

Rome, 15 March 2024

Dr Shenggen Fan
Chair Professor and Dean
Academy of Global Food Economics and Policy
China Agricultural University
Beijing, China

Dear Dr Fan,

I am pleased to invite you as a keynote speaker and contributor to the Asia-Pacific Food Systems Leadership Program for Youth, co-organized by the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub and the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. The workshop is scheduled to take place in **Bangkok, Thailand, from 22-26 April 2024** at the Sukosol Hotel.


This program, generously funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, is a unique opportunity to leverage the leadership skills of early career professionals. Moreover, the programme aims to connect promising early-career innovators, practitioners, scientists, and activists from low and middle-income countries to bridge the gap between policy advocacy and grassroots action and catalyse collaborative work on solutions for food systems transformation. The five-day co-creative workshops will be regionally focused comprising three components: Learn, Get Inspired, and Act.

As a renowned scientist and member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Hub, we hope you will be able to share your insights and vast experience in the field with the participants. Hence, we kindly suggest that your engagement could include the following. A keynote speech on a subject to be decided at a later stage between you and the workshop organizers to set the scene about the main opportunities for the Asia-Pacific region in fostering food systems transformation and youth leadership. Provide insights in interactive exercises with candidates in a combined “*coaching and peer-learning*” setting to inspire young leaders, but also get challenged by them, based on your personal leadership journey. We will tailor your involvement based on your availability and on how many days you can invest in this endeavour.

Further details related to logistics information including the detailed programme will be shared in due course. Please note that the Hub will cover travel and accommodation costs during the week of the event. You are kindly reminded that it is your responsibility to organize visa arrangements required for your participation in the event. The Hub will not facilitate, and not be responsible for any such arrangements.

You and your team can contact Ms Nicole De Paula (nicole.depaula@fao.org) and Ms Ludovica Nesbitt (ludovica.nesbitt@fao.org) for the necessary follow-ups. We hope you will kindly accept our invitation and join us in Bangkok.

Yours sincerely,



Stefanos Fotiou
Director, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub