



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



DEPARTMENT OF
**ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL AFFAIRS**



supporting
Least Developed Countries
Landlocked Developing Countries
Small Island Developing States
United Nations Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries,
Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM SIDE EVENT

Accelerating progress on the SDGs through the implementation of the Global Action Programme (GAP) on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

15 July 2019

6.30pm-8.00pm

UN HQ – Conference Room 7

How to respond to the growing challenge of ensuring food security and nutrition in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in a context of climate change, and how can we use food security, nutrition and sustainable food system development as a driving force for sustainable development in SIDS? Acting on these questions are critical if SIDS are to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The impacts of climate change, limitations to local food production because of scarce and degraded land and ocean resources, changes in diets and a high dependence on importation of food – mainly industrialized, cheaper food high in calories and low in nutrients – are factors that have resulted in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) having higher than global average rates of prevalence of undernourishment (17.1% against 10.8%) and of obesity among adults (20.9% against 13.2%), according to the 2018 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) jointly published by FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. Consequences are felt at the individual and national levels, with undernourishment robbing children of the possibility of full development and negatively impacting the well-being and productivity of adults, and with a high prevalence of diet-related non-communicable deaths – non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are responsible for approximately 75% of deaths in Pacific SIDS, for example.

To support and galvanize efforts to address these challenges and answering a call made in the S.A.M.O.A Pathway, FAO together with UN-DESA and UN-OHRRLLS facilitated the development of the Global Action Programme (GAP) on Food Security and Nutrition in SIDS, launched in 2017 at the 40th session of the FAO Conference in the presence of the President of Palau. The GAP builds on and complements existing efforts by focusing on creating enabling environments for food security and nutrition; fostering sustainable, resilient, and nutrition-sensitive food systems and empowering people and communities for improved food security and nutrition.

The side event will assess the state of food security and nutrition in SIDS regions, showcase how SIDS are tackling associated issues with the support of partners and discuss how sustainable agriculture and food systems can be used to improve food security and nutrition in SIDS in a context of climate change, promote the transformation towards more resilient societies and as an accelerator for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a whole; and explain how the GAP is contributing to these ongoing efforts. The event will also call upon partners of SIDS – donors, international organizations, NGOs and civil society – to further support food security and nutrition in SIDS and the implementation of the GAP.



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UN-OHRLS



Agenda

OPENING SEGMENT

| 6.30pm |

WELCOMING REMARKS BY THE MODERATOR

H.E. Ms. Lois Young, Permanent Representative of Belize to the United Nations

OPENING REMARKS

H.E. Mr. Tommy Remengesau Jr, President of the Republic of Palau

H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King, President of ECOSOC

Mr. José Graziano da Silva, Director General, FAO

PANEL DISCUSSION

| 6.45pm |

H.E. Ms. Losaline Ma'asi, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Forests, Kingdom of Tonga

Dr. Patrick Ignatius Gomes, Secretary-General, African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP)

H.E. Mr. Hamada Madi Bolero, Secretary-General, Indian Ocean Commission (IOC)

Ms. Paula Johns, Executive Director, ACT+ Brazil, Board Member of the NCD Alliance

INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE Questions and Answers

| 7.30pm |

#ZeroHunger – #HLPF