Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

World Health Organization

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS
INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS



Monitoring countries' adoption of Codex and regional bodies' food standards related to healthy diet and nutrition through the WHO Global database on the Implementation of Food and Nutrition Action (GIFNA)

Language: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish

09/July/2026
11.30 - 12.30 CEST

Plenary Hall, Centre International de Conférences de Genève (CICG)

SIDE EVENT

Background:

WHO tracks policies towards addressing all forms of malnutrition in all countries through the Global database on the Implementation of Food and Nutrition Action (GIFNA), which incorporates more than 3,700 national policies resulting from three decades of nutrition policy monitoring. Many of these policies are national food standards or national adoption of regional food standards.

Of relevance to the food sector, the GIFNA database includes country score cards on trans fat, sodium and sugars, and summaries of WHO best buy food environment policies such as food reformulation, public food procurement and service, front-of-pack labelling and food and sugar-sweetened beverage taxes. Other forthcoming data summaries include nutrition labelling as well as food fortification. For each of these areas, specific indicators relating to WHO guidance on healthy diets are assessed.

GIFNA is a major source of data for WHO reporting on thematic areas, such as trans fat elimination and sodium reduction, as well as to the WHO governing bodies on food policies for healthy diets.

This session will give a tour of the GIFNA database and how the information on national policies, regulations and standards are collected and analysed for the country score cards and data summaries. In an open discussion with attendees, the session will explore how the GIFNA database can be leveraged to monitor country uptake of relevant Codex guidelines and standards.

Time (CEST)	Agenda	Speakers
11:30-11:35	Welcome	Moderator: Dr Luc Ingenbleek, WHO
11:35-11:40	Opening remarks	Dr Sarah Cahill, Codex Secretariat
11:40-11:55	Overview of the WHO Global database on the Implementation of Food and Nutrition Action (GIFNA): data sources, analyses and outputs	Ms Kaia Engesveen, WHO
11:55-12:05	Perspectives on monitoring country adoption of Codex nutrition labelling guidelines and standards	Dr Zailina Abdul Majid, Malaysia
12:05-12:25	Discussion with attendees; Q&A	
12:25-12:30	Closing remarks	Dr Elaine Borghi, WHO