

## DAY 2

### The Sahel and West Africa Club Forum

### European Union Pavilion Expo Milano

The Forum brings together some 100 international leaders from governments, regional organisations, civil society, professional associations, research centres, international organisations and multilateral and bilateral agencies. It is an opportunity to share knowledge, policies and experiences in promoting food and nutrition security. The Forum is structured into four sessions over two days, combining panel presentations, insights and debates.

## TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER

### Experiences and innovative approaches to resilience

10h00 — 10h30

**WELCOME COFFEE**

10h30 — 12h30 **SESSION 3**

#### Resilience and innovative policies for food security

Moderators **Michel Reveyrand de Menthon,**  
**EU Special Representative for the Sahel**

**Kinza Jawara-N'Jai**  
**Principal Programme Officer and Head of Division, Cross-Border  
Co-operation, ECOWAS**

The analysis of food systems and their actors sheds light on the complexity of the issues involved, and emphasises the need for a systems approach and a better understanding of networks. Examples drawn from experiences of cross-border and decentralised co-operation will illustrate some of the possible resilience mechanisms for food and nutrition security. What are the opportunities and lessons that can be identified? What are possible applications in international agendas and strategies in view of complex dynamics and the Zero Hunger Challenge?

10h30 — 11h00 *Presentations*

- *Resilience: a systemic approach to food security* —  
**Mariam Sow Soumare, Principal Program Officer in Charge of Agriculture and Food Insecurity Risk Management, NEPAD Agency**
- *The role of decentralisation and local development in resilience* —  
**Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi, Secretary General, UCLG Africa**
- *Social network analysis as an innovative tool for development* —  
**Olivier Walther, Associate Professor, University of Southern Denmark**

11h00 — 12h30 *Insights and debate*

- Resilience: concepts and metrics —  
**Luca Russo, Senior Economist, FAO**
- The integration of disaster reduction methods and climate change adaptation in food security strategies – the example of BRACED —  
**Romain Cardon, Programme Director BRACED, Christian Aid**
- *From production to protection systems in West Africa* —  
**Léonidas Hitimana, Chief Technical Advisor, FAO**
- Cross-border co-operation and resilience – a European experience —  
**Martin Guillermo Ramirez, Secretary General, AEBR**
- AGIR's unique contributions to resilience —  
**Hassane Mamoudou, Technical Advisor, High Commission of 3N Initiative, Niger**
- Equipping States with impact monitoring instruments —  
**François Kayitakire, Senior Scientist, JRC/EC**

12h30 — 14h00 **lunch break**



It aims to:

- Elicit knowledge and experience-sharing among West Africa's stakeholders and partners and those from other regions;
- Raise awareness regarding the role of women in supporting resilience and sustainability;
- Deepen understanding of food and nutrition security challenges in a context of change;
- Debate innovative approaches and mechanisms to strengthening resilience; and
- Discuss priorities for development and food security.

Essentially, how can key players support greater resilience and sustainability, both nationally and regionally?

14h00 — 16h30 **SESSION 4**

**Women's empowerment, gender equality and resilience**

Moderator **Carla Montesi, Directrice, Director, Directorate of West and Central Africa, European Commission**

Women provide specific contributions to producing, processing, distributing and marketing food products. However, these roles appear to be fluid and can shift through the political, socioeconomic and environmental transformations that are shaping West Africa's food security and development. What is the potential of more gender-equal societies to achieve greater food security and resilience? What changes to existing policies and programmes are necessary to support this agenda?

*Introductory remarks*

→ **Nicoletta Ferro, Senior Researcher, Golden for Sustainability, Bocconi University, Content Manager, WE-Women for Expo**

14h00 — 14h30 *Presentations*

→ *Women's roles and economic contributions to food systems* —  
**Simone Zoundi, Directrice, Sodepal et Présidente, FIAB**

→ *Women's organisations as change agents and agenda setters* —  
**Khady Fall Tall, Présidente régionale, AFAO-WAWA**

→ *Legal and political framework for women's empowerment* —  
**Kafui Kuwonu, Chef de programme, WILDAF**

→ *Gender and Climate Smart Agriculture Programme* —  
**Estherine Lisinge Fotabong, Director, Programme Implementation and Coordination, NEPAD Agency**

14h30 — 16h30 *Insights and debate*

→ *Gender and nutrition in Africa* —  
**Boitshupo Bibi Giyose, Senior Nutrition Officer, FAO**

→ *Empowering poor rural women towards greater gender equality: best practices and lessons learned in Africa* —  
**Khadidja Doucouré, Gender Coordinator for West and Central Africa, IFAD**

→ *The experience of the ECOWAS Gender Development Centre* —  
**Salimata Thiam, Head Gender Policy and Programme Implementation, ECOWAS**

→ *Gender and cross-border co-operation* —  
**Kinza Jawara-N'Jai, Principal Programme Officer and Head of Division, Cross-Border Co-operation, ECOWAS**

→ *The role of women and gender policies in crisis and conflict situations* —  
**Nicoletta Pirozzi, Senior Fellow, IAI**

→ *Gender, sustainable consumption and climate change: a review of issues from other geographical contexts* —  
**Cecilia Tacoli, Principal Researcher, Human Settlements Group, IIED**

17h00— 18h00 *Cocktail*

18h00 — 19h00

**PAVILION VISITS (OPTIONAL)**