CFS COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

HLPE High Level Panel of Experts

DISSEMINATION REPORT

HLPE-FSN report "Building resilient food systems"

January 2025

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INTER-RÉSEAUX Développement Rural

*Ceci est un article de la publication "**Grain de sel N°86 : Renforcer le dialogue science-politique pour des systèmes alimentaires durables**", publiée le 30 septembre 2024.*

Futur rapport scientifique du HLPE : “identifier les innovations susceptibles d’améliorer la résilience des systèmes alimentaires”

INTER RÉSEAUX / Emilie Langlade (Inter-réseaux)

Sécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle | Recherche | Résilience | Technologies/innovations | Systèmes alimentaires | Politiques agricoles | Monde | Article

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Les rapports du Groupe d’experts de haut niveau sur la sécurité alimentaire et la nutrition (HLPE-FSN) fournissent au Comité de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale (CSA) des analyses indépendantes utilisées pour informer et guider les politiques mondiales de sécurité alimentaire et de nutrition. Le rapport 2020 plaidait pour une transformation radicale et urgente des systèmes alimentaires, et l’appel à l’action du Sommet des Nations Unies sur les systèmes alimentaires de 2021 s’est concentré sur cinq objectifs, dont l’un consiste à renforcer la résilience aux vulnérabilités, aux chocs et aux situations de stress.

Entretien avec Paola Termine, économiste pour l’Organisation des Nations unies pour l’alimentation et l’agriculture (FAO), chargée de coordonner le prochain rapport du HLPE-FSN.

2. 30/09/2024 – Grain de Sel (print and online)

https://www.inter-reseaux.org/wp-content/uploads/GDS-No86-10-11.pdf

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CADRAGE

Futur rapport scientifique du HLPE : "identifier les innovations susceptibles d'améliorer la résilience des systèmes alimentaires"

Les rapports du Groupe d'experts de haut niveau sur la sécurité alimentaire et la nutrition (HLPE-FSN) fournissent au Comité de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale (CSA) des analyses indépendantes utilisées pour informer et guider les politiques mondiales de sécurité alimentaire et de nutrition. Le rapport 2020 plaidait pour une transformation radicale et urgente des systèmes alimentaires, et l'appel à l'action du Sommet des Nations Unies sur les systèmes alimentaires de 2021 s'est concentré sur cinq objectifs, dont l'un consiste à renforcer la résilience aux vulnérabilités, aux chocs et aux situations de stress.
Entretien avec Paola Termine, économiste pour l'Organisation des Nations unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture (FAO), chargée de coordonner le prochain rapport du HLPE-FSN.

Grain de sel : La mission du HLPE-FSN est de fournir une analyse "indépendante, complète et fondée sur des preuves, grâce à un processus scientifique transparent et inclusif". Quelles données scientifiques et expériences collectez-vous pour votre futur rapport ?

Le prochain rapport du HLPE-FSN, "Construire des systèmes alimentaires résilients", qui sera présenté à la session plénière du CSA d'octobre 2025, visera à mieux comprendre la résilience des systèmes alimentaires et à aborder la planification de la résilience. Il passera en revue les expériences des pays dans la création de systèmes alimentaires plus résilients, en particulier en identifiant les innovations et les politiques nécessaires à leurs réalisations.

"Le HLPE-FSN s'efforce d'inclure différents types de données, d'informations et de connaissances, y compris de la littérature grise et des expériences des gouvernements et des organisations de la société civile", explique Paola Termine, économiste à la FAO et coordinatrice du HLPE-FSN.

Les systèmes alimentaires sont devenus de plus en plus complexes au cours des dernières décennies en raison de l'augmentation des échanges transfrontaliers de produits alimentaires, et de la dépendance vis-à-vis de millions de travailleurs des systèmes alimentaires pour fournir les intrants, produire, transformer, transporter, commercialiser et préparer les aliments jusqu'à leur destination finale. Dans le même temps nous observons une augmentation de la fréquence et de la gravité des différents chocs : événements climatiques, chocs économiques dus à la volatilité des prix, conflits et crises prolongées, et pandémie mondiale de COVID-19 en 2020. Différentes composantes des systèmes alimentaires ont des degrés de vulnérabilité et de résilience différents face à différents types de chocs. Il est donc essentiel de comprendre quelles caractéristiques rendent les systèmes alimentaires plus résilients ou plus vulnérables, et à quels types de chocs, ainsi que d'évaluer ceux susceptibles d'affecter les systèmes alimentaires.

La force du HLPE-FSN repose sur les experts de renommée mondiale qui le composent et sur un processus établi pour l'élaboration des rapports qui garantit son indépendance, sa transparence et son inclusivité. Les procédures de travail du HLPE-FSN assurent la légitimité parmi les parties prenantes et un haut degré de qualité scientifique : elles impliquent des consultations larges des parties prenantes à deux stades du développement du rapport : au moment de définir la portée du plan, puis sur le premier projet de rapport. L'incorporation de diverses formes de connaissances et d'expertises, y compris les connaissances autochtones, est assurée par la diversité des équipes de rédaction et du Comité directeur du HLPE-FSN. Enfin, le projet final du rapport fait l'objet d'un processus rigoureux d'examen par les pairs.

Pour ce rapport sur la résilience, sujet systémique et complexe, nous avons commencé la revue des données existantes et des expériences sur différents types de résilience. Ainsi, la sécurité alimentaire nutritionnelle des individus est résiliente en fonction des ressources humaines et financières de leurs ménages. La résilience de la production alimentaire doit également être évaluée sur la base de facteurs agroécologiques au niveau de la production primaire. La résilience communautaire peut être renforcée par le capital social et les réseaux, la société civile et les infrastructures. La résilience des chaînes de valeurs doit prendre en compte leur intégralité, tout le long des chaînes d'approvisionnements. Enfin, il faut aussi intégrer la résilience institutionnelle de l'État et des gouvernements locaux.

GDS : Comment évaluez-vous les résultats de la recherche publique, de la recherche privée et de la recherche-action impliquant les organisations de la société civile ? Quelle est votre approche pour sélectionner les preuves ?

