

Food For Future Well-Being:

A UN Food Systems Summit Dialogue for Wales



Picture: Jane Ricketts Hein

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on behalf of the Wales Real Food and Farming Conference

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The **Wales Real Food and Farming Conference** is Wales' national platform for exploring sustainable food and farming, bringing together farmers and other food businesses, environmentalists, and people involved in public health, food education, food sovereignty and social justice. <https://wrffc.wales/> Email: info@wrffc.wales

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Executive summary

The first ever **United Nations Summit on Food Systems** (UN FSS) is being convened in New York in September 2021. It is being promoted as a “People’s Summit”, with an emphasis on public engagement through “**Dialogues**” or small group discussions. A Dialogue was convened by members of the **Wales Real Food and Farming Conference** team on 21st April 2021, under the title “**Food for future well-being in Wales**”. It followed the standard methodology suggested by the UN. 29 people from across the food, farming and supporting industries in Wales met online and discussed – in four facilitated small groups, one of which was conducted in Welsh – how food could contribute to the future of wellbeing in Wales. *Points of divergence* were discussed and noted; unanimous agreements were not required.

Four themes arose from the discussions, each with a number of sub-topics.

- **Future food production systems:** including a) calls for more mixed farming and horticultural production; b) greater support for and adoption of agroecological methods. *Point of divergence:* the suitability of much of Wales for cereal and horticultural production.
- **Encouraging local food systems:** including a) investing and developing local food systems; b) education and engagement to promote local, seasonal food. *Point of divergence:* the definition and application of the term “local”.
- **Valuing the food system and its workers:** including a) the true cost of healthy and sustainably produced food; b) valuing agriculture, horticulture and the food industry as careers; c) building the capacity of this workforce through training, access to research funding and results. *Points of divergence:* valuing the variety of competing interests and ideas found in such a broad and complex system.
- **Thinking and working together:** including a) calls for a National Food Strategy; b) broadening agricultural policy to beyond the farm gate; c) a better understanding of the place of food in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act; d) linking food, agriculture and health policies. *Point of divergence:* misconceptions and flawed perceptions between stakeholders hinder progress.

Main recommendations: a) make **food and localisation cross-cutting themes** at the heart of policy; b) build agricultural policy around **agroecology** and link this to other policies.

Acronyms

| | |
|-----------|--|
| CSA | Community Supported Agriculture |
| FSS | Food Supply Systems |
| FSSD | Food Supply Systems Dialogue |
| IPES-Food | International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems |
| SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals |
| TYFA | Ten Years for Agroecology in Europe |
| UK | United Kingdom |
| UN | United Nations |

1. Introduction

The first ever **United Nations Summit on Food Systems** (FSS) is being convened by the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres. This will meet in New York in September 2021¹, with a pre-Summit in Rome in July 2021². The aim is to identify and enable food-related solutions that work towards achieving progress on all 17 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030³. It is being promoted as a “People’s Summit”, with an emphasis on public engagement.

The UN’s method for achieving this is through “**Dialogues**”: meetings that “enable a standardized approach for the convening, curation and facilitation of purposeful and organized events that encourage a broad and diverse range of stakeholders [to] come together and share their experiences of food systems”⁴. There are three types of Food Systems Summit Dialogues (FSSD):

- Global Summit Dialogues – co-convened by the UN FSS Special Envoy and considering high level thematic and sectoral issues and processes,
- Member State Dialogues - convened by representatives of the UN’s Member States, and taking place on a national or sub-national scale,
- Independent Dialogues – convened by individuals or organisations independently of Member States. This is the type of Dialogue that was undertaken for this report.

Jane Ricketts Hein, Jane Powell and Elizabeth Westaway convened an Independent Dialogue on behalf of the **Wales Real Food and Farming Conference** in order to ensure that Wales had some representation at the Summit. This was held on-line on 21st April 2021, under the title “**Food for Future Well-Being in Wales**”⁵. The results were presented to the UN FSSD secretariat using the required feedback form, but it was felt that the data gathered from the discussion deserved further consideration than could be managed in the form and may also be of use to a wider audience in Wales. Thus, this report describes the methodology used for the Dialogue, presents the results obtained and makes some recommendations based on the discussions. The FSSD wanted participants to consider who should play a role in achieving change in the food system and what success would look like, and these elements have been retained in this report.

