



14.00 HOURS CEST, 5 OCTOBER 2021

# Junior World Food Day Programme

Are you passionate about **food**, the **environment** or **agriculture** ?

Join us for stories, music, dance and a conversation during the [Junior World Food Day](#) event at **14.00 on 5 October**, part of the [World Food Forum](#) powered by youth that will take place from 1-5 October 2021. Meet food heroes and get inspired to make change happen and [become a food hero](#) too!



This special event features FAO's Director-General, QU Dongyu, innovators and agri-preneurs, food activists, chefs, astronauts, actors, students and more. Get ready to **sing along** with the launch of the Food Heroes' music video! Students from six countries around the world are spreading the message of how young people can take action to make agri-food systems more sustainable. And that's not all! Listen to students talking about their school food environments and take the opportunity to ask questions to our food heroes.



**Qiu Dongyu** took office on 1 August 2019 as Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). He has spent his life working on how to make sure the world is fed. Born into a rice-growing family in China's Hunan Province, his vision is founded on the belief that freedom from hunger is a basic human right, and that in the 21st century we have the capability to eradicate chronic food insecurity.



**Bela Gil** is a food activist, chef, TV host, nutritionist and author. She sources local, seasonal and sustainable food and finds creative ways to use leftovers in her recipes. She builds consumer awareness around sustainable healthy diets and promotes biodiversity and indigenous food varieties.



**Thomas Pesquet** is a French astronaut from the European Space Agency (ESA) and is FAO's Goodwill Ambassador. Thomas understands how space science and technology play an increasingly important role in FAO's mission to end hunger and bridges the gap between different actors who collaborate to tackle climate change and foster sustainable solutions.



**Youth #FoodHeroes** - students from some of the six countries - Armenia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Ireland, and Lebanon - will launch the #FoodHeroes music video. They sing and dance this World Food Day to inspire young people to learn how each of us can do our part and make agri-food systems more sustainable for people and the planet.



**Elijah Amoo Addo** is a chef in Ghana and founder of Food for All Africa. This non-profit organization was inspired by FAO's campaign against food waste. Food for All Africa has attracted attention from both local and global partnerships, making it possible for it to expand its work to other African countries.



**Evelyn Ohanwusi** is the Training and Partnership Coordinator at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), youth winner of the Innovation Award for Sustainable Food Systems. She began her career as a pioneer and founding member of the IITA Youth Agri-preneurs (IYA) programme in Ibadan, Nigeria and has since become a strong advocate for youth and women in agribusiness.



**Adedayo Adefioye** is the Coordinator of the Start Them Early Program (STEP) at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) across Nigeria, Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This program offers strategies to direct the aspirations of "younger youth" towards careers and sustainable business paths in agriculture.



**James Corden** is an English actor, comedian, producer and television host and the voice of Peter Rabbit. Peter Rabbit has joined forces with the United Nations (UN) and FAO to enlist more food heroes that can all contribute to a sustainable food future. He calls on youth to eat more fruits and vegetables, locally sourced and in season where possible, reduce food waste, and grow food at home.  
*Photo credits: iDominick Visual Media*



**Roberto Baggio** is a football legend and winner of the 'Man of Peace' award. As FAO Goodwill Ambassador, Baggio has been a key participant in the Professional Football against Hunger campaign, taking part in various activities including visits to FAO projects in Laos in 2007 and Peru in 2011 to raise awareness about hunger, child malnutrition and the effects of climate change on smallholder farmers.  
*Photo credits: Flickr/Kanegen*

### Concluding remarks by:



**Ismahane Elouafi** is the Chief Scientist at FAO. She is a strong advocate for diversifying into neglected and underutilized crops and rethinking food systems as a whole. Ismahane is also internationally known for her work on promoting the use of non-fresh water in agriculture and the empowerment of women in science.

### Moderators:



**Ange Soubirous Tambineza**



**Simona Vani**

16 October 2021

# World Food Day

Collective action across 150 countries is what makes [World Food Day](#) one of the most celebrated days of the United Nations' calendar. Hundreds of events and outreach activities bring together governments, businesses, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), the media, and general public. They promote worldwide awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and for the need to ensure healthy diets for all. #WorldFoodDay 2021 will be marked a second time while countries around the world deal with the widespread effects of the global COVID-19 pandemic. It's a time to look into the future we need to build together.



**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

Viale delle Terme di  
Caracalla  
00153 Rome, Italy

# World Food Forum

The [World Food Forum](#) is a youth-led movement and network to transform our food systems and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular “zero hunger”. It will take place from 1-5 October 2021 gathering major youth groups, influencers, companies, academic institutions, non-profits, governments, media and the public to drive awareness, foster engagement and advocacy, and mobilize resources in support of agri-food systems transformation.

