



Document No: CFS OEWG-SDGs/2017/03/03/03

CFS OEWG-SDGs Meeting # 2

Date: 3 March 2017, Time: 14:00-17:00

Location: Red Room, FAO HQ

Webcast link: <http://www.fao.org/webcast/en/>

Zero-draft
CFS contribution to the 2017 HLPF review
28 April 2017

“Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world”
In depth-review of SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14

UPFRONT: One page key messages

Committee on World Food Security

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS)'s vision is to be the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for a broad range of committed stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner in support of country led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all human beings. Its unique features include expanded participation rules to ensure that the voices of all relevant stakeholders are heard in the food and agriculture¹ policy dialogue, and a High-Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Food Security and Nutrition providing, upon request, independent evidence-based reports designed to inform and support policy discussions.

CFS' vision and roles are primarily delivered through three mutually reinforcing functions: policy coherence and convergence, progress review, and lesson and good practice sharing, all of which contribute to global coordination.

Contribution to the 2017 HLPF

The General Assembly, through its Second Committee Resolution A/C.2/71/L.56, reaffirmed the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security, and noted the role it could play in support of the integrated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and malnutrition. This contribution, prepared in an inclusive process involving all CFS stakeholders and with inputs from the CFS HLPE, follows the template shared by the President of ECOSOC while focusing on food security and nutrition issues. It provides the Committee's assessment of the global situation, identifies challenges, and shares lessons learned by the committee throughout its work, including on the importance of inclusiveness and on the strong links between poverty, food security and the rest of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Furthermore, it outlines some critical and emerging issues and offers policy recommendations which will accelerate progress on food security and across the entire 2030 Agenda.

¹The term “agriculture” includes crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture.

(a) Assessing the situation regarding the principle of “ensuring that no one is left behind” at the global level

Faster progress in reducing hunger and malnutrition is needed to ensure that “no one is left behind”.

Current progress on global hunger reduction is too slow to reach zero hunger by 2030, and other forms of malnutrition are even increasing. In 2015, according to the State of Food Insecurity in the World (SOFI) Report, an estimated 793 million people (10.8 percent of the global population) still lacked access to an adequate amount of dietary intake², including 165 million stunted children. Progress towards food security and nutrition is uneven across regions, with the majority of hungry people concentrated in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia. Other forms of malnutrition are rising, with two billion people deficient in key vitamin and minerals, and 1.9 billion adults and 43 million children worldwide overweight or obese³. While today, 1 in 3 people are malnourished, this number could reach one in two in 2030 based on current trends. Women, youth, indigenous peoples, small-scale food producers (pastoralists, fisher folks, family farmers, and landless people), elderly and people with disabilities remain the most vulnerable groups, and should be targeted first. Hunger eradication is indivisible from the eradication of poverty in all its forms. While poverty is often the main driver of food insecurity and malnutrition, hunger and malnutrition also result in the inability to escape poverty.

Hunger is particularly high and persistent in countries in protracted crisis, often caused by armed conflict. [numbers to be added after publication of FAO-WFP Global Report] In 2017, for the first time in 6 years, the world was confronted with situations of famine.

(b) The identification of gaps, areas requiring urgent attention, risks and challenges

Conflicts and crises undermine global progress on food security

The number of hungry and food insecure people in countries affected by conflict has increased dramatically in the past years. People in conflict affected states are up to three times more likely to be undernourished than those who are living in more stable developing countries. Global food security requires stepped-up global investments in peace and stability as fundamental conditions to overcome malnutrition.

Investment and policy gaps remain to implement the 2030 Agenda

Poor quality of rural infrastructure and connectivity to markets (especially those in growing peri-urban and urban areas), lack of capacity development, and lack of social protection mechanisms, continue to

² FAO, IFAD and WFP, Monitoring Food Security and Nutrition in Support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Taking stock and looking ahead

³ UNICEF/WHO/World Bank. Joint Malnutrition Estimates. 2012

exclude many from potential benefits and hold back progress on promoting prosperity broadly, and directly result from insufficient levels of investment and financing⁴.

