

## INPUTS CHAIR'S PROPOSAL ON CONNECTING SMALLHOLDERS TO MARKETS

### The World Bank

Dear Colleagues - The CFS team is commended for preparing and concisely presenting various key issues pertaining to Smallholder connectivity whether it be in local, international or transitional market contexts, while touching on specific questions around nutrition and institutional procurement. The associated recommendations are fairly comprehensive and thoughtful.

We are moreover gratified that inputs conveyed previously are largely reflected in the current draft of the '*CFS Recommendation on Connecting Smallholders to Markets*'. With apologies for the delay in submitting these inputs from the Agriculture and Food Global Practice of the World Bank, please find below a few comments, that are more in the nature of presentational suggestions at this time.

***Clarify the Change Agent for Each Recommendation:*** While we note that the recommendations are primarily addressed to governments, we agree with the authors that many of the recommended actions can be undertaken and advocated by other stakeholders. In particular, each recommendation identifies an agent of change: either via a *public policy intervention* or a *procuring institution*. It is therefore important that the recommendations are tailored/ appropriate to either agent of change and explicit roles and accountabilities assigned. In other words, while the specific recommendations are well taken, it is suggested that the language be reviewed to align (and classify as feasible) with the correct, respective roles of the public sector institutions, which are often enablers of private sector investment for the desired ends, versus those of private entities which often catalyze and deliver the products, services and investments for generating intended outcomes.

***Distinguish between Policies and Practices/Investments:*** We also advise the task team to further distinguish recommended interventions into policies and investments/ practices. This is not simply a matter of semantics; a clear definition of these can help identify key public interventions, and hopefully help countries sequence and prioritize amongst the different interventions listed in the document. It might moreover be helpful to cluster interventions under "downstream" (wet markets infrastructure, food retailers, etc.), and "upstream" (inputs etc.). It might also be useful to differentiate between enabling public policies and investments in soft- and hard-ware that need to be made.

The inclusion of a *two-way matrix listing the entry points (policy, practice and investments) as well as identifying the responsible public or private actors* may be a useful visual aid in this regard.