



Food Innovation Hubs

*Strengthening local
Innovation Ecosystems for
Food Systems
Transformation*



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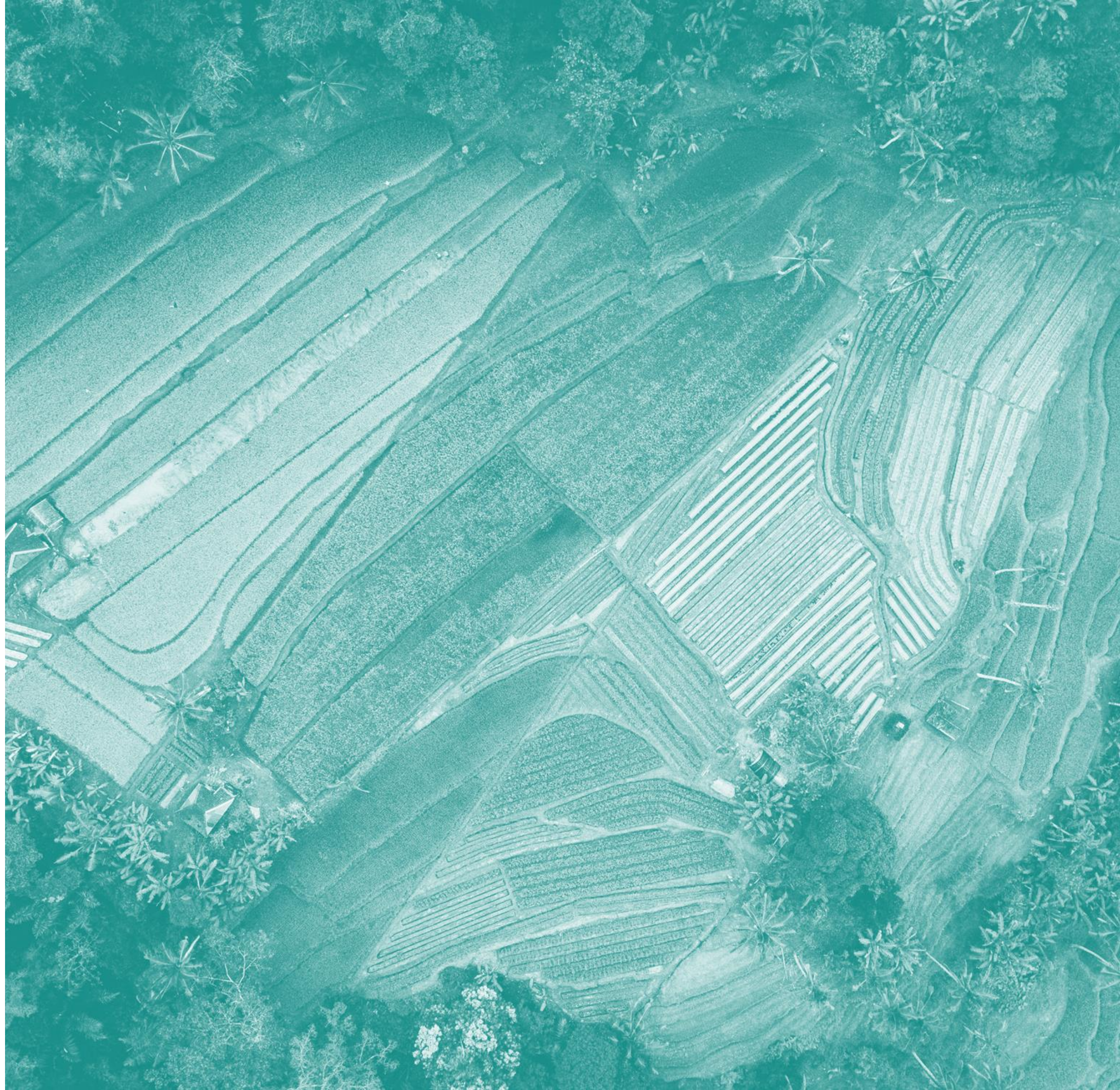
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Introducing Food Systems Initiative

Your collaboration with World Economic Forum



Food systems transformations are urgently needed to meet the needs of People and Planet in line with the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) and the [Paris Climate Agreement](#)

The Aspirations



INCLUSIVE

Ensuring economic and social inclusion for all food system actors, especially smallholders, women and youth



SUSTAINABLE

Minimizing negative environmental impacts, conserving scarce natural resources and strengthening resiliency against future shocks



EFFICIENT

Ensuring that sufficient food is produced and available for the world's population



NUTRITIOUS & HEALTHY

Promoting consumption of a diverse range of healthy, nutritious, and safe foods

The Challenges

700 million people in the agricultural sector live **below the global poverty line**

\$15.2 billion funding gap for food system innovation that could support ending hunger, keeping emissions within **2°C and reducing water use by 10%**.

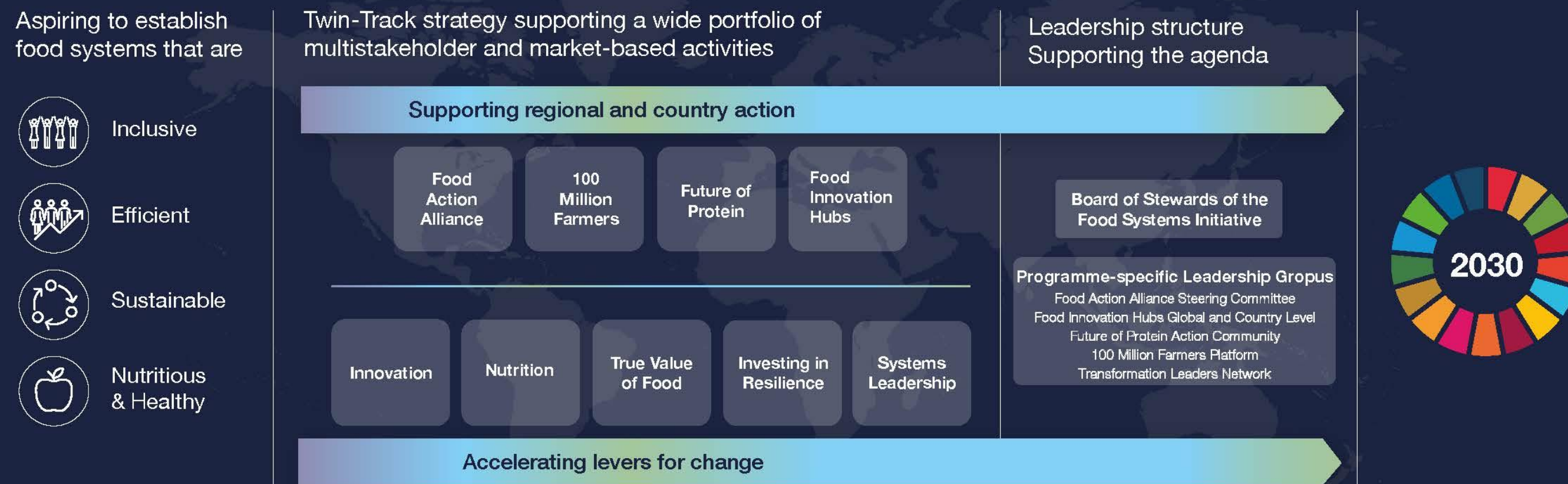
60% more food will be required to feed a world population of 9.5 billion by 2050

Over 3 billion people can't afford a healthy diet, & over **1.5 billion, people** can't afford a diet that meets the minimum level of essential nutrients

Achieving them will require coordinated action by all global food system actors to address these systemic and interconnected challenges

The World Economic Forum's Food Systems Initiative follows a **Twin Track Strategy** focused on leadership actions on two interconnected goals:

- Track 1: Catalyze and support multistakeholder partnership platforms to **deliver regional and country action at scale**;
- Track 2: Accelerate levers for change that can **unlock systemic challenges and opportunities in food systems** through insights, collaboration and innovation.





Food Innovation Hubs



Perspective of Change: What if we could harness technology and innovation to nourish the world without harming the planet?

TECHNOLOGY AND BROADER INNOVATIONS

Present a significant opportunity to accelerate food systems transformation.

However, the food systems are behind other sectors in adoption and scale of technology and innovations; and require robust innovation ecosystems through multistakeholder and collective action

WITH ROBUST INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

- ❖ **Improve equitable access of technology and innovations** for farmers and consumers
- ❖ **Increase investments** in inclusive and scalable innovative solutions and enabling policy incentives
- ❖ Enable use of emerging Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies **to improve resiliency of food systems**
- ❖ **Unlock institutional bottlenecks** in support of systemic change
- ❖ **Mitigate unintended consequences**

CAN MEET THE ASPIRATIONAL GOALS OF THE FOOD SYSTEMS



Inclusiveness

Ensuring economic and social inclusion for all food system actors, especially smallholders, women and youth



Sustainability

Minimizing negative environmental impacts, conserving scarce natural resources and strengthening resiliency against future shocks



Efficiency

Ensuring that sufficient food is produced and available for the world's population



Nutrition and Health

Promoting consumption of a diverse range of healthy, nutritious, and safe foods

Locally driven Food Innovations Hubs globally connected

Current Food Innovation Hubs

Approach

The Food Innovation Hubs:

- ✓ Promote collaboration that is **multistakeholder, precompetitive and market based** focusing on local, country, and regional opportunities and challenges
- ✓ Are **locally driven** and a **partnership platform** that works as a **neutral facilitator** to foster partnerships and networks that unlock investments and institutional bottlenecks
- ✓ Supports development of an **innovation ecosystems** that addresses a **holistic range of innovation needs** focusing on country needs and opportunities



Coordinated and supported by a Global Coordinating Secretariat (GCS) based in the Netherlands/Geneva

Locally driven Food Innovations Hubs globally connected

Vision 2030, a network of networks

Vision

A **thriving community** of Food Innovation Hubs, driving delivery and scale of innovations to positively contribute to our food systems. Key features of the network:

- ✓ *A community of practice – Mobilizing alignment of experts, scientists, innovators, entrepreneurs, farmer producer organizations and others for cross-sharing of research and learning*
- ✓ *Building capacity and knowledge transfer through south-south and north-south collaboration*
- ✓ *Developing playbooks and impact frameworks identifying learnings from multiple hubs and global-level opportunities*



Globally, the Global Secretariat is guided by a Steering Committee that includes governments, private sector, international organizations and civil society



