



One planet
eat with care

Sustainable
Food Systems

Good Food for People and the Planet ***Working together towards 2030***

2nd Global Conference of the
One Planet (10YFP) Sustainable Food Systems Programme

San Jose, Costa Rica, 5-7 February 2019

Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) Headquarters

INVITATION

07 November 2018

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

On behalf of the organizing committee as well as the host government of Costa Rica, it is my pleasure to invite you to the 2nd global conference of the UN One Planet network's Sustainable Food Systems (SFS) Programme, which will take place on 5-7 February 2019 in San Jose, Costa Rica. For information on the conference agenda, please consult our website at: <https://www.sfsprogramme.org/>

Thank you for kindly **confirming your participation by 31 December 2018**, through the online registration system at: <https://www.sfsprogramme.org/register> (password: SFS4ALL). Please note, however, that seats are limited and we recommend that you register at your earliest convenience to secure your participation.

Global Food Systems Challenges

The development of sustainable food systems is central to achieving many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In addition to their significance for more responsible production and consumption (SDG12), they contribute to poverty reduction (SDG1), ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition (SDG2), improving health and wellbeing (SDG3), and promoting decent work and employment (SDG8), amongst others.

Current food systems are unsustainable. Although yields per hectare have gone up significantly in many parts of the world in the last few decades, over 800 million people go to bed hungry every day and soils, biodiversity and habitats are increasingly degraded. Local and native crops, many of which are climate resilient, are rapidly disappearing. Complex and often non-transparent value chains hinder accountability, which may lead to exploitation and fraud. People in many parts of the world are shifting to diets that are high in calories, animal proteins and low-nutrient, highly processed foods. Unhealthy diets have become the main risk for human health, and non-communicable diseases like diabetes and obesity are on the rise. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the agri-food value chain (including agriculture-related deforestation, farming, processing, packaging, transportation and waste) account for about half of all human GHG emissions, and approximately one third of all food produced is lost or wasted rather than consumed, with a significant environmental footprint in terms of the water and land used for production.

The above issues are interrelated and require a systemic approach that involves all relevant actors and addresses all elements across the entire food system in a holistic manner, rather than focusing only on one or a subset of food system components.



Objectives and Expected Outcomes of the Conference

Building on the 1st global conference of the SFS Programme, the purpose of the 2nd conference will be to strengthen strategic multi-stakeholder partnerships with key food system actors and donors at all levels; bring about widely supported, science-based and actionable recommendations; stimulate higher levels of investments; and trigger increased political commitment for the creation of enabling policy environments for the transition to sustainable food systems.

In this context, the conference will:

- Take stock of progress since the 1st Global Conference of the Sustainable Food Systems (SFS) Programme, taking into account its conclusions and identified areas for future work;
- Identify new food system challenges;
- Offer a dialogue platform to share experiences, exchange ideas, propose concrete initiatives, and highlight relevant tools, approaches and good practices;
- Showcase concrete opportunities for responsible public and private investments in sustainable food systems, as a contribution towards the SDGs; and
- Stimulate specific commitments and pledges from governments, other food system stakeholders and resource partners.

Background

The SFS Programme is part of the broader One Planet network, which has formed to implement the UN 10-Year Framework for Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP). The 10YFP was adopted by Heads of State and Government in 2012 at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), with the aim to promote national, regional and international cooperation to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production (SCP) in developed and developing countries. The One Planet network has been recognized as an important implementation mechanism for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Logistical information regarding the venue, local transportation and accommodation in San Jose, will be made available soon on the conference website. In the meantime, **please contact Adriana Lobo Castellón** (alobo@mag.go.cr) for logistical questions regarding the conference.

Are you running an innovative project in support of sustainable food systems that you would like to tell us about? There will be exhibition space for **poster presentations**. If this is of interest to you, please contact us at sfsprogramme@blw.admin.ch by **7 December 2018**.

We hope to welcome you in Costa Rica for this important conference.

Sincerely yours;

Luis Renato Alvarado Rivera
Minister of Agriculture and Livestock
Costa Rica

