

# Sustainable Food Systems Transformative Framework

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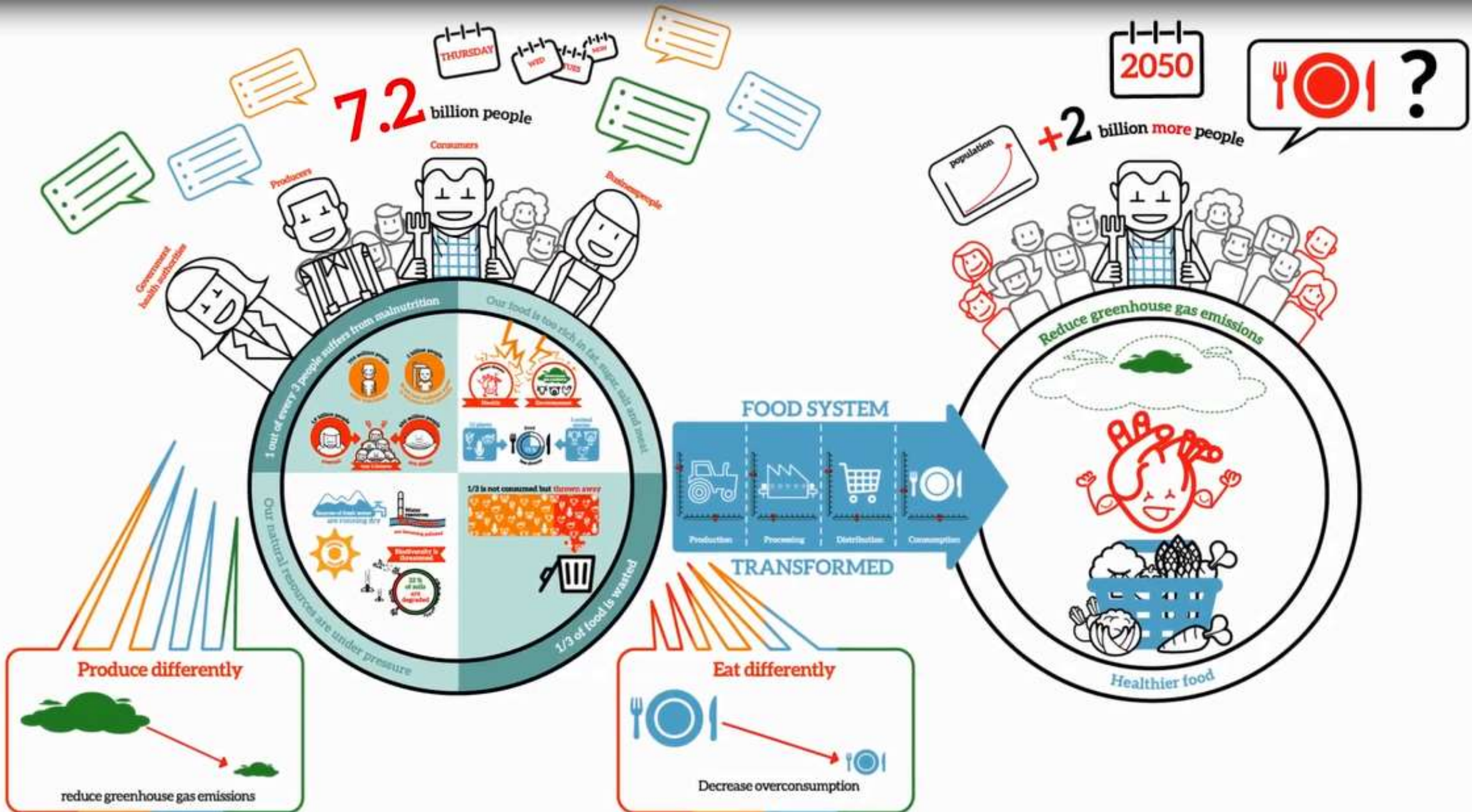
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# What comes to mind when you think about the **Food and Agriculture sector?**









## Some food systems outcomes



# FOOD SYSTEMS

## Food systems elements

### Policies and regulations:

- Taxes and subsidies
- Land rights

### Environment:

- Natural resources and ecosystem services
- Biodiversity

### Institutions

- Governments
- Companies
- NGOs

### Science and Technology:

- Research & Development
- Innovation
- Information

### Socio-Cultural norms:

- Social norms and values
- Consumer trends;
- Traditional knowledge

### Socio-Economic norms:

- Market opportunities
- Income distribution

### Infrastructures

- roads, ports;
- communication networks, energy grids

Drivers

## Food System activities

Growing

Harvesting

Processing

Packaging

Transporting

Marketing

Consuming

Disposing of food

## Food systems outcomes

### Socio-economic :

- Profitability for farmers;
- good wages;
- Gender inequalities;
- Poverty alleviation

