



**AN INDEPENDENT
DIALOGUES SPECIAL
SYNTHESIS REPORT**
**Women's Perspectives on
Food Systems**

*Written by Donna
Podems, PhD &
Charmagne E. Campbell-Patton, MA*

Blue Marble Evaluation Team

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Blue Marble Evaluation Preface

This report was prepared by members of the [Blue Marble Evaluation Network](#).

Blue Marble Evaluation (BME) is an approach to evaluating global initiatives aimed at transforming systems towards a more sustainable world. Blue Marble Evaluators constitute a global network of evaluators who work in the space of global systems transformation. For this assignment, our BME team brings together evaluators from around the globe who offer an interdisciplinary approach to research and evaluation. As a team, we bring various standpoints yet at the same time we have a shared view seeing the world as a global system of ecological and human interdependence.

Blue Marble Evaluation (BME) teams have been working to synthesize themes across hundreds of Independent Dialogues, which resulted in two interim reports.¹ In doing so, the BME synthesis team and the FSS Secretariat identified a need for a deeper dive into the perspectives of several key stakeholder groups: smallholder farmers, Indigenous Peoples, youth, and women. The data presented in this synthesis are from Independent Dialogues that focused on women and gender-related issues. Conveners of those dialogues were invited to participate in a special focus group to discuss cross-cutting themes, common issues, and divergent perspectives.

The authors of this report were selected for this deep dive synthesis because of their knowledge of the issues faced by women and their support for including the voices of women in research and evaluation. The interpretations expressed in this report, based on their analysis of dialogues and the subsequent focus groups, are solely those of the report authors and offered to support Summit deliberations.

Author bios can be found at the conclusion of this report (p. 24).

¹ Interim Report 1: https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/April-Interim-Synthesis-Report_FSS-Independent-Dialogues_.pdf; Interim Report 2: https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/unfss_independent_dialogue_synthesis_report_2_0.pdf

Executive Summary

Women bring one of many critical perspectives needed to support sustainable and equitable food systems. This report provides a deep dive into the perspectives of women on food systems and their importance to the Food Systems Summit. It is organized into three sections: (1) why a focus on women's perspectives is important, (2) overview of some of the key perspectives women have on food systems, and (3) strategies for engaging women in the Food Systems Summit. Each section of the report offers key themes that emerged from a qualitative analysis of 17 Independent Dialogue reports and a focus group with 7 Dialogue convenors. The key themes in each section are summarized below. In the report that follows, quotes from Dialogue reports and convenors provide depth and context to these themes.

Why a Focus on Women's Perspectives is Important

Equality. While women play important roles across food systems, their voices are often underrepresented and undervalued.

Vulnerability. Women are more adversely affected by, and vulnerable to, instability across food systems.

Leadership. Women are already leading the change across food systems; however, they need more support, space and voice to bring about transformation.

Knowledge-sharing. Women are deeply connected to their communities and cultures and bring forward different perspectives and experiences than men.

Women's Perspectives on Food Systems

Improved Data. Women called for improved data gathering on gender across food systems, as well as more effective use of empirical data to reduce barriers faced by women.

Increased Access. Funding, financing mechanisms, education, capacity building and technology need to be more accessible to women and focus on gender transformation and women's empowerment.

Inclusive Policies. Design and implementation of policies need to be gender-transformative and inclusive.

Local Context. While a systems-level approach is necessary, solutions must be localized and take into account politics, social context and cultural beliefs.

Shifting Mindsets. Perspectives and practices in various sectors need to shift to see the systems and to value the role of women, as well as to see critical connections across food systems.

Transformative Vision. Food systems need to be regenerative and equitable.

Leveraging Opportunities. COVID-19 and the climate emergency provide a chance to rethink

the culture and practices.

How Women Want to Engage in the Summit & Beyond

Support Integration. Ensure women (and other marginalized groups) are not seen as an “add-on,” but are integral to all Summit convenings and decisions.

Encourage Connections among Women. Women benefit from spaces where they can connect with peers and mentors across the food system.

Develop Partnerships. Women stressed the importance of working with men as allies, as well as building cross-sector partnerships.

Recognize Various Roles & Identities. Acknowledge, value and make space for the multiple roles and identities that women hold.

Provide Support. Address barriers to participation in the Summit and across food systems.

Overall, the data confirmed that a woman's perspective is important to ensure an equitable and transformed food system. Women's insights and knowledge are critical to inform and to reality-check game-changing proposals against lived experiences. Balancing the different perspectives, needs and roles of women, as with all stakeholders, will be key to the success of the Food Systems Summit. Our primary recommendation is to look closely at the strategies suggested in Section 3, specifically create space for a diversity of women's voices to be heard and ensure that these women actively engage in all aspects of the Food Systems Summit and beyond.

Introduction

Women bring unique and critical perspectives needed to support sustainable and equitable food systems. To better understand these perspectives, our team identified 24 Independent Dialogues (hereafter Dialogues) that focused specifically on women.² A qualitative analysis of these data resulted in identifying key themes. Our BME team then explored those themes by engaging with the Dialogue convenors in an online focus group discussion. Seven convenors attended the focus group, in which we asked three primary questions:

- Why do we need to focus on women's perspectives on food systems?
- What are women's perspectives on food systems?
- How should women be engaged in the Food Systems Summit?

Within each question, we heard how women are often the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, and yet at the same time bring key knowledge, lived experience and leadership to food systems. The voices that we present in this synthesis could never represent the diverse and sometimes divergent women's voices across food systems. Yet this report provides a particular insight -- that of women represented through these Dialogues; voices which need to be heard in an inclusive and meaningful dialogue at the Food Systems Summit in support of food systems transformation.

Section 1:

Why a Focus on Women's Perspectives is Important

The global goals set by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognize women's rights as an explicit cross-cutting catalyst to ending poverty (Goal 1); seeking to achieve food security and improved nutrition (Goal 2) and achieving gender equality and women's empowerment (Goal 5).³

While women constitute just over half the world's population, their voice is often drowned out of political and social processes where decisions are made or reinforced. Hearing women's voices at the Summit will bring unique, specific and needed perspectives on food systems that emanate from women's moral, ethical, social, economic, and cultural standpoints, substantiated by their lived

realities and scientific knowledge and research. With this understanding, our research identified key themes that need to be addressed at the Summit, particularly around (1) equality, (2) vulnerability, (3) leadership, and (4) knowledge-sharing.

Each of these themes is further explored below.

Equality. While women play important roles across food systems, their voices are often underrepresented and undervalued.

Research shows that women are responsible for half of the world's food production.⁴ They also tend to be primarily responsible for feeding their families. Yet across food systems, they are underrepresented in leadership positions and often denied access to land, training, finance, and other key resources. Data from the Dialogues and focus group support these claims. While disparities and challenges in the food systems cut across multiple issues, a fundamental challenge to a food systems sustainability can be found in gender inequality. One Dialogue report noted,

*The transformation of food systems is a political, economic and environmental issue, but above all it is a question of gender equality. The stark inequalities experienced by women and girls are both a cause and a result of unsustainable food systems, unfair access to food, consumption and production. **Addressing gender injustice** and truly empowering women is not only a fundamental prerequisite for transforming food systems, but also a goal in itself.⁵*

² See Annex A for a complete list of these Dialogues.

