

10YFP Sustainable Food Systems Programme

5th MAC meeting (teleconference)

Monday, February 13th, 2017
2:30 to 5:30 p.m. CET

Summary report

Summary of main discussion points, outcomes and decisions:

- The MAC **adopted 15 new SFS Programme Partners**, bringing the total number of Partners to 95.
- The MAC **endorsed eight SFS Programme core initiatives**. These core initiatives are now part of the SFS Programme work plan, and they are expected to launch their work as soon as possible and present first activities at the SFS Programme Conference in June 2016.
- The MAC **adopted the guidelines for the technical committee for the evaluation of core initiatives**.
- The MAC **approved ten new affiliated projects** of the SFS Programme.
- The MAC **adopted the SFS Programme M&E framework**. Interested MAC members were invited to come forward as volunteers to support the Coordination Desk in the development of the metadata sheets.
- The process for the 10YFP annual reporting will be more streamlined for the next reporting period, e.g. by making the reporting template more user friendly, with a set of targeted questions.
- The MAC **adopted the SFS Programme communication strategy**, contingent on the inclusion of some wording changes. Interested MAC members were invited to come forward as volunteers to support the Coordination Desk in the development of a communication action plan.
- The **SFS Programme logo** has been **finalized**.
- Following this teleconference, Mr. Mulet will send a call for contributions for the next SFS Programme newsletter issue to all MAC members and Programme Partners.
- The MAC **adopted the SFS Programme resource mobilization strategy**.
- In total, 74 concept notes were submitted to the 10YFP trust Fund call for proposals on the SFS Programme, of which 19 are eligible. Ten organizations will be invited to submit full project proposals by April 10th. In the end, three to five Trust Fund projects will be selected, and approved by the 10YFP Board by May 22nd.
- The Coordination Desk will prepare periodical briefs regarding potential funding opportunities and share them with the MAC.
- The Coordination Desk will elaborate a draft information document targeted at potential donors, to be shared for consultation with the MAC by the end of March.
- The **1st Global Conference of the SFS Programme** will take place on **June 21st-23rd, 2017**, in Pretoria, **South Africa**. It will be organized back to back with the **next face-to-face MAC meeting**, which will take place on **June 20th-21st**. MAC members are invited to assess their ability to contribute financially to the organization of the conference, and communicate it to the Coordination Desk.

1. Introduction

1.1 Welcome

Mr. Alwin Kopše, *Head, International Affairs, Sustainable Development and Food Systems Unit, Federal Office for Agriculture (Switzerland)*, welcomed all participants to the 5th SFS Programme MAC meeting. After summarizing the most important outcomes and decisions of the 4th MAC meeting, which took place in October 2016, he explained that the main objectives for this meeting would be to endorse the first set of core initiatives of the SFS Programme and approve additional affiliated projects; adopt the SFS Programme monitoring and evaluation framework, the resource mobilization strategy and the communication strategy; and present a status update on the preparations for the 1st Global Conference of the SFS Programme.

1.2 Adoption of summary report of 4th MAC meeting (teleconference)

Before going into the content of the 5th MAC meeting, Mr. Kopše presented the summary report of the 4th MAC meeting (teleconference of October 10th, 2016). As there were no further comments by the MAC members, he declared the summary report as adopted.

2. Issues related to governance and membership

2.1 Update regarding Programme Partners

Mr. Kopše invited Ms. Dominique Faes, *Policy Advisor, Federal Office for Agriculture (Switzerland)*, to provide an update on the current status of Programme Partners. Ms. Faes reminded the MAC that the SFS Programme currently has 80 Programme Partners and that the Coordination Desk is receiving and evaluating new partner applications on an ongoing basis. Since the last MAC meeting, 15 organizations have been positively evaluated by the Coordination Desk, over two thirds of which are based in Africa and Asia. As there were no objections from the MAC, these organizations were adopted, bringing the total number of SFS Programme Partners to 95.

Before moving to the next agenda item, Mr. Kopše informed that in the case of the Netherlands, the focal point for the SFS Programme has been transferred from the Environment Ministry to the Ministry for Economic Affairs, and he welcomed Mr. Willem Schoustra from that Ministry to the 10YFP Sustainable Food Systems Programme.

3. Issues related to programme implementation

3.1 Issues related to Programme management

3.1.1 Status of core initiatives

Mr. Kopše reminded the MAC of the process for the development of core initiatives that was put in place following the Rome face-to-face MAC meeting, including the Kick-off workshop for core initiatives held in October 2016 in Paris, and the establishment of a technical committee for the evaluation of core initiatives. Furthermore, he informed the MAC that the current members of the technical committee are: Roberto Azofeifa (Costa Rica), Sandro Dernini (FAO), Elise Golan (USDA), Aimée Hampel (German Development Institute), James Lomax (UN Environment) and Urs Schenker (Nestlé).

Mr. Kopše invited Mr. Patrick Mink, *Policy Advisor, Federal Office for Agriculture (Switzerland)*, to present an overview of the submitted proposals for core initiatives. Mr. Mink briefly presented the eight proposed core initiatives, including their respective lead organizations and the number of other MAC members as well as further partners involved, their link to the SFS Programme focus themes and their main activities and scope.

After this overview, Mr. Kopše invited Ms. Aimée Hampel, *Senior Researcher, German Development Institute (GDI)*, to present the recommendation of the technical committee. Ms. Hampel explained that the committee had a first call in December, to discuss the guidelines for the technical committee for the evaluation of core initiatives. Subsequently, as a first step, the members of the committee evaluated all eight proposals individually, except for those proposals where they were involved themselves, to avoid potential conflict of interest. In a second step, the committee held another call in January to discuss and agree on their joint recommendation to the MAC. During this discussion, the committee also addressed some technical issues raised with regard to certain projects; the corresponding comments – which are summarized in the document ‘Recommendation of the technical committee for the evaluation of core initiatives’ – were subsequently forwarded to the project leads, and have been integrated in a satisfactory manner in the proposals that were shared with the MAC. Finally, Ms. Hampel explained that the committee found that all eight proposals meet the technical quality standard according to the criteria for evaluation agreed by the MAC, and the recommendation of the technical committee to the MAC therefore was to endorse them as core initiatives of the SFS Programme.

