Contribution ID: 1d44f8f1-3a19-4ce8-a879-08e5d778368c

Date: 19/07/2022 14:16:45

Sustainable food system – setting up an EU framework

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Introduction

Background

In the context of the "European Green Deal", the European Commission adopted a comprehensive Farm to Fork Strategy[1], which recognises the inextricable links between healthy people, healthy societies and a healthy planet and aims to address comprehensively the challenges of sustainable food systems.

During the last decades the EU has largely been spared from crises threatening food security. However, the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the Covid-19 pandemic show that our food system can be exposed to such risks. The threats that the world is facing are severe and imminent, but so are the climate and biodiversity challenges that are here to stay.

Sustainability is fundamental to ensure long-term food security. Without a transition such as the one set out in the Farm to Fork Strategy, food security will be severely at risk in the long-term, with irreversible impacts globally. Natural resources, such as land, healthy soils, water and biodiversity, are key inputs into food production, and their growing scarcity in many parts of the world makes it imperative to use and manage them sustainably.

To drive the shift to a sustainable food system, the Farm to Fork Strategy has launched numerous actions, which should contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, preservation of biodiversity and rural livelihoods, reduction of pesticides use and risk and pressures on water, soil and air quality, and better consumer information and animal welfare, while strengthening the competitiveness of the entire food sector and preserving food security.

The Strategy recognises that these individual and sector-specific actions can neither alone, nor in combination with each other fully ensure policy coherence at EU and national level, mainstream sustainability in all food-related policies and strengthen the resilience of food systems. For this reason, the Farm to Fork Strategy announced an initiative for a horizontal framework law, to accelerate and facilitate the transition to sustainability and ensure that

foods placed on the EU market increasingly become sustainable. Such an EU level intervention aims to establish new foundations for future food policies by introducing sustainability objectives and principles based on an integrated food system approach. This initiative will also include, among others, provisions for a sustainable food-labelling framework to empower consumers to make sustainable food choices, and it will explore new governance systems for a more active involvement of citizens and stakeholders at all levels.

Further background can be found in the <u>Inception Impact Assessment on the Sustainable EU</u> food system Initiative, which was published by the Commission in 2021.

The aim of this public consultation is to gather opinions and evidence from the public and relevant stakeholders on the key issues the initiative aims to address, and on the main elements that may be used in the formulation of policy options to respond to those issues. At the same time, it should be noted that this questionnaire is not exhaustive in its scope. The policy design in the initiative for a Framework for a Sustainable EU Food System will draw on other processes which are ongoing in relation to specific aspects, such as for example the one on Imports of agricultural and food products – applying EU health and environmental standards (report) [2], or other initiatives mentioned on the F2F website.

Moreover, more targeted consultations are also planned to take place during this year for specific stakeholder categories.

Who should fill the questionnaire and how to fill it?

The questionnaire for citizens is accessible in all official EU languages. As there may be delays in translating replies submitted in some languages, contributions in English are welcome, as they will help to process the survey more swiftly.

You can pause at any time and continue later. Once you have submitted your answers, you will be able to download a copy of your completed questionnaire. Questions marked with an asterisk (*) are compulsory. Those who are interested have the option to develop their responses in a more detailed manner.

Please note that in this questionnaire, we do not intend to obtain data relating to identifiable persons. Therefore, in case you will describe a particular experience or situation, please do it in a way that will not allow linking to a particular individual, whether it is you or somebody else.

Received contributions will be published on the Internet. It is important that you read the specific privacy statement attached to this consultation for information on how your personal data and contribution will be dealt with.

[1] Farm to Fork Strategy (europa.eu)

[2] The report, expected in June 2022, will assess the rationale and legal feasibility of applying EU health and environmental (including animal welfare) standards to imported agri-food products, and will identify the concrete initiatives to ensure better consistency in their application, in conformity with WTO rules. The report will not, however, propose any new initiatives.

Glossary/or explanation of terms used in the survey

The present questionnaire makes repeated reference to a number of concepts, for which it is useful to give indicative explanations upfront (I.e. working definitions for the purpose of this q u e s t i o n n a i r e):

Food system: the food system is understood to include all relevant actors, resources in a broad sense, and activities relevant for the production and consumption of food and beverages and their associated wastes, and their impact on the economy, environment and society (including health)[1]. It considers the processes, infrastructures and interactions involved in feeding a population.