³ United Nations, 2015.

Another Dialogue held in Africa offered this perspective:

*Ownership of land for women is still a major hiccup leading to limited access to finance due to lack of collateral and consequently resulting in productivity gaps of up to 30% between men and women. The triple burden of malnutrition affects women and their households more in African households and this has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. **Gender inequality is one of the causes and results of unsustainable food systems.** Women are inadequately involved in decision making and this has had an impact on: (1) health, (2) poverty levels and (3) general quality of life. Women led micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) are less likely to access formal finance loans and support.⁶ (emphasis added)*

Women fulfil multiple roles beyond their role of “farmer”, which also contributes to their challenges, and their potential to influence food systems in multiple ways, at multiple levels, if inequality is addressed. A Dialogue from India provides insight regarding the multiple roles that women fulfil and the relationship to inequality:

*Women are the back-bone of an informal worker's household and most commonly shoulder the responsibility of fulfilling the family's food and nutritional needs. At the same time, women play a major role in the Food system – in production, processing, trading of food and in making decisions about consumption and purchase of food at household level. Despite their importance in the food system, women are constrained by their lack of land ownership and access to other resources due to patriarchal farming systems and gender discrimination. Additionally, agricultural support systems in India are mostly composed of men, affecting women's access to resources to increase their incomes. **Therefore, tackling gender injustice and truly empowering women is not only a fundamental prerequisite for food systems transformation but also a goal.**⁸(emphasis added)*

Several convenors echoed these ideas during the focus group:

If the agricultural labor force is mostly composed by women, then morally, they should reap the benefits as well. It is a matter of justice. Looking at the whole system, the different nodes are not equal. Especially when it comes to women....at the production level, we find a lot of women. But as the system expands becomes more complicated, and in some cases becomes more lucrative when it comes to money, then we have fewer women and more men. So, it will be very important to have a more inclusive system from farm to fork.

⁴ FAO, n.d.

⁵ Diálogo Regional sobre la igualdad de género y el empoderamiento de las mujeres, 31 March 21, 6646, page 5.

⁶ Strengthening and Amplifying the Voices and Leadership of Women in Food Systems, 18 June 2021, 24972, page 5.

⁷ Dempsey, 2020.

Data from one Dialogue report provides a concrete example of how women's equity supports a sustainable food system:

Research has shown that empowering women leads to several positive outcomes along the food value chain and hence addressing the unique challenges faced by women is key. Moreover, research has shown that when women farmers have equal access to agricultural inputs (fertilizer and seed) as men, yield can increase by 19%.⁹

Vulnerability. Women are more adversely affected by, and vulnerable to, instability across food systems.

Despite the key roles that women play in maintaining all four roles of food security, women also face extreme vulnerability across food systems. One Dialogue report noted some barriers that contribute to that vulnerability:

Women...are central elements to ensuring food security and nutrition in their families and communities. However, they suffer from a higher vulnerability to food insecurity in relation to their male counterparts: as smallholder farmers, they produce the majority of the food in their countries, but few own the land they cultivate, and many don't have access to public services and lack basic rights.¹⁰

Other Dialogues explored women's vulnerability from a systems perspective. For example, a Dialogue that focused on women's nutrition offered this perspective:

Food and health systems have failed women, causing detrimental effects on their health and resilience...¹¹

This unequal vulnerability is supported by other research. At the global level, the gender gap in the prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity has grown even larger in the year of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity being 10 percent higher among women than men in 2020, compared with 6 percent in 2019.¹² These disparities were also highlighted by several convenors. For example,

In the area of COVID-19, the women, especially the women working in food systems, have been affected more than even the men. Especially because they carry the burden of the household and poverty.

Why it is important now in this Summit is because COVID showed in a very clear way the disproportionate burden on women of hunger and food insecurity.

⁸ Women, Work and Food Systems - South Asia and South-East Asia Dialogue on Gender and Food Systems, 4 March 2021, 4789, page 5.

⁹ Strengthening and Amplifying the Voices and Leadership of Women in Food Systems, 18 June 2021, 24972, page 6.

Leadership. Women are already leading the change across food systems; however, they need more support, space and voice to bring about transformation.

Despite the vulnerability and inequality described above, data show that women can and, in many cases, are making a difference across food systems. Several Dialogues and convenors suggested that women are both the most adversely affected and the most proactive in trying to shift their lived reality and bring about change. During the Focus Group, one convenor stated,

The main reason it is important [for women to be leaders and involved food system change] is that women are the most affected by COVID and by the situation we are going through, but they are also the ones who are leading the project, trying to fix it.

Investing in women as leaders and influencers has the potential to have a ripple effect across communities in a range of areas, from malnutrition to climate change. The Dialogues identified several examples of women's empowerment across food systems. These examples can provide rich case studies for future studies. For example, a Dialogue in the Philippines identified how women already play a strong leadership role:

Women farmers in the Philippines make financial decisions with their husbands. Women farmers in the country have more control managing household expenses and are among the most empowered in Southeast Asia (according to a study published in the Scientific Journal Food Policy in 2017).¹³

Still, barriers to women's leadership across food systems persist. The obstacles women face stem from political, cultural, economic and social systems, norms and behaviours. One theme that emerged in the data was the need for women to be given space by policymakers and decision-makers to voice their insights, opinions and ideas. Some Dialogue and focus group data suggested that those in power are not always willing to listen to women, which is compounded by too few women at the top levels of the food system. Below we offer several examples drawn from the focus group discussion with convenors.

When you listen to women, when you allow women to speak, the key issues are brought to the fore.

This process of the Food Systems Summit is a lot about making sure everybody concerned is around the table, but it is also about making sure that the ones who have less space to be around the table will have more. So, in that sense, especially in certain regions of the world, this is very important and can bring completely different discourse when we gather women around an issue.

It's super important to give women a voice. A lot of women are caretakers. Women in a time of crisis are very resilient. They take a lot of actions for their family.

¹⁰ Food for Life: The Role of Women in Promoting Integral Human Development, 17 May 2021, 14959, page 5.

¹¹ Women Nutrition: Resilience and Recovery on the Road to 2030, 8 June 2021, 23761, page 3.

¹² FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2021. [In Brief to The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021](#). Rome, FAO, page 18.

¹³ GrowHer.org launch in the Philippines: Women in Food, Force for Good, 31 March 2021, page 6.

