPCC (August 2019). [Special Report on Climate Change, Desertification, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Food Security, and Greenhouse Gas fluxes in Terrestrial Ecosystems](#).

² Reduction compared to 2010 baseline. IPCC (October 2018). [Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C](#).

³ To better understand the terms and issues related to the food-climate nexus, please see the Food and Climate Research Network's [FoodSource Glossary](#)

The discussion papers each provide:

1. An overview of the critical issues related to each hot topic
2. A landscape analysis of key organisations working on topic area
3. Convergences ripe for shared action in the near term, divergences potentially blocking coordinated action, and uncertainties deserving further attention
4. High-level recommendations for levers of change related to:
 - policy reform
 - financial reform
 - practice reform
 - public and political communications

We recognize that the five hot topics are deeply interconnected, both in terms of the issues raised and the recommendations proposed. Not surprisingly, a number of synergies have been identified across the papers. For example:

- There was convergence around the need for more inclusive, participatory approaches to governance that address the structural inequities and power imbalances in food systems. Most authors pointed to the importance of rights-based approaches, food sovereignty, resource and land rights, resilient livelihoods, and the important role of leadership from Indigenous Peoples and farmers in food systems transformation.
- Authors called for an integrated policy development and a systems approach that recognizes the interrelationships between the environment, food, agriculture, and health.
- Policy, subsidy, and trade reform were repeatedly identified as key opportunities to transform food systems.
- There were common points on issues such as metrics and measurement, ecosystem services and carbon pricing, financial disclosure, dietary guidelines, marketing and labelling as key levers for change. The role of business and private sector leadership in advancing these levers was noted, the important role of small- and medium-enterprises.
- The low power and visibility of those most affected by and within food systems — migrant workers, workers with precarious employment in the food system, those working in the informal sector, individuals, families and communities experiencing food insecurity, and other vulnerable populations — was noted by all authors. Many authors called for more adequate social safety nets and social programs in the wake of the social dislocation and uneven economic outcomes borne of the food system. It was emphasized that this must be managed at different levels — local, regional and national contexts — and requires different actors, market mechanisms, and other policy instruments in order to achieve greater equity.
- Support for agroecological, regenerative, ecological, bioregional and circular food systems practices were mentioned as holding great potential across various scales.
- Importance of a narrative shift that upholds a systems perspective.

The authors emphasized the need for major societal shifts, transformations, and reorientations of food systems. The recommendations gleaned through the process of research and engagement speak to specific pathways and levers that must lead us beyond reform to the systemic transformation and substantial structural changes we collectively seek.

These papers have been developed to set the context discussions; outline areas of tensions and initial recommendations for convergence; and to help catalyze an open, inclusive exchange between all participants during The Salzburg Process.

Next Steps

The Salzburg Process, and in particular the online workshops on 4-6 May 2020, are designed to facilitate small group discussions that explore the convergences more deeply, acknowledge the tensions and debate, and identify high-level global recommendations for each lever of change. We expect that the recommendations will be high level and that there will be a need to adapt recommendations in the final Shared Action Framework to suit local, regional, and national contexts.

Following the intensive webinars on 4-6 May, we will circulate a shared narrative with key messages and a Shared Action Framework for feedback by The Salzburg Process participants in June 2020. Others not engaged in the formal process will be engaged in the refinement of the Shared Action Framework post-event. We aim to launch the narrative and Shared Action Framework in the autumn of 2020 and will monitor upcoming political and media opportunities for an appropriate date.

We will also look for ways for participants to stay engaged with one another, grow the network of changemakers, continue the dialogue, and share strategies and activities.

SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY DIETS

Mark Driscoll, Tasting the Future

1.0 Introduction

A robust evidence base has emerged showing that sustainable, healthy diets are key to planetary and human health and have the potential to transform the way food is grown, processed, distributed, marketed, consumed, and wasted. Producing more food efficiently is no longer good enough to meet the challenges of the 21st century. A dietary transition is key to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and will help us adapt and build resilience to reduce the impacts of global heating. It will help us restore biodiversity and address malnutrition in all its forms (hunger, obesity, nutrient deficiencies). 80% of chronic diseases are preventable through lifestyle change with our diet being the largest contributing factor⁴.

Our food system is highly interconnected and so the dietary choices we make in one place have far-reaching implications on the environment, societies and economies around the world. There is now widespread recognition from those working on solutions across the globe of the need to collaborate and identify a set of interventions that can deliver multiple outcomes, benefiting both human and planetary health. The Covid-19 epidemic is exposing the fragility of our food system and poses some fundamental questions about how our diets have contributed to the epidemic and how future diets can build resiliency, food security and improve human and planetary health. Sustainable, healthy diets are key to building back better food systems.

1.1 What is a healthy and Sustainable diet?

There is no one accepted definition of a healthy and sustainable diet. This is in part due to different cultural and geographical perceptions and interpretations of the term ‘sustainability’ and ‘good health’. However, in general, people do agree that a sustainable, healthy diet is a dietary pattern that provides us with the many nutrients we need for health, in appropriate amounts and is culturally acceptable, affordable and sustainable. It is one which we can produce and consume within planetary boundaries whilst feeding the growing global population. The FAO provides a more formal definition for sustainable diets which is often used and quoted in academic literature:

‘Sustainable Diets are those diets with low environmental impacts which contribute to food and nutrition security and to healthy life for present and future generations. Sustainable diets are protective and respectful of biodiversity and ecosystems, culturally acceptable, accessible, economically fair and affordable; nutritionally adequate, safe and healthy; while optimizing natural and human resources⁵.’

