



# COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

**Forty-ninth Session**  
***"Making a Difference in Food Security and Nutrition"***

**11-14 October 2021**

**MONITORING CFS POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS ON CLIMATE  
CHANGE AND WATER: SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDERS'  
CONTRIBUTIONS**

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## I. Summary

1. A total of 30 written inputs were received from governments, civil society, academia, UN and other international organizations, farmers' organizations and the private sector which document experiences in using CFS policy recommendations on (i) Food Security and Climate Change (CFS 2021/49/Inf.19); and (ii) Water for Food Security and Nutrition (CFS 2021/49/Inf.20).
2. These CFS policy products can contribute to important global processes for sustainable development, including the United Nations Decade of Action on the SDGs, follow-up to the UN Food Systems Summit, the International Decade of Action on Water for Sustainable Development, and the three Rio Climate Conventions (UNCCD, UNCBD, and UNFCCC).
3. Much more can be done by CFS Members and Participants to raise awareness of these policy products, advocate for their utilization, and to share concrete practices on how they can be integrated into national, regional and local policy debates and frameworks.
4. Twenty-four of the 30 contributions received responded to the questionnaire and provided relevant information used to compile this report.
5. The contributions were submitted by diverse stakeholders: civil society (6), academia (2), UN and other international organizations (12), governments (2), farmers' organizations (1) and the private sector (1).
6. The contributions indicate that these policy recommendations were used in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Near East.
7. The good practices and the lessons learnt documented in the contributions deserve the attention of all stakeholders, as well as the opportunities for highlighting their relevance and those for improving them.
8. The good practices and lessons learned included, but were not limited to:
  - i. *Building strong political will and commitment at national/sub-national levels by all key stakeholders is a pre-condition for uptake of CFS policy recommendations.*
  - ii. *Involvement and empowerment of all stakeholders in decision-making processes, including food growers and producers, is critical to developing policies and programmes that prioritize smallholder food producers.*
  - iii. *Adoption of a holistic, multi-sectoral (agriculture, water, forestry, fisheries, as well as health, energy, transport, trade, etc.) and multi-actor approaches between governments, research institutions, farmers' organizations and civil society are key to ensuring implementation of policies which are adapted to regional specificities and informed by scientific and other evidence.*
  - iv. *Strengthening institutions at all levels and across sectors is important to mainstream these policy recommendations into national public policies and strategies.*
  - v. *Sharing experiences is key within and across countries and regions, so that others can learn good practices, apply these lessons in their specific context, and showcase results, leading to the adoption of the policy recommendations into national and regional policies and programmes.*
  - vi. *Implementing integrated water and land management practices, and adoption of locally adapted technologies and practices that take into account local socio-economic and agro-climatic conditions is important.*

- vii. *Mobilizing leadership, identifying champions to support those leaders, and building strong partnerships within and across sectors in order to translate the policy recommendations into national realities is crucial.*
  - viii. *Raising awareness of the links between water, climate, food security and nutrition through production and consumption pathways - particularly to policy makers, producers and other actors of the food system, and consumers – and promoting wider communication of these policy recommendations are recommended.*
  - ix. *Ensuring adequate resources, public and private, national and international is key.*
  - x. *Development of flexible capacity development activities, tailored to local needs and knowledge gaps, and an action-oriented framework to guide and spur direct action in countries and by development partners is warranted.*
  - xi. *Defining universally-applicable indicators to measure the impact of these policy recommendations within a given timeframe is desirable.*
9. A number of contributions highlight impacts that the policy recommendations have had at regional, national and sub-national levels, including several contributions that highlight interlinkages between the two sets of policy recommendations, and the need to address incoherencies between food security, nutrition, water, and climate policies.
10. A significant number of contributions document experiences that are not directly related to the CFS policy recommendations, but are in line with them, thus underlining the relevance and the validity of the policy recommendations of CFS. These experiences can contribute to drawing lessons for future use and development of CFS policy recommendations but are of limited relevance to this stocktaking exercise.
11. This report does not provide baselines for future monitoring but establishes a reference by providing information on what is being done, what is foreseen to be done, where and by whom, with results expected and achieved. This is in line with the CFS role of promoting accountability and good practice.
12. **Text written in *italic* in this summary denotes text taken directly from contributions received.**