However, getting those who make decisions to listen to women is not enough; women need to be in positions of power and decision making in all aspects of the food system. Data suggest that all too often, what are perceived as women's issues are discussed as an add-on, and women are seen as helpers or victims, rather than as informed and experienced leaders and/or activists. One Dialogue provides some insight to this thinking:

[We need to] move beyond the interpretation of women as victims of an unsustainable, unjust and fragile food system, and recognize them as "agents of change" and leaders in the reformulation of systems.¹⁴

The Dialogues and focus group also provided insight into sector specific areas, such as finance and agriculture, where women need to be given more agency. For example,

For gender-transformative implementation, the facility should also model full participation of women in leadership and in decision-making at different levels- both in the facility itself and in the recipient financial intermediaries - given evidence that women are more likely to finance women, and also support efforts in collateral-free product design and delivery.¹⁵

Agency for poor rural women involves challenging multiple power hierarchies in the household, community, state policies and labour and product markets. Changing power relations and social norms requires collective action. Alongside traditional forms of sharing labour and resources, new models for exercising collective agency are emerging –such as self-help groups, cooperatives, and producer organisations. However, given the diversity of women's contexts, this process needs to be intentional and requires investment. Legal and policy frameworks that enable collective agency need to be operationalised through social mobilisation, dialogue and training.¹⁶

The findings around finance are well-supported in the literature, which also identify lack of financial access as a challenge to women farmers.¹⁷

Convenors and Dialogue participants see this Summit as an opportunity to empower women through the food system and recognise and elevate them into decision making and positions of power. We offer two quotes that capture this sentiment below.

We need to reframe how we view women and food systems from mainly focusing on the role of women as producers and consumers to thinking about how food and agricultural systems contribute or can contribute to the process of empowering women and how these systems can create an environment conducive to the equal exercise of women's rights.¹⁸

¹⁴ Food for Life: The Role of Women In Promoting Integral Human Development, 17 May 2021, 14959, page 6.

¹⁵ Catalyzing finance for women food entrepreneurs, 8 April 2021, 7508, Page 8.

Formally recognize [women's] contributions across all stages of food systems and enhance their participation in political processes destined to shape them.... increasing the involvement of women in early prevention and response strategies to food crises and increasing their representation in leadership positions.¹⁹

Knowledge-sharing. Women bring different perspectives and experiences than men, which are often deeply connected to their communities and cultures.

Dialogues and convenors emphasized women's critical connections to their community through the multiple roles many women undertake, such as knowledge-sharers and caretakers of the next generation. These roles, which are often rooted in interconnected and regenerative relationships, provide women a distinct perspective which differs from that of their male counterparts. As such, women are in a unique position to inform and shape their community's food systems. The following quotes provide depth to these statements.

Women end up being the holders of our culture, of our knowledge, how we shape our communities. So, it is adamant for us to have their knowledge and their opinions in there. It is something we shouldn't even be discussing. (Convenor)

Women also have a role in educating future generations on how to use resources, but also nurturing the development of communities in integral ways or transferring of knowledge. So, I think that it is key that if we do not see women as active protagonists in this Summit, we are losing their voices, but also their knowledge and their knowledge-sharing. This should be recognized in public spheres, not only in private spheres. (Convenor)

The well-being and resilience of women is essential to the strength and resilience of their families, communities and the broader social and economic development of nations. Investing in women has multiplying effect on communities. 'If you educate a woman you educate a whole nation.'²⁰

It is about the power of SHE, and when women come together – they create the power of WE. If women come together, they start to talk about their experience and about their dreams. And many women dream about a better world for themselves, but most especially for the next generation.²¹

Prof. Vera Zamagni and Linda Ghisoni focused on the role of women as educators for a new 'culture of care.' They explored the work of women in educating future generations on a better use of agricultural resources, nurturing the integral development of communities, and transferring knowledge in support of resilient, inclusive and sustainable food systems.²²

Women are responsible for sharing knowledge across their communities, and that role needs to be supported and engaged with at the Summit.

¹⁶ Women's Agency and Gender Equity in Food Systems, 10 June 2021, 2062, page 5.

¹⁷ FAO, 2019; Njobe, 2015.

¹⁸ Diálogo Regional sobre la igualdad de género y el empoderamiento de las mujeres, 31 March 21, 6646, page 5.

¹⁹ Food for Life: The Role of Women In Promoting Integral Human Development, 17 May 2021, 14959, page 6.

Section 2: Women's Perspectives on Food Systems

The Dialogues reviewed covered a range of issues. Some focused on food systems generally, and within that mention the role of women. Others specifically focused on women's perspectives and experiences across food systems. Several had a specific issue focus, such as migration, business, malnutrition or finance, to name a few. This section explores these different foci to identify common themes amongst them.

The summary provided below identifies the main themes that emerged across the Dialogues, (1) improved data (2) increased access, (3) inclusive policy, (4) local context (5) shifting mindsets, (6) transformative vision and (7) leveraging opportunities.

Improved Data. Women called for improved data gathering on gender across food systems, as well as more effective use of empirical data to reduce barriers faced by women.

Several Dialogues called for the need for better data on the barriers facing women in food systems, such as access to farm inputs, credit and financing, market know-how, land ownership, and digital literacy.

One dialogue called for the creation of a "one-stop-shop for gender indicators and sex-disaggregated data across the food systems,"²³ while others emphasized that available data on disparities and solutions are not being utilized to effectively address barriers. Below are three specific quotes that highlight how improved data would support addressing women's inequality in the food system.

We need to improve the presence of vulnerable and underrepresented groups by first measuring who is currently there. We need to look at the data regarding who is already there, analyze that data and come up with strategies and targets geared at increasing the presence of these groups.²⁴

The absence of specific data to measure the contributions of women in food systems, as well as their specific challenges and needs (e.g., their exclusion from necessary productive resources like financial instruments, technology, training, etc.), places them at greater risk of being left behind by development processes.... [there is a] need for desegregated data to measure and give visibility to the work done by women (both formal and informal), so as to target national policies and budgets to their special needs and support their leadership in ensuring food security²⁵.

²⁰ Women Nutrition: Resilience and Recovery on the Road to 2030, 8 June 2021, 23761, page 6.

²¹ GrowHer.org launch in the Philippines: Women in Food, Force for Good, 31 March 2021, page 6.

²² Food for Life: The Role of Women In Promoting Integral Human Development, 17 May 2021, 14959, page 6.

²³ Gender-Responsive Investments in Africa's Agriculture for Inclusive Food Systems, 4 May 2021, 10415, page 7.

Understanding how many women are working at all levels within the meat sector and what the enablers and barriers are, using the MBW annual gender representation report, is essential if there is to be genuine change.²⁶

One Dialogue highlighted the need for new measures of success that included gender equality:

For the facility to ultimately help achieve positive impact on women entrepreneurs, the metrics it is expected to use and to encourage recipient financial intermediaries to adopt should include gender-focused metrics. Examples to be considered include a “gender equity/quality scorecard” mentioned during the panel discussion by Agnes Dasewicz of SEAF, focusing both on performance by financial intermediaries and on performance by their investees or clients.²⁷

Increased Access. Funding, financing mechanisms, education, capacity building and technology need to be more accessible to women and focus on gender transformation and women's empowerment.

Various barriers need to be addressed to truly empower women and give them full and equal participation across the food system. Two quotes taken from the Dialogue reports provide insight as to the kinds of the barriers that exist around the globe.