⁴ https://www.who.int/chp/chronic_disease_report/part1/en/index11.html

⁵ <http://www.fao.org/ag/humannutrition/28507-0e8d8dc364ee46865d5841c48976e9980.pdf>

In practice a sustainable, healthy diet is cognizant of geography, culture, religion, custom and dietary diversity. Each context is unique and poses specific opportunities and challenges to address the availability, accessibility, and production and consumption of sustainable, healthy foods, tailored to the cultural and local context. Diets will vary depending on the individual's specific bodily characteristics, their cultural context and a wide range of social, economic and environmental determinants linked to place. Differing research contexts (Global North and South) mean that there are a range of definitions and solutions pathways that can't be globally generalized. Interestingly, stakeholders interviewed thought that 'taste' was often a missing ingredient of definitions with those in the South highlighting that 'food safety' is often the biggest driver (behind other health dimensions and sustainability) of behaviours and missing from much of the debate around sustainable and healthy diets.

In order to understand sustainable, healthy diets we need to be able to articulate what they look like on our plates/bowls. Stakeholders referred to sustainable healthy diets as ones that contain:

- Large proportions of plants in diets (e.g. fruits, vegetables, wholegrains, nuts, legumes, etc.)
- Traditional and Indigenous crops
- Moderate amounts of dairy, poultry and fish and small amounts of red meat (high quality e.g. pasture fed, extensive well-managed regenerative livestock systems, recognizing that in some part of the world consumption will need to increase to meet nutritional needs).
- Fish from sustainable sources (wild caught and farmed)
- Local and seasonal food (shorter value chains that connect citizens with farmers who receive a fair price)
- Significant reductions in food waste, loss and minimal plastic packaging.
- Safe and clean drinking/tap water in preference to other beverages, especially soft drinks
- Reductions in ultra-processed foods containing high amounts of sugars, salts and saturated fats
- Breastfeeding in preference to milk formulas

1.2 International Commitments

Sustainable healthy diets have received increased attention from the global community. Although not mentioned explicitly, they are recognized as a key determinant for achieving two UN global agreements, which underpin the global interest in and the need to take a systemic approach to many of the sustainability and health challenges associated with food. These are the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁶, which identified 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change⁷. These agreements alongside the Convention on Biological Diversity and Decade of Action on Nutrition require leadership, far-reaching commitments and action from all countries of the world for their successful implementation. Sustainable and healthy diets are integral to the success of these.

1.3 Three Influential Reports

⁶<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21252030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable%20Development%20web.pdf>

⁷ <https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/what-is-the-paris-agreement>

This paper does not cover in detail the science and evidence for sustainable healthy diets which is covered in numerous reports, academic research and grey literature. It is however worth highlighting a few of the most globally influential reports which have been published over the last 12 months:

1.3.1 The EAT- Lancet Commission report⁸ - This provides specific scientific targets for a healthy diet from a sustainable food production system that operates within planetary boundaries for food. It recommends ‘diets consisting of a variety of plant-based foods, with low amounts of livestock-based foods, refined grains, highly processed food and added sugars, and with unsaturated rather than saturated fat’. The authors highlight the need to reduce, by more than 50%, the global consumption of foods such as red meat and sugar and increase the consumption of nuts, fruits, vegetables, and legumes by more than twofold, with global targets being applied locally to reflect regional differences in needs. The report has not been without some significant criticisms. Concerns have been expressed over issues of affordability, the lack of attention to the impacts of white meats (poultry, pork), the underplay of the importance of regenerative farming systems and how the report does not tackle issues of power and dynamics within the food system resulting in the commoditization of food. Several interviewees noted that the report did not gain traction/attention in their countries because it focused on over-consumption as opposed to malnutrition (obesity, under nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies).

1.3.2 The Lancet ‘Global Syndemic of Obesity, Undernutrition, and Climate Change’ Report⁹ – Highlighted that malnutrition in all its forms, including obesity, undernutrition, and other dietary risks, is the leading cause of poor health globally and that climate change will considerably compound these health challenges. They point to three challenges—obesity, undernutrition, and climate change that will impact most people across the world. The report called for strong processes to manage conflicts of interest between commercial actors and policymakers, new business models that promote both human and environmental health, and redirecting of government subsidies and taxes across the food system to ones that support the production and consumption of sustainable, healthy, nutritious and affordable foods.

1.3.3 IPCC Climate Change and Land Report¹⁰- This stated unequivocally that land use plays a critical role as a source of greenhouse gas emissions and as a climate change solution. With a focus on nature-based solutions, such as reforestation and improving agricultural practices, the report stressed the importance of dietary change (eating more plants) and reductions in food waste. Reducing inequalities, improving incomes, and ensuring equitable access to food so that some regions (where land cannot provide adequate food) are not disadvantaged were other ways for food systems to become resilient in the context of climate change.