## II. Background

13. At its 46th Session in October 2019, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) approved its new Multi-Year Programme of Work (2020-2023), which foresees the organization of an event at CFS 49, in October 2021, to monitor the use of two sets of CFS policy recommendations: (i) Food security and climate change (endorsed in 2012); and (ii) Water for food security and nutrition (endorsed in 2015).
14. A public call for inputs was issued in March 2021 through June 2021 using FAO's Global Food Security and Nutrition Forum to inform the CFS 49 plenary event.
15. The policy recommendations selected are primarily targeted at governments, supporting their efforts to design public policies to enhance food security and nutrition, in the context of climate change and water scarcity, advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the process of climate adaptation and mitigation.
16. They can also be used by other stakeholders, e.g. intergovernmental and regional organizations, including UN agencies, civil society, private sector, academia, international financial institutions, farmers' organizations, and philanthropic foundations, and are relevant to the discussion

on food systems transformation, given that food systems are responsible for 70 per cent of the water extracted from nature, and generate up to a third of human greenhouse gas emissions that drive climate change.

17. The main objectives of the CFS 49 Plenary Session are: (i) to monitor progress in using the CFS policy recommendations on water and climate at national, regional and global levels; (ii) to assess whether the recommendations remain relevant to achieving food security and nutrition; and, (iii) to foster their uptake in the context of national commitments and actions for making progress on the SDGs.

18. This report summarizes the contributions received from stakeholders and outlines experiences in using the two sets of policy recommendations, and the results obtained for food producers and consumers, including women and youth. It documents the key catalysts, constraints and challenges, good practices to be shared with CFS stakeholders, and lessons learned.

19. The report also considers the relevance of the policy recommendations in the current context of the UN Decade of Action for the SDGs, and as a contribution to the UN SDGs.

20. Last, this document summarizes ways to foster greater use of the policy recommendations for improving food security and nutrition, fostering resilience and enhancing policy coherence.

### III. Contributions received

21. A total of 30 contributions were received of which 24 responded to the questionnaire, providing useful information that were used to compile the statistics presented in this summary report. The list of contributions is provided in Annex 1 to this document. A full compilation of contributions received is available on the CFS 49 Session web page in their original language.

22. The contributions documented experiences at country, regional and global levels. Of the 24 valid contributions, 12 were country-specific, 4 were regional or multi-country, and 8 were global or multiregional.

23. The contributions were submitted by diverse stakeholders: 2 from governments, 6 from civil society organizations, 2 from academia, 8 from UN Organizations, 3 from other International and regional organizations, 1 from a consortium of international agricultural research institutes, 1 from a farmers' organization, and 1 from private sector.

24. The contributions covered a wide geographical area: 13 contributions documented experiences in Africa, 5 in Latin America and the Caribbean, 3 in Asia and the Pacific, 1 in Europe and Central Asia, and 4 in Near East (Table 1).

Table 1: Contributions by region

	Country-level	Regional & multi-country level	Total
Africa	5	8	13
Asia and the Pacific		3	3
Europe and Central Asia	1		1
Latin America and the Caribbean	3	2	5
Near East	2	2	4
TOTAL	11	15	26

#### IV. Awareness and dissemination of the policy recommendations

25. All but three contributions confirmed that actions have been taken to make these policy recommendations known to other CFS stakeholders. To this effect, stakeholders have organized workshops, training sessions and seminars, have forged new partnerships, and have used the internet and social media to raise awareness of the policy recommendations. One stakeholder reported that they used the CFS policy recommendations on water for food security and nutrition, and the relevant HLPE report, as reference for the preparation of a discussion paper on water and nutrition.