Food system actors are therefore a very broad category, but for practical purposes (including of this questionnaire), we consider the most relevant to be food/feed business operators including primary producers of food/feed, manufacturers, retailers, distributors as well as inputs providers, traders, consumers, financial actors, international traders, advisors and p u b l i c a u t h o r i t i e s.

The food environment concept in this questionnaire must be understood to include physical and digital dimensions. The physical food environment can be defined as the physical, economic, political and socio-cultural contexts in which people engage with the food system to make their decisions about acquiring, preparing and consuming food. The digital food environment refers to the online settings through which flows of services and information that influence people's food and nutrition choices and behaviour are directed. They encompass a range of elements, including social media, digital health promotion interventions, digital food marketing and online food retail.[2]

Sustainable food system: An indicative definition of sustainable food system could be considered the following: "A sustainable food system for the EU is one that: provides and promotes safe, nutritious and healthy food of low environmental impact for all current and future EU population in a manner that itself also protects and restores the natural environment and its ecosystem services, is robust and resilient, economically dynamic, just and fair, and socially acceptable and inclusive. It does so without compromising the availability of nutritious and healthy food for people living outside the EU, nor impairing their natural environment."[3]

[1] JRC: Bock, A., Bontoux, L. and Rudkin, J., Concepts for a sustainable EU food system, EUR 30894 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2022, ISBN 978-92-76-43727-7 (online), doi:10.2760/381319 (online), JRC126575.

[2] idem

[3] https://www.sapea.info/wp-content/uploads/sustainable-food-system-report.pdf

About you

*Langu	age of my contribution
© E	Bulgarian
0 (Croatian
0	Czech
© [Danish
© [Dutch
◎ E	English
© E	Estonian
© F	innish
© F	French
0 (German
© (Greek
©	Hungarian
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	talian
© L	_atvian
© L	₋ithuanian
© 1	Maltese
© F	Polish
© F	Portuguese
0	Romanian
0 9	Slovak
0 9	Slovenian
0 9	Spanish
0 9	Swedish

*I am giving my contribution as

Academic/research institution

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Business association
Company/business organisation
Consumer organisation
EU citizen
Environmental organisation
Non-EU citizen
Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
Public authority
Trade union
Other
*First name
Oliver
*Surname
LOEBEL
*Email (this won't be published)
oliver.loebel@eureau.org
*Organisation name
255 character(s) maximum
EurEau
*Organisation size
Micro (1 to 9 employees)
Small (10 to 49 employees)
Medium (50 to 249 employees)
Large (250 or more)
Transparency register number
255 character(s) maximum
Check if your organisation is on the transparency register. It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to

influence EU decision-making.

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*Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation. Afghanistan Djibouti Saint Martin Libya Åland Islands Saint Pierre and Dominica Liechtenstein Miguelon Saint Vincent Lithuania Albania Dominican and the Republic Grenadines Algeria **Ecuador** Luxembourg Samoa American Samoa Egypt San Marino Macau Andorra El Salvador Madagascar São Tomé and **Príncipe** Angola Equatorial Guinea® Saudi Arabia Malawi Anguilla Eritrea Malaysia Senegal Antarctica Maldives Serbia Estonia Antigua and Seychelles Eswatini Mali Barbuda Argentina Ethiopia Malta Sierra Leone Armenia Falkland Islands Marshall Islands Singapore Aruba Faroe Islands Martinique Sint Maarten Australia Fiji Mauritania Slovakia Austria **Finland** Mauritius Slovenia Azerbaijan France Mayotte Solomon Islands **Bahamas** French Guiana Mexico Somalia French Polynesia Bahrain Micronesia South Africa South Georgia Bangladesh French Southern Moldova and Antarctic and the South Lands Sandwich Islands Barbados Gabon Monaco South Korea Mongolia Belarus Georgia South Sudan Belgium Spain Germany Montenegro Belize Ghana Montserrat Sri Lanka Benin Gibraltar Morocco Sudan Bermuda Suriname Greece Mozambique