Before opening the floor for discussion, Mr. Kopše thanked and congratulated Ms. Hampel and all members of the technical committee, both for their work on the evaluation criteria as well as on the evaluation of core initiative proposals. A discussion took place regarding the importance to identify and foster synergies between the different core initiatives. In this regard, it was suggested that the monitoring and evaluation framework may be used as a tool to keep each other informed about the activities in the different core initiatives, and that the MAC members involved in the core initiatives have a role to play in informing and liaising with other project leads. The Co-Leads may look into further ways to strengthen synergies between the SFS Programme core initiatives.

As there were no further comments by the MAC members regarding the proposed core initiatives, Mr. Kopše declared the eight core initiatives as endorsed.¹ He reminded the MAC that these core initiatives are now part of the SFS Programme work plan, and that they will be expected to launch their work as soon as possible and present first activities at the SFS Programme Conference in June. In addition, he reminded the MAC that several of these core initiatives are open for further partners to engage, and that potentially interested members should get in touch directly with the project leads.

3.1.2 Draft guidelines for the technical committee for the evaluation of core initiatives

Mr. Kopše reminded the MAC that in principle it is possible to develop and submit further core initiative proposals for the MAC’s consideration at any time. In this context, he explained that the Coordination Desk, together with the technical committee, drafted some basic terms of reference for the technical committee to be followed in future rounds of evaluation and endorsement of core initiatives, which are based on the process and experience of this first round. He invited Mr. Mink to briefly present the draft guidelines.

Mr. Mink presented the draft guidelines, highlighting in particular the decision making process of the technical committee as well as the conflict of interest clause. He also reminded the MAC that the need for such guidelines arose from the fact that this will be a continuing committee, with a round of evaluation and endorsements before each MAC meeting unless there are no new proposals for core initiatives that have been submitted.

Following this explanation, Mr. Kopše recommended that the MAC adopts the draft guidelines. As there were no objections by the MAC, he declared the guidelines for the technical committee as adopted.²

3.1.3 Status of affiliated projects

Mr. Mink informed the MAC that since the last MAC meeting, several new applications for affiliated projects have been received, and he invited Ms. Faes to provide an update on the current status of affiliated projects. Ms. Faes informed that sixteen new proposals for affiliated projects were submitted, and that twelve of them, which have been positively evaluated by the Coordination Desk, are

¹ An overview of the endorsed core initiatives is contained in *Appendix 1*.

² The guidelines for the technical committee for the evaluation of core initiatives are contained in *Appendix 2*.

recommended for approval. After presenting a brief overview of the twelve recommended proposals, Ms. Faes asked whether any of the MAC members had any major concerns regarding these proposed affiliated projects.

In the subsequent discussion, some MAC members raised concerns regarding two of the project proposals.³ It was argued that based on the short descriptions, it seemed that these projects are highly political and formulated as critiques rather than constructive proposals to make food systems more sustainable. It was therefore agreed that the Coordination Desk will share the full project templates of the two proposals with the MAC for a more thorough examination, and that this issue will be dealt with electronically.⁴

As there were no additional comments by the MAC members regarding the remaining project proposals, Mr. Mink declared that these ten proposals are approved as affiliated projects under the SFS Programme.⁵

A short discussion took place on what kind of projects/activities should fall under the notion of affiliated projects, e.g. whether a publication would meet the criteria to become an affiliated project. In this regard, Mr. Mink reminded the MAC of the criteria for affiliated projects as contained in the project template. The Co-Leads will address the potential need for further clarification on this issue separately, and get back to the MAC if deemed necessary.

3.1.4 SFS Programme monitoring and evaluation framework

Mr. Michael Mulet, *International Program Officer Food & Agriculture, WWF-France*, presented the draft SFS Programme M&E framework document. He provided a summary of how it was developed and briefly presented its main elements, highlighting that the SFS Programme M&E framework is in line with the 10YFP M&E framework, which will facilitate the annual reporting process. In this context, he explained that next year, the SFS Programme M&E framework will be used for the annual reporting exercise. He also clarified that the metadata sheets for the reporting on the SFS Programme will still need to be developed, and explained that this process is scheduled to take place before the next MAC meeting in June.

In the ensuing discussion, one MAC member pointed out that while the SFS Programme indicators were mostly quantitative, it would nevertheless be important to allow for reporting on more qualitative outcomes of the SFS Programme, e.g. changes in behavior of different food system actors, etc. Mr. Mulet explained that in some of the current indicators, such as the indicator on communication and outreach, there is space to include some elements of this kind. A further question was raised with regard to the difficulty of establishing baselines; here, Mr. Mulet clarified that the metadata sheets that are to be developed, will contain more detailed information including guidelines on how to establish baselines.

As there were no additional comments by the MAC members, Mr. Mulet declared the SFS Programme M&E framework as adopted.⁶

In addition, Mr. Mulet invited interested MAC members to come forward as volunteers to support the Coordination Desk in the development of the metadata sheets. Hivos and the Global Nature Fund expressed their interest, in principle, and other were requested to do so by February 15th, or as soon as possible thereafter.

³ Proposals “Transformative Social Innovation through food sovereignty” and “Food self-provisioning – the role of non-market exchanges in sustainable food supply”, both submitted by Environmental Social Science Research Group (ESSRG).

⁴ The Coordination Desk subsequently shared the two proposals in question with the MAC on February 14th, and based on the written feedback it was decided not to adopt them as affiliated projects.

⁵ An overview of the adopted affiliated projects is contained in *Appendix 3*. Nine proposals will be displayed as affiliated projects in the “initiatives” section on the SFS Programme website of the SCP Clearinghouse, whereas the publication „Wholesome Nutrition: an example for a sustainable diet” will be displayed under the “resources” section, as its development has already been finalized and it is no longer in its project/activity phase.

⁶ The SFS Programme monitoring and evaluation framework is contained in *Appendix 4*.

3.1.5 10YFP Annual reporting

Mr. Mulet provided an update on the currently ongoing 10YFP annual reporting process. While emphasizing that this is a pilot round for the 10YFP and all its Programmes, he recognized that the timeframe set by the 10YFP Secretariat to complete the exercise this year was very ambitious. He explained that the aim is to make the process much more streamlined for the next reporting period, e.g. by converting the complicated Excel reporting template into something more user friendly, with a set of targeted questions that can be easily answered by Programme members.