Most of the training and capacity building programs on technology and farm activities [are] attended by male members of the family and women [are] deprived of the same opportunity.²⁸

Barriers for women in agriculture include access to farm inputs, credit, market know-how, and land ownership – must be entirely eliminated, and create better and incentivizing farming conditions.²⁹

Dialogue reports offered several strategies and solutions to barriers, particularly in the areas of funding, capacity building and technology. The following quotes highlight the various kinds of strategies and solutions suggested:

Increase gender lens lending appetite through incentives to funds and institutions that prioritize impact financing, green finance and finance to enterprises that contribute to the SDGs. This will also influence entrepreneur prioritization of sustainable food production systems and nutrition.³⁰

Introduce clear measures so that women have better access to financing, technology, information, and training...Ensure equitable access for women to credit and insurance.³¹

²⁴ Notes on Group Discussions in UN Food Systems Summit Independent Dialogue: Pathways to Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems 2, 20 March 2021, 2970, page 2.

²⁵ Food for Life: The Role of Women in Promoting Integral Human Development, 17 May 2021, 14959, page 6.

²⁶ Gender Equality in the Meat Sector as a Sustainability Solution, 14 April 2021, 8888, page 11.

²⁷ Catalyzing Finance for Women Food Entrepreneurs, 8 April 2021, 7508, Page 8.

²⁸ National Dialogue on Women, Work and Food Systems, 19 June 2021, 23772, page 7.

²⁹ GrowHer.org launch in the Philippines: Women in Food, Force for Good, 31 March 2021, page 6.

Access to proven technologies will help improve food production and food security, and job and wealth creation for women and youth across the value chains.³²

To exercise agency, women need to have unmediated access as individual citizens to resources such as land, water, commons, housing, finance, knowledge, extension and technology. Policies need to ensure that women's rights to these entitlements are substantive and not merely nominal.³³

Likewise, convenors emphasized the importance of ensuring that women have equal opportunities to gain value from their role in the food system. Below are two quotes from convenors that bring a broader perspective:

Much of women's labor in the food system, particularly in Africa, is unpaid. They are often working on their own farms, tending to the crops or animals. By the time they are ready for sale, it becomes the man's business. So, when I bring in the women's perspective, I would say that it is important for them to gain some value, whether in the form of payment or land, whatever way they feel would feel that their output is valued at the end of the day.

For example, in Colombia, in the communities, the women take care of the groceries and the nutrition of their children. When we think about numbers in Latin America about youth malnutrition, it's astonishing how much influence women can have in that. We often hear how women cook the meals, support their husbands so they can go to work. But it is important to strengthen them with better knowledge about consumption. That's why it is important to integrate them, integrate their voice and their perspectives. What is difficult to make changes at home, etc. That is why I am very happy to foster that. Often, they are very alone. Help them bring what they learnt to their kids and to their husbands.

Inclusive Policies. Design and implementation of policies need to be gender-transformative and inclusive.

While policy is identified as a key lever for change, data indicated that effecting changes in government policy can be non-existent, slow or ineffectual. Identifying and addressing the barriers that prevent enhanced policies in this area is critical, as several Dialogues emphasized that true transformation of food systems must include gender transformative, inclusive policies. Below are several examples of how transformative policies are required for transformative change.

³⁰ Catalyzing Finance for Women Food Entrepreneurs, 8 April 2021, 7508, page 10.

³¹ Diálogo Regional sobre la igualdad de género y el empoderamiento de las mujeres, 31 March 2021, 6646, pages 9-10.

³² Gender-Responsive Investments in Africa's Agriculture for Inclusive Food Systems, 4 May 2021, 10415, page 6.

³³ Women's Agency and Gender Equity in Food Systems, 10 June 2021, 2062, page 5.

Effective implementation will also require identifying enabling or hindering policy factors in the countries where the facility will operate and seeking to engage with governments in participating countries on a gender-transformative agenda in agri-SME finance, not only at the level of policy design but also at the level of policy implementation and enforcement. (Convenor)

On the issue of fiscal policies which is key in determining economic equalities and inequalities, it was highlighted that there are ways of ensuring equality and having gender specific policies on taxes. The highlighted points include: Revenue redistribution which investigates the different levels of incomes in the economy and ensures that those that earn less pay less and vice versa. Repricing of products, which affects people behaviour. Representations- this was noted as a key problem in tax policies and there was a need for representation of women to evade economic inequalities.³⁴

Promote traditional food through pro-poor and pro-women farmer policies as well as linking consumer directly to producers through producer-led-value chains... Policies that 1) treat family as a unit for entitlements and capacity building; 2) bring visibility and recognition to family farming and promote it as an economic activity; 3) create awareness and redistribution of labor across family members.³⁵

Introducing progressive policies empowering women in food systems to reduce gender-based violence.³⁶

One Dialogue specifically called out that gender-responsive research is the beginning of the food value chain and is critical to support policy development. This Dialogue went on to show how research can contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the needs of all groups:

Ensure inclusivity and diversity in frameworks by considering the needs of women and vulnerable groups and establish approaches that meet the needs of all groups of people. This can be done by understanding the environment to develop policies that cover the different cultures of the people they will serve towards ensuring collective uptake of policies and participation of all actors.³⁷

Two Dialogues also emphasized that developing gender-responsive policies is only the first step. Operationalizing the policies and implementing systems of accountability are key to ensuring policy implementation:

Beyond having policies and guidelines in place, governments, organizations and financial institutions must have accountability mechanisms in place to ensure these policies are implemented and adhered to.³⁸

³⁴ Strengthening and Amplifying the Voices and Leadership of Women in Food Systems, 18 June 2021, 24972, page 5.

³⁵ Women, Work and Food Systems - South Asia and South-East Asia Dialogue on Gender and Food Systems, 4 March 2021, 4789, pages 6, 11.

³⁶ National Dialogue on Women, Work and Food Systems, 19 June 2021, 23772, page 7.

³⁷ Gender-Responsive Investments in Africa's Agriculture for Inclusive Food Systems, 4 May 2021, 10415, page 6.

³⁸ High Level Dialogue at CFS 47 - Gender, 13 May 2021, 2893, page 6.

It was clear that in many African countries gender favourable policies have been put in place however they have not been operationalised, therefore there is need for operationalization of gender policies. The dialogue findings affirmed the need for addressing legal dualism by formulating policies that address cultural interference in policy implementation.³⁹

Local Context. Solutions must be localized and consider local political, social and cultural beliefs.

Dialogues and convenors emphasized the importance of balancing a global approach with localized solutions – what Blue Marble Evaluation and others have come to call “glocal.” Below are some examples of this theme.

The need to consider context specificity and to design context-responsive solutions was emphasized throughout the event, suggesting that any solutions that are high-level and global in scope may be difficult to make locally significant and/or will require a lot of work to be implemented in ways that respond to different local needs and opportunities.⁴⁰

Access and control are local problems but require global tools to help women's voices to be heard. Overcoming deeply entrenched systems will require creating channels for dialogue, not for women to just speak but men to be trained to listen, to be fair partners and 'champions of enlightenment'. Localised dialogues with women in their communities are needed so as to create coherence and to ensure that the discussions are transformed into action and policy. It is also important to understand what empowerment means in different communities. Local engagement is required to understand local perceptions.⁴¹

Establish local information hubs that provide up to date and emerging information, in the relevant vernacular language for communities, practitioners, and traditional authorities on all various aspects of food systems and for various players (farmers, agri-SMEs, consumers, field practitioners).⁴²

Since women are so involved in their own communities and they are so in touch with their natural surroundings and ecosystems...they are the ones that have the richest knowledge in order to create that locally based solutions. Women's perspectives on food are very context centered and can have a very big contribution. (Convenor)

As an extension of the local context theme, several Dialogues also stressed the importance of localizing food production, processing and distribution to promote an equitable food system. For example,

³⁹ Catalysing Women's Agri-preneurship and Food Trade in Africa, 23 June 2021, 21923, page 6.

