



INTEGRATED POLICY PRACTITIONERS' NETWORK

(IPPN)

Connecting knowledge and practitioners to lead integrated approaches to the SDGs

**Knowledge Café: UN Integrated Support for Food Systems
Transformation: The Issue-based Coalition in Europe and Central Asia**

Wednesday, 19 January 2022



OUTLINE:

- Introduction to Sustainable Food Systems and the Issue Based Coalition-SFS
- National food system pathways – tools of policy integration (Albania experience)
- Challenges/successes of policy integration

*Presentation by: **Mary Kenny**, Food Safety and Consumer Protection Officer,
FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia*

Issue-based Coalition on Sustainable Food Systems

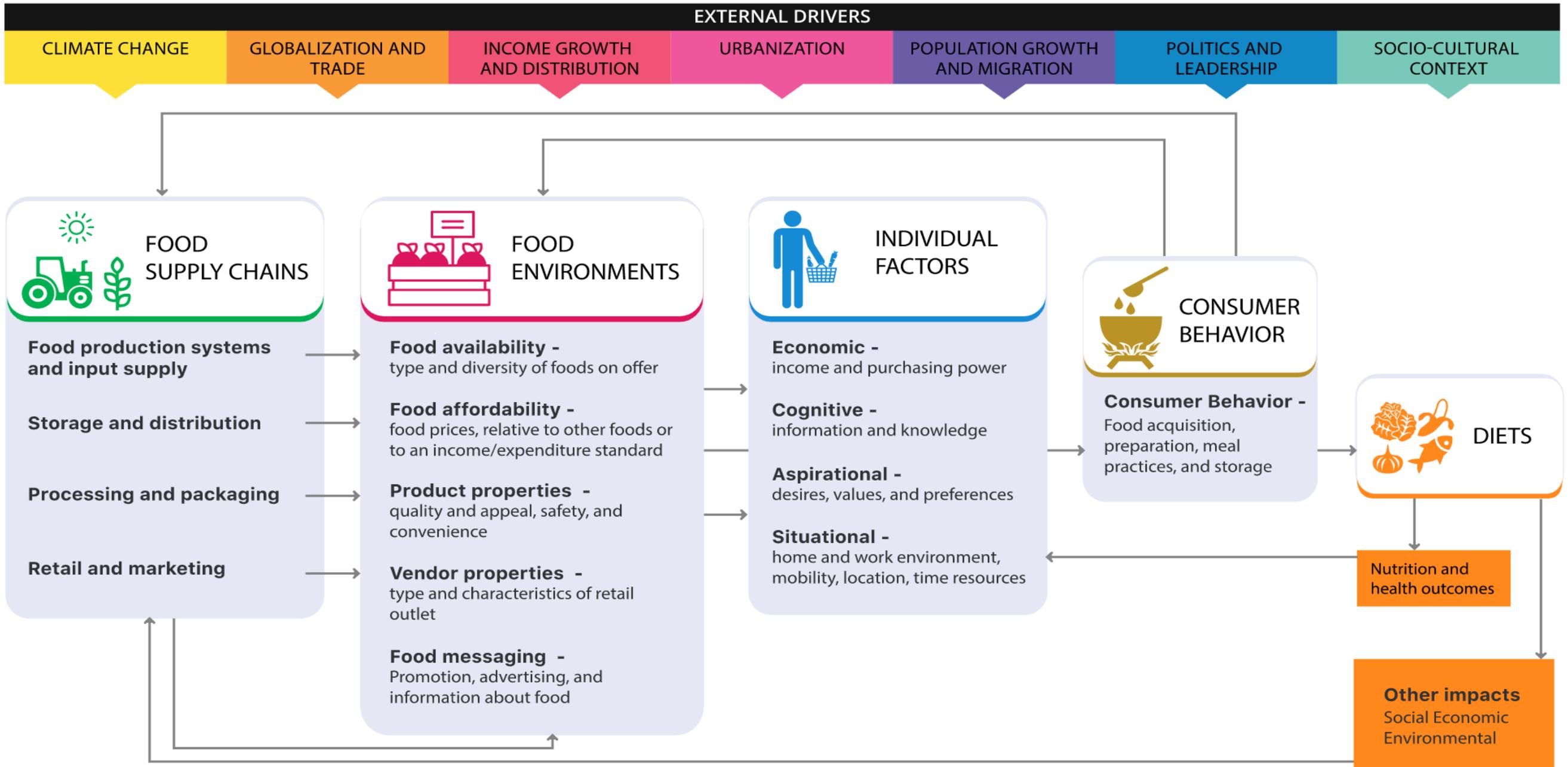


- Regional UN Coalition supporting UN Resident Coordinators, UN Country Teams, and thus Member Countries, with a **multi-sectoral and coordinated approach** on sustainable food systems, to contribute to the **achievement of the SDGs**.
- **Capitalizes on the expertise of several UN agencies**
- Delivering as One UN