Le HLPE-FSN s'efforce d'inclure différents types de données, d'informations et de connaissances, y compris de la littérature grise et des expériences des gouvernements

et des organisations de la société civile. En fonction du sujet de chacun de nos rapports, certains types de connaissances peuvent fournir des preuves plus adéquates et être mieux représentés dans un rapport plutôt que dans un autre, bien que nous fassions des efforts conscients pour être représentatifs de différents types de connaissances. Par exemple, dans notre récent rapport 2021 sur l'engagement et l'emploi des jeunes dans les systèmes alimentaires, nous avons utilisé de nombreux résultats de la recherche-action et des expériences locales. Dans le rapport 2026 sur les connaissances autochtones, nous consulterons les organisations autochtones en complément de l'examen de la littérature publiée. Le rapport 2025 sur la résilience sera basé sur un mélange de résultats de recherche.

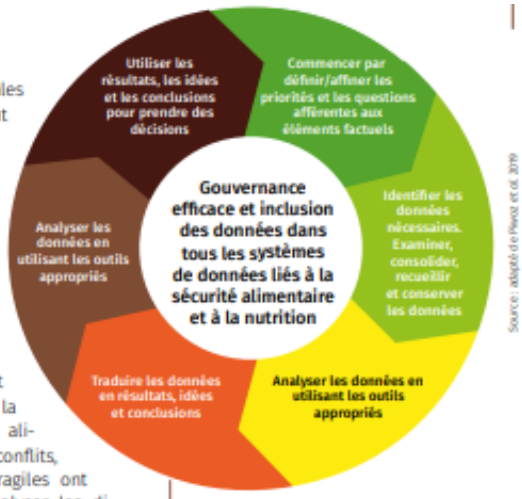
GDS : Quelles sont les premières pistes de résilience envisagées ?

Nous étudions les moyens de rendre les systèmes plus résilients, c'est-à-dire mieux à même de se rétablir, de s'adapter et de se transformer face aux chocs, mais aussi plus équitables et plus durables, afin qu'ils puissent contribuer à toutes les dimensions de la sécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle. Pour les chaînes d'approvisionnement, il faut encourager une plus grande diversité à toutes les étapes de la production, de la transformation, du commerce et de la vente au détail des denrées alimentaires. Il faut aussi promouvoir des chaînes d'approvisionnement plus courtes qui soutiennent les producteurs locaux et qui créent des opportunités d'emploi et de revenus plus équitables. Utiliser des technologies numériques permet de mieux connecter les fournisseurs d'intrants aux producteurs et aux transformateurs. Il faut développer des règles commerciales internationales qui soutiennent des systèmes alimentaires résilients et accroître la transparence des marchés. Enfin, des mesures doivent garantir la durabilité environnementale.

Mais la résilience peut signifier des choses très différentes selon le type de chocs et de crises. La résilience inclut également la récupération et la reconstruction des systèmes alimentaires affectés par des conflits, ou lorsque les institutions fragiles ont échoué à être soutenues. Analyser les diverses vulnérabilités de l'agriculture et des systèmes alimentaires ainsi que leurs impacts sur les différents acteurs concernés fournira les bases pour que le CSA élabore des mesures politiques nécessaires pour renforcer la résilience des systèmes alimentaires locaux, régionaux et mondiaux soutenant la réalisation des droits humains.

GDS : Les résultats de vos rapports sont référencés dans le monde entier : comment maintenez-vous la "neutralité" des résultats mis en avant ?

Bien que le mandat principal du HLPE-FSN soit d'informer le CSA, nous sommes conscients que, une fois publiés, nos rapports ont une vie propre et sont largement référencés, de l'académie à la prise de décision politique, et cela bien sûr nous rend très fiers ! La neutralité est l'un des principes fondateurs du HLPE-FSN et je crois que cela devrait être le cas de tous les organes consultatifs scientifiques.



Source : adapté de Pérez et al. 2019

Cycle de décision fondé sur les données

Identification par le HLPE de six étapes critiques du processus décisionnel éclairé par des données pour la sécurité alimentaire et la nutrition (cf. Rapport 2022).

Nos rapports visent à fournir une analyse à la pointe des différents thèmes, en mettant en évidence les désaccords et les controverses scientifiques, voire les contentieux. Cependant, nous évitons de prendre parti à moins qu'il n'y ait une base scientifique solide sur laquelle fonder des recommandations. Pour les domaines qui restent contestés, nous pensons que le HLPE-FSN peut rendre un grand service en présentant les différentes positions, les données et les connaissances soutenant ces positions, afin que les lecteurs (y compris les décideurs politiques) puissent se faire leur propre opinion de façon éclairée. Le plus grand défi est de garder les rapports concis tout en essayant d'être représentatif des différentes connaissances, données, régions et expériences. S'assurer que le public continue de percevoir les rapports du HLPE-FSN comme équilibrés, indépendants et faisant autorité nécessite un contrôle de qualité structuré et minutieux. ■

Propos recueillis par Emilie Langlade

Changements essentiels dans les approches stratégiques préconisés par le groupe d'experts

Mettre l'accent exclusivement sur l'augmentation de l'offre agricole dans un contexte de croissance démographique	Œuvrer à une transformation radicale des systèmes alimentaires dans leur ensemble en vue d'améliorer la sécurité alimentaire et la nutrition et de réaliser le programme 2030
Considérer la sécurité alimentaire et la nutrition comme une question sectorielle	Considérer la sécurité alimentaire et la nutrition comme un système interconnecté avec d'autres systèmes et secteurs
Mettre l'accent exclusivement sur la réduction de la faim et de la sous-alimentation	Se concentrer sur la faim et la malnutrition sous toutes ses formes, dans leur relation complexe les unes avec les autres
Trouver des solutions en matières de sécurité alimentaire applicables au niveau mondial	Comprendre que la sécurité alimentaire et la nutrition varient selon les contextes et nécessitent des solutions diverses

Le HLPE soutient qu'il est nécessaire de prendre en compte toute la complexité et l'interaction des éléments de la politique de sécurité alimentaire et de nutrition lors de l'élaboration de politiques et de programmes sur ce sujet (cf.Rapport 2020).

Source : adapté du groupe d'experts de haut niveau, 2017

EN SAVOIR PLUS :

"Sécurité alimentaire et nutrition : énoncé d'une vision globale à l'horizon 2030", Rapport HLPE 2020

"Outils de collecte et d'analyse de données au service de la sécurité alimentaire et de la nutrition: rendre la prise de décisions plus efficace, plus inclusive et mieux ancrée dans les faits", Rapport HLPE 2022

"Quelles innovations pour une agriculture durable en Afrique de l'ouest ?" Entretien exclusif avec Emile Frison, Ipes Food et Agroecology Coalition, pour Grain de sel en ligne.

