

Food Systems Summit: *Marketplace for Ideas*



15 - 17 October 2024

New Delhi

Mode of Event: In-person by invitation

Organised by:

भारत
कृषक
समाज | Bharat
Krishak
Samaj



The
Food and Land Use
Coalition
India Country Platform

Concept note | Food Systems Summit 2024: Marketplace for Ideas

Introduction: Food Systems Hub for an integrated action towards food systems transformation

Our food systems — the way we produce, market, and consume food — are part of the social, economic, ecological, and cultural fabric of our communities. Given the complex interactions between food systems and the socio-economic-environmental substrate and the imperfections in the system, the true costs of our current food systems are yet to be fully investigated, much less quantified. The food systems continue to grapple with many challenges, old and new, notably persistent hidden hunger, obesity, loss of biodiversity, environmental damage, and climate change.¹ During the last seven decades, India has risen from a land of food shortages to a nation, which achieved cereal security at the national level and became the fifth largest economy in the world. However, its food system is yet to fully address issues of accessibility, affordability and nutritional quality. The recent report by Food System Economics Commission (FSEC) estimated the hidden costs of India's food system at 124.8 lakh crore rupees, mainly on account of poor nutritional outcomes and unsustainable production practices.²

Various initiatives addressing multiple challenges of the food system are happening across the nation. While some target environment, natural resources and biodiversity conservation, others focus on production and distribution efficiency, supply chain management and farmer livelihood improvement. During the last five years of facilitating dialogues between the stakeholders and the actors of food system transformation in India, the Food and Land Use Coalition India (FOLU India) and *Bharat Krishak Samaj* observed that most of these efforts are in silos, with little or no coordination between agencies focussing on certain sectors and without adequate communication among these stakeholders and other actors.

Recognizing the need for integrated efforts and bringing stakeholders and actors together to transform the current food systems into sustainable and resilient activity cycles, FOLU India and *Bharat Krishak Samaj*, has conceived the idea of establishing the Food Systems Hub (FSH) at the national level. FSH will serve as a national collaborative platform, bringing together diverse

¹ <https://foodsystemeconomics.org/wp-content/uploads/FSEC-GlobalPolicyReport-February2024.pdf>

² https://foodsystemeconomics.org/wp-content/uploads/FSEC_Policy_Brief_India.pdf

stakeholders, including policymakers, researchers, market players, and civil society organizations, to address complex challenges faced by the food systems.

The Food Systems Summit 2024

Food Systems Summit 2024 is designed as a premier national conference of the Food Systems Hub where practitioners, academicians and private sector will showcase their work on various aspects of food systems transformation. The Summit is co-organized by Food and Land Use Coalition India (FOLU India) with the support of its core partners and *Bharat Krishak Samaj*. The inaugural edition of the Summit is scheduled to take place from **15th to 17th October 2024** in **New Delhi**.

Objective and thematic focus

The objective of the Summit is to foster understanding, collaboration, and learning among participants to accelerate Food Systems Transformation in a just and inclusive manner. The Summit will showcase sustainable models focusing on the following four key thematic areas:

- Supporting regenerative agriculture production
- Supporting rainfed area management for sustainable agriculture
- Improving nutritional outcomes
- Ensuring sustainability in distribution and influencing consumer behavior in favour of sustainable agriculture and consumption of healthy diet

Organization and Structure

The Summit will be held over three days.

Events will include:

- High-level plenary sessions and addresses by sectoral experts
- Parallel sessions across the four thematic areas hosting about 80 CSOs
- Networking opportunities for all participants

Audiences

The conference will target about 200 participants in all, drawn from a diverse group of sectoral experts. The expected audience includes the presenting institutional representatives, policymakers, individual experts, civil society, students, and academia.

About the Summit Organizers

About FOLU India

The Food and Land Use Coalition India (FOLU India) is a coalition of institutions working to support the country's efforts to bring about a more sustainable food and land use economy. The Coalition aims to provide platforms to inspire key Indian stakeholders with a view to accelerating globally significant action that addresses the important development, climate, environment, biodiversity, and health/nutrition challenges India faces in the coming decades concerning food and land use. The Food and Land Use Coalition in India comprises high-level policy engagement with national and sub-national decision-makers in the public and private sector. The FOLU Coalition in India comprises the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), Revitalising Rainfed Agriculture Network (RRAN), The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and WRI India. Website: www.foluintia.org

About Bharat Krishak Samaj

Bharat Krishak Samaj is one of India's leading non-partisan farmer's organisations that is an advocate for farmer prosperity along with healthy, sustainable, inclusive and equitable food systems that benefit farmers, consumers, our country and planet. *Bharat Krishak Samaj* was established in 1955

and provides a common meeting ground where everyone interested in strengthening the food systems can meet and put their intelligence, resources and energy to good use to help those engaged in producing more from their land. *Bharat Krishak Samaj* makes evidence-based food and agriculture policy recommendations based on farming experience, as well as multi-stakeholder research, partnerships and events such as dialogues, workshops and conferences. Website: <https://bks.org.in/>