Financing interventions to address these gaps, notably in developing countries, in a sustainable manner, remains a persistent challenge. Public and private investments must be increased to face “the enormous investment needs in these areas⁵”, and strengthen the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda (SDG17). To achieve Zero Hunger, FAO, IFAD and WFP particularly stress the need to fund both additional investment in social protection and additional targeted pro-poor investments in productive activities⁶.

Multistakeholder partnerships (MSPs) combine resources and expertise of different actors, which can enable them to address complex issues that cannot easily be solved by a single actor, and make them a central tool to share experiences, technologies, knowledges, and in mobilising domestic and foreign, public and private resources. They are expected to play an increasingly relevant role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda (SDG17). However, the effectiveness of the many types of existing partnerships in realizing their objectives, in financing and improving food security and nutrition outcomes, as well as their contribution to the governance of food systems, remains to be better understood. To this effect, CFS commissioned a report from the HLPE on 'Multistakeholder Partnerships to Finance and Improve Food Security and Nutrition in the Framework of the 2030 Agenda' (2018).

Policy gaps, inadequate legal frameworks, and/or weak institutions to enforce them often contribute to slow and insufficient progress in countries. Integrated policy instruments developed at global level can help address this gap, particularly when they have been designed through inclusive processes. Policies which benefit from such legitimacy have proven to be more easily taken forward by various actors, who can play an instrumental role in support of their governments' policy reform efforts. Section (f) provides recommendations that build on CFS's inclusive work to foster food security through improved policies and policy processes.

(c) Valuable lessons learned on eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity

Include stakeholders for effective food security and nutrition governance at all levels

The *CFS Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition* draws a number of lessons from the results achieved over the last decades⁷ on the importance of inclusiveness and multi-stakeholder participation in the design of policies at all levels. Just as CFS aims to contribute to inclusive global governance of food security issues by coordinating relevant global food and agriculture actors and interventions, effective systems of governance are needed at country level, involving stakeholders concerned or affected by the achievement of national food security and nutrition. All appropriate stakeholders, in particular small-scale food producers and local communities, must be closely involved in the design, planning and implementation of programmes and projects, including research

⁴ HLPE. 2013. Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security. A report by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security, Rome and HLPE, 2012. Social protection for food security. A report by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food

⁵Addis Ababa Action Agenda on the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, paragraph 13

⁶ e.g. FAO, IFAD, WFP, 2015 *Achieving Zero Hunger, the critical role of investments in social protection and agriculture*; IISD and IFPRI, *Ending Hunger: What would it cost?* October 2016

⁷ CFS Global Strategic Framework (CFS GSF), Chapter II, Section B “Past experiences and lessons learned”

programmes⁸, as well as partnerships created to improve local food security and nutrition. Effective national governance includes efficient, accountable and transparent institutions and structures and decision-making processes to ensure peace and the rule of law, which are essential elements of a conducive business environment⁹.

Policy integration is needed to achieve SDG2: The Right to Food

“Leaving no one behind” means addressing as an absolute priority every human being’s right to adequate food and nutrition. National and international efforts and investments must be stepped up towards this goal. This calls for both short- and longer-term interventions (a “twin-track approach”¹⁰) to poverty, food insecurity and malnutrition, and their causes¹¹. The progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security, implies the adoption of a holistic and comprehensive set of policies targeting this objective. These include, inter alia, direct and immediate measures to: ensure access to adequate food as part of a social safety net; improve the livelihoods of the poor and hungry in a sustainable manner; ensure access to employment, productive resources and appropriate services; and develop appropriate institutions, functioning markets, and a conducive legal and regulatory framework¹². These measures are particularly needed for vulnerable people living and working in specific locations (rural areas and hinterlands, urban slums) and sectors (small-scale agriculture) where poverty and hunger tend to be concentrated. Moreover, closing the gender gap in agriculture through policies promoting equal employment conditions and equal access to land productive resources, assets, services and opportunities, could reduce the number of hungry people in the world by 12–17 percent¹³.

