

THE UNITED NATIONS FOOD SYSTEMS COORDINATION HUB

THE CONVERGENCE INITIATIVE



The urgent need to converge Food Systems Strategies with Climate Action

- At the UN Food Systems Summit+2 Stocktaking Moment in July 2023, the UN Secretary-General called on nations to **align national food systems transformation strategies with national priorities on climate, biodiversity, nutrition, and resilience/decent jobs/social protection.**
- In December 2023, the UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action was endorsed by 159 Heads of State at COP28. **Governments committed to integrating food systems and climate action** within national policies and programmes, and to reflect this in key documents by the end of 2025.
- These national integration efforts benefit from **dialogues** that engage the whole of government and society, and through the sharing of experiences between countries.

Convergence Initiative

Objective

Support national efforts to advance the alignment between the food and climate agendas to enable stakeholders at national levels, to **explore each other's mandates and priorities** to support the transformation of food systems, the achievement of the SDGs, and the Paris Climate Agreement.

The UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, with technical support from the 4SD Foundation, will provide tailored **support to these efforts** by encouraging structured dialogue among stakeholders and offering a portfolio of services as they access and debate evidence, acquire new knowledge, share experiences with each other, and implement novel working practices when addressing interconnected and complex issues.

Linkages and synergies



Integrated approaches

Integrating across sectors and disciplines to achieve sustainable food systems that contribute to the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals.



Updating policy instruments

Drawing on references such as the FAO Roadmap to SDG2* and associated toolkits to update policy instruments such as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs).



Dialogues and Stakeholder Engagement

Engaging diverse stakeholders inclusively with dialogues, for exploration among food and climate actors.

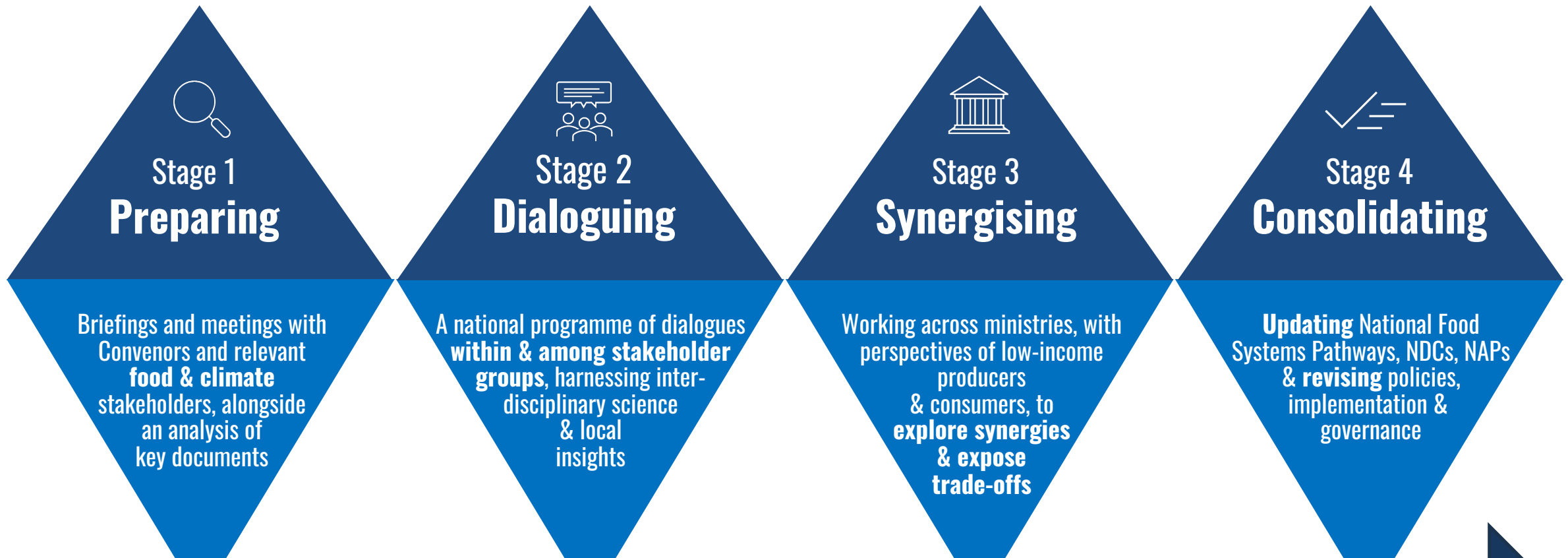


Support and Capacity Building

Providing support mechanisms and capacity-building initiatives to take advantage of the convergence.

* Achieving SDG2 Without Breaching the 1.5 Degrees Celsius Threshold: A Global Roadmap

National Convergence Processes: 4 Stages



SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS, AND CLIMATE ACTION

Outcomes



Tailored support of country convergence of food systems and climate action processes

- Convergence processes aimed at transforming food systems and addressing climate change will have advanced in country.
- Food systems transformation will be incorporated into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and National Determined Contributions (NDCs), and climate actions in National Food Systems Pathways.

Convergence of food systems and climate action at global and regional levels

- The integration of food systems transformation and climate action will be one of the most significant paths for achieving the SDGs at the global and regional level.
- Tangible results of this convergence will be showcased during COP30 and UNFSS+4.

Measuring National Progress

Governance

Are there cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder mechanisms established that include relevant sectors (e.g. agriculture, climate, nutrition, environment, health, and others)? How do they function?

