

Africa

10 November: 9:00-16:15 GMT (linked with FERN2021)

English/French translations provided

eSymposium Format (subject to change)

Time Slot*	Topic		Speaker(s)
Morning			
09:00 - 10:00	Opening Plenary Welcome. Keynote 1. Update from the UN Food Systems Summit and next steps: Monitoring for accountability, and shifting the balance of power through collective action		Amos Laar
			TBC. (pre-recorded)
10:00 – 11:00	Module Updates	Overviews** <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food Labelling• Food Composition• Food Trade• Private Sector• Food Retail• Diet Quality	Presentations by module leadership coordinators (pre-recorded)
11:00 - 11:10	Break: opportunity for attendees to connect using Remo chat function.		
11:10 – 12:00	Technical Discussions Parallel Streams	Concurrent Sessions** <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Sector Policies (Food-EPI)• Food Promotion• Food Provision	Chaired by regional module leadership teams
12:00 - 12:45	Lunch break and side meetings		
Afternoon			
12:45 – 13:30	Keynote 2. Monitoring food systems for the double-burden of malnutrition and sustainability		TBC. (pre-recorded)
13:30 – 15:00	Abstract Sessions Parallel streams	6 x15 min abstracts in concurrent sessions	Chaired by regional module leadership teams
15:00 – 15:15	Break: opportunity for attendees to connect using Remo chat function.		
15:15 – 16:00	Working Groups Parallel Sessions	Strategies and innovation in knowledge translation <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sub-themes TBC.	
16:00 – 16:15	Closing Plenary		Amos Laar

* Times shown are in GMT time zone

** Specific modules to be covered are indicative and subject to change

The INFORMAS eSymposium Series will be run through the HeySummit virtual conference platform, integrated with Zoom.

Description of sessions

Keynote 1 (Opening Plenary)

Shifting the balance of power through collective action, and monitoring for accountability.” An update from the UN Food Systems Summit, and comment on what comes next.

Module Update Sessions

Module Leadership Team Coordinators will each have 10 minutes to present the various INFORMAS protocols (pre-recorded), outline new developments and future directions.

Technical discussion Sessions

Module-specific technical discussion forum, chaired by a regional module/domain expert. These may cover:

- What are the specific challenges to implementing this module in the region? Any areas requiring new development/innovation?
- Data and sources of funding available in the region
- Encouraging further module uptake in the region: what is needed, e.g. training?

These will be run in parallel streams, with up to 5 modules being covered concurrently.

Keynote 2 (afternoon)

Monitoring food systems for the double-burden of malnutrition & sustainability. This will focus on the shift to incorporating nutrition and sustainability in food environment assessment.

Abstract Sessions

Researchers present their *emerging* findings relating to food environments (focus on what can be relayed to policymakers *now*).

Format: 6 x 15 min abstracts (10 minutes + 5 minutes for discussion), multiple sessions to be run in parallel

Note: the INFORMAS Secretariat panel will award a prize for best student presentation!

Working Group Sessions

These sessions aim to provide an opportunity to bring together teams working in the various food environment monitoring domains to identify knowledge gaps and formulate new research ideas, build multi-country collaborations, and/or share tools and learning. The theme for the 2021 eSymposium series is ‘Strategies and Innovation in Knowledge Translation.’ The content will be tailored according to priorities identified by researchers in the region.