3. 01/10/2024 – FAO

https://www.fao.org/family-farming/detail/fr/c/1724880/

Futur rapport scientifique du HLPE : "identifier les innovations susceptibles d'améliorer la résilience des systèmes alimentaires"

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4. 08/11/2024 – Simon Fraser University

https://www.sfu.ca/fenv/news/sfu-professor-appointed-to-un-panel-of-experts-for-resilient-foo.html

SFU SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

SFU professor appointed to UN Panel of experts for resilient food systems report

November 08, 2024

The High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security recently announced a new drafting team for the report "Building resilient food systems" to assess vulnerabilities and strategies in agriculture and food systems.

Tammara Soma, an associate professor in Simon Fraser University's School of Resource and Environmental Management, has been selected to join the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) for the report "Building resilient food systems," expected at the 53rd Plenary Session of the CFS in October 2025.

The HLPE-FSN is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to global food security and nutrition. Soma was selected for her expertise in food systems planning, waste management, the circular economy and community engaged research, contributing to a nuanced understanding of food system vulnerabilities and resilience strategies. This appointment underscores SFU's commitments to the CFS to support the global governance for food security and nutrition, and to advancing Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) like SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

Soma is a certified professional planner, the associate director of SFU's Global Institute for Agritech and the co-founder and research director of the Food Systems Lab, a research and social innovation lab at SFU. She is also an active community engaged researcher who works with diverse communities to address concerns and questions surrounding food systems.

"I have dedicated my academic career to solving critical food systems issues that impact the resiliency of our food systems from the point of production to consumption and beyond. My background in food systems planning also allows me to connect the dots from a systems perspective and contribute to the interdisciplinary work that our international team of scholars will embark on for the year," says Soma.

Selected through a rigorous process emphasizing scientific and technical expertise, alongside regional insights, the team embodies interdisciplinarity. Their collective experience spans health and nutrition, human rights, gender analysis, Indigenous Peoples knowledge, environmental sciences, and more, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of agricultural and food system vulnerabilities.

"I am excited about joining this interdisciplinary team, the timing of this report and work is critical as we are witnessing conflicts and global disruptions that are impacting our ability to grow, distribute and access food. And these impacts are not felt equitably with some groups being disproportionately impacted depending on their race, income, nationality etc. I feel honoured to contribute my service and represent SFU," says Soma. "In the scope of the report, our team recognizes that resiliency is not just about bouncing back to status quo, but it really is about designing a better food system future for all. The problems in our food systems can be overwhelming and daunting, but we are hopeful about the solutions too."

The team is led by Alison Blay-Palmer, UNESCO Chair and Professor at Wilfrid Laurier University Canada and renowned for her research in food systems, biodiversity and community resilience, and also features Colin Anderson, Philip Antwi-Agyei, Garima Bhalla, Lidia Cabral, Francisco Javier Espinosa Garcia, Tomaso Ferrando, Isabel Madzorera, Monika Zurek, Paola Termine (Secretariat), Johanna Wilkes (Research Assistant).

More information is available here.

5. 15/11/2024 – The University of Vermont

https://www.uvm.edu/news/cals/professor-colin-anderson-joins-united-nations-committee-world-food-securitys-high-level

University of Vermont

Professor Colin Anderson Joins United Nations' Committee On World Food Security's High Level Panel of Experts

Panel of Experts

Colin Anderson in Rome

By **REN DILLON, REID PARSONS**

The University of Vermont is thrilled to announce that Colin Anderson, Co-Director of the UVM Institute for Agroecology and Associate Research Professor in the Department of Agriculture, Landscape and Environment will join the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) of the United Nations

Committee on World Food Security (CFS). Anderson will serve as part of the drafting team for an upcoming report on "Building Resilient Food Systems."

Colin Anderson remarked, “I’m honored to contribute to this important global process. When we talk about resilience in food systems, it is vital to foreground the root causes that undermine equitable resilience. With a focus on structural change, addressing inequity and by centering the health of people and nature, we can illuminate the pathways towards just transformations in food systems.”

Anderson is one of only two US scientists invited to be on the panel and one of only five North Americans. Meeting this week in Rome, the HLPE is the UN body responsible for providing independent, evidence-based scientific analysis to inform global food security and nutrition policy. The panel’s reports play a pivotal role in shaping the agenda of the CFS, directly influencing global discussions on food security and sustainable agriculture. The upcoming "Building Resilient Food Systems" report will be central to the CFS’s program of work for 2024-2027, and is expected to guide policy development at both global and regional levels.

“We are excited and proud that Colin Anderson has been selected to contribute to this important international endeavor,” said V. Ernesto Mendéz, Executive Director of the Institute for Agroecology. “This invitation speaks to Colin’s exceptional scholarship, expertise, and leadership in agroecology, as well as the significant impact of the Institute’s work. We look forward to seeing the valuable contributions that Colin and the HLPE team will make toward advancing resilient food systems globally.”

The CFS’s inclusive and transparent process for developing HLPE reports ensures broad engagement with stakeholders, including civil society, indigenous peoples, and policymakers from around the world. Past HLPE reports, such as the 2019 flagship publication on “Agroecology and Other Innovative Approaches”, have been instrumental in advancing global discourse on agroecology and influencing policy frameworks aimed at building sustainable and resilient food systems.

UVM’s IfA has long been committed to advancing transformative agroecology through research, education, outreach, and policy work. As a leading voice in the global agroecology movement, the Institute’s mission aligns closely with the HLPE’s focus on fostering more sustainable, equitable, and resilient food systems worldwide. Anderson’s participation in the HLPE drafting team reinforces the IfA’s commitment to driving change in global food policy and advancing agroecology in key international debates.

Anderson expressed the value of his participation for the State of Vermont, “In the face of growing shocks and stressors from climate change, communities in Vermont and New England are looking for solutions to build equitable resilience. This report will be relevant and linked directly to our work in the region, for example to our Leahy funded work in the Northeast Kingdom where communities are organizing to build resilient food systems to withstand floods and other climate related risks.

6. 11/11/2024 – Vermont Biz

https://vermontbiz.com/news/2024/november/17/uvms-colin-anderson-joins-un-committee-world-food-securitys-panel-experts

VB VermontBiz

UVM's Colin Anderson joins U.N. Committee on World Food Security's Panel of Experts

Photo courtesy of Colin Anderson at the U.N. Food Security meeting in Rome. Anderson is Co-Director of the UVM Institute for Agroecology and Associate Research Professor in the Department of Agriculture, Landscape and Environment in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Vermont Business Magazine University of Vermont researcher Colin Anderson is in Rome to join the United Nations' Committee on World Food Security's (CFS) High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE).