Smallholder agriculture can unlock progress across the entire 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The role of smallholder agriculture (including small-scale artisanal fisheries, SDG14) in generating employment and entrepreneurship opportunities, particularly for youth, will be most important in countries with young populations - precisely those in which smallholder agriculture is the main provider of food and employment¹⁴. Integrated policies and investment targeted at smallholders and other key actors across agri-food systems have the potential to unlock the transformational role that improved nutrition and growth in smallholder agriculture (and related sectors) have been shown to play in galvanizing rural transformation. Higher incomes can generate demand for local agricultural inputs, capital and services, commercial distribution and processing infrastructure and services, and non-food consumable goods – which if met, can help to achieve growth and development in previously ‘left

⁸ CFS GSF Chap II Section B i)

⁹ CFS GSF Chap II Section B b)

¹⁰ Declaration of the 2009 World Summit on Food Security

¹¹ Structural causes of hunger and malnutrition relate to governance, economic and production issues, demographic and social issues, climate and environmental issues, see CFS Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition, rev 2015, Chapter II, A “Structural causes of hunger and malnutrition”.

¹² VGRtF, 2.4

¹³ State Of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) report, 2011

¹⁴ HLPE. 2013. Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security. A report by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security, Rome.

behind' areas (SDG9). Higher incomes among smallholders can also result in more diversified production and diets, leading to improved nutrition and health (SDG3), and to close the gender gap in rural areas (SDG5).

Integrate Progress Reviews

Progress reviews and lesson sharing dialogues, linking country follow-up and review efforts to global thematic discussions on progress, are an integral part of CFS' activities to support countries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and service national policy making. The CFS 2016 Plenary offered countries and stakeholders¹⁵ the opportunity to discuss their first *experiences related to efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and learn from each other on the importance of high-level political leadership, on the variety of existing approaches to inclusive implementation and review, on the diversity of country-specific approaches to integrated policy, on human rights as an important entry-point for progress, and on the effectiveness of multi-level collaboration (local, regional, national). Common challenges were also identified, linked to resource mobilization, regional disparities (including between rural and urban areas), and communicating the 2030 Agenda. Integrating reviews of progress, between national, regional, and global level is of paramount importance for collective efforts to have impact, and for successes to be leveraged.

(d) Emerging issues likely to affect the realization of poverty eradication and achieving prosperity

The CFS regularly requests its High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) to identify emerging issues and undertake analysis. In 2014, following a consultation of the global agriculture, food security and nutrition research community, the HLPE identified¹⁶ 5 issues expected to increasingly influence *future food security and nutrition*.

- Rapidly evolving food systems worldwide are related to the increasing “triple-burden” of malnutrition (deficiencies in dietary energy intake, nutrient deficiencies and obesity), often co-existing in the same country. The CFS commissioned a report on *Healthy nutrition in changing food systems* which will be published in the course of 2017.
- Growing demand for livestock products is driving major changes in food systems worldwide, with multiple and diverse economic, social and environmental consequences. Recognizing that *livestock systems* offer both challenges and opportunities for food security and nutrition, the Committee has subsequently commissioned a report¹⁷ and endorsed policy recommendations¹⁸.
- Food security and nutrition are heavily impacted by inequalities. *Inequalities* explain why global availability does not translate into global access to food, both because of unequal distribution of income and because the demand of wealthier populations drives food and resource price

¹⁵ The CFS 43 Special Event featured the experiences of eight countries, drawn from the 2017 VNRs (China, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Finland, Mexico, Norway, Switzerland), as well as 4 stakeholder representatives (Civil Society Mechanism, Private Sector Mechanism, Rome based Agencies, Local and Regional governments)

¹⁶ [Critical and Emerging Issues for food security and nutrition, 2014](#)

¹⁷ HLPE. 2016. Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition: what roles for livestock? A report by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security, Rome.

¹⁸ [Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition: what roles for livestock?](#)

increases, and point at the imperative of addressing the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable populations, in order to eradicate hunger.

- *Financial markets*, worldwide, are increasingly influencing land transactions, agricultural production decisions, rural credit provision, risk insurance and commodity pricing, as well as food distribution and retailing. Their role in providing food security and nutrition is an issue which deserves increased attention by policy makers.
- Current food systems appear to be largely inefficient and unsustainable from a health, environmental, economic and social point of view. How to ensure food security and nutrition for an increasing world population, now and in the future, from limited and diversely available resources, given social and economic imbalances, is becoming an overarching challenge for policy makers, and will require new *pathways to sustainable food systems, for the pursuit of human and environmental health for all*.

The CFS has asked the HLPE to prepare new advice on critical and emerging issues, which is expected in October 2017.

