

# Sustainable food system – setting up an EU framework

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

## Introduction

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### Background

In the context of the “European Green Deal”, the European Commission adopted a comprehensive Farm to Fork Strategy[1], which recognises the inextricable links between healthy people, healthy societies and a healthy planet and aims to address comprehensively the challenges of sustainable food systems.

During the last decades the EU has largely been spared from crises threatening food security. However, the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the Covid-19 pandemic show that our food system can be exposed to such risks. The threats that the world is facing are severe and imminent, but so are the climate and biodiversity challenges that are here to stay.

Sustainability is fundamental to ensure long-term food security. Without a transition such as the one set out in the Farm to Fork Strategy, food security will be severely at risk in the long-term, with irreversible impacts globally. Natural resources, such as land, healthy soils, water and biodiversity, are key inputs into food production, and their growing scarcity in many parts of the world makes it imperative to use and manage them sustainably.

To drive the shift to a sustainable food system, the Farm to Fork Strategy has launched numerous actions, which should contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, preservation of biodiversity and rural livelihoods, reduction of pesticides use and risk and pressures on water, soil and air quality, and better consumer information and animal welfare, while strengthening the competitiveness of the entire food sector and preserving food security.

The Strategy recognises that these individual and sector-specific actions can neither alone, nor in combination with each other fully ensure policy coherence at EU and national level, mainstream sustainability in all food-related policies and strengthen the resilience of food systems. For this reason, the Farm to Fork Strategy announced an initiative for a horizontal framework law, to accelerate and facilitate the transition to sustainability and ensure that

foods placed on the EU market increasingly become sustainable. Such an EU level intervention aims to establish new foundations for future food policies by introducing sustainability objectives and principles based on an integrated food system approach. This initiative will also include, among others, provisions for a sustainable food-labelling framework to empower consumers to make sustainable food choices, and it will explore new governance systems for a more active involvement of citizens and stakeholders at all levels.

Further background can be found in the [Inception Impact Assessment on the Sustainable EU food system Initiative](#), which was published by the Commission in 2021.

The aim of this public consultation is to gather opinions and evidence from the public and relevant stakeholders on the key issues the initiative aims to address, and on the main elements that may be used in the formulation of policy options to respond to those issues. At the same time, it should be noted that this questionnaire is not exhaustive in its scope. The policy design in the initiative for a Framework for a Sustainable EU Food System will draw on other processes which are ongoing in relation to specific aspects, such as for example the one on [Imports of agricultural and food products – applying EU health and environmental standards \(report\)](#) [2], or other initiatives mentioned on the [F2F website](#).

Moreover, more targeted consultations are also planned to take place during this year for specific stakeholder categories.

## **Who should fill the questionnaire and how to fill it?**

The questionnaire for citizens is accessible in all official EU languages. As there may be delays in translating replies submitted in some languages, contributions in English are welcome, as they will help to process the survey more swiftly.

You can pause at any time and continue later. Once you have submitted your answers, you will be able to download a copy of your completed questionnaire. Questions marked with an asterisk (\*) are compulsory. Those who are interested have the option to develop their responses in a more detailed manner.

Please note that in this questionnaire, we do not intend to obtain data relating to identifiable persons. Therefore, in case you will describe a particular experience or situation, please do it in a way that will not allow linking to a particular individual, whether it is you or somebody else.

Received contributions will be published on the Internet. It is important that you read the specific privacy statement attached to this consultation for information on how your personal data and contribution will be dealt with.

[1] Farm to Fork Strategy (europa.eu)

[2] The report, expected in June 2022, will assess the rationale and legal feasibility of applying EU health and environmental (including animal welfare) standards to imported agri-food products, and will identify the concrete initiatives to ensure better consistency in their application, in conformity with WTO rules. The report will not, however, propose any new initiatives.

## **Glossary/or explanation of terms used in the survey**

The present questionnaire makes repeated reference to a number of concepts, for which it is useful to give indicative explanations upfront (i.e. working definitions for the purpose of this questionnaire) :

Food system: the food system is understood to include all relevant actors, resources in a broad sense, and activities relevant for the production and consumption of food and beverages and their associated wastes, and their impact on the economy, environment and society (including health)[1]. It considers the processes, infrastructures and interactions involved in feeding a population.

Food system actors are therefore a very broad category, but for practical purposes (including of this questionnaire), we consider the most relevant to be food/feed business operators including primary producers of food/feed, manufacturers, retailers, distributors as well as inputs providers, traders, consumers, financial actors, international traders, advisors and public authorities.