Anderson is one of only two U.S. researchers invited to be on the influential panel and one of only five North Americans. He is co-director of UVM's Institute for Agroecology and associate research professor in UVM's Department of Agriculture, Landscape and Environment.

The HLPE, which started this week, is the U.N. body responsible for providing independent, evidence-based scientific analysis to inform global food security and nutrition policy. The panel's reports play a pivotal role in shaping global discussions on food security and sustainable agriculture.

The upcoming "Building Resilient Food Systems" report, which Anderson will help draft during the meeting, will be central to the CFS's program of work for 2024-2027 and is expected to guide policy development at both global and regional levels.

"In the face of growing shocks and stressors from climate change, Vermont and New England communities are looking for solutions to build equitable resilience," said Anderson. "This report will be relevant and linked directly to our work in the region, including our project funded by the UVM Leahy Institute for Rural Partnerships, where we are collaborating with communities in the Northeast Kingdom to assess and build food systems that are resilient to the effects of the climate crisis."

The CFS's inclusive and transparent process for developing HLPE reports ensures broad engagement with stakeholders, including civil society, indigenous peoples, and policymakers from around the world. Past HLPE reports, such as the 2019 flagship publication on "Agroecology and Other Innovative Approaches," have been instrumental in advancing global discourse on agroecology and influencing policy frameworks aimed at building sustainable and resilient food systems.

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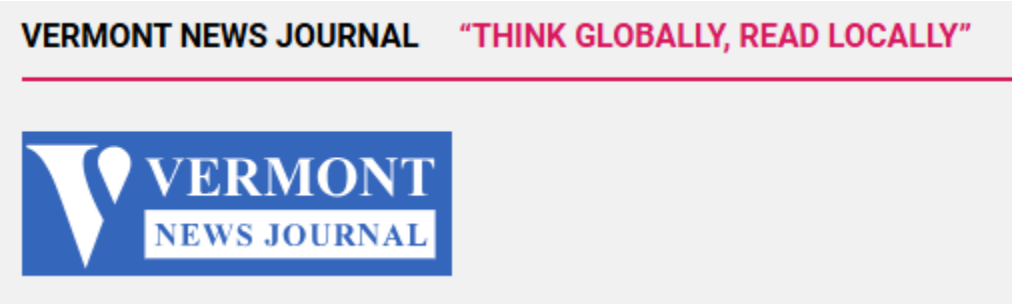
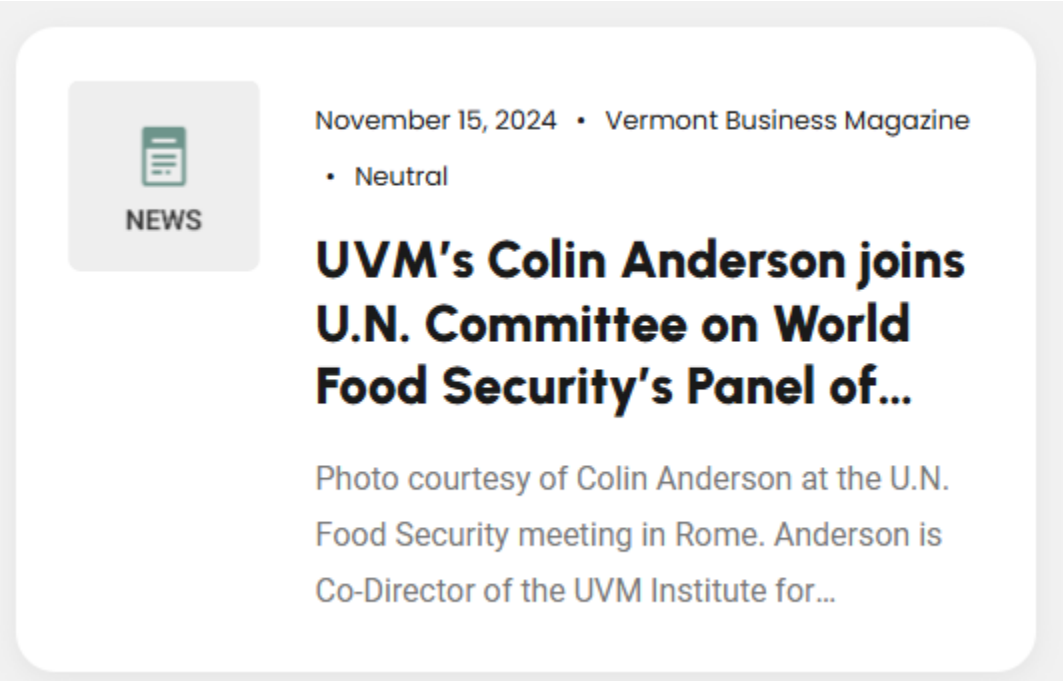
"We are excited and proud that Colin Anderson has been selected to contribute to this important international endeavor," said V. Ernesto Mendéz, Faculty Director of the Institute for Agroecology. "This invitation speaks to Colin's exceptional scholarship, expertise, and leadership in agroecology, as well as the significant impact of the Institute's work. We look forward to seeing the valuable contributions that Colin and the HLPE team will make toward advancing resilient food systems globally."

About UVM's Institute for Agroecology (IfA):

The Institute for Agroecology (IfA) is a leading research and policy institute dedicated to advancing agroecology as a transformative approach to food production, sustainability, and food justice. Through research, education, and advocacy, the IfA promotes agroecological practices that are ecologically sound, socially just, and economically viable, working at the intersection of science, policy, and practice to advance food systems transformation at local, national, and global levels.

7. 11/11/2024 – Vermont News Journal





8. 15/11/2024 – My Joy online

https://www.myjoyonline.com/knusts-prof-antwi-agyei-appointed-to-un-panel-of-experts-for-resilient-food-systems-report/

Agribusiness | Economy

KNUST's Prof Antwi-Agyei appointed to UN panel of experts for Resilient Food Systems Report

Source: Emmanuel Kwasi Debrah
15 November 2024 6:07pm

Professor at the Department of Environmental Science, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Philip Antwi-Agyei has been selected to join the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) for the report "Building resilient food systems," which is expected to be presented at the 53rd Plenary Session of the CFS in October 2025.

