

Symposium Workshops

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What's a workshop?

Share your knowledge and find systems solutions! The workshop sessions are about asking honest questions in an informal but expert setting. Speakers and participants will use their different backgrounds and experience to find co-benefits and think critically about trade-offs in their respective workshops.

Workshop sessions will be in small groups and last 45 minutes. There is a total of 8 sessions, each of them running twice with a break in between.

Workshops will run in two different formats. Panel sessions are informal speaker panels moderated by the Centre with questions from the audience. These represent a chance to learn as well as participate. Breakout sessions are more traditional workshop sessions, where speakers and audience alike break out into small discussion groups to co-create solutions.

The recommendations stemming from the workshops will, along with the learnings from the rest of the Symposium, be included in a Symposium report

Workshop One – Trade-offs in dairy and meat production

Moderated by Vivian Maduekeh, PhD candidate at the Centre for Food Policy, City, University of London

Scribe: Donna Bottrill

Room C316

[C316 | City, University of London](#)

Max. room capacity: 50 people

Discussion questions:

1. What role do food producers and retail have in ensuring dairy and meat production is aligned with human and planetary health?
2. What actions can consumers take to reduce the impacts of dairy and meat production, while also supporting the livelihoods of farmers and those involved in meat and dairy production?
3. What policies should we advocate for in this area?

Facilitated by speakers:

Simon Billing

Eating Better

Peter Grieg

Piper's Farm

2.45pm - 3.30pm

Workshop 1: Panel Session

3.50pm - 4.35pm:

Workshop 2: Fishbowl Breakout Session

What's a fishbowl discussion?

In the second session, we will adopt a fishbowl conversation. Fishbowl conversations are advantageous for large groups as they provide a suitable platform for participatory workshops. Additionally, this type of conversation minimizes the distinction between the speakers and the audience, creating a more democratic environment where anyone can participate in the discussion.

The setup of a fishbowl conversation involves arranging a certain number of chairs in an inner circle (traditionally five), which is known as the fishbowl. The remaining chairs are placed in concentric circles outside the fishbowl. Some participants are selected to fill the fishbowl, while the others sit outside.

In an open fishbowl, one chair remains empty to allow any member of the audience to join the discussion at any time. When this occurs, a current member of the fishbowl must voluntarily leave and free up a chair for the new participant. This allows for a continuous flow of participants, creating a dynamic conversation where people frequently enter and leave the fishbowl.

The moderator introduces the topic, and the participants begin discussing it while the audience outside the fishbowl listens. Depending on the size of the audience, many members can spend some time in the fishbowl and take part in the discussion. Once the time allotted for the conversation runs out, the fishbowl is closed, and the moderator summarizes the discussion.

Overall, fishbowl conversations are an effective way to promote dialogue, exchange ideas, and encourage participation among a large group of people.

Workshop Two – Pathways to sustainable land management

Moderated by Christopher Yap, Research Fellow at the Centre for Food Policy, City, University of London

Scribe: Miriam Segal

Room C315

[C315 | City, University of London](#)

Max. room capacity: 40 people

1. How can farmers be supported to adopt sustainable land management practices and how can they be integrated into farming businesses?
2. What are the key challenges and opportunities for scaling up sustainable land use practices across the food system?

Facilitated by speakers:

Dr Courtney Scott

Food Farming and Countryside Commission

Emma Gray

North Essex Farmer Cluster

2.45pm - 3.30pm

Workshop 1: Panel Session

3.50pm - 4.35pm:

Workshop 2: Panel Session

Workshop Three – Pathways to reducing food waste

Moderated by Dr Virginia Martin Torrejon, Research Fellow at the Centre for Food Policy, City, University of London

Scribe: Natalie Jakiemiec

Room C317

[C317 | City, University of London](#)

Max. room capacity: 20 people

1. Is food waste primarily an issue of individual behaviour, or does it stem from larger structural problems in the food system?
2. Are food waste and food insecurity different outcomes of the same problem, and is surplus food a solution to food insecurity? Or are these unrelated issues and the redistribution of surplus food is a distraction to two unconnected problems?