3.2 Issues related to communication

3.2.1 Communication strategy

Mr. Mulet presented the final draft communication strategy. He provided a summary of how it was developed and briefly presented its main elements. In addition, he explained that the Co-Leads propose that a “communication action plan” for the implementation of the communication strategy be developed, following this teleconference and before the next MAC meeting in June. He invited interested MAC members to come forward as volunteers to support the Coordination Desk in the development of this communication action plan, by 15 February or as soon as possible thereafter.

One MAC member requested some wording changes in the sections “Objectives of the SFS Communication Strategy” and “Core Elements to Consider in Messaging” (reference to food *losses* in addition to waste; *malnourished* instead of *undernourished*; reference to UNSCN; reference to the SFS Programme Work Areas, etc.). Mr. Mulet declared the communication strategy as adopted, contingent on the inclusion of these changes.⁷

In this context, it was also suggested that there may be a need to reassess the role of the Work Area groups. The Co-Leads will discuss this issue and get back to the MAC, as appropriate.

3.2.2 Update on other ongoing work in relation to communication

The SFS Programme logo has been finalized. Following this teleconference, Mr. Mulet will send a call for contributions for the next SFS Programme newsletter issue to all MAC members and Programme Partners. In addition, following this teleconference, the Coordination Desk will start working on a set of standard slides that can be used for presentations on the SFS Programme, and a communication document targeted specifically at donors. In addition, the SFS Programme brochure will be updated.⁸

3.3 Issues related to resource mobilization

3.3.1 Resource mobilization strategy

Mr. Frank Mechielsen, *Senior Advocacy Officer Food, Hivos*, invited Mr. Nout van der Vaart, *Advocacy Officer Sustainable Food, Hivos*, to present the latest version of the resource mobilization strategy. Mr. van der Vaart introduced the document, highlighting in particular what has changed since the resource mobilization strategy was discussed at the last MAC teleconference in October 2016. He highlighted that the strategy is a living document that can be further improved in the future, and explained that since the last MAC meeting, the document was particularly complemented with information on the different kind of roles the various Programme actors can play with regard to resource mobilization.

As there were no additional comments by the MAC members, Mr. Mechielsen declared the resource mobilization strategy as adopted.⁹

⁷ A final version of the communication strategy document including the suggested wording changes, was shared with the MAC following the teleconference. This adopted SFS Programme communication strategy is contained in *Appendix 5*.

⁸ This information section was included after the MAC teleconference, as it was not possible to cover this agenda item during the call.

⁹ The adopted SFS Programme resource mobilization strategy is contained in *Appendix 6*.

3.3.2 10YFP Trust Fund call for proposals

Mr. Mechielsen invited Mr. Mink to provide an update on the status of the first 10YFP Trust Fund call for proposals on the SFS Programme.

Mr. Mink explained that the deadline for the submission of concept notes was on Sunday, January 22nd. Subsequently, the 10YFP Secretariat carried out an eligibility check on all submitted concept notes. In total, 74 concept notes were submitted, of which 19 are eligible. All the other concept notes were submitted either by organizations that were not members of the SFS Programme at the time the call was open, or by members of the SFS Programme that are not eligible because they are for-profit.

A small Technical Review Committee (TRC), composed of a couple of representatives of MAC members that are not eligible to participate in any 10YFP call for proposals, is currently evaluating the eligible concept notes, until February 27th, and subsequently ten organizations will be invited to submit full project proposals by April 10th. The TRC will then evaluate the full project proposals and propose to the 10YFP Board three to five project proposals for selection. The Board will approve the selected 10YFP Trust Fund projects by May 22nd. The selected 10YFP Trust Fund projects will be announced at the 1st Global Conference of the 10YFP Sustainable Food Systems Programme in South Africa.

3.3.3 Update on other ongoing work in relation to resource mobilization

Mr. van der Vaart informed the MAC that as the SCP Clearinghouse website is not fully functional yet, he will prepare periodical briefs regarding potential funding opportunities and share them with the MAC. The MAC members confirmed that they find such briefs useful, whereupon Mr. van der Vaart invited them to send any information on relevant funding opportunities to him on an ongoing basis, for inclusion in the briefs.

In addition, Mr. van der Vaart informed that the Coordination Desk will elaborate a draft information document targeted at potential donors, to be shared for consultation with the MAC by the end of March.

Furthermore, Mr. van der Vaart made the MAC aware of the SWITCH-Asia and SWITCH-Africa calls for proposals, highlighting in particular that these calls have a special 10YFP requirement. Proposals could be stronger if different SFS Programme members apply jointly. Mr. Mechielsen suggested to the MAC members to refer to the SFS Programme in case they apply to these calls, and to keep each other informed.

In the course of the discussions, one MAC member further suggested that the methodology of so-called “shark-tank events” may be useful to present and test project ideas, including with potential donors, and that this approach may also be interesting for the South Africa conference.

3.4 Next face-to-face MAC meeting and partner conference

Mr. Mechielsen invited Mr. Solly Molepo, *Deputy Director Agro-Processing, Department of Trade and Industry (South Africa)*, to provide an update on the status of the preparations for the 1st Global SFS Programme Conference in Pretoria, South Africa, and to present the final draft agenda and information note for the conference.

Mr. Molepo informed the MAC that the organizing committee (Co-Leads plus FAO, UN Environment, Costa Rica and USDA) has finalized the draft agenda and the information note for the conference. He reminded the MAC that the “partner meeting” will take place on June 21st-23rd, 2017, in Pretoria, South Africa. It will be organized back to back with the next face-to-face MAC meeting, which will take place on June 20th-21st. Rather than calling it a workshop, it has been decided in the meantime that the event should be referred to as the 1st *Global Conference* of the SFS Programme, in order to raise the profile of this important meeting.

