**Aide memoire**

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| ***Session*** | Opening Session and Setting the Scene |
| ***Title of presentation*** | Transformation of the Global Food System to Sustainably Feed a Healthy Population |
| ***Name of presenter*** | Dr Sudhvir Singh, Policy Director EAT |


### *Abstract*

Today's challenge is to feed 9 billion people healthy diets by 2050 within the planetary boundaries that set a safe operating space on Earth. The global food system is the single most important driver of climate change, poor health and environmental damage. Currently agriculture accounts for nearly 30% of global greenhouse gas emissions, and is the world's largest cause of land degradation, deforestation and biodiversity loss. Increased demands for environmentally-intensive foods along with urbanization and population growth will only exacerbate these negative environmental impacts. At the same time, the global population faces significant food-related health challenges: hunger affects 795 million people and almost 2 billion are overweight or obese. The interlinked nature of food, health, and sustainability make it imperative to address these challenges collectively. With collaboration from all sectors of society, it is possible to transform the global food system in a way that improves human health, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, uses resources more efficiently and protects biodiversity.


### *Key considerations*

- The food value chain has detrimental impacts on the environment: Agriculture is a main contributor to resource depletion and environmental degradation and growing demands for meat, dairy and ultraprocessed foods are exacerbating the problem.
- Health concerns are increasingly linked to diet: Millions suffer from malnutrition with related health complications that can persist throughout generations. At the same time, nearly 2 billion of the world's population is overweight or obese – and poor diet has now overtaken smoking as the number one health risk.

### *Key discussion points and conclusions*

- Shifting to more nutritious diets will not only improve the health of the global population, but of the planet itself. How can we bring stakeholders with different yet compatible interests together to catalyze this shift towards sustainability?
- Addressing these topics requires collaboration from all sectors of society. How can the expertise of those invested in health, resource use, climate, and biodiversity be better leveraged? How can civil society, business, and local and national government better collaborate for positive outcomes?

### *Key question/s that you would pose at the roundtable discussions*

- How can cities better contribute to an enabling environment for sustainable agriculture? National policies are important and can achieve outcomes that local-level policies alone cannot. But given demographic trends and a growing recognition of cities as key actors

in shaping global development, it is worth addressing city-level policies that support sustainable agriculture.

- How can we capitalize on the global health agenda to enable sustainable agriculture? Local, organic, varied, and plant-based diets are better for both people and planet; stakeholders with a nutrition interest could also help shape the shift towards a sustainable food system.