SESSION DESCRIPTION

F3  Plant-forward food systems: Creating resilient and healthy food systems through local leadership

Workshop

Date: Thursday, 27 June 2019
Time: 15:30-17:30
Rooms: S25-26

Language: English
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Organized by: Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth, Health Care Without Harm, 50by40 & Proveg International

Overall description

Spanning two sessions, local and regional governments representatives and NGO experts guided attendees through innovative food policies. Session E2 made the compelling case for why cities should shift their policies to support plant-forward food systems and briefly outline different food policy solutions already being utilized in a diverse range of cities. Session F3 offered attendees concrete strategies on how to shift their food policies and provided an opportunity for cities to engage with the different solution models and participate in peer-to-peer learning through interactive breakout sessions.

OBJECTIVE

According to the IPCC, a global shift in dietary habits shifts will play a key role in achieving climate goals as the current levels of production and consumption of animal products makes the achievement of the 1.5°C and 2°C goals unlikely. Cities, as centres of consumption and innovation, play a critical role in fighting climate change and improving health outcomes by driving large-scale change in diets. Building on the policy solutions put forth in the previous session, this breakout session will allow participants a deep dive into the practicalities and first-hand experiences in smaller discussion groups.

OUTCOMES

- Participants got to go deep into the discussion about existing food policies as they participate in smaller groups, hosted by city representatives and experts;
- Participants gained a better understanding about the role of local and regional governments in driving shifts towards diets with a smaller share of animal-based calories through policies and procurement;
- Participants could able to take this knowledge with them to apply in their own communities, cities and regions.
METHODOLOGY

- The facilitator opened the session with a short introduction of himself and each presenter and the background for. (10 minutes)

- 2 pre-selected cities - or experts with knowledge of policies in those cities - will present short case studies highlighting effective food policies that encourage plant-rich diets. (2 x 10 minutes)

- The group broke out into smaller roundtable sessions, themed around the solutions discussed in the previous session. Each breakout session lasted 30mins, and participants were then rotated to another session. (2 x 30 minutes)

- The facilitator concluded with closing remarks. (10 minutes)

Guiding questions:

1. What is the role of cities in the global reduction of the carbon footprint of meat and dairy production? How to include climate-friendly food purchasing into existing green procurement initiatives?

2. What are context specific cultural, social, environmental and economic conditions that must be taken into account while discussing shift in dietary habits and what does this represent especially to Latin American, African and Asian countries?

3. What are the most common obstacles in dietary change and what are the best ways to overcome them?

CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator:  
Lasse Bruun, Global Director, 50by40, Berlin, Germany

Panelist:  
Chloe Waterman, Program Manager for the Climate-Friendly Food Program, Friends of the Earth, Washington, United States

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Panelist:  
Laine Cidlowski, Food Systems Administrator, City of Denver, Denver, United States

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IPCC Special Report Global Warming of 1.5 ºC: https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/