The theme of the conference is “Sustainable Food Systems for all – Catalyzing Change through Multi-Stakeholder Action”. With the purpose of building new partnerships and creating synergies among stakeholders to accelerate the shift towards more sustainable food systems, the objectives of the conference are to: (i) offer a dialogue platform to share experiences and exchange ideas; (ii) encourage participants to transition into a crafting and decision-making mode, by proposing concrete collective actions and initiatives, and highlighting relevant tools, approaches and good practices; (iii) underline the importance of a multi-stakeholder, systems-based approach to make food systems more sustainable; and (iv) lay the foundations to kick-off cooperation on collective actions and initiatives to address the critical challenges in food systems and accelerate the shift to sustainability.

The conference will include a high-level segment on the first day, where it is planned that up to about 20 high-level representatives, primarily from MAC members and Co-Lead organizations, will be deliberating about innovative multi-stakeholder approaches to tackle food systems challenges, and discussing the need of ensuring sustainable food systems in the face of a changing climate and growing urbanization in the African context. All the other participants will be able to follow these deliberations as observers. Days two and three will then focus on open, interactive discussions in the context of the focus themes of the SFS Programme, aiming at identifying multi-stakeholder opportunities and areas for future work, including regional priorities in the African context. In addition, the Conference will be an opportunity to announce the selected 10YFP Trust Fund projects of the SFS Programme, and to present core initiatives and affiliated projects of the SFS Programme, including to potential donors.

Mr. Molepo further informed the MAC that South Africa will soon be sending out the invitations for high-level representatives – presumably before the end of February, and that the invitations for general participants will be sent as soon as possible thereafter. The aim is to have a total of about 150 participants, including from MAC members, Co-Leads and Programme Partner organizations, as well as other relevant actors including possible new partners and potential donors. In this context, Mr. Molepo invited the MAC members to send their suggestions and contacts of organizations that could be invited to the Conference, in addition to those that are already members of the SFS Programme, to Ms. Faes and Mr. Mink. Mr. Molepo furthermore explained that there is a need to raise further funds to cover the different conference costs, including in particular the dinner for high level representatives as well as the dinner for all participants. In this context, Mr. Mechielsen invited all MAC members to assess their ability to contribute financially to the organization of the conference, and communicate it to the Coordination Desk.

In the ensuing discussion, it was highlighted that it could be strategic to invite high-level representatives from German ministries, as Germany currently holds the G-20 presidency. In addition, it was suggested that it could be interesting to prepare and exhibit posters of the eight core initiatives.

4. Other business

As there were no additional comments by the MAC members, Mr. Mechielsen thanked everyone for their participation in the teleconference and closed the meeting.

Appendix 1: Overview of endorsed core initiatives

1. Sustainable diets in the context of sustainable food systems	
Lead organizations:	FAO and UN Environment
Brief description:	<p>There is an increasing interest for the emerging notion of sustainable diets which are still debated within the context of the shift towards more sustainable food systems, simultaneously addressing sustainability, food security and nutrition by linking consumption and production with food and nutrient requirements. The project will serve to make progress in better understand the relations between sustainable diets and sustainable food systems, in both developed and developing countries. It will take account of the four dimensions of the sustainable diets: health and nutrition, environment including biodiversity, economy and socio-cultural factors. By taking into consideration the multi-dimensional nature of diets and food systems, the project will rely on multi-and trans-disciplinary approach within a multistakeholder environment. The project will take into account current knowledge collection and will be developed on a solid scientific and policy knowledge base, with particular regards to the rural-urban interface, small holders, indigenous people, gender and social inclusion issues. Its purpose is to promote effective and reliable scientific communication, in order to advance the existing knowledge-sharing tools and mechanisms for improving the sustainability of current diets while improving <i>sustainable food systems to better deliver food security and nutrition for all in such a way that the economic, social and environmental bases to generate food security and nutrition for future generations are not compromised (HLPE, 2014)</i>. The project will confront different perspectives and methodologies to assess the sustainability of diets in both developed and developing countries and will provide relevant case studies. Main trends and drivers will be identified and highlighted. The project will allow the dissemination and promotion of results through a wide range of seminar, workshops, conferences, regional and international presentations. It will build more capacity and increase awareness on the impact of sustainable diets in the context of the implementation of the UN international agenda on sustainable food systems and healthy diets of the Decade of Action on Nutrition, by developing effective communication and advocacy activities to deliver meaningful and reliable information.</p>

2. Sustainable and healthy gastronomy as a key driver for sustainable food systems	
Lead organizations:	Ministry of Agriculture Costa Rica, HIVOS, IFOAM, Smaackmakers, CACORE and INBio
Brief description:	<p>Much of the agri-food diversity in the global tropics has disappeared from production systems due to consumption patterns changing. This is partially because of lack information and knowledge about its nutritional characteristics, the adoption of unsustainable (western-type) diet and the specialization of monocrop agriculture based on agrochemicals. To reverse this undesirable situation, gastronomy plays an important role in linking production to consumption. This project aims to stimulate a sustainable gastronomy sector as a way to promotes sustainable diets, including the high variety of native products in local cuisine, enhance sustainable consumption and production, and revitalize the high variety of food. The goal is to initiate the new, healthy and sustainable country's cuisine as a driver of agriculture</p>

	development and strengthening production opportunities for diversified family farming systems, and by doing so, influence the global debate about sustainable diets. Furthermore, the project will: generate solutions to the problem of food biodiversity loss due to the disappearance of endemic, native and criollo high nutritional value of regional cuisine edible plants; stimulate the consumption of sustainable plant based diets; address soil conservation, sustainable farming, the use of seasonal food species, efficient distribution, and reducing food losses. The pilot phase will be focussed on Costa Rica. In a later stage the project will be unrolled in other countries.
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3. Sustainability along all value chains: identifying and promoting local initiatives linking small-scale producers and consumers	
Lead organization:	FAO
Brief description:	Sustainable Food Systems hold the possibility of reorganizing relationships between producers. The purpose of this Core Initiative is to map, through multi-actor participatory approaches, the markets that contribute to creating sustainable food systems and to develop nutrition sensitive value chain approaches at the country level. Specifically, we will focus on innovative markets for sustainable agricultural products through the cross-fertilization of ideas across all world regions. Working from the premise that a diversity of strategies leads to more resilient systems, we will explore the variety of value chains (short and global) and institutional innovations (such as voluntary standards and Participatory Guarantee Systems) that can act as incentives for the adoption of sustainable agriculture practices. The approach expands the VC concept to look at synergies with other markets for inputs, services (finance, certification, laboratory testing) and farmer advice, so to better capture system dynamics. The specific objectives are to: 1) Develop a participatory methodology to map and analyze existing initiatives, in developing and developed countries; 2) Gather and share knowledge and experiences through workshops and develop guidance materials on how to implement these innovations; 3) Provide policy support to public, private and civic actors who want to support these types of approaches.

