Food Systems Hub (FSH)

Our food systems — the way we produce, market, and consume food — are part of the social, economic, ecological, and cultural fabric of our communities. Given the complex interactions between food systems and the socio-economic-environmental substrate and the imperfections in the system, the true costs of our current food systems are yet to be fully investigated, much less quantified. The food systems continue to grapple with many challenges, old and new, notably persistent hunger, undernutrition, obesity, loss of biodiversity, environmental damage, and climate change.

During the last seven decades, India has risen from a land of food shortages to a nation, which achieved cereal security at the national level and became the fifth largest economy in the world. However, its food system is yet to fully address issues of accessibility, affordability and nutritional quality. The recent report by Food System Economics Commission (FSEC) estimated the hidden costs of India’s food system at 124.8 lakh crore rupees, mostly on account of poor nutritional outcomes and unsustainable production practices.

Various initiatives addressing multiple challenges of the food system are happening across the nation. While some target environment, natural resources and biodiversity conservation, others focus on production and distribution efficiency, supply chain management and farmer livelihood improvement. During the last five years of facilitating dialogues between the stakeholders and the actors of food system transformation in India, the Food and Land Use Coalition India (FOLU India) and Bharat Krishak Samaj observed that most of these efforts are in silos, with little or no coordination between agencies focusing on certain sectors and without adequate communication among these stakeholders and other actors.

Recognizing the need for integrated efforts and bringing stakeholders and actors together to transform the current food systems into sustainable and resilient activity cycles, FOLU India and Bharat Krishak Samaj, have conceived the idea of establishing the Food Systems Hub (FSH) at the national level. FSH will serve as

a national collaborative platform, bringing together diverse stakeholders, including policymakers, researchers, market players, and civil society organizations, to address complex challenges faced by the food systems.

**Food Systems Summit**

Food Systems Summit 2024 is designed as a premier national conference of the Food Systems Hub where practitioners, academicians and private sector will showcase their work on various aspects of food systems transformation. The Summit is co-organized by Food and Land Use Coalition India (FOLU India) with the support of its core partners and Bharat Krishak Samaj. The inaugural edition of the Summit is scheduled to take place from 15th to 17th October 2024 in New Delhi.

The objective of the Summit is to foster understanding, collaboration, and learning among participants to accelerate Food Systems Transformation in a just and inclusive manner. It will showcase sustainable models in the following four key thematic areas:

- Supporting regenerative agriculture production
- Supporting rainfed area management for sustainable agriculture
- Improving nutritional outcomes
- Ensuring sustainability in distribution and influencing consumer behavior in favour of sustainable agriculture and consumption of healthy diet

**Call for Summaries to Presentations**

We invite summaries to proposed presentations from organizations whose work aligns with the aforementioned thematic areas. FSH aims to showcase organizational efforts and not individual research. Hence, the abstract should reflect the organization's efforts in sustainable food systems in the field. This call is exclusively for Indian civil society organizations and academic institutions for presenting their work related to sustainable food systems transformation at the FSH. The expected audience includes the institutional representatives of the selected applicant organisations, policymakers, individual experts, civil society, students, and academia. These presentations made at the FSH will be finally compiled and published digitally to be made available for national and global stakeholders.

**Submission Guidelines:**

- Each organisation can submit more than one summary.
- Presentation summary must be submitted in English language only.
- Maximum word limit: 300 words, excluding title and other supporting information (as mentioned below).
- The summary must include a clear title indicating the work presented in the body copy, organization name, and contact information including the organisation’s website address. It should provide a brief background of the organisation’s work, including approaches/methods adopted, successes, failures, and learnings.
- The file name should include the full organisation name. For Example: **bharat krishak samaj_summary**
Submission and Selection Process:

Summary documents must be submitted through this form by 10th June, 2024. All submissions will be reviewed by an expert committee, and organizations whose applications have been accepted will be notified through email by early July. Selected organizations will be invited to make oral presentations (in English only) for about 15-20 minutes at the event. Travel and accommodation will be provided for the selected participants (one member per organization). Other participants are welcome to join the conference at their own cost.

For any queries, please contact:

Parveen Kumar, Programme Associate, FOLU India – parveen.kumar1@wri.org