

Making Food Affordable for Rural People: Is It Possible?

30th November 2021
10:00 - 11:30 (CET)

Background - Gaining access to healthy and affordable food regardless of income is a challenge for the majority of rural people in developing countries. The most basic requirement of getting enough calories is not met by up to 811 million people, who were undernourished last year (SOFI, 2021). Healthy diets are expensive: more than four times the cost of a basic, calorie-sufficient one.

This event brings together different voices and perspective from governments, food systems experts and CSOs and aims at discussing food systems solutions to increase food availability and affordability for rural people, identify interlinkages and connect the dots.

PROGRAM

Moderator: **Ronald Thomas Hartman**, Director, Global Engagement, Partnership and Resource Mobilization (GPR), IFAD

10:00 - 10:10 OPENING SESSION

Introduction

- **Ronald Thomas Hartman**, Director of Global Engagement, Partnership and Resource mobilization, IFAD

Welcome Remarks

- **Gilbert F. Hougbo**, President, IFAD

Opening Statements

- **Takako Suzuki**, State - Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan
- **Takeharu Yamanaka**, Mayor, City of Yokohama, Japan

10:10 - 10:30 SESSION 1: KEY NOTE STATEMENT - THE TRUE COST AND TRUE PRICE OF FOOD

Presentation of the recent evidence on affordability of healthy, nutritious diet and the impact of the current food system on natural capital and health.

- **Gunhild Stordalen**, Founder and executive chair, EAT Foundation
- **Josephine Joseph Lagu**, Minister for Agriculture and Food Security, Republic of South Sudan

10:30 - 10:40 SESSION 2: AFFORDABILITY OF FOOD – PERSPECTIVES FROM GOVERNMENTS

Growing levels of acute food and nutrition insecurity are reversing years of development gains in several LMICs and hindering the transition from emergency to development in fragile contexts. National governments have to deal with increased hunger due to the effects from extreme climate events, conflict, and other shocks and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Kiran Rupakhetee**, Joint Secretary and Division Chief, Good Governance and Social Development, Government of Nepal
- **Michael Waweru**, Senior Monitoring & Evaluation and Knowledge Management Officer, Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP), Kenya

10:40 - 11:00 SESSION 3: SOLUTIONS TOWARDS IMPROVED FOOD AFFORDABILITY

Highlight the important role of the private sector, and in particular SMEs, to ensure social, financial and environmental sustainability of healthy diets for all and underline the importance of collaboration with the private sector on food systems transformation to safeguard the affordability of nutritious foods in rural areas.

- **Lawrence Haddad**, Executive Director, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

Role of indigenous organizations to revitalize locally controlled, biodiverse-rich food systems based on agroecology principles, and coordinating research, training, marketing and social activism including strategies for public policies to support increased food affordability.

- **Phrang Roy**, Coordinator, Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity and Food Sovereignty (TIP)

11:00 - 11:25 Q&A SESSION

11:25 - 11:30 TAKE HOME and CONCLUSIONS

Wrap Up and Closing Statement

- **Ronald Thomas Hartman**, Director of Global Engagement, Partnership and Resource mobilization, IFAD

The event will be in English with interpretation in Spanish, French and Japanese.

The event is accessible only through registration at this [link](#)