



Measuring and expanding progress on healthy diets from sustainable food systems: implications for achieving SDG2

Tuesday, 9th July 2024, 13.15-14.45 (NY time, EDT), UNHQ Conference Room E

Please register to attend [here](#)

Sponsors/Organizers: Switzerland, Costa Rica, Malawi, FAO, SUN

Background

Every year, unhealthy diets cause 11 million deaths and drive health and social inequalities, as currently 3 billion people (one in three people worldwide) cannot afford a healthy diet. Furthermore, unhealthy diets are related to 6 of the top 10 risk factors for the global burden of disease. Low quality diets are fueled by unsustainable practices in our food systems, driving deforestation, biodiversity loss, the depletion of our oceans, the emergence of zoonotic diseases and antimicrobial resistance.

High-quality diets are essential to help unlock the development potential of individuals, boost economic productivity, and reduce demands on expenditure in areas such as health and social protection. There is a high prevalence of malnutrition and the trends are clear: the world is off-track to meet nutrition goals. Yet, there is no measurement of dietary quality under any SDG. It is therefore important to explore how data on dietary diversity can be leveraged to improve public policies on nutrition.

Objectives

- In this event you will learn from the leading organizations how healthy diets are currently defined and understood and why they are an indispensable key to achieve SDG 2 but also SDG 3 and 12.
- You will hear from best practices at country level by various stakeholders on systems approaches to improving diets and achieving the SDGs, linking for example policies on agricultural production and nutrition.
- This event will explore how data on dietary diversity can be leveraged to improve public policies on nutrition, and will be a unique opportunity to discuss the need to step up efforts to collect and report data on diet quality, starting with dietary diversity. There will be a presentation of the suggested new dietary diversity indicator under SDG 2, which is currently being considered in the context of the 2025 Comprehensive Review of the global indicator framework.

Agenda

Moderation

Ambassador Christian Frutiger, Assistant Director General and Head of Thematic Cooperation, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

Keynote introduction

Afshan Khan, Assistant Secretary General, Coordinator of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement

Panel

- **Lynnette Neufeld**, Director of the Food and Nutrition Division, FAO: What are healthy diets?
- **Ambassador Benjamin Rothen**, Head of International and National Affairs at the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (FSO), Federal Department of Home Affairs: Why do we need a new indicator under SDG 2 to measure healthy diets?
- **Asma Lateef**, Chief Policy and Advocacy Impact, SDG 2 Advocacy Hub: How could a new indicator be translated into actions by the civil society?

Discussion: Q&A and Statements from the floor

- What are the most important challenges and opportunities your country/organization faces when trying to foster healthier diets?
- What could be the barriers or the enablers to the adoption and implementation of a new indicator on diet quality under SDG 2?
- Do you have examples from your country/organization of a food system intervention (for example in agriculture) that has contributed to healthier diets, from production to consumption?
- How can we increase the fight against all forms of malnutrition with multisectoral and multistakeholder policies and programs?
- How can data on dietary diversity be leveraged to improve public policies on nutrition?