The food environment concept in this questionnaire must be understood to include physical and digital dimensions. The physical food environment can be defined as the physical, economic, political and socio-cultural contexts in which people engage with the food system to make their decisions about acquiring, preparing and consuming food. The digital food environment refers to the online settings through which flows of services and information that influence people's food and nutrition choices and behaviour are directed. They encompass a range of elements, including social media, digital health promotion interventions, digital food marketing and online food retail.[2]

Sustainable food system: An indicative definition of sustainable food system could be considered the following: "A sustainable food system for the EU is one that: provides and promotes safe, nutritious and healthy food of low environmental impact for all current and future EU population in a manner that itself also protects and restores the natural environment and its ecosystem services, is robust and resilient, economically dynamic, just and fair, and socially acceptable and inclusive. It does so without compromising the availability of nutritious and healthy food for people living outside the EU, nor impairing their natural environment."[3]

[1] JRC: Bock, A., Bontoux, L. and Rudkin, J., Concepts for a sustainable EU food system, EUR 30894 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2022, ISBN 978-92-76-43727-7 (online), doi:10.2760/381319 (online), JRC126575.

[2] idem

[3] <https://www.sapea.info/wp-content/uploads/sustainable-food-system-report.pdf>

## About you

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### \* Language of my contribution

- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Irish
- Italian
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish

### \* I am giving my contribution as

- Academic/research institution
-

- Business association
- Company/business organisation
- Consumer organisation
- EU citizen
- Environmental organisation
- Non-EU citizen
- Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- Public authority
- Trade union
- Other

\* First name

Samuele

\* Surname

Tonello

\* Email (this won't be published)

s.tonello@eurohealthnet.eu

\* Organisation name

*255 character(s) maximum*

EuroHealthNet

\* Organisation size

- Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- Small (10 to 49 employees)
- Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

*255 character(s) maximum*

Check if your organisation is on the [transparency register](#). It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