⁴⁰ Catalyzing Finance for Women Food Entrepreneurs, 8 April 2021, 7508, page 6.

⁴¹ High Level Dialogue at CFS 47 - Gender, 13 May 2021, 2893, page 7.

⁴² Empowering women and youth to better contribute to transforming food systems in Malawi, 26 February 2021, 5560, page 6.

Promote local production and distribution to address the issue of food wastage as well as localization of agricultural value chain to generate better, just and equitable livelihood opportunities.⁴³

Shifting Mindsets. Perspectives and practices in various sectors need to shift and to value the role of women, as well as to see critical connections across food systems.

Many Dialogues highlighted the need to shift mindsets, specifically in two ways. First, people need to value women's contributions across the food system. Second, and more broadly, people need to shift from thinking in silos to engaging with systems thinking where interconnections are recognized and valued. Below are several quotes that captured the shifting mindset theme.

The perception of the meat sector needs to evolve to reflect the role women play. Diversity and inclusion, needs to be moved up the agenda.⁴⁴

Practitioners, government and private sector stakeholders should provide information to women and youth to build their knowledge and capacity to enable them to better engage in the food system. This should be with the aim of changing mindsets and equipping them with knowledge and skills to effectively participate in the food system.⁴⁵

If we are looking at women as the responsible for the education of kids and society and the future, that's not actually fair as well. A perspective that I see coming from women and representing myself as well is understanding how we are all interconnected. How everything is dependent on each other. How we depend on agriculture, educators and education to make things work. Having a more integral education. Making sure this will be passed to everyone, not just women. Balance the education. (Convenor)

A lot of women, men, everyone often lives in those silos. We don't see ourselves as part of the system. Especially in the cities, we are completely disconnected. In the rural areas we are also disconnected because we don't know what is going to happen with the food, or I don't consume the food I'm growing because they are full of toxins...we need to explain much more what a food system is. (Convenor)

⁴³ Women, Work and Food Systems - South Asia and South-East Asia Dialogue on Gender and Food Systems, 4 March 2021, 4789, page 6.

⁴⁴ Gender Equality in the Meat Sector as a Sustainability Solution, 14 April 2021, 8888, page 6.

⁴⁵ Empowering women and youth to better contribute to transforming food systems in Malawi, 26 February 2021, 5560, page 7.

⁴⁶ High Level Dialogue at CFS 47 - Gender, 13 May 2021, 2893, page 5.

Transformative Vision. Food systems that are regenerative and equitable.

Many Dialogues set forth a transformative vision for food systems in which women are fully integrated across systems with equal voice, power and leadership. Below are some specific examples of how this vision was articulated.

The need to address gender issues in a holistic manner that ensures all areas and issues affecting women in food systems are necessary to achieve transformation.⁴⁶

A fair, transformative and gender equitable food system can be defined as one that allows countries, communities, households, and men and women, to have what is necessary to produce enough food and have the access to it, for their families and populations through sustainable, environmentally sound and climate resilient practices that favour gender equity and equality.⁴⁷

Empowering women as food producers and providers through a systems approach via financial incentives, gender-sensitive policies, nutrition-sensitive interventions and targeted education and training.⁴⁸

The complexity of food systems requires holistic and coordinated approach throughout the value chain. It also requires the integration of various actors from education, finance and gender equality.⁴⁹

To achieve truly transformative changes in the Food System, it is critical that all the issues, challenges and solutions identified should not be considered in silos, but viewed holistically, with the implementation of solutions and policies being done in complete synergy between the Private Sector, Public Sector, NGOs and the grassroots members.⁵⁰

Convenors emphasized this idea of an integral approach, which balances different needs and puts women at the center of the system:

When I think about women's perspectives in shaping a resilient food system, I think about the culture of care. I think about having an integral approach. So connecting issues. It is very much fundamental in the context of today if you think of address food insecurity and the climate emergency at the same time. I think this is really the women's perspective. (Convenor)

The idea of life, care and balancing the ecosystem at the center of the food system. Having both the social side, but also the ecological side. These two aspects of the food system. It is not just feeding, but also ecological preservation. (Convenor)

⁴⁷ Diálogo Regional sobre la igualdad de género y el empoderamiento de las mujeres, 31 March 21, 6646, page 5.

⁴⁸ Women Nutrition: Resilience and Recovery on the Road to 2030, 8 June 2021, 23761, page 3.

⁴⁹ Strengthening and Amplifying the Voices and Leadership of Women in Food Systems, 18 June 2021, 24972, page 5.

⁵⁰ National Dialogue on Women, Work and Food Systems, 19 June 2021, 23772, page 6.

Divergent perspectives exist with regards to transformation, as lived experiences for women vary, as do their social, cultural, and economic contexts. For example, some view women in more traditional roles, while others want to promote a transformational role. As one Dialogue report stated,

Some people posed a traditional role for women, for example: educating women so that they feed other people well. That is, planning a nutritional education so that women make good decisions, taking 100% responsibility for their reality and the reality of their family, when the conditions in which they daily live do not allow them. On the other hand, some people brought a more transformative view of the role of women in food systems.⁵¹

Leveraging Opportunities. COVID-19 and the climate emergency provide a chance to rethink the culture and practices.

COVID-19 and climate change have revealed the disparities and vulnerabilities of women across food systems. At the same time, women see these crises as opportunities to shift the dominant culture towards more regenerative practices, or what the Food for Life Dialogue referred to “more positive “Cs”: Care for life, Culture of life, Community of life.”⁵² The following quotes highlight the sense of opportunities that exist.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted how disconnected consumers in many parts of the world have become from the food they eat. However, the lifestyle changes that have resulted from the pandemic also present an opportunity to address this disconnect as people are spending longer at home and may have more time to devote to cooking and eating.⁵³

The “culture of care” (Laudato Si’, 231) [is] the necessary paradigm for holistic and collective action. Engaging political processes relating to food systems through the lens of care, would allow for the appreciation of the complementarity between men and women in political processes and forge necessary alliances in decision-making.⁵⁴

Women’s voices have largely been neglected in COVID-19 decision-making processes due to an enduring underrepresentation in senior positions in key fields of medicine and politics. This implies that the unique contribution of women to the regeneration of food systems in the post-COVID world remains largely unexplored.⁵⁵

⁵¹ Diálogo Regional sobre la igualdad de género y el empoderamiento de las mujeres, 31 March 21, 6646, page 12.

