**Call for experiences in the use and application of three sets of CFS policy recommendations on smallholder agriculture in the context of food security and nutrition**

**Template for submissions**

 **Please use this**[submission form](http://bit.ly/2nAitb1)**to share your experience in the use and application of three interconnected sets of CFS policy recommendations on smallholder agriculture in the context of food security and nutrition.

For the necessary background and guidance, please refer to the topic note:** <http://www.fao.org/fsnforum/activities/discussions/CFS-smallholders-fsn>**.**
**You can upload the completed form to the** FSN Forum **(**[www.fao.org/fsnforum](http://www.fao.org/fsnforum)) **or send it via email to** fsn-moderator@fao.org**.**

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| **Title of your submission\*** | **HIC-HLRN Policy Feedback from NE/NA region** |
| **Geographical coverage***Indicate if your submission covers several levels, e.g. national level and regional level* | Near East and North Africa (NE/NA) |
| **Country(ies)/ Region(s) covered by your submission** | Egypt, Iran |
| **Contact person**  | Name: Joseph Schechla, Heather ElaydiEmail address: jschechla@hlrn.org, helaydi@hlrn.org  |
| **Affiliation (indicate your affiliation)** |  Government UN organization√ Civil Society / NGO Private Sector Academia Donor Other ………………………………………………………… |

*\*Please choose a title for your submission, referring e.g. to your organization or/ and geographical coverage*

**If the information provided in your submission results from a multistakeholder consultation, please also fill the table in annex.**

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| 1. Awareness of CFS policy recommendations
 | * How have you heard of these policy recommendations (e.g. CFS meeting or event, internet, colleagues, government, civil society organization)?

Through Civil Society Mechanism of the CFS (CSM) working groups, coordination committee and forums* Have you taken any actions to make these policy recommendations known to colleagues or other CFS stakeholders (Please tick the answer below)?

[ ]  No[x]  Yes If yes, please explain: **We promote CFS policies through direct contact and/or via email with members of our Network and Coalition whenever relevant, as well as through HLRN’s periodic NE/NA Land Forum and electronic newsletter *Land Times/أحوال الأرض*.** * What would you recommend to CFS member states, Rome-based Agencies or/ and other stakeholders to make CFS policy products more widely known? Please explain:

**Much more needs to be done to make the policies more widely known. We recommend using more traditional and social media platforms; information on policy needs to be in diverse forms (most farmers and government officials in our region will not read 8 pages of policy recommendations). We need pictures, videos, audio programs for radio, etc.); facilitator’s guides for all policy, as currently exists for the CSM Tenure Guidelines; regional or country-specific workshops with government, CSOs and local community; training for farmers; mapping in the form of visual aids with case studies. Actors in government ministries are not aware of the policies, but many would be open to trying to use them.** |
| 1. Use of the three sets of policy recommendations

  | * Which set(s) of policy recommendations have been used at sub-national, national, regional or/ and global level to support smallholder agriculture (please tick the answer below)?

***[If these policy recommendations have not been used, please go directly to question (xi)]**** For each set that has been used, please indicate for which main purpose(s) it has been used

(*e.g training; awareness raising; capacity development; development/ assessment of projects, national strategies, plans of action, legislative or policy framework; investments by national governments or international financial institutions in favour of smallholders; development of finance proposals that are more favourable to small-scale producers; formulation and implementation of specific national strategies in favour of smallholder agriculture; other*) [ ]  Set 1: [Investing in Smallholder Agriculture for Food Security and Nutrition](http://www.fao.org/3/a-av034e.pdf)  Main purpose(s): [ ]  Set 2: [Connecting Smallholders to Markets](http://www.fao.org/3/a-bq853e.pdf)Main purpose(s): ☐ Set 3: [Sustainable Agricultural Development for Food Security and Nutrition: What Roles for Livestock?](http://www.fao.org/3/a-bq854e.pdf)Main purpose(s): * Which policy recommendations were found particularly useful to support smallholders and their food and nutrition security? Please explain:
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| 1. Present and expected benefits for smallholders

