



Biodiversity in Food Systems Transitions

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2021 World Food Prize Winner

Global Biodiversity Framework, FAO and
CBD, 6 July 2021



Post-2020: An Era of Change

- Disruptions faced in the past two years have exposed us the fragility of our food systems:
 - Inequity in food access and distribution
 - Imbalance in production, processing and consumption
 - Non-sustainable practices
- The UN Food Systems Summit 2021:
 - People-based summit
 - Transforming food systems
 - Inclusion of biodiversity and environmental concerns as pathways for transformation
 - 5 Action Tracks for transformation



Threats to Biodiversity and Food and Nutrition Security

- Little diversity in production systems:
 - About 120 species of crops are cultivated for human consumption – 9 crops supply up to 75% of total production
 - Aquaculture production priorities – salmon (marine); carp, tilapia and catfish (freshwater)
- Little diversity and poor management threaten the systems – potential of collapse



Call to Action: Increase Dietary Diversity and Consumer Demand

- Diversification of diets and consumer demand are needed
 - Include low-trophic, high-biomass species e.g. pelagic small fish species, mollusks, seaweed
- Increase diversification of food products in the market
 - Culturally acceptable, nutritious and safe
 - Easily accessible
- Increase consumer demand through knowledge and awareness raising



Call to Action: Integrated Resource Management Strategies

- Understand the synergies between food, land and water systems for transformation
 - Develop management protocols
 - Explore integrated use of systems e.g. rice field fisheries, mangrove fisheries
- Adopt innovative resources for species and biodiversity protection
 - Community fish refuges
 - Pond polyculture with small indigenous fish species



Call to Action: Bridging Knowledge with Technology

- Creating linkages between traditional knowledge with modern technology
 - Knowledge dissemination using digital tools
 - Traditional practices used in production and conservation
- Engaging diverse stakeholders as custodian and catalyst for action
 - Women
 - Indigenous Peoples
 - Youth





Diverse aquatic foods are essential to nourish people, nations and our planet, now and in the future.