

One Planet Sustainable Food Systems Programme

15th MAC meeting (teleconference)

30 June 2020

Draft summary report

Summary of main discussion points, outcomes and decisions:

- WRAP and the World Benchmarking Alliance were adopted as **new Programme partners**.
- The Mediterranean SFS Platform, a joint initiative by CIHEAM, FAO and the Union for the Mediterranean, was endorsed as a **new affiliated project**.
- IFAD, Hivos, Rikolto and the Alliance of CIAT and Bioversity were announced as the **winners of the SFS Toolbox case studies call for proposals**.
- The **MAC endorsed** the publication “Towards a Common Understanding of Sustainable Food Systems” (**SFS Glossary**).
- A separate **call on the One Planet network – International Resource Panel science-policy task force** will be organized with interested SFS Programme MAC members.
- The key outcomes of the **2021 Food Systems Summit** will be mainly developed around five [Action Tracks](#). Two further central mechanisms in the Summit process will be the [Food Systems Summit Dialogues](#) and a digital online platform for information sharing.
- The **3rd global SFS Programme conference** will be conducted as a virtual event. Thailand will be acting as co-host of the conference.
- The **HLPF (7-16 July)** will have a dedicated session on “Ending hunger and achieving food security for all”.
- All MAC members are invited to regularly submit their **news and stories** directly through the SFS Programme website.
- The **next MAC teleconference** will take place in October 2020.
- The Co-Leads aim for a **next face-to-face MAC meeting** in February 2021, back to back with the CFS.

1. Introduction

1.1 Welcome and adoption of agenda

Mr. Roberto Azofeifa, *Ministry of Livestock and Agriculture (Costa Rica)*, welcomed all participants to the 15th MAC meeting. He then outlined the main objectives of this MAC meeting, which were to: inform the MAC on efforts towards the 2021 Food Systems Summit, and seek further guidance on positioning the SFSP vis-à-vis the Summit; provide an update on preparations for the 3rd global SFS Programme conference, and gather feedback on the adapted draft agenda; present recent progress on the SFS Toolbox; get an overview of the ongoing work of the SFS Programme's core initiatives and other working groups.

Finally, Mr. Azofeifa presented the draft agenda of the 15th MAC meeting. As there were no comments with regards to content, he declared the agenda as adopted.

1.2 Adoption of summary report of the 13th MAC meeting

Before going into the content of the 15th MAC meeting, Mr. Azofeifa presented the summary report of the 14th MAC meeting. As there were no further comments by the MAC members, he declared it as adopted.

2. Issues related to governance and membership

2.1 New Programme partners

Mr. Patrick Mink, *Federal Office for Agriculture (Switzerland)*, briefly introduced the new partner screening criteria, highlighting that they have already been applied this time. He then informed the MAC about the new Programme partners. Notably, WRAP and the World Benchmarking Alliance were adopted as new Programme partners.

2.2 New resources and affiliated projects

Mr. Mink informed the MAC that the Mediterranean SFS Platform by CIHEAM, FAO and the Union for the Mediterranean was endorsed as a new affiliated project.

3. Issues related to programme implementation

3.1 Issues related to programme management

3.1.1 Core Initiative implementation

Ms. Rosa Rolle (FAO) provided an update in relation to the Food Loss and Waste core initiative, and Mr. Jostein Hertwig (Beras) gave a short overview of activities of the Organic Food Systems Programme core initiative.

3.1.2 The SFS Programme task forces and other working groups

Ms. Allison Loconto (INRAE), facilitator of the task force on knowledge and tools, provided a brief update on recent and planned activities, and Ms. Marina Bortoletti (UN Environment) informed about recent and planned activities of the Community of Practice for Food Systems Approach on the Ground (CoP-FSAG). The Global Alliance for the Future of Food has recently joined the CoP-FSAG. Ms. Bortoletti then went on to present a concept note for a joint initiative by UN Environment, WWF and the CoP-FSAG with the title "Food Systems Multi-Stakeholder Governance Mechanisms: an assessment of experiences".

3.1.3 *The SFS Toolbox*

Michael Mulet, *WWF*, provided an update on recent progress on the case study development and announced the winners of the case studies call for proposals, which were IFAD, Hivos, Rikolto and the Alliance of CIAT and Bioversity.

Mr. Mink then informed the MAC about recent progress on the “SFS Glossary”. He presented the new structure and the main changes to the document, reminding the MAC of the broad and inclusive consultative progress, and highlighting the goal to launch the final designed version at the 3rd global SFS Programme conference.