	Bhutan		Greenland		Myanmar/Burma		Svalbard and Jan Mayen
	Bolivia	0	Grenada	0	Namibia		Sweden
	Bonaire Saint	0	Guadeloupe	0	Nauru	0	Switzerland
	Eustatius and						
	Saba						
	Bosnia and		Guam		Nepal		Syria
0	Herzegovina	<u></u>	0 -11-	(A)	Nicological	0	T .:
0	Botswana	0	Guatemala	0	Netherlands	0	Taiwan
0	Bouvet Island	0	Guernsey		New Caledonia	0	Tajikistan
0	Brazil	0	Guinea		New Zealand	0	Tanzania
	British Indian		Guinea-Bissau		Nicaragua		Thailand
0	Ocean Territory British Virgin	0	Guyana	0	Niger	0	The Gambia
	Islands		Guyana		Miger		THE Gambia
0	Brunei	0	Haiti	0	Nigeria	0	Timor-Leste
	Bulgaria	0	Heard Island and	0	Niue	0	Togo
	Daigana		McDonald Islands	3	11100		1090
	Burkina Faso	0	Honduras	0	Norfolk Island	0	Tokelau
	Burundi	0	Hong Kong	0	Northern	0	Tonga
			- 3 - 3		Mariana Islands		3.
	Cambodia	0	Hungary		North Korea		Trinidad and
							Tobago
	Cameroon		Iceland		North Macedonia		Tunisia
	Canada		India		Norway		Turkey
	Cape Verde		Indonesia		Oman		Turkmenistan
	Cayman Islands		Iran		Pakistan		Turks and
							Caicos Islands
	Central African		Iraq		Palau		Tuvalu
	Republic						
	Chad	0	Ireland		Palestine		Uganda
	Chile		Isle of Man		Panama		Ukraine
	China	0	Israel	0	Papua New		United Arab
					Guinea		Emirates
0	Christmas Island	0	Italy	0	Paraguay	0	United Kingdom

Clipperton		Jamaica	Peru		United States
Cocos (Keeling)		Japan	Philippines	0	United States
Islands					Minor Outlying
					Islands
Colombia		Jersey	Pitcairn Islands	0	Uruguay
Comoros		Jordan	Poland	0	US Virgin Islands
Congo		Kazakhstan	Portugal	0	Uzbekistan
Cook Islands		Kenya	Puerto Rico	0	Vanuatu
Costa Rica		Kiribati	Qatar	0	Vatican City
Côte d'Ivoire		Kosovo	Réunion	0	Venezuela
Croatia		Kuwait	Romania	0	Vietnam
Cuba		Kyrgyzstan	Russia	0	Wallis and
					Futuna
Curaçao		Laos	Rwanda	0	Western Sahara
Cyprus		Latvia	Saint Barthélemy	0	Yemen
Czechia		Lebanon	Saint Helena	0	Zambia
			Ascension and		
			Tristan da Cunha		
Democratic	0	Lesotho	Saint Kitts and		Zimbabwe
Republic of the			Nevis		
Congo					
Denmark		Liberia	Saint Lucia		

- *What type of organisation are you representing?
 - Primary producers of food and feed
 - Processors of food and feed
 - Distribution of food and feed
 - Retail of food and feed
 - Restaurant/catering services
 - Traders (including imports/exports) of food and feed
 - Fertilisers
 - Plant protection products
 - Seeds and propagating material
 - Veterinary medicinal products
 - Animal by-products

0

Food contact materials
Other input providers
Financial actors
Knowledge providers
Advisors
Other business operator [please specify]
* If you selected "other business operator" please specify:
Drinking water and waste water operators
*What is the geographic scope of your business / members' markets?
Local/regional
Single EU Member State/ EEA country
Multiple Member States (including EEA countries) / Pan-EU
International
Not applicable
* Which agricultural/food/beverage product groups is your business active in/ does
your organisation represent? Please select all that apply
Meat and meat products
Fish, seafood and aquaculture products
Fresh fruit and vegetable
Fruit and vegetable preparations
Oil/fats and spreadable fats
Milk/dairy products
Bread and bakery ware
Cereal and cereal products including breakfast cereals
Pasta
Confectionary
Ready meals, soups, sandwiches
Vegetable protein-based products
Soft drinks
Other non-alcoholic beverages
Wine or aromatised wines
Beers

	Spirit drinks
	Other alcoholic beverages
	Food ingredients
	Cellular agriculture
	Other food products
1	Not applicable

