

Setting the table for our children

Improving governance of food systems through multi stakeholder action

The challenge

The current food system is failing as it is not delivering healthy, sustainable and affordable food for all. The estimated impact of malnutrition (undernutrition, lack of access to sufficient micronutrients as well as obesity) on the global economy could be as high as US\$3.5 trillion per year, or US\$500 per individual¹, amongst others due to economic growth foregone and lost investments in human capital associated with preventable premature child and adult mortality. Externalized environmental costs like the price paid for depleted ecosystems, biodiversity loss, soil erosion and degradation, water pollution and climate change are innumerable and urgently require policy action and an inclusive and holistic approach to food systems.



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Vision

Setting the Table for our Children envisions a future in which current and future generations have access to sufficient, healthy, diverse and sustainable food. A future in which food systems deliver increasing productivity without harming the planet and our health and where food is considered a main policy priority.

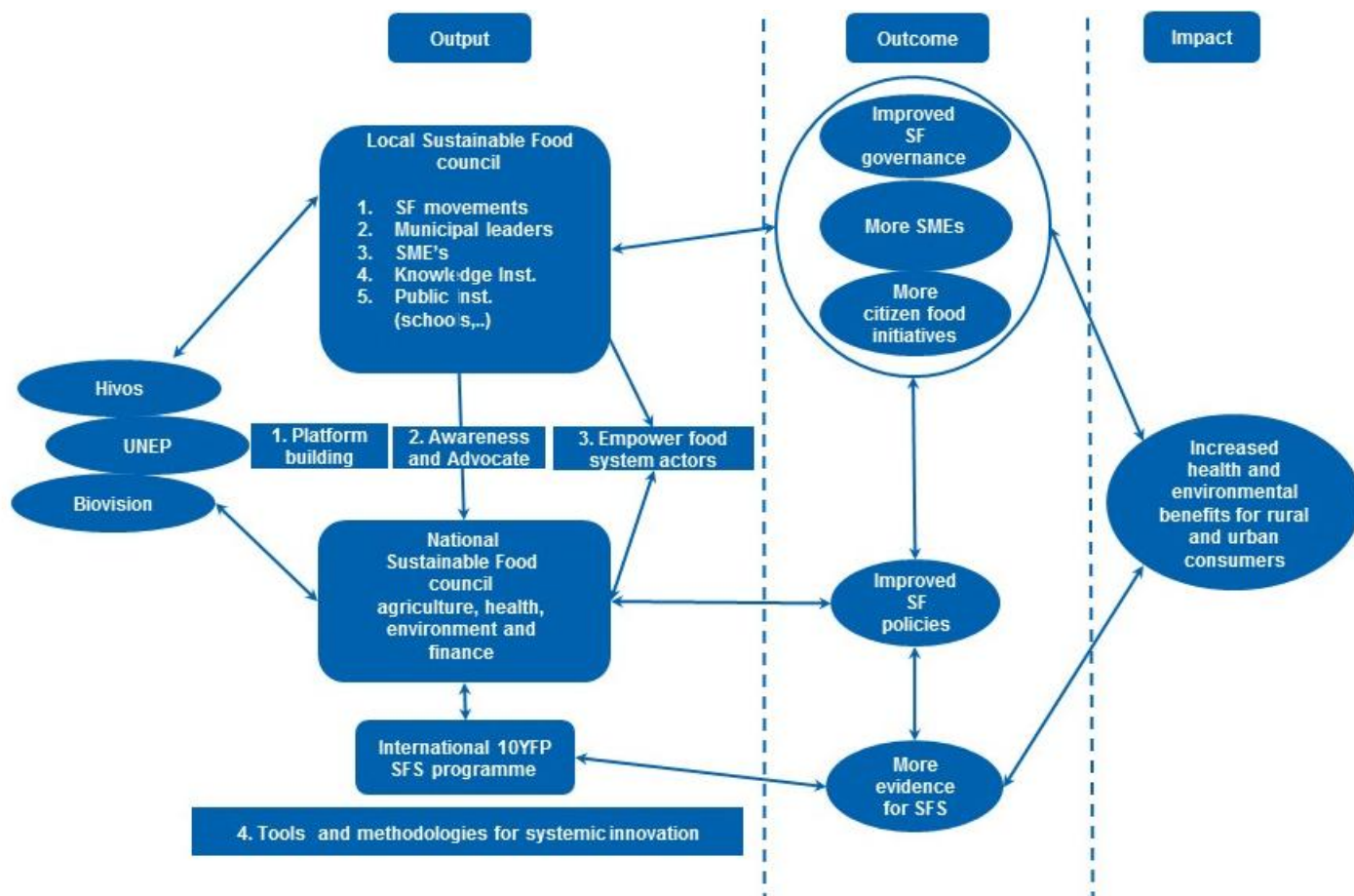
From objectives to interventions

Our project adheres to a food system approach and engages stakeholders at local and national level to improve policy and governance of food systems. Together we will develop more integrated strategies, transformative roadmaps, as well as enabling conditions towards more sustainable food systems. This is imperative to achieve the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the integrated set of SDGs, in particular SDG 2 (zero hunger), 12 (sustainable consumption and production) and 17 (partnerships for the goals).

We will do this by:

- I) **Building inclusive food policy environments** for sustainable food systems at local, national and regional level through the development, facilitation and support of inclusive multi-stakeholder platforms to help informing integrated policy-making and to create opportunities for all stakeholders to act upon;
- II) **Creating public support for sustainable food systems** through campaigning and enhanced sustainable food literacy;
- III) **Empowering food actors** through capacity building activities, as well as the enhancement of skills and capacities to assess and transform food systems through systemic thinking, and to facilitate effective and inclusive sustainable food initiatives;
- IV) **Gathering and sharing knowledge** on the drivers of sustainable food consumption and production, best practices of food related innovative market mechanisms, civic incentives, public policies, and methodologies to facilitate multi-stakeholder processes through the development of a Community of Practice with regional modules.

¹ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. State of Food and Agriculture 2013: Food systems for better nutrition. 2013 Rome, Italy



Geographical focus

The coalition has extensive working experience and presences in Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Senegal, Indonesia and Bolivia, while the programme can be expanded to more countries depending on available funding.

Project consortium, timeline and costs

The project is proposed by a coalition of Biovision, UN-Environment and Hivos. It will build on the organisations' past and current food systems-related work and best practices of existing multi-stakeholder food governance initiatives in the above countries, and in the engagement of other relevant actors in the field.

Hivos has on-going programmes to support multi-actor platform building at local and national level. Hivos develops food strategies with these platforms and promote the start-up of local food initiatives. Furthermore, Hivos' Sustainable Diets for All programme specifically strengthens CSOs to advocate for sustainable diets.

Biovision has extensive experience with integrated policy planning towards more sustainable food systems where various ministries (agriculture, health, environment, finance, etc.) together with relevant stakeholders co-create policies and programmes for sustainable food systems.

UN Environment promotes, at global level, the increasing understanding and implementation, by public and private decision makers, as well as civil society, of policies and actions towards sustainable consumption and production patterns of food systems.

The envisioned period of implementation of this initiative is three years (2018-2020), and the total estimated project costs for implementing this programme are 9,9 million euro out of which 2,05 million is already covered by on-going activities of other programmes of the individual members of the consortium.

Want to be involved?

Interested parties are invited to express their interest in joining the project coalition. Contact details:

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