4. Complementing existing value chain sustainability assessments: Measuring, communicating-, and valuing biodiversity in food systems	
Lead organization:	Nestlé
Brief description:	Biodiversity loss is one of the principal global challenges in pursuit of the sustainable development goals, in particular SDG 14 & 15. Food systems, and in particular agricultural production and fishing, are key drivers for terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity loss. Addressing this challenge requires sound metric systems to monitor ongoing loss of biodiversity and success of conservation measures. Yet there is currently no consensus on generally accepted, reliable, and actionable biodiversity assessment methods. Such methods (or system of methods) should be used alongside more established environmental indicators, for instance for greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, communicating on biodiversity is more

	<p>challenging due to its intrinsic complexity and the lack of common units, such as CO₂-eq for carbon footprint. Furthermore, biodiversity needs to be assessed across multiple levels to yield meaningful results – this includes the landscape level for which current tools and methods are insufficient or lack compatibility. This core initiative aims to improve measures, standards, and valuation methods for agricultural, fishery and wild biodiversity as well as identify how these can be adapted to measure impacts at the landscape level. Furthermore the initiative aims to motivate companies, developers of standards and other actors to use those tools and methods in order to increase the biodiversity performance of the food sector.</p>
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5. Delivering SDG Target 12.3 on Food Loss and Waste Reduction	
Lead organizations:	UN Environment (Sustainable Rice Platform – SRP) and FAO ⁹
Brief description:	<p>Food loss and waste is a major global issue and is now addressed under SDG Target 12.3 - “to halve the per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses and waste (FLW) along production and supply chains including post-harvest losses.” Some countries have initiated processes that target FLW measurement for prevention, reduction and management and need support and advice on how this can be done, other countries need encouragement to begin measuring their baseline.</p> <p>This project proposal seeks to take stock of the current state of knowledge and on-going methodological activities, share approaches and promote harmonization of FLW measurement around SDG 12.3. UN Environment and FAO, together with collaborating and facilitating organizations, will strengthen tools developed, address knowledge gaps, develop capacities and promote awareness and advocacy to stem the problem.</p>

6. Setting the Table for our Children – exploring the path to more sustainable food systems through multi-stakeholder action	
Lead organizations:	Hivos, Biovision, UN Environment
Brief description:	<p>Food systems need to function within the context of a finite and shrinking resource base; they need to deliver increasing productivity where needed while utilizing natural resources in a sustainable manner, conserving ecosystems and providing healthy, affordable and diverse food to all people. Our paradigm of growth needs to broaden its boundaries beyond primary production, to include efficiencies along supply chains and the promotion of sustainable practices and diets. More explicitly, food systems will need to function within the context of challenges posed by exhaustible fresh water reserves and a growing demand for energy. Therefore a transition to more sustainable food systems will need be achieved through a mix of policy levers, methodologies, tools and standards as well as leadership and collaborative activities across the food system by public, private and civil society actors, such as local and national governments, private companies, NGOs, research institutes, international organizations and the donor community.</p> <p>However collaboration across the food system is rare with silo-thinking predominant</p>

	<p>within the public sector, private sector and civil society. Collaboration between policy makers from key food system ministries like agriculture, environment and health is very weak. This at a time in which more integrated policy making and goal setting will be key to achieve the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and in particular the lack of sustainability of our food systems. To get to integrated policy making around food systems and to break silos effectively, systems thinking will need to be put center stage in policy planning processes. Food systems are very wide-ranging and fulfill multiple, sometimes conflicting, objectives.</p> <p>There exists no one model of a sustainable food system. Approaches to accelerating the shift towards more sustainable food systems should evolve from the particular contextual conditions of the food system under investigation. Therefore this project aims at creating methodologies, processes and metrics that enable stakeholders and policymakers to balance multiple impacts, opportunities and interests, forging a coherent, consensual approach where sustainable food systems can develop and thrive. In parallel, learning and knowledge exchange on food systems is encouraged through the development of a global community of practice. Through the practical convening of multistakeholder platforms on a local and national level, evidence on integrating systems thinking in food policy planning processes to achieve more inclusive and sustainable food systems is being generated; and through the facilitation of trainings and workshops, stakeholders' capacity on systems thinking and inclusive food policy planning is being built.</p>
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7. Sustainable Food Systems – what's in it for farmers?	
Lead organizations:	FAO, UN Environment (Sustainable Rice Platform – SRP), Biovision
Brief description:	<p>Farmers face barriers towards adopting SFS or sustainable agricultural practices. Without incentives, farmers are often limited in their ability to overcome these short- and long-term adoption barriers. Incentives can be provided across a wide spectrum, ranging from those that are policy-driven to voluntary investments to reward for good environmental practice and support sustainable production. Multiple incentives to support the adoption of SFS practices (increasing climate change resilience of producers and, ultimately, for providing provision of ecosystem services for the whole society and also increasing climate change resilience of producers) can be provided by both public programmes and private sector investment in a coordinated package of actions. There is therefore a need to gain a better understanding of these barriers faced by farmers to adopt sustainable farming practices and how an enabling environment (integrating public and private co-financing of socio-economic incentives to overcome the barriers) can support their short- and long-term adoption to improve productivity, conservation outcomes, food and livelihood security. This will be done through: 1) identifying and analysing the barriers farmers face (towards adoption of sustainable production practices), 2) identifying the different types and combination of incentives that are needed to support farmers to overcome these barriers mapping of <i>existing</i> incentives provided by public programmes, civil society initiatives and private sector investments, 3) analysing how an enabling environment can be fostered (political/public sector, private sector involvement, role of civil society, consumers) to better coordinate existing sectors and incentives to provide a package of measures to support farmers overcome adoption barriers and develop policy recommendations to support the implementation of such an enabling environment,</p>