#### V. Grouping of experiences according to the use of the policy recommendations

26. Out of 24 substantive contributions<sup>1</sup>, 17 submissions reported to have used the CFS policy recommendations on “Food security and climate change”; and 13 submissions reported to have used the CFS policy recommendations on “Water for food security and nutrition”.

27. Within each set of policy recommendations, the policy recommendations that had been found most useful to improve food security and nutrition are shown in table 2.

Table 2: Recommendations that were found most useful

Sets of CFS policy recommendations	Specific recommendations found most useful
Food security and climate change	1, 4
Water for food security and nutrition	1, 2, and 4

28. The experiences documented in the contributions had different objectives:

- Raising awareness:** the objective was to inform stakeholders of the existence of the policy recommendations and of their potential use to address climate and water-related issues for food security and nutrition.
- Capacity development:** the objective was to strengthen the ability of stakeholders to apply the policy recommendations, including to foster food producers’ adaptation to climate change and water scarcity for achieving food security and nutrition.
- Development/assessment of projects, strategies, plans of action, legislative or policy frameworks:** the objective was to develop and/or assess projects, national, regional and global strategies, plans of action and interventions to strengthen the capacities of smallholder farmers and food producers to adopt sustainable water management practices and climate-smart agricultural practices.
- Investments (by government or international institutions) in favour of more sustainable agricultural practices:** the objective was to document investments to support the modernization, the improvement and the sustainable extension of rain-fed and irrigated agricultural systems, and to enhance the resilience of smallholder farmers and food producers in light of climate change and water variability.
- Formulation and implementation of specific national strategies/policies** to foster sustainable agriculture, food security and better nutrition, which integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk management, and agricultural water management.

<sup>1</sup> Some of the submissions refer to both the CFS policy recommendations on climate change and the CFS policy recommendations on water.

## VI. Present and expected benefits

29. Twenty-two contributions provided information on present or expected results from the use of the two sets of policy recommendations in terms of food security and nutrition, and the progressive realization of the right to food. The inputs provided are summarized here below.

30. Contributions recorded that the use of the two sets of policy recommendations produced the following benefits for food producers and consumers:

- i. Raised awareness on the linkages between climate change, food security and nutrition, and rural poverty.*
- ii. Fostered shared understanding of key challenges of climate and water for food security and nutrition and promoted recommendations for action.*
- iii. Enhanced farmer-led research.*
- iv. Strengthened the capacities of smallholder farmers/food producers for the adoption of sustainable water management and nutrition-sensitive agriculture practices that will in-turn increase their productivity (yields) and crop diversification, will increase their incomes, and will improve nutritional outcomes.*
- v. Benefited consumers from the availability of more nutritious, diverse and affordable food options.*
- vi. Improved farmers' income through climate smart business models, climate resilience and other adaptation strategies, while, in the longer term, will foster climate-resilient and financially-sustainable livelihoods for producers, including youth and women, through their cooperatives.*
- vii. Strengthened small-scale food producers' organizations as rights holders and raised awareness on their rights, including the right to adequate food as well as the right to water.*
- viii. Strengthened the resilience and the livelihoods of the concerned populations.*
- ix. Resulted in the adoption of a climate adaptation plan.*
- x. Promoted evidence-based decision-making processes that enhance food security and nutrition.*

31. Contributions also recorded specific benefits for women.

- i. Promoted equal participation of women and men, and new economic and social opportunities for rural women.*
- ii. Contributed to capacity development and other training efforts specific to women, and in several areas ranging from sustainable water management to agriculture production practices, nutritional education, etc.*
- iii. Strengthened women's direct participation into activities and ensured equal share of knowledge between men and women*
- iv. Mainstreamed gender issues in water development activities and other activities for agricultural sector development.*
- v. Raised awareness on the relationship between water contamination and health, from which women are often most affected.*
- vi. Supported the development of gender-responsive tools.*
- vii. Forged new partnerships and implemented gender-transformative investments in activities at the nexus between water, climate and development.*
- viii. Empowered women to practice agriculture as their source of livelihood and led to increasing food security and nutrition of women.*