It should be noted that many of the stakeholders interviewed for this paper highlighted the disconnect between some of the reports produced internationally and the needs of those people, at a local level, most impacted by the food system. International reports can sometimes fail to translate

⁸ [https://eatforum.org/content/uploads/2019/07/EAT-Lancet Commission Summary Report.pdf](https://eatforum.org/content/uploads/2019/07/EAT-Lancet_Commission_Summary_Report.pdf)

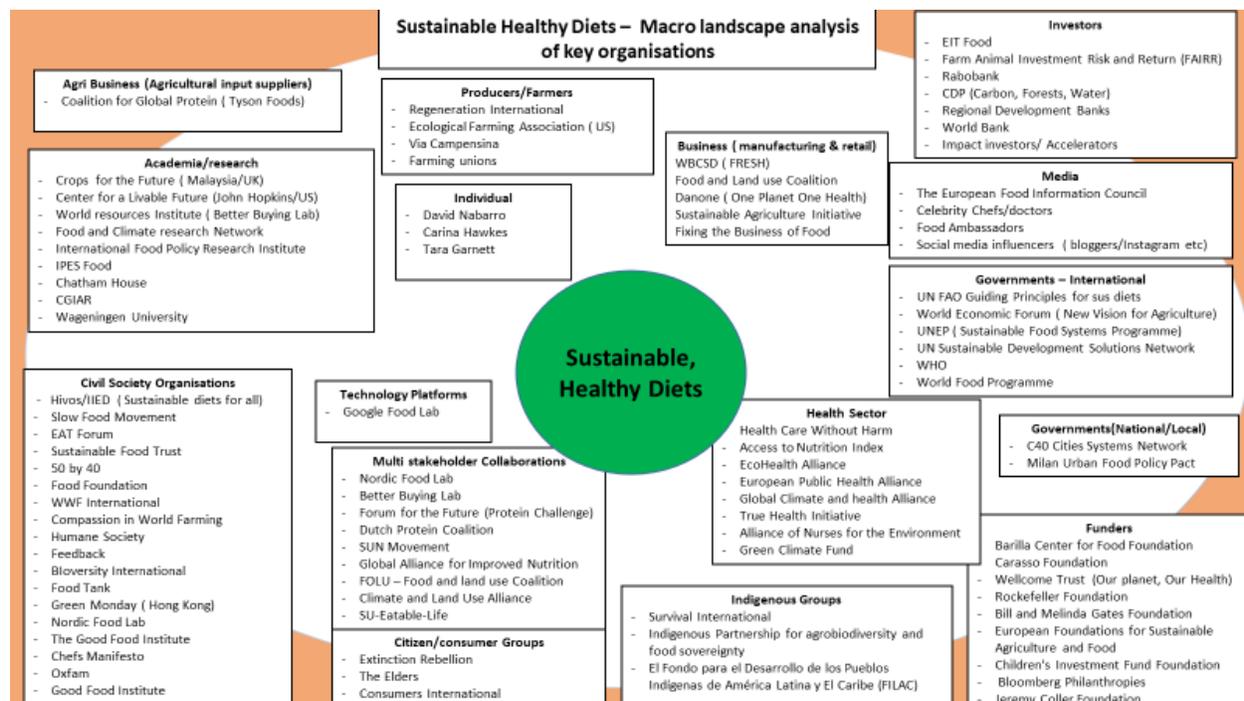
⁹ [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(18\)32822-8/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(18)32822-8/fulltext)

¹⁰ https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/4/2020/02/SPM_Updated-Jan20.pdf

recommendations into culturally relevant actions at a local/sub national scale that are useful for local leaders/decision makers.

2.0 Landscape Analysis of Key Organisations Working on Sustainable, Healthy Diets

The table below illustrates some organisations working in the sustainable, healthy diets space. It is indicative only and does not include the plethora of organisations working on these issues at global and national levels.



3.0 Convergence, Divergence and Unknowns

This section provides a brief overview of the convergences, divergences and unknowns that could help or hinder the scaling of policy and practice for sustainable and healthy diets, based on author and stakeholder insights.

3.1 Convergences for Sustainable, Healthy Diets

3.1.1 *Creating new partnerships/collaborations with the health sector:* There are significant opportunities for organisations working across the food-health-climate nexus to work in closer collaboration to address common determinants and drivers which can influence policy and practice that drive sustainable and healthy dietary patterns. Taking a systemic approach to health and sustainability can create win-wins. Many people working in the health professions (doctors, dieticians, nutritionists, care workers, nurses, medical insurance etc) are increasingly interested in and understand how

ecological (including climate) health underpins human and animal health. This is particularly pertinent in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic. The health profession is in a strong position to combine healthy eating messages and sustainable diet advice, working closely with the food and climate change communities to influence policy, practice and the narrative of food. There is an opportunity to re-engage other groups, particularly youth groups, farmers and local community/citizen movements in this debate at a more local level, making sustainable diets real, tangible and visible on the ground.

3.1.2 Adopting Food Based Dietary Guidelines (FBDGs): FBDGs are intended to establish a basis for public food and nutrition, health and agricultural policies and nutrition education programmes to foster healthy eating habits and lifestyles. Over 100 predominantly high and middle income countries have FBDGs (fewer than half of all countries) and yet only a few have incorporated sustainability criteria into these (examples include Canada, Switzerland, Sweden, Qatar, Norway, Brazil, and Germany). There is an opportunity to encourage more governments to develop FBDGs and align them with national food procurement strategies. Governments need to compliment FBDGs with other behavioural strategies which ensure they are translated from theory into practice. These include food procurement strategies, supporting medical practitioners with the implementation of lifestyle medicine practices and social protection schemes that support the provision of healthy, nutritious foods to those most in need. FBDGs need to be supported by a wider range of agricultural, investment and educational programs.

