



# COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

## **Forty-fifth Session**

***"Making a Difference in Food Security and Nutrition"***

**Rome, Italy, 15-19 October 2018**

**FOOD SYSTEMS AND NUTRITION: GOOD PRACTICES AND  
LESSON SHARING - SESSION ROLLOUT**

1. The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) embarked on a policy convergence process which is intended to lead to the finalization and endorsement in 2020 of Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition. This work is done as a follow-up of the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) and as part of the CFS contribution to the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition. A successful Nutrition Decade will contribute to an acceleration of the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
2. Good nutrition is integral to human well-being and is relevant to all the SDGs, both as an outcome and as an important input. Most of the SDGs and their targets both benefit from, and require, good nutrition. The recently published SOFI report concluded that around 1 in 3 people suffer from some form of malnutrition, highlighting increased hunger and obesity.
3. The Voluntary Guidelines are intended to contribute to improving food systems to make them more sustainable and to ensure that the diets needed for optimal nutrition are available, affordable, acceptable, safe, and of adequate quantity and quality while conforming to people's beliefs, culture and tradition. A systemic approach will be followed in order to counter the existing policy fragmentation between the food, agriculture and health sectors, while also addressing livelihood and sustainability challenges.
4. In this context, it is key to adopt a holistic approach that looks at the multidimensional causes of malnutrition, including the lack of stable access to healthy, balanced, diversified and safe diets and safe drinking water, inadequate infant and young child caring and feeding practices, poor sanitation and hygiene, insufficient access to education and health services, income poverty, poor agricultural

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practices, inequalities due to gender and other factors in access to resources, imbalanced power relations, and limited economic opportunities.

## **I. PURPOSE OF THE SESSION**

5. The purpose of this session is to share experiences of multi-sectoral policies and programmes integrating nutrition concerns into relevant interventions as well as concrete instruments to build policy coherence between and across sectoral policies.

6. The session will benefit from the outcomes of the Expert Group Meeting “Linking Nutrition with the SDGs” held in New York in June 2018 and represents an opportunity to look at potential entry points and at the relation between nutrition with specific SDGs:

- SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all;
- SDG 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;
- SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable;
- SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns;
- SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

## **II. SESSION ROLLOUT**

7. The event will take the form of an interactive panel discussion moderated by Ms Anna Lartey, Director of the Nutrition and Food Systems Division of FAO. Discussions will be framed in the context of the ongoing CFS policy convergence process with a view to providing inputs to the development of the policy relevant areas identified in the Terms of Reference for the preparation of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition.

8. Opening remarks will be made by the UN Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN) to present the outcomes of the Expert Group meeting held in New York. Following there will be an inclusive panel made up of representatives from Member Countries, civil society and the private sector. Panelists will be asked to present examples and lessons of the interlinkages between nutrition and the five SDGs under review in 2018.

9. Following the presentations the floor will be opened for interaction.