

United Nations High-level Week, 14 – 30 September, 2021



## Secretary-General's Food Systems Summit

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### WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- With as many as 811 million men, women and children worldwide without enough to eat according to the 2021 SOFI report, existing food systems are failing to deliver on their fundamental purpose of preventing hunger.
- The connected system of producing, processing, distributing and consuming food is also contributing an estimated third of greenhouse gas emissions while also entrenching systemic inequalities around land and water rights, gender rights and basic human rights.
- However, functional food systems have the potential to do more than provide regular, healthy and affordable meals. Healthy and sustainable food systems can define the health and wellbeing of the global population, provide decent livelihoods for more than a billion people and reduce our collective impact on the natural world.
- The necessary transformation of food systems around the world will only happen by design, by bringing together all of those with a part to play in food systems, along with those who have a stake in their future. Over the last 50 years, global food production has gone up thanks to our incredible ability to innovate. By uniting and unleashing human ingenuity and will, the world can not only produce more but produce better.

### OBJECTIVES

During the 76th session of the UN General Assembly, UN Secretary-General António Guterres will convene an *historic* Food Systems Summit that aims to:

- Raise global awareness and secure global, regional and national commitments and actions that transform food systems to resolve not only hunger, but to reduce diet-related diseases and heal the planet;
- Launch bold new actions to deliver progress on all 17 Sustainable Development Goals, each of which relies to some degree on healthier, more sustainable and equitable food systems;
- Develop principles to guide governments and other stakeholders looking to leverage their food systems to support the SDGs and all that they are founded in, including human rights;

- Bring together key players from the worlds of science, business, policy, healthcare and academia, as well as farmers, indigenous people, youth organizations, consumer groups, environmental activists, and other key stakeholders;
- Call for collective action of all citizens to radically change the way we produce, process, and consume food;
- Awaken the world to the fact that we all must work together to transform the way the world produces, consumes and thinks about food;
- Create a system of follow-up and review to ensure that the Summit's outcomes continue to drive new actions and progress.

## FORMAT AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The Summit will be a virtual event. It will culminate with the announcement of national strategies, regional initiatives and coalitions for change, with a call for action at all levels of the food system, including national and local governments, companies and citizens.

## MORE INFORMATION

[www.un.org/food-systems-summit](http://www.un.org/food-systems-summit)

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