Section 3:

How Women Want to Engage in the Summit & Beyond

In this final section, we highlight five key strategies for engaging women in the Summit and in food systems transformation more broadly: (1) support integration, (2) encourage women-to-women connections, (3) develop partnerships, (4) recognize various roles & identities, and (5) provide support. These strategies, while are by no means exhaustive, were the most commonly cited across dialogue reports and the focus group conversation with conveners. We provide more detail on each of these strategies below.

Support Integration. Ensure women (and other marginalized groups) are not seen as an “add-on,” but are integral to all Summit convenings and decisions.

At the most basic level, women want to be listened to and to have a seat at the table. But beyond simply being invited to the table, women want to be integrated into the Summit and across the food system, in positions that can influence decisions. Below are several quotes from conveners that highlight this theme.

It's not easy to walk the talk when it comes to gender equality. The image that we want to give with the Summit is key. There is a principle that we should keep in mind, to not fall in the trap to do it the same way as the world so far led by men. I think we should add the principle of integrating gender, racial and geographical justice. It should be an integration of those justice elements if we want to see.

Emphasis of farmers, youth women and indigenous women. That would be leading by example of what we want to bring forward in the role of women in the food system.

At the Summit, it would be very important to have voices represented physically. Sometimes when it is an online conversation, not everyone has the chance to air their views.

⁵² Food for Life: The Role of Women in Promoting Integral Human Development, 17 May 2021, 14959, page 6.

⁵³ Gender Equality in the Meat Sector as a Sustainability Solution, 14 April 2021, 8888, page 9.

⁵⁴ Food for Life: The Role of Women in Promoting Integral Human Development, 17 May 2021, 14959, page 6.

⁵⁵ Food for Life: The Role of Women in Promoting Integral Human Development, 17 May 2021, 14959, page 5.

To engage women fully in the Food Systems Summit and across the food value chain, many Dialogues emphasized the importance of recognizing and protecting women's rights. Here are some examples of those discussions as summarized in the reports:

Explicit recognition of the rights of women who are structurally disadvantaged: mobilizing them, enabling their access and rights to land and finance, and other assets.⁵⁶

Enabling women farmers to have the rights to the title of their land.⁵⁷

We need to reframe how we view women and food systems from mainly focusing on the role of women as producers and consumers to thinking about how food and agricultural systems contribute or can contribute to the process of empowering women and how these systems can create an environment conducive to the equal exercise of women's rights.⁵⁸

Encourage Connections among Women. Women benefit from spaces where they can connect with peers and mentors across the food system.

Data emphasized the value in opportunities for women to connect with one another, such as women-only trainings and networks to provide spaces to nurture their leadership. Data also suggested that identifying role models, promoting success stories about women to women, and identifying mentors are critical interventions that can bring more women into leadership positions across food systems. Below we provide a few quotes that offer concrete suggestions for how to encourage woman-to-woman supportive interaction.

Access to external networking groups such as MBW can provide the support, contacts and encouragement that women in more gender-balanced sectors might normally find within their workplace... Mentoring, and particularly formal mentoring schemes, can play an important role in helping women making key decisions and supporting them in their careers.⁵⁹

Give women entrepreneurial role models and connect women⁶⁰.

Provide women-only training in some cases so they have access to customized training... Building a community of women in the agriculture and food system and empower them through role models. Have a support system of female entrepreneurs and food systems workers who support each other. Establish associations for female farmers at the local level. Coming together as a decision-making body empowers women, and at the same time they can contribute significantly to the well-being of the community.⁶¹

⁵⁶ Women, Work and Food Systems - South Asia and South-East Asia Dialogue on Gender and Food Systems, 4 March 2021, 4789, page 11.

⁵⁷ National Dialogue on Women, Work and Food Systems, 19 June 2021, 23772, page 7.

⁵⁸ Diálogo Regional sobre la igualdad de género y el empoderamiento de las mujeres para la transformación de los sistemas alimentarios de América Latina y el Caribe, 31 March 21, 6646, page 5.

Women's movements must be all encompassing ensuring women from all walks of life actively participate, from the smallscale farmer to the CEO.⁶²

Several convenors echoed the importance of bringing women together, and creating spaces for them to connect and share ideas both during and after the summit. Convenors further shared the importance of networks and collaborations across genders, which then segues into the next theme – working in partnership. In the words of one convenor:

There could be a focus on strengthening networks and collaboration with individual women or groups. I think this would be key also to try and push women to promote new types of power relationships – the relationship between men and women, women with society, or with the community in general.

Develop Partnerships. Women stressed the importance of working with men as allies, as well as building cross-sector partnerships.

Dialogues and convenors emphasized the importance of working in partnership with men as allies and supporters. Data also indicated that partnerships across sectors and silos was seen as a key strategy for transforming food systems in general, and the idea of partnerships was also raised in relation to engaging women at various levels in the food system. A few quotes are provided to paint a picture of partnerships in respect to engaging women.

Tackling gender issues should ensure inclusion of both men and women and assurance that women and men participate and benefit equally from agriculture.⁶³

Implement initiatives that fosters partnerships, brings together stakeholders from all sectors, and puts women at the center.⁶⁴

The politics of inclusion, bipartisanship, access, ongoing engagement, participation and well-designed partnerships is what is required to power increased access of women, youth and vulnerable populations whilst enhancing resilience and sustainability of foodsystem.⁶⁵

Governments, private sector, communities and other stakeholders including men need to work together to address the issues affecting women.⁶⁶

⁵⁹ Gender Equality in the Meat Sector as a Sustainability Solution, 14 April 2021, 8888, page 7.

⁶⁰ Women Nutrition: Resilience and Recovery on the Road to 2030, 8 June 2021, 23761, page 6.

⁶¹ GrowHer.org launch in the Philippines: Women in Food, Force for Good, 31 March 2021, page 7.

⁶² High Level Dialogue at CFS 47 - Gender, 13 May 2021, 2893, page 7.

⁶³ Strengthening and Amplifying the Voices and Leadership of Women in Food Systems, 18 June 2021, 24972, page 5.

⁶⁴ GrowHer.org launch in the Philippines: Women in Food, Force for Good, 31 March 2021, page 6.

There is an urgent need to engage men in women's empowerment at all levels, from the household to the community to the institutional level. This can be done through gender sensitisation and training. Involving men in gender transformative partnerships and social enterprises can even improve gender relations and reduce the domestic burden on women, as seen in the work of the Altertrade Philippines Foundation. Additionally, there is a need to facilitate male allies in research and policy who can champion and mainstream gender issues.⁶⁷

To have integration, it is important to have men involved as well. There are men who are passionate about women's issues. And those can be the bridge between the men who are against, and the women. So having men champions also would be a very good thing. (Convenor)

If we want to create change, we need to bring those different perspective together. I love women rounds. But it is also important to have those diverse tables. If not, I am going to go back and be in the same environment. So that integration is really important....and create safe spaces where conflict is welcome and constructive across different genders and different origins. (Convenor)

Recognize Various Roles & Identities. Acknowledge, value and make space for the multiple roles and identities that women hold.