32. And other benefits specific to the youth.
- i. *Provided rural youth with emerging economic and social opportunities.*
  - ii. *Promoted capacity development activities and other training activities specific to youth, in several areas, ranging from sustainable water management, to nutrition-sensitive agriculture practices, climate-smart dairy, nutritional education, etc.*
  - iii. *Empowered youth and supported their interaction with decision makers.*
  - iv. *Equipped youth as promoters of innovative ideas to respond sustainably to climate change issues and support local economic development.*

## VII. Contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals

33. Most contributions reported that the use of the two sets of policy recommendations had contributed (or was expected to contribute) to the achievement of the SDGs.

34. The goals that are particularly relevant to this monitoring exercise are specifically SDG 1 No poverty, SDG 2 Zero hunger, SDG 6 Clean water and sanitation, and SDG 13 Climate change.

35. Contributions reported to have contributed (or being expected to contribute) also to SDG 10 Reduced inequalities (4 contributions); SDG 12 Responsible production and consumption (4 contributions); SDG 15 Life on land (2 contributions); SDG 5 Gender equality (2 contributions); and SDG 4 Quality education; SDG 16 Peace, justice and strong institutions; and SDG 17 Partnerships (1 contribution each).

Table 3: Relevance of contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Number of contributions found relevant to the SDGs
SDG 1 – No Poverty	14
SDG 2 – Zero Hunger	21
SDG 4 – Quality education	1
SDG 5 – Gender equality	2
SDG 6 – Clean water and sanitation	14
SDG 10 – Reduced inequalities	4
SDG 12 – Responsible production and consumption	4
SDG 13 – Climate change	12
SDG 15 – Life on land	2
SDG 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions	1
SDG 17 – Partnerships	1

36. The experiences documented to have contributed to the achievement of the SDGs as follows:

### **SDG 1 (no poverty)**

- i. *By increasing yields, diversification of crops, and marketable surpluses.*
- ii. *By supporting rural income generation and livelihoods of smallholder farmers, pastoralist, fisher-folk, forest growers and all other actors in the agricultural value chain.*
- iii. *By strengthening the resilience of the poor and reducing their vulnerability.*

### **SDG 2 (zero hunger)**

- i. *By fostering sustainable, sufficient and safe food production.*
- ii. *By increasing availability and affordability of nutritious food.*
- iii. *By fostering climate resilient food production to cater for the needs of a growing world population.*

**SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation)**

- i. *By ensuring more efficient water management practices and increasing water productivity.*
- ii. *By economically empowering households in order to have access to clean water and sanitation.*

**SDG 10 (reduced inequalities)**

- i. *By reducing inequities in accessing to water and food.*
- ii. *By focusing on multi-stakeholder and participatory approaches that ensure that all voices are heard.*

**SDG 12 (sustainable consumption and production)**

- i. *By creating more climate efficient and responsible value chains.*
- ii. *By fostering sustainable food production systems, and adopting more resilient agricultural practices that increase sustainable production and productivity.*

**SDG 13 (climate action)**

- i. *By strengthening the capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, droughts, flooding, and other disasters.*
- ii. *By mobilizing global climate finance for mitigation and adaptation.*
- iii. *By supporting food systems' adaptation to climate change, strengthening the capacities of food producers, and by adopting agricultural practices that respect the environment.*
- iv. *By providing appropriate information and knowledge on the nexus between climate change and food security.*

**SDG 15 (life on land)**

- i. *By improving the quality of land and soils.*

**SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions)**

- i. *By strengthening relevant national institutions, fostering accountability and transparency of those institutions, and ensuring responsible, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.*

**SDG 17 (partnerships)**

- i. *By fostering global partnerships between farmers and cooperatives in developing and developed countries, enhancing transfer of knowhow and technology.*

**VIII. Key Catalysts**

37. The contributions highlighted the following external factors, which were conducive to the uptake of the policy recommendations and to positive outcomes.

