

Synergizing Food Systems and Climate Action for Equitable Food Systems and a Sustainable Future

12 November, 17:00 – 18:30 (local time)

COP29 Food & Agriculture Pavilion, Pavillion Number F9, Blue Zone

Side event concept note

Live Stream: <https://events.cgiar.org/theconvergenceinitiativesynerg>

Background and objectives.

Achieving the SDGs and Paris Agreement requires cross-sector collaboration among governments, stakeholders (private sector, youth and science), and the UN to integrate food systems and climate action agendas. This side event will showcase initiatives and partnerships implemented by the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, CGIAR and FAO. In particular, the side event will refer to the Hub's Convergence Initiative and Scaling up Climate Ambition on Land Use (SCALA). It will present country case studies that highlight local-level convergence, demonstrating the impact of coordinated efforts on sustainable development transitions.

The side event will present case studies on:

- **Integrating National Food Systems Strategies with Climate Commitments** to encourage policymakers to ensure that national food systems transformation pathways are incorporated into updates of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs).
- **Cross-sector collaboration for sustainable food systems** between agriculture, climate, and environmental ministries, as well as international organizations, private sector actors, and civil society, to develop integrated policies that address food systems and climate goals.

The expected outcomes

- Articulate the Convergence Initiative's framework and SCALA as tools for supporting the achievement of the SDGs and the Paris Agreement.
 - Share actionable insights aligned with the SG Call-to-Action at UNFSS+2, the COP28 Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action
 - Discuss how resource partners can support the convergence of food systems and climate action nationally.
 - Emphasize the priorities of developing countries in the context of the food systems and climate action agendas.
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Proposed Agenda (90 min)

Moderator: Khaled Eltaweel, Senior Program Coordinator, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub.

Time	Topic	Speaker
5'	Opening and Scene Setting	Mr. Khaled Eltaweel , Senior Programme Coordinator, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub.
10'	Country Case study of the Convergence Initiative – presenting the outcomes of national inception workshop.	H.E. Mr. Febrian Alphyanto Ruddyard , Vice Minister, Ministry of National Development Planning/BAPPENAS.
50'	Panel discussion: Description of the organization's work on food systems and climate issues, highlighting the roles of key stakeholders (countries, the UN, scientific community, financial partners, and youth) and the means of implementation on converging food systems and climate action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Martial Bernoux, Team Leader and Senior Natural Resources Officer, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment, FAO. • Dr. Aditi Mukherji, Director of Climate Impact Area, CGIAR. • Ms. Raelene Martin, Head of Sustainability, International Chamber of Commerce. • Ms. Helena Van Tichelen. Master's student in bioscience engineering, specializing in agricultural land, water, and climate management, active in IAAS and Agriculture Working Group of YOUNGO.
15'	Q&A with Audience	
5'	Wrap up and closing remarks	Mr. Khaled Eltaweel , Senior Programme Coordinator, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub