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**Sustainable
Food Systems**

v16MAY2023

One Planet network's Sustainable Food Systems Programme

24th MAC meeting (face-to-face)

27-28 April 2023

Draft summary report

Summary of main discussion points, outcomes and decisions:

- The 10YFP's [Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production 2023-2030](#) foresees to broaden the engagement and leadership of member states, private sector and Youth; and to strengthen coordination between the 10YFP Secretariat and the Programme Co-Lead organizations.
- In terms of the upcoming **governance renewal process**, the Co-Leads proposed the following tentative timeline: a) **MAC renewal process**: Between May and July -> Announce process and launch a call for expressions of interest among all 190+ programme partners; Mid-August to mid-September -> Announcement of "candidates" and online vote; September 2023 -> Confirmation of new MAC composition; b) **Co-leadership renewal process**: Between May and July -> Announce process and launch a call for expressions of interest among all MAC members; Mid-August to mid-September -> Announcement of "candidates"; October 2023 -> Confirmation of new co-leadership by MAC.
- Members that have joined the MAC for the first time in 2021 and thus have only served one term so far, can extend for a second term without the need to be re-elected. All current MAC members that have already served two or more terms, will need to re-apply and will be subject to the online vote.
- Regarding **priorities for the upcoming workplan** MAC members suggested that, inter alia: the SFS Programme should maintain and strengthen its relationship with the Food Systems Coordination Hub, and support the Hub in areas where the Programme can add value; future SFS Programme conferences could be organized in the run-up to future Stocktaking Moments, building on the positive experience of the 4th global conference; the SFS Programme should continue promoting the sustainable food systems approach and multi-stakeholder collaboration, including by further socializing its tools and piloting them at national level; members should consistently make use of the SFS Programme logo when organizing joint events that contribute towards the implementation of the Programme's work plan¹; and the SFS Programme could work together with member states toward a resolution on environment-related impacts of food systems / mainstreaming food systems in the context of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) at UNEA-6.
- In terms of **lessons learned and areas for improvement for future SFS Programme conferences**, MAC members suggested, among other things, to: provide more space for discussions in smaller groups; have more discussions focused on the scientific debate; strengthen the participation of the health and nutrition community; continue to work on gender balance and youth involvement; strengthen participation from governments beyond Ministries of Agriculture.
- Community of Practice on Food Systems Approach on the Ground CoP-FSAG² developed the new "[Food Systems Knowledge Hub](#)". In this context, it was discussed that the SFS Programme could have a stronger focus on promoting its existing tools and resources for National Pathways implementation by using the Knowledge Hub and its curated contents.

¹ The logo can be requested at the coordination desk and should be used with a tag line such as "In support of" or "An event of". Please do always inform the coordination desk prior to using the SFS Programme logo.



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1. Introduction

(Co-Chairs: Michael Mulet, WWF, and Patrick Mink, Federal Office for Agriculture, Switzerland)

1.1 Welcome and adoption of agenda

The Co-Leads welcomed all participants to the 24th MAC meeting – the first face-to-face meeting since October 2019. They then outlined the main objectives of the meeting, which were to:

- discuss issues related to the upcoming MAC and co-leadership renewal process;
- share about upcoming policy advocacy opportunities and provide updates from the working groups; and
- debrief on conference results.

There were no comments with regard to the draft agenda of the 24th MAC meeting.

1.2 Group picture

See Annex 2.

1.3 Tour de table

In the tour the table, MAC members expressed their appreciation for the successful organization and conduct of the 4th global SFS Programme conference, and shared some ideas regarding the way forward of the SFS Programme post-conference. These included:

- Continuing to reinforce the SFS Programme's added value vis-à-vis other initiatives, clarifying what should be the Programme's new "North Star".
- Further clarifying the SFS Programme's role in supporting the UNFSS follow-up process and the activities of the Food Systems Coordination Hub. The Pathway Working Group's workshop substantiated the SFS Programme's ability to bring together National Convenors, UNFSS coalitions and other relevant actors for frank and solution-oriented discussions.
- "Grounding" the SFS Programme in some more applied / practical actions, including at national and local level, in addition to the work focusing on the global policy level.
- Using the network of Programme partners more effectively, including by scaling up as a group all the relevant work that its individual members are already doing.
- Increasing the visibility of the SFS Programme, including by strengthening the application and use of its products.
- Bringing in more members states and other relevant actors.