- i. *The reality of climate change and its impacts on food security and nutrition.*
- ii. *The proactive action by international organizations and their partners, to work in close collaboration with mandated national institutions, for strengthening international cooperation.*
- iii. *A reliable and robust data information system.*
- iv. *The empowerment of smallholders and small-scale food producers, who are key actors for promoting economic growth and agricultural development in many developing economies.*
- v. *Building the project on dynamics already formed and on networks already mobilized.*
- vi. *Political will and a conducive socio-economic environment.*
- vii. *Adequate financial resources from international sources and national budgets.*
- viii. *Stakeholders' engagement and an inclusive consultative process.*
- ix. *International processes such as the UN Food Systems Summit.*

**IX. Constraints and challenges**

38. The contributions underscored the following constraints and challenges in using the policy recommendations.

- i. *Low awareness of the existence of these policy recommendations of the CFS.*
- ii. *Only partial understanding of the linkages between food security and nutrition and the sustainable management of natural resources.*
- iii. *The fragility that characterizes many developing countries, which seriously hampers development and potentially threatens reversing previous development gains.*
- iv. *The negative effects of climate change, which bring uncertainty and pose constraints on the decision to invest on innovative agriculture practices and technologies, and on the adoption of the CFS recommendations.*
- v. *Water scarcity as a chronic condition, and the climate emergency already affecting the agricultural sector.*
- vi. *High costs of agricultural production, combined with long distances between production areas and remunerative markets, together may constitute a barrier on the use of CFS policy recommendations on water for food security and nutrition.*
- vii. *Overlooking the role of small-scale food producers within national strategies for the development of the agricultural sector, and their potential contribution towards the achievement of national food security and nutrition targets.*
- viii. *Traditional land and water management approaches may hamper the adoption of relevant CFS policy recommendations and may require some additional efforts to engage the beneficiaries.*
- ix. *Data acquisition systems are often centralized and information eventually does not reach out to the end-users.*
- x. *CFS recommendations are necessarily generic, to be universally applicable, hence they need to be translated into national contexts.*
- xi. *Inadequate financial resources.*
- xii. *Lack of knowledge, and low capacity in ministries and other key actors.*
- xiii. *Lack of previous direct engagement with the CFS, and limited knowledge of its mandate, its functioning and its policies.*
- xiv. *Limited access to land discourages communities from investing.*
- xv. *Emphasis by research on isolated practices rather than a holistic approach to farming systems.*
- xvi. *Poor documentation of traditional knowledge, thus limiting the capitalization of its results and their sharing with other communities.*
- xvii. *The voluntary (as opposed to binding) nature of the CFS policy recommendations.*

## **X. Good Practices**

39. The submissions documented good practices that contributed to make these experiences successful. They included:

- i. *Empowerment of stakeholders at country level enabled their active engagement in making use of the policy recommendations through national and regional policies and programmes.*
- ii. *Development of flexible capacity development activities, tailored to local needs and knowledge gaps.*
- iii. *Adoption of locally adapted water use and saving practices and technologies for water storage, re-use of wastewater and rainwater, and facilitate multiple water use.*
- iv. *Implementation of integrated water and land management practices.*
- v. *Adoption of participatory approaches, that take into account local socio-economic and agro-climatic conditions, can highly benefit the use of the policy recommendations, in order to design viable activities and target obtainable results.*
- vi. *Sharing of experiences within and across countries and regions - such as through this monitoring session – allows to learn from those experiences and good practices, to apply those lessons to specific contexts, and to show-case results, leading to the inclusion of the policy recommendations into national and regional policies and programmes.*
- vii. *Support the implementation with data systems that provide accessible information.*