2. Methodology

The Dialogue followed the methodology proposed by the UN FSS secretariat, which was designed to ensure that each Dialogue:

- Engages with a diversity of participants across various sectors of the food systems,
- Uses a standardised format that enables purposeful and productive discussions,

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

² <https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit/pre-summit>

³ <https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit/sdgs>

⁴ <https://summitdialogues.org/overview/>

⁵ <https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/5278/>

- Has a clear focus and offers relevant topics for discussion, and
- Leads to the collation of qualitative and quantitative outcomes (4SD and UN FSSD Secretariat, 2020).

A **diversity of participants** was achieved by creating a guestlist of selected people from across the food production, processing and retail sectors, along with supporting industries such as farming and business advisors, training, finance and catering. Efforts were made to contact as broad a range of people as possible, including with regard to geographical location, gender and background, including trying to include people from urban areas and those who do not usually take part in this type of discussion. This was balanced with the need to restrict numbers in order to conduct the discussions within small groups (6-10 people were recommended) and ensure that a Facilitator and Note-taker could be allocated to each group. Approximately 60 people were invited, with 29 eventually accepting, which enabled four discussion groups to be held, with eight or nine people in each along with a Facilitator and Note-taker. One group was convened in Welsh, and an excellent diversity of participants was achieved within each discussion group.

The **standardised format** for the Dialogue event began with a brief introduction to the UN Food Systems Summit, Food Systems Summit Dialogues in general and the “Food for Future Well-Being in Wales” Dialogue: this was presented by Jane Ricketts Hein from the Wales Real Food and Farming Conference. This was followed by facilitated discussions in small groups, and the event concluded with a feedback session led by Jane Davidson, former Welsh Government minister and Chair of the Wales Enquiry of the Food, Farming and Countryside Commission, who had spent some time observing each of the discussion groups. **Productive and purposeful discussions** were enabled by trained and experienced Facilitators, who in turn were aided by dedicated Note-takers, thus ensuring that Facilitators could concentrate on the conversations. Almost all of the Facilitators and Note-takers had attended briefing sessions by the UN FSSD organisers and the Wales Real Food and Farming Conference. Honest and open discussions were further aided by a commitment to anonymity on the part of the Dialogue organisers and participants.

As the overall aim of the FSSDs – to identify and enable solutions within food systems that work towards addressing all of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 – is extremely broad, the **focus** of the Dialogue was concentrated on the Welsh food system and the Well-being Goals enshrined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015⁶, thereby making it more relevant to the everyday lives of the participants. The **topic** title was “*Food for Future Well-Being in Wales*” and suggested questions (see Appendix 1) were sent to participants beforehand, in order to help stimulate ideas. Group feedback forms with prompt questions were developed, based on those supplied by the UN FSSD secretariat, and offered to each Facilitator, but they were also encouraged to use their own discretion and experience in guiding each group’s discussion in order to enable each conversation to flow. In the end, two groups submitted their results on these feedback forms, while the two

⁶ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2015/2/contents/enacted>

others sent more free-flowing notes. This does not affect the quality of the feedback, as all the groups discussed those issues that were most important to them.

Three sets of **outcomes** were expected from the Dialogue's discussions: i) the feedback form for the UN FSS, ii) this report and iii) any specific actions or partnerships that may be prompted by individuals exploring food system-related issues in their groups. As this is a qualitative exercise, the scope for quantitative data (as called for by the UN FSSD secretariat above) is limited and has not been pursued. The UN FSS feedback and this report are based on the notes taken during the group discussions, and are qualitative in nature. These were analysed by Jane Ricketts Hein.

A noteworthy element of the UN FSSD approach is its management of disagreement and **divergence of opinion**, where this occurs. It is emphasised that, while agreement is useful in suggesting and effecting change, there is a recognition that in such a complex system there is likely to be more than one way forward, and that an agreed position is not always possible. Facilitators were therefore asked to note any areas of divergence, while ensuring that everyone was free to express their ideas in a safe and respectful atmosphere.