Across the Dialogues, there was a recognition that women play multiple roles and hold multiple identities. For example, several Dialogues emphasized the importance of recognizing and engaging women as caregivers and mothers. Two quotes illustrate this theme.

Make sure the pay is reasonable, work hours are reasonable because you have to recognize that they are mothers, and condition of the workplace should be good...Have a series of conversations with female farmers. They are parents, they nurture their children and guide them in choosing their career and consult with them. In exploring challenges with the parents, then together we will find practical solutions to these problems.⁶⁸

⁶⁵ Notes on Group Discussions in UN Food Systems Summit Independent Dialogue: Pathways to Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems 2, 20 March 2021, 2970, page 2.

⁶⁶ High Level Dialogue at CFS 47 - Gender, 13 May 2021, 2893, page 6.

⁶⁷ Women's Agency and Gender Equity in Food Systems, 10 June 2021, 2062, page 6.

⁶⁸ GrowHer.org launch in the Philippines: Women in Food, Force for Good, 31 March 2021, page 7.

Enable flexible working: Flexible workplaces are an essential enabler for creating an inclusive working environment. Women are still more likely than men to care for children or elderly parents and therefore more likely to look for workplace flexibility when considering employment opportunities...Create working models that support those with family responsibilities: This is one of the most important actions that businesses can take to enable women to progress into leadership roles.⁶⁹

Lack of effective maternal health and its connections to the various roles women play was also raised as a critical factor to address in food systems transformation:

Over half a million women die annually due to maternity complications. Therefore, there is need to understand the linkages between women's empowerment, decision making power and maternal health care. Better information and messaging for vulnerable groups is required. Better investment, better education, more health workers and nutritional services are needed to cover these vulnerable populations. A system approach that involves schools and educational departments can help integrate maternal health education into curriculums.⁷⁰

Provide Support. Address barriers to participation in the Summit and across food systems

Dialogues emphasized the various barriers to women engaging both in the Summit across food systems more broadly. For the Summit, language and access were of primary concern. Convenors shared the following suggestions for how to ensure women from various backgrounds are able to fully engage in the Food Systems Summit:

When it comes to dissemination of the information, it should be packaged in a way that every woman, on all levels can understand. Especially when it comes to technical information, it should be understood by every woman from ever land. There should be packages for all levels, communicating the same information.

We always try to think about people who are really affected by the problem...So how do we ensure that those people are there?...What kinds of tools are we creating to make sure that all levels/ spheres of women are being represented and they can actually take part in it?

During our forum, we realized there were a lot of farmers who couldn't even understand what we were trying to say. They were asking us to bring it down, to come to villages and rural areas. They are the major stakeholders, so we should never forget about them.

Beyond the Summit, the Dialogues had a number of suggestions for how to support women across food systems. In particular, several Dialogues focused on the importance of building a pipeline of opportunities for women across the food value chain. We provide three quotes below as examples of this forward thinking.

⁶⁹ Gender Equality in the Meat Sector as a Sustainability Solution, 14 April 2021, 8888, page 11.

⁷⁰ High Level Dialogue at CFS 47 - Gender, 13 May 2021, 2893, page 7.

Awareness on the important roles that women in the entire agriculture value-chain amplify the role they play, give them a voice, and make them more visible in discussions about the sustainability of our food systems.⁷¹

Nurture, aggregate, and/or render visible to investors potential "pipeline" of women-led enterprises...Keep in mind that women entrepreneurs need a full suite of financial products not just credit.⁷²

Organizing is the key to empower rural women workers and small holder women farmers and make the food systems equitable and just. Promoting their own member-owned and managed supply chain will help building their collective strength, bargaining power and decision-making agencies.⁷³

Linking back to the second theme, women-to-women networking and trainings can make space for women to support one another and build their capacity to be more fully engage across levels as leaders.

⁷¹ GrowHer.org launch in the Philippines: Women in Food, Force for Good, 31 March 2021, page 7.

⁷² Catalyzing finance for women food entrepreneurs, 8 April 2021, 7508, Page 10.

⁷³ Women, Work and Food Systems - South Asia and South-East Asia Dialogue on Gender and Food Systems, 4 March 2021, 4789, page 6.

Conclusion & Recommendations

It would be impossible to sum up women's perspectives on food systems in a single report, as these perspectives are diverse and multifaceted. Yet across the Dialogues and in conversation with convenors, the themes that emerge point to a transformative vision for food systems that relies upon robust data, increased access to funding and education, gender transformative policies, localized solutions and a culture shift towards equity, inclusion and connection to the earth. Within the context of a global pandemic and environmental emergency, women see now as the time to act to truly transform the systems, with women, in partnership with men, at the center of this transformation.

A woman's perspective is important to ensure an equitable and transformed food system, and their insights and knowledge are critical to reality-check game-changing proposals against lived experiences. Balancing the different perspectives, needs and roles of women, as with all stakeholders, will be key to the success of the Food Systems Summit. Our primary recommendations are to look closely at the strategies identified in Section 3 and to create space for the voices of women from across demographics and roles to be heard and engaged with in all aspects of the Summit.

Additional Resource from the Food Systems Pre-Summit

The Evidence Pathway to Gender Equality and Food Systems Transformation

The *Evidence Pathway to Gender Equality and Food Systems Transformation* report, with its substance presented at the UN Food Systems Pre-Summit in July 2021, supports and provides further depth to our synthesis so we are spotlighting it here. The report notes that “women play a vital role in the global food system, representing almost half of the total agricultural workforce in low-income countries.”¹ It goes on to state that “if systemic gender inequalities are to be addressed, then food systems programming needs to move from trying to ‘address the symptoms’ of gender inequality, to tackling its root causes.” The report provides the following nine key points to “help enrich gender-responsive and transformative approaches to food systems programming in future”:

1. Raise the vision from ‘individual inclusion’ to ‘changing structures.’
2. Use theories of change to connect programmatic action with institutional intent.
3. Understand local gender needs and target context.
4. Move from ‘equal participation’ to ‘engaged decision making.’
5. Challenge stereotypes and assume women as actors.
6. Focus on social relations to avoid backlash.
7. Build capacities for the future.
8. Match transformation actions with transformative measurement.
9. Create alliances for change.

¹ Betts, Julia. (2021), *The Evidence Pathway to Gender Equality and Food Systems Transformation*. Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers (CGIAR), the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP), page 1.

Authors

Donna Podems. Director of Synthesis Operations, Blue Marble Evaluation Team, UN Food Systems Summit Independent Dialogues

Donna is a researcher, facilitator, and monitoring and evaluation specialist with more than 23 years' experience. She holds a doctorate in interdisciplinary studies focused on Program Evaluation and Organizational Development, and a Masters degree in Public Administration. She is the author of *Being An Evaluator, Your Guide to Evaluation*. She has worked with governments, civil society, nongovernmental groups, international donors, and foundations. She has experience designing, implementing and reviewing evaluation methodologies for a range of international programs, as well as conducting implementation, outcome and impact evaluations in projects in agriculture, early childhood development, education, environment, gender, health systems, HIV/AIDS, human rights, trade and investment, and women's empowerment. She has worked for USAID, DFID, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, MasterCard Foundation, multiple UN organizations, African Development Bank, World Bank, and local nonprofits, among others. She places a special focus on her feminist work. She teaches and publishes on feminist evaluation and research, and implements feminist research and evaluation for the World Bank, UN, the Government of Canada, African Development Bank, and various NGOs around the world.