After a round of feedback, Alwin Kopse, *Federal Office for Agriculture (Switzerland)*, proposed that the SFS Glossary be endorsed by the MAC as a living document, pending final text editing, layout and design. This proposal was supported by the MAC.

Mr. Kopse thanked Mr. Mink and all the colleagues involved in the development of the SFS Glossary – among them Ms. Bortoletti, Sandro Dernini (CIHEAM), Elise Golan (USDA), Nicola Jenkin (Pinpoint Sustainability), Allison Loconto (INRAE), Divine Njie (FAO) and Charlotte Pavageau (Biovision) – for their substantial contributions and support.

3.1.4 *Outcomes of the One Planet network’s Executive Meeting*

Ms. Cecilia Lopez y Royo, *One Planet network Secretariat*, presented the key conclusions of the Executive Meeting in May. She focused in particular on the discussion around the One Planet network – International Resource Panel science-policy task force, suggesting that a separate call on this topic be organized with interested SFS Programme MAC members.

3.2 *Strengthening synergies, partnerships and collaborations*

3.2.1 *UN Food Systems Summit 2021*

Mr. Kopse reminded the MAC that at their face-to-face meeting last October, it was agreed that the work of the SFS Programme should be aligned with the Food Systems Summit (FSS21), and that the 3rd global conference should contribute to the Summit preparation process. He further reminded the MAC that to ensure such alignment, a small “Summit Core Group” was established, comprising the Co-Leads and those MAC members that are actively involved in the Summit process (FAO, UNEP, IFAD and WEF). Mr. Kopse then invited Jamie Morrison (FAO / FSS21 Secretariat) to provide an update on recent decisions, developments and progress towards the Summit.

Mr. Morrison informed that the Summit was still scheduled for late 2021, and that its support structure, including an Advisory Committee, a Scientific Group and a Champions network, were in the process of being established and their composition about to be announced.¹ Further to these three bodies, the key outcomes of the Summit will be mainly developed around five [Action Tracks](#). Two additional central mechanisms in the Summit process will be the [Food Systems Summit Dialogues](#) and a digital online platform for information sharing.

Finally, Mr. Kopse informed the MAC about the ongoing liaison efforts with the FSS21 Secretariat, including in the context of the 3rd global conference. In closing this session, he reiterated that the Summit remains a unique opportunity for the SFS Programme, and that therefore the Co-Leads will continue liaising with the FSS21 Secretariat in order to ensure alignment, and keep the MAC informed.

¹ This has happened in the meantime, For more recent information on the Summit support structure, see: <https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit>

3.2.2 Third Global Conference of the SFS Programme

Mr. Mulet informed the MAC that in the beginning of June, the organizing committee has decided to conduct the conference as a virtual event. Thailand will be kept on board as a co-host of the conference, including with the aim to attract further participation from the Asia region. Thailand has in the meantime formally confirmed their interest to be co-hosting the conference. The Co-Leads are currently in exchange with organizers of other virtual events, to learn from their experiences. They are also exploring the possibility to hire a company specialized in organizing online conferences. The save-the-date for the conference will presumably be sent out following the next organizing committee call.

Finally, Mr. Mulet presented the overall conference draft agenda, and invited Ms. Golan to introduce the concept of the “science track” session. In the first part of the science session, different existing food systems indices will be presented and discussed. The second half of the session will look at how science can help manage trade-offs, based on presentations of the case studies of the SFS Toolbox.

3.2.3 Other outreach efforts and opportunities for collaboration

Mr. Mulet referred to recent and current calls for project proposals that are of relevance to the SFS Programme, as opportunities for members to form coalitions and apply jointly. In terms of other upcoming opportunities, he highlighted the HLPF (7-16 July; “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”, with a dedicated session on “Ending hunger and achieving food security for all”).

3.3 Issues related to communication

Mr. Mulet presented recent communication updates. Among other things, he informed the MAC that the SFS Programme standard slides are in the process of being adapted based on new templates, and he reminded the MAC members to make use of the possibility to submit their news and stories directly through the SFS Programme website.

4. Next MAC meeting and any other business

4.1 Next MAC meeting

The Co-Leads aim for a next face-to-face MAC meeting in February 2021, back to back with the CFS.

A next virtual MAC meeting will take place in October 2020.

4.2 Any other business

As no further points were raised, Mr. Mulet thanked everyone for their active participation and closed the meeting.

Annex 1: List of participants

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