3.1.3 Using True Cost Accounting Frameworks: True Cost Accounting approaches, such as the TEEB AgriFood Framework¹¹ can help to bring to light the true cost of cheap food, and ensure consideration is given to wider health, environmental and social costs (and benefits) of food systems. Many negative health impacts and their costs continue to fall disproportionately on the poorest and most disadvantaged in society, reinforcing health inequalities. The annual global economic costs of obesity are about US\$2 trillion, representing 2.8% of the world's gross domestic product.¹² The global costs directly related to diabetes are US\$827 billion per year.¹³ The need to work much more closely with governments to use true cost accounting frameworks, to influence subsidies, VAT, taxation policies, health and welfare schemes were highlighted as examples of significant untapped opportunities by key stakeholders interviewed.

3.1.4 Focus on Implementation at a local level: There is an opportunity for coherent and context-specific policies and practices. Many initiatives offer guidance, research and awareness as key outputs with relatively few focussing on implementation, working with local governments, businesses and community groups at a local level. In general, there is still a significant disconnect between research on sustainable healthy diets, which often originate from higher incomes countries, and those groups this research is intended to benefit. For example, food safety and food security aspects of diets are significant issues within many rapidly growing African cities. The informal food economy (e.g. local food vendors) provides

¹¹ <http://teebweb.org/agrifood/about/>

¹² https://www.mckinsey.com/~/media/McKinsey/Business%20Functions/Economic%20Studies%20TEMP/Our%20Insights/How%20the%20world%20could%20better%20fight%20obesity/MGI_Overcoming_obesity_Full_report.ashx

¹³ <http://care.diabetesjournals.org/content/early/2018/02/20/dc17-1962>

a significant proportion of affordable, accessible meals within emerging economies, yet the informal food sector is ignored or overlooked by the academic community and policy makers. Working with the health sector, there is also an opportunity to focus on health promotion and disease prevention opportunities at a community/local level.

3.1.5 *An Opportunity for Shorter Value Networks:* Covid-19 has exposed the fragility and vulnerability of the food system to external shocks and sustainable, healthy diets provide an opportunity build back better food systems. The pandemic has highlighted our reliance on long and complex supply chains, and ‘just-in-time delivery’ systems. There are opportunities to decentralise our food systems and produce a greater proportion of our most healthy and nutritious foods, such as fresh produce, locally. In the UK for example, 77% of fresh fruit and vegetables are imported and sold through of highly centralised retail dominated system. There are opportunities for many countries to grow much more fresh and nutrient dense foods locally, ensuring freshness, optimal nutrient quality and reductions in fresh produce waste. Feeding our urban centres, particularly cities, offers particular opportunities to explore how we can shorten food value networks between the rural and urban fringe, through practice and policy reforms.

In parts of India, Africa, SE Asia informal markets provide 80% or more of the food to the poorest in society. During the pandemic many of these markets have been closed forcing people to go hungry, or for others who can afford it, to shop in supermarkets where packaged goods dominate. There is an opportunity to support these informal markets– they are key to the future provision of healthy, nutritious foods and connect citizens directly with producers.

3.1.6 *Promote Crop Diversity and Forgotten Crops:* There was remarkable convergence around ‘diversity’ as a key principle of sustainable, healthy diets. Over the past 50 years, there has been a major decline in two components of crop diversity; genetic (seed) diversity within each crop and the number of species commonly grown. Stakeholders mentioned that regulations on seed production and marketing can often favour larger seed producers and go against seed autonomy and preservation of local varieties. Stakeholders also highlighted that food security, improving farmer livelihoods (and income) adapting to climate change, reducing environmental degradation, protecting nutritional security, reducing poverty and regenerative agricultural practices are all underpinned by crop diversity. Forgotten (sometimes referred to as underutilised or orphan crops) comprise the multitude of species that are currently largely neglected by major research, funding bodies and global food manufacturers/ retailers. They have largely been ignored or neglected by advances in technology, policy, advocacy or marketing and there is an opportunity to reverse this trend and build resilience into our food system as a result.

3.1.7 *Food Environments* – Food environments are the interface where people, food, and space meet. They include the physical, social, economic, cultural, and political factors that impact the accessibility, availability, and adequacy of food within a community or region. Often the food people consume, particularly amongst the most vulnerable, is not determined by ‘choice’, but by their environment. Some environments make it difficult, if not impossible to buy or eat whole foods, fresh produce and healthier options. Creating an enabling healthy food environment is critical to support a dietary shift – so planning policy and urban design for example, plays a vital role in shaping these environments. Other policies and practices which support community kitchens, informal or traditional markets, allotments school gardens

etc. can help people to learn about healthy foods, develop food skills, and shift their preferences toward healthier foods.¹⁴

3.1.8 *Shifting the narrative*: Many interviewees emphasized that shifting mindsets and attitudes is as important as influencing policy or practice. The need to reconnect people to food and planet is also key to shaping human values and behaviours. For all the emphasis on evidence-based policy making, decisions by key influencers are not usually taken in a purely rational way and are shaped by personal values and individual perceptions of the world. In practice, policy is more often shaped by politics not policy makers. In order to transform today's food systems and mainstream policy and practice supportive of healthy and sustainable diets, there is a need to counter prevailing and powerful narratives that guide current research, investment, policy priorities, business models and practices across the food system. There is an opportunity and a need to challenge the current 'yield first' narrative, often driven by the commodification of our food and driven predominantly by the global North, to one that puts sustainable healthy diets at the heart of a new food economy.