The HLPE-FSN, the United Nations body for assessing science related to global food security and nutrition, selected Professor Antwi-Agyei due to his extensive expertise in environmental science, climate change adaptation, and sustainable agricultural practices, contributing to a nuanced understanding of food system vulnerabilities and resilience strategies.

This appointment underscores KNUST's commitment and contribution to the CFS in supporting global governance for food security and nutrition.

"Addressing food insecurity remains a critical challenge for governments across the globe. This is particularly important for countries in sub-Saharan Africa, where millions of people directly depend on climate sensitive sectors for their livelihoods.

"Being selected as part of this High Level Panel of Experts provides an opportunity for me to offer my expertise in food systems resilience in an era of climate change. I am thrilled at this opportunity and looking forward to working with this great interdisciplinary team of experts on this report.," Prof. Antwi-Agyei said.

Prof. Philip Antwi-Agyei is a Professor of Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainability Science, and the Director, Office of Grants and Research at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana.

Philip is an interdisciplinary climate change scientist whose research involves developing innovative multi-scale methodologies for assessing vulnerability and adaptations to climate change across the local, regional and national scales. Specifically, his research uses spatial databases, ecological studies and field-based participatory approaches aimed at broadening understanding of how climate change and variability affect food security and livelihoods.

Prof. Antwi-Agyei is a recipient of several prestigious international grants including the International Foundation for Science, Climate Impacts Research Capacity and Leadership Enhancement Fellowship funded by the UK's Department for International Development, and Science for Weather Information and Forecasting Techniques (African SWIFT) funded by the Global Challenge Research Fund. He has also won grants under the Climate Research for Development, an initiative of the African Climate Policy Centre in partnership with the United Kingdom's Department for International Development. Additionally, Philip was a Fellow under the Future Leaders–Africa Independent Research and Collaboration Grants funded by the Royal Society, London.

He has also won grants under the Climate Research for Development, an initiative of the African Climate Policy Centre in partnership with the United Kingdom's Department for International Development.

Selected through a rigorous process emphasizing scientific and technical expertise, alongside regional insights, the team embodies interdisciplinarity.

Their collective experience spans health and nutrition, human rights, gender analysis, Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, environmental sciences, and more, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of agricultural and food system vulnerabilities.

The team is led by Alison Blay-Palmer, UNESCO Chair and Professor at Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada, renowned for her research in food systems, biodiversity, and community resilience. Other members include Colin Anderson, Philip Antwi-Agyei, Garima Bhalla, Lidia Cabral, Francisco Javier Espinosa Garcia, Tomaso Ferrando, Isabel Madzorera, Tammara Soma, Monika Zurek, Paola Termine (Secretariat), and Johanna Wilkes (Research Assistant).

Find out more here.

9. 18/11/2024 – Focus FM

https://focusfmknust.com/2024/11/18/prof-philip-antwi-agyei-appointed-to-un-expert-panel-knust-gains-international-recognition/

Prof. Philip Antwi-Agyei Appointed to UN Expert Panel; KNUST Gains International Recognition

Audrey Sika | November 18, 2024 | 450 Views

A prominent climate change adaptation and sustainability science expert at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Professor Philip Antwi-Agyei, has been appointed to the United Nations High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN). This esteemed panel is tasked with producing the "Resilient Food Systems" report for the 53rd Plenary Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in October 2025.

A professor in KNUST's Department of Environmental Science, Prof. Antwi-Agyei also serves as the Director of the Office of Grants and Research (OGR) and a campus pastor for the Assemblies of God Ministry. His appointment highlights his expertise in food system resilience, sustainable agricultural practices, and climate adaptation, further solidifying his influence on global food security strategies.

The HLPE-FSN, recognized for integrating diverse perspectives such as health, nutrition, environmental science, and gender analysis, is led by Alison Blay-Palmer, a UNESCO Chair and professor at Wilfrid Laurier University in Canada. Other experts include notable figures from academia and development sectors worldwide, emphasizing the panel's interdisciplinary approach.

Prof. Antwi-Agyei's inclusion in this team reflects KNUST's dedication to advancing solutions for global challenges, especially in food security and climate resilience, reinforcing its position as a hub for impactful research and leadership.

10. 18/11/2024 – UVM Institute for Agroecology

https://www.uvm.edu/agroecology/colin-anderson-hlpe-un/

UVM Institute for Agroecology
News and Updates

IFA Co-Director Colin Anderson Joins United Nations' Committee On World Food Security's High Level Panel of Experts

The University of Vermont is thrilled to announce that Colin Anderson, Co-Director of the UVM Institute for Agroecology and Associate Research Professor in the Department of Agriculture, Landscape and Environment will join the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) of the United Nations Committee on World Food Security (CFS). Anderson will serve as part of the drafting team for an upcoming report on "Building Resilient Food Systems."

Colin Anderson remarked, "I'm honored to contribute to this important global process. When we talk about resilience in food systems, it is vital to foreground the root causes that undermine equitable resilience. With a focus on structural change, addressing inequity and by centering the

health of people and nature, we can illuminate the pathways towards just transformations in food systems."

Anderson is one of only two US scientists invited to be on the panel and one of only five North Americans. Meeting this week in Rome, the HLPE is the UN body responsible for providing independent, evidence-based scientific analysis to inform global food security and nutrition policy. The panel's reports play a pivotal role in shaping the agenda of the CFS, directly influencing global discussions on food security and sustainable agriculture. The upcoming "Building Resilient Food Systems" report will be central to the CFS's program of work for 2024-2027, and is expected to guide policy development at both global and regional levels.

"We are excited and proud that Colin Anderson has been selected to contribute to this important international endeavor," said V. Ernesto Mendéz, Executive Director of the Institute for Agroecology. "This invitation speaks to Colin's exceptional scholarship, expertise, and leadership in agroecology, as well as the significant impact of the Institute's work. We look forward to seeing the valuable contributions that Colin and the HLPE team will make toward advancing resilient food systems globally."

The CFS's inclusive and transparent process for developing HLPE reports ensures broad engagement with stakeholders, including civil society, indigenous peoples, and policymakers from around the world. Past HLPE reports, such as the 2019 flagship publication on "Agroecology and Other Innovative Approaches", have been instrumental in advancing global discourse on agroecology and influencing policy frameworks aimed at building sustainable and resilient food systems.

UVM's IfA has long been committed to advancing transformative agroecology through research, education, outreach, and policy work. As a leading voice in the global agroecology movement, the Institute's mission aligns closely with the HLPE's focus on fostering more sustainable, equitable, and resilient food systems worldwide. Anderson's participation in the HLPE drafting team reinforces the IfA's commitment to driving change in global food policy and advancing agroecology in key international debates.