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. Fo r the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, 'business association, 'consumer association', 'EU citizen') country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published. Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

*Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

Anonymous

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

Public

Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

I agree with the personal data protection provisions

Questionnaire

1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know	Do not take position
* The existing EU food system is not sustainable in the long term	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* There is a strong interplay and interdependence between the environmental, social (including health and nutrition) and economic dimensions of sustainability	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Sustainability is fundamental for food security and for the resilience of the food system in the long term	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Consumers do not have sufficient information on the sustainability of foods	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* The current food system is not ready to meet future challenges, e. g. climate change, preserving natural resources and reversing biodiversity loss	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* In order to be successful, food systems sustainability must be ensured both in the EU and at global level	•	0	0	0	0	0	0

2. To foster the transition to sustainable food systems, how important (or impactful) are the actions of the actors listed below:

	Very important	Somewhat important	Neither important nor unimportant	Rather not important	Not important at all	Do not know	Do not take position
* Consumers	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
 Primary producers of animal products (e.g. livestock farmers) 	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Fishers	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Aquaculture producers	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Primary producers of crops for food and feed (e. g. farmers)	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Food/feed manufacturers	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Traders (of food commodities or food/feed) importing from 3rd countries	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Traders (of food commodities or food/feed) exporting to 3rd countries	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Retailers of food/feed	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Hospitality and food services, including restaurants and caterers	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Business operators active in the area of plant protection products	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
Business operators active in the area of fertilizers	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
*							

Business operators active in the area of seeds and plant propagating material	•	©	•	0	0	0	0
* Business operators active in the area of food contact materials	0	0	•	0	0	0	0
* Business operators active in the area of veterinary medicinal products	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Business operators active in biotechnology relating to the food system	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
* EU institutions	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* National governments	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Regional governments	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Cities, local authorities	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Educational system	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Non-governmental organisations	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Investors, banks or financial institutions	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Knowledge providers, advisors, research and innovation	•	0	©	0	0	0	0
* Other category: [please specify]	0	0	0	0	0	•	0

3. How easy is it, in your assessment, for the following actors of the food system to make sustainable choices:

	Very difficult	Difficult	Relatively easy	Very easy	D o not know	Do not take position
* Consumers	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Primary producers of animal products (e.g. livestock farmers)	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Fishers and aquaculture producers	0	•	0	0	0	0
* Primary producers of crops for food and feed (e.g. farmers)	0	•	0	0	0	0
* Food/feed manufacturers	0	0	•	0	0	0
* Traders (of agricultural commodities or food/feed) , including importers /exporters, wholesalers	0	0	•	0	0	0
* Retailers of food/feed	0	0	•	0	0	0
* Hospitality and food services, including restaurants and caterers	0	0	•	0	0	0
* Business operators active in the area of plant protection products	0	0	•	0	0	0
* Business operators active in the area of fertilizers	0	•	0	0	0	0
* Business operators active in the area of seeds and plant propagating material	0	0	•	0	0	0
* Business operators active in the area of food contact materials	0	0	•	0	0	0
* Business operators active in the area of veterinary medicinal products	0	0	•	0	0	0
* Business operators active in biotechnology relating to the food system	0	0	•	0	0	0
* EU institutions	0	0	•	0	0	0
* National governments	0	0	•	0	©	0
* Regional governments	0	•	0	0	0	0

* Cities, local authorities	©	0	•		0	0
Educational system	0	0	•	0	0	0
* Non-governmental organisations	0	0	0	•	0	0
* Investors, banks or financial institutions	0	0	•	0	0	0
* Knowledge providers, advisors, research and innovation	0	0	•	0	0	0
* Other category: [please specify]	0	0	0	0	•	0

Optional: please justify your answer briefly

1	1000 character(s) maximum						

4. To what extent do the following factors prevent food system actors from making sustainable choices in the production/processing/distribution/consumption of food products:

