

HLPE 2019 – COMMENTS ON THE SCOPE

FRANCE

First of all, we would like to congratulate you for your efforts to reach a consensus in the “CFS spirit” to build a better mutual understanding and if possible common language on topics relevant for FSN.

On the HLPE 2019 itself:

Considering the strong support by many countries to have a HLPE report on Agroecology reaffirmed several time, the relevance of this topic for FSN recognized by HLPE note on critical and emerging issues, also considering the discussion we had in the different meetings since February, the willingness also expressed by some to enlarge a little bit the scope but in the mean time staying meaningful, not too broad and relevant, and finally considering the importance of resilience and sustainability for both short and long terms, France, already supported by several countries, would like to build on your last proposal with some amendments:

*track change “Agroecological approaches and ~~the use of innovative technologies~~ **other innovations** for sustainable **and resilient** food systems **that contribute to food security and nutrition**”*

*clear version : “**Agroecological approaches and other innovations for sustainable and resilient food systems that contribute to food security and nutrition**”.*

Practically, the explanations for the proposed amendments are the following ones :

- the **plural** to agro-ecological approaches, compared to the original title on agroecology for FSN, takes on board other approaches at the crossroads of the sciences of agronomy and ecology for the design and management of sustainable agro-ecosystems. The understanding also mobilizes other sciences, for example economic, for multi-performance systems.
- Academicians acknowledge that **innovations for FSN / sustainable systems** can be diverse. Specialists identified **different kind of innovations** (including agroecology) interesting the CFS : technological, economical, organizational, institutional etc. It is essential not to exclude them when ordering the report to HLPE. The term "innovations", as proposed by Afghanistan in the middle of the discussion, is clearly more adapted than “innovative technologies”. The concept of innovations, without characterizing them, fit better with the willingness of the Committee. With this proposal, the Committee will rely on the structured expertise of the independent panel expertise of HLPE to define further the scope. While doing this, the HLPE will be fully in its role by giving a full, better and mutual understanding to members and non-states actors.
- the **resilience** of short-term systems is as important as their long-term **sustainability**. We wish to add this adjective,
- finally, we propose an **editorial suggestion** for a better understanding of the title.

We had several informal exchanges those days with many countries present in the last informal meeting and five of them already answer they support it. Others are looking at it.

For the scope, France supports the questions raised in the HLPE note on critical and emerging issues. They could be a good basis to define the term of references, adapted once the final title will be adopted by the committee.

As said above the HLPE in its independency and its multidisciplinary will be in its role to “translate” the political request contained in the title to adapt the scope of the future report and fit with this CFS request.