



SDC A+FS Network

Thoughts for Food

A series of light & informal events on food-systems related news



WELCOME !

12.09.2023

What's being offered today?

1. Introduction
2. **UN Food System Summit +2 : call for action – a push to transform food systems and accelerate action for the SDGs** – Christina Blank, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN Organisations in Rome
3. News & Updates
4. Network space
5. **Youth engagement in Agriculture** – Deogratiuous Magero, Youth Engagement Manager at the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI)



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UN Food System Summit +2 : Call for action – a push to transform food systems and accelerate action for the SDGs

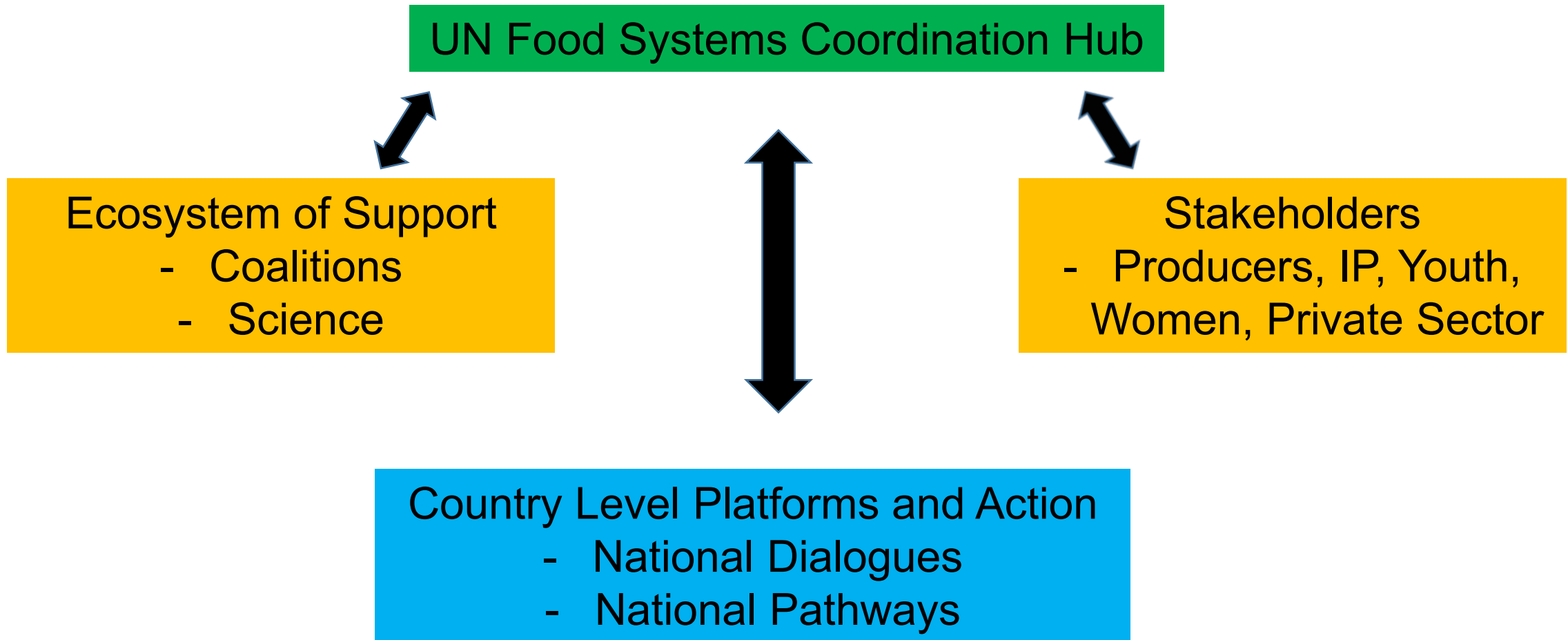
Christina Blank

Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN Organisations in Rome

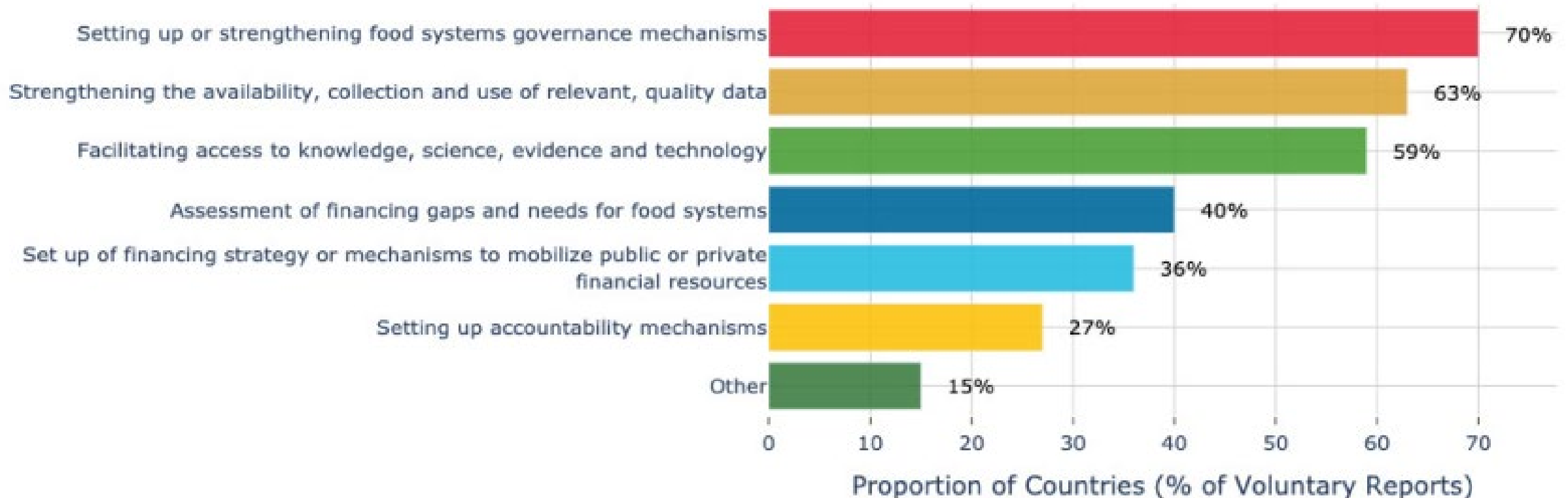
- to build on the momentum of the 2021 Food Systems Summit and create a conducive space for countries to review progress on the commitments to action
- 3300 participants, including delegations from 182 countries, 21 world leaders and 126 ministers, 225 Non-state Actor organisations and close to 900 UN system representatives

“Global food systems are broken and billions of people are paying the price.”

UN Secretary-General António Guterres



Country actions to support food systems transformation



UN Secretary – General Call for Action for accelerated Food System Transformation:

1. Incorporating food systems strategies into all national policies for sustainable development
2. Establishing food systems governance that engages all sectors and stakeholders
3. Investing in research, data, innovation and technology capacities
4. Deepening joined-up participatory design and implementation inclusive of women, young people and Indigenous Peoples at the local level
5. Promoting increased engagement of businesses to shape the sustainability of food systems and establish and strengthen accountability mechanisms
6. Ensuring access to short and long-term concessional finance, investments, budget support and debt restructuring

The way forward:

- insights from the UNFSS +2 and on the next steps towards the SDG Summit, COP 28, the Summit of the Future 2024 and UNFSS +4
- Better coordinated Rome-Based Agencies and wider UN support for food systems, including with financing institutions
- Strengthen catalytic funding investments



UN Secretary – General Call for Action for accelerated Food System Transformation:

<https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/fs-stocktaking-moment/documentation/un-secretary-general-call-to-action/en>

Report of the UN Secretary-General:

https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/docs/unfoodsystemslibraries/stocktaking-moment/un-secretary-general/unfss2-secretary-general-report.pdf?sfvrsn=560b6fa6_19



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WHAT'S NEW ?