*Indicate the results obtained/ expected in the short term and in the medium-to-long term, with quantitative indications where feasible (i.e. estimate of the number of smallholders that have been or are expected to be affected)*  | How have smallholders benefitted (or are expected to benefit) from the use of these policy recommendations for food security and nutrition in the short and medium to long-term? How have they contributed to the progressive realization of the right to food? *(please answer in the two boxes below)* |
| Results in the short term (qualitative and quantitative):*(In addition to providing a qualitative assessment, please indicate where feasible the number of smallholders that have been directly involved in activities, e.g. six training involving a total of 250 people)***unknown** |
| Results in the medium to long term (qualitative and quantitative):(*In addition to providing a qualitative assessment, please indicate where feasible the number of smallholders that have been or are expected to be indirectly affected by activities, e.g. training leading to development of local plan of action expected to affect 1,000 smallholders*)**unknown** |
| 1. Present and expected benefits for female smallholders
 | * Have any specific actions been taken (in line with these policy recommendations) topromote the realization of women’s empowerment, women’s rights and gender equality in the context of smallholder agriculture? Please explain:

**Yes: one of our members focused on rehabilitation of water *qanat*s specifically to help women smallholder farmers, in line with the Investing in Smallholder Agriculture policy recommendations*** How have female smallholders benefitted (or are expected to benefit) from these actions in terms of food security and nutrition and the progressive realization of the right to food? Please explain:
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| 1. Present and expected benefits for the youth
 | * Have any specific actions been taken (in line with these policy recommendations) to promote the involvement of youth in agriculture and related activities in the context of smallholder agriculture? Please explain:

**unknown*** How have youth benefitted (or are expected to benefit) from these actions in terms of food security and nutrition and the progressive realization of the right to food of youth? Please explain:

**unknown** |
| 1. Contribution of the use of these policy recommendations to SDGs
 | * How has the use of these policy recommendations contributed (or is expected to contribute) to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDGs 1 & 2 and some of the SDGs targeted in the 2019 review, and to fostering policy coherence? (please tick the answer):

[x]  SDG 1 (no poverty)Please explain:**Potentially relevant in training, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (including by Major Groups) on country-specific SDG performance and country-driven indicator development (e.g., on 1.4.2 and other land-related indicators across the SDGs).**[x]  SDG 2 (zero hunger)Please explain:**Potentially relevant in training, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (including by Major Groups) on country-specific SDG performance and country-driven indicator development.**[x]  SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth)Please explain: **Potentially relevant in training, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (including by Major Groups) on country-specific SDG performance and country-driven indicator development.**[x]  SDG 10 (reduced inequalities)Please explain: **Potentially relevant in training, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (including by Major Groups) on country-specific SDG performance and country-driven indicator development.**[x]  SDG 13 (climate action) Please explain:**Potentially relevant in training, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (including by Major Groups) on country-specific SDG performance and country-driven indicator development.****N.B.: In NE/NA, CFS policies, in general, and the three sets of policy recommendations currently in question, in particular, may be relevant to application in the particular context of conflict, occupation and war, among other protracted crises. In order to develop this potential, civil society and small-scale farmers are the most likely agents for such application and localization.** |
| 1. Relevance and expected benefits of the use of these policy recommendations to the [UN Decade of Family Farming](https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/1479766/files/A_RES_72_239-EN.pdf) and the [UN Decade of Action on Nutrition](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/259)
 | * How could these policy recommendations contribute to the UN Decade of Family Farming or (further) contribute to the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition for improving the food security and nutrition of smallholders? Please explain:

**Re: Connecting Smallholders to Markets: One of our CSO members used village-market assessments in collaboration with the government to support its nutrition-outreach program. The objective was to determine where food in the local market originated, so that the CSO could set up a wheat mill to grind flour closer to the sell date and point of consumption, thus preserving its nutritional value.** |
| 1. Catalysts and constraints
 | * What were the key catalysts that influenced positively the use of these policy recommendations for improving the food security and nutrition of smallholders?

