

Global Foodscapes

Forecasts from our Global Food
and Nutrition Affairs Team

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Welcome to the second edition of Global Foodscapes, news and insights you can use from FoodMinds' global food and nutrition affairs team. Today's issue focuses on the first-ever [United Nations Food Systems Summit](#) ("Summit"), taking place in September 2021 in New York City and virtually alongside the UN General Assembly, an annual meeting of international heads of state.

Is there a particular topic you'd like to see covered in a future Foodscapes? Let us know [here!](#)

– *Sarah Levy, FoodMinds' Global
Director of Food & Nutrition Affairs*





Four Things You Should Know About:



The UN Food Systems Summit

1. The Summit aims to transform the way the world produces, consumes and thinks about food. The Summit is the first UN event of its kind to focus entirely on food systems, at a timely moment leading into the [UN Decade of Action](#) to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. The Summit preparations process has been underway for many months, with heads of state, scientists, business leaders, farmers and other stakeholders actively engaging to define what sustainable food systems look like, as well as identify the policy and private sector actions urgently needed over the next decade to build them. They're contributing via [Food Systems Summit Dialogues](#), the [Food Systems Community](#), [Scientific Papers](#) and more. It's not too late to get involved and have your say in what steps should be taken to achieve a more sustainable, nutritious and equitable food system.

2. The most immediate – and major – milestone is the [Pre-Summit](#) meeting in Rome, this July 26-28. It will provide the earliest preview of what Summit leaders plan to reveal as major priority actions in September. Organizers will distill over a year's worth of scientific evidence gathering, identify their top recommended priorities for food systems transformation and articulate a common vision that will underpin the Summit. Tune in virtually to the Pre-Summit to learn how this gathering and the commitments stemming from it will shape the food and agriculture sectors for years to come. Our team will have dedicated staff providing analysis of this important meeting – [reach out](#) to learn more.

3. What happens *after* the Summit is even more important, as national leaders will move to deliver on their commitments. Public and private sector commitments stemming

from the Summit are expected to be measured in a Global Food Systems 2030 Report or other reporting mechanisms for transparency and accountability. Policymakers from regions like the European Union are already [approving priorities](#) for their vision of healthy, sustainable food systems in line with the Summit. Consider how these outcomes will impact your organization, and what strategies you may need to create to adapt to future changes in global-, regional-, and country-level food and nutrition policies and programs.

4. The Biden Administration will advance food and agricultural innovation and promote climate solutions at the Summit. In April, President Biden hosted the [Leaders' Summit on Climate](#), which reiterated the need for global cooperation to tackle the climate crisis. He also announced the United States' leadership on the [Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate](#) (AIM for Climate), alongside several partner countries. This initiative seeks to accelerate agricultural innovation and research to reduce emissions and bolster the resiliency of food systems. AIM for Climate will be advanced at the Summit and officially launched at COP26 in November. It will be increasingly important to build novel research and development pipelines that tackle food loss and waste, crop breeding and sourcing practices across the food value chain.

Interested in learning more? FoodMinds' global food and nutrition affairs team helps clients navigate the evolving landscape and prepare for the future. We're actively engaging in the Summit and other evidence-based efforts to define and build healthy, sustainable food systems around the world. Reply to this email or reach out to [Sarah Levy](#) to start the conversation.



Global Food Views



How can global food and nutrition stakeholders help to accelerate the UN Food Systems Summit's call for a transformation of our food and agricultural systems?

“We have a tremendous opportunity to support a food system that delivers affordable, nutritious food and preserves the health and wellbeing of humans, animals and the planet. Global food and nutrition stakeholders can help to accelerate positive change through taking evidence-based, impactful action across the food chain to help ensure that food is healthy, accessible and affordable for all communities today – and contributes to healthy, equitable and sustainable food systems for future generations to come.

– Allison Mikita, MS, Vice President & Director, Global ExpertBench™, FoodMinds

“Consumer interest in the provenance and sustainability of the food they’re buying has grown since the pandemic and we’re starting to see more companies willing to provide carbon labelling on goods too. Making food production and distribution more sustainable is going to be a win for businesses, consumers, food security and the environment.”

– Dean Duke, Head of Food and Drink, Hanover, a FoodMinds partner agency



Photo courtesy of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Food for Thought



Reflections and perspectives from the FoodMinds team on emerging sustainable food systems topics.

[The Biden Administration on Environmental Justice](#)

“President Biden’s strategy for climate policy repeatedly emphasizes the Administration’s ambition to ‘deliver’ on environmental justice. Stakeholders, including those in agriculture and food and beverage sectors, can contribute to sustainable development by ensuring their commitments and actions are equitable and inclusive.”

– *Maura Killian, RDN, Senior Account Executive, FoodMinds*



The Seeds of Change - Food Thoughts from Food Systems Heroes

“As individuals, we can sow the seeds of food systems change in our own communities. Food Systems Heroes feed into the United Nations Food Systems Summit and will help sustain the Summit’s momentum beyond September 2021.”

– *Elizabeth Reilly, Senior Director, FoodMinds*



Global food and nutrition affairs is FoodMinds’ point of difference. [Learn more here.](#)

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