2. Issues related to programme governance and membership

(Chair: Alwin Kopse, Federal Office for Agriculture, Switzerland)

The MAC discussed issues related to programme governance and membership, in particular the upcoming MAC and co-leadership renewal process. Ms. Gina Torregroza provided an update from the One Planet network's Secretariat side, including:

- the intention of the 10YFP Secretariat to support each of its Programmes with a dedicated staff member, subject to funding be made available;
- plans of the 10YFP Secretariat to hire a staff member to strengthen the engagement with the broader UN System;
- the vision of the 10YFP's [Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production 2023-2030](#), which consists in broadening the engagement and leadership of several constituencies, in



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particular member states, private sector and Youth; and foresees stronger coordination between the 10YFP Secretariat and the Programme Co-Lead organizations.

Ms. Torregroza then informed that in line with the 10YFP's new Global SCP Strategy, the duration of terms for new Leads / Co-Leads would in principle be shortened to 2 years (from currently 4 years), while the number of co-leads may be enlarged to four or even more. As a basic criteria, Leads / Co-Leads are expected to provide or finance a full-time equivalent staff position to the Programme's coordination desk. There may, however, be some flexibility on some of these issues, in case that the MAC decides otherwise. This and further issues related to governance will be discussed and confirmed by the 10YFP Board in the end of May 2023.

In the discussion, several MAC members expressed some concern regarding the shortening of the terms of Leads / Co-Leads from 4 to 2 years, among others for reasons of maintaining continuity. Therefore, the SFS Programme MAC and Co-Leads agreed that the upcoming governance renewal process should be prepared based on the provisions of the Programme's current [Terms of Reference](#). In terms of next steps, the Co-Leads proposed the following tentative timeline:

- MAC renewal process:
 - Mid-May to end of July: Announce process and launch a call for expressions of interest among all 190+ programme partners
 - Mid-August to mid-September: Announcement of "candidates" and online vote
 - September 2023: Confirmation of new MAC composition

- Co-leadership renewal process:
 - Mid-May to end of July: Announce process and launch a call for expressions of interest among all MAC members
 - Mid-August to mid-September: Announcement of "candidates"
 - October 2023: Confirmation of new co-leadership by MAC (possibly during a next face-to-face MAC meeting)

More information on the details on both the MAC and co-leadership renewal, including requirements and selection criteria, will follow in due course.

In the discussion, several current members expressed their intention to remain in the MAC. It was also clarified that members that have joined the MAC for the first time in 2021 and thus have only served one term so far, can extend for a second term without the need to be re-elected. All current MAC members that have already served two or more terms, will need to re-apply and will be subject to the online vote.

In terms of new members to be brought into the MAC, the need to increase private sector involvement was highlighted. Rather than targeting individual companies, however, it was proposed to bring in industry associations such as the Consumer Goods Forum or the World Business Council on Sustainable Development, and possibly cooperatives and unions from the farmers' side. Involvement of further countries was also highlighted, for instance leveraging the conference to involve ASEAN countries as well as countries that attended the conference.

Ms. Martina Fleckenstein from WWF informed the MAC that WWF has the intention of serving another term as Co-Lead of the SFS Programme, while stressing that it may be preferable to expand the co-leadership (from currently 3) to 4 Co-Lead organizations.



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3. Upcoming policy processes and outreach opportunities

(Chair: Martina Fleckenstein, WWF)

Ms. Fleckenstein kicked off this discussion on upcoming policy processes and outreach opportunities, by putting forward the following ones:

- UNFSS Stocktaking Moment (24-26 July 2023)
- UN General Assembly High Level Week (18-23 September 2023), including the:
 - o Climate Ambition Summit (18 September), and the
 - o SDG Summit (19-20 September)
- UNFCCC COP28 (30 November – 12 December)
- UNEA-6 (26 February – 1 March 2024)
- UNCCD COP16 (2-13 December 2024)
- CBD COP16 2024 (dates to be defined)

In their discussion, MAC members highlighted in addition: the Agroecology donor workshop Oct 2023; several meetings and activities related to the Urban Food Systems agenda; and the World Health Assembly (WHA) as well as connecting better to the processes of the International Labor Organization (ILO) and World Trade Organization (WTO).