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## \* Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Afghanistan         | <input type="radio"/> Djibouti                            | <input type="radio"/> Libya            | <input type="radio"/> Saint Martin                                 |
| <input type="radio"/> Åland Islands       | <input type="radio"/> Dominica                            | <input type="radio"/> Liechtenstein    | <input type="radio"/> Saint Pierre and Miquelon                    |
| <input type="radio"/> Albania             | <input type="radio"/> Dominican Republic                  | <input type="radio"/> Lithuania        | <input type="radio"/> Saint Vincent and the Grenadines             |
| <input type="radio"/> Algeria             | <input type="radio"/> Ecuador                             | <input type="radio"/> Luxembourg       | <input type="radio"/> Samoa  |
| <input type="radio"/> American Samoa      | <input type="radio"/> Egypt                               | <input type="radio"/> Macau            | <input type="radio"/> San Marino                                   |
| <input type="radio"/> Andorra             | <input type="radio"/> El Salvador                         | <input type="radio"/> Madagascar       | <input type="radio"/> São Tomé and Príncipe                        |
| <input type="radio"/> Angola              | <input type="radio"/> Equatorial Guinea                   | <input type="radio"/> Malawi           | <input type="radio"/> Saudi Arabia                                 |
| <input type="radio"/> Anguilla            | <input type="radio"/> Eritrea                             | <input type="radio"/> Malaysia         | <input type="radio"/> Senegal                                      |
| <input type="radio"/> Antarctica          | <input type="radio"/> Estonia                             | <input type="radio"/> Maldives         | <input type="radio"/> Serbia                                       |
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| <input type="radio"/> Argentina           | <input type="radio"/> Ethiopia                            | <input type="radio"/> Malta            | <input type="radio"/> Sierra Leone                                 |
| <input type="radio"/> Armenia             | <input type="radio"/> Falkland Islands                    | <input type="radio"/> Marshall Islands | <input type="radio"/> Singapore                                    |
| <input type="radio"/> Aruba               | <input type="radio"/> Faroe Islands                       | <input type="radio"/> Martinique       | <input type="radio"/> Sint Maarten                                 |
| <input type="radio"/> Australia           | <input type="radio"/> Fiji                                | <input type="radio"/> Mauritania       | <input type="radio"/> Slovakia                                     |
| <input type="radio"/> Austria             | <input type="radio"/> Finland                             | <input type="radio"/> Mauritius        | <input type="radio"/> Slovenia                                     |
| <input type="radio"/> Azerbaijan          | <input type="radio"/> France                              | <input type="radio"/> Mayotte          | <input type="radio"/> Solomon Islands                              |
| <input type="radio"/> Bahamas             | <input type="radio"/> French Guiana                       | <input type="radio"/> Mexico           | <input type="radio"/> Somalia                                      |
| <input type="radio"/> Bahrain             | <input type="radio"/> French Polynesia                    | <input type="radio"/> Micronesia       | <input type="radio"/> South Africa                                 |
| <input type="radio"/> Bangladesh          | <input type="radio"/> French Southern and Antarctic Lands | <input type="radio"/> Moldova          | <input type="radio"/> South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands |
| <input type="radio"/> Barbados            | <input type="radio"/> Gabon                               | <input type="radio"/> Monaco           | <input type="radio"/> South Korea                                  |
| <input type="radio"/> Belarus             | <input type="radio"/> Georgia                             | <input type="radio"/> Mongolia         | <input type="radio"/> South Sudan                                  |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Belgium  | <input type="radio"/> Germany                             | <input type="radio"/> Montenegro       | <input type="radio"/> Spain  |
| <input type="radio"/> Belize              | <input type="radio"/> Ghana                               | <input type="radio"/> Montserrat       | <input type="radio"/> Sri Lanka                                    |
| <input type="radio"/> Benin               | <input type="radio"/> Gibraltar                           | <input type="radio"/> Morocco          | <input type="radio"/> Sudan  |
| <input type="radio"/> Bermuda             | <input type="radio"/> Greece                              | <input type="radio"/> Mozambique       | <input type="radio"/> Suriname                                     |
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Bhutan	Greenland	Myanmar/Burma	Svalbard and Jan Mayen
<input type="radio"/> Bolivia	<input type="radio"/> Grenada	<input type="radio"/> Namibia	<input type="radio"/> Sweden
<input type="radio"/> Bonaire Saint Eustatius and Saba	<input type="radio"/> Guadeloupe	<input type="radio"/> Nauru	<input type="radio"/> Switzerland
<input type="radio"/> Bosnia and Herzegovina	<input type="radio"/> Guam	<input type="radio"/> Nepal	<input type="radio"/> Syria
<input type="radio"/> Botswana	<input type="radio"/> Guatemala	<input type="radio"/> Netherlands	<input type="radio"/> Taiwan
<input type="radio"/> Bouvet Island	<input type="radio"/> Guernsey	<input type="radio"/> New Caledonia	<input type="radio"/> Tajikistan
<input type="radio"/> Brazil	<input type="radio"/> Guinea	<input type="radio"/> New Zealand	<input type="radio"/> Tanzania
<input type="radio"/> British Indian Ocean Territory	<input type="radio"/> Guinea-Bissau	<input type="radio"/> Nicaragua	<input type="radio"/> Thailand
<input type="radio"/> British Virgin Islands	<input type="radio"/> Guyana	<input type="radio"/> Niger	<input type="radio"/> The Gambia
<input type="radio"/> Brunei	<input type="radio"/> Haiti	<input type="radio"/> Nigeria	<input type="radio"/> Timor-Leste
<input type="radio"/> Bulgaria	<input type="radio"/> Heard Island and McDonald Islands	<input type="radio"/> Niue	<input type="radio"/> Togo
<input type="radio"/> Burkina Faso	<input type="radio"/> Honduras	<input type="radio"/> Norfolk Island	<input type="radio"/> Tokelau
<input type="radio"/> Burundi	<input type="radio"/> Hong Kong	<input type="radio"/> Northern Mariana Islands	<input type="radio"/> Tonga
<input type="radio"/> Cambodia	<input type="radio"/> Hungary	<input type="radio"/> North Korea	<input type="radio"/> Trinidad and Tobago
<input type="radio"/> Cameroon	<input type="radio"/> Iceland	<input type="radio"/> North Macedonia	<input type="radio"/> Tunisia
<input type="radio"/> Canada	<input type="radio"/> India	<input type="radio"/> Norway	<input type="radio"/> Turkey
<input type="radio"/> Cape Verde	<input type="radio"/> Indonesia	<input type="radio"/> Oman	<input type="radio"/> Turkmenistan
<input type="radio"/> Cayman Islands	<input type="radio"/> Iran	<input type="radio"/> Pakistan	<input type="radio"/> Turks and Caicos Islands
<input type="radio"/> Central African Republic	<input type="radio"/> Iraq	<input type="radio"/> Palau	<input type="radio"/> Tuvalu
<input type="radio"/> Chad	<input type="radio"/> Ireland	<input type="radio"/> Palestine	<input type="radio"/> Uganda
<input type="radio"/> Chile	<input type="radio"/> Isle of Man	<input type="radio"/> Panama	<input type="radio"/> Ukraine
<input type="radio"/> China	<input type="radio"/> Israel	<input type="radio"/> Papua New Guinea	<input type="radio"/> United Arab Emirates
<input type="radio"/> Christmas Island	<input type="radio"/> Italy	<input type="radio"/> Paraguay	<input type="radio"/> United Kingdom
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| <input type="radio"/> Clipperton                       | <input type="radio"/> Jamaica    | <input type="radio"/> Peru   | <input type="radio"/> United States                        |
| <input type="radio"/> Cocos (Keeling) Islands          | <input type="radio"/> Japan      | <input type="radio"/> Philippines                                  | <input type="radio"/> United States Minor Outlying Islands |
| <input type="radio"/> Colombia                         | <input type="radio"/> Jersey     | <input type="radio"/> Pitcairn Islands                             | <input type="radio"/> Uruguay                              |
| <input type="radio"/> Comoros                          | <input type="radio"/> Jordan     | <input type="radio"/> Poland                                       | <input type="radio"/> US Virgin Islands                    |
| <input type="radio"/> Congo                            | <input type="radio"/> Kazakhstan | <input type="radio"/> Portugal                                     | <input type="radio"/> Uzbekistan                           |
| <input type="radio"/> Cook Islands                     | <input type="radio"/> Kenya      | <input type="radio"/> Puerto Rico                                  | <input type="radio"/> Vanuatu                              |
| <input type="radio"/> Costa Rica                       | <input type="radio"/> Kiribati   | <input type="radio"/> Qatar  | <input type="radio"/> Vatican City                         |
| <input type="radio"/> Côte d'Ivoire                    | <input type="radio"/> Kosovo     | <input type="radio"/> Réunion                                      | <input type="radio"/> Venezuela                            |
| <input type="radio"/> Croatia                          | <input type="radio"/> Kuwait     | <input type="radio"/> Romania                                      | <input type="radio"/> Vietnam                              |
| <input type="radio"/> Cuba                             | <input type="radio"/> Kyrgyzstan | <input type="radio"/> Russia                                       | <input type="radio"/> Wallis and Futuna                    |
| <input type="radio"/> Curaçao                          | <input type="radio"/> Laos       | <input type="radio"/> Rwanda                                       | <input type="radio"/> Western Sahara                       |
| <input type="radio"/> Cyprus                           | <input type="radio"/> Latvia     | <input type="radio"/> Saint Barthélemy                             | <input type="radio"/> Yemen                                |
| <input type="radio"/> Czechia                          | <input type="radio"/> Lebanon    | <input type="radio"/> Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha | <input type="radio"/> Zambia                               |
| <input type="radio"/> Democratic Republic of the Congo | <input type="radio"/> Lesotho    | <input type="radio"/> Saint Kitts and Nevis                        | <input type="radio"/> Zimbabwe                             |
| <input type="radio"/> Denmark                          | <input type="radio"/> Liberia    | <input type="radio"/> Saint Lucia                                  |  |