- Established April 2020
 - Members: **FAO***, **UNICEF***, **WHO***, **IFAD**, **UNDP**, **UNECE**, **WFP** and **WMO**.
- * co-chairs



Food systems are crucial for delivering all the Sustainable Development Goals



IBC-SFS modalities for policy integration

1. Advocacy: SFS and multi-sectoral approaches

Technical Note on Sustainable Food Systems

Advocating UN Country Teams to support UNFSS
Member States dialogues

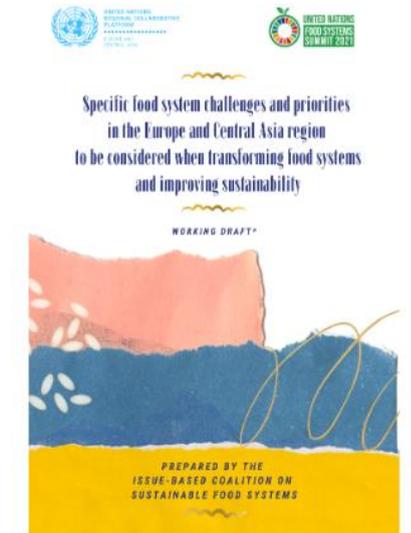
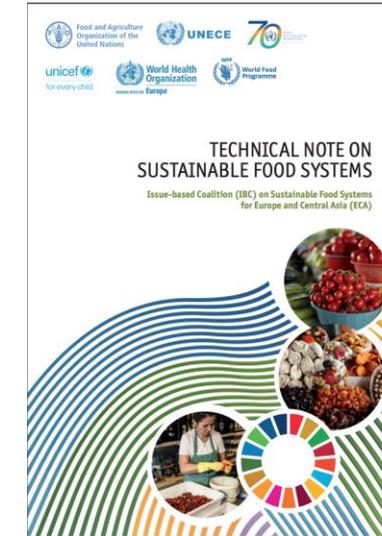
Food System Talks

Regional Dialogue for Europe and
Central Asia

Policy and governance
issues to transform food
systems in Europe and
Central Asia

Organized by the Issue-Based Coalition
on Sustainable Food Systems

25 May 2021 09:00am - 12:30pm CEST



2. Knowledge sharing and institutional development

Webinars

Regional Dialogue (May 2021) - focus on the need for strong
governance and holistic approaches

Community of Practice on Food Systems in Europe and Central
Asia

Policy Paper: Regional challenges and priorities on SFS
(working draft)

IBC modalities for policy integration

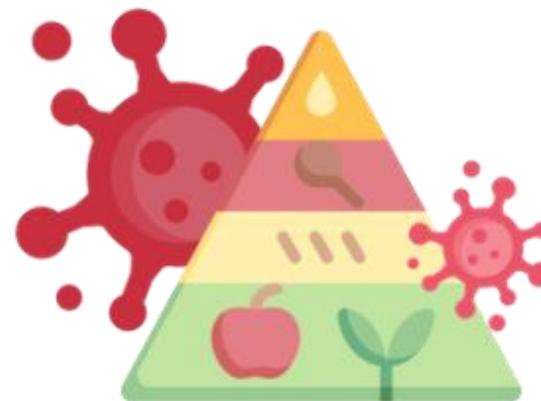


3. Emergency preparedness and response-related relevant information and guidance material

IBC-SFS online repository: facilitate the sharing of best practices and knowledge on the **impact of COVID-19 on the food systems.**

Roundtable for the **Regional Forum on Sustainable Development Accelerating SDG progress in the time of a pandemic: improving food systems to make healthy diets accessible to all**

Technical paper on the impact on COVID-19 on sustainable food systems



IPP Knowledge Cafe

UNICEF UN COOPERATION IN THE UNECE REGION

Issue-based Coalition on Sustainable Food Systems

Sustainable food systems lie at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To realize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the global food system needs to be reshaped to be more productive, more inclusive of poor and marginalized populations, environmentally and economically sustainable and resilient, and able to deliver safe, healthy and nutritious food to all. These are complex and systemic challenges that require the combination of interconnected actions at the local, national, regional and global levels.



<https://unece.org/issue-based-coalition-sustainable-food-systems>

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Chairs: IAG, UNICEF, WHO

Members: IFAD, UNDP, UNECE, WFP, WMO

Output:

- Advocacy:** High-level political commitment from member States to strengthen sustainable food systems obtained through multi-sectoral approaches, involving food, agriculture, health, education sectors among others.
- Capacity development and knowledge sharing:** Capacities developed and improved and knowledge transferred to strengthen sustainable food systems, through support to countries in developing and implementing appropriate policy measures, including through the provisioning of statistics, analytical tools and guidelines, and sharing best practices from within and outside the region. In Central Asia and Caucasus, the Regional Nutrition Capacity Development and Partnership Platform will be utilized and consulted for capacity development.
- Emergency preparedness and response:** Technical support provided to countries in a coordinated manner to strengthen countries' preparedness and response to food systems challenges caused by disasters and emergencies (including COVID-19).