“Nutrition” and “Urbanization and Rural Transformation” are ongoing workstreams of the Committee, and both have the potential to yield considerable dividends for poverty eradication and prosperity:

- Malnutrition accounts for a loss of GDP of 11% in Africa and Asia. People who are well nourished (-not only fed-) live, learn and work better, and contribute to achieving their societies’ aspirations for inclusive economic growth and greater stability by building more sustainable futures for themselves and their families¹⁹. There is a strong economic case for investing in nutrition in order to reduce the costs associated with hidden hunger and stunting: the compound rate of return on nutrition investments is more than 10 percent²⁰. Supported by an HLPE report on “Nutrition and Food Systems” to be presented in CFS 44 in October 2017, CFS is expected to develop policy guidance in the next biennium to support governments and national multistakeholders establish an enabling environment for food systems to deliver on improved nutrition.
- Rural transformation and urbanization, taking place worldwide as part of broader structural transformations, can reduce (urban and rural) poverty and galvanize prosperity. However deliberate policy and investment measures are required for *inclusive* transformations. These investment and policies should prioritize the creation of more and better income generating opportunities, infrastructure and services which benefit everyone, create decent employment (especially for young people), empower women, expand social protection programmes, improve nutrition for all, and address rural/urban inequalities. The CFS is currently drawing lessons from across the world on these issues in order to share knowledge on experiences and effective policy approaches.
- The alarming effects of climate change on food security and livelihoods are well known²¹, as is the share of greenhouse gas emissions related to agricultural and land-use activities; however,

¹⁹ The Global Nutrition Report 2014

²⁰ The Global Nutrition Report 2016

²¹ According to IPCC 2014, climate change could increase the risk of hunger and malnutrition by up to 20 percent by 2050;

only recently have food systems been recognized for their important role and possible positive contribution to emission reduction efforts. The 2015 Paris Agreement opens the door to positive benefits for food security and nutrition of efforts addressing climate change, with 90% of the Nationally Determined Contributions now including agriculture in their adaptation of mitigation plans, and 78% of the NDCs directly related to achieving SDG2. Climate action can positively impact on poverty and hunger eradication, particularly when it involves increased public and private investments in agriculture. Among the most urgent challenges is the need to enable smallholder farmers to adapt to the effects of climate change, including through enhanced rural capacity building, better risk management, and improved international cooperation around food security.

(e) Areas where political guidance by the high-level political forum is required

Stronger linkages between the national, regional and global levels are needed

Following their commitment to engage in systematic follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, an increasing number of countries are setting up inclusive follow-up mechanisms and review mechanisms at national level. Many examples of these institutional arrangements were offered by volunteer countries in the lesson-sharing session on experiences in implementing the 2030 Agenda in CFS 43 (2016). With regular sessions designed to discuss lessons learned by countries around food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture issues, and progress in achieving SDG2 and related targets, CFS will continue to offer a platform in which countries and multistakeholders can share their experiences at global level. However, stronger links with regional and national-level discussions are needed, to ensure that these discussions and learnings have impact where they should: on the national and local food security and nutrition situations, through regional and national-level policy platforms. Guidance would be welcome from the HLPF, on how to solidify and more systematically create such links for a more effective thematic review of progress.

Greater policy convergence is needed

Successfully tackling poverty and hunger requires that they be addressed through comprehensive policies supported by an understanding of the interconnected issues, trade-offs and synergies, which will generate sustainable results. CFS has developed a number of policies addressing major related issues in an integrated way, based on independent evidence and expertise, and designed with the participation of a range of relevant actors (see annex 1 for a full list). *The urgency is now for government policy-makers and stakeholders to consider these in the context of their countries, and use them to support national policy making and legislative framework reforms.*

The General Assembly, through its Second Committee Resolution A/C.2/71/L.56, recognized the VGGT and RAI as important CFS policy instruments to support countries achieve the SDGs, and encouraged countries to “give due consideration to [their] dissemination, promotion and implementation”. Guidance

is needed from the HLPF to draw governments' attention on the urgent need for country-level uptake of all CFS voluntary integrated policy instruments, as befits their national context.

(f) Policy recommendations on ways to accelerate progress in poverty eradication

Secure tenure rights and equitable access to land, fisheries and forests

The eradication of hunger and poverty, and the sustainable use of the environment, depend in large measures on how people gain access to land, and to fish and forest resources. The livelihoods of many, particularly the rural poor, are based on secure and equitable access to and control over these resources. They are the source of food and shelter; the basis for social, cultural and religious practices; and a central factor in economic growth²². In 2012, CFS members endorsed the Voluntary guidelines on the responsible governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security (VGGT)²³ to provide guidance to stakeholders on how to facilitate secure tenure rights and foster equitable access to land, fisheries, and forests.

Full implementation of the VGGT, can improve governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests for the benefit of all, and provide the needed foundation to eradicate hunger and poverty, particularly for the most vulnerable and marginalized people. The VGGT recognize customary tenure systems of indigenous peoples and other communities as legitimate, and encourage States to protect such rights. The VGGT aim to contribute to food security and the progressive realization of the right to adequate food, poverty eradication, sustainable livelihoods, social stability, housing security, rural development, environmental protection and sustainable social and economic development²⁴, and are directly relevant to targets of SDG 1, 2, 5, 14 and 17.

Invest responsibly in agriculture and food systems

To end poverty and hunger by 2030, a significant increase in both public and private investment- from a "business as usual" scenario - is needed, and current and future investment must be made more responsible and pro-poor²⁵. Recognizing the vital role of smallholders in agriculture and food systems, it is particularly important that their capacity to invest be strengthened and secured²⁶. Investing in agriculture and food systems can produce multiplier effects for complementary sectors, such as services or manufacturing industries, thus further contributing to food security and nutrition and overall economic development²⁷. Responsible investment can make a significant contribution to enhancing sustainable livelihoods, in particular for smallholders and members of marginalized and vulnerable groups, by creating decent work for agricultural and food workers, fostering social and gender equality, promoting social participation and inclusiveness, increasing economic growth, and therefore achieving sustainable development. In 2014 CFS members and stakeholders reached consensus on the CFS-

²² VGGT, Preface, paragraph 3

²³ CFS 38 Final report

²⁴ VGGT, 2012, Objectives, 1.1

²⁵ e.g. FAO, IFAD, WFP, 2015 *Achieving Zero Hunger, the critical role of investments in social protection and agriculture*; IISD and IFPRI, *Ending Hunger: What would it cost?* October 2016

²⁶ RAI, para 4

²⁷ RAI, para 6

Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI)²⁸ to provide guidance to stakeholders on how to promote more responsible investment that contributes to food security and nutrition.

Full implementation of the CFS-RAI Principles will promote needed responsible investment to eradicate hunger, provide a framework for continuous improvement for existing investments, enhance livelihoods and promote prosperity, and mitigate risks to food security and nutrition. The CFS-RAI are related to the achievement of SDG 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14, 17 targets.

Focus on the special needs of countries in protracted crises

The most recent projections suggest that approximately half of the global poor now live in states characterized by conflict and violence; and 93 per cent of people living in extreme poverty are living in countries deemed as fragile or environmentally vulnerable, or both²⁹. Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity requires a greater focus on these countries. These countries often face continuous or recurring cycles of disaster, crisis or conflict that pose threats not only to peoples' lives but also their livelihoods. The short-term emergency and relief assistance normally provided to these countries has not been able to break this cycle. Protracted crises call for specially designed and targeted assistance that addresses the immediate need to save lives and alleviate suffering, and also boosts resilience and the capacity to absorb, prepare for, and prevent humanitarian disasters, crises and long-term stresses in the future. The particular impact on women and children, and the importance of considering gender in crises responses, should also be given greater attention³⁰, while nutritional needs, given the severity of undernutrition during protracted crises, also require a special focus especially for at risk populations. In 2015, the CFS endorsed the CFS Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (CFS-FFA)³¹ to provide guidance to stakeholders on how to improve food security and nutrition in protracted crises while addressing the underlying causes.

The CFS-FFA represents the first global consensus on how to improve the food security and nutrition of populations affected by or at risk of protracted crises by bridging humanitarian and development assistance. Full implementation of the CFS-FFA provides the basis for increasing integrated interventions in countries affected by or at risk of protracted crises, and the needed guidance on how to build resilience and prevent crises and resulting impacts on food security and nutrition. CFS-FFA directly contributes to the achievement of SDG 1, 2, 3, 5, and 17.

