

## Comments on Draft One of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition

### Philippines

With reference to Draft One of the CFS VG on Food Systems and Nutrition, the Philippines would like to submit the following comments:

- We welcome the highlight given in paragraphs 7 and 8 to poverty and inequality as important underlying causes of hunger and malnutrition, and their impact to those most affected by malnutrition, which are strategic concerns for many developing countries.
- We observed that in the entire document, “family farmers” were only referred to in paragraph 3.3.2.c, regarding strengthening public procurement systems. However, as we are aware, family farmers can do more. In fact, in the UNDDF Global Action Plan, it was emphasized that *“Enabling and supporting family farmers to attain diversified, innovative and dynamic agricultural systems can increase the availability of nutritious, sustainably produced and culturally appropriate food, which can incentivize healthy diets while promoting the transition towards context-specific, diversified, resilient and sustainable food systems.”*

We would request that family farmers be more recognized in the guidelines and perhaps, one option is to add a concept in section 3.2.1, describing the abovementioned role and potential of family farmers. Also, while we recognize the wide range of family farmers from small to large holders, another option is to apply an agreed language used in the CFS Principles for Responsible Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI) of "smallholders, including those that are family farmers", wherever "smallholders" are referred to in the draft guidelines, considering that most family farmers in developing countries are smallholders."

- We suggest adding a new paragraph under 3.4.2 (Utilizing policies and tools to increase knowledge, education and information) to recommend that "States should provide information and support on how sustainable innovative technologies can be made more accessible to low-income and smallholder farmers, including those that are family farmers."