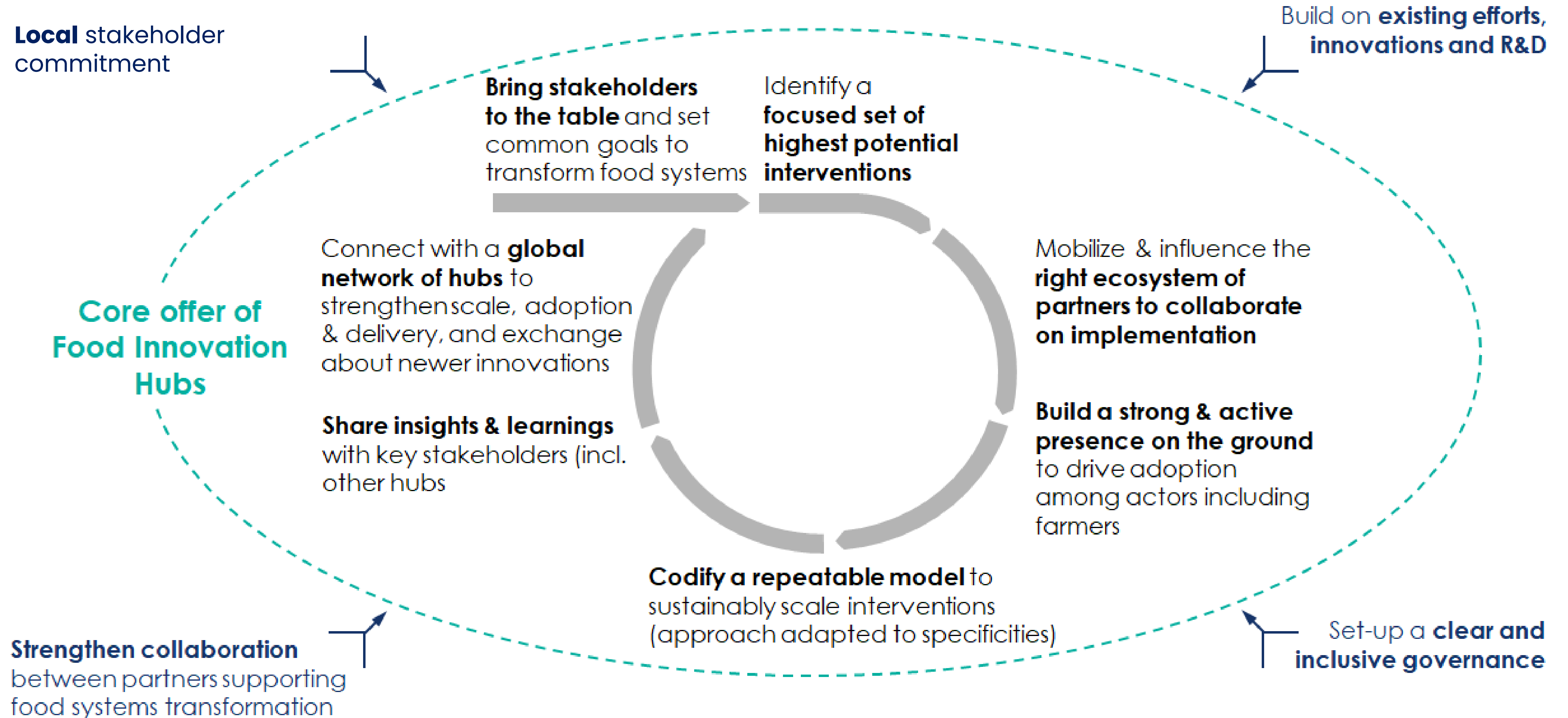
**Situation per Q1 2022*

The Global Secretariat is also developing an [Ambassadors Group](#) as an inspiring, active network of champions and leaders driving the agenda on innovation as an enabler for food systems transitions towards building a movement of individuals, organizations and countries that can gain value from collective action

A robotic arm is positioned in a greenhouse, surrounded by rows of plants. The arm is white and black, with various cables and sensors attached. The background shows the structure of the greenhouse and the dense foliage of the plants. The entire image has a teal color overlay.

From vision to action

Strengthening innovation ecosystems to solve for scale



Snapshot

Current Food Innovation Hubs



Europe, Colombia and India are looking towards activating initial programs and the operational set-up of the hub, including governance considerations. Initial facilitation of coalitions and partnerships by WEF and GCS. Viet Nam and Kenya are emerging as new hubs in the network

Key Learnings so far

The GCS was launched by the Prime Minister of Netherlands in Jan 2021 and formally came into action in June 2021. Since then, some key learnings emerging through the global network:

1. Taking *a local approach* resonates strongly – Given the varied contexts, the locally-owned, locally driven approach has been well received, leading to investment and commitment
2. *Digital innovations as a key enabler*. While several technologies and innovations exist, digital innovations are a starting
3. *Agriculture is a critical area of interest*, especially with *sustainability at the core*. An emerging focus on regenerative and climate smart agriculture coupled with innovation to *improve farm economics*
4. Strong partner engagement, *aiming for benefits of collaboration* to solve for scale

Annex

Deep dive on individual hubs



Food Innovation Hub Europe

Concept and Ambition

Health & sustainability issues that have impact and are relevant for Europe and/or for other regions in the world.

Themes: circular agri-food, protein transition, nutrition & health.

The Concept needs to be reworded

Current status

The group of initial stakeholders is jointly active in defining the governance, communication and activities of FIH Europe via a defined step wise approach (*define – connect – projects/interventions – monitor*). The Action Team gathers bi-weekly: the annual plan 2022 has been defined and portfolio of projects has been generated

Initial Efforts

Angelique to include about the regen ag fund

Partners & funders involved



In development with 

Outlook for 2022

Establish a portfolio of innovation support projects (6 projects/initiatives in total).

- Currently running: Booster 2021
- Personalized Nutrition for All – challenge
- Regenerative Agriculture Innovation Fund (along with the Imagine Cluster and EIT Foods)

Critical challenges

- Development of visibility and communication materials
- Capacity in staff to set up and run all projects
- Interaction with international partners to define new projects

[Overview here \(link\)](#)



Food Innovation Hub Colombia

Concept and Ambition

FIHC has identified five main opportunity areas to transform Colombia's food system: 1. Food Optimization; 2. Smart Logistics 3. Nutrition; 4. Information Access; 5. Inclusion.