3. Results

Four main themes were discerned in the feedback that came from the discussion groups, along with a small number of topics where opinions diverged. These are presented using the words provided by the Note-takers in their feedback as far as possible, and are in black. [Reference is made to other sources where appropriate, and these comments are in colour.](#)

a. Future food production systems

Participants felt that conversations are needed about how land is used, and two types of agricultural production in Wales were highlighted.

It was believed that farmers have been incentivized to move into sheep and beef farming, but most groups saw the value, and indeed a need, to move into **mixed farming** and **horticulture**. Research was cited that suggests that turning 2% of Wales' land area over to horticulture could allow the country to become self-sufficient in fruit and vegetables, allowing for the recommended 5 portions per day (Wheeler, 2018)⁷. Historic farm documents and older local farmers could be consulted about what crops and practices have been proven to be successful on the land. These show what may still be possible in practical terms down to field level, and may highlight activities that maintained farms' sustainability over generations.

POINT OF DIVERGENCE

Are horticulture and cereal-growing genuinely **viable activities** in Wales, or is livestock really the only option? The experience of some participants differed from the common perception about the suitability of much of the country for different agricultural products.

⁷ Additional statistics on vegetable production and consumption, mainly at the UK level, are available from <https://foodfoundation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Peas-Please-Veg-Facts-2021.pdf>

Most groups called for greater support for and much wider adoption of **agroecology**; indeed, for it to become normal practice in agriculture. While precise definitions of agroecology were not reported back from the groups, the notes strongly indicate that a form of agriculture that protects and enhances the natural environment, wildlife and human communities was envisaged. Even where the term agroecology was not used, there was a wish that policies be developed that encourage “sustainable” primary production. Again, this was not defined precisely, but had strong environmental and social elements.

These reflect the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems’ (IPES-Food) description of Pathway 1 in their recent Long Food System report (IPES-Food & ETC Group, 2021), which presents opportunities for rooting food systems in diversity, agroecology and human rights. Closer to home, these elements also support the themes that make up the first recommendation by Sanderson Bellamy and Marsden (2020) for creating a new vision for Welsh food, specifically, “agroecological farming” and “horticultural promotion”. Meanwhile, at the UK level, the Food, Farming and Countryside Commission (Greenham and Link, 2020) and the “Ten Years for Agroecology in Europe” (TYFA) project, which began as a European project (Poux and Aubert, 2018), but has since been adapted to the UK context (Poux and Schiavo, 2021), have begun to explore some of the issues involved in expanding the take-up of agroecology.

Who?

- *Farmers and landowners*, especially those who already follow these practices: act as exemplars for other farmers and landowners by demonstrating what is possible in food production through new, effective, economically viable, ecological and enjoyable farming models. Large landowners can encourage their tenants to implement certain practices such as carbon sequestration and carbon neutral / positive actions. Farmers are also encouraged to participate in the ongoing debate over what works and what needs to change. Younger farmers are urged to talk to other young people and children about where food comes from and support teachers with the provision of appropriate resources / information.
- *Agricultural colleges*: make conservation and agroecology compulsory elements in all their agricultural courses. This would have a long-term effect on farmers’ thinking.
- *All participants*: keep speaking with government on behalf of farmers and farming, and also engage with research and evidence-gathering processes; for example, there was a call for urgent research to be undertaken into how much of Wales could diversify into other crops, including tree crops, bush fruit and vegetables in order to shape more accurate perceptions of what could be achieved.
- *All sectors involved with agriculture*: come together to explore and test new farming models for access to land, increasing farmer engagement with sustainable methods of production and exploring incentives for these practices, such as “payment for results”.
- **Policy** that directly and comprehensively incentivizes organic, regenerative and agroecological farming along the land sharing model i.e., making the whole area of the farm good for biodiversity, not just the margins. There was an appeal for the

“polluter pays principle” to be adhered to so that agricultural chemicals become much more expensive, and farmers are encouraged into less intensive methods while also making the cost of currently cheap imported feed much more expensive. This would then remove much agricultural pollution.