	To a high extent	To some extent	To no extent	Do not know	Do not take position
* Long-term/real costs and impacts of food are not reflected in the price and cost of food	•	0	0	0	0
* Food system actors', including consumers', choices are based mainly on short-term costs	•	0	0	0	0
* Increasing competition on global markets	0	•	0	0	0
* No systematic integration of sustainability in the operations of food system actors	•	0	0	0	0
* Lack of common understanding of sustainability among food system actors in the EU single market	•	0	0	0	0
* Lack of common understanding among food system actors at global level in relation to sustainability	0	•	0	0	0
* Lack of transparency on/information about the sustainability of a product or its production /distribution process in the EU market	•	0	0	0	0
* Lack of transparency/information about the sustainability of a product or its production process at global level	•	0	0	0	0
* Marketing and advertising practices	•	0	0	0	0
* Unbalance of market power in the food system, weakening the ability of certain actors (e.g. farmers) to invest in more sustainable practices.	•	0	0	0	0

* Behavioural biases and habits of food system actors, including consumers	•	0	0	0	0
* Food environments which predispose to unsustainable choices by consumers	0	•	0	0	0
* The regulatory framework (lack of systematic sustainability objectives, definitions etc.)	•	0	0	0	0
* Lack of targeted incentives to produce sustainable food (e.g. financial, R&I)	•	0	0	0	0
* Insufficient availability of/accessibility to sustainable processes/products/services	0	0	•	0	0
* Existence of multiple private standards	•	0	0	0	0
* Lack of international standards on sustainability	0	•	0	0	0
* Lack of proper education, training, advisory services to assist food systems actors in the transition to sustainable food systems.	0	•	0	0	0
* Lack of investment in / knowledge/ access to innovation support measures	0	•	0	0	0
* Insufficient research on food systems interdependencies, co-benefits and trade-offs of possible actions	0	•	0	0	0
* Other (please specify):	0	•	0	0	0

If other, please specify

Unsustainable intensive farming operators dominate the position of the agricultural sector and slow down progress.

Optional: If you wish, please briefly justify your answer

1000 character(s) maximum		

*5. In your direct experience, what are the most important obstacles in the transition to more sustainable practices?

4000 character(s) maximum

Consumers have a key role in pulling the market to more sustainable practices. However, consumers are exposed to intensive advertising for unhealthy food (precooked meals, snacks, red meat) focusing a lot on the lowest price (in particular for meat). Communication to consumers must change focusing on sustainability and health.

6. To what extent do you consider that the following levels of government promote sustainable food systems in their policies?

	Not at all	Insufficiently	Sufficiently	Too much	Do not know
* EU	0	•	0	0	0
* National	0	•	0	0	0
* Regional	0	•	0	0	0
* Local	0	•	0	0	0

7. Which level of government can best accelerate the transition to a sustainable food system?

(tick all that apply)

	No role	Limited role	Important role
* Global (international organisations)	0	•	0
* EU	0	0	•
* National	0	0	•
* Regional	0	•	0
* Local	0	0	•

8. To what extent do you agree with the following statements:

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know	Do not take position
*To encourage and accelerate the transition to a sustainable EU food system, it is necessary to establish EU-wide general objectives, principles and definitions relevant for the sustainability of the food system	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* At EU and national level competent authorities should ensure that sustainability is mainstreamed in all food related policies	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* EU trade policy, in particular, should be consistent with the objectives of the transition to a sustainable EU food system	•	0	©	0	0	0	0
* Business operators active in the food system should have mechanisms in place to ensure that operations/processes and/or products within the businesses under their control satisfy any sustainability-related requirements of EU law	•	0	0	0	0	0	•
* Sustainability objectives for the EU food system should be translated into specific requirements by sector where not available	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* A sustainability analysis in the form of a global analysis of the sustainability profile of a product or operations is needed to accelerate the transition to sustainable food systems forward	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Business operators of different sizes should have different levels of responsibility	0	0	•	0	0	0	0
* Best practices contributing to achieving a sustainable EU food system should be shared across the EU and nationally	•	0	0	0	0	0	0

Optional: If you wish	, please briefly justify you	ır answer	
1000 character(s) maximu	ım		

9. How important would you consider that the activity of a food system actor (to be considered as covering their internal operations /processes and/or products, within their businesses and under their control) should not significantly harm the following aspects:

	Very important	Important	Not very important	Not at all important	Do not know	Do not take position
* Climate change mitigation (e.g. reduction of greenhouse gas emission)	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Climate change adaptation (e.g. improvement of irrigation efficiency)	•	0	0	0	0	0
* The sustainable use and protection of land	•	0	0	0	0	0
* The sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources	•	0	0	0	0	0
* The transition to a circular economy ("reduce, reuse, recycle")	•	0	0	0	0	0
Pollution prevention and control of air, water and soil	•	0	0	0	0	0
Protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Environmental protection (Minimise or improve all environmental aspects linked to the food system in a holistic way)	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Prevention of slavery and forced labour	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Fair and just working conditions	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Fair and just remuneration of primary producers (farmers and fishers)	•	0	0	0	0	0
Prevention of child labour and protection of young people at work	•	0	0	0	0	0
Food safety and risks to human health	•	0	0	0	0	0
Availability of food supplies	•	0	0	0	©	0
* Affordability of sustainable food	•	0	0	0	0	0

* Accessibility of sustainable food	•	©	0	©		0
Cultural/culinary habits	0	•	0	0	0	0
* Quality nutrition, to promote human health	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Animal welfare	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Animal and plant health	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Impact on developing countries	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Other [please specify]	•	0	0	0	0	0

IT C	other, please specify
	Protection of drinking water resources.

10. At what level does the transition to sustainable food systems need to take place? (tick all that apply)

	Very important	Important	Not very important	Not at all important	Do not know	Do not take position
* Global	0	•	0	0	0	0
* EU	•	0	0	0	0	0
* National	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Regional	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Local	•	0	0	0	0	0

*11. How do you see your role in the transition to sustainable food system?

1000 character(s) maximum

(Drinking) Water operators would benefit substantially from groundwater and surface water resources which are free of agricultural contamination (nitrate, pesticides, veterinary pharmaceuticals, eutrophication etc.) and the quantities of which are managed sustainably (avoiding depletion). The water sector is keen to develop dialogue with farming actors to develop improvement strategies.

* .	Are you involved in any platform/dialogu	e group/initiative	that aims to	contribute to
9	sustainable food systems?			

0	Vac
	1 -

No

13. If yes: at what level is it active?

International

EU

National

Regional

Local

Optional: Please elaborate on its activity and your role in it

1000 character(s) maximum

EU: Zero Pollution Platform

EU: Advisory group for sustainable food systems

EU: Application submitted for the Soil Expert Group

EU: Contacts and limited cooperation with the pesticides industry

National: Dialogues with the pesticides industry

Local: Cooperation projects between farmers and drinking water suppliers

14. What role do you see for platforms/dialogue groups/initiatives in the transition to and governance of a sustainable food system?

2500 character(s) maximum

Increasing mutual understanding, exchanging on best practice examples and seeking solutions together are key to progress. Agreeing on and promotion of common principles for sustainable food systems could bring about tangible market changes.

For the purpose of questions 15, 16 and 17 of this questionnaire, sustainability information to consumers (or sustainability labelling) covers, as specified in the Farm to Fork Strategy, information on the nutritional, climate/environmental and social aspects of food products. Social aspects include amongst others animal welfare and socio-economic aspects.

*15. On which of the below aspects of sustainability, should consumers receive information to empower them to make sustainable food choices

(please select and rank in order of importance, the first being the most important and the last being the less important)

Use drag&drop or the up/down buttons to change the order or accept the initial order.

:	Nutrition
#	Climate
#	Environment
#	Other aspects (please specify)
·	Fair and just remuneration of producers
#	Animal welfare
::	Fair and just working conditions

If "other aspects", please specify

Water consumption (per food unit) and sustainable water resource management (no illegal abstraction, no depletion of water resources)

16. To what extent do you agree with the following statements:

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know	Do not take position
* Consumers pay more and more attention to the sustainability of the food they buy	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Sustainability information currently provided to consumers on food products is reliable	0	0	0	0	•	0	0
* Sustainability information currently provided to consumers on food products is clear and easy to understand	©	0	©	•	0	0	0
* Sustainability information currently provided on food products allows consumers to choose sustainable food products	0	0	0	0	•	0	0
*The multiplicity of sustainability labels on food products are confusing for consumers	•	©	0	0	0	0	0
* Providing information to consumers about the sustainability of the food they buy is a useful tool and it will accelerate the transition to a sustainable food system	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Reliable and evidence-based sustainability labelling of food products would also help incentivising operators to supply more sustainable products	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Food businesses should be subject to the same rules on sustainability information to consumers across the entire EU	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* A dedicated sustainability label which allows comparing the sustainability of food products would help consumers to make sustainable food choices	•	0	0	0	0	0	0

