

Integrating nutrition and food security in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

COP27 Health Pavilion Hybrid Side Event 12 November 2022 (Adaptation and Agriculture Day), from 14:00 to 15:15 (EET), WHO Health Pavilion & Virtual

Background:

Food insecurity and malnutrition are critical problems globally, and climate change is exacerbating the situation and creating a vicious cycle, with the most vulnerable paying the highest price. What people eat, how food gets from farm to plate, and the dynamics in the food systems, all lie at the food–health–environment nexus.

Food systems are both key drivers and victims of climate change. On the driver side, food systems account for 34 percent of anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Experts project this share will increase drastically in the coming decades due to increased demand for food, especially animal-source foods, if no action is taken. On the vulnerability side, climate change is also exacerbating extreme events worldwide. Heatwaves and strong precipitation, in particular, have become more intense and frequent, endangering crop production and biodiversity and leading to higher levels of food insecurity.

This side event intends to raise awareness of the links between climate change, health and nutrition. It will discuss concrete solutions that target both climate change adaptation and mitigation, with a particular focus on integrating nutrition and food security in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). In addition, the event will present an overarching UN-Nutrition narrative, emerging from the several COP27 events, on the need to reduce food systems' impact on the environment and protect the food security and nutrition of populations, leaving no one behind. Speakers from different constituencies (UN agencies, governments, academia), will present concrete examples and challenges of integrating nutrition in climate change mitigation and adaptation policies and strategies.

The aim of the discussion is to send a message to the COP27 negotiators, advocating for more decisive action to accelerate transformative solutions that address the critical nexus between health, nutrition and climate change, while increasing resilience.

Agenda

Time	Agenda item	Speaker
14:00- 14:02	Opening	Stineke Oenema, UN-Nutrition Executive Secretary (in person)
14:02- 14:20	<u>Setting the scene:</u> 'Nutrition-sensitive' mitigation and adaptation strategies and how to measure progress and ensure accountability.	 Stineke Oenema, UN-Nutrition Executive Secretary (in person) Claudia Ringler, Deputy Director of Environment and Production Technology Division, IFPRI (in person)
14:20- 14:35	Panel discussion: Integrating nutrition in mitigation and adaptation strategies (15 mins)	 Ms Katherine Meighan, Associate Vice-President & General Counsel, IFAD (in person) Elena Villalobos Prats, Technical Officer of Climate Change and Health, WHO (in person)
14:35- 14:55	Panel discussion: Regional and country solutions	
	• Impact of climate-related disasters on nutrition and food security in the global south from a solution perspective	 Florian Waldschmidt, Senior Program Associate, Climate Analytics – UNU-EHS (in person)
	• Nutrition in adaptation and mitigation plans in Africa and linkages with the African Union Year of Nutrition	 Ms Boitshepo Bibi Giyose, Senior Advisor Food & Nutrition Security, AUDA-NEPAD (in person)
	• Insights from Israel: Nutritional Guidelines and Nudge program	 Prof Ronit Endevelt, Ministry of Health, Israel (in person)
14:55- 15:10	<u>Q&A with the audience</u>	All speakers
15:10- 15:15	Closing remarks	Stineke Oenema, UN-Nutrition Executive Secretary