Success

- The *landscape* will look very different, with more agroforestry and green strips for biodiversity. There will be a lot more agroecological farming: it will be standard practice.
- *Soil health* will improve and thus support a greater diversity of crops and biodiversity, while providing other environmental benefits such as flood reduction and drought resilience. This will mean an increase in the volume of fruit and vegetables – of good nutritional quality – being grown, resulting in an increase in human health and well-being.
- There will be *more farmers on smaller farms*, eating the food they produce.
- The *messages around food and farming* will create a positive vision of opportunity and hope.

b. Encouraging local food systems

While the Covid-19 pandemic had caused difficulties in the food supply system in many areas, groups felt that it had also encouraged many people to appreciate local and sustainable food⁸, and that there is now an opportunity to **invest in developing and strengthening local food systems**.

Similar views have been expressed to a greater or lesser extent by organizations as diverse as the World Economic Forum⁹, The Ecologist¹⁰ and Forbes¹¹.

The participants suggested several areas of action to increase the development of local and short food supply chains. These included addressing:

- training,
- access to land,
- encouraging enterprise among farmers and growers,
- support for producers to sell directly to the market, and
- farmers receiving a fair price for producing quality goods for their local communities.

The emphasis should be on encouraging the consumption of less processed food in order to protect human health. However, where added value processes are wanted, they should take place closer to the market and as much value as possible be retained in Wales.

⁸ Also reported by the BBC (no date), for example: <https://www.bbc.com/future/bspoke/follow-the-food/how-covid-19-is-changing-food-shopping.html>

⁹ <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/06/we-need-to-reimagine-our-food-systems-for-a-post-covid-world/>

¹⁰ <https://theecologist.org/2020/aug/19/local-food-and-global-food-security>

¹¹ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/daphneewingchow/2020/07/30/covid-19-has-given-consumers-five-new-reasons-to-eat-local/>

Education and engagement with people were seen to be important, including the provision of information about the importance of local and seasonal food for human health, the environment, local economies and communities.

Who?

- *All participants* along the food chain: producers and sellers must produce and market good quality local goods, while processors and purchasers – business and domestic – should buy locally-produced products as far as possible.
- *Public procurement actors*: this sector received the most attention during the Dialogue. It is a large potential market, and one that has a huge effect on public health as it often directly affects the most vulnerable in society who are in schools, hospitals and care homes. Thus, while there were many calls for local public procurement to be policy, and for it to be included in all public sector organizations, one group commented that supply companies also have an important role in encouraging the public sector and other private companies to use local produce. Some examples of good practice were noted, specifically Caerphilly County Borough Council, along with the South West Food Hub in England whose ambition is that by 2026, 50% of public money spent on food and drink in the South West will be spent directly with small and medium-sized producers based in the region¹².

Success

- Everybody in Wales will *habitually consume local seasonal products*, including as many as possible that have been processed and packaged locally. These have the best nutritional value, and this will contribute to vibrant local communities where the emphasis on local systems engenders respect for each other and efforts to promote fairness and equality.
- More towns will have *local food shops*, but where supermarkets are the main food retailers, they will stock local food and healthier food choices. All food shops will stock healthier and local choices as standard - even garages.

POINT OF DIVERGENCE

There were concerns about the **definition and application of the term “local”**; for example, processed products associated with a locality or even the country, but which are not necessarily made with local ingredients. Similarly, a company may be deemed to be “local” – employing local workers and engaging with the community – but not contribute to the local food supply system.

The variable use of the term is a long-standing issue: for example, Ricketts Hein (2005) found that definitions of “local” food at least partly depended on the intended market for the product.

¹² <https://www.thesouthwestfoodhub.co.uk/>

- The land and *food production market* itself looks different, with plenty of new entrants, and a movement away from supermarkets and imports.
- The *measurement of local food in chains* could be undertaken; for example, wholesalers should be able to provide data on the number and types of companies supplying them.

c. Valuing the food system and its workers

It was widely felt that food, its cost of production and the people that produce it are economically and socially undervalued, particularly when wider costs, such as the effects of a poor diet on health or pollution caused by intensive agriculture, are included.

With respect to the food system, the extent of food poverty was recognized, but that somehow food prices must better reflect the **true costs of healthy and sustainably produced food**. Over time, agroecological practices will reduce input costs, and the resulting improved nutrition will reduce health care costs, but there will be a transitional period where support for farmers and consumers may be needed. It is also important to mitigate against the power of supermarkets in directing what is grown, how and the ways food is priced, as these often contribute towards the false picture of the cost of food.