Donna is a current Board Member International Organization for the Cooperation of Evaluation, and International Evaluation Academy. She is a former National Board Member for the American Evaluation Association (AEA), and the South African Monitoring and Evaluation Association (SAMEA). She is an Associate Professor at Michigan State University, a Senior Research Associate at University of Johannesburg, and a Fellow at Stellenbosch University. She has published multiple papers, books chapters, books and journal articles. She is on the editorial board of the American Journal of Evaluation.

Charmagne E. Campbell-Patton. Coordinator of Key Stakeholder Deep Dive Special Reports, Blue Marble Evaluation Team, UN Food Systems Summit Independent Dialogues

Charmagne is a researcher, evaluator and facilitator with fifteen years of program design, implementation and evaluation experience. As Director of Organizational Learning and Evaluation at Utilization-Focused Evaluation, Charmagne specializes in qualitative research methods and principles- focused developmental evaluation across a range of fields, including youth engagement, environmental justice, gender equality and philanthropy. She is also a co-Founder of the Blue Marble Evaluation Network, where she curates content and experiences to deepen and enhance the practice of Blue Marble Evaluators around the world. She has authored several articles and blog posts as well as the 5th edition of *Utilization-Focused Evaluation* (forthcoming in 2021) and a chapter in the *Handbook of Research on Civic Engagement in Youth*. Charmagne holds a BA in Political Science from Grinnell College and an MA in International Peace and Conflict Resolution from American University's School of International Service. She is based in Minnesota, USA.

Annex A: Independent Dialogues with a Focus on Women

Title	Convener(s)	# Participant s	# Women	Date	ID#
Understanding Gender and Food Systems: The Role of Women in FoodSystems*	Soffeu Mirabelle, Giving Hope to theHopeless Association			21 January 21	3026
Making Food systems Equitable: An African Dialogue on Gender and FoodSystems*	Dr Jemimah Njuki, Custodian, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, UNFSS 2021 Dr Wanjiru Kamau Rutenberg, AWARDMs Beatrice Gakuba-AWAN Ms Sabdiyo Dido, AGRA Ms Elizabeth Nsimadala, PAFOre			9 February 2021	1666
Empowering women and youth to better contribute to transforming food systems in Malawi	Youth Enterprise Services (YSE) Malawi	20	17	26 February 21	5560
Women, Work and Food Systems -South Asia and South-East Asia Dialogue on Gender and Food Systems	Reema Nanavaty, CEO Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) Kalpana Giri, Senior Program Officer, Gender Equity and Social Inclusion, RECOFTC Jemimah Njuki, Custodian for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment UN Food Systems Summit	110	79	4 March 21	4789
Pathways to Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems – 2	Christopher Chinapo Dr Wayne Soverall UWI Donovan McLaren KCDI Jamaica Anna Kay Mc Intosh National Youth Council Jamaica Tamisha Lee JNRWP	57	31	20 March 21	2970

	Clyde Phillip IBBC Lincoln Beal Growgreen AquaponicsLtd Riyadh Mohammed TACS				
Diálogo Regional sobre la igualdad de género y el empoderamiento de las mujeres para la transformación de los sistemas alimentarios de América Latina y el Caribe	FAO - Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean & IFPR	172	134	31 March 21	6646
GrowHer.org launch in the Philippines: Women in Food, Force for Good	Cherrie D. Atilano, Founding Farmer and CEO of AGREA, UN Food Systems Summit Champion	12	11	31 March 21	9775
Migración y Nutrición Liderazgo femenino para la innovación en seguridad alimentaria nutricional: Colombia y Venezuela	Joy Vieira	67	41	8 April 21	7349
Catalyzing finance for women food entrepreneurs	AGRA, the Agripreneurship Alliance Global Agribusiness Alliance International Agri-Food Network International Fund for Agricultural Development Nourishing Africa One Young World FSS Gender LeverSAFIN	126	95	8 April 21	7508
Gender Equality in the Meat Sector asa Sustainability Solution	Meat Business Women	55	54	14 April 21	8888
The Role of Rural Women in the Transforming Food Systems towards Achieving the Economic Creativity for Sustainable Development	Ms. Bertha Yenwo, President, Tabwan Support Network (TSN)	50	50	18 April 21	12180

Gender-Responsive Investments in Africa's Agriculture for Inclusive Food Systems	Dr Yemi Akinbamijo/Dr Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa/ African Women in Agricultural Research and Development	303	171	4 May 2021	10415
High Level Dialogue at CFS 47 –Gender	Agri-Food Network (IAFN) The Private Sector Mechanism of the Committee on World Food Security	112	79	13 May 2021	2893
Food for Life: The Role of Women In Promoting Integral Human Development	Permanent Mission of the Holy See to FAO, IFAD & WFP Rome Forum of Catholic-Inspired NGOs	14	14	17 May 21	14959
Women Nutrition: Resilience and Recovery on the Road to 2030	Marti van Liere, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Consortium	206	No data	8 Jun 21	23761
Women's Agency and Gender Equity in Food Systems*	Norwich Institute for Sustainable Development (NISD) Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (RySS) Bharat Krishak Samaj (BKS) TIGR2ESS	65	55	10 June 21	2062
Strengthening and Amplifying the Voices and Leadership of Women in Food Systems	Ms. Judy Matu - Association of Women in Agriculture Kenya – AWAK Mr. Charles Opiyo - GAIN Alliance	80	62	18 June 21	24972
National Dialogue on Women, Work and Food Systems	SEWA	164	110	19 June 21	23772
Catalysing Women's Agri-preneurship and Food Trade in Africa	Sabdiyo Dido - Head of Gender and Inclusiveness (AGRA) Betty Otieno, Gender Coordinator (AGRA)	210	151	23 June 21	21923
The Women in Agribusiness Forum : Women Transforming Food Systems*	Guzakuza			30 June 21	22149
DAWN of women in agriculture: technology as an enabler*	Chhavi Jatwani, Design & Innovation Lead, Future Food Institute; Martina			2 July 2021	17073

	Marseglia, Institutional Relations and Global Strategic Partnerships, FutureFood Institute				
Gender Equality for Food Systems Transformation in Malawi*	Malawi Irish Consortium on Gender Based Violence, ActionAid, Concern WorldWide, Goal, Irish Rule of Law International, Irish Forum on International Agricultural Development, Oxfam, Self Help Africa, Trocaire			2 July 2021	2824 1
Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment, and Food Systems*	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA)			6 July 2021	3025 8
ICAN and SUN CSN UN Food System Summit Independent Dialogue - Gender equality, a key driver to enhancing food systems and good nutrition*	International Coalition for Advocacy on Nutrition (ICAN) and Scaling Up Nutrition Civil Society Network (SUN CSN)			20 July 2021	3013 3

* Indicates no Dialogue report was available. No participant data is available for dialogues with no reports.

Annex B: References

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