

The True Cost and True Price of Food

Summary Scientific Side Event UNFSS 7th July 2021



UNITED NATIONS
FOOD SYSTEMS
SUMMIT 2021

United Nations Food Systems Summit 2021
Scientific Group

Summary

Science and technology are ready to realize a sustainable global food system. This system requires reducing the environmental and social impact of food while making sustainable and healthy food affordable for all.

How? Participants of The True Cost and True Price of Food session on July 7th at the Scientific Side Event of the UNFSS 2021 learned about 'game changers' from the Scientific Group for the UNFSS. The working group presented insights of the study The True Costs and True Price of Food, introduced the Global Partnership on the True Price of Food (GPTFP) and encouraged participants to join the True Pricing Scientific Network.

The study is the first to measure the costs of the externalities of the global food system, which are estimated to be 30 trillion USD. Speakers Sheryl Hendriks (Scientific Group, University of Pretoria) and Adrian de

Groot Ruiz (Impact Institute, True Price) introduced True Cost Accounting (TCA) and true pricing as solutions to address those.

Further into the session, Pietro Galgani (True Price) elaborated on methods, the state of the art and future research that needs to be conducted in order to realize a shift in the global food system. The question of what the impact of price changes means for consumers (especially for the poor) was addressed by Elena Martinez (Tufts University).

In short, the working group provided the scientific base for realizing a sustainable global food system. "It does not count if you do not count it", stated Joachim von Braun, chair of the UNFSS Scientific Group, in his opening remarks. "It is time that we start counting."

For more information about the session and future events please contact us at info@trueprice.org.

Towards a True Pricing Science Network

Members of the True Cost and True Price of Food working group of the Scientific Group hosted this session to convene a True Pricing Science Network (as part of a partnership on the true price of food). This will further the basic and applied science progress needed to apply true pricing at scale by policy makers, businesses and consumers. Learn how you can join as research institution.

Science Group paper

The session was based on the eponymous paper [The true cost and true price of food](#).