	4) developing an overview of how the impact of such incentives on SFS can be measured and assessed, and 5) validating our results/assumptions through a set of pre-selected case studies elaborating on key messages from a final overview of the above to facilitate the integration of these findings in policies and programmes in countries with an interest and a suitable degree of readiness to work in this integrated way.
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8. The Organic Food System Program (OFSP): Organic food systems as models and living laboratories for transformation processes towards sustainable food systems	
Lead organizations:	FQH (SFSP partner), Beras (SFSP partner), IFOAM – Organics international (SFSP MAC member)
Brief description:	<p>The Organic Food System Program (OFSP) is conceived as a holistic global food system approach to production and consumption patterns. The scope is to identify, understand and describe transformation processes towards sustainable food systems and make lessons learned available in a globally systematized and contextually-applicable way. OFSP engages a full spectrum of stakeholders and links them to each other through their common interests and respective activities.</p> <p>Decades of real experience in production and processing provide empirical data and indications of the strengths, weaknesses, and improvement potentials of organic value chains. Organic food systems provide a set of unique experiences to learn from as they consist of well-defined principles and practice, as well as regulations and certifications, in different environments as well as providing abundant sets of data for modeling and testing in different geoclimatic and socio-economic regions around the world. Furthermore, the organic sector is actively evolving into manifestly encompassing a full spectrum of sustainability issues, beyond what is sometimes seen as a limited scope focused on certification requirements. OFSP will use the organic food systems as models, grounded in real-world examples, to understand drivers, barriers and diffusion of innovation of sustainable food consumption and production.</p>

Appendix 2: Guidelines for the technical committee to support the process for the evaluation and endorsement of SFS Programme core initiatives

Background

At its third meeting (Rome, June 7th to 9th, 2016), the MAC agreed that project proposals for core initiatives have to be endorsed by the MAC. Furthermore, the project template for the submission of core initiatives, which was discussed at the fourth MAC meeting (teleconference, October 10th, 2016), stipulates that proposals will be technically evaluated and endorsed by the MAC.

In November 2016, the MAC agreed on a process for the evaluation and endorsement of SFS Programme core initiatives¹⁰ as well as a set of technical evaluation criteria¹¹. In accordance with this process, a small committee was established to carry out a first technical evaluation of submitted proposals according to the above-mentioned criteria, and make a recommendation to the MAC (hereafter ‘technical committee’).

The members of the technical committee commit to remain in the committee for one year, and will rotate thereafter.

Composition of the technical committee

The technical committee consists of representatives of one up to two MAC members per stakeholder cluster. However, these representatives act in their personal capacity.

Task

In a first step, each member of the technical committee individually assigns scores to the various submitted proposals for core initiatives, according to the evaluation criteria. For each project proposal, a separate evaluation sheet has to be filled in.

In principle, for a proposal to be recommended to the MAC for endorsement, all basic criteria should be met. Cases where members of the technical committee provided a negative answer, will be discussed during a joint call of the technical committee.

In addition, for a proposal to be recommended to the MAC, its average total score under the technical criteria should be 60 or higher. If all members have assigned more than 60 points to a given proposal, it will be recommended to the MAC without further discussion. Cases where members of the committee have assigned less than 60 points, will be discussed during a joint call of the technical committee. Whenever possible, the committee will seek consensus for its final decision in such cases. If consensus cannot be reached, the technical committee will decide by a simple majority, with the possibility to include dissenting opinions in the final recommendation to the MAC.

Conflict of interest

Members of the technical committee cannot evaluate any proposals submitted by and/or developed in collaboration with their own organization, or any proposals they are otherwise involved in, be it in a personal or professional capacity.

¹⁰ Annex 2 “Proposed process for the evaluation and endorsement of core initiatives”

¹¹ Annex 1 „Criteria for the evaluation of project proposals for core initiatives”

Annex 1: Criteria for the evaluation of project proposals for core initiatives

Basic criteria

1.1. Does the project contribute to the achievement of the goal of the SFS Programme?	yes/no
1.2. Does the proposed project fall under the focus themes of the SFS Programme, cut across at least two of the programme's work areas, and is it in line with the Programme's priority activities?	yes/no
1.3. Will the proposed project be implemented jointly by a group of two or more SFS Programme actors?	yes/no
1.4. Does the project address a core problem related to sustainable food systems, and does it link several elements of food systems from production to consumption?	yes/no
1.5. Does the project have levers of change: the potential to be a game changer (have the potential for scale)?	yes/no
1.6. Is the project of relevance to both developed and developing countries and does it address several national or regional contexts (or have the potential to be transferred to other national or regional contexts)?	yes/no
1.8. Does the project develop and/or disseminate innovative solutions through multi-stakeholder collaborations?	yes/no
1.9. Does the project build upon existing experience and/or start-up (co-)funding from the group of organizations developing the proposal?	yes/no

Technical criteria

Technical Criteria	Scores
1. Relevance of the project	(1-8 points per criteria, with 8 being the highest)
1.1. Are the overall project objectives and expected outcomes clear, relevant, innovative and clearly defined?	
1.2. Is the project relevant to the 10YFP SFS Programme objectives and to the specific focus of this call for proposals?	
1.3. Is the project relevant to recognized national and regional identified needs and priorities, and does it contribute to the achievement of the SDGs?	
2. Effectiveness and consistency of proposed outputs and activities	(1-8 points per criteria, with 8 being the highest)
2.1. Are the proposed activities and methods of implementation clear, coherent and adequate for achieving the project goals and the expected results and outcomes?	
2.2. Are the targeted area(s) of intervention and scope relevant and realistic?	
2.3. Are the direct (and indirect) beneficiaries well identified?	
3. Operational, financial and management capacity	(1-11 points per criteria, with 11 being the highest)
3.1. Does the lead organization have sufficient project management experience? Does the implementing agency's (applicant or executing agency) track record match the scale and nature of the proposed project?	
3.2. Is the proposed requested budget (including co-financing) realistic and feasible?	
4. Sustainability and replicability	(1-15 points, with 15 being the highest)
4.1. Does the project have the potential to be scaled up and/or replicated over time and be implemented elsewhere?	
5. Partnerships	(1-15 points, with 15 being the highest)
5.1. Has the project proposal been developed in coordination with various and well defined partners committed to engage action in the project implementation?	
Total Score	(lowest: 10; highest:100)

Annex 2: Proposed process for the evaluation and endorsement of core initiatives

At its third meeting (Rome, June 7th to 9th, 2016), the MAC agreed that project proposals for core initiatives have to be endorsed by the MAC. Furthermore, the project template for the submission of core initiatives, which was discussed at the fourth MAC meeting (teleconference, October 10th, 2016), stipulates that proposals will be technically evaluated and endorsed by the MAC.