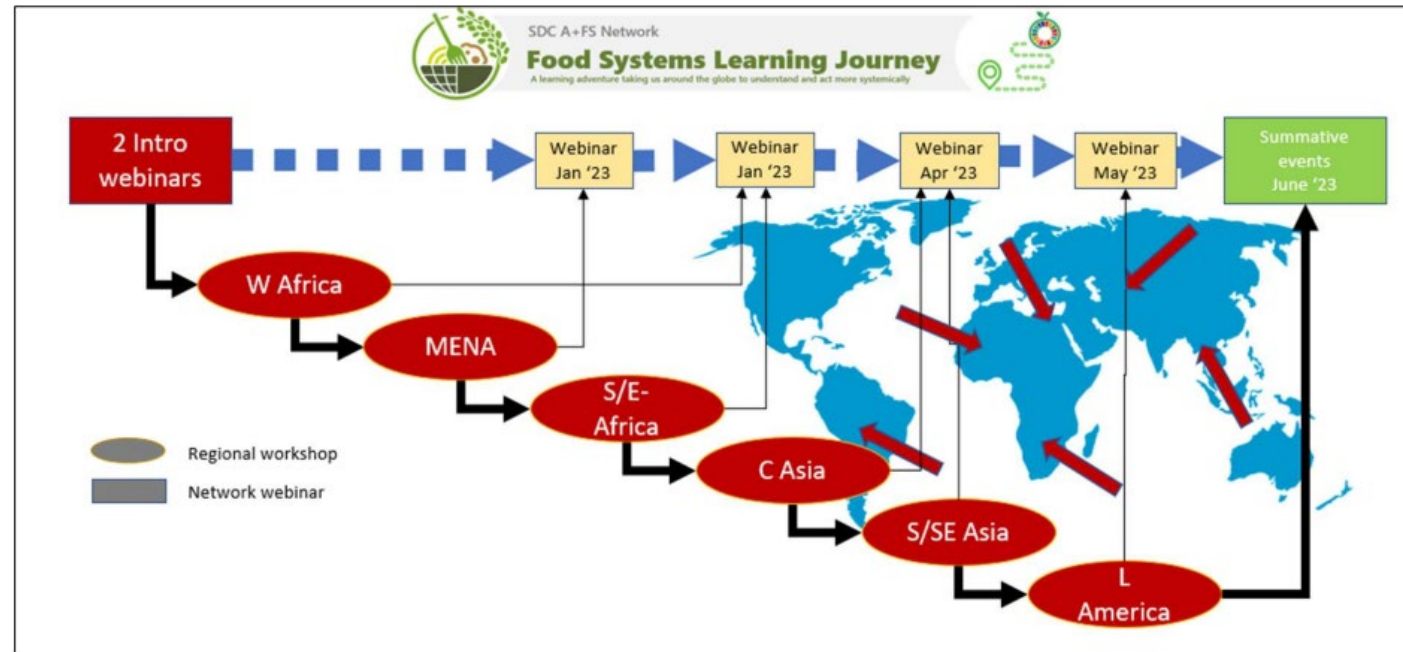
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Food Systems Learning Journey

A learning adventure taking us around the globe to understand and act more systemically



SDC 'Food System Learning Journey' Report



[Learn more](#)



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The SDC Agriculture and
Food Systems Network

Global F2F-Meeting 2023

Bridging Approaches, Linking Outcomes

25th – 29th September 2023
Rome, Italy



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[Learn more](#)



World Food Day 2023

**Water is life, water is food.
Leave no one behind.**

[Learn more](#)

16th October 2023



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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



WORLD FOOD FORUM 2023

Agrifood systems transformation accelerates climate action.





SAY HI!

Let's quickly reconnect

You'll be randomly assigned to a small group.

In the group, simply take a minute to say hi and introduce yourself.



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Youth Engagement in Agriculture

Deogratiuous Magero

Youth Engagement Manager, CABI



Youth Engagement in Agriculture

Deogratus J. Magero,
Youth Engagement Manager, CABI

Joseph, Caroline, Lindah, Monica, Florence, Christine, Mary

A woman in a tea plantation, wearing a headscarf and carrying a large sack on her head, is smiling and holding tea leaves in her hands. The background shows a vast tea plantation under a clear sky.

Who we are

CABI is an international not-for-profit organization that improves people's lives by providing information and applying scientific expertise to solve problems in agriculture and the environment.

49 Member Countries guide and influence our work.



Medium-Term Strategy 2023- 2025

1. Improve the food security and livelihoods of smallholder communities
2. Help communities reduce and adapt to climate change impacts on crops and landscapes
- 3. Reduce inequality through better opportunities for rural women and youth**
4. Safeguard biodiversity and support sustainable use of natural resources
5. Increase the reach, application and impact of science in agriculture and the environment



Reduce
inequality
through better
opportunities
for rural
women and
youth

- CABI seeks to create new income and employment opportunities for rural women and youth in plant health and agricultural value chains; promoting production, service provision and supporting enterprise development;
- While supporting farmers to produce safe quality food and improve income.
- Includes roles in the local production of low-risk biological pest control products

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Challenges and Barriers

- **Production resources**

Access to land, capital, labour and knowledge/skills.