- viii. *Piloting the best agricultural practices and prompting farmers to adopt those, providing tangible evidence of the benefits.*
- ix. *Promoting wider communication of these policy recommendations, and the interlinkages between water – climate – food security and nutrition in global agricultural and climate processes.*
- x. *Strengthening institutions and systems at each level.*
- xi. *Increasing ownership by state and non-state stakeholders at district-level and fostering inter-agency coordination at district level.*
- xii. *Adopting a holistic, multi-sector (agriculture, water, forestry, fisheries, as well as health, energy, transport, trade, etc.) and multi-actor approach between government actors, research institutions, farmers' organizations and civil society in order to ensure the implementation of policies which are adapted to regional specificities and informed by scientific and practical results.*
- xiii. *Establishing of a climate change coordination council.*
- xiv. *Because of the broad nature and spectrum of the CFS policy recommendations, allow additional time and support to national stakeholders to translate them into concrete actions at their level.*

## **XI. Lessons Learned**

40. The contributions highlighted the following lessons:
- i. *Need to promote ownership through awareness raising initiatives directly addressing institutional representatives and decision-makers at different levels, as well as final beneficiaries.*
  - ii. *Need to raise awareness of the link between water and nutrition through the production pathway, particularly to policy makers, producers and other actors of the food system.*
  - iii. *Need to coordinate the actions with all public and private institutions.*
  - iv. *Need to define universally applicable indicators to measure the impact of the policy recommendations within a given timeframe.*
  - v. *Need to establish stronger partnerships with other actors to translate the policy recommendations into national realities, moving further the global consensus.*
  - vi. *Need to mobilize leadership in member states and identify champions to support them.*
  - vii. *Need to support country-level conversations and initiatives in support of the CFS policy recommendations.*
  - viii. *Need to support sharing of experiences between Members and non-state actors, including through websites, social media, YouTube, video messages, etc.*
  - ix. *Need to engage directly with other actors in the context of the global climate finance - including at the upcoming UNFCCC Standing Committee on Finance - and ensure that the CFS policy recommendations are presented and incorporated in other relevant global dialogues and initiatives.*
  - x. *Need to consider the development of an action-oriented framework, to guide and spur direct action in countries and by development partners.*
  - xi. *Need to build a stronger engagement with other UN and international organizations, including human rights organizations.*
  - xii. *Need to build a strong political will and commitment at national/sub-national levels by all key stakeholders as pre-conditions for using the policy recommendations of the CFS.*
  - xiii. *Need to work closely with food growers and producers.*

## **XII. Relevance for the UN Decade of Action on SDGs, and other global commitments**

41. Many submissions recognized the relevance, and potential contribution, of the policy recommendations to the UN Decade of Action on SDGs, and other global commitments:

- i. *The CFS policy recommendations support increased awareness among institutional representatives and decision-makers on the importance of the sustainable use of natural resources to ensure the right to food while at the same time preserving the ecosystems. Making use of the CFS policy recommendations, national institutions from low-income development countries will broaden and strengthen their participation and contribution to global governance mechanisms.*
- ii. *The inter-disciplinary nature of the CFS recommendations will improve coherence between water and FSN related policies, strategies and plan; it will also mobilize the water, agriculture and nutrition communities to work together; and it will also promote better inter-sectoral coordination between all sectors through learning and sharing of knowledge.*
- iii. *The CFS policy recommendations support increased awareness among family farmers and small-scale food producers, thereby promoting the sustainable employment of natural resources (freshwater, groundwater and solar energy) in the agricultural sector.*
- iv. *The use of the CFS policy recommendations promote real-time, accurate and large-scale data acquisition that support more efficient and sustainable water management. Such a robust and versatile data system contributes to national databases, provides a solid basis for water management and agriculture sector development, and establishes a monitoring system as a basis for the effective tracking of SDG6.*
- v. *The use of the CFS policy recommendations shows the important linkages between climate, water, nutrition (and energy) and prevents a one-sector approach.*
- vi. *The use of the CFS policy recommendations underscores the potential of nature-based solutions in agriculture to deliver nutrition for people worldwide while restoring nature and the climate – contributing to multiple imperatives of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.*
- vii. *The use of the CFS policy recommendations promotes dialogues across a variety of sectors, strengthening coordination and linkages between climate, nutrition, food systems and food security that contribute to the UN Decade of Action on SDGs.*
- viii. *CFS policy recommendations are referenced in the UNSCN strategy 2020 which describes specific recommendations for actions on the linkages between water and nutrition.*
- ix. *CFS policy recommendations support increased awareness among stakeholders, including institutional representatives, decision-makers and smallholder farmers on how to improve sustainable agriculture practices to ensure food security and nutrition while preserving the environment.*
- x. *The use of CFS policy recommendations empowers the rights' holders under the UN human rights framework, which is a critical step towards ensuring a human rights-based approach to development.*
- xi. *The use of CFS policy recommendations demonstrates the relevance and the effectiveness of a multi-actor, multi-sector and multi-scale approach to agricultural adaptation to climate change, and acts as an accelerator towards commitments and actions to achieve the SDGs.*