Facilitated by speakers:

Dr Jack Pickering

University of Sheffield

Jessica Sinclair Taylor

Feedback Global

2.45pm - 3.30pm

Workshop 1: Panel & Breakout Session

3.50pm - 4.35pm:

Workshop 2: Panel & Breakout Session

Workshop Four – Reimagining a fair supply chain

Moderated by Dr Rosalind Sharpe, Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Food Policy, City, University of London

Scribe: Fi Hannah

Room: Oliver Thompson Theatre (front of theatre and reception room)

Max. room capacity: 50 people

1. Should consumers be willing to pay more for food to ensure that workers in the food system are paid fair wages and provided with safe working conditions? How do we plan for it in terms of sustainable business models?
2. What community-led solutions can disrupt an imbalanced supply chain?
3. How can we think about labour, whether individual, collective or commercial in making a fair food supply chain?
4. What are the factors that contribute to bad practises that are so often called trade-offs?

Facilitated by speakers:

Sara Castaneda

Rio Nuevo Chocolate

Kath Rosen

The Orchard Project

2.45pm - 3.30pm

Workshop 1: Panel Session

3.50pm - 4.35pm:

Workshop 2: Breakout Session

Workshop Five – Reimagining the role of food education in food policy

Moderated by Professor Martin Caraher, Professor Emeritus in Food and Health Policy at Centre for Food Policy at City, University of London

Scribe: Kim Smith

Room C300

[C300 | City, University of London](#)

Max. room capacity: 34 people

1. How could food education be leveraged as a policy lever to address multiple food system challenges within a climate of cuts and competing issues?
2. What kind of food education (if any) should our children experience?
3. Whose responsibility is food education? How does it sustain itself?

Facilitated by speakers:

Thomas Walker

Head of Food Education at Hackney School of Food

Fatma Sabet

University of Exeter & Shillingford Organics Farm School

2.45pm - 3.30pm

Workshop 1: Panel & Breakout Session

3.50pm - 4.35pm:

Workshop 2: Panel & Breakout Session

Workshop Six – Taking a design-led approach to food system challenges

Moderated by Dr Mark Spires, Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Food Policy, City, University of London

Scribe: Melanie Southerden

Room C306

[C306 | City, University of London](#)

Max. room capacity: 16 chairs

1. What are the design features of a food system that places the health of people and the planet at the centre?
2. What are the challenges in the current food environment that conflict with a food system that places the health of people and the planet at the centre?
3. What might we design now, as part of a long-term roadmap, that could shift towards a people and planet centric food system?

Facilitated by speakers:

Dr Rana Conway

University College London

Ashley Scarborough

Ashley Scarborough Design

2.45pm - 3.30pm

Workshop 1: Breakout Session

3.50pm - 4.35pm:

Workshop 2: Breakout Session

Workshop Seven – Navigating food security in farming transitions

Moderated by Antony So, Communications & Engagement Officer at Centre for Food Policy, City, University of London and Professor David Barling, Co-Director of the Centre for Agriculture, Food and Environmental Management (CAFEM) Research at the University of Hertfordshire

Scribe: Amal Gohar

Room C303

[C303 | City, University of London](#)

Max. room capacity: 76 people

1. Is food security relying on our own production or food imports?
2. Should farmers be required to engage in farmer led and peer to peer advice and collaborative learning to facilitate the knowledge and skills needed to successfully transition to new farming practices?
3. What actions or approach do we need to make sure food stay accessible to everyone during transitions and crises?

Facilitated by speakers:

Daniela Baeza Breinbauer

London School of Economics

Adele Jones

The Sustainable Food Trust

2.45pm - 3.30pm

Workshop 1: Panel Session

with words from Professor David Barling

3.50pm - 4.35pm:

Workshop 2: Breakout Session

with words from Professor David Barling

Workshop Eight – Placing food sovereignty on the agenda

Moderated by Dr Rebecca Wells, Senior Lecturer at the Centre for Food Policy, City, University of London

Scribe: Ana Vadeanu

Room C305

[C305 | City, University of London](#)

Max. room capacity: 30 people

1. Does food sovereignty apply to everyone? What action can people take?
2. What is the role of food sovereignty in a JUST transition?
3. How do communities learn to tap into past/historical practises to find solution to food sovereignty?

Facilitated by speakers:

Jeovana Santos Nascimento

Activist

Pat Fitzsimons

Hackney Food Bank

2.45pm - 3.30pm

Workshop 1: Panel Session

3.50pm - 4.35pm:

Workshop 2: Breakout Session

with words from Dee Woods from the Landworker's Association