3.1.9 *Placing Citizen Engagement at the heart of decision making*: The opportunity to reconnect citizens across the globe with food, whilst restoring traditions and cultures, from birth to end of life, is an opportunity to reconnect citizens with a sense of place. Schemes which encourage the growing, cooking and preparation of food, whilst ensuring citizens are engaged in food systems decision making, are a powerful driver of citizen behaviour change and have potential in driving healthy, sustainable diets. Reconnecting citizens and reframing the language from 'consumers who demand, choose or buy food' to that of a citizen who can 'participate in, create and shape food systems' is potentially a very powerful frame. Citizens, Indigenous Peoples and other groups (for example farmer groups) could be more actively engaged in policy making and setting the research agenda, rather than as recipients of it.

3.2 Divergences and Unknowns to Sustainable, Healthy Diets

3.2.1 *No agreed measurement and metrics*: A lack of clear metrics and a shared approach to measuring the multiple components of sustainable diets has hindered progress toward generating the evidence needed to support sustainable and healthy diets. This partly results from differing definitions of sustainable healthy diets but also results from the fact most of the research on sustainable, healthy diets is centred in high-income countries. This results in metrics being focussed on the environmental components of these diets (GHG emissions, resource use) with limited emphasis on metrics relating to equity, health and cultural context, particularly within low and middle incomes countries (LMIC), those that tend to bear the strongest burdens of food insecurity, malnutrition, and poor health. It should be noted that whilst there will inevitably be a need for metrics that reflect geographic and cultural diversity, community-scale indicators of sustainable and healthy diets, using both qualitative and quantitative forms of data, are often overlooked by academic and funding bodies.

¹⁴ McCormack LA, Laska MN, Larson NI, Story M. Review of the nutritional implications of farmers' markets and community gardens: a call for evaluation and research efforts. *J Am Diet Assoc.* 2010 Mar;110(3):399-408. Available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20184990>.

3.2.2 Defining Less but better meat consumption: From a sustainability perspective the need to reduce overall quantities of global meat consumption is widely recognised (in some parts of the world, where there are protein deficiencies, it may need to increase). Most of the focus of debate has been on red meats (especially beef) without a nuance of debate which recognises the differences between extensive more regenerative forms of beef production and those industrial intensive systems that cause significant environmental impacts. There are also considerable concerns that simplified messages around eating less beef could shift consumption to white meats (chicken) which consume significant quantities of animal feed (soya) shifting GHG emissions from methane to carbon rich habitat loss. The debate with regards to the role meat plays within sustainable and healthy diets has become highly polarised.

3.2.3 Fish and sustainability: A wealth of evidence finds that eating fish is good for health and yet many wild fish stocks are depleted. Three billion people around the world rely on fish as their primary source of protein and micronutrients such as Zinc, iron and vitamin C.¹⁵ Dietary guidelines around the world often include several portions of fish per week. This nutrition-sustainability dilemma is widely recognized and raises questions around nutritional guidelines and how we produce fish. Wild-capture fisheries still supply the majority of fish in the countries most dependent on fish to meet the nutritional needs of their population.¹⁶ We need both properly managed aquaculture and sustainable wild-capture fisheries to provide fish for a growing global population. Managed responsibly, wild-capture fisheries can be an essential and resilient source of food, nutrition, and income. Marine fisheries directly support the livelihoods of more than 260 million globally, many of which are small-scale operators in Asia and Africa. Unfortunately, many of these fisheries are grappling with inadequate management, globalization driving fish export over local consumption, and the arrival of exploitative – and sometimes illegal – foreign fleets.

Aquaculture now represents 53% of all fish consumed.¹⁷ Its main environmental impacts are associated with fish feed, which are predominantly fishmeal and soya based. Other issues and impacts include the use of GM salmon, local pollutants and parasites that spread from captured fisheries to wild caught fisheries are impacts that require consideration. There may be significant opportunities to scale up production of lower impact more herbivorous (those lower tropic level, plant eating species) fish, such as Tilapia, Pangasius or bivalves such as molluscs or shellfish. These tend to be lower in capital intensity and inputs and thus, more accessible, compared with higher-intensity species, such as Salmon, which use higher impact fish meals and fish oils as feed. Alternative aquaculture feeds, such as insects, algae etc. to replace soya and fishmeal feeds also offer significant opportunities.

3.2.4 Economic viability of farming – Adequately rewarding farmers to produce healthy and nutritious foods sustainably remains a significant barrier/challenge to mainstreaming healthy and sustainable diets across the world. There is concern that policy driven by the North to drive sustainable and healthy diets could undermine the economic viability of smallholder farmers. An aging farmer population in many countries, combined with a continued squeeze on farmer incomes means the number of small scale

¹⁵ <https://www.worldwildlife.org/industries/sustainable-seafood>

¹⁶ <https://www.pnas.org/content/110/21/8393.short>

¹⁷ <http://www.fao.org/state-of-fisheries-aquaculture>

farmers (who are more inclined to agroecological farming practices) is declining and farms become consolidated. In addition, farmers often sell their most valuable and nutritious products into local and international markets, resulting in high levels of malnourishment. Farmers often lose the financial value of healthy and nutritious foods by selling produce through middlemen.

3.2.5 *International trade impacts* - International trade and trade policies are of central importance but their role in supporting sustainable and healthy food systems is often poorly understood. With 80 percent of the world's population depending on imports to meet at least part of their food and nutritional requirements,¹⁸ trade policies which promote good health and sustainable outcomes are crucial. Trade policies today are invariably driven by goals that have little to do with our diets and nutrition, instead focusing on issues such as economic growth, incomes, jobs, and export earnings. If the health, social and environmental costs associated with food production and trade are not reflected in the final price of goods, trade is likely to exacerbate the health and planetary crises. The GLOPAN report¹⁹ recommended, amongst other things, that policymakers should consider the impacts of trade tariffs on the promotion and importing of ultra-processed foods and reduce the price of nutrient-rich foods, as this can particularly benefit the poorest. The dumping of foods from Northern markets (e.g. powdered milk or other commodity crops (rice, wheat, maize etc)) often undermines prices in local markets, reinforcing the dominance of global markets in driving health and nutritional standards.

3.2.6 *Should Ultra Processed Foods (UPFs) play any role?*²⁰: Many foods are processed – changed, prepared or packaged – in some way before we eat them. There is a spectrum from minimally processed (canned, packaged or frozen single ingredients) to those that are ultra-processed (foods made mostly from substances extracted from foods). The use of UPFs are controversial in the sustainable, healthy diets debate. UPFs refer to a specific group of industrially processed foods that are often energy dense and high in fat, salt, sugar and additives, while lacking dietary fibre and micronutrients. The increasing consumption of UPFs (soft drinks, fast foods, ready meals and packaged goods) is associated with an increase in obesity, overweight, diabetes, and related non-communicable diseases. Some proponents suggest these foods can be part of a sustainable healthy diet, in small quantities, whilst others advocate that no ultra-processed foods should be used. This issue has particularly played out in new innovations of highly processed plant-based imitation meat products in response to increased consumer demand for products that cater to the vegan, vegetarian and flexitarian markets.

3.2.7 *Marketing of Foods* -There is a significant body of evidence to suggest that the food adverts influence the foods people (especially children) choose and how much of it they eat. The marketing of UPFs is linked with strong preference for more snacking and a greater intake of foods higher in sugars and salts and lower intake of healthy food overall. In many countries UPFs now account for over half of

¹⁸ <https://hoffmanncentre.chathamhouse.org/article/delivering-sustainable-food-and-land-use-systems-the-role-of-international-trade/>

¹⁹ <https://www.glopan.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Global-Panel-policy-brief-Rethinking-trade-policies-to-support-healthier-diets.pdf>

²⁰ For a good definition see - <https://www.foodsource.org.uk/building-blocks/what-ultra-processed-food-and-why-do-people-disagree-about-its-utility-concept>

total calorie intake and are highly profitable and aggressively marketed. Chile, which is plagued by high levels of obesity, has some of the world's toughest marketing controls (on pack labelling, tv advertising restrictions etc) which has resulted in a 23% drop in sugary drink sales over just 2 years²¹.

Whilst much attention has been focussed on the role of marketing on children, there is still significant levels of uncertainty around the types of marketing interventions that will change behaviours in adults. Since 1975, the worldwide prevalence of overweight among adults increased from 21.5% to 38.9% in 2016. Over this period, no country has experienced a decline in the prevalence of overweight or obesity.²²

3.2.8 *Convenience* – Many healthy and nutritious foods take time to cook and prepare and in time poor households this can be a barrier to their consumption. After working the fields during the day, women in Africa for example, point to the luxury of being able to boil rice quickly at the end of the day. A key barrier to consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables is time to prepare them or lack of knowledge/food literacy in preparing meals using fresh ingredients.

3.2.9 *The role of cultured 'meats'*: - Uncertainties remain around the health and nutritional benefits of cultured based meat alternatives (also known as lab meats). Whilst there is an assumption and some evidence to suggest that there are environmental benefits of these alternatives²³, significant uncertainties remain, particularly regarding the impacts of the raw material used for these meats. There are also concerns over the cultural benefits of cultured meats and a fear that instead of citizens and farmers retaining the rights to the foods they grow and access to markets, that they will reinforce commodification and concentration of power within the food system.

3.2.10 *Affordability & Inequality*: Affordability is embedded in the definition of a sustainable, healthy diet. And yet, it's a perverse truth that for people across the world who are struggling to afford enough to eat, the nature of the global food system means they either go hungry or are dependent on inexpensive but less nutrient dense and more caloric dense processed foods. As a result, food insecurity and unhealthy diets are often interrelated, which can lead to hunger, malnutrition, diet-related disease and obesity. A recent study²⁴ of the affordability of the EAT-Lancet reference diet suggested that the cost of an EAT-Lancet diet exceeded household per capita income for at least 1.58 billion people and in many countries a combination of higher income, nutritional assistance, and lower prices would be required to ensure affordable prices.

3.2.11 *Power and Dynamics*: Whilst this is a broader issue across food systems, it was an issue that came out strongly through interviews and therefore worth a specific mention in this paper. Power and cultural imbalances remain a key challenge. Those that have the potential to benefit most from healthy,

²¹ <https://sph.unc.edu/sph-news/study-suggests-innovative-chilean-food-regulations-are-changing-food-perceptions-norms-behaviors/>

²² <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6880978/>

²³ Lynch J & Pierrehumbert R (2019) Climate Impacts of Cultured Meat and Beef Cattle. *Front. Sustain. Food Syst.* 3:5. doi: 10.3389/fsufs.2019.00005

²⁴ [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X\(19\)30447-4/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X(19)30447-4/fulltext)

sustainable diets are typically those whose voices are not heard. Those with lived experiences and most impacted by our food system are those that are disconnected from decision making. The current 'feed the world' and prevailing yield first narrative, with a focus on the commoditisation of food, is dominated by a relatively few number of actors - from inputs for food production to where farmers sell their raw agricultural products, to where consumers shop for groceries. One of the biggest challenges is how to harness and gather credible smallholder farmer and citizen voices to ensure greater alignment between sometimes conflicting top down versus bottom up approaches to policy and practice.

