



## LEBANESE YOUTH FOOD SYSTEMS DIALOGUE: Water for Food Systems July 6 2021 5:00-7:00 pm (Beirut time)

### INFORMATION NOTE

The Lebanon Youth Parliament for Water (LYPW), in cooperation with the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), are organizing the first Lebanese Youth Food Systems Dialogue with focus on the relation between water and food systems. The Youth Dialogue will contribute to the *Food Systems Summit (FSS)* to be convened by the United Nations Secretary-General in September 2021 with a broad vision to launch actions, solutions and strategies and identify pathways to accelerate progress towards more sustainable, inclusive and healthy food systems that are resilient to shocks like the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lebanon's water resources face multiple challenges in terms of quality and quantity. With a population increase at an estimated rate of 1.2% and large number of displaced refugees, stress on the water supply has increased. Discharge in rivers and springs has also regressed over the last five decades with more than half of the Lebanese resources contaminated. As such, the Youth Dialogue aims at providing an integrative and engaging platform to enable youth as key stakeholders to share perspectives, experiences, issues and solutions on water for food. It is intended to build youth perspective through proposing game changing actions and solutions and identifying responsibilities that would improve the reciprocal relation between water and food including **efficient water use and food safety**.

### Taking initiative

The Lebanese Youth Dialogue will be organized in an effort to collect from the Lebanese Youth propositions for game changing actions that will enhance the role of water in food systems in terms of ensuring efficient use and its safety for food production and at various levels including research, capacity building, finance, and governance. Further, it aims at prioritizing these actions, identifying responsibilities for implementation, and main stakeholders to benefit from those actions. Key messages generated from these discussions will be *submitted to the Food Systems Summit Secretariat* in an effort to provide decision makers and major stakeholders with key insights on how to manage the water sector in Lebanon keeping food systems at its core.

### Who can Join?

This dialogue will bring together diverse youth groups from Lebanon that are engaged in fields related to agriculture and irrigation, biodiversity, climate change, water security, water quality, and food systems to discuss problems and solutions in different topics related to water and food systems. It will also include senior experts to provide experiences and share success stories. Participants will be asked to prepare practical solution across the discussed topics to share during the dialogue.

**Register and let us hear your voice!**

## Agenda

<b>Opening remarks:</b> Lebanon Youth Parliament for Water (LYPW), UNESCWA	<b>5:00 – 5:05 PM</b>
<b>Presentation on the Food Systems Summit -</b>	<b>5:05- 5:10 PM</b>
<b>Session 1 - How can technology improve water use in food systems?</b> <b>Speaker: Dr. Roula Bashour, AUB</b>	<b>5:10 -5:55 PM</b>
<b>5 minute Break</b>	<b>5:55 – 6:00 PM</b>
<b>Session 2 -How to enhance/improve water quality to ensure food safety?</b> <b>Speaker: Dr Ibrahim Alameddine, AUB</b>	<b>6:00 – 6:45 PM</b>
<b>Review of Dialogue Key Discussions and closing remarks- LYPW</b>	<b>6:45 – 7:00 PM</b>

## Dialogue information

The meeting will be conducted in English virtually using Teams. Participants will have access to a digital workspace (mural) to write down key points and solutions. Registered participants will be provided with a link and password to participate in the dialogue. All meeting-related correspondence should be sent to the following:

### **Mr. Mohamad Abbas**

Lebanon Youth Parliament for Water

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