**Benefitting from the network of people that inputted into the documents (so we don’t reinvent the wheel): The recommendations lend credibility to farmers’ and communities’ own programs and objectives (where they overlap) and they provide motivation and inspiration for farmers and our members who are disposed to reach out with them.*** What were the main constraints and challenges in using these CFS policy recommendations for improving the food security and nutrition smallholders?

**More practical examples and case studies are needed (even if they are not perfectly successful) to show farmers what is possible, because they are not convinced by policy alone. We need to know who is doing what, and where, in order to share curricula (e.g., through workshops). The recommendations are good, but very broad, and require a lot of time and work just to define certain concepts among relevant actors in a specific context. This learning is foundational to the application of concepts and the recommendations that incorporate them.****In general and to varying degrees in countries across the region, extreme authoritarianism within government institutions and personnel, legislation and practices have closed much of the space for the actors and actions needed to carry out the activities proposed in this survey. This trend affects also small-scale producers and denies their corresponding human rights to organize, free association, peaceful assembly, self-expression and participation in public life. A pervasive urban bias and variously manifest contempt for rural and impoverished people underlies these constraints and impedes needed policy formulation and reform.** |
| 1. Good practices
 | * What good practices would you recommend for successful use of these policy recommendations?
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| 1. Lessons learned
 | * Do you have any suggestions to make to CFS in order to enhance the use of these policy recommendations for improving the food security and nutrition of smallholders?

**Diverse media (visual, audio, video) for dissemination to farmers; workshops and training for government actors; more region-specific case studies to use as examples for farmers.****As the relevant implementation agency, FAO regional office should demonstrate greater seriousness, diligence and efficiency in its cooperation with CSOs, in general, but also to channel these and other CFS policy instruments into application, in particular, through CSO collaboration.**  |
| 1. Potential use of the policy recommendations for improving the food security and nutrition of smallholders
 | * If these policy recommendations have not been used (or not sufficiently used), how could they be (further) used in the future for improving the food security and nutrition of smallholders, advancing the progressive realization of the right to food, achieving SDGs or/ and fostering policy coherence? Please explain:

**As mentioned above, presenting the policy outcomes through more-interesting and accessible types of media is important to connect with people on the ground, and workshops that include government officials are needed to implement these policy recommendations at the country level. These should be organized in cooperation with multiple stakeholders, particularly those working for the public interest and the plural interest (of small-scale producers). This potential use would take into consideration the responses (especially viii and x) above.*** What actions could be taken (in line with these policy recommendations) to promote the realization of women’s empowerment, women’s rights and gender equality in the context of smallholder agriculture? Please explain:

**As in the case of viii above, efforts call for far-sighted strategies and efforts to address the root causes of gender discrimination. In all recommended actions, organizers must take care to involve women in equal measure level of participation as much as possible.*** What actions could be taken (in line with these policy recommendations) to promote the involvement of youth in agriculture and related activities in the context of smallholder agriculture? Please explain:

**Farming needs to be made more attractive to youth. If they are aware of progressive policies (through better and more-exciting dissemination in traditional and social media), and if those policies were taken up by the countries they live in (through workshops for government actors), youth would feel more positive about farming. Efforts should take into consideration the underlying social and official biases mentioned above.** |
| 1. Link to additional information
 | **As an example of channeling CFS policy products and recommendations through civil society, see HLRN’s Land Forum (**[**2017 report**](http://www.hlrn.org/img/hicfiles/land_forum_vi_report_en.pdf)**). Additional information will be found in a publicly accessible IPC regional database and inter-sessional CSO activities proposed for support of FAO.** |

**Annex: to be filled if the information provided results from a multi-stakeholder consultation**

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| **Date of the multistakeholder event** |  |
| **Location of the event** |  |
| **Which groups of stakeholders participated in the event?**  |  Government UN organization Civil Society / NGO Private Sector Academia Donor Other ………………………………………………………………… |
| **Who organized the event?** |  Government UN organization Civil Society / NGO Private Sector Academia Donor Other ………………………………………………………………… |