

»» JOURNAL ««

TRANSFORMATION OF FOOD SYSTEMS



SPECIAL INITIATIVE TRANSFORMATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SYSTEMS

Global Programme Transformation of Food Systems

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THIS EDITION?



In the first edition of this journal, we look back at two major events in Kenya: the 2nd Transformation Learning Lab and the Partners for Change Conference. We also present some latest highlights from the Transformative Initiatives.

Each issue features a member of our network - this time it's Dr Mutanga Mapani from Zambia. You'll also find recommendations for interesting articles and information about upcoming events. We look forward to receiving your contributions and ideas for future editions!

We hope you enjoy reading!

2ND TRANSFORMATION LEARNING LAB

24 - 25 JUNE, NAIROBI, KENYA

>>> BUILDING AND STRENGTHENING OUR NETWORK

Bringing together innovative minds and dedicated partners, the '2nd Transformation Learning Lab' welcomed up to 30 participants from the three national transformative initiatives from Zambia, Malawi, and India, as well as two global transformative initiatives, the ICLEI City Food Network and the Next Gen(d)eration Leadership Collective, alongside other strategic partners. Building on existing partnerships formed during the '1st Transformation Learning Lab' earlier this year and through online exchanges, new relationships were also established. The event provided a platform for networking and further exchange, allowing participants to share experiences and knowledge while advancing transformative approaches.

We learnt on leveraging on other people's strengths. For instance every TI is unique and efficient enough to make the broader objective attainable and transformative. We just have to keep on learning and relearning.

Anonymous feedback from an evaluation card

>>> GLOBAL IMPULSES FROM THE LOCAL LEVEL

In addition to networking, the event featured an inspiring keynote speech by Kah Walla, an entrepreneur, activist, and political leader from Cameroon. She pointed out an aspect that is often overlooked: *'The degree of functionality of the state is rarely discussed and analyzed as development strategies are elaborated'*.

The focus on making transformative processes more tangible sparked important discussions and new ways of thinking among participants. Topics such as behavior change, multi-stakeholder dialogues, and engaging different actor groups were also addressed and explored together. With a wealth of new ideas, participants moved on to the subsequent Partners for Change Conference, departing Nairobi with numerous new connections and inspiring insights.

Please refer to the event documentation for more information.



PARTNERS FOR CHANGE CONFERENCE

27 - 28 JUNE, NAIROBI, KENYA



UNITED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION

With a view to transforming agricultural and food system towards a food secure, resilient and sustainable future, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) invited many of our TI partners to the 2024 Partners for Change (P4C) Network Meeting Nairobi. With over 200 participants from more than 30 countries, the Meeting aimed to highlight local experiences and link them to global and regional agendas, promote South-South dialogue and networking among partners and advance transformation processes at national level through discussion and dissemination of agricultural innovations and best practices.

TRADING-OFF FUTURE CLIMATE AND NUTRITION POLICIES

Among other highlights, eight workshops were held to discuss relevant issues. The key questions explored in each workshop were what policy development/changes and what partnerships are needed to address each issue. Many of the GP TES partners were involved in the workshop „Trading-off future climate and nutrition policies“.

Key findings included the need to implement a *one food systems approach* beyond silos, and the development of 'climate-sensitive nutrition policies' & 'nutrition-sensitive climate policies'.



Daniel Mulumba Kalala (TI Zambia) presented the results of the sessions as a reporter in the plenary session.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE POST-MALABO STRATEGY CONSULTATION PROCESS

One outcome of the conference is a two-page independent memorandum on the consultation process for the post-Malabo strategy. We succeeded in developing a Memorandum that highlighted: the exigency of national implementation, the importance of greatly increased accountability by Member States on their commitments, the necessity of a more integrated holistic strategy combining food systems and climate, as well as the obligation to greatly improve inclusivity from strategy conception, through implementation to monitoring and evaluation, were just a few of the key points highlighted in the contribution which can be found here.

[Read more about the P4C conference here](#)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE TRANSFORMATIVE INITIATIVES

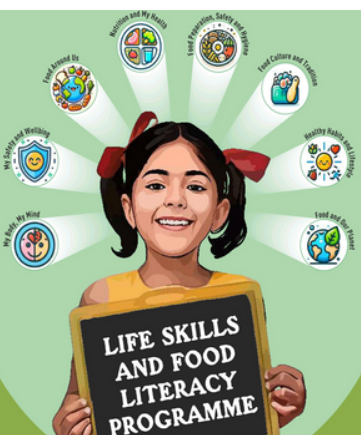


FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION MASTERCLASS TRAINING IN SAMBIA

The Food System Master Class training aimed to learn about the food systems concept and its elements (Diagnose), to understand transformation and responses of the political landscape, and investigate national pathway priorities (Envision), and to explore food systems approaches and how one can make use of them (Act).

NATIONAL LEARNING EVENT ON FOOD SYSTEMS IN MALAWI

The National Learning Event on Food Systems aimed to introduce the Transformative Initiative to stakeholders at national level. The event emphasised the importance of enhanced stakeholder coordination to improve food systems. Let's push the FAST (Food and Agriculture Systems Transformation) button!



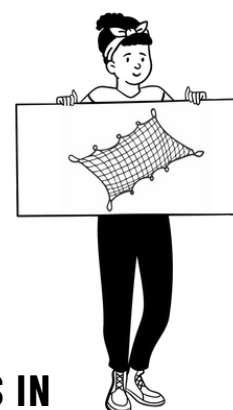
FOOD LITERACY PROGRAMME BY COFTI AND OTHERS IN INDIA

Life Skills and Food Literacy Programme in Schools aims to shift diets towards sustainability. Drawing on the National Education Policy 2020 and other key guidelines, they have reached students with a curriculum that blends health, wellness, and food literacy, emphasizing a balanced approach to physical health, mental well-being, and nutritional knowledge.

STRATEGY DOCUMENT AND METHODOLOGY - NGLC



Next Gen(d)eration Leadership Collective (NGLC) has developed a strategy document that summarises the objectives, types of partners, eligibility criteria and step-by-step-methodology for selecting and later collaborating with partners on a global and national level.



MULTISTAKEHOLDER DIALOGUES IN LILONGWE & LUSAKA - ICLEI

The ICLEI City Food Network hosted multi-stakeholder dialogue sessions in both capitals. These meetings focused on discussions and exercises around necessary stakeholders, potential challenges, expected and unexpected outcomes, and existing/enabling policies.

We have selected these highlights based on the presentations in Nairobi.
We look forward to getting your contributions in the next editions!

ONE PROGRAMME, MANY FACES

DO YOU
ALREADY
KNOW ... ?



THE UNIFIER: MUNTANGA MAPANI

Transforming food systems sounds abstract. However, for Muntanga Mapani, these terms are very concrete when she thinks about her previous work and the roundtable where she now brings together all the stakeholders in Zambia who should be involved in the transformation. "Especially representatives from civil society and the private sector are serious players," she says, crossing her right leg over her left. "It's about the people themselves; they are not just administrative units."

Mapani takes a few minutes to speak; she has just come out of a meeting, and soon the next one calls. It's like in the hospitals where she worked for 20 years: the pediatrician Mapani rushed from patient to patient. And she saw how important nutrition was in the shadow of her medical knowledge. "Many diseases I saw were due to a lack of and not enough healthy food," recalls the 54-year-old. "Children are the most vulnerable." So, she wanted to make a difference, to have an impact, not just treat acutely.

The Zambian government has appointed her as the Executive Director of the National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC). Her workplace, when she is not traveling: a round table. The NFNC is the government agency responsible for transforming the food systems in the country. Mapani pushes public dialogue on healthy eating and consumer protection, bringing together stakeholders. "Such a mammoth project like a societal transformation can only succeed if as many people as possible pull together," she concludes. "We coordinate all topics related to nutrition - on governmental, private, and scientific levels."

What does this look like? "For example, youth," Mapani responds, "many of them sell food - they know the needs but can also be trained in terms of nutrient richness or hygiene. We bring them to the table just as we do parliamentarians." Mapani's meetings are held at the local level to reach everyone. She always keeps her profession as a pediatrician in mind: "Children are also consumers. And their rights need to be strengthened."

