



COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

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OVERVIEW OF THE CFS 46 MULTISTAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS

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I. BACKGROUND

1. This CFS 46 Plenary Session on multistakeholder partnerships (MSPs) follows upon discussions held at CFS 45. It draws from the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) Report “*Multistakeholder partnerships to finance and improve food security and nutrition in the framework of the 2030 Agenda*”, launched in June 2018 and presented at CFS 45, and from concrete experiences at national, regional and global levels. The CFS 46 Plenary session on MSPs is part of the follow up process and will contribute to global efforts to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through knowledge generation and lesson-sharing on effective MSPs, in line with SDG17 (*Partnerships for the goals*).
2. The objective of this session is to highlight what makes MSPs effective in financing and improving food security and nutrition at national, regional and global levels. Also, to learn from innovative funding mechanisms and practical approaches to addressing challenges specific to MSPs by sharing specific experiences.
3. The HLPE report describes policies, initiatives, and investments that can contribute to financing, and improving food security and nutrition at national, regional and global levels, and draws attention to various types of partnerships and their potential to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The report and its recommendations aim to help state and non-state actors improve MSPs’ contribution to the realization of the right to adequate food, in particular by strengthening transparency and accountability.
4. A number of issues raised in the HLPE report are directly relevant to CFS as an inclusive multistakeholder platform, although the report clarifies that CFS should not be considered an MSPs, “*as decision-making rests unequivocally and entirely in the hands of governments*”. The report highlights the potential benefits and specific challenges of MSPs, such as tensions among partners, power asymmetries among partners, and transaction costs. The innovative funding mechanisms to mobilize private funds for sustainable development, such as blended finance, corporate social responsibility, and self-financing through community mobilization are also relevant to CFS.
5. Using examples of MSPs provided by CFS stakeholders, Annex 1 summarizes their main characteristics including geographic coverage, composition, and objectives.

II. PRESENTATION OF SELECTED MULTISTAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS

A. Every Woman Every Child

6. Every Woman Every Child (EWEC) is a global movement that mobilizes and intensifies international and national actions by governments, multilaterals, private sector, research/academia, and civil society. EWEC aims at addressing the major health challenges facing women, children, and adolescents around the world.
7. EWEC was launched by the UN Secretary-General in September 2010 and is ongoing. It is guided by the Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health first launched in 2010, and updated by the Global Strategy for the SDGs Era in 2015. Through parts of the EWEC ecosystem, governments and national leaders own and drive this process, developing national investment and implementation plans, with the H6 (UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, WHO and the World Bank Group), Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH) and partners needed to achieve national targets. Countries are supported by many partners under the EWEC umbrella in three main areas: technical support for planning and implementation, financing, accountability and advocacy.

8. In 2015, an updated Global Strategy (2016-2030) was launched and continues to underpin the EWEC movement. It puts into action a road map aligned with the SDGs to deliver on the promise of ending all preventable deaths and improving the overall health and well-being of women, children, and adolescents by 2030. The Global Strategy is aligned with the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework of the SDGs. Between 2015 and 2017, around 150 multistakeholder commitments have been pledged in support of the updated Global Strategy. Financial commitments to the updated Global Strategy (2016-2030) reached USD 35 billion by December 2017, of which 79 percent was pledged by 62 countries, 13 percent by civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental Organizations (NGOs), 4 percent by philanthropic foundations, and 3 percent by the business community.

9. EWEC is the result of an informal arrangement with voluntary reporting on commitments. The EWEC Independent Accountability Panel issues every year a report, based on contributions received from stakeholders. The theme of the 2018 report was accountability of the private sector, while the theme of the 2017 report was accountability to adolescents. The 2019 report will be dedicated to accountability to women's, children's and adolescents' health in humanitarian settings. As part of greater EWEC alignment on reporting on progress towards the Global Strategy, the Independent Accountability Panel and the H6 will report on progress as part of Countdown to 2030 at the end of January 2020.

10. The Global Financing Facility (GFF) is a mechanism that uses modest amounts of grant resources catalytically by leveraging greater amounts from: (i) domestic government resources; (ii) financing from the International Development Association (IDA) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD); (iii) aligned external financing; and (iv) private sector resources. The GFF was launched at the Financing for Development Conference in Addis Ababa in July 2015 as part of a global conversation about how to finance the SDGs. In November 2018, world leaders pledged USD 1 billion to help expand to 50 countries with the greatest health and nutrition needs. The GFF focuses on new approaches to financing that recognize that countries themselves are the engines of progress and that the role of external assistance is to: (i) support countries to get more results from existing resources; and (ii) increase the total volume of financing.