The hidden costs of food have been explored by the Sustainable Food Trust (Fitzpatrick, Young and Barbour *et al.*, 2019), who found that for every £1 spent in the UK on food, almost another £1 – specifically, 96.8p - of hidden costs were incurred in cleaning up, restoring and mitigating against damage to the environment and human health.

Ways of **valuing the agricultural, horticultural and food industries and their workers** were widely discussed. The lack of new entrants into agriculture and horticulture was noted and this is partly because of the high costs involved¹³, and partly because these are widely seen as unattractive careers. For children, it was suggested that home economics in school is key to

POINTS OF DIVERGENCE

“**Valuing**” can be a problematic concept, especially when attempting to balance multiple considerations.

How can new entrants gain access to land and existing family farms be defended? How can both be valued?

What are the best ways to support local communities, in terms of livelihoods, community spirit, culture, environment and health, where interests may compete, and ideas differ?

Many farmers feel that they have to compromise production in order to protect the environment.

Making the price of food reflect its true cost must be balanced with the difficulty of accessing quality, nutritious food for many people.

¹³ This is an issue that the Landworkers’ Alliance is attempting to address: see <https://landworkersalliance.org.uk/new-entrant-support/> and the results of their 2020 UK survey of the demography, barriers and needs of new entrants to farming (<https://landworkersalliance.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/New-entrants-survey.pdf>).

counteracting negative perceptions of the food industry. It is important that they understand food and be shown that aspiring to become a farmer is possible: this is additionally relevant in the short-term, as many European agricultural workers have returned to their home countries. There is a similar issue with the wider food industry: participants commented that Tasty Careers, a scheme to promote food industry careers, had been useful but had now ceased. One suggestion was to allocate a certain amount of land per child or school, which would ensure that the opportunity to grow food and encounter nature would be available to all children.

This echoes a call made by Gerald Miles of Caerhys Organic Farm (a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) project) in Pembrokeshire at the 2020 Wales Real Food and Farming Conference, that every school should adopt a farm in order to give every child the chance to learn about food production and farming¹⁴.

For those who do decide to enter agricultural or horticultural training schemes, there was concern about a lack of support when they leave. Efforts should be made to **build the capacity** of the agricultural workforce as a whole to attract talent and help the country through the proposed agroecological transition. As part of this, independent **funding for appropriate research** should be available, and **access to research results** should be improved; participants especially wanted to see this for research linking food consumption and production to health outcomes.

Who?

- ***Policymakers, thinkers and the media:*** the re-framing of “food poverty” as “food and nutrition security” at all levels - from individual to national - may help to allow a reconsideration of this challenging subject.
- ***Farming unions, landowners and schools:*** need to work together to improve access to land for children, and encourage them to consider agriculture or horticulture as a career.
- ***Schools and agricultural colleges, along with other further education colleges:*** must ensure that their students understand food, including how to cook. A sustainable food production education programme was suggested for schools. It was also noted that this would tie in very closely with the new Curriculum for Wales, with its “four purposes”¹⁵.
- ***Advisory organisations:*** should support current and future farmers to develop the appropriate skillsets and mindsets to enable them to innovate and thrive.

¹⁴ Bilingual (Welsh / English) version: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TnRb87WXeU>

With English simultaneous translation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iD2iqhgtnVs&list=PL30xGluyuxPno9NhkspxR53BBqf2MzK7N&index=9>

¹⁵ The “four purposes” are to support learners to become:

1. ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives,
 2. enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work,
 3. ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world, and
 4. healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society
- <https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/designing-your-curriculum/developing-a-vision-for-curriculum-design/#curriculum-design-and-the-four-purposes>.

Success

- The public will *value and benefit from high-quality nutritious food* and, importantly, *increase its intake of nutrient dense fruit and vegetables*.
- Farmers receive a *fair price* for their products.
- Lots of *young people want to get into farming*, having benefited from excellent educational and training opportunities, and feeling that they and other new entrants have a sustainable and strong future.
- Farmers feel *empowered, and collectively sell* their products. A *skilled and ecologically aware farming workforce* will grow in recognition, increase in size, and improve in economic sustainability and its capacity to lead the way in agroecology.
- Having built on earlier work and volunteering opportunities, what had been seen initially as activism is now a *genuine transformation of the community*, and people *want to be involved*.

d. Thinking and working together

The call for food, farming, environment and social sectors to work together and avoid “silo-thinking” was clear, and [resonates strongly with the opportunities presented in the IPES-Food and ETC Group \(2021, p. 10\) report’s Pathway 4 “Rethinking the modalities of civil society collaboration”, which include “making cross-sectoral collaboration the norm”](#).

