FOOD SYSTEM



What is a food system?



"A food system includes all the aspects of feeding and nourishing people: growing, harvesting, packaging, processing, transporting, marketing, and consuming food.

It encompasses all the interactions between people and the natural world

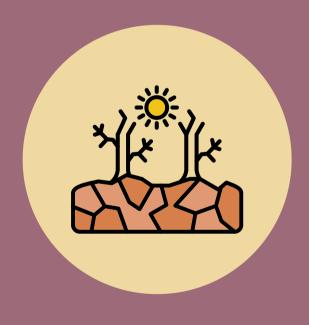
- food, land, water, climate, energy - and it also includes the inputs, infrastructure, and services that support the functioning of the system."



Source: IFAD

A broken food system

Food systems are contributing up to 1/3 of greenhouse gas emissions, 80% of biodiversity loss and 70% of freshwater. We waste 1/3 of food produced globally.



Sustainable food systems are essential to ensure long-term food security, ecological benefits and public health.

It is possible to feed a growing global population while protecting our planet.

What is a sustainable food system?

It is one that delivers food security and nutrition for all;

It is profitable throughout;

It has broad-based benefits for society;

It has a positive or neutral impact on the natural environment



Source: FAO

Five action areas to transition to a sustainable food system:

- 1. Nourish all people;
- 2. Boost nature-based solutions;
- 3. Advance equitable livelihoods & empowered communities;
- 4. Build resilience to climatic stresses;
- 5. Accelerate action



Governments in their local contexts must drive action to support the transition.

Examples of actions include:

Increase the availability and affordability of nutritious foods fruits, vegetables, eggs, fish, meat, and fortified foods - by incentivizing their production, distribution, and retailing.





Implementing national standards and legislations to protect young children and families from processed and ultraprocessed foods.

Increase the desirability of nutritious and safe foods through multiple communication channels to reach the population with easy-to-understand, coherent information.



Source: UNICEF

Examples of World Food Programme interventions

Home Grown School Meals which connects local smallholder farmers to the supply chain of school canteens;

Creation and rehabilitation of infrastructure in exchange for food or cash-based assistance;

Strengthening public food reserves;

Supporting smallholder farmers by facilitating credit, capacity development and market access.



We are on a mission to spread awareness amongst health professionals about the connection between soil-human health.

Join us in our mission!

Coalition of Health Professionals for Regenerative Agriculture