

# Food Systems Summit Independent Dialogue

## THE ROLE OF EVALUATION IN MOVING TOWARDS ZERO HUNGER AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

15 July 2021, 2:00-4:00pm Rome time

### TOPICS AND QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION IN THE PARALLEL GROUPS

#### 1. The role of evaluation for Sustainable Food Systems

- ▶ What examples there are of evaluations making a difference – [resulting in strengthened sustainable food systems]?
- ▶ What are the lessons from the impact of COVID-19 crises on food systems?

#### 2. Evaluation methods and approaches for food systems transformation

Evaluation needs to change in order to understand and help address food systems and their transformation from the local to the global scale. It needs to move away from project / programme approaches and apply systems thinking.

- ▶ What are the most useful approaches and tools to include a food systems perspective in evaluations to address this change?
- ▶ What approaches and methods are best suited for evaluating agriculture research or innovation, to enhance ensuring uptake of research that improves Food Systems?

#### 3. Evaluation practice: what do we need to change or improve?

Evaluators are traditionally called to evaluate at the end of projects/programmes. However, in order to evaluate and inform change of complex and interconnected processes, evaluators should be part of all stages of interventions and engage in an iterative dialogue and co-creative process of change.

- ▶ How do you see this happening?
- ▶ How would evaluators adopt an adaptive, developmental approach?

#### 4. Evidence towards the UN Food Systems Summit objectives

- ▶ Should we evaluate the Summit itself, and the degree to which it achieved its objectives? If yes, how?
- ▶ What long-term monitoring and/or evaluation framework would be required for food systems reform? What can we learn or build upon from the SDGs/Agenda2030 process?