

## The UN FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT 2021

### Guiding Notes for Benin National Dialogue

The following are suggested guiding notes for consideration in the preparation of the Benin National consultations:

1. Ministry of Agriculture to guide on arrangements and participation in National dialogue
2. Constitute the focal institutions/person(s) to organize the Malawi consultation meeting and to prepare a synthesis: Possibly Agricultural Research and Extension Trust, RUFORUM and Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security focal person to coordinate the arrangements. Dr Sylvanus Mensah is the contact person for RUFORUM and can be contacted at RUFORUM Secretariat ([secretariat@ruforum.org](mailto:secretariat@ruforum.org) with copy to [s.mensah@ruforum.org](mailto:s.mensah@ruforum.org) )
3. Identify the key questions that should be addressed
4. Reach out to various institutions and agencies at national level for the dialogue: the stakeholders should include, among others, Ministry of Agriculture officials, other Government Ministries, farmers' institutions, research systems, Agricultural Research Organisation in Benin, universities, youths, NGOs, Private sector, etc.
5. Choose the date (s); we propose 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 so as to allow inputs from the National Consultation to guide the presentation by the Minister of Agriculture and Food Security during the Advocates for Africa's development meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
6. Identify the key voices, the speakers, including the moderator
7. Participate/Contribute to the drafting of the Benin Government Statement to UN Food Systems Summit
8. Prepare meeting report of current situation, key drivers and issues, needed actions and by whom; what should be the key messages from the dialogue for consideration by the Benin Government for action at National level, AUC and presentation at the UN Summit
9. Organize zoom convening (RUFORUM Secretariat can assist in this)

10. Advertise widely the consultation and the zoom meeting
11. Register the event in the UN FSS platform

### **Possible Meeting arrangement**

**Proposed Date: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021**


**Morning: 1600-1900 EAT**

### **Session 1: Official Opening and setting the stage**

1. The Minister/Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture Benin
2. Background to the UN Food Systems Summit and planned National and Regional Dialogue: Prof Adipala Ekwamu, RUFORUM Secretariat
3. Key Note Paper: The Current status and issues confronting Agriculture and Food Systems in Benin ( Agricultural Research and Extension Trust or alternative institution)
4. Open Discussion

### **Session 2: Analysis of Key drivers affecting Agriculture and Food Systems in Malawi (Panel Discussion)**

1. Lead paper: Key Drivers affecting Agriculture and Food Systems in Benin (Speaker to be identified)
2. Lead paper: Analysis of the current STI Ecosystems in Benin: towards development of response capacity for development challenges and opportunities
3. Perspectives on addressing emerging challenges such as climate change and Environmental degradation
4. Perspectives on addressing postharvest losses, value addition and enhancing food nutrition quality for different markets niches.
5. Perspectives on promoting Youth Employability and Entrepreneurship
6. Perspectives on Human Capital Development and Research in Malawi
7. Perspectives on promoting inclusivity and addressing the needs of Smallholder farmers and Marketing opportunities

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8. Perspective on policy issues needed to strengthen Agriculture and Food Systems Interventions in Benin

### **Open Discussion**

1. Summary of Emerging issues and recommendations for consideration by the Benin Government
2. Closing Remarks: Permanent Secretary or his/her representative

### **Key Outputs of the Benin National Consultation**

1. **Statement from the dialogue outlining key issues and action needed to strengthen the Benin National Food Systems**
2. **Key messages for presentation by the Benin Government to the UN Food Systems Summit 2021.**
3. **A report of the consultation and dialogue (send out a questionnaire to solicit for perspectives from the wider Benin community).**



## Annex: Tentative Programme for the Malawi National Consultations on the Pre-UN Food Systems Summit Dialogue

### Pre-UN Food Systems National Dialogue for Malawi

**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**Time:** 1600-1900 East African Standard Time

**Registration Link:**

Moderator: Ass. Prof Nadia, UAC (TBC)

#### Draft Programme

Time	Session/Topic	Responsible Person
	<b>Opening Session</b>	
1600-1610	Introductory Remarks by Session Moderator	Ass Prof Nadia, UAC
1610-1620	Background to the UN Food Systems Summit 2021 and the National and Regional dialogues	Prof Adipala Ekwamu, RUFORUM Executive Secretary
1620-1630	Remarks by Principle Secretary for Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture	TBC)
1630-1640	Official Opening Address	Minister of Agriculture (TBC)
	<b>Analysis of Key drivers affecting Agriculture and Food Systems in Benin</b>	
1640-1655	Key Note Paper: The Current status and issues affecting Agriculture and Food Systems in Benin	Research Institution in Benin?? (TBC)
1655-1710	Lead paper: Analysis of the current Tertiary Education and STI Ecosystems in Benin: Towards development of response capacity for development challenges and opportunities	Speaker to be identified from one Benin University or Benin National Council for Higher Education?
1710-1630	<b>Discussion</b>	
1730-1740	Perspectives on addressing emerging challenges such as climate change and Environmental degradation	Speaker to be identified from one Benin University or Ministry of Agriculture

1640-1650	Perspectives on addressing postharvest issues: losses, value addition and enhancing food nutrition quality for different markets niches	Chadare?
1650-1700	Perspectives on changing Human Demographics in Benin and implication for Agriculture and Food Systems: making Agriculture attractive to the youth	Speaker to be identified
1700-1720	<b>Discussion</b>	
1720-1730	Perspectives on Human Capital Development and Research needs for Benin	Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Benin
1730-1740	Perspectives on promoting inclusivity and addressing the needs of Smallholder farmers and Marketing opportunities	Speaker to be identified
1740-1750	Perspective on policy issues needed to strengthen Food System Interventions in Benin	Ministry of Agriculture , Benin
1750-1800	<b>Open Discussion</b>	Moderator
	<b>Closing Session</b>	
1800-1810	Summary of Emerging issues and recommendations for consideration by the Benin Government	Speaker to be identified
1810-1820	Closing Remarks	Principle Secretary for Education, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (TBC)

\*\*\*To be modified as needed by the Benin organizing team