- **Market and marketing factors**

Low profitability of agricultural produce, poor market accessibility, and poor infrastructure, limited knowledge on market system, conditions, prices, and consumer preferences.

- **Personal aspirations and perceptions**

Agriculture is manual and laborious with less in returns

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The Opportunity

Agriculture holds potential to provide employment opportunities for the youth if supported with increased investment, with conducive institutional and policy environment.

- **Service provision** along the value chains; To ensures farmers access extension services, inputs (seeds, fertilizers, pesticides), post-harvest support,(threshing, shelling, bagging) markets, transportation, good agronomic practices (pruning, spraying, irrigation etc.);
- **Agricultural enterprises:** youth can initiate agricultural enterprises at different nodes along the value chains as alternative sources of income.
- **Production and supply of produce;** youth can produce either through contract farming, out grower schemes or organised production under youth groups/cooperatives;
- **Value addition e.g.** first-stage food processing like flour milling, milk products (butter, yoghurt), tomatoes, et c
- **Use of ICT;** youth leverage technology to provide agricultural services along the value chains and facilitate market access.

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CABI's Youth Empowerment Activities

CABI is addressing unemployment and underemployment while **empowering youth** realize their full potential follows:

- **Skilling youth as last mile service providers:** Plant health diagnostics, IPM (low risk/climate friendly solutions), spray service provision; incorporating *social, finance and business* skills
- **Supporting Enterprise development in** production and service provision: Youth-led Micro-enterprises have capacity to deliver quality produce while replicating job creation.
- **Linkages and Social capital building:** Fostering healthy youth-adult relationships, linkages to farmers, relevant gov't officers and facilitating B2B connections to enable young people provide services, and inputs for income generation.

Recent examples

Training

Uganda

185 Youth affiliated to 2 farmers' Coops trained on pest diagnosis, pest management and safe handling of agro-chemicals.

Kenya

63 Youth affiliated to Makueni County Fruit Processors Cooperative Society trained on Plant health diagnostics, making recommendations, IPM (promoting low risk/climate friendly solutions), spray service provision and orchard management in Makueni.

Kenya

Farmer Service Centre Model
30 Youth known as FSCs trained on Plant health diagnostics, making recommendations, IPM (promoting low risk/climate friendly solutions), spray service provision in Nakuru


Earning Models

They respond to farmers requests sent to the coops and receive a fee for their services; so far supported over 1000 farmers.

CABI facilitates B2B connections to enable them people obtain low risk products at competitive prices and sell at good profit margin.
SSPs are paid by farmers for acreage sprayed.

FSCs are linked to farmers and private sector companies such as KOPPERT to provide farmers with advise while selling low risk pest management products for additional income

To build social capital for the youth, CABI facilitates 'last mile' linkages between the trained youth providing services and farmers.



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CABI leverages well-established systems and tools to create income opportunities for youth in agriculture :

CABI Academy: Digital learning platform supporting over 11,000 individuals globally to acquire diverse skills. This has led to continued self learning, greater career growth and business opportunities for young professional in agriculture.

Other locations include: Ghana, Nepal, Pakistan, Zambia, etc

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Key Lessons

- Enable youth to see income generating opportunities along agricultural value chains
- Gender dynamics; targeted support to young women in various roles along the value chain
- Do No Harm: Youth engagement should not put the young people at risk; e.g. physical, health, exploitation etc
- Empowering young men and women through agricultural training offers a practical solution to address youth unemployment and foster economic growth.
- Influencing country and regional policies to facilitate meaningful youth engagement in agriculture.



CABI is an international intergovernmental organisation, and we gratefully acknowledge the core financial support from our member countries (and lead agencies) including:



Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, People's Republic of China



Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada





A+FS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The presentations from today will be available on the Shareweb:
<https://www.shareweb.ch/site/Agriculture-and-Food-Security/CUG/Pages/thoughts-for-food.aspx>
- We'll be back with more **Thoughts for Food** on **1st November 2023**.
- Share news, topics and ideas with us!



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Before you leave...

What do you think about this meeting?

<https://forms.office.com/r/k1UaAgznCb>



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Thank you!

Stay well, stay safe and stay connected!

We'll be back on 1st November!