

High-Level event

Brazilia, Brazil, 3 May 2017

Summary

This high-level event was jointly hosted by the Global Panel and the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa). It aimed to raise the profile of the food systems and nutrition agenda within the Brazilian agricultural research community, and present an opportunity for Embrapa to position itself as a global leader in the 2016-2025 UN Decade of Action on nutrition.

“Nutrition and health must be more visible to agriculture. We must shift the focus towards preventing diet-related diseases, and agriculture has a key role in achieving this” – Dr Mauricio Antonio Lopes, President of Embrapa

“The recommendations from the Global Panel’s Foresight report will really help take the nutrition agenda forward within the Brazilian government, non-governmental organisations, and the agricultural research community”. – Dr Alan Bojanic, FAO representative in Brazil

Participants and speakers

Dr Mauricio Antonio Lopes, President of Embrapa; **Emmy Simmons**, Global Panel member; **Professor Sandy Thomas**, Director, Global Panel; **Dr Alan Bojanic**, FAO Representative in Brazil; **Wasim Mir**, Chargé d'affaires, British Embassy in Brazil; **Albaneide Peixinho**, Vice-president, Federal Council of Nutrition; **Daniel Balaban**, Director, WFP Centre of Excellence Against Hunger; **Caio Rocha**, National Secretary, Ministry of Social and Agrarian Development; Dr Michelle Lessa de Oliveira, Food and Nutrition lead, Ministry of Health; **Professor Silvia Cozzolino**, University of Sao Paulo; **Dr Elisio Contini**, Head of Bureau of Intelligence and Strategy, Embrapa.

Consensus statements

- **Brazil’s role in global food systems.** Brazil should be a responsible exporter and provide leadership in terms of technology, techniques and knowledge.
- **A global leader for research in the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition.** Embrapa will commit to strengthen its nutrition portfolio and invest more in diet diversity, e.g. R&D to strengthen the production of pulses.
- **Linking food systems and nutrition to the sustainability agenda.** Sustainability is the most visible agriculture agenda in Brazil and worldwide. There is a great opportunity to bring diet quality and diversity to this agenda, to help raise the profile of nutrition.
- **Novel ways to build public-private partnerships.** Both public and private sectors need to share responsibility and accountability. Novel methods of collaboration, e.g. through Hackathons, should be more widely adopted.

Actions going forward

- Embrapa will develop a proposal to have a dedicated nutrition centre in the next 1-2 years.
- The Panel will provide further evidence to the Ministry of Health over the next nine months to capitalise on the bridge built between the Ministry and Embrapa through the event, building on the convening power of the Panel.
- The Panel and Embrapa will jointly develop a strategy by March 2018 for better linking food systems and nutrition to the sustainability agenda.
- Over the next six months, the Panel and Embrapa will jointly examine novel options to link food, agriculture and health, as well as engage the private sector, e.g. Hackathons .