Support smallholder access to markets

Smallholders are crucially important in global food production, and yet they constitute an overwhelming share of the world's poor, food insecure and malnourished population³². Globally, more

²⁸ CFS 41 final report

²⁹ Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2015

³⁰ GSF, Chapter IV, Section I

³¹ CFS 42 Final report

³² HLPE. 2013. Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security. A report by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security, Rome.

than 80% of smallholders operate in local or domestic food markets, in which most of the food consumed in the world transits³³. Better connecting smallholders to local, national and/or regional food systems, can provide employment and contribute to local, social and economic development. But a variety of challenges can prevent smallholders from securing market access and eliciting benefits to support healthy livelihoods. In 2016, CFS developed and adopted Recommendations on Connecting Smallholders to Markets that address these challenges.

Full implementation of the recommendations will help to improve: data on the relationship between smallholders and markets, market infrastructure, youth engagement, production system diversification, nutrition, procurement programmes, and many other areas which are directly relevant to the achievement of SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 17.

Develop integrated social protection policies and programs

The expansion of social protection across the world has been critical for progress towards the international hunger targets. More than 100 countries now have some form of cash transfer programme that focuses on promoting food security and nutrition, health, and education, particularly of children. However, about 70% of the world's population still lack access to some form of social security³⁴. Social protection instruments³⁵, such as safety nets, can improve resilience, food security and nutrition. They also contribute to shared prosperity by raising levels of child nutrition and improving cognitive development, school attainments and future labour productivity, thereby enhancing earning potential and promoting development. By preventing the depletion of assets and reducing the personal risk of investing for the poor, social protection systems can also contribute to the adoption of higher-risk but higher-income livelihood options and alleviate some market failures. Finally, they can be implemented in ways that also contribute to promoting local production and markets³⁶.

The CFS Policy recommendations 'Social Protection for Food Security and Nutrition', built upon the findings of the HLPE report on the same topic and endorsed in 2012, support countries to put in place or strengthen comprehensive, nationally-owned, context-sensitive social protection systems for food security and nutrition, necessary to achieve SDG 1, 2, 3.

Empower rural women

Women comprise 43% of the agriculture labour force in developing countries, and studies show that, due to factors such as migrations, income diversification, modern technologies, climate change or conflicts, feminization of the agricultural sector will only increase in the future. Yet despite their crucial role in agriculture, women still face constraints that reduce their productivity and access to markets, thereby limiting their contributions to agricultural development, economic growth and the well-being of their families and communities. If women were given the same access to resources as men, they could increase the yields on their farms by 20% – 30%³⁷. Advancing women's rights, particularly: smallholder women's equal access to natural and financial resources, women's and girls' access to education, health

³³ Smallholder policy recommendations

³⁴ See FAO, IFAD, WFP, *State of Food Insecurity (SOFI) 2015 report*, In brief

³⁵ GSF, Chapter IV, Section J

³⁶ GSF, Chapter IV, Section A, c)

³⁷ SOFA report 2011

and good nutrition, and women's enhanced participation in economic decision making, can help maximize the key role that women already play for food security, nutrition, family incomes and household resilience, as well as overall agricultural production and productivity.

In 2011, CFS endorsed policy recommendations on 'Gender, Food Security and Nutrition' urging Member States and all stakeholders to take concrete actions to improve women's meaningful participation in decision making processes and ensure that women have equal access to health, education, land, water and other natural resources, including by enacting gender sensitive legislation. The recommendations are of direct relevance to the achievement of SDG1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 17.

Develop decent work and empower youth to further food security

Productive employment and decent work through improved working conditions, adequate living wages, training, access to resources and tools are essential to foster sustainable economic prosperity. CFS products³⁸ call for policies and investments aimed at promoting decent work for all with particular attention to the agri-food sector, creating new jobs by fostering entrepreneurship and equal access to market opportunities both on-farm and off-farm, and ensuring working conditions are consistent with the obligations included in the relevant instruments ratified by States³⁹.

In many countries and regions where poverty and hunger are most prevalent, more than half of the population is currently under 25, with the majority of these young people living in rural towns and settlements, even as migration to cities expands. Access to new technologies, combined with the appropriate skills, and knowledge of traditional practices and training (agricultural, financial, and entrepreneurial), can empower youth to drive solutions to poverty eradication and promote long-term prosperity.

In 2015, CFS published a compilation of case studies illustrating examples of initiatives aimed at 'Developing the knowledge, skills and talent of youth to further food security and nutrition', in order to define existing gaps in engaging with youth and potential policy implications for achieving food security and nutrition,⁴⁰. The approaches and subsequent lessons learned provide important insight into how to achieve SDG 1, 2, 5, 9, and 17.

Promote sustainable fisheries and aquaculture

Fisheries and aquaculture, both as a primary source of protein and essential nutrients (lipids, vitamins and minerals), and as a provider of income and livelihoods, make an important contribution to food security and nutrition and the reduction of non-communicable diseases. Between 660 and 820 million people (workers and their families) are estimated to depend totally or partly on fisheries, aquaculture and related industries as a source of income and support, and between 70 and 80 percent of aquaculture ventures are considered small-scale, often family-based activities⁴¹. Fish in the diet, as a

³⁸VG RtF Guideline 8A; CFS-RAI principle 2; VGGT para 12.4 ;

³⁹ In particular, the international Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and relevant ILO Conventions and other treaties including human rights conventions.

⁴⁰ <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5024e.pdf>

⁴¹ HLPE, 2014. Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition. A report by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security, Rome 2014.



Open Ended Working Group (OEWG)

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

rich source of protein, lipids, vitamins and minerals, can help reduce the risks of both malnutrition and of non-communicable diseases.

The policy recommendations 'Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture for Food Security and Nutrition' address: fish consumption in diets, food safety, over capacity and over-fishing, loss and waste along the fish-value chain, climate change adaptation strategies, specific contribution and requirements of small-scale fisheries, fish trade, social protection and labour rights, and the gender dimension of fisheries. They provide guidance on how sustainable fisheries and aquaculture can become an integral part of national food security and nutrition strategies, policies, programmes and investment plans, and are directly relevant to SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14 and 17.

Annex 1 : List of CFS policy products and HLPE reports

CFS endorsed policy products	HLPE independent reports
<p>Major products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (2015) • Voluntary guidelines on the responsible governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security - (VGGT 2012) • Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI 2014) • Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crisis (CFS-FFA 2015) <p>Policy recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land tenure and international investments in agriculture (CFS 37: 2011) • Price volatility and food security (CFS 37: 2011) • How to increase food security and smallholder sensitive investments in agriculture (CFS 37: 2011) • Food security and climate change (CFS 39: 2012) • Social protection for food security (CFS 39: 2012) • Biofuels and food security (CFS 40: 2013) • Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security (CFS 40: 2013) • Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition (CFS 41, 2014) • Food Losses and Waste in the Context of Sustainable Food Systems (CFS 41, 2014) • Water for Food Security and Nutrition (CFS 42, 2015) • Connecting Smallholders to Markets (CFS 43, 2016) • Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition: what roles for livestock? (CFS 43, 2016) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HLPE Report #1 Price volatility and food security (CFS 37: 2011) • HLPE Report #2 Land tenure and international investments in agriculture (CFS 37: 2011) • HLPE Report #3 Food security and climate change (CFS 39: 2012) • HLPE Report #4 Social protection for food security (CFS 39: 2012) • HLPE Report #5 Biofuels and food security (CFS 40: 2013) • HLPE Report #6 Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security (CFS 40: 2013) • HLPE Report #7 Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition (CFS 41, 2014) • HLPE Report #8 Food Losses and Waste in the Context of Sustainable Food Systems (CFS 41, 2014) • HLPE Report #9 Water for Food Security and Nutrition (CFS 42, 2015) • HLPE Report #10 Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition: what roles for livestock? (CFS 43, 2016) <p>Outcomes from thematic lessons learned events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing the knowledge, skills and talent of youth to further food security and nutrition (CFS 42) • Experiences and good practices in the use and application of the voluntary guidelines on the responsible governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security (VGGT) - Summary and key elements • <i>TBC: Outcomes Special Event 2030 Agenda CFS 43</i>