Policy

Are food systems issues integrated into National Adaptation Plans, Nationally Determined Contributions, Long-term Strategies, National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, and other related strategies within the coming two years, in time for COP30?

Implementation

Are programs, projects and initiatives being implemented that reflect convergence and collaboration between multiple stakeholders across different sectors, including agriculture, nutrition environment and climate?



How will National Convenors be supported?



1. Analysis of the current context

Update national pathways, NDCs, and NAPs to address current climate challenges. – through a whole-society whole-government process.

2. Tailored Support

Guidance, orientation, dialogues, connection sessions, training, peer-to-peer learning, and capacity building.

3. Convening

Convening UN agencies and mobilization of other relevant actors from the Ecosystem of support.

4. Technical assistance

Facilitation of access to technical assistance to align food systems transformation and climate action processes.

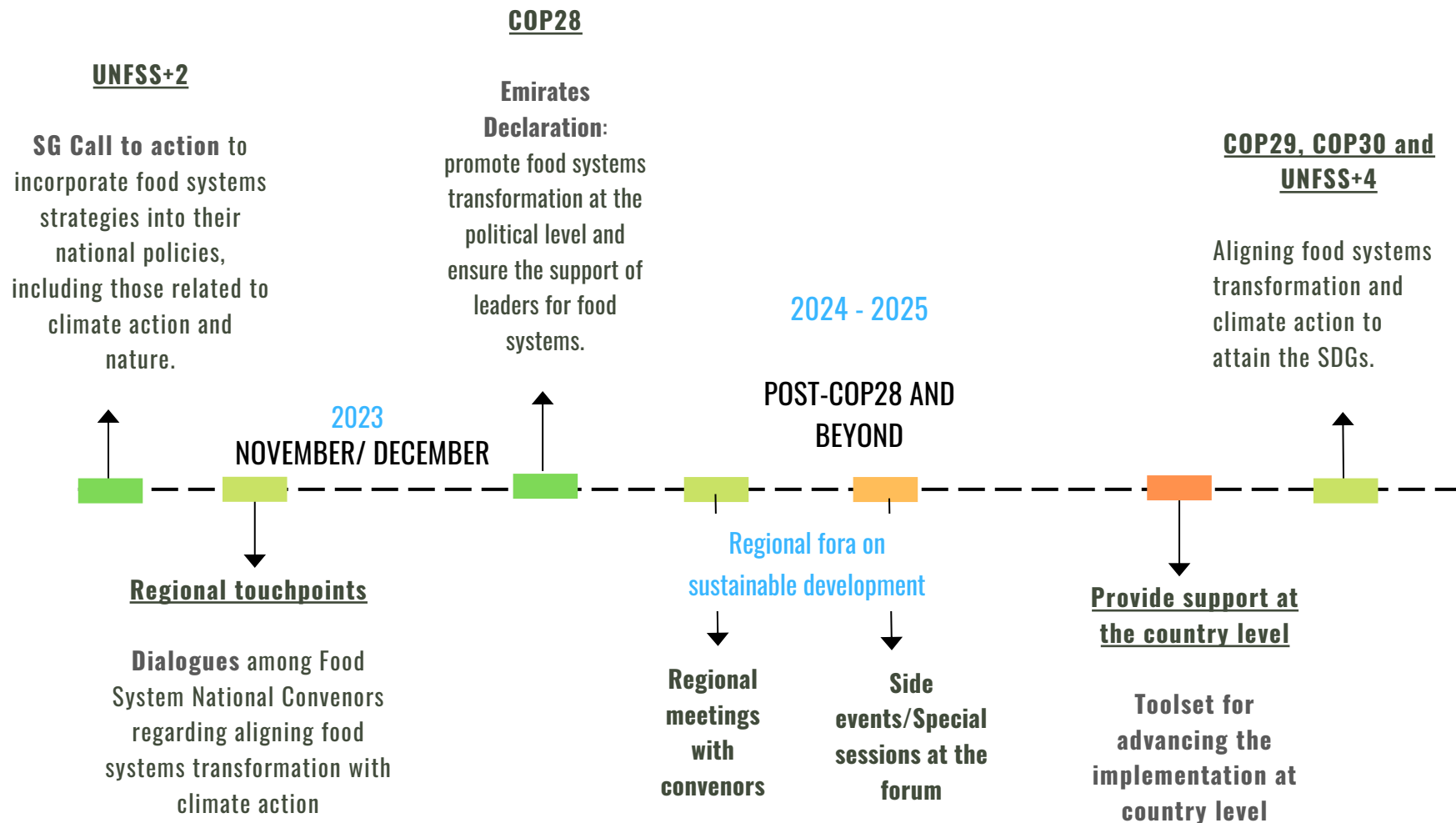
5. Support a System Approach

Foster collaboration and coherence across different sectors, stakeholders, and processes aimed at facilitating convergence at the national level.

6. Track progress

Guidance for tracking progress, based on a set of indicators.

Milestones for the Food Systems and Climate Action Convergence



Interactive discussion

- How is the current collaboration between the different ministries, stakeholders connecting food systems and the climate?
- How can the initiative be implemented in your country?
- Who should be involved in this process?
- How can national convenors be effectively supported and accompanied to access the evidence, knowledge, and skills necessary to address the interconnected and complex issues at hand?





The UN Food Systems Coordination Hub



FFS-Hub@fao.org



@foodsystems

