

BACKGROUND

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) will organize a High-Level Special Event on Global Food Security and Nutrition, 13 - 15 October 2020. This event, to be held in lieu of CFS 47 which has been rescheduled to 8 - 12 February 2021 in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, will seek to keep food security and nutrition issues front and center on the global sustainable development agenda.

Over the course of these three days, CFS will organize three high-level virtual plenary sessions, one per day, to:

1. Take stock of the global food security situation guided by the SOFI 2020 and the HLPE report on Building a Global Narrative towards 2030;
2. Reflect on the impact of COVID-19 on food security and nutrition and the global efforts needed to build back better; and
3. Discuss the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition and the CFS Policy Recommendations on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches, and their relevance to the objectives of the UN Food Systems Summit.

VIRTUAL PARTNER EVENTS

To enrich and complement the plenary discussions on these broad and critical topics and to give its partners and stakeholders an opportunity to highlight their work, CFS will organize 12 virtual partner events over the three days – 4 per day. The partner events (two in the morning before plenary and two in the afternoon after plenary), will be hosted/co-hosted and organized by CFS stakeholders.

These events have been carefully selected through a competitive process to ensure full alignment with at least one of the high level plenaries outlined above. Partner events co-organised by multiple CFS stakeholders (governments, UN agencies, private sector, civil society, and philanthropies) were favourably considered.

FORMAT OF THE PARTNER EVENTS

Each virtual partner event will be allocated 1.5 hours: 11:00am to 12:30pm in the morning and 4:30pm to 6:00pm in the afternoon. To ensure efficient use of the allocated time, we recommend the following:

- Maximum of 5-6 speakers including chairs;
- Keep presentations brief and to the point (max 5-8 minutes). Check all slides before they are projected and be strict about their quality (visibility: font color, size; attractiveness: visuals vs. text; key messages);
- Make sure speakers are introduced to participants and their bios shared if possible;
- Allow enough time for Q&A with the audience. A minimum of 30 minutes is recommended.

THEMES

Most Partner Events have themes linked to the CFS mandate of food security and nutrition and are aligned with one or more of the 3 plenary session themes. Organizers are encouraged to structure their events in a way that facilitates sharing of progress and experiences in the implementation of CFS's recommendations at national, local, or regional levels.

CO-HOSTING AND SPEAKERS

One of the distinctive features of the CFS is its multi-stakeholder nature, bringing the voices of not only governments but also many other actors: civil society, private sector and philanthropies, research, and international organisations. It is important that speakers are drawn from among these constituencies, ensuring gender parity, geographic diversity and youth presence.

AUDIENCE

It is important to keep in mind that partner events are open to diverse participants and should therefore be tailored for both general and very informed audiences. Please be sure to observe diplomatic protocol when Member representatives are present.

INTERPRETATION

You are encouraged to secure interpretation services, if possible, for your side event which is available at a cost through FAO's Language Service Division. Please indicate if you wish to include interpretation services and we will connect you with the responsible officer. Please note that you will be charged for this service if you choose to cancel your side event after September 30.

PUBLICITY MATERIAL FOR PARTNER EVENTS

Organizers of selected partner events will be responsible for publicity and outreach for their events, including any promotional materials and contacting potential invited participants. The CFS Secretariat will post electronic versions of these materials on our website, but all other communications, including updates/changes, will be the responsibility of the organizers. Permission to use the CFS logo and/or logos of any organizations referenced in your communication materials must be received in writing from those organizations.

COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL MEDIA

All partner events for this Special Event will be hosted on Zoom (more details on this will follow soon), For Twitter messaging during your events please tag @UN_CFS and #CFSSpecialEvent.

Following each partner event, organizers will be asked to provide a few captioned images/visuals and quotes which the CFS Secretariat will use in its daily summary newsletter. Within two weeks of the event, organizers are requested to submit a "Summary of Outcomes" to the CFS Secretariat which will be posted on the event web page in the original FAO language in which it was received. Failure to submit such a Summary may impact eligibility for organizing future CFS events.

PUNCTUALITY

Please make sure that your partner event starts and ends punctually to allow participants time to join the plenary sessions and/or attend to other engagements.

CONTACTS

For more information, please contact: **CFS-Side-Events@fao.org**