Following a discussion with the participants of the Kick-off workshop on core initiatives, which took place in Paris on October 24th to 26th, 2016, the Co-Leads propose the following process for the evaluation and endorsement of core initiatives:

- A small committee, consisting of 1 up to 2 MAC members per stakeholder cluster, will be established to carry out a first technical evaluation of submitted proposals. The committee members commit to remain in the committee for one year, and will rotate thereafter.
- The members of this committee will carry out a first evaluation of the project proposals according to the criteria for core initiatives agreed upon by the MAC at its third meeting, as well as a set of technical criteria that are in line with the evaluation criteria for 10YFP Trust Fund projects (duration: 2-4 weeks).
- The Coordination Desk will consolidate the committee's evaluations and forward their recommendation to the MAC, together with all project proposals for core initiatives (duration: 1 week).
- The MAC members will consider the proposals and recommendation (duration: min. 2 weeks).
- Core initiatives will be discussed and endorsed by the MAC, either during a face-to-face meeting or a teleconference.

The first round of evaluation and endorsement will be carried out according to the below timeline. The deadline for submission of project proposals (using the SFS Programme project template) is Wednesday, December 20th, 2016. The deadline for submission of the evaluation sheets by the members of the technical committee is Thursday, January 19th, 2017.

	NOV 2016	DEC 2016	JAN 2017	FEB 2017
1. Finalization and submission of project proposals				
2. Establishment of a small technical committee for evaluation of the project proposals (1-2 per cluster)				
3. Evaluation of project proposals by technical committee				
4. Recommendation to the MAC				
5. MAC considers project proposals and recommendation				
6. Discussion and formal endorsement by the MAC (teleconference)				

The core initiatives that are endorsed in this first round, are expected to start implementing initial project activities before June 2017, with the aim for them to be able to present concrete activities during the June 2017 SFS Programme partner workshop in South Africa.

Appendix 3: Overview of adopted affiliated projects

“Designing Food Value Chains to Foster the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development” - Summer School and E-learning programm	
Lead organization:	Zurich University of applied Sciences (ZHAW), Institute of Natural Resource Sciences
Brief description:	The ZHAW and FiBL (Research Institute of Organic Agriculture in Switzerland) are offering in 2017, 2018 and 2019 a new Summer School and E-learning programme together with their partners from India and Slovenia. “Designing food value chains to foster the Agenda 2030” is the overall topic of the programme. Under this umbrella an international programme is offered to students worldwide, which contains three phases: Phase 1: E-learning with three modules: “Sustainability and Food Systems”; “Sustainable Food Value Chain Design”; and “UN SDGs and Food Value Chains”. Phase 2: Independent work on a mini case study. Phase 3: Summer School, focusing on one specific SDG each year (2017, Switzerland, ‘Responsible Consumption and Production’/ 2018, India, ‘Zero Hunger’ / 2019, Slovenia, ‘Life on Land’). During the study week, we will address strategies, capabilities and challenges concerning the design of FVCs towards a sustainable food system. Students will be given the opportunity to develop sustainable FVCs and to realize these in a local context. In addition to the full summer school program, the E-learning program is open for anyone interested and accessible via www.gofsummerschool.org starting in February 2017.

New products based on cereals and pseudo cereals from organic farming systems	
Lead organization:	Institute of Food Technology, University of Novi Sad
Brief description:	This project is set up towards emerging strategic direction in the development of agriculture and food production that supports sustainable development is organic farming. The basic aim of the project is to create an assortment of new bakery and confectionery products based on cereals (spelt) and pseudo cereals (amaranth, buckwheat), the grains which are agro technically and economically convenient for cultivation in organic farming. Region of the Province of Vojvodina is especially favorable for their growing. The Institute for Food Technology disposes of all necessary scientific potential for successful realization of the project’s goals which contribute to the development of organic products market. In the frame of genetic divergence research, populations and cultivars of these species are collected and investigated regarding various aspects of quality with emphasize to phytopathology and health safety issues. Part of the research related to the production of new bakery, fine bakery and expanded/extruded products includes process optimization and modelling, selection of adequate natural supplements and improvers tolerable in processing of organic materials aimed at enhancing the nutritional, sensory and functional properties of new products. Basic medicinal research to support and confirm the functional contribution of nutrition enhanced with the products based on alternative cultures will be commenced in parallel directions – using an animal (piglet) and human model (children with disorders in nutritive status). Research activities in the field of organic products marketing and development strategy address details essential to successful development and upgrade of sustainable national organic market.

Towards Food Sustainability: Reshaping the coexistence of different food systems in South America and Africa	
Lead organization:	Centre for Development and Environment, University of Bern
Brief description:	This project focuses on empirical research into the factors that influence food sustainability within and between different food systems coexisting in selected regions of Bolivia and Kenya. The general objective is to provide evidence-based scientific knowledge for the formulation and promotion of innovative strategies and policy options that improve individual and aggregate levels of food systems' sustainability.

Inclusive Business Co-creation Accelerator-Alliance for Agri-Food	
Lead organization:	Inclusive Business Sweden
Brief description:	Inclusive Business Sweden (IBS) runs the Inclusive Business Co-Creation Accelerator (IBCA). Numerous activities have been carried out in 2015-2016 focusing on co-creation between actors in Sweden and in emerging markets. At the same time, Ministry of Water Resources (Nigeria) is implementing its Graduate and Youth Farmers Empowerment Scheme. In 2017 the Agri-Food alliance within IBCA will develop the initiative: Technology-based solutions for sustainable production in agribusiness and youth empowerment in Nigeria. Main areas of collaboration are: Online capacity building and knowledge sharing between Nigerian and Swedish young farmers; Capacity building to develop inclusive, resilient and profitable business; Facilitating partnerships between Nigerian farmers and Swedish businesses for: Technologies to improve processes along the value chain (cultivation, maintenance, harvesting); Tropical weather forecasting, good weather information can double the yields and increase up to 80% of farm income; Sustainable aquaculture using world class Swedish technology; Restore salt-damaged soil using salt-tolerant wheat; Use of technology to increase nutritional level of grains during processing; Effective/cost saving application to optimize sales and distribution; Co-development of mobile solutions to improve productivity and earning.

