



ZERO HUNGER

BARCELONA, 2-4 OCTOBER 2024

V WORLD SUMMIT OF REGIONS ON FOOD SECURITY & SOVEREIGNTY

PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2024

9:00-11:00 h **ORU Fogar Executive Bureau** (members only)

11:30-13:30 h **2024 ORU Fogar Annual Assembly** (members only)

16:00-16:30 h **Summit Opening**

16:30-17:00 h **Session 0. Inaugural Conference**
SDG Zero Hunger, where are we and where are we going?

17:30-19:00 h **Session 1. Roundtable discussion**
Food sovereignty is everyone's business
The role of farmers, industry, consumers and governments

19:00h End of day

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024

9:00-10:30 h **Session 2. Plenary**
Sustainable food production
Putting agroecology principles into practice

11:00-12:15 h **Session 3. Best Practices Workshop. Slot 1**
Agriculture in times of water scarcity

11:00-12:15 h **Session 5. Best Practices Workshop. Slot 2**
Rural development as a guarantee for a prosperous territory

12:15-13:30 h **Session 4. Best Practices Workshop. Slot 1**
Preventing and quantifying food loss and waste

12:15-13:30 h **Session 6. Best Practices Workshop. Slot 2**
Zero emissions, Zero hunger
Decarbonization of food systems



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024

13:30-15:30 h Lunch

15:30-17:00 h **Session 7. Roundtable discussion**

Identity, culture and nutrition

Preservation of gastronomic heritages and quality schemes

17:00 h End of day

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2024

9:00-10:00 h **Session 8. Key note speech**

How food can save the world

10:00-11:30 h **Session 9. Roundtable discussion**

Zero hunger worldwide: the role of regions

11:30-12:00 h Pause

12:00-13:00 h **Session 10. Final keynote speech**

Culinary and gastronomic heritage

13:00-13:15 h **Presentation of the Catalonia Declaration**

(to be approved at the ORU Fogar Assembly)

13:15-13:30 h **Closing ceremony of the Summit**

All sessions will be accompanied by a Concept Note that will provide context for the theme and discussion. Simultaneous translation will be available in Catalan, Spanish, French, and English.

REGISTRATION:

<https://agricultura.gencat.cat/cimera-fam-zero>



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ZERO HUNGER, A CALL TOWARDS DECISIVE ACTION

According to data from the United Nations, in 2022 approximately 9.2% of the world's population faced chronic hunger, which amounts to around 735 million people. Additionally, 30% of the world's population – 2.4 billion people – suffered from severe or moderate food security and did not have access to adequate nutrition. Despite efforts worldwide, it is estimated that in the same year, forty-five million children under the age of five suffered from severe wasting, 148 million experienced delayed growth, and thirty-seven million were overweight. The number of people suffering from hunger and food insecurity has continued to increase since 2015, while the pandemic, conflicts, climate change, and growing inequalities have aggravated the situation.

Halfway to the deadline for achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda, it is essential to take decisive, coordinated, and urgent actions, and accelerate the implementation of solutions that address entrenched inequalities, transform food systems, invest in sustainable agricultural practices, and reduce the effects of conflicts on nutrition and food security globally. In this year 2024, the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the Summit of the Future will represent a new opportunity to accelerate efforts to fulfil international commitments and adopt measures to address the challenges that remain. At the High-Level Political Forum, under the motto *Strengthen the 2030 Agenda and eradicate poverty in times of multiple crises*, Zero Hunger will be one of the Sustainable Development Goals chosen to be reviewed in depth, together with others such as No Poverty, Climate Action, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and Partnerships for the goals.

In the current context, regional governments are key allies in the mission of achieving Zero Hunger, since they are closer to citizens and are better positioned to identify and combat the fundamental causes of hunger, as well as to implement effective solutions to guarantee the right to nutritious, sufficient, safe, and affordable food for their communities. Every two years, regional governments from several continents come together to debate, exchange, and share knowledge and solutions on ways to end hunger, achieve food security and improve the level of nutrition of their communities.



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This year, the V World Summit of the Regions on Food Security and Sovereignty will be held in Catalonia on 2, 3 and 4 October 2024 and will offer members of ORU Fogar a unique opportunity to:

- Share updates on progress and messages towards achieving Zero Hunger.
- Show why and how all levels of government and stakeholders need to be more involved in transforming food systems.
- Present key recommendations and practical solutions to end hunger.

The meeting will host high-level conferences and round table meetings, which will bring together governors, experts, and actors in the field of food systems at the Poblenou Campus of the Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona. The event will focus on three key pillars: climate change and agriculture, prevention of food losses and food waste, and gastronomic and culinary culture.

Climate change and agriculture

Currently, basic resources to meet our primary needs for life and well-being, including food, are threatened by erosion, loss of fertile soil, deforestation, pollution, lack of water availability, or loss of biodiversity. In turn, phenomena such as irregular rainfall patterns, more frequent droughts, extreme weather events and rising sea levels, with their consequent risks of flooding and salinisation of fertile lands such as deltas, are occurring with greater frequency and intensity.

The food system is closely linked to the effects of climate change. On the one hand, according to the IPCC special report, between 21% and 37% of total greenhouse gas emissions could be attributed to the global food system. However, from the food system there is also great potential to implement practices aligned with the adaptation and mitigation of the effects of climate change, such as the promotion of crop diversification, the conservation of agricultural biodiversity, the efficient management of natural resources or sustainable management in livestock.



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The V Zero Hunger Summit will address the problem from various perspectives. The promotion of sustainable agricultural practices and the promotion of more productive and efficient varieties of crops and livestock, with greater resistance to diseases and pests and lower water requirements, will be discussed. On the other hand, the potential of precision agriculture and irrigation systems will be explored. Precision agriculture allows to adjust the supply of nutrients required by the crop, which contributes to reducing inputs and optimising water requirements. Irrigation systems, on the other hand, open the door to modern and competitive agriculture, promoting new productive options, increasing production, while improving farmers' income and the viability of agricultural holdings. In territories with low water availability, irrigation systems represent the main driver of development in rural areas. However, it is essential take into consideration that their effectiveness is conditional on the availability of water and the sustainable use of this resource. Throughout the Summit, the measures that can be carried out in the food system to reduce emissions, how sustainable agricultural practices can be promoted in various territories, or the actions that could be carried out to optimise water in production food will be discussed.

Preventing food loss and food waste

Preventing food loss and food waste along the food chain, from primary production to the final consumer, is key to moving towards a sustainable food system. According to data from Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), one-third of the food produced annually for human consumption in the world goes uneaten.

In the European Union, each year 88 million tonnes of food are wasted, with an associated cost of €143 billion. This amount is equivalent to 173 kilos per person and year and represents the 20% of total food production. Production and processing generate 30% of discarded food, while sale and marketing accounts for 5%, but it is mainly at the end of the process -in services and households- where 65% of this phenomenon is concentrated.



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At the V Zero Hunger Summit, the prevention of food losses and food waste will play a greater role, with special emphasis on best practices and success stories that are already being implemented. It is essential to distinguish between the concepts of food loss and food waste to focus the approach more closely on solutions. Losses are generated in the initial stages of the food chain, caused fundamentally due to marketing standards, price fluctuations, meteorological phenomena as well as the incidence of pests. Food waste, on the other hand, occurs in later stages of the food chain, from processing to consumption. The principal causes are related to lack of infrastructure, incidents during transportation, storage, handling and logistics, as well as lack of awareness among the different agents in the value chain. Throughout the Summit, the aim is to provide tools to regional governments on how to avoid food losses and food waste, sharing best practices and exchanging common challenges and solutions with experts and key stakeholders in the sector.

Gastronomic and culinary culture

Cuisine is geography, history, and culture. Tasting its products and enjoying them is synonymous with experiencing the customs of an entire region. Each typical dish contains a story behind its ingredients and preparation methods, becoming part of the intangible heritage that tells the history of a society through the elements that identify it. Rescuing gastronomic heritage allows a community's evolution to be based on the most suitable production mechanisms, consumption habits, and nutrition for them. This traditional knowledge and the attendant skills are passed down from generation to generation, enabling a more sustainable and responsible relationship with the environment.

However, we must not forget that food heritage, like cultures, is not static but rather evolves and adapts to the new needs of the moment and the social group in question. In fact, more regional governments are recognizing food heritage with the aim of valorising local products and gastronomy, which contributes to rooting the population in rural areas, but also forces us to consider the links and balance between rural and urban areas.



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Catalonia is a country with a longstanding gastronomic culture, rich in native and high quality products, with dishes based on the sea and the mountains, blending the traditional and the innovative. Catalan cuisine is part of the Mediterranean diet, one of the healthiest in the world, based on a high consumption of plant-based products, olive oil, cereals and fresh seasonal products.

In this V Zero Hunger Summit, Catalonia, as the host region, represents an extraordinary framework for placing on the table the recognition and strengthening of the culinary and gastronomic culture of the different regions of the world. Throughout the Summit, the food singularities rooted in different regions will be explored, initiatives carried out in the various territories to protect and promote culinary culture will be shared, as well as the way these initiatives can be replicated in other territories.