*17. If an EU sustainability label was established:
(please select only one answer)
Such a label should be a voluntary label identifying only sustainable food products
Such a label should be a voluntary label- identifying sustainable and non- sustainable food products
Such a label should be a mandatory label informing on the sustainability of all EU food products
Such a label should be a mandatory label informing on the sustainability of all EU and imported food products
A EU sustainability label is not necessary / desirable
Don't know
Other (please specify)
* 18. To what extent should schools and public institutions consider sustainability when purchasing food?
None
Limited
Moderate
© Great
Do not know
No opinion
19. If "moderate" or "great", how important do you think such an action would be for the
transition to sustainable food system?
Very important/impactful
Moderately important/impactful
Neutral
Only with a limited importance impact
Not important/impactful at all
I do not know
I do not take position

20. In relation to **public procurement of food served in schools and public institutions**, to what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know	Do not take position
* The meals should be enjoyable and tasty	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* The meals should be accessible to all, at an affordable price	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Plant based alternatives should be offered more frequently	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Food produced locally should be offered more frequently	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Nutritionally well balanced meals (e.g. alternatives lower in sugars and fats) should be offered more frequently	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* More fruits and vegetables should be offered	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Food produced from traditional and locally adapted varieties, in particular for fruit and vegetables, should be offered more frequently	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Production of food of animal origin should respect high animal welfare standards	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
* Organic meals/ingredients should be offered more frequently	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
* The social impact of the meals offered (e.g. human rights , workers rights) should be taken into account in procurement	0	•	0	0	0	0	0
* The environmental impact of the meals offered should be taken into account in procurement	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* The nutritional quality of meals offered should be taken into account in procurement	•	0	0	0	0	0	0

* Food services companies that respect social values beyond the sectoral collective agreements should be favoured in procurement	0	•	0	©	0	0	0
* The school has an educational role to play concerning the sustainability of food	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Information about the nutritional composition, of the meals served should be provided in the canteens of public institutions	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Information about the environmental impact of the meals served should be provided in the canteens of public institutions	•	0	0	0	0	0	0
* Information about the social impact of the meals served should be provided in the canteens of public institutions.	0	0	•	0	0	0	0
* Information about the animal welfare standards respected should be provided in the canteens of public institutions	0	0	•	0	0	0	0

21. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know	Do not take position
* Food composition targets for sugars, salt, and saturated fat for all food categories should be set	0	0	0	0	0	0	•
* Targets for added sugars, salt and saturated fat for processed and ultra-processed foods and meals should be set	0	0	0	0	0	0	•
* When designing policies that impact food prices (such as subsidy schemes and taxation), competent authorities should consider how these policies can encourage a higher consumption of whole grain cereals, vegetables, fruits,legumes and nuts, and a lower consumption of red meat and foods high in sugars, salt, and saturated fat	•	•	©	©	•	©	•

22. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know	Do not take position
* The marketing, advertising and sales promotion, including online, of foods high in saturated fat, salt or sugars to children should be restricted	©	0	0	0	0	0	•
* Marketing techniques should be restricted unless the products they relate to are of high nutritional standard (e.g. low in saturated fat, salt or sugars)	©	0	0	0	0	0	•
* Sponsorship activities that result in advertising during big events (e. g. sports events) should be restricted for products high in saturated fat, salt or sugars	0	0	0	0	0	0	•
*The merchandising of foods (i.e. the way food products are presented in retail outlets) should promote healthier food choices	0	0	0	0	0	0	(0)

23. What incentives would be most effective in stimulating sustainable production/processing
/distribution/consumption methods and techniques? 1000 character(s) maximum
*24. Do food system actors have sufficient knowledge and skills for the transition to
sustainable food systems?
Yes
No
Do not know
I do not take position
*25. Are there food system actors that are better prepared for the transition than others?
© Yes
No
Do not know
I do not take position
Thank you very much for taking the time to respond to this questionnaire!
Document upload
Please feel free to upload a concise document, such as a position paper. The uploaded document will be published alongside your response to the questionnaire which is the essential input to this public consultation. The document is optional and serves as additional background reading to better understand your position.
Please upload your file Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed f2a84372-43f9-4d4a-81ab-e08250bbcdd4/EurEau_comments_on_the_F2F_Strategyfinpdf

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