In this context, the MAC also provided feedback on the past performance² of the SFS Programme, and discussed possible priorities for the Programme's upcoming workplan. Through group discussions and in plenary, it was suggested that the SFS Programme:

- Should maintain and strengthen its relationship with the Food Systems Coordination Hub, and support the Hub in areas where the Programme can add value, such as convening the different actors of the UNFSS “ecosystem of support” in support of National Pathways. Future SFS Programme conferences could be organized in the run-up to future Stocktaking Moments, building on the positive experience of the 4th global conference.
- Should continue promoting the sustainable food systems approach and multi-stakeholder collaboration, including by further socializing its tools and piloting them at national level.
- Members should consistently make use of the SFS Programme logo when organizing joint events that contribute towards the implementation of the Programme's work plan.³
- Could work together with member states toward a resolution on environment-related impacts of food systems / mainstreaming food systems in the context of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) at UNEA-6, focused on (a sub-set of) the key messages of the 4th global SFS Programme conference. This could be accompanied by provision of tools and resources to build capacity on implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework and country NBSAPs, including OneHealth.
- Could look more into the social dimension of food systems (e.g. job creation, etc.) as a possible topic for a new knowledge tool to be commissioned by WWF and developed with the members of the SFS Programme's Community of Practice on Food Systems Approach on the Ground.
- Could support the development of guidelines on urban food systems in the context of the Urban Food Systems Coalition, through members including Rikolto, FAO, UNEP and GAIN.
- Could support the development of a guide on including food systems in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) through members including UNEP.
- May develop a one-stop-shop with information on existing tools with regard to measuring food systems transformation.
- May work more on the issues of nutrition and trade, as well as repurposing agricultural support.

²

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- May possibly set up a group working on skills in relation to food systems, possibly linked to the working group on National Pathways.
- May focus more on ecolabels in the area of food systems, including to involve the private sector.

4. Debrief of the 4th global SFS Programme conference (Chair: Michael Mulet, WWF)

Through a series of interactive exercises, MAC members provided their general feedback on the conference and discussed lessons learned, as well as how it can be ensured that the conference outcomes will effectively feed into the Stocktaking Moment. For a detailed overview, please refer to Annex 3.

In general, the MAC's feedback on the conference organization and quality of discussions was overall very positive. There was agreement that by linking the conference to the UNFSS follow-up process, we managed to bring it to a different level in terms of outreach and attendance of countries and other key stakeholders. The Food Systems Coordination Hub informed that the outcome document / key messages of the conference will be included in the report for the Stocktaking Moment in July 2023. In terms of lessons learned and areas for improvement for future SFS Programme conferences, MAC members suggested to:

- Look into ways to provide more space for discussions in smaller groups
- Consider to have more discussions focused on the scientific debate, as a complement to the more policy-based discussions, so that the controversial issues can surface and be discussed
- Allow for more active involvement of virtual participants
- Strengthen the participation of the health and nutrition community
- Continue to work on the important issues of gender balance and youth involvement
- Strengthen participation from governments beyond Ministries of Agriculture
- In order to deliver on the above points, and particularly to perform well in terms of inclusiveness, more financial and human resources are needed.

5. Issues related to programme management (Chair: Patrick Mink, Federal Office for Agriculture, Switzerland)

The MAC received **progress updates of the SFS Programme working groups** (“mainstreaming SFS”; “supporting national pathways”; “supporting coalitions”; and “Community of Practice on Food Systems Approach on the Ground”), including:

- WG “supporting national pathways” (José Valls, FAO):
 - Organized a workshop in the margin of the conference, bringing together National Convenors and representatives of some of the UNFSS coalitions as well as other organizations such as FAO, GAIN and WWF that work on supporting countries in the implementation of their national pathways.
 - A next workshop with a similar format may possibly be organized in the context of the Stocktaking Moment in July.
- “Community of Practice on Food Systems Approach on the Ground CoP-FSAG” (Marina Bortoletti and Carmen Torres, UNEP):
 - Produced a new short video on [Multi-stakeholder Mechanisms](#)
 - Developed the new [“Food Systems Knowledge Hub”](#)
 - In this context, it was discussed that the SFS Programme could have a stronger focus on promoting its existing tools and resources for National Pathways implementation by



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Food Systems**

using the Knowledge Hub and its curated contents. Additionally, some members of the CoP-FSAG have funding earmarked for the development of a new knowledge tool/resource on food systems transformation, and discussions will continue to define a topic that can continue building the unique selling point of the SFS Programme.

- WG “supporting coalitions” (Elise Golan, USDA):
 - The conference session on the “ecosystem of support” has created a lot of interest, a total of 19 coalitions participated in the mapping / self-evaluation exercise in preparation of the session.
 - There remains a need strengthen collaboration and synergies across coalitions, in line with a food systems approach, and the SFS Programme could continue to play an important role in this regard.
- WG “mainstreaming SFS” (Joyce Njoro, IFAD):
 - Based on the conference key messages and the discussions during this MAC meeting, the group envisages to prioritize a set of key advocacy messages to bring forward on the policy processes / outreach opportunities that were discussed earlier.
 - The group will be looking into collaborating more closely with the CoP-FSAG, in particular around advocacy for strengthened multi-stakeholder governance and holistic policies.