B. Platform for African-European Partnership in Agricultural Research for Development

11. The Platform for African-European Partnership in Agricultural Research for Development (PAEPARD) is a project created in April 2007 with the objective of facilitating MSPs between Africa and Europe in the field of agricultural research for development. PAEPARD was terminated in December 2018 but many spin-off MSPs developed in several African countries are still active. PAEPARD was financed by the European Commission (80 percent) and African partners (20 percent), with a total budget of around 15 million euro.

12. PAEPARD has been working to promote innovative processes through partnerships and mediation work between research organizations, civil society, farmer organizations and the private sector. The MSP allows new projects to emerge or to bring added value to existing projects in different sectors. While PAEPARD is an MSP, based on a formalized agreement among partners, it is not a legal entity itself.

13. On the European side, the European Alliance on Agricultural Knowledge for Development (AGRINATURA), an alliance of 36 agricultural research institutions in 18 European countries, coordinates the European partners. Other partners are the Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee for the Promotion of Horticultural Exports (COLEACP), representing the private sector, the Collectif Securite Alimentaire (CSA), representing NGOs, the Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation (CTA) and the International Center for Development-oriented Research in Agriculture (ICRA).

14. On the African side, partners include the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), based in Accra, Ghana; the Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO), the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Network (FANRPAN) based in Pretoria, South Africa, and the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) based in Kampala, Uganda.

15. Key actions of the project include mobilizing European and African stakeholders to join partnerships around themes identified through national and regional dialogues between researchers and non-researchers. A process of facilitation was undertaken in which partners jointly defined objectives, organizational roles, and responsibilities. They also identified and prioritized feasible and desirable research themes before developing funding proposals. Partners mobilized additional resources from the Applied Research Fund (ARF), AGROPOLIS Foundation, International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC), and the World Bank (WB).

16. Nineteen partnerships were selected through a call procedure and five additional ones resulted from a users led process. There was agreement to focus on the following five themes: (i) extensive livestock value chains in East Africa in particular in Kenya and Uganda; (ii) horticultural value chains in urban areas with special attention to Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Cameroon; (iii) the rice value chains in Benin, Burkina Faso and Mali; (iv) groundnut value chains in Zambia and Malawi; and (v) adding value to non-food mango waste in West Africa (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal).

17. Most important to the success of agricultural research for development partnerships was strengthening the capacity of individuals and organizations through a continuous, interactive process of social and experiential learning among multiple actors, leading to effective collaboration and co-creation of knowledge. One of the eight thematic briefs documenting these strengthening processes focuses on managing power differences in agricultural research for development partnerships. Realizing that farmer groups typically start from a position of less power in determining research agendas, as only researchers are often eligible to apply for research funding in the first place, the project developed a the "users-led process" with some success.

C. Food and Nutrition Security Programme for Bangladesh

18. The Food and Nutrition Security Programme for Bangladesh (FNSPB) was launched in 2015 (and is ongoing) to support the Government's efforts to reduce food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition. This programme is being achieved through a combination of policy advice, field-level practical interventions, and strengthened nutrition governance.

19. The FNSPB is comprised of three articulated components:

- i) *Meeting the Undernutrition Challenge (MUCH)*, which aims at strengthening the enabling environment for eradicating hunger and malnutrition through improved national capacities;
- ii) Addressing stunting at grass root levels in two districts in NE Bangladesh;
- iii) Implementing comprehensive, sustainable, and replicable solutions to deliver nutrition services through *Nutrition Governance Initiatives* implemented by a number of CSOs.

20. The FNSPB is complemented by the National Information Platform for Nutrition (NIPN) that aims to inform nutrition policies, programmes, and investments by providing a platform to raise policy questions, gather information and data needed to answer those questions, analyze data, and disseminate findings and evidence to policy makers and programme planners.

21. The FNSPB results from a formalized agreement among partners, but without legal entity. Partners include Government, FAO, a number of CSOs and resource partners, notably United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the European Commission (EU) and the UK

Department for International Development (DFID). Major stakeholders within the Government are Ministries of Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock, Women and Children's Affairs, and Finance. They also include the Planning Commission, several government coordination mechanisms, and the bureau of statistics.

22. The FNSPB is supported by the private sector through consultations, joint programming and implementation, e.g. an annual Nutrition Olympiad to engage youth and adolescents in food security and nutrition. The private sector is actively engaged as members of sub-committees on specific technical matters, such as the formulation of country investment plans, food and nutrition security policies and research studies.

23. Nutrition policy and programming in Bangladesh is characterized by a plethora of policies and strategies relevant to food security and nutrition. The MSP seeks to ensure vertical (national-subnational) and horizontal (government, funding partners and CSOs) integration and coordination to maximize concerted efforts. Challenges include mainstreaming food security and nutrition across and within sectors, ensuring coherence and minimizing policy fragmentation.

