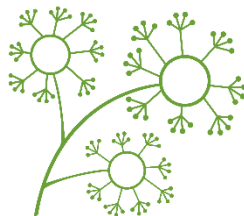


Food Systems Summit 2024: Marketplace for Ideas



Organised by:



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15th-17th October 2024
New Delhi

PRESS RELEASE

Food Systems Summit 2024 – pan-India knowledge exchange platform for food system stakeholders - commences today

New Delhi, 15th October, 2024: The first edition of 'Food Systems Summit 2024: Marketplace of Ideas' in collaboration with Bharat Krishak Samaj (BKS) was inaugurated today. Eminent speakers included T Nanda Kumar, IAS (Retd), Former Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and S. Vijay Kumar, IAS (Retd), Lead, FOLU India & Distinguished Fellow, TERI, Morgan Gillespy, Executive Director, FOLU and Ajay Vir Jakhar, Chairman, BKS.

Over three days, FSS 2024 will witness 200 participants, drawn from diverse fields related to the food system, including from 50+ CSOs. The expected audience includes the presenting institutional representatives, policymakers, individual experts, civil society, students, and academia. Across 24 sessions, speakers will showcase sustainable models in the following four key thematic areas:

- Supporting sustainable agriculture production
- Facilitating rainfed area management
- Improving nutritional outcomes
- Driving sustainable food distribution systems and consumption behaviour

Setting the context to the Summit, **S. Vijay Kumar** said: "Our priority is to convene various stakeholders associated with the agri value chain and leverage that collective wisdom to enable accelerated transition to sustainable food and land-use systems. The Summit is a further step in that direction, as a unique national platform to provide much-needed space to CSOs to interact and showcase their efforts. The learnings of FSS will help in framing our next initiative - to be called '**The Food Systems Hub**'."

Sharing a global perspective on food systems, Morgan Gillespy opined: "Food systems transformation is about more than agricultural productivity—it's about creating systems that work for everyone. FOLU India is uniquely positioned to lead by aligning with national priorities, engaging stakeholders, and fostering partnerships for sustainable, inclusive change."

T Nanda Kumar while providing an overview remarked: "This Summit is about bringing voices from the ground to a common platform and see how they can be presented in the policy space. This kind of interactivity is not often witnessed in the food systems sector. We are trying to get together people with interesting work from all spaces and explore how this mosaic can emerge into a pattern where we can find instances for replicating or scaling up viable solutions."

Ajay Vir Jakhar in his closing remarks said, “For a successful food systems transformation it's critical to build trust amongst stakeholders and there's a tendency to underestimate the time it takes to 'build trust'. Markets don't always work. That's why the government has to intervene. We need leadership to protect the interests of their citizens, not just the consumers. Making one thing will tend to make another thing worse. Leadership is a matter of choosing which problems to have, & that is where a systems approach becomes critical.”

The Hub will provide organised knowledge and enable experience-sharing and help build capacity within the civil society towards the intended systemic transformation.

Programme schedule: FSS 2024 will have several key speakers across six plenary sessions to follow. These include representatives from the government, philanthropies, civil society and multi-lateral and bi-lateral agencies. [Access the full list here.](#)

Following high-level plenary sessions will take on 16th and 17th October:

- Frameworks and learnings available for global food systems transformation
- Priorities for next decades - Views from funding agencies in India
- Convergence of key factors in food systems transformation
- National Food Systems Transformation - Perspectives from multi-lateral & bilateral agencies on action pathways
- Priorities for next decades - Views from global funding agencies
- Collaborative Action to Reduce Food Loss and Food Waste in India

About FOLU India

The Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU) is a global community of country platforms, partner organizations and Ambassadors working to advance sustainability, equity and resilience in food and land use systems. Created in 2017, FOLU supports diversity, embraces disruptive thinking and forges consensus through an evidence-based approach. The coalition empowers farmers, policymakers, businesses, investors and civil society to unlock collective action at scale. The FOLU Coalition in India includes the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), Revitalising Rainfed Agriculture Network (RRAN), The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and WRI India. The vision of FOLU India is a nutritionally secure, healthy and prosperous India, which is sustainably managing its food and land use systems, supported by a productive, efficient and inclusive economy. www.foluindia.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/>

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