

N E X T U S

Pooling



collective
intelligence



FEED · PROTECT · CARE



UNIVERSITÉ DE
MONTPELLIER



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This initiative seeks to create a safe space that mobilizes international expert panels to address the intertwined challenges of a sustainable and equitable food system transformation, bridging the science-policy divide for urgent and compelling action.

It is organized by CGIAR and the University of Montpellier.

The success of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and its capacity to serve as a model for how scientific evidence can inform policy processes have led to the multiplication of interdisciplinary collegial expertise structures, both at national and international levels. Hence, on a global scale were created: the HLPE-FSN/CFS in 2010, the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) in 2012, and more recently, in response to the pandemic, the One Health High Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP).

Meanwhile, the complexity of the issues to be addressed and the validation of a global 2030 Agenda for sustainable development encourage us to integrate and incorporate knowledge about various sectors, contexts and issues. The September 2021 United Nations Summit on Food Systems, several international environmental conventions (climate, biodiversity, desertification), and the recent European Commission report "[*Everyone at the table : co-creating knowledge for food systems transformation*](#)" on improving science policy interfaces for food systems have all highlighted the ways in which food systems are an essential entry point to meet the pressing challenges of sustainable development, given their combined importance for social justice, health and environmental impacts.

OBJECTIVES

To establish a collaborative and safe working space across different International Panels to catalyze the collective intelligence and strengthen the science-policy interfaces needed for sustainable and equitable food systems transformation.

A "**Montpellier process**" has been launched by the CFS, CGIAR and Montpellier scientific communities to facilitate the organization of an initiative that aims at creating a safe working space to address the intertwined challenges of a sustainable and equitable food system transformation. Several preliminary steps have paved the road of this process, building upon the mobilization of the international expert panels:

4 February 2021

A virtual event «Bonding Science and Policy to Accelerate Food Systems Transformation», in preparation for the UN Food Systems Summit, that brought together 600 participants

[Website link](#)

6 October 2021

A round-table bringing together African officials from IPCC, HLPE-FSN/CFS, IPBES and OHHLEP during the Montpellier Global Days

[Website link](#)

8 March 2022

The Event on Science-Policy Interfaces (Feed, Care, Protect: Intelligence to accelerate food systems' transformation at local and global level) organized on 8 March 2022 by the University of Montpellier, CGIAR and the CFS on the occasion of the CGIAR System Council Meeting in Montpellier that same day, leading to the development of a Montpellier statement

[File link](#)

19 October 2022

Participation to the FAO Science and Innovation Forum to present the conclusions of the previous events and to announce next steps

[Website link](#)

19 December 2022

Publication of a Correspondence in Nature presenting the ambition and disseminating the link to the Montpellier statement

[Website link](#)

An international event that gathers representatives from IPCC, HLPE-FSN, IPBES, OHHLEP and main global and international panels and Science-Policy Interfaces in Montpellier, will provide the platform for achieving this ambition.

DESCRIPTION

CGIAR and the University of Montpellier will organize a 3-day in-person international event bringing together leaders and experts from the main global expert panels and Science-Policy Interfaces. This event will engage up to 300 experts from both scientific and policy domains. It will focus on identifying the main scientific topics to be addressed in order to meet the challenges of a sustainable and equitable food systems transformation, the related solution pathways and their viability. As announced in the Montpellier Statement, it will aim to “make further progress, agree on a common vision, milestones and roadmap, fully mobilizing the panels and the whole science, policy, society ecosystem.” It will in particular explore the opportunity for a future joint reporting exercise.

Proposed dates:

**2-4
October
2023**

Venue:

**Corum
Convention Center,
Montpellier,
France**

ORGANIZERS

UM, CGIAR

PARTICIPANTS

up to 300 from scientific and policy domains, by invitation only

Designed as a dialogue, the event will formulate perspectives for collaboration with a special focus on the conditions of implementation and agree on a joint roadmap.

The architecture of the **PROGRAMME** will include:

#1 A first day to share expert panels ambitions, obstacles and demands.

#2 A second day “Moving beyond a fragmented intelligence” in break-out sessions to identify the missing elements from all stakeholders at global, national and local scales (disciplinary and systemic knowledge, context adapted policy design, dialogue processes, etc.).

#3 A third day “Pooling collective intelligence” to discuss and agree about the way forward.

CONTACTS

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