

## *Food systems and nutrition patterns: Biodiversity, Resilience and Food Security*

### **HLPF SDGs Learning, Training & Practice 2020**

#### **Session 4**

#### **Concept Note**

*Via Zoom Meetings* | Wednesday July 8 | 2:00 - 3:30pm EST

This course is part of the 2020 Edition of the SDGs Learning, Training and Practice at the United Nations High Level Political Forum (HLPF), as well as a UNITAR 'Food Systems Series' that are being held in the lead up to the 2021 food systems summit.

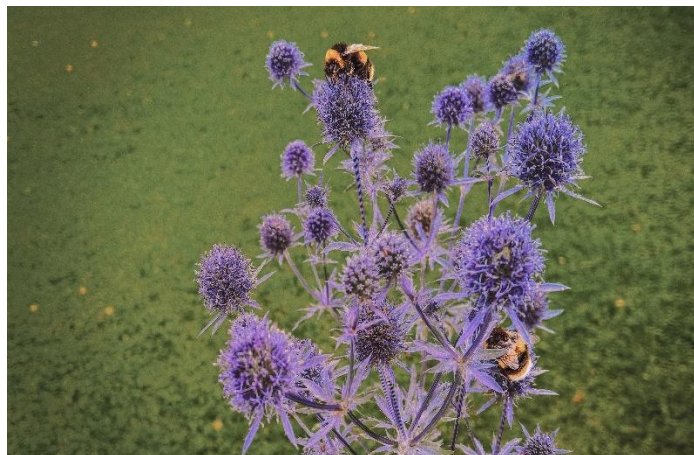
#### **Organizers**

- Emerging Ag Inc. - Canada [www.emergingag.com](http://www.emergingag.com)
- National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) – Pakistan [www.nust.edu.pk](http://www.nust.edu.pk)

#### **Background**

Food production and biodiversity are inextricably interlinked. Biodiversity underpins food security, sustainable livelihoods, ecosystem resilience, disaster resilience, coping strategies for climate change and adequate nutritional requirements, among others.

A sustainable global food system must foster an environment where both agriculture and biodiversity can thrive and cope with disasters. Food security depends largely on biodiversity and on the services provided by ecosystems; yet, agriculture can often pose a big threat to vulnerable natural ecosystems and endangered species and food systems can be ravaged by disasters.



Ecosystem management can contribute to more effective reduction of disaster risk in two major ways: Well-managed ecosystems can mitigate the impact of most natural hazards, such as landslides, hurricanes and cyclones. In addition, productive ecosystems can support sustainable income-generating activities and are important assets as alternate livelihood options for people and communities in the aftermath of a disaster. Environment, ecosystem and disasters and their impacts are therefore, very closely related and it is important to understand and develop a correlation between them in order to address climate change impacts and growing threats of disasters which are increasing in magnitude and frequency with each passing year.

Can agriculture and biodiversity coexist? How can food systems best prepare for disasters?

This digital course will discuss how disasters impact the environment and food systems and how to increase food production for a growing global population while preserving biodiversity, protecting the environment, mitigating the impact of disasters and adapting to climate change.

### Learning Objectives

1. Understand key linkages between Environment and Ecosystems, Disasters and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and learn about Ecosystem based DRR (Eco-DRR) approach
2. Understand the impacts of Disaster Risk Reduction and climate change adaptation on ecosystems, food security and food systems and how ecosystem services can help to decrease disaster risk
3. Discuss how food systems/food security and biodiversity can support each other to achieve resilience, sustainability and climate change adaptation.

The course will also present case studies of solutions and initiatives, from various sectors, that strike a balance between food security and biodiversity conservation.

### Format

This 90-minute digital course will be run as a moderated panel discussion including the presentation of case studies, as well as interaction with the audience. A diverse panel from a range of disaster reduction, ecosystem services, and agricultural sectors will share how their sectors are working to become more resilient, sustainable and preserve biodiversity. The course will also allow for interactive time for audience questions and comments.

### Proposed Panelists

- Naeem Shahzad, Assistant Professor, National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST)
- Howard Shapiro, Distinguished Fellow, World Agroforestry Centre
- Roseline Remans, Consultant, Bioversity
- Jimmy Smith, Director General, ILRI
- Rene Castro, Assistant Director in charge of Biodiversity, FAO

### Participants

The target audience for engagement will be the United Nations Systems, including:

- Representatives of UN Member States
- Representatives of key United Nations bodies
- Representatives of key private sector and donor entities
- Representatives of relevant NGOs and CSOs

### Themes

- Agenda 2030
- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Food Security
- Food Systems
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
- Ecosystem based DRR (Eco-DRR)

## ***Food Systems and Nutrition Patterns:***

*Biodiversity, Resilience and Food Security*

***July 8th, 2020 | 14:00 - 15:30 EST***

*Via Zoom Meetings (Details to follow)*

### ***EST Time***

<i>14:00 – 14:05</i>	<b>Opening and Welcome</b>
<i>14:05 – 14:20</i>	Interactive Quiz
<i>14:20 – 14:27</i>	Naeem Shahzad, Assistant Professor, National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST)
<i>14:27 – 14:30</i>	One question from audience
<i>14:30 – 14:37</i>	Howard Shapiro, Distinguished Fellow, World Agroforestry Centre
<i>14:37 – 14:40</i>	One question from audience
<i>14:40 – 14:47</i>	Roseline Remans, Senior Scientist, the Alliance of Biodiversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)
<i>14:47 – 14:50</i>	One question from audience
<i>14:50 – 14:57</i>	Jimmy Smith, Director General, ILRI
<i>14:57 – 15:00</i>	One question from audience
<i>15:00 – 15:07</i>	Mr. Rene Castro, Assistant Director in charge of Biodiversity, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<i>15:07 – 15:10</i>	One question from audience
<i>15:10 – 15:30</i>	<b>Moderated Q&amp;A</b>