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. **For the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, 'business association', 'consumer association', 'EU citizen') country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published.** Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

### \* Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

#### **Anonymous**

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of

origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

**Public**

Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

I agree with the [personal data protection provisions](#)

Questionnaire

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1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know	Do not take position
* The existing EU food system is not sustainable in the long term	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* There is a strong interplay and interdependence between the environmental, social (including health and nutrition) and economic dimensions of sustainability	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Sustainability is fundamental for food security and for the resilience of the food system in the long term	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Consumers do not have sufficient information on the sustainability of foods	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* The current food system is not ready to meet future challenges, e. g. climate change, preserving natural resources and reversing biodiversity loss	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* In order to be successful, food systems sustainability must be ensured both in the EU and at global level	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. To foster the transition to sustainable food systems, how important (or impactful) are the actions of the actors listed below:

	Very important	Somewhat important	Neither important nor unimportant	Rather not important	Not important at all	Do not know	Do not take position
* Consumers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Primary producers of animal products (e.g. livestock farmers)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Fishers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Aquaculture producers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Primary producers of crops for food and feed (e.g. farmers)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food/feed manufacturers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Traders (of food commodities or food/feed) importing from 3rd countries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Traders (of food commodities or food/feed) exporting to 3rd countries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Retailers of food/feed	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Hospitality and food services, including restaurants and caterers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators active in the area of plant protection products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators active in the area of fertilizers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*							

Business operators active in the area of seeds and plant propagating material	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators active in the area of food contact materials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators active in the area of veterinary medicinal products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators active in biotechnology relating to the food system	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* EU institutions	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* National governments	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Regional governments	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Cities, local authorities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Educational system	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Non-governmental organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Investors, banks or financial institutions	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Knowledge providers, advisors, research and innovation	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Other category: [please specify]	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. How easy is it, in your assessment, for the following actors of the food system to make sustainable choices :

	Very difficult	Difficult	Relatively easy	Very easy	Do not know	Do not take position
* Consumers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Primary producers of animal products (e.g. livestock farmers)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Fishers and aquaculture producers	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Primary producers of crops for food and feed (e.g. farmers)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food/feed manufacturers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Traders (of agricultural commodities or food/feed) , including importers /exporters, wholesalers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Retailers of food/feed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Hospitality and food services, including restaurants and caterers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators active in the area of plant protection products	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators active in the area of fertilizers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators active in the area of seeds and plant propagating material	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators active in the area of food contact materials	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators active in the area of veterinary medicinal products	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators active in biotechnology relating to the food system	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* EU institutions	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* National governments	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Regional governments	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* Cities, local authorities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Educational system	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Non-governmental organisations	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Investors, banks or financial institutions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Knowledge providers, advisors, research and innovation	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Other category: [please specify]	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Optional:** please justify your answer briefly