Materials of the IBC on Sustainable Food Systems:

- Technical Note on Sustainable Food Systems [ENG](#) / [RUS](#)
- Technical Note on Sustainable Food Systems (short version): [ENG](#) / [RUS](#)
- Methodological Brief - UN Food Systems Summit: [ENG](#) / [RUS](#)
- UN Food Systems Summit regional dialogue, 25 May 2021
- Specific Food System Challenges and Priorities in the ECA region to be considered when transforming food systems and improving sustainability [ENG](#). This document is being disseminated as working draft. Reactions and feedback from readers are welcomed and can be sent to un-ibc-sustainable-food-systems@fao.org. These will be used to finalize the paper in late 2021. Also available in Russian [ENG](#).
- Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition: Affordable Healthy Diets to Address for Better Health [ENG](#)

Events:

- UN Food Systems Summit regional dialogue, 25 May 2021
- NEW** - Food Systems Talks [ENG](#)
- Food Systems Talk 1:** Scaling up nutrition as part of food systems transformation. Watch the video.

For further information, please see the [Terms of Reference](#) and the [Work Plan for 2020](#).

Regional Overview of the State of Food Security and Nutrition



- IBC-SFS collaboration to tackle issues in a cross-agency way
- Sharing data, evidence, policy advice



2020: FAO, WFP, UNECE, UNICEF, WHO, WMO
Affordable healthy diets to address all forms of malnutrition for better health

2022: (TBD) FAO, WFP, UNECE, WHO, UNICEF, WMO, and IFAD
Topic: Focus on environmental sustainability

Through these modalities, we are supporting UN Country Teams on sustainable food systems

Combining strengths of different UN agencies to support countries

Advocating for sustainable food systems in all policies and to “build back better”

Supporting policy reform and strategic planning in support of the transformation of food systems

Promoting consistency on impact assessments of COVID-19 on food systems



**UNITED NATIONS
FOOD SYSTEMS
SUMMIT 2021**



UNFSS MS Dialogue - Albania experience

- Strong and active support from the UN RC and the Minister of Agriculture during 4 national UNFSS Dialogues
- National Pathway: export potential of agriculture, value chain development, rural tourism, safety and health of the system, environmental protection, climate change mitigation, crisis management
- Multi-stakeholder: Central & local-government, national and international organizations, private sector, academia, civil society, public agencies as well as university
- UN Country Team support: FAO, and UNDP, UNIDO, ILO, WHO

Cooperation and partnership

- The current pathway is mostly focused on agriculture and rural development
- Wider social and health issues were considered
- People centred approach, small producers, youth, etc.
- Beginning of the process of multi-sectoral policy integration
- Include the pathway of SFS into the new National Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (2021-2025)

Challenges/successes of policy integration



	CHALLENGES	SUCCESSES/OPPORTUNITIES
MULTISECTORAL COORDINATION	Coordinating between the mandate of IBC and individual agencies	<p>IBC lead by example</p> <p>Trickle-down effect from IBC-SFS to individual agencies “common thinking”, to foster multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary work among Ministries and partners at country level</p> <p>Synergies are becoming more evident on key regional policy issues (e.g. school feeding and nutrition education, agriculture-environment interface, circular economy, financing policies for greening agriculture)</p>
		<p>Improved sharing and use of evidence and data</p> <p>UNFSS Member State dialogues – provided an opportunity</p>
COUNTRY LEVEL PROCESSES	Not all agencies see their role in sustainable food systems transformation	
	Challenges of policy coherence	Raised awareness and momentum
	Differences in country presence	Agencies with strong country presence can be a channel for evidence and information



What next for the IBC-SFS?

- Support **food systems transformation agenda**
- Continue to support governments to **build on the momentum of the UN Food Systems Summit at the country level**, and **implement national pathways** (23 Member States in the region)
- Engage and meet **needs of UN Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams** for food systems transformation
- Further distill **common policy priorities**, and join efforts through the UN Country Teams to support relevant government ministries and stakeholders, join up evidence and information

DISCUSSION



- What are the factors for success for policy coherence?
- How to further integrate sustainable food systems actions to ongoing programmes beyond the key Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Food?
- What is the role of UN Country Teams?

Further food for thought and discussion:

<https://foodsystems.community/communities/food-systems-in-europe-and-central-asia/>

**Food Systems in Europe and Central Asia.
Community of Practice**



 Learn more about the IPPN:
sdgintegration.undp.org/IPPN

 Join the IPPN group on SparkBlue:
sparkblue.org/IPPNgroup

 Sign up to receive updates about the IPPN:
bit.ly/IPPN_Sign-up

 Any questions? Drop us a line at:
ippn@sparkblue.org

