

Towards Healthy and Sustainable Food Systems:

Agroecology, Soils and Healthy Diets

24 July 2023, 13:30- 14:30 (CEST) – Ethiopia Room



Coalition of Action on Healthy Diets from
Sustainable Food Systems for Children and All



Background

Food systems are responsible for 30% of greenhouse gas emissions, 80% of deforestation, 70% of freshwater use, and the single greatest cause of terrestrial biodiversity loss and land degradation. Despite having sufficient food to feed 10 billion people with over 13% of food lost and 17% wasted each year, many cannot afford healthy diets. Additionally, only 30 crops provide 95% of human food energy needs.

With over one-third of the Earth's surface being degraded, the ecosystems' ability to produce healthy and nutritious food is limited. A powerful lever, **agroecology** provides sustainable solutions to issues of soil degradation, climate, biodiversity, food security and nutrition, including precarious livelihoods and social inequalities, faced by farmers and food system workers.

Understanding linkages across **health**, **nutrition** and **environmental sustainability** highlights opportunities for collaboration and generating knowledge to call for action to invest in agroecology, **soil**, nature and people in transforming food systems.

Objectives

- To better understand linkages between **healthy soil and healthy food** and the role of **agroecological approaches** and bio-circular economy in producing food that is healthy for both the people and the planet.
- To inspire actors to take aligned actions, strategies and policies that embrace **integrated approaches** and leverage synergies.

Expected outcomes

The session will feature experiences, best practices and country approaches aiming at protecting nature, preserving the richness of biodiversity and restoring degraded land and ecosystems, while producing diversified, nutritious and culturally appropriate foods towards healthy diets. Ensuing discussion will focus on ways of implementing and amplifying such approaches at scale.

Recommendations coming out of this session will be documented and studied by the coalitions involved, as a take-off point for future collaboration. The session will call for a holistic systems approach for transformation from **farm to fork**.

Moderators

Oliver Oliveros, Agroecology Coalition

Nancy Aburto, Food and Agriculture
Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Panellists

Phrang Roy

Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity
and Food Sovereignty

Patrizia Fracassi

Food and Agriculture Organization of the
United Nations (FAO)

Leigh Ann Winowiecki

Coalition of Action 4 Soil Health, CA4SH

Berry Martin

Food is Never Waste Coalition

Fernanda Machiaveli

Min. of Agrarian Development and Family
Agriculture (Brazil) - TBC

Wenche Westberg

Vice-minister of Agriculture (Norway)

Amadou Oury Diallo

Min. of Higher Education, Research and
Innovation (Senegal)

Madeleine Kaufmann

FAO-Coordinator and Policy Advisor at the
Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture
(Switzerland)

Dr Metin Turker

General Director of Agriculture Research and
Policy, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
(Turkiye)

Cem Özdemir

Federal Minister for food and Agriculture
(Germany)

**Marian Bint Mohammed Saeed Hareb
Almheiri**

Minister of Climate Change and Environment,
(United Arab Emirates)- TBC

Programme

13:30 **Introduction and setting the scene:**
Agroecology as a lever to address food
system transformation.

13:40 **Presentation**
Biodiversity-climate-nutrition nexus, followed
by reactions.

13:55 **Country-level experiences** (Brazil,
Norway, Senegal, Switzerland, Turkiye)
followed by reactions and reflections.

14:10 **Quick reactions from the audience**

14:20 **Reflections**

14:25 **Looking towards COP28**