4.0 High Level Recommendations for the Shared Action Framework

It should be noted that these recommendations are focused on the macro level and specific interventions will vary from place to place according to context, culture, scale and the needs of local people/communities. No one intervention will be sufficient on its own. It should also be noted that the need for shifting the overarching narrative/mindsets of key actors will be absolutely essential in achieving the policy, financial, practice and communications reform that are outlined below:

4.1 Policy Reform

a) *Integrated Food System Approaches* - **Governments should take an integrated approach to food and agricultural policy, with sustainable healthy diets a key element of these.** A siloed approach to policy making across many national governments results in disjointed and fragmented policies, which don't tackle root opportunities (key determinants) for sustainable and dietary healthy solutions. Traditional jurisdictional responsibilities between agriculture, water, health, trade, international development, employment, education, and social welfare (protection) departments are significant barriers.

b) *Food Based Dietary Guidelines with teeth* – **All countries should adopt FBDGs, taking into account cultural and geographical differences, to ensure health, nutrition and sustainability criteria are included in their development.** Governments must align procurement, investment, educational and agricultural strategies with their FBDGs.

c) *Marketing and labelling* – **Governments should apply advertising restrictions in foods high in saturated fats, salts and sugars, particularly targeted at children and food labelling should include nutritional information,** to include environmental and social aspects. Mandatory front-of-pack labelling and establishing nutrient profiles would help drive consumers' choices towards healthier and sustainable options.

d) *Agricultural Reform* – **Agricultural subsidies must incentivise the production of sustainable, healthy and nutritious foods,** with a shift from subsidies which encourage the production of more of all foods to the use of subsidies based on public money for public goods(healthy and sustainable foods). This would include subsidy systems that supported more diversified cropping systems, supporting Indigenous crops that are locally resilient, nutritious and which have the potential to deliver more financial, social and environmental value to smallholder farmers.

e) *International Trade* – **There is a need to assess and take into account the health, sustainability, animal welfare and nutritional quality of foods within international trade agreements, domestic subsidies and trade policies.** Prioritizing health over short-term economic gain can lead to greater economic gains in the long term. Policy instruments that reduce the price of nutrient-rich foods can particularly benefit the poorest citizens.

f) Supporting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and informal food sectors – **Governments need to focus more attention on supporting the role of informal markets and SMEs**, particularly in LMICs who still supply the majority of foods to households within these countries. The biggest barriers to investing in short supply chains include access to credit/finance, government regulations that promote the right enabling environment and technical help to develop new propositions that would attract investment.

4.2 Financial Reform

a) Health Focused Approach to True Cost Accounting (TCA) – **There is a need to promote TCA frameworks with a greater focus on health.** Health Policy is a route to policy change across sustainability. There is an opportunity to focus work on exploring the true cost of healthcare linked to sustainable and healthy diets. Working with one or two countries demonstrating leadership on this agenda (North with a focus on dietary shift and South on agricultural shift) looking at the country level economics, could provide an opportunity (e.g. Denmark and Kenya were touted as good examples).

b) Adoption of the polluter pays principle – **Governments should implement a “polluter pays” principle** so that the true costs of food production, including on the environment and public health, are borne by those organisations (e.g. food businesses) that benefit financially.

c) Investing in the ‘Just Transition’²⁵ – **Investors, public and private sector funding bodies and government funding bodies need to be investing in a Just Transition for healthy and sustainable diets.** There is a need to assess the social and cultural exposure to the social impacts of these diets (employment, income, inequality, identity) by pursuing dialogue with key food system actors who would be most impacted (especially smallholder farmers, SME’s, citizens, communities).

d) Addressing affordability and Inequality - **Governmental actors and intergovernmental organizations must help facilitate the affordability of healthy diets for poor households through social protection programmes such as vouchers, cash, school feeding, or food supplement programmes.** Food should be a public good, with households supported by government investing in social infrastructure and safety nets, for the public interest.

e) Economic prosperity for all actors working within the food systems - It is often striking that hunger, obesity and malnutrition are increasingly felt amongst those who produce, distribute, process and retail our food. Many do not receive a Living Wage. **There is a need for stronger government action, investor pressure and private sector practice to ensure fair pay and good working conditions for all those working across the food sector.**

4.3 Practice Reform

a) Addressing Power imbalances – **Focus on practices which address imbalances of power.** Power is dominated by a small number of global agri-food businesses and large investors, with concentration of power focused in the middle of the value chain. There is an opportunity to build the capacity of civil society organisations, farmer groups and those working in the informal sectors within LMICs

b) Collaboration with the health sector – **Food systems actors need to align and collaborate with the health sector.** Health is often a stronger driver of citizen and government decision making than sustainability. Food system actors, including those in environmental and development movements need to work much more closely with health organisations (Doctors, nutritionists, care workers, insurance etc.)