### Environmental :

- Resource efficiency;
- ecosystems services and biodiversity;
- Climate change mitigation

### Food security and nutrition

- Food availability,
- Food utilization,
- Food access

Outcomes



# Sustainable Food Systems Transformative Framework



- The SFS Framework supports countries to effectively assess their current food systems, identify gaps, and improve food systems governance. This will enhance their capacity to meet resilient and sustainable food systems, besides a number of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Guide countries to apply more systemic interventions towards SFS.
- Targeted at governments, at national and local level;

## **Based on Food System's approach:**

*“Food systems gathers **all the elements** (environment, people, inputs, processes, infrastructures, institutions, etc.) and **activities** that relate to the production, processing, distribution, preparation and consumption of food and the **outputs** of these activities, including socio-economic and environmental outcomes”.*

# 5 characteristics of a food systems approach to decision making:



# What is a food systems approach to decision making?



## 1. Focus on food systems outcomes

- A food systems approach looks at the outcomes of the systems as a starting point, considering government's overarching objectives to deliver more sustainable, health, and nutritious food to a growing population, while also respecting planetary boundaries
- food system concept refers to a combination of the food system's activities (**the 'what we do'**) and the outcomes of these activities (**the 'what we get'**). (IRP, 2016)
- Takes into account the **drivers** for environmental degradation and social and economic impacts;
- Focus on **mitigating trade-offs** in decision making, improving societal outcomes
- Address environmental costs and **externalities**



# What is a food systems approach to decision making?



## **2. Health, environment, agriculture and industry are considered in policy making**

- key interventions covers both upstream (e.g incentives for more efficient production and supply chains), as well as downstream (eg. reducing food waste, by dietary changes towards less resource-demanding products and by reducing overconsumption of resource-intensive calories) activities.

## **3. Improve collaboration among food systems actors**

- Multi-stakeholder collaboration mechanisms are promoted and acknowledge the important roles of different food systems actors (from production to consumption) in policy planning, implementation and evaluation.

# What is a food systems approach to decision making?



## **4. Address emerging trend and challenges**

- Population growth, urbanisation, supermarketization, food demand (etc) influencing our food systems outcomes;
- food systems' approach, they will look at managing the impact that emerging trends and challenges have on food systems. As a result, they will stand more prepared to deal with the current dynamics of rapid changes in food systems.

## **5. Promotes integration between food and agriculture policies and other agendas**

- It will move from a situation where food and agriculture policies work in isolation, towards systemically contributing to 3 dimensions — environment, socio-economic, (without forgetting small-holder farmers), and food nutrition and security — at every stage of a food system, from agricultural production, processing, and retailing, to consumption.

## The benefits of a food systems approach:

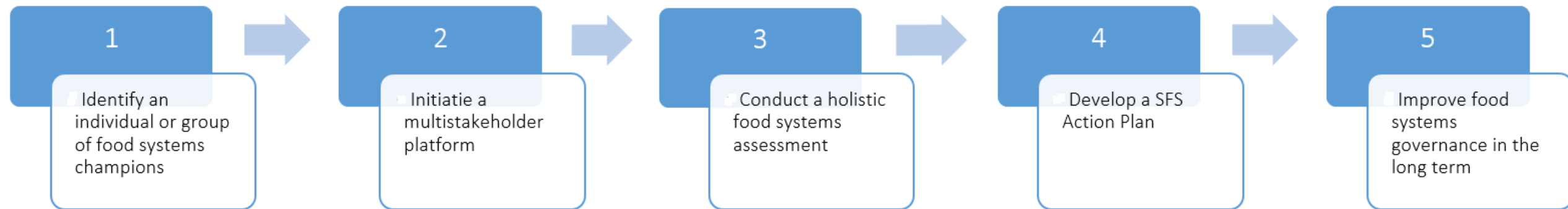
- ✓ Enhanced capacity of the actors to **deal with food system's complexity**;
- ✓ Enhanced **evaluation of trade-offs** in policy options, as drivers and outcomes will be taken into account and in a more holistic way;
- ✓ Better **coordination of policy actions**, institutional frameworks, and actors, enhancing overall food system's governance;
- ✓ **Reveal root causes** of unsustainable production and consumption patterns;
- ✓ **Support to resource efficiency of natural resources use**, lower environmental impacts, while at the same improving the societal outcomes (such as human health and rural livelihoods);



# Overview of the SFS Framework:



**Tiered-approach of actions, based on 5 steps to drive transformation in our food systems:**



## STEP 1: Identify an individual or group of food systems champions

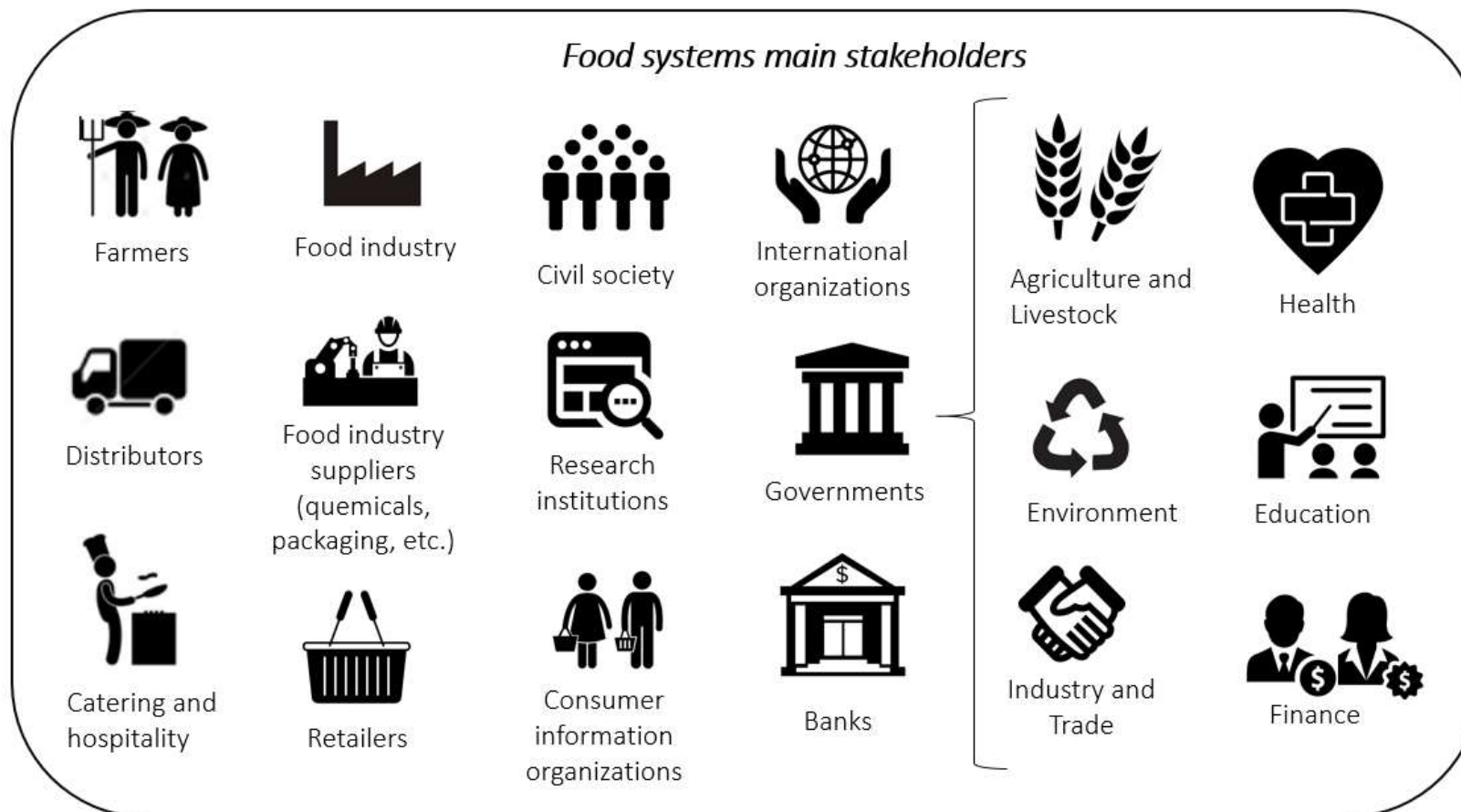


The group of champions will undertake the following activities:

- ✓ **Call attention and advocate** for the need to adopt a different approach to food and agriculture policies – a food system approach;
- ✓ **Raise awareness** and speak in public events to spread the messages concerning key benefits of a systemic thinking;
- ✓ Organize **trainings on a food systems approach**.

## STEP 2: Initiate a multi-stakeholder process

- Creation of **food systems councils or roundtables**;
- **Who** should be involved?





## STEP 3: Conduct a holistic food systems assessment



- Preparation of a **scoping study**;
- Framework of assessment, based on **a food systems lenses**, in order to understand food systems performance → i.e. what is the present state of the food system today?
- The assessment will provide an **in-depth understanding** of the elements, **drivers** and **outcomes** of food systems, what are the **main actors** involved, as well as **cataloguing existing policies** and activities related to food and agriculture and reviewing potential linkages with existing strategies

## **STEP 3: Conduct a holistic food systems assessment**



### **12 striking facts for a food systems assessment, at national or subnational level:**

1. *% of malnourished, overweight/obese, prevalence of lifestyle and diet related diseases such as diabetes;*
2. *Agricultural land use statistics - food or industrial crops, abandoned farms, degraded land, etc.*
3. *Agricultural water use - irrigation, water used for what % of crop value*
4. *Figures on smallholder farmers and SMEs involvement in the supply chain (for domestic or international markets);*
5. *Dominant players in the supply chain including formal and informal markets - inputs, producers, commodity traders, food companies, retailers;*
6. *Food losses in the supply chain and/or food waste*
7. *Figures of food produced for own consumption compared to total*
8. *Figures on use of agricultural inputs*
9. *Figures on environmental pollution*
10. *Productivity statistics and forecasting of key commodities*
11. *Figures on agri-food sector externalities*
12. *Figures on major trends over time (e.g. urbanization, migration, climate change)*

## STEP 4: Develop a SFS Action Plan:



- Set an **official governmental mechanism** that will present a food systems agenda and trajectory for the food and agriculture sector
- **Showing the how** – by clarifying a plan of actions, among different actors and types of interventions;
- Support the **continuation of food systems thinking**, across different sectors;
- Selection of priority areas (**triple win areas – those that positively impact health, environment and profit** )
- **Make the integration among different food system's policies and domains;**
- **Link with existing development strategies and (inter)national commitments**



## STEP 5: Improve food systems governance in the long term



- This step will empower public institutions to manage and guide the management of food systems to long term outcomes;
- Creation of a mandated mechanism to improve institutional arrangements and frameworks (agriculture, environment, finance, health, education, etc);
- Platform where policies, laws, regulations and programmes are continually reviewed, improved and implemented;
- Definition of **key performance indicators**:
  - Linked to interventions;
  - Aligned with the 2030 Agenda;
  - Multiple dimensions;
  - Monitor food systems outcomes

# Key Performance Indicators

Domain	Principles	Example of indicators
Land use and degradation from agriculture	No or very limited land degradation (in all forms) / soil erosion, prevent contamination, maintenance of landscape diversity, aiming at sustained crop yields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Optimized crop yields, closing the 'yield gap' without increasing environmental impacts; (efficiency)</li> <li>- Natural areas converted into agricultural land; (reduced impact)</li> </ul> <p>Source: IRP</p>
Use of agents / synthetic components	Minimized use;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pollution and contamination (soil, air and water quality)</li> </ul> <p>Source: IRP</p>
ecosystem services and biodiversity	Maximize conservation – no degradation of biodiversity in protected areas and areas of high biodiversity value outside protected areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Biodiversity maintained/enhanced;</li> <li>- Reduced disturbance /extinction of species</li> </ul> <p>Source: IRP</p>
Food losses in the supply chain	Minimize losses occurred on farm, during transport, in storage, and during processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO Food Loss Index (quantitative pre and post-harvest loss)</li> </ul> <p>Source: FAO</p>
Socio -Economic	Poverty alleviation, improve livelihood and resource efficiency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Labour productivity and income of small holder farmers;</li> </ul> <p>Source: FAO</p>

## Key Performance Indicators:

Domain	Principles	Example of indicators
Water	No depletion of groundwater/ disturbance of water systems; prevent pollution /contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Water-use efficiency along food value chain;(efficiency)</li><li>- Water needed in food systems;(efficiency)</li><li>- Changes in hydrological regimes (reduced impact);</li></ul> <p>Source: IRP</p>
GHG emission	Minimizing the carbon cost of food consumption - total consumption of the inhabitants of countries including the GHG emissions embodied in imported and exported products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Carbon footprint of food (whole value chain)</li></ul> <p>Source: SERI</p>



## Key Performance Indicators:

Domain	Principles	Example of indicators
Food waste	Minimizing food and drink waste at retail and household level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- amount of food wasted by the retail sector, food and hospitality sectors, and household;</li></ul> <p>Source: Think, Eat Save Guideline</p>
Sustainable diets	Improve nutrition and individual diet quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- diet diversity scores (number of different foods or food groups consumed over a given reference period). Based on surveys.</li></ul> <p>Source: FAO</p>
Food security	Improve nutrition, poverty reduction and hunger combat, sustainable consumption of food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number and percent of undernourished people</li><li>- Number and percent of obese in adults (also adolescents);</li></ul> <p>Source: FAO and WHO</p>
Governance	Establish inclusive, transparent, and equitable decision-making processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- number of stakeholder platforms decisions integrated into policy making process in a given period of time;</li><li>- number of consultation processes undertaken in a given period of time</li></ul> <p>Source: author</p>

Thank you!!!!

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Questions?

Suggestions?

In the context of local governments:

- a) Is the implementation of this Framework feasible?
- b) What are the main gaps?
- c) How could it be improved?