D. Fabretto submitted by the Private Sector Mechanism

24. The MSP Fabretto was created in October 2017 with the objective of making a positive impact on the lives of children and families in Nicaragua. Fabretto provides a holistic approach to community development and sustainable investment in agriculture, including three distinct mechanisms focused on (i) access to modern technology (ag-tech), agricultural inputs and financing, (ii) technical training on climate-smart farming techniques, and the use of ag-tech, and (iii) linkages to high-value markets (in particular coffee, fruit, chia and honey).

25. Fabretto works with each corporate partner to create a unique partnership to pursue a shared vision of social responsibility and is based on a formalized agreement among partners, but without being a legal entity. Partners include governments, academia, civil society, the private sector, and donors.

26. Offering pre-harvest and trade finance through innovative financing mechanisms such as revolving funds and short-term credit facilities managed by Fabretto helps farmers to improve their production. Higher quality crops and higher yields in turn have helped ensure better pricing for farm families, significantly increasing incomes and providing an opportunity to break the cycle of poverty in Nicaragua.

27. In all programmes, Fabretto introduces climate-smart agriculture techniques and promotes the use of appropriate technology, such as soil testing, geo-referencing, and virtual workshops. The private sector investment in ag-tech and training has a lasting impact on productivity and profitability; promotes the use of environmentally friendly, sustainable, data driven and climate-smart technology, and engages women and youth as the drivers of transformation. Expanding the use of ag-tech by a larger number of farmers shows great promise.

28. The MSP Fabretto, through investments in youth and small-holder farmers, enables producers to access finance and utilize climate-smart ag-tech, thus becoming financially sustainable and reducing the need for assistance in the long-term. The MSP, by combining the private sector, public and beneficiaries, offers opportunities to overcome entry barriers for SDGs at individual, farm level, and facilitates more sustainable and environmentally friendly agriculture practices across the country.

29. Financial commitments derived from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), private foundations, and the private sector. The IDB and others provide funding, through grants and loans. The initial budget for the MSP project was USD 1.8 million and is increasing. Funding is used to pay for capacity building through equipping and training youth and smallholder farmers, as well as for investment in the market platform of the foundation, Fabretto Enterprise. In particular, the credit

mechanism works through a revolving fund, with smallholder farmers receiving pre-harvest financing for plants and inputs, and later repaying through product value after harvest. Income earned through product sales is then re-invested into the fund and for training, thus creating a positive impact and contributing to the financial sustainability of Fabretto. Currently, Fabretto is creating a USD 5 million impact investment fund to expand the MSP further.

E. Transversal Analysis of the Civil Society Mechanism

30. The Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) will present a transversal analysis of MSPs, based on a range of experiences of multi-actor policy platforms and public-private partnerships. The analysis will focus on principles and conditions that governments can apply to determine whether an MSP is the most appropriate instrument to apply in a given situation and to ensure that MSPs work for the public interest and have a positive impact on the progressive realization of the right to adequate food. It will also discuss instruments that can identify and address power asymmetries and potential conflicts of interest in an MSP and assess their consequences.

ANNEX 1: MULTISTAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS FOR CFS 46 - MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

	Geographical coverage	Multistakeholder partnership	Country(ies) / Region(s) covered by the MSP	Start date / end date	Composition of the MSP	Objective of the MSP
1	Global	<u>Every Woman Every Child</u> , <i>launched by the UN Secretary-General</i>	All countries, until now 62 governments engaged	2010-2030	Governments, civil society, private sector, academia and philanthropy	Address the major health challenges facing women, children and adolescents around the world, implementing the 2030 Agenda
2	Regional	<u>PAEPARD</u> (<i>Platform for African-European Partnership in Agricultural Research for Development</i>)	Africa-Europe, covering 11 countries in sub-Saharan Africa	2007 - 2018	Governments, civil society, private sector and academia	Facilitate multi-stakeholder partnerships between Africa and Europe, in the field of agricultural research for development with the aim of achieving the SDGs
3	National	<u>FNSPB</u> (<i>Food and Nutrition Security Programme for Bangladesh</i>)	Bangladesh	2015 – ongoing	Government, civil society, and UN organization	Reduce food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition by providing-policy advice, guidance and support to nutrition sensitive strategies and interventions in Bangladesh
4	National	<u>Fabretto</u> submitted by Private Sector Mechanism	Nicaragua	2017- ongoing	Governments, academia, civil society, private sectors and donors	Provide a holistic approach to community development and sustainable investments in agriculture through access to ag-tech, training, and financing, thus making a positive impact on the lives of children and their families in Nicaragua
5	Global	Transversal analysis of Civil Society Mechanism	Global, regional and national MSPs and multi-actor platforms			

The MSPs were volunteered by CFS Stakeholders and selected based on their diversity of experiences at different level, inclusiveness, and regional representation.