²⁵ See the paper Just Transition hot topic paper for further details

c) Governance – **More focus needs to be given to governance of food systems** - rules and institutions that control/coordinate the way food is produced, processed and distributed, at international, national and local levels. Whilst linked to ‘addressing power imbalances’ there are real opportunities to advocate for clear agricultural and food emissions reduction targets as part of the COP26 process and ensuring the sustainable food systems summit in 2021 prioritizes policy and practices for sustainable and healthy diets. Accountability mechanisms that contribute to fostering citizen participation in national debates on food systems, security and diets based on transparent rules of engagement will be key.

d) Metrics and Measurement - **The need to develop a range of quantifiable and qualitative metrics, appropriate to the needs of scale, geography and culture, which can help us measure progress to sustainable, healthy diets, is crucial.** We need better indicators to demonstrate positive impacts, and more work to align macro level indicator sets to the needs of more regional and local food system stakeholders, to demonstrate the impacts of their interventions.

4.4 Political Communications

a) Narrative/Mindset Shifts – **Actors working across the food system need to work on new narratives to shift the mindsets of key decision makers challenging the current productivism approach to food and farming.** Transformational change will not occur without a shift of narrative and mindsets and a vision for what is possible. This means a shift from narrowly focused policy and business models designed to deliver productivity, to a focus on delivering multiple benefits that are associated with a focus on sustainable and healthy dietary outcomes. Diverse stakeholders across the food system need to be supported to get involved in creating, and acting on, these new visions and narratives, including community and youth leaders, citizen movements and politicians working on the international stage, funders, governments, businesses and farmers.

b) Reconnecting younger generations with food-citizens movements - **We need to reconnect citizens to food through celebrating the cultural diversity of foods** – Supporting events, cooking or growing experiences and other activities which link to the senses, fostering an appreciation of our foods, linked to culture, heritage and diversity.

c) Communicating success/best practice – **Focus on shining a light on success stories, through case studies, communication strategies and through connecting on the ground implementers with decision makers.** Bridging the action – research through communicating success, demonstrating the economic, health and sustainability benefits of these projects with key decision makers.

5.0 Conclusion

The rapid spread of COVID19 around the world is not only a stark reminder of how connected and dependent we are on one another, but also of the deep interconnections that exist between human, ecological, and animal health. We are at a pivotal moment in time to accelerate a paradigm shift towards more sustainable, healthier diets. The evidence of need is strong. There is momentum and a willingness from many actors to work towards this shift. We need to capitalize on this by working across sectors, silos, communities and generations to align around the opportunities, redoubling our efforts to sort our differences to ensure that the forthcoming UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Convention of Biological Diversity and UN Food Systems summits deliver sustainable and healthy diets for all.

AUTHORS

Mark Driscoll

Mark is Founder and Director of [Tasting the Future](#), a not for profit sustainable food systems consultancy. He is a global expert in and a passionate advocate for the need for food systems change. He has over 30 years experience of working with businesses, governments and civil society organisations on solutions that address some of the key social and environmental challenges confronting our global food system. He has developed and led large sustainable food programs with organisations including WWF and Forum for the Future, focusing on policy and practice at the intersection of health, nutrition and sustainability. Mark graduated from Wye College (London University) with a degree in Environmental science. He sits on several advisory boards for business, government and non-profit organisations. He also writes and blogs extensively on issues and trends impacting on the food system. Mark is the author of the Health and Sustainable Diets paper.

INTERVIEWEES

The following experts were interviewed for each of the hot topic papers. Their perspectives helped us better understand the issues, the convergences and divergences, complemented the desktop research, and helped to inform the recommendations. We are extremely grateful for their time and early engagement in this process and benefited from each person's input and insights.

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| 1) Marta Antonelli, Barilla | 2) Sayed Azam-Ali, Crops for the Future |
| 2) Fabrice DeClerk, EAT | 4) Dr EeVon Goh, Crops for the Future |
| 5) Lauren Landis, World Food Programme | 6) Frank Mechielsen, HIVOS |
| 7) Tumaini Mikindo, Partnership for Nutrition, Tanzania | 8) Duncan Williamson, CIWF |
| 9) Janet Ranganathan, World Resources Institute | 10) Vositha Wijenayake, Sri Lanka Slycan Trust |
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REFERENCES

In text

About the Global Alliance for the Future of Food

The [Global Alliance for the Future of Food](#) is a strategic alliance of philanthropic foundations working together and with others to transform global food systems now and for future generations. We believe in the urgency of transforming global food systems, and in the power of working together and with others to effect positive change. Food systems reform requires that we craft new and better solutions at all scales through a systems-level approach and deep collaboration among philanthropy, researchers, grassroots movements, the private sector, farmers and food systems workers, Indigenous Peoples, government, and policymakers.

Our program area on climate aims to reduce GHG concentrations by transforming food systems globally and improving the climate resiliency of food systems. We work with diverse partners and communities to build a collective vision and identify strategic pathways via changes in agricultural and food production practices and the global food system. We recognize the interrelationship between climate change, biodiversity, health, food security, land rights and human rights, and the uneven burden of climate change impacts on low-income countries and vulnerable populations.

About Salzburg Global Seminar

[Salzburg Global Seminar](#) is a non-profit that fosters lasting networks and partnerships for creative, just and sustainable change. It regularly convenes outstanding talent across generations, cultures and sectors to inspire new thinking and action, and to connect local innovators with global resources. They have programs in Finance & Governance, Justice & Security, Planet & Health, Culture & Society, Education & Work, and Media & Voice.