1000 character(s) maximum

We do not think that "how easy it is to take a choice" is a format that well applies to all categories within this selection. Food systems should definitely "make the healthy choice the easy choice" for consumers, but for other actors, it is mostly a matter of willingness and interest. For food retailers, producers, financial institutions and for other businesses, it would not be complicated to shift to more sustainable behaviours, but this requires a shift in focus. That is, some of the actors listed here are mostly profit oriented, so they put profit before citizens' health or environmental concerns. It is in this regard that the debate over interest /willingness becomes more relevant than "ease to take a sustainable action".

Hence, we selected the EU and national framework as the most important factor, since it is an institutional responsibility to create a framework within which the sustainable choice is the easiest to take, while unhealthy and unsustainable choices are hindered.

**4. To what extent do the following factors prevent food system actors from making sustainable choices in the production/processing/distribution/consumption of food products:**

	To a high extent	To some extent	To no extent	Do not know	Do not take position
* Long-term/real costs and impacts of food are not reflected in the price and cost of food	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food system actors', including consumers', choices are based mainly on short-term costs	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Increasing competition on global markets	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* No systematic integration of sustainability in the operations of food system actors	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Lack of common understanding of sustainability among food system actors in the EU single market	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Lack of common understanding among food system actors at global level in relation to sustainability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Lack of transparency on/information about the sustainability of a product or its production /distribution process in the EU market	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* Lack of transparency/information about the sustainability of a product or its production process at global level	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Marketing and advertising practices	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Unbalance of market power in the food system, weakening the ability of certain actors (e.g. farmers) to invest in more sustainable practices.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Behavioural biases and habits of food system actors, including consumers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food environments which predispose to unsustainable choices by consumers	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* The regulatory framework (lack of systematic sustainability objectives, definitions etc.)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Lack of targeted incentives to produce sustainable food (e.g. financial, R&I)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Insufficient availability of/accessibility to sustainable processes/products/services	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Existence of multiple private standards	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Lack of international standards on sustainability	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Lack of proper education, training, advisory services to assist food systems actors in the transition to sustainable food systems.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Lack of investment in / knowledge/ access to innovation support measures	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Insufficient research on food systems interdependencies, co-benefits and trade-offs of possible actions	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Other (please specify):	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

*Optional:* If you wish, please briefly justify your answer

*1000 character(s) maximum*

Our answers reflect a view for which actions taken by consumers and other agents are strongly influenced by the food environment. The institutional and legislative framework determine which choices are available, and which instead are not to both consumers and producers, so the sustainability challenge it is above all a matter of regulating the food system towards more sustainable practices. We thus gave more relevance to factors such as food prices, marketing, and market relations because these define the food environment and they reflect a socioeconomic vision of society that has caused the current problem. That is, if profit and economic interest are prioritized over the people's health, than factors listed in the table will be skewed towards the former. On the contrary, prioritizing health and sustainability, healthier products would be more affordable, while unhealthy ones more expensive and not advertised and so on.

\* 5. In your direct experience, what are the most important obstacles in the transition to more sustainable practices?

4000 character(s) maximum

We want to focus here on the main obstacle that is at the basis of all the others, namely the neglect of the systemic factors influencing individual behaviour, and the related excessive focus on the latter. Our current political systems - and thus food systems - still focus too narrowly on individual behaviour, stressing how citizens should change their behaviours to render their lifestyle more sustainable. As a follow up, investment in education is often suggested as the principal solution to unhealthy and unsustainable behaviours. However, this view neglects that how both consumers and businesses act is strongly influenced by the external context. If healthy foods are too expensive, while unhealthy ones are cheaper and much better marketed, citizens will struggle to take the healthy choice. At the same time, if profit-driven businesses are not regulated by clear rules on the content of certain nutrients in foods (talking here about HFSS food in particular) and on their environmental impact, then it is unlikely that they will undertake actions aimed at enhancing the people's and the environment's health.

In this regard, self-regulatory policies are an example of how EU and MSs institutions have failed to create a healthy food system, since businesses and industries have continued setting limits to their products that are not in line with what is advocated by health institutions such as the WHO. As aforementioned, primary goal of businesses and industries is to maximize their profit, and it is an European and National responsibility to create a framework that on the side minimizes the externalities produced by this profit-driven behaviour, and that on the other side protects citizens' health. In this regard, policies have so far not been sufficient to protect citizens' health.