Social Innovation: Transnational Seed Exchange Networks	
Lead organization:	Environmental Social Science Research Group (ESSRG)
Brief description:	By looking at how social innovation happens in seed exchange networks from a transnational perspective, this study found that as most of these networks originally formed against the increasing spread of input-intensive industrial agriculture, and the disempowerment and economic and cultural poverty that resulted from it, they are consciously aimed at changing social relations surrounding agriculture by preserving, recreating, and relearning knowledge about seeds and diversity, creating new (alternative) practices, ways, and values of organizing social networks surrounding seed exchange, and framing them as a different way of thinking about agricultural systems.

Food for Life – A global awareness raising campaign for more sustainable food choices	
Lead organizations:	IFOAM – Organics International (not for profit), HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation (not for profit), Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL (not for profit), Futerra Sustainability Communications (private sector)
Brief description:	The project develops and implements a global communications campaign for food from truly sustainable systems, supported by a critical mass of organizations that endorse this vision. It motivates people to make (more) sustainable food choices by providing evidence-based and practice-proven information in an attractive way and by disseminating key messages that reach the hearts of people. Organic agriculture thereby serves as the “leitmotiv” since it is the largest alternative food system, has well-documented impacts and is best known among consumers. The campaign creates momentum for sustainable choices by working with broad alliances and by using synergies with communication activities of various multipliers (e.g. NGOs, brands and retailers, government agencies, journalists etc.). The main campaign elements are: 1) An integrated communication strategy that identifies effective, evidence based messages and suitable channels. 2) A website with open-source inspired communication toolkits in key languages that can be used and adapted by multipliers. 3) Pilot campaigns in selected countries, in collaboration with national partner organizations. Shortlisted are India, Switzerland, Kenya, the US and Costa Rica. Additional focus countries can join. 4) Broad roll-out of messages and tools to multipliers through partner networks. Support to communication activities in developing countries and emerging economies with the help of a competitive communication fund.

Establish Low Carbon Consumption and Production in Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines	
Lead organization:	WWF-Germany
Brief description:	The project supports national governments in their development of NAMAs or related mitigation strategies in the agricultural, forestry or related sectors. Companies are encouraged to implement sustainable business models. Consumer awareness at the national level with regard to sustainable production and consumption (SCP) is raised by integrating stakeholders into discussion fora/platforms and through information and communication campaigns. Thailand: Strategies and suggestions for NAMAs to help implement the Thai NDC are developed for forestry and agricultural sectors, with a focus on rubber products and paper. Indonesia: Contributions to INDC implementation in the agricultural sector are developed, with special focus on the palm oil sector and the implementation of sustainable business models. Philippines: National strategies for SCP are developed, especially with regard to models for reducing GHG emissions in the food service industry (including food waste), and with a special focus on tourism.

Online-video-course “Sustainability and Nutrition”	
Lead organization:	Working Group Sustainable Nutrition
Brief description:	The online-video-course “Sustainability and Nutrition” (in German language) addresses environmental, economic, social, health and cultural impacts of our dietary habits and our food system from a local, national and global perspective. The course is based on the concept of a “Sustainable Nutrition”, also known as

	<p>“Wholesome Nutrition” (German: Vollwert-Ernährung) or “Nutrition Ecology”, which we are working on for 35 years. It consists of nine 60-90-min lectures. The videos and slides will be available for free. Our target groups are multipliers from different professional fields, e. g. nutrition sciences, development cooperation, environmental education, as well as students, dieticians, and interested consumers.</p>
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Publication “Wholesome Nutrition: an example for a sustainable diet”	
Lead organization:	Working Group Sustainable Nutrition
Brief description:	<p>Our publication “Wholesome Nutrition: an example for a sustainable diet”, published in Proceedings of the Nutrition Society in August 2016, addresses environmental, economic, social, health and cultural impacts of our dietary habits and our food system from a local, national and global perspective. We introduce our concept of a “Sustainable Nutrition”, also known as “Wholesome Nutrition” (German: Vollwert-Ernährung) or “Nutrition Ecology”, which we are working on for 35 years. The publication has been selected as Paper of the Month for October 2016 by one of the Editors of the five Nutrition Society Publications (British Journal of Nutrition, Public Health Nutrition, Nutrition Research Reviews, Proceedings of the Nutrition Society and Journal of Nutritional Science). Authors are Dr. Karl von Koerber, Nadine Bader and Prof. Dr. Claus Leitzmann.</p>

Building a global open source seeds alliance	
Lead organizations:	Hivos, Bioversity International
Brief description:	<p>Diverse and robust seed systems are central to sustainable food systems. But – at present – seed diversity is decreasing dramatically with further industrialization of agriculture. Through institutional breeding, industry oriented quality definitions and the use of exclusive rights over seeds we are eradicating seed saving & sharing practices. What we eat and produce is increasingly dictated by larger seed companies. The diminishing genepool directly threatens food and nutrition security and our ability to cope with climate change, diseases and other abiotic stresses. Hivos, Bioversity International and partners consider access to diverse and ecologically adapted seeds for farmers and consumers a right: The right to make independent choices and have an open flow of genetic material, crucial for people, their community and their cultural life. Open source seed systems aim to counter the exclusive rights belief using open source agreements and accelerate the innovation potential of many instead of a few leading to access and availability of diverse seeds. We propose to accelerate and scale our current work with frontrunner-SMEs – local small and medium scale seed enterprises, innovation driven multi-stakeholder platforms and lobby and advocacy a policy levels in an increasing number of African countries and globally.</p>

Appendix 4: SFS Programme monitoring and evaluation framework

Appendix 5: SFS Programme communication strategy

Appendix 6: SFS Programme resource mobilization strategy

Appendix 7: List of participants

Organization/country	Participant	E-Mail address
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