## **XIII. Relevance within the current context**

42. The contributions highlighted the relevance of the policy recommendations within the current context, but also underlined areas for improvement.

- i. *The two sets of policy recommendations remain highly pertinent and useful to improve food security and nutrition, advance the progressive realization of the right to food, preserve the ecosystem, foster resilience, adapt to climate change, and mitigate the impacts of adverse climate change.*
- ii. *The pandemic has shown the need to give more attention, in the policy recommendations, to the impact of shocks - such as Covid-19. Shocks like the COVID-19 pandemic hit hard on the most vulnerable. Policy recommendations of the CFS should pay attention on strengthening the capacity of vulnerable people to prepare for and respond to unexpected shocks that can exacerbate their already existing vulnerability and hampering their capacity to recover.*
- iii. *The importance of reliable forecasts for early action is mentioned in the CFS policy recommendations but it should be further enhanced, as an example by establishing a contingency finance mechanism, which is triggered by climate forecasts so resources can get deployed before climate disasters strike and crisis finance can reach vulnerable communities when it can have the most impact.*
- iv. *Adaptation measures, as compared to mitigation measures, appear to be easier to adopt and therefore more effectively bought by national institutions. Hence, CFS recommendations should focus on adaptation measures in order to facilitate their application by a higher number of decision-makers.*
- v. *Since actions toward achieving zero hunger may contribute to further degradation of the world's water resources and, conversely, actions to enhance access to water and sanitation may reduce progress on food security and nutrition, the CFS policy recommendations on water need to be updated to underscore ways to increase the coordination across the water, food security, and nutrition communities.*
- vi. *The recommendations on water remain relevant overall, however an updating, also based on the outcomes of the UN Food Systems Summit, could be helpful to galvanize further attention and energy.*
- vii. *The CFS policy recommendations should mainstream agricultural water management as a fundamental component of national strategies for food security and nutrition.*
- viii. *The CFS policy recommendations on water for food security and nutrition should emphasize the trade-offs amongst competing sectors and the potential of multiple water uses for enhancing water efficiency.*
- ix. *The CFS policy recommendations on climate change, in order to strengthen the mitigation element, should include a removals element, as well as emphasize the role of nature-based solutions in the context of the implementation of Art. 6 of the Paris Agreement.*
- x. *The relevance of the CFS policy recommendations on water for food security and nutrition has increased in the current context of accelerating climate change, proliferating of conflicts and protracted crises, as well as creation of new forms of privatization of water. However, more efforts are needed to ensure that they are translated into public policies by countries, in particular in the form of new/revised legal frameworks.*
- xi. *The CFS policy recommendations on climate should recommend the allocation of new financial resources for adaptation measures. This is in consideration of the fact that developed countries have fallen far short of the \$100 billion-a-year promise to provide climate finance to developing nations, outlined in the Paris Agreement.*
- xii. *The CFS policy recommendations should foster South-South cooperation and partnerships that mobilize additional capacities, expertise, technologies and resources for strengthening food security, food systems and nutrition in light of a changing climate. The strengthening of South-South cooperation also promotes national and regional ownership.*
- xiii. *The CFS policy recommendations should better recognize the essential role of a human rights-based approach to food security and nutrition, particularly the right to adequate food, and mainstream this approach within the whole document.*