Another problem related to a focus on individual behaviour is that this view neglects related structural inequalities. When we analyse the distribution of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) across the population, we can see that not all groups are equally affected, but there is a social gradient for which the closer you are to the bottom, the more likely you are to suffer from NCDs. Looking at the social determinants of health, it becomes evident that taking sustainable and healthy choice is not primarily an individual responsibility, but it is a factor driven by systemic causes. If we neglect the latter, than unhealthy behaviours become something the individual can be blamed for. This is not to say that citizens have no responsibilities whatsoever, but that policy framework should not put on citizens' shoulders responsibilities that pertain instead to institutional and industrial actors.

In sum, the main challenge in food systems debate consists in changing the view with which political and institutional actors have so far addressed these issues.

Adopting a systemic view that promotes the healthy and sustainable choice will imply addressing all the barriers citizens and business face in their food environments in several regards. First, it will mean reducing prices of healthy foods and incrementing those of the unhealthy ones. Second, it will offer simpler information by means of labels such as the nutriscore. Third, it will help setting clear regulations limiting marketing of HFSS foods, and finally, it will help addressing the Farm side of the strategy so that SMEs that aim to pursue more sustainable behaviours can compete in the market rather than being defeated by more powerful industries that do not pursue sustainable goals.

6. To what extent do you consider that the following levels of government promote sustainable food systems in their policies?

	Not at all	Insufficiently	Sufficiently	Too much	Do not know
* EU	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* National	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* Regional	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Local	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. Which level of government can best accelerate the transition to a sustainable food system?

*(tick all that apply)*

	No role	Limited role	Important role
* Global (international organisations)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* EU	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* National	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Regional	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Local	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

8. To what extent do you agree with the following statements:

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know	Do not take position
* To encourage and accelerate the transition to a sustainable EU food system, it is necessary to establish EU-wide general objectives, principles and definitions relevant for the sustainability of the food system	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* At EU and national level competent authorities should ensure that sustainability is mainstreamed in all food related policies	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* EU trade policy, in particular, should be consistent with the objectives of the transition to a sustainable EU food system	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators active in the food system should have mechanisms in place to ensure that operations/processes and/or products within the businesses under their control satisfy any sustainability-related requirements of EU law	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Sustainability objectives for the EU food system should be translated into specific requirements by sector where not available	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* A sustainability analysis in the form of a global analysis of the sustainability profile of a product or operations is needed to accelerate the transition to sustainable food systems forward	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Business operators of different sizes should have different levels of responsibility	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Best practices contributing to achieving a sustainable EU food system should be shared across the EU and nationally	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Optional:* If you wish, please briefly justify your answer

*1000 character(s) maximum*

At the institutional level, all these items listed are of the utmost importance to create the sustainable food system debated here. On top of this list, we would add that we need more indicators to measure the performance of different bodies for what concerns their sustainability. For example, in the context of our participation to the Joint Action Best-ReMaP, we have developed an advocacy paper to argue in favour of introducing a "Food System Sustainability Indicator" in the reporting of each country for the European Semester. In this way, we would have a clearer picture of where each country stands for what concerns the connection between the Social Development Goals and food systems, and thus regarding where actions are need at the EU level to further pursue food system sustainability across Member States. For further information, we will attach this advocacy paper to the answer to this survey.

9. How important would you consider that the activity of a food system actor (to be considered as covering their internal operations /processes and/or products, within their businesses and under their control) should not significantly harm the following aspects:

	Very important	Important	Not very important	Not at all important	Do not know	Do not take position
* Climate change mitigation (e.g. reduction of greenhouse gas emission)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Climate change adaptation (e.g. improvement of irrigation efficiency)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* The sustainable use and protection of land	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* The sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* The transition to a circular economy (“reduce, reuse, recycle”)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Pollution prevention and control of air, water and soil	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Environmental protection (Minimise or improve all environmental aspects linked to the food system in a holistic way)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Prevention of slavery and forced labour	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Fair and just working conditions	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Fair and just remuneration of primary producers (farmers and fishers)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Prevention of child labour and protection of young people at work	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Food safety and risks to human health	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Availability of food supplies	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Affordability of sustainable food	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				

* Accessibility of sustainable food	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
Cultural/culinary habits	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Quality nutrition, to promote human health	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Animal welfare	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Animal and plant health	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Impact on developing countries	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Other [ please specify ]	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

10. At what level does the transition to sustainable food systems need to take place? (tick all that apply)

	Very important	Important	Not very important	Not at all important	Do not know	Do not take position
* Global	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* EU	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* National	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Regional	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Local	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\* 11. How do you see your role in the transition to sustainable food system?