6. Next meeting and any other business

(Co-Chairs: Patrick Mink, Federal Office for Agriculture, Switzerland, and Michael Mulet, WWF)

6.1 Next MAC meeting

The next MAC meeting is tentatively planned to take place virtually in June 2023. The Co-Leads will send out a doodle in order to find a suitable date and time.

6.2 Any other business

As no further points were raised, the Co-Leads thanked everyone for their active participation and closed the meeting.



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Annex 1: List of participants

Organization / country	Participant	E-mail address
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World Benchmarking Alliance	Rayan Kassem	r.kassem@worldbenchmarkingalliance.org
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UN agencies and other international organizations		
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UN Environment Programme	Marina Bortoletti	Marina.Bortoletti@un.org
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UN Environment Programme	James Lomax	James.lomax@un.org
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Food Networks	Tulsi Giri	giritulsi@gmail.com
National Cleaner Production Centre Sri Lanka	Upendra Arjeewani	arjeewaniupendra@gmail.com
Observers		
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Food Systems Coordination Hub	Nicole De Paula	Nicole.DePaula@fao.org
Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)	Jamie Morrison	jmorrison@gainhealth.org
Global Alliance for the Future of Food	Matheus Alves Zanella	matheus@futureoffood.org
Youth Representative	Daniel Helmer	daniel@jajigatus.org
One Planet network / 10YFP Secretariat		
10YFP Secretariat (UN Environment)	Gina Torregroza	Gina.torregroza@un.org
Co-Leads		
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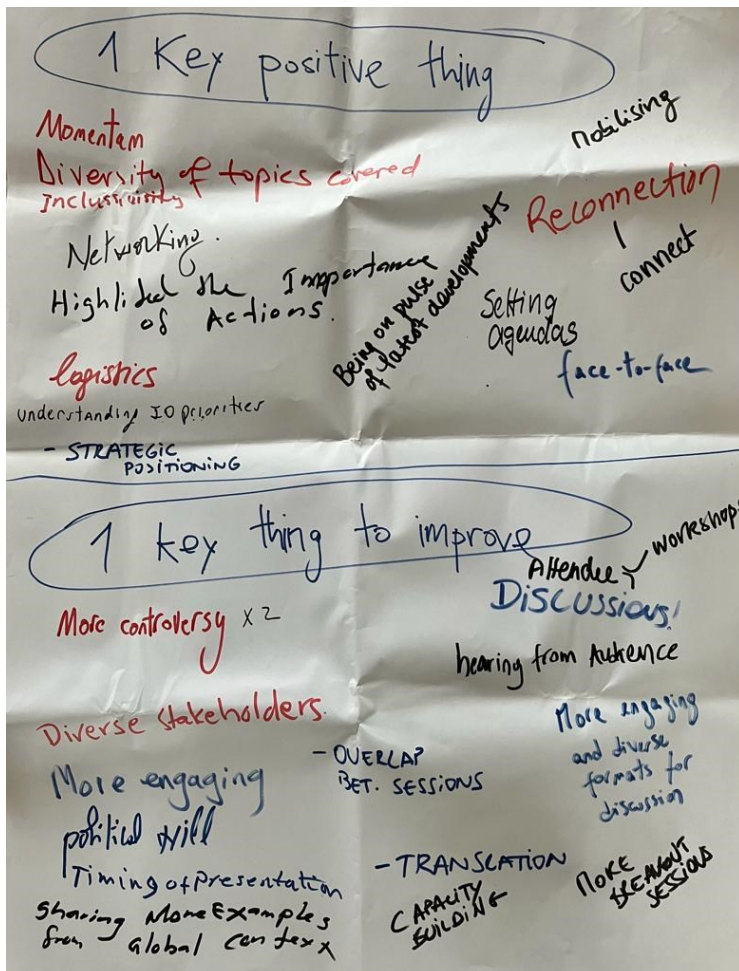
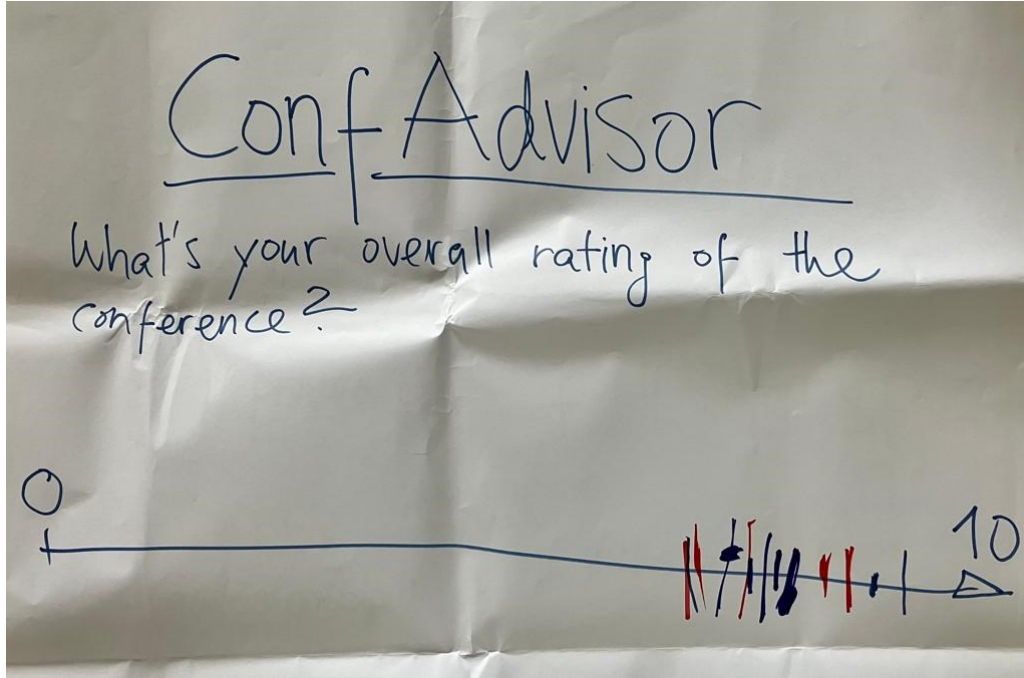
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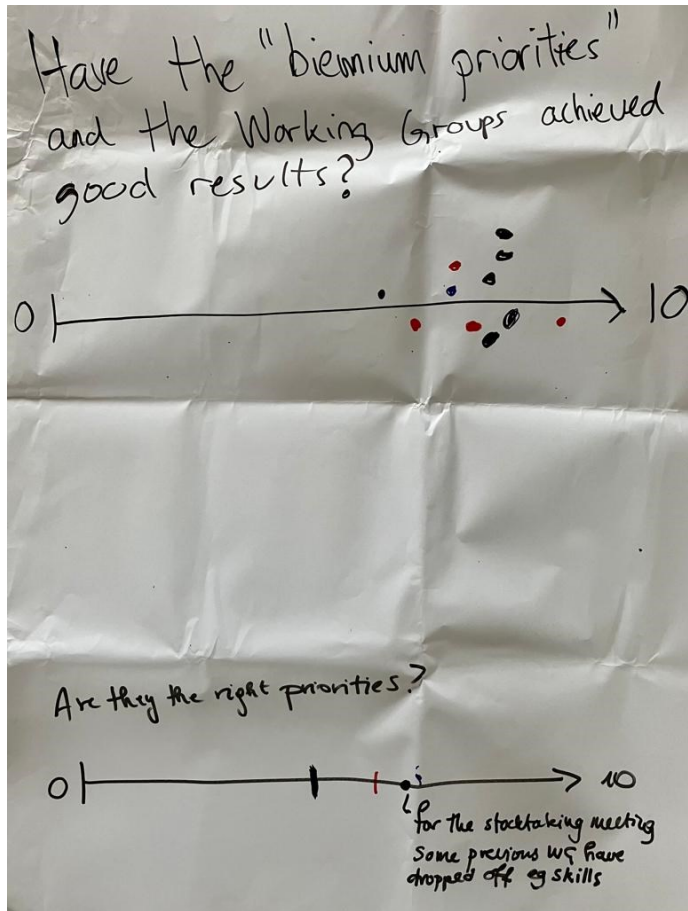
Annex 2: Group picture





Annex 3: 4th global SFS Programme conference debriefing exercise





⑥ One word that describes the biggest area for improvement of the SFSP

KPI's
Countries participation + cities x3
PRIVATISECTOR engagement
Inclusion
Contribution to post-UNFSS

Grounding
Trust
Actions on the ground²
Business/Private
ACTION ON THE GROUND

Transition into National Policy
! Action
Enabling tools
'Engagement' at public level
Contribution to post-UNFSS