All the groups had ideas that require the co-operation of various elements of the agri-food system. Perhaps the call for a **National Food Strategy** sums this up best.

Within the agri-food system, it was felt that **agricultural policy** stops at the farm gate and that farmers are not encouraged to think beyond it: a greater level of co-operation is needed to address pollution and soil protection issues, among others. Similarly, regenerative agricultural initiatives should also include consideration of local communities.

Public procurement policies could be linked to agricultural support schemes in order to get local, healthy, nutritious food into schools and hospitals, while producers should work together more to fulfil larger contracts. Some progress is being made on “circular economy” thinking and practice, but the system as a whole has not kept up with people’s ideas and plans.

Relatedly, there was some discussion about the **Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**. There was concern that the place of food within it was not entirely clear: it was suggested that food could relate to all parts, but that this should be made more explicit. It was also felt that, while the Act is often referred to, conforming to it is in danger of becoming a “tick box exercise”. Further, its wider relevance is still being missed, and it is seen as something for the public sector only to deal with.

[As part of a wider evaluation¹⁶, examples of good practice and recommendations for applying the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act to public procurement have recently been published \(Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, 2021\).](#)

¹⁶ <https://www.futuregenerations.wales/work/procurement/>

Linking food, agriculture and health policies was particularly discussed. One suggestion was to set a new standard for food's nutritional quality, while simultaneously building and communicating the evidence base for nutrition-supportive agricultural practices. While the difficulty of accessing good quality, nutritious food was recognized, it was felt that food poverty – or insecurity – should not excuse poor nutritional and agricultural standards. At the same time, 'food as medicine' should be embedded within national public policy on health promotion. This involves formalising links between the food and health systems to reduce highly prevalent non-communicable diet-related diseases, while building consumer demand for high-quality, affordable food. Increased support for green prescribing was also called for, including in the management of certain chronic diseases.

Who?

- *All sectors and stakeholders* have a role, working within and across sectors to broaden their and others' understanding of the agri-food-society-environment complex as a whole.
- All *organizations and advisers* from the farm, food and business sectors: must work to join these functions up.
- **Government and policymakers:** are seen as key enablers in linking these elements together; for example, by using food policy as a way of addressing sustainability and health issues.
- *The media:* has a role in telling the truth about food, its sources and benefits, particularly in ways that are relevant to Wales and Welsh consumers.
- *Everyone with knowledge of the food and farming system:* can contribute to public awareness and the national debate.

Success

- We will have a *healthier population*, including better dental health, with fewer dietary related illnesses.
- Ideally, *raw food will be free in 2030*¹⁷, the farming of such food products being fully subsidised. Being charged for processed food only will also strongly contribute to a healthier diet.

POINT OF DIVERGENCE

Misconceptions and flawed perceptions affecting many of the stakeholder institutions and groups can lead to problems with **trust** within and between the food system and wider society. These include the perceived ability and willingness of some institutions, such as local and national governments, to change policy and practice, sometimes leading to suspicions of "greenwash" and accusations of insincerity in their stated desire to change. Similarly, many farmers feel unfairly attacked or blamed for causing environmental and health problems. Honesty is required from all parties, but respect is essential.

¹⁷ Subsidising fruit and vegetables is one of the proposals listed under "Action Area 5: Safe and supportive environments for nutrition at all ages" of the UN FAO's mid-term review of its "Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025". See: <http://www.fao.org/fsnforum/activities/consultations/decade-nutrition-priority-actions>

- There will be a *Welsh food system that relates to Wales' unique legislation (as illustrated by Sanderson Bellamy and Marsden, 2020, Figure A, no pagination)*, while the farming support system will motivate and encourage farmers, who are able to adapt quickly and positively.
- *Successful collaborations* will proliferate. ***Streamlined, consistent objectives within policymaking and support for the food system*** will make it easier for collaborators to gain funding and enhance their ability to successfully work together.

4. Recommendations

The diversity of issues, wishes and suggestions – some of which are suitable for direct Welsh Government policy attention, while others may benefit from background, ‘enabling’ policies – can largely be addressed by BRINGING FOOD AND LOCALISATION TO THE HEART OF POLICYMAKING, and making them CROSS-CUTTING THEMES.

AGROECOLOGY, ORGANIC AND REGENERATIVE FARMING AND HORTICULTURAL PRACTICES SHOULD BE AT THE HEART OF AGRICULTURAL POLICY, which itself should be linked with the environment, nutrition and health.

Surrounding these central policy areas, other suggestions can be accommodated:

1. Supporting mixed farming.
2. Normalising agroecological principles, discouraging environmentally damaging practices, inputs and chemicals.
3. Training and skills development in creating and strengthening local food and economic systems, which enable access to nutritious food for all.
4. Education and public engagement at all levels about local, seasonal, nutritious food.
5. Land reform that enables a greater variety of people access to land for growing food.
6. Planning change that supports local food production, processing and retail.
7. Access to funding for agroecological and nutritional research that is perhaps risky and less attractive to mainstream funders. Access to research results must be widely and easily available.

5. Acknowledgements

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Appendix: Pre-Dialogue questions for participants



English on next page ↓

Deialog Uwchgyrhadledd Systemau Bwyd y Cenhedloedd Unedig – Cymru
Ebrill 21^{ain}, 2021; 16.00-18.00.

Bwyd ar gyfer Llesiant yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol

Os oes gennych "syniad mawr" – waeth pa mor anarferol neu uchelgeisiol – dewch ag ef i'r Deialog.

Mae ein Deialog wedi'i adeiladu o amgylch y 7 Nod Llesiant, a roddwyd ar waith i wella lles cymdeithasol, economaidd, amgylcheddol a diwylliannol Cymru. Fe'u cynhwysir yn y gyfraith o dan Ddeddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru) 2015.

Mae'r 7 nod Llesiant yn:

- Cymru lewyrchus
- Cymru gydnherth
- Cymru iachach
- Cymru sy'n fwy cyfartal
- Cymru o gymunedau cydlynus
- Cymru â diwylliant bywiog lle mae'r Gymraeg yn ffynnu
- Cymru sy'n gyfrifol ar lefel fyd-eang.

Os yw'n well gennych ddechrau gyda chwestiynau wedi'u targedu, beth am ystyried:

- Pa rôl ydwi i'n ei chwarae yn system fwyd Cymru?
- Sut olwg ddylai fod ar system fwyd Cymru yn 2030 neu 2050? (Gorau oll yw'r mwyaf dychmygus!)
- Sut gallwn i / fy sector helpu i wneud y system yn decach ac yn well i bobl, anifeiliaid a'r amgylchedd?
- Pwy allwn i helpu i gyflawni hyn?
- Pwy allai fy helpu i gyflawni hyn?
- Pa faterion / rhwystrau sydd yn y ffordd a sut y gallwn ddelio â nhw?
- Beth yw'r 3 cham nesaf sydd eu hangen i wneud gwelliannau yn system fwyd Cymru?
- Pa un yn gyntaf?



UN Food Systems Summit Dialogue – Wales
April 21st, 2021; 16.00-18.00.

Food for future well-being in Wales

If you have a "big idea" – no matter how unusual or ambitious – please bring it to the Dialogue.

Our Dialogue is built around the 7 Well-being Goals, which were put in place to improve the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales. They are contained in law under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

They are:

- a prosperous Wales
- a resilient Wales
- a healthier Wales
- a more equal Wales
- a Wales of cohesive communities
- a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
- a globally responsible Wales

If you prefer to start with more targeted questions, how about considering:

- What role do I play in the Welsh food system?
- What should the Welsh food system look like in 2030 or 2050? (The more imaginative the better!)
- How could I / my sector help to make the system fairer and better for humans, animals and the environment?
- Who could help to achieve this?
- Who could help me achieve this?
- What issues / obstacles are in the way and how can we deal with them?
- What are the next 3 steps needed to make improvements in the Welsh food system? Which one first?