*1000 character(s) maximum*

EuroHealthNet is a not-for-profit partnership that includes institutes, and authorities working on public health, disease prevention, promoting health and wellbeing, and reducing inequalities. In this context, prevention of NCDs is one of our key goals, and food systems are one of the major determinants of NCDs across the European population. Hence, we will continue to stress the importance of addressing the social determinants of health related to food system, so as to provide European citizens with a more equal, sustainable, and healthy food environment. On top of this, we will continue to work on mitigating the inequalities produced by food systems, since even though unsustainable environments affect the whole population, those least well-off suffer the most the consequences. Hence, creating healthier and more sustainable food environments is also a matter of social justice, and we will act to promote the basic rights of EU citizens across the whole social gradient.

\* 12. Are you involved in any platform/dialogue group/initiative that aims to contribute to sustainable food systems?

- Yes
- No

13. If yes: at what level is it active?

- International
- EU
- National
- Regional
- Local

*Optional:* Please elaborate on its activity and your role in it

*1000 character(s) maximum*

EuroHealthNet has recently joined the European Food Policy Coalition, a group of European partners that focuses on advocating for policy integration and alignment at the EU level for transition to sustainable food systems. This coalition brings together civil society and organisations pursuing advocacy work at the EU level such as NGOs, grassroots social movements, farmers organisations, organisations of fishers, trade unions, think tanks, lawyers and research groups.

In this context, EuroHealthNet brings its experience and focus on public health and on the connection between the social context and the consequences on EU citizens' health. We are active at policy and research level, and we also bring a unique contribution thanks to our membership, since these latter is a pivotal resource to understand the needs of the main health actors across the EU and the challenges on connecting EU level policies and Member States ones.

#### 14. What role do you see for platforms/dialogue groups/initiatives in the transition to and governance of a sustainable food system?

*2500 character(s) maximum*

Our action in the EU food policy coalition focuses on two main goals, namely coalition building and obtain policy changes. The former entails that partners of the consortium join together with the aim to occupy more political space, have greater outreach and influence and to become a real counterweight to powerful industry lobbies. For what concerns policy changes, goals of the coalition are to transform the CAP, achieve a good Farm to Farm strategy, favour the transition towards sustainable food systems, and develop an integrated Common Food Policy based on agroecology.

For this reason, the Eu food policy coalition will continue its policy advocacy action by sharing information structured on scientific evidence science in a format accessible to different groups of society, and by continuing joint advocacy work and campaigning to obtain goals such as a rebalance of power in the food chain, bringing more awareness on climate change, supporting generational renew, ensure fair income for workers in the food chain, and to grant citizens and animal welfare across EU countries.

To this end, we appreciated the attention received by the Commission and involved DGs, and we would thus like to build on these relationship to strengthen even further our impact on the sustainable transition and to help EU institutions developing a more sustainable and healthy policy framework for our food systems.

**For the purpose of questions 15, 16 and 17 of this questionnaire, sustainability information to consumers (or sustainability labelling) covers, as specified in the Farm to Fork Strategy, information on the nutritional, climate/environmental and social aspects of food products. Social aspects include amongst others animal welfare and socio-economic aspects.**

- \* 15. On which of the below aspects of sustainability, should consumers receive information to empower them to make sustainable food choices

*(please select and rank in order of importance, the first being the most important and the last being the less important)*

*Use drag&drop or the up/down buttons to change the order or [accept the initial order](#).*

☰ Nutrition

☰ Climate

⋮ Environment

⋮ Fair and just working conditions

⋮ Fair and just remuneration of producers

⋮ Animal welfare

⋮ Other aspects (please specify)

If "other aspects", please specify

16. To what extent do you agree with the following statements:

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know	Do not take position
* Consumers pay more and more attention to the sustainability of the food they buy	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Sustainability information currently provided to consumers on food products is reliable	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Sustainability information currently provided to consumers on food products is clear and easy to understand	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Sustainability information currently provided on food products allows consumers to choose sustainable food products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* The multiplicity of sustainability labels on food products are confusing for consumers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Providing information to consumers about the sustainability of the food they buy is a useful tool and it will accelerate the transition to a sustainable food system	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Reliable and evidence-based sustainability labelling of food products would also help incentivising operators to supply more sustainable products	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food businesses should be subject to the same rules on sustainability information to consumers across the entire EU	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* A dedicated sustainability label which allows comparing the sustainability of food products would help consumers to make sustainable food choices	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\* 17. If an EU sustainability label was established:

*(please select only one answer)*

- Such a label should be a voluntary label identifying only sustainable food products
- Such a label should be a voluntary label- identifying sustainable and non-sustainable food products
- Such a label should be a mandatory label informing on the sustainability of all EU food products
- Such a label should be a mandatory label informing on the sustainability of all EU and imported food products
- A EU sustainability label is not necessary / desirable
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

\* 18. To what extent should schools and public institutions consider sustainability when purchasing food?