Anderson expressed the value of his participation for the State of Vermont, "In the face of growing shocks and stressors from climate change, communities in Vermont and New England are looking for solutions to build equitable resilience. This report will be relevant and linked directly to our work in the region, for example to our Leahy funded work in the Northeast Kingdom where communities are organizing to build resilient food systems to withstand floods and other climate related risks.

11. 20/11/2024 – Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

https://www.ids.ac.uk/news/lidia-cabral-appointed-to-un-expert-panel-for-resilient-food-systems-report/

Lídia Cabral appointed to UN expert panel for resilient food systems report

Institute of Development Studies (IDS) is proud to share that Lídia Cabral, Research Fellow and founding member of the Food Equity Centre, has been selected to join the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) for the report "Building resilient food systems".

The report is planned to be launched at the 53rd Plenary Session of the CFS in October 2025.

Lídia Cabral, IDS Research Fellow

The HLPE-FSN is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to global food security and nutrition and selected Cabral because of her expertise in fields of food equity, justice and

sustainability, contributing to a nuanced understanding of food system vulnerabilities and resilience strategies. This appointment underscores the IDS's commitment and in kind contribution to the CFS to support the global governance for food security and nutrition.

Lídia Cabral, Research Fellow, said:

"I'm honoured to join the writing team of this report which aims to provide policy recommendations on how food systems can be made more resilient.

"The Food Equity Centre is committed to generating knowledge about the structural inequities and vulnerabilities in food systems and seeking solutions to address them, focusing on the conditions of those marginalised."

Visit the Food Equity Centre

Lídia Cabral is a social scientist specialising in the study of policy processes and knowledge politics within agrifood systems. She brings over 20 years of experience in international development, having collaborated with a diverse array of public, private, and non-profit organizations, primarily in Sub-Saharan Africa and Brazil.

Her recent research focuses on the enduring impacts of Green Revolutions in Brazil, China, and India, examining how epic narratives of the past sustain top-down agricultural development approaches and inhibit alternative strategies. Currently, she is investigating ways to enhance both equity and sustainability in food systems. This includes exploring how agricultural wilding can integrate food justice with ecological restoration goals, as well as partnering with territorial food networks in Brazil and the UK to promote dignified access to nutritious and sustainably produced food.

As well as her role with the Food Equity Centre, Cabral is also the co-Convenor for the MA Food and Development, delivered by the University of Sussex in partnership with IDS.

Learn about the MA Food and Development

Selected through a rigorous process emphasizing scientific and technical expertise, alongside regional insights, the team embodies interdisciplinarity. Their collective experience spans health and nutrition, human rights, gender analysis, Indigenous Peoples knowledge, environmental sciences, and more, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of agricultural and food system vulnerabilities.

The team is led by Alison Blay-Palmer, UNESCO Chair and Professor at Wilfrid Laurier University Canada and renowned for her research in food systems, biodiversity and community resilience, and features Colin Anderson, Philip Antwi-Agyei, Garima Bhalla, Lídia Cabral, Francisco Javier Espinosa Garcia, Tomaso Ferrando, Isabel Madzorera, Tammara Soma, Monika Zurek, Paola Termine (Secretariat), Johanna Wilkes (Research Assistant).

More information is available at https://www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe/insights/news-insights/news-detail/new-hlpe-fsn-drafting-team-on-building-resilient-food-systems/en

12. 26/11/2024 – Burlington Free Press

https://eu.burlingtonfreepress.com/story/news/2024/11/26/university-of-vermont-researcher-united-nations-world-food-security/76567628007/

Burlington Free Press

UVM researcher joins prestigious United Nations panel studying global food security

Dan D'Ambrosio Burlington Free Press

Only two U.S. researchers were invited to join the United Nations' Committee on World Food Security's High Level Panel of Experts, and one of them is the University of Vermont's Colin Anderson.

Anderson is co-director of UVM's Institute for Agroecology and associate research professor in UVM's Department of Agriculture, Landscape and Environment. Agroecology is the study of sustainable agriculture that works with nature to thrive.

The influential panel is the U.N. body responsible for providing analysis on food security and nutrition policy, according to a news release. Anderson joined the panel in Rome last week, from Nov. 15-19, where it began work on a report expected to play a "pivotal role" in global discussions on sustainable agriculture.

The report, "Building Resilient Food Systems," will be central to the Committee on World Food Security's work over the next three years, and will guide policy development at both global and regional levels.

"In the face of growing shocks and stressors from climate change, Vermont and New England communities are looking for solutions to build equitable resilience," Anderson said in a statement. "This report will be relevant and linked directly to our work in the region, including our project funded by the UVM Leahy Institute for Rural Partnerships, where we are collaborating with communities in the Northeast Kingdom to assess and build food systems that are resilient to the effects of the climate crisis."

High Level Panel of Experts has demonstrated its global influence in past reports

Past reports from the High Level Panel of Experts, such as the 2019 publication of "Agroecology and Other Innovative Approaches," have been instrumental in influencing efforts around the world to build sustainable and resilient food systems, according to a news release.

"We are excited and proud that Colin Anderson has been selected to contribute to this important international endeavor," V. Ernesto Mendez, faculty director of the Institute for Agroecology, said in a statement. "This invitation speaks to Colin's exceptional scholarship, expertise and leadership in agroecology, as well as the significant impact of the Institute's work."

13. 26/11/2024 – Yahoo News
https://www.yahoo.com/news/uvm-researcher-joins-prestigious-united-095122796.html

yahoo!news

UVM researcher joins prestigious United Nations panel studying global food security

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University of Vermont researcher Colin Anderson was in Rome last week working on a United Nations panel of experts that addresses global food security and sustainable agriculture. He was one of only two U.S. researchers invited to join the panel.

More

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14. 27/11/2024 – Wilfrid Laurier University

https://www.wlu.ca/news/news-releases/2024/nov/laurier-professor-alison-blay-palmer-leading-un-panel-of-experts-creating-resilient-food-systems-report.html

LAURIER
WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY

Laurier professor Alison Blay-Palmer leading UN panel of experts creating resilient food systems report

Nov. 27, 2024

Print | PDF

For Immediate Release

WATERLOO – Alison Blay-Palmer, the UNESCO Chair on Food, Biodiversity and Sustainability Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University, has been selected to lead the drafting committee for the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). The panel will present a report on building resilient food systems at the 53rd plenary session of the CFS in October 2025.