Jan Rübel



This interview was conducted with Dr Mutanga Mapani (TI Zambia) at the 1st Transformation Learning Lab in Berlin, January 2024.



Have you seen the interview with [Shu Wen Ng](#) and [Felix Phiri](#) published on Food4Transformation?

FOOD FOR THOUGHT & UPCOMING EVENTS

IMPULSE PAPER TRANSFORMATION HEALTHY DIETS



REED MORE

The [impulse paper](#) "Transformation healthy diets" is aimed at international cooperation partners involved in project planning and implementation for stronger health and nutrition outcomes through food systems approaches. It suggests entry points in food systems likely to contribute to improved nutrition as a priority outcome of the transformation. These entry points encompass actions that target specific food system components and levers that cut across food systems components and sectors and have the power to effect significant change in the availability and access to healthy diets and improved nutrition for all people. An appendix details external approaches and GIZ project examples for these actions and levers.

»»» WHAT DRIVES FOOD SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION?

There is a miriade of answers and analyses available already which only underlines the questions' importance. Some highly condensed findings from IFPRI and its research partners - who have studied the pace and pattern of food systems transformation within USAID's Feed-the-Future (FTF) countries - might be worth a (another) read (and include data/results for Malawi and Zambia):

- Off-farm growth helps drive Transformation: Investment portfolios should contribute to both on- and off-farm income growth and job creation.
- Agricultural exports are highly concentrated: Diversifying agric. exports is important, but export-oriented value chains are currently often not driving food system growth.
- Domestic-oriented VCs are driving AFS growth: Investment portfolios should be informed by consumption patterns and dietary change, since these are crucial drivers of future AFS growth.
- Import-substituting VCs could drive transformation: Value chains that substitute for imports may be more effective at driving food systems transformation and creating off-farm.

A presentation is available as Event Recording on the [AgriLinks side](#).

THE DIETARY SHIFT <<<

The Food System Economics Commission is an independent academic commission that equips political and economic decision makers with tools and evidence to shift food and land use systems.


In their latest [policy brief](#) they conclude dietary change to be crucial to reverse the global impact of current consumption patterns on health, longevity, and the environment. FSEC modelling emphasizes that fostering a healthy food environment is biophysically feasible on a global scale and the most powerful strategy to improve human and planetary well-being. The publication also offers policy guidance for facilitating the necessary change by identifying three success levers for a systemic and coordinated plan, namely incentives and regulation, innovation, and investment. Yet, FSEC also highlights that individual policies alone will achieve only minor changes: a comprehensive, bundled package of actions is needed for maximum effect. For example, modelling from FSEC shows that revenue from a tax on processed foods could subsidize fruit and vegetable consumption while creating no net budget impact and providing jobs for agricultural workers. This policy bundling can produce benefits in all regions according to the research.


FOOD FOR THOUGHT & UPCOMING EVENTS

FOOD POLICY COUNCILS TRANSFORMING URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS WEBINAR INVITATION

SAVE THE
DATE

Coalition for Food-Systems Transforma(c)tion (CoFTI) is hosting a gloable webinar asking the question “**How can Food Policy Councils contribute to Sustainable Transformation of Urban Food Systems?**”

 August 9, 2024 | 1:30 - 3:00 PM CEST

 [Registration & Meeting-Link](#)




Last virtual exchange meeting in April 2024

VIRTUAL EXCHANGE MEETING OF TRANSFORMATIVE INITIATIVES

We are pleased to invite you to our next **Virtual Exchange Meeting**. The meeting is to re-connect members of the TI with each other either following on from our meetings in Berlin and Nairobi or new members. We are looking forward to foster and strengthen our relationships, to provide a platform for exchange, and to facilitate mutual learning of all of us.

 November 7th 2024 | 9:00 - 10:30 AM CEST

 A meeting link will be emailed to you shortly.

If you have a topic, highlight, update, report, event or literature recommendation that you would like us to include in the next journal, please email us at gv-tes@giz.de.

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