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Issue 2

SHIOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Beijing Shiology Research Center
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Editor's Note

We are pleased to share the second issue of the Shiology Newsletter. This edition highlights the launch of the Global Food Systems and SDGs Report (2026), which provides a comprehensive overview of current challenges and trends in global food systems.

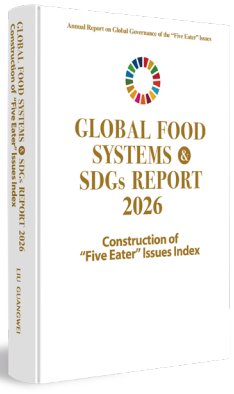
It features reflections from H.E. Siddharth Chatterjee, UN Resident Coordinator in China, on global food-system challenges, and an interview with Professor Claude Caldwell (Dalhousie University, Canada) on sustainable agriculture and international development. The "Understanding Shiology" section introduces the "Five Eater Needs", fostering academic discussion and practical exploration.

We welcome nominations of institutions and individuals to contribute to the Annual Report as co-authors or partners, especially researchers, practitioners, and organizations from underrepresented regions.

Editorial Team
Shiology Newsletter

News and Updates

Launch of the Global Food Systems and SDGs Report (2026)



On 24 January in Beijing, the 2026 Global Food Systems and SDGs Report was unveiled, highlighting food challenges for 8 billion people across 195 countries. Using the "Five Eater Needs" framework-eating enough, food safety, dietary diversity, health, and sustainability.

The new "Five Eater" Issues Index offers insights for policy, food security, and sustainable systems. Scholars and institutions worldwide —especially from underrepresented regions—are invited to contribute to shaping the future of global food systems.

The Annual Report on Global Governance of the "Five Eater" Issues (2026) provides a comprehensive assessment of current and emerging challenges, combining a global analytical framework with lessons from China to offer actionable insights and policy recommendations for food security, nutrition, health, and sustainable food systems.

Voices from the Global Community

UN Resident Coordinator Highlights Shiology-Led Transformation of Global Food Systems



At the Fifth World Shiology Forum, H.E. Siddharth Chatterjee, UN Resident Coordinator in China, highlighted the urgent need to transform global food systems amid hunger, malnutrition, obesity, and environmental pressures. He noted that food systems strain the climate, biodiversity, and natural resources, and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires rethinking how food is produced, distributed, and consumed.

Chatterjee described Shiology as an integrative approach linking food with health, culture, ecology, and social well-being. He emphasized systemic thinking and the importance of collective action across governments, academia,

the private sector, and civil society to build sustainable, inclusive, and resilient food systems.

Four Key Actions:

Climate-Food Nexus – Promote climate-resilient, low-carbon agriculture and support smallholder farmers.

Food Heritage – Preserve traditional food systems to enhance resilience and guide innovation.

Food Literacy – Educate individuals for healthier, environmentally friendly choices.

Inclusive Innovation – Ensure technology, finance, and biotech benefit women, youth, and marginalized farmers.

Transforming the food system is a global responsibility. From field to table and back, every step matters. The Global Food System and SDGs Report offers actionable guidance for this transformation.

http://shiology.easteat.com/%E5%B8%B8%E5%90%AF%E5%BE%B7.mp4

Expert Interview

This interview was conducted during the 5th World Shiology Forum on sustainable agriculture and global food system transformation. Professor Claude Caldwell of Dalhousie University, Canada, shares insights from his research and experience.

Q: What are the three most pressing challenges facing Canada's food system today?

A: Climate change is the most urgent, with droughts, wildfires, and extreme rainfall affecting production. Labor shortages, due to an aging farming population and declining interest in agriculture, are also serious. Finally, building system resilience and ensuring fair returns for farmers are essential for sustainability.

Q: How is Canada addressing these issues? Are there any new solutions?

A: Canada uses a national sustainability framework combining education, ecological investment, emissions reduction, and sustainable farming. "Living labs" connect farmers, scientists, and communities to test sustainable models. Labor gaps are addressed through immigration and stronger agricultural education, while value-chain collaboration enhances resilience and equity.

Q: What are your views and suggestions regarding the Global Food Systems and SDGs Report?

A: The report should emphasize poverty and inequality, since food access depends on purchasing power. Some concepts need clearer communication in Western contexts. Integrating food culture with scientific approaches and engaging all stakeholders is key to effective food system transformation.

Understanding Shiology

The Five Eater Needs (5E)

The Five Eater Needs provide a people-centred framework for understanding what food systems should deliver for everyone: Eating Enough (Food Sufficiency) ; Food-Safe Eating (Food Safety); Eating with Variety (Dietary Variety); Eating for Health and Longevity (Food and Longevity); Sustainable Eating (Food System Sustainability) .

► Eating Enough: Ensuring that every individual has reliable access to adequate quantities of food.

► Food-Safe Eating: Ensuring that food is safe to consume, including the safety of processed foods and food handling practices.

► Eating with Variety: Ensuring access to a balanced range of food groups—such as grains, meats, vegetables, and fruits—so that people can maintain a nutritious diet.

► Eating for Health and Longevity: Aligning dietary patterns with individual health needs. Because nutritional requirements vary across individuals, factors such as food types, portion size, preparation methods, eating frequency, and timing should support long-term health.

► Sustainable Eating: Ensuring that food can be produced and supplied over the long term without degrading environmental or social systems. Major risks include both human conflict and environmental pressures.

Get Involved

There are two different ways to participate in our ongoing initiatives:

Contribute to the Global Food Systems and SDGs Report (2026)

Scholars and practitioners can participate as co-authors, reviewers, or by recommending experts and partner institutions. This is an academic collaboration without organizational commitment. Nominate an expert:

https://form.jotform.com/260391203248047

2. Join the World Shiology Organization (WSO) as a Founding Institution

Institutions supporting Shiology's long-term development can join WSO's international network. Currently, no membership fee or financial contribution is required. Apply here:

http://shiology.easteat.com/Application%20Form%20for%20Founding%20Institutions%20of%20the%20World%20Shiology%20Organization.docx

We also welcome your comments and suggestions on this newsletter. Please contact us at: Secretariat@shiology.world