The HLPE-FSN is the United Nations body assessing the science related to global food security and nutrition. Blay-Palmer, whose UNESCO Chair appointment was recently renewed for a second term, is a respected international leader in sustainable food systems research. As drafting team lead of the HLPE-FSN, Blay-Palmer guides and supports a writing team of food systems experts from around the world to create the "Building Resilient Food Systems" report. Their collective experience spans health and nutrition, human rights, gender analysis, traditional Indigenous knowledge and environmental sciences, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of agricultural and food system vulnerabilities.

"This process will help to define resilient food system transformation for policy-makers and countries in the years to come," said Blay-Palmer, a professor of Geography and Environmental Studies at Laurier. "The report can provide a way forward for more equitable resilience across multiple dimensions of food systems."

Blay-Palmer (centre) leading a HLPE-FSN meeting in Rome. (photo credit: Silvia Meiattini)

The HLPE-FSN team has been meeting since October 2024, including a recent in-person gathering in Rome. Learn more about the panel and its members.

Blay-Palmer is the founding director of the Laurier Centre for Sustainable Food Systems and a member of the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars. Together with 35 partner organizations across four continents, she is currently leading the Food Learning and Growing (FLOW) Partnership. Over the next six years, FLOW research will map and monitor specific practices that are driving sustainability on a regional level and amplify them to influence meaningful, long-term policy decisions globally.

15. 28/11/2024 – Public
https://www.publicnow.com/view/7D7E2180FA662CA8E6233F6BD9E97F9EA956AC2D?1732769181

Public.

Laurier Professor Alison Blay-Palmer Leading UN Panel Of Experts Creating Resilient Food Systems Report

WATERLOO - Alison Blay-Palmer, the UNESCO Chair on Food, Biodiversity and Sustainability Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University, has been selected to lead the drafting committee for the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). The panel will present a report on building resilient food systems at the 53rd plenary session of the CFS in October 2025.

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16. 04/12/2024 – Green Watch

https://www.greenwatchbd.com/food/64266

GREEN WATCH DHAKA
Daily people's voice for sustainable life

New UN team of experts for the resilience of food systems

Food 2024-12-04, 9:55pm

Rome – Dec. 4, 2024. The High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) has announced a new team of researchers to join the Panel for the report "Building resilient food systems", to be presented at the 53rd Plenary Session of the CFS in October 2025.

The HLPE-FSN is the United Nations body assessing the science related to global food security and nutrition and Alison Blay-Palmer, the UNESCO Chair on Food, Biodiversity and Sustainability Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University, will lead a writing team of food systems experts from around the world. Their collective experience spans health and nutrition, human rights, gender analysis, traditional Indigenous knowledge and environmental sciences, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of agricultural and food system vulnerabilities. The other members of the team are:

- Colin Anderson, Associate Director, Institute for Agroecology, University of Vermont, Canada.

- Philip Antwi-Agyei, professor, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana.
- Garima Bhalla, economist at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
- Lídia Cabral, social scientist at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), UK.
- Francisco Javier Espinosa Garcia, Professor of Ecosystems and Sustainability, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.
- Tomaso Ferrando, professor, University of Antwerp Faculty of Law and Institute of Development Policy (IOB), Belgium.
- Isabel Madzorera, professor in Public Health Nutrition, University of California, Berkeley, USA.
- Tammara Soma, professor in Resource and Environmental Management, Simon Fraser University, Canada.
- Monika Zurek, professor at the Environmental Change Institute at the University of Oxford, UK.

"This process will help to define resilient food system transformation for policymakers and countries in the years to come," said Blay-Palmer, a professor of Geography and Environmental Studies at Laurier. "The report can provide a way forward for more equitable resilience across multiple dimensions of food systems."

Blay-Palmer is the founding director of the Laurier Centre for Sustainable Food Systems and a member of the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars. Together with 35 partner organizations across four continents, she is currently leading the Food Learning and Growing (FLOW) Partnership. Over the next six years, FLOW research will map and monitor specific practices that are driving sustainability on a regional level and amplify them to influence meaningful, long-term policy decisions globally.

The first draft of the report will be publicly released for public consultation in January 2025.

The HLPE-FSN reports are widely used as reference documents within and beyond CFS and the UN System, by the scientific community as well as by political decision-makers and different stakeholders at international, regional and national levels.

The HLPE-FSN draws its studies based on existing research and knowledge already conducted by various expertise-providing institutions and adding value by global, multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary analysis, and translates the richness and variety of forms of expert knowledge from many actors that draw on both local and global sources, into policy-related forms of knowledge. – Press release

17. 05/12/2024 – ANH Academy

https://www.anh-academy.org/community/blogs/new-hlpe-fsn-team-for-the-report-building-resilient-food-systems

Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Academy

New HLPE-FSN team for the report "Building resilient food systems"

ANH Academy 05 December 2024

The High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) is thrilled to announce the creation of its new drafting team, which has been selected to work on the upcoming HLPE-FSN report on "Building resilient food systems".

The team was selected based on a rigorous selection process, which includes general principles of scientific and technical relevance, as well as regional expertise. As a result, the HLPE-FSN Steering Committee has nominated an interdisciplinary team, well-equipped to address the multidimensional and intersectional aspects of resilience.

The selected experts bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the project, covering a range of areas, including health and nutrition, sustainable development, sociology, political science, economics, statistical analysis, human rights, gender analysis, Indigenous Peoples knowledge, environmental sciences and emergencies. Their collective expertise will ensure that the report provides a comprehensive and nuanced analysis of the different types of vulnerabilities of agriculture and food systems, and their implications for the different actors involved.

The report "Building resilient food systems" will be presented at the 53rd Plenary Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS 52) in October 2025.

HLPE-FSN experts are not remunerated and serve in their personal capacities.

The selected experts

The drafting team is led by Alison Blay-Palmer; the other members are:

- Colin Anderson
- Philip Antwi-Agyei
- Garima Bhalla
- Lídia Cabral
- Francisco Javier Espinosa Garcia
- Tomaso Ferrando
- Isabel Madzorera
- Tammara Soma
- Monika Zurek
- Paola Termine (Secretariat)
- Johanna Wilkes (research assistant)

The team leader

Alison Blay-Palmer, the UNESCO Chair on Food Biodiversity and Sustainability Studies, is the founding Director of the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems and a Professor in Geography and Environmental Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University in Canada.

Alison collaborates with academics and practitioners across Canada and internationally including partners in Australia, Brazil, France, India, Kenya, Mexico, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Uganda and the United States. Alison has been a member of the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists since 2016. She is the Principal Investigator on Food Learning and Growing (FLOW) which includes research and monitoring over 5 years in eight territorial food systems.

Her research on sustainable food systems, biodiversity and community resilience builds on civil society engagement and innovative governance.

https://www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe/insights/news-insights/news-detail/new...

Social media

LinkedIn

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/office-of-grants-and-research-knust_prof-philip-antwi-agyei-appointed-to-activity-7263223526898196481-aEqf?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

KNUST Office of Grants and Research
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📌 Prof. Philip Antwi-Agyei appointed to UN panel of experts for Resilient Food Systems Report

Prof. Philip Antwi-Agyei, at the Department of Environmental Science, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology(KNUST) has been selected to join the **High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN)** of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) for the report "Building resilient food systems," which is expected to be presented at the 53rd Plenary Session of the CFS in October 2025.

The HLPE-FSN, the United Nations body for assessing science related to global food security and nutrition, selected Professor Antwi-Agyei due to his extensive expertise in environmental science, climate change adaptation, and sustainable agricultural practices, contributing to a nuanced understanding of food system vulnerabilities and resilience strategies.

This appointment underscores KNUST's commitment and contribution to the CFS in supporting global governance for food security and nutrition.

"Being selected as part of this High Level Panel of Experts provides an opportunity for me to offer my expertise in food systems resilience in an era of climate change. I am thrilled at this opportunity and looking forward to working with this great interdisciplinary team of experts on this report," Prof. Antwi-Agyei said.

Prof. Philip Antwi-Agyei is a Professor of Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainability Sciences, and the Director, Office of Grants and Research at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana. Philip is an interdisciplinary climate change scientist whose research involves developing innovative multi-scale methodologies for assessing vulnerability and adaptations to climate change across the local, regional and national scales. Specifically, his research uses spatial databases, ecological studies and field-based participatory approaches aimed at broadening understanding of how climate change and variability affect food security and livelihoods.

Selected through a rigorous process emphasizing scientific and technical expertise, alongside regional insights, the team embodies interdisciplinarity.
Their collective experience spans health and nutrition, human rights, gender analysis, Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, environmental sciences, and more, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of agricultural and food system vulnerabilities.

The team is led by Alison Blay-Palmer, UNESCO Chair and Professor at Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada, renowned for her research in food systems, biodiversity, and community resilience. Other members include Colin Anderson, Philip Antwi-Agyei, Garima Bhalla, Lidia Cabral, Francisco Javier Espinosa Garcia, Tomaso Ferrando, Isabel Madzorera, Tammara Soma, Monika Zurek, Paola Termine (Secretariat), and Johanna Wilkes (Research Assistant).

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/unesco-chair-on-food-biodiversity-and-sustainability-studies_laurier-professor-alison-blay-palmer-leading-activity-7267985801261518849-3-uH?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

UNESCO Chair on Food, Biodiversity and Sustainability S... ···
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📣 Exciting Announcement! 📣

Alison Blay-Palmer has been selected to lead the drafting team for the new High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) report on "Building resilient food systems"

Congratulations to Alison, and the interdisciplinary team of experts working on this report, which will help define resilient food system transformation for policy-makers and countries in the years to come.

Read the full press release 👉 https://lnkd.in/gZZHGH56

#ResilentFoodSystems #FoodSystemTransformation #InnovativeGovernance #foodsystem #policy #transformation

Laurier professor Alison Blay-Palmer leading UN panel of experts creating resilient food systems report

wlu.ca

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/university-of-vermont_foodsecurity-unitednations-activity-7280568624828805120-_Tar?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

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University of Vermont College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Professor Colin Anderson has joined the United Nations' Committee On World Food Security's High Level Panel of Experts! He is one of only two U.S. scientists invited to serve on the panel, which is the UN body responsible for providing independent, evidence-based scientific analysis to inform global food security and nutrition policy.
#FoodSecurity #UnitedNations

Learn more: https://lnkd.in/eed-e-AV

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/gundinstitute_gund-affiliate-and-university-of-vermont-activity-7281008617200259073-BH3A?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

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Gund Affiliate and University of Vermont/UVM Institute for Agroecology professor Colin Anderson is one of two Americans joining an expert United Nations FAO panel to advance world food security and sustainable agriculture.

Read and watch the story on NBC5: https://go.uvm.edu/86t45

X (former twitter)

https://x.com/SFUENV/status/1855003688567222760

SFU Faculty of Environment @SFUENV · Nov 8

#SFU professor Tammara Soma has been selected to join the HLPE-FSN, the United Nations body for assessing the science related to global food security and nutrition, for the report "Building resilient food systems."

Read more: ow.ly/vnXY50U3qAe

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From sfu.ca

https://x.com/IDS_UK/status/1859286378602782983

Institute of Development Studies
@IDS_UK

IDS is proud to share that Lídia Cabral, Research Fellow and founding member of the Food Equity Centre has been appointed to the UN expert panel
@hlpe_cfs to assist with the development of the Committee on World Food Security's next report on "Building resilient food systems"

> **Food Equity Centre** @FoodEquityCtr · Nov 20
> Today we are celebrating Food Equity Centre co-founder Lidia Cabral who has been appointed to the UN expert panel @hlpe_cfs to assist with the development of the Committee on World Food Security's next report on "Building resilient food systems"
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> Show more

https://x.com/FoodEquityCtr/status/1859253466515812621

Food Equity Centre
@FoodEquityCtr

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From ids.ac.uk

https://x.com/uvmvermont/status/1874802919897174206

University of Vermont
@uvmvermont

UVM CALS Prof. Colin Anderson joins the UN's Committee on World Food Security as one of only 2 U.S. scientists invited to serve on the committee's High Level Panel of Experts. Learn more ⬇️ #UnitedNations

From uvm.edu

2:00 PM · Jan 2, 2025 · **655** Views

https://x.com/GundInstitute/status/1875243448682590556

Gund Institute for Environment
@GundInstitute

Gund Institute Affiliate and #UVM prof. Colin Anderson is one of two Americans joining an expert @UN @FAO panel to advance world food security and sustainable agriculture.

Read and watch the story on @MyNBC5: go.uvm.edu/86t45

Taylor Ricketts and 3 others

YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IkWP8HBUklo

University of Vermont professor joins UN food security committee

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