



Sustainable Development Goal 2 Round Table at the 11th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD)

Meeting room G, United Nations Conference Center, Bangkok and online

Wednesday, 21 February 2024, 13:30-16:00 (GMT+7)

Background

APFSD

The **Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD)** is an annual, inclusive **intergovernmental forum** to support the follow-up and review of progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the regional level while serving as a regional preparatory meeting to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF).

The **11th APFSD** will be organized from **20-23 February 2024** under the theme “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: The effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions in Asia and the Pacific” in Bangkok, Thailand, at the United Nations Conference Center (UNCC). It will feature multi-stakeholder “round tables” dedicated to the goals under review (including SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16, 17) at the HLPF in July 2024.

SDG 2 Round Table

SDG 2 is one of the Goals under review in 2024. The SDG 2 Round Tables at the 11th APFSD will bring together representatives from government, private sector, and other stakeholder organizations to discuss Asia-Pacific regional progress and identify priorities and recommendations for accelerating progress on SDG 2 which aims to “end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.”

The SDG 2 Round Table will assess themes within the [SDG 2 Goal Profile](#), including:

- **Equitable, healthy and nutritious diets** (access and utilization);
- **Productive, empowering, and regenerative food production** (availability, agency, sustainability);
- **Resilient and climate-smart food systems** (stability); and
- **Enabling factors and regional/transboundary issues** including food trade, public-private partnerships, data, knowledge and technology management.

The SDG 2 Round Table is co-organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in collaboration with other members of the Asia-Pacific Regional Food Systems Networking Group and other stakeholders.

The objectives of the round tables are to:

- I. Establish a shared understanding of the regional outlook/progress on the Goals and of the interlinkages across Goals by providing an update on progress made since the last assessment.



II. Jointly develop recommendations on:

- (a) Addressing human rights and gender equality as well as other systemic challenges that are barriers to further progress,
- (b) Priorities for strengthening policy coherence in implementation efforts – including through attention to key leverage points.
- (c) Promising solutions and innovations (policy, social, institutional, technological, or other) at the national level
- (d) Areas for regional cooperation to address the transboundary dimensions of these Goals and challenges.

Format

The Round Table discussions will be based on the [SDG 2 Goal Profile](#) which was drafted in preparation to the forum.

It will provide a platform to discuss overall goal progress as well as share country and stakeholder perspectives on food security and food systems related issues. It will also include a breakout session in which in-person participants will engage in moderated discussions on priority areas, policy recommendations and specific acceleration measures across four themes:

Breakout group	Themes	Possible areas for discussion
1.	Equitable, healthy and nutritious diets	-Promoting targeted social policy support for women, children, and other vulnerable groups -Strengthening local value chains and rural-urban linkages - Tackling malnutrition, including through food fortification, homegrown, school feeding programmes, nutrition education - Strengthening food safety and health policies - Addressing food loss and waste
2.	Productive, empowering, and regenerative food production	-Investing in innovation, digitalization, and sustainable mechanism -Tackling the food-energy-water nexus - Promoting youth engagement in agriculture -Enhancing agriculture value-add and farmers’ livelihoods and prosperity
3.	Resilient and climate-smart food systems	-Strengthening food system risk assessment and early-warning systems -Planning and re-prioritizing at time of economic, socio-political, and natural hazards -Promoting climate-smart and diverse agrifood systems
4.	Enabling factors and regional/transboundary collaboration	-trade -resource mobilization, public-private partnerships -data, knowledge, research and innovation

Online participants will be encouraged to share views via the chat functions on Zoom and contribute in writing to the breakout group discussion themes.

The report of the round table will be presented to the broader APFSD plenary during agenda item 5 (a) scheduled for the afternoon of 22 February 2024.



Tentative programme

Wednesday, 21 February 2024, 13:30-16:00 (GMT+7, Bangkok time)	
Time	Agenda
13:30-13:35 (5 mins)	Welcome remarks Introduction to the Round Table programme and objectives.
13:35-13:45 (10 mins)	Session 1: Presentation of the Goal Profile - Aziz Elbehri, Senior Economist/Food policy, Trade and Rural Development Module Lead, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
13:45-14:25 (40 mins)	Session 2: Panel Discussion Key considerations to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, promote sustainable, inclusive, and resilient agrifood systems (5 mins each, followed by Q& A) Panelists: - Dr. Rewati Raman Poudel, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Nepal - Ms. Helen Hakena, Leitana Nehan Women's Development Agency - Ms. Ma. Estrella "Esther" Penunia, Secretary General of the Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA) - Mr. Jidan Fikri, Co founder, Terra Grow Moderator: Hitomi Rankine, Chief, EDPS/Environment and Development Division, ESCAP
14:25-15:25 (60 mins)	Session 3: Breakout group Discussions on progress towards SDG2 and key priorities under four themes: Group 1: Equitable, healthy and nutritious diets Facilitator: Rathana Peou Norbert-Munns, FAO. Notetaker: Yi-Ann Chen, ESCAP Group 2: Productive, empowering, and regenerative food production Facilitator: Marco Silvestri, CSAM. Notetaker: Hitomi Rankine, ESCAP Group 3: Resilient and climate-smart food systems Facilitator: Anshuman Varma, ESCAP. Notetaker: Hyun Namkoong, ESCAP Group 4: Enabling factors and regional/ transboundary collaboration Facilitator: Aghasi Harutyunyan, FAO. Notetaker: Prapapan Bualek, UNOPS Moderator: Rathana Peou Norbert-Munns, Sustainable development and agrifood system policy expert, FAO
15:25-15:55 (30 mins)	Session 4: Defining key paths going forward Reporting back from the breakout group discussion (5 mins each) Commentary on priorities (15 mins) Moderator: Aziz Elbehri, Senior Economist/Food policy, Trade and Rural Development Module Lead, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
15:55-16:00 (5 mins)	Closing of the Round Table



**Rapporteur on the SDG 2 Round Table: Dr. Rewati Raman Poudel, Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Nepal**

For more information, please contact: APFSD Secretariat at escap-apfsd@un.org

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