

CSM Comments on Draft CFS Submission to HLPF

The following elements convey the key CSM comments on the draft submission. However, some additional, though minor, editing suggestions might be raised directly in the OEWG session.

- Page 3 - Key message n. 3 remains somehow cryptic. The earlier formulation was actually clearer, in particular the first sentence of the previous text “Integrated and inclusive development strategies should lead to mutually beneficial links between urban and rural areas”. Suggested removal of the term win-win, as in the context of current inequalities it means status-quo: there is urgent need for policies that favour those most affected by hunger and malnutrition as well as the primary contributors to food security;
- Page 3 – Section (a) opening paragraph. The sentence “... it called on all stakeholders, including all governments and the UN system” should be reversed. Governments are duty bearers not stakeholders. The sentence should read “It call on all governments, the UN system and all other relevant actors”;
- Page 4 – Long section starting with “in 2015”. The paragraph suggests that land degradation is “... mostly driven by population growth and economic growth”. This completely overlooks the role of the industrial production model, particularly related to livestock. The CFS SAIL process has addressed this to a significant extent. Similar comment can be made on deforestation, as addressed by the most recent CFS policy convergence process. The paragraph needs to make reference to the unsustainability of the current industrial production model. When referring to competition for water, it should be clarified that the competition is primarily between irrigated agriculture, rather than agriculture in general;
- Page 7 – Biofuels Section. The following text is proposed for the last sentence: “Other CFS products, such as the VGGT, also provide guidance on how to ensure that biofuels policies are coherent with food security”;
- Page 7 – Water Section. The following text is proposed “The CFS Policy recommendations "Water for food security and nutrition" endorsed in 2015 offer members and stakeholders guidance on how policies can successfully address the multiple challenges related to water-food security and nutrition, linkages between the right to safe drinking water and sanitation and the progressive realization of the right to adequate food, and synergies with other goals through an integrated ecosystem approach towards managing land, water and biodiversity.”
- Page 9 – RAI Section. The sentence which was deleted was a better representation of the role of the State in strengthening smallholders’ own investments: “To strengthen and secure smallholders’ own investment, the Principles recognize that it is also necessary to engage with and promote responsible investment by other stakeholders”;
- Page 9 – Nutrition Section. The sentence “The effects of economic growth, urbanization, and changes in relative prices of food influence changes in diets and food systems, and lead to an acceleration of the nutritional transition”, now deleted, should be maintained;
- Page 10 – Nutrition Section. The reference to the fact that the voluntary guidelines on food systems and nutrition will be completed in the next biennium should be removed. This is under discussion by the OEWG on Nutrition.