- None
- Limited
- Moderate
- Great
- Do not know
- No opinion

19. If “moderate” or “great”, how important do you think such an action would be for the transition to sustainable food system..?

- Very important/impactful
- Moderately important/impactful
- Neutral
- Only with a limited importance impact
- Not important/impactful at all
- I do not know
- I do not take position

20. In relation to **public procurement of food served in schools and public institutions**, to what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know	Do not take position
* The meals should be enjoyable and tasty	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* The meals should be accessible to all, at an affordable price	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Plant based alternatives should be offered more frequently	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food produced locally should be offered more frequently	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Nutritionally well balanced meals (e.g. alternatives lower in sugars and fats) should be offered more frequently	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* More fruits and vegetables should be offered	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food produced from traditional and locally adapted varieties, in particular for fruit and vegetables, should be offered more frequently	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Production of food of animal origin should respect high animal welfare standards	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Organic meals/ingredients should be offered more frequently	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* The social impact of the meals offered (e.g. human rights , workers rights) should be taken into account in procurement	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* The environmental impact of the meals offered should be taken into account in procurement	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* The nutritional quality of meals offered should be taken into account in procurement	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* Food services companies that respect social values beyond the sectoral collective agreements should be favoured in procurement	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* The school has an educational role to play concerning the sustainability of food	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Information about the nutritional composition, of the meals served should be provided in the canteens of public institutions	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Information about the environmental impact of the meals served should be provided in the canteens of public institutions	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Information about the social impact of the meals served should be provided in the canteens of public institutions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
* Information about the animal welfare standards respected should be provided in the canteens of public institutions	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				

21. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know	Do not take position
* Food composition targets for sugars, salt, and saturated fat for all food categories should be set	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Targets for added sugars, salt and saturated fat for processed and ultra-processed foods and meals should be set	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* When designing policies that impact food prices (such as subsidy schemes and taxation), competent authorities should consider how these policies can encourage a higher consumption of whole grain cereals, vegetables, fruits, legumes and nuts, and a lower consumption of red meat and foods high in sugars, salt, and saturated fat	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

22. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know	Do not take position
* The marketing, advertising and sales promotion, including online, of foods high in saturated fat, salt or sugars to children should be restricted	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Marketing techniques should be restricted unless the products they relate to are of high nutritional standard (e.g. low in saturated fat, salt or sugars)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Sponsorship activities that result in advertising during big events (e.g. sports events) should be restricted for products high in saturated fat, salt or sugars	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* The merchandising of foods (i.e. the way food products are presented in retail outlets) should promote healthier food choices	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

23. What incentives would be most effective in stimulating sustainable production/processing /distribution/consumption methods and techniques?

1000 character(s) maximum

Public procurement, especially for schools, has proven to be an efficient way to provide children healthy and sustainable meals. This concerns all children, but especially those from disadvantaged groups, for whom these meal represent the main chance to afford a healthy meal.

Another measure that would impact food consumption is 'Food Taxation', since taxes for healthy products could be decreased and viceversa for unhealthy foods, thus affecting food prices and consequently stimulating the consumption of the former while restricting that of the latter.

Finally, marketing strategies are currently under the policy radar because they are mostly used by industries promoting HFSS foods, but these techniques could as well be used by public agencies and sustainable businesses to increase the consumption of fruits, vegetables and other plant-based foods.

\* 24. Do food system actors have sufficient knowledge and skills for the transition to sustainable food systems?

- Yes
- No
- Do not know
- I do not take position

*Optional: If no, please elaborate*

500 character(s) maximum

Food systems are extremely complicated and we cannot expect common citizens to grasp all aspects related to the transition to a sustainable food systems. This transition concerns all aspects of society, so it should be an institutional responsibility to facilitate consumers' sustainable choices. Hence, education is an important aspect of the debate, but should not be the main one, since facilitating sustainable choices is more effective than teaching individuals to take difficult ones.

\* 25. Are there food system actors that are better prepared for the transition than others?

- Yes
- No
- Do not know
- I do not take position

*Optional: Please elaborate*

500 character(s) maximum

There is a social gradient related to the sustainable transition. The problem is that those in a lower socioeconomic crisis are suffering the most the externalities of current unsustainable systems, despite them being the least responsible for its effects. Hence, the higher individuals are in the social gradient, the better they are prepared, which implies that fostering the transition to a sustainable system is also, and above all, a matter of social justice.

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Thank you very much for taking the time to respond to this questionnaire!

## Document upload

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Please feel free to upload a concise document, such as a position paper.

The uploaded document will be published alongside your response to the questionnaire which is the essential input to this public consultation. The document is optional and serves as additional background reading to better understand your position.

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