Key role of FIHC is to provide a platform by unlocking barriers to scale, sharing knowledge and surfacing innovations as needed

Current status

- Resource mobilization to kickstart programming of the hub and set up a management team to deliver results.
- Innovation sprints aiming to identify key geographies, innovation needs at farm gate and market integration

Initial Efforts

To develop a portfolio of innovative solution clusters via catalyzing regenerative centers of excellence to deliver digital and other innovations, enable market integration, access to finance and adoption of sustainable agricultural practices. This will allow for year-round services and income potential for smallholder farmers, women and young agripreneurs with the goal of improving resiliency of rural economies in Colombia

Partners & funders involved

CURRENT PARTNERS



Several private and public sector stakeholders have expressed interest in joining the efforts.



Outlook for 2022

- Focus on delivery of first programs, identification of impact framework
- Hosting definition, fundraising and smart resourcing strategy

Critical challenges

- Change in government (mid-year)
- Fundraising and project management capacities



[Overview here \(link\)](#)

Food Innovation Hub- India

Concept and Ambition



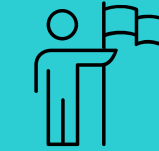
Develop a partnership platform that works as an honest broker to mobilize investments, partnerships and dialogue to *accelerate innovation delivery to positive impact farmer economics, build regenerative and agroecological food systems, improve efficiency of supply chains and support nutrition outcomes*

Current status



- Catalytic funding received from Gates Foundation
- Partnership with Government of Madhya Pradesh (MP). MoU underway
- Interim governance in the form of the Expert review Committee

Initial Efforts



- For MP, 16 proposals received encompassing innovations in supply chain across multiple commodities including pulses, staples, fruits and vegetables
- Develop 3-4 partner coalitions based on the initial proposals

Partners & funders involved



Government of
Madhya Pradesh

BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation

Outlook for 2022



- Intervention design and deployment in Madhya Pradesh, including fundraising. Codify the model
- Develop partnerships with new states
- Define impact metrics and governance structures
- Learning exchanges and dialogues at the cross-section of public and private

Critical challenges



- Immediate needs on Project financing
- Developing impactful project coalitions
- Launching **successful coalitions** and **executing projects** in 2022



[Overview here \(link\)](#)

Food Innovation Hub Viet Nam

Concept and Ambition



Building a Food Innovation Hub in Vietnam that operates as a multi-stakeholder, interdisciplinary, pre-competitive, and neutral organization to strengthen the innovation ecosystem, building on existing network and experience of the Vietnamese food system.

The ambition is to transform current agricultural systems to a **green and sustainable** agriculture system using **digital technologies**

Current status



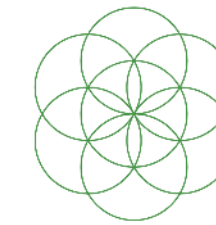
- Partner engagement underway MARD, Grow Asia
- Grow Asia is hiring a **Regional Manager, Agri-Food Innovation**, who would help to build the coalition of partners in Viet Nam, particularly amongst the private sector.

Initial efforts



- Embedding the Food Innovation Hub in a policy framework for the Government. Proposal to Prime Ministers Office underway
- Building alignment between public and private sector priorities and determine first coalitions and thematic areas of support

Partners & funders involved



GrowAsia

Outlook for 2022



- Grow Asia to lead scoping process and Initial sprint to gather anchor partners and to plan first activities
- Identify the initial innovation needs and support the development of public-private partnerships

Critical challenges



- Catalytic Funding

[More information here \(link\)](#)



Food Innovation Hub- Kenya

Concept and Ambition



- Activate the Food Innovation Hub Kenya that serves as a platform to meet critical innovation needs, reduce the gap on innovation adoption towards delivering on the Agriculture Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy for Kenya

Current status



- Unilever – FtMA finger millet value chain assessment underway
- Brainstorm call held and establishment of a partners group
- Potential to develop innovation clusters focused on Kenya's transformation pathways (Eg. digital and data needs, credit facilitation, including carbon credits, value chain transformation initiatives, agro-processing)

Initial Efforts



Innovation to Finger Millet Value Chain Transformation Led by [Unilever – Farm to Market Alliance](#) (link) as the first program towards establishing the hub in Kenya

Partners & funders involved



Outlook for 2022



- Work in progress to identify a roadmap, activities and key resource needs for 2022
- Strengthening collaboration with Agriculture Transformation Organization (ATO)

Critical challenges



- Local resourcing
- GCS capacity to coordinate the build phase



Calendar

Jan – March

April – June

July – September





FOOD
INNOVATION
HUBS