

GFAR Webinar on UNFSS National Pathways

19 January 2023

Q&A

1) From a country perspective: all of these national engagements are becoming more and more complex, as the interlinkages between themes/sectors imply stronger inter-ministries work. How are these various UN-framed national plans coordinated among themselves - between the NDCs, the national development plans, the SDG engagements, the national pathways for food system transformation, the newly requested national biodiversity plans, etc.? These cannot be implemented separately there are also probably some win-win activities, but also some balancing needed between targets which are not always going in the same direction?

Each country has its own approach to this coordination effort. Often it works well when there is an overall coordination effort led at a high level. As in the case of Egypt, for the FSS pathway, for example, through the Prime Minister's office. But line ministries have their responsibilities for monitoring achievements in different areas and sectors. It is important that there is an actor at the heart of government that is responsible for connecting these initiatives and targets to foster coherence. Perhaps other countries can share their experience in dealing with this challenge.

2) Interesting representation of the communicating vessels! I was wondering: where are the end consumers, which also have their role and leverage capacity?

Actually, the end users as beneficiaries could be seen as liquid vessels. And yes, you are right, we have to depict / highlight the end users in that picture. Thanks.

3) What do research institutions and their regional fora do differently now in an effort to contribute towards food systems transformation?

As for APAARI, we now work much more in partnership with different types of stakeholders than before. This is crucial to ensure that different perspectives are taken into consideration when implementing concrete innovative actions and initiatives at both national and regional levels.

4) Have any of the respected speakers using the digital Extension (in agriculture), such as farmer to farmer videos, engaged with others who work in this digital Agri Extension?

This is urgent and an emerging topic, globally. As nowadays, no economy can cover all growers and producers, physically. Only a hybrid system now seems to be efficient.

APAARI has recently engaged with the Indonesian Centre for Agricultural Training at the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Extension and Human Resource Development (IAAEHRD) that developed a new

extension methodology using digitalization to disseminate technology and knowledge by creating a system commando strategic pertanian. The system enables connection of the center of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) with the center of extension (kostratani/BPP) at the sub-district level through knowledge-sharing events and virtual training programs. It is very effective and inexpensive. APAARI will be publishing a success story on this approach.

5) Is GFAR considering taking a biogeographical perspective?

GFAR is an open platform and space. Though we have geo-regional fora, that does not mean that our interventions and engagement are geographically limited. Any country could be member of biogeographical area in GFAR. GFAR is working in the regions in local bioregional languages through regional fora. For example, the common language for CACAARI is Russian.