



# A Sustainable Food System is feasible

## Closing Declaration of the Food System Change Online Congress

Making Europe's food system more sustainable is necessary for the realization of all of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals<sup>1</sup> and must be a high priority goal of policymakers at EU, national and municipal level.

We are an international consortium of more than 100 expert change makers from civil society, science and the private sector who united at the Food System Change Online Congress in March 2021 with one mission. In order to achieve an impactful sustainable transformation of the food system(s) in Europe we demand the following actions:

### at EU level:

- Public money for public services - CAP: Provide financial support to sustainable farms instead of supporting agroindustrial business models
- Make international trade fair and sustainable
- Putting into place a land policy that favors and supports the transformation towards agroecological farming principles
- Promote farmers' food sovereignty and technological sovereignty
- No patents on seeds and animals
- A clear political pathway to reduce pesticides
- Free available data for agriculture and nutrition to consolidate international cooperation
- Data sovereignty and protection of the data from the power of large companies
- Make lobbying transparent
- No market dominance for large corporations and multinational companies
- Access to quality food for all

### at national level:

- Put in place a legislative framework to avoid land speculation
- Secure access to land for sustainable land use
- Adapt national laws to allow the implementation of (silvopastoral) agroforestry
- Promote the horizontal knowledge exchange of farmers
- Promote fair financial compensation for sustainable and climate-friendly farming practises
- Provide financial incentives and assistance for the transition from conventional to sustainable agriculture
- Create incentives for reducing the livestock and the use of animal inputs
- Promote measures that allow the access to a healthy diet at fair prices for all
- Increase public funding for healthy and sustainable food in public canteens, ranging from schools to hospitals, from ministries to retirement homes.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit/sdgs>



- Invest in education and information of a broad public on healthy food and sustainable forms of agriculture

### at municipal level:

- Include small organisations, initiatives and non-profit-associations in political decision making processes
- Increase public funding for healthy and sustainable food in public canteens, ranging from schools to hospitals, from ministries to retirement homes.
- Promote the cooperation between practitioners and municipalities through food policy concepts in cities, e.g. food policy councils
- Strengthen the role of women along the value chain of the food system
- Support local food supply chains
- Strengthen urban-rural linkages
- Promote urban agriculture in urban planning, e.g. rooftop gardens, urban gardening, vertical farming, food production on balconies and underground farming

## About the *Food System Change Online Congress*

Around 700 stakeholders from civil society, science and the private sector gathered at the Food System Change Online Congress from 22nd to 24th of March 2021 in order to present sustainable flagship projects and their pioneers across Europe. Granted by an international panel of 40 speakers, the congress covered a wide range of topics in 12 sessions and panels, especially showcasing innovations that can significantly contribute to a sustainable food system in the future. The Food System Change Online Congress is part of the project NEuropa, conducted by a project team of NAHhaft with financial support from the German Environment Agency (UBA).

Website : [www.foodsystemchange.org/congress](https://www.foodsystemchange.org/congress)



Food system change  
online congress



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