SOUTH AFRICA'S NATIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS DIALOGUES

In September 2021, the Secretary General of the United Nations will convene a Food Systems Summit to launch bold new actions to transform the way in which the world produces and consumes food.

South Africa has been selected as one of the countries to conduct the rapid food systems assessment through the National System Dialogue towards the United Nations Food Systems Summit.

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development as delegated by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation, will provide leadership and support towards the implementation of the dialogues in the country.













STATE OF FOOD SYSTEMS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Out of about 60 million people in South Africa, almost 19.5% (11.39 million people) have inadequate or severely inadequate access to food (Stats SA, 2019) and this generally undermine the livelihoods of households.

Currently, South Africa is perceived as the pantry of the region and yet, poverty, hunger and malnutrition remain persistent in a country with ample agricultural resources.

A food system with so many people that are food insecure is not sustainable.













OBJECTIVES OF THE FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT

- Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
- Shifting to sustainable consumption patterns
- Boosting nature-positive production at sufficient scales
- Advancing equitable livelihoods and value distribution
- Building resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stresses

The summit will also address crosscutting issues such as finance, policy, innovation, indigenous knowledge and the empowerment of women, young people and marginalized groups.













- National dialogue: different groups of national stakeholders will identify aspects of food systems that need to change in South Africa
- **Provincial dialogue**: this will bring together a variety of interests, including among others, women and children's access to nutritious foods
- **Synthesis dialogue:** a national dialogue which further explores, harvests and synthesize promising approaches emerging from provincial dialogues
- Feedback sessions: convene working sessions where participants receive consolidated outputs from national and provincial dialogues
- Reporting: A consolidated national report outlining Food Systems action areas on the Dialogues Gateway.