- xiv. *The CFS policy recommendations on water should also underline the importance of treating and using grey water for production systems, with an impact on the reduction of the use of fresh waters.*
- xv. *The CFS policy recommendations should strengthen public and private investment and cooperation for sustainable use of natural resources, water management and soil conservation.*
- xvi. *The CFS policy recommendations should foster research and innovation in rural areas and promote the dissemination of the results among rural communities.*
- xvii. *A refresh of the 2012 HLPE report on food security and climate change would be useful and timely to provide more updated adaptation options and to underline - a lot more than IPCC reports ever did - the food security challenges of climate change.*

#### **XIV. Potential use of the policy recommendations for improving food security and nutrition, fostering resilience and enhancing policy coherence**

43. Last, the contributions highlighted the potential use of the policy recommendations for improving food security, fostering resilience and enhancing policy coherence.

- i. *The CFS policy recommendations will be further used in future if they are mainstreamed into policies, projects and programmes. For this to happen, there is a need to sensitize member countries, development partners and the private sector to integrate the CFS recommendations in their work/interventions.*
- ii. *CFS should follow up on the implementation of relevant policy recommendations to ensure that they are translated into national strategies and then into programmes and activities, in order to ensure that their application at all levels enhances policy coherence and contributes to foster the resilience of final beneficiaries.*
- iii. *The CFS policy recommendations can be used to foster coherence between water and agricultural policies, programmes, and strategies.*
- iv. *The CFS policy recommendations could further promote an integrated management of natural resources, including land and water.*
- v. *An inclusive process of updating the CFS policy recommendations on food security and climate change may serve to further engage stakeholders, civil society and governments alike.*
- vi. *The CFS policy recommendations on climate should be updated to support the improvement of climate forecast models in agriculture. This will in turn strengthen the role of adaptation to climate change.*
- vii. *Enabling conditions (i.e. multi-level governance, multi-sector institutions and multiple policy pathways) can be used to scale up the adoption of effective strategies in order to achieve mitigation and adaptation to climate change in food systems.*
- viii. *Effective governance of food systems and climate change will require the establishment of institutions responsible for coordinating among multiple sectors (education, agriculture, environment, welfare, consumption, economic, health), levels (local, regional, national, global) and actors (governments, CSO, public sector, private sector, international bodies).*
- ix. *The CFS policy recommendations could be reviewed with relevant national ministries every 5 years - similar to the NDC updates.*

## Annex 1: List of contributions documenting the use of the CFS policy recommendations

1	Policy recommendations for increased collaboration between the nutrition, water and climate sectors and actors, UN Nutrition
2	Putting Saline Agriculture into practice, The Salt Doctors
3	Role of the Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE) in Food and Nutrition Security and Climate Change, CARE
4	Strengthening natural resources management capacities to revitalize agriculture in fragile contexts, FAO
5	Water use efficiency for sustainable nutrition-sensitive agriculture and improved food security and nutrition, FAO
6	Strengthening Agricultural Water Efficiency and Productivity on the African and Global Level, FAO
7	A three-pronged approach to reduce vulnerability of Jordan rural communities and support agricultural production through the water-energy nexus, FAO
8	Evidence-based water resource management in Lebanon to increase preparedness and efficient use of agricultural water through multidimensional monitoring system, FAO
9	Water productivity, the yield gap, and nutrition. The case of Ethiopia, FAO
10	Plan Nacional de Suelos y Plan Nacional de Riego, Government of Argentina
11	VermEcology, academia
12	Inclusive and climate smart business models in Ethiopian and Kenyan dairy value chains, Netherlands Food Partnership
13	Bringing Climate Smart Agriculture to scale, Netherlands Centre for World Food Studies
14	Work of the Livelihood