

Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture



## Please save the date: 17 – 20 January 2024

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## Food Systems for Our Future: Joining Forces for a Zero Hunger World

Shaping our food systems in a sustainable manner to make them fit for the future while acting in line with the 2030 Agenda will require immense efforts. The international community only has seven years left to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and, in particular, the Zero Hunger goal. However, as yet, one person in ten on this planet is still suffering from hunger.

In our quest to end hunger and malnutrition, we are constantly facing new, and ever bigger, obstacles: the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, the impact of the pandemic, conflicts and wars. The multilateral dialogue is still overshadowed by Russia's illegal war of aggression against Ukraine and its consequences for global food security.

With that in mind, the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) wants to take advantage of the 2024 GFFA as a constructive forum connecting all stakeholders and intensify the international dialogue in the field of agricultural policy. The 2024 GFFA will be focusing on four topics:

- 1. Promoting sustainable production and food sovereignty
- 2. Supporting resilient and sustainable supply chains
- 3. Reducing food loss and food waste
- 4. Strengthening vulnerable groups

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Dear Madam/Sir

The GFFA is the world's leading international conference on key issues regarding the future of the global agri-food industry. Since 2009, the GFFA has been taking place every year in Berlin at the beginning of the International Green Week (IGW). The four conference days are dedicated to the topic of global agri-food policy.

The GFFA is a unique opportunity for all stakeholders to network and exchange their views and ideas: every year, the approximately 20 public events hosted within the scope of the GFFA attract up to 2,000 international participants from politics, civil society, industry and the scientific community. The political highlight of the GFFA is the largest Agriculture Ministers' Conference in the world, which regularly brings together around 70 ministers who seize this opportunity for mutual consultation and bilateral exchange.

Given the multi-faceted crises we are currently facing and Russia's illegal war of aggression against Ukraine, a global platform that strengthens international cooperation and fosters multilateral solutions for transforming global food systems is more vital than ever. We need to take rigorous steps to make our agricultural industry sustainable and resilient, thus enabling it to effectively deal with any potential crisis.

I would be delighted if you would save this date and if I could welcome you to Berlin in January 2024 on the occasion of our 16th GFFA.

The time to act is now. Let's do that together!

Yours sincerely

**Cem Özdemir** Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture