

4.1 The creation of a dedicated Global Financing Facility for food systems transition

What problem is your proposition addressing?

The vision of transformed food systems that deliver healthy diets from sustainable production systems for all will only become reality if it is delivered through clear transition steps that are both realistic and affordable. While the transition will generate considerable returns over time (for example in terms of health, productivity of workforces, and the environment), financing the necessary steps is likely to present substantial challenges, particularly for LMICs which may be severely resource-constrained in the wake of COVID-19. It may also be problematic in cases where the actors who need to resource the necessary changes may be different from the eventual beneficiaries.

How does your proposition address the problem?

The World Bank's new Food Systems 2030 Trust Fund for food systems transition, has the potential to be a transformational, and game-changing development, and as such should be endorsed, and strongly supported.

Food Systems 2030 provides advice and analytical products to underpin policy options, funds to pilot innovative approaches, and information to build support for change in different country contexts. Food Systems 2030 helps steer and leverage the impacts of World Bank lending to better achieve a vision of food systems which deliver healthy people, a healthy planet and healthy economies. It engages with the private sector by supporting the design, piloting and de-risking of innovative public-private partnerships which advance development goals. And it complements other resources that support sustainable land use and food security by taking a more integrated, multi-disciplinary and catalytic approach to food systems transformation. Activities funded by Food Systems 2030 will have a demonstrable positive impact on health, environment, and prosperity, with a strong narrative and results reporting that will capture these impacts.¹

It is suggested that particular priority be given to actions that further the objective of ensuring everyone can access and afford healthy diets that have been sustainably produced. More specifically, the Global Panel's 2020 Foresight report (see below) details priority actions around four key themes:

- Making sufficient nutrient-rich and staple foods available to all, produced sustainably.
- Ensuring foods move along value chains more efficiently, improving accessibility and resulting in lower cost and less loss.
- Ensuring healthy diets from sustainable production systems are affordable to all, with lower demand for ultra-processed products.
- Empowering consumers to make more informed food choices, fueling rising demand for healthy diets from sustainable food systems.

Is this a new solution or an existing solution that needs scaling?

It entails scaling up the World Bank's existing Food Systems 2030 initiative.

Which organisation/s, institution/s or groups of individuals are associated with the solution?

Primarily The World Bank. The World Economic Forum has also been involved.

What is the scientific evidence that supports your proposition?

¹ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/agriculture/brief/food-systems-2030>

The case for food systems reform and the need for adequate finance to achieve that was developed in the Global Panel's Foresight report: Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition. 2020. *Future Food Systems: For people, our planet, and prosperity*. London, UK. (See www.glopan.org).

The World Bank has also developed a detailed case for the Food Systems 2030 initiative.

Is this idea applicable to a particular geography, demography, landscape or other type of setting?

Food Systems 2030 targets policymakers, knowledge-based organizations, the private sector, and civil society organizations in low- and middle-income countries, as well as organizations at the global level seeking transformative change.

Who are the main actors that would put this action into place?

The World Bank has already established the Food Systems 2030 initiative, and would scale it up with the support of contributing countries.

The UNFSS provides an important opportunity for countries to endorse the importance of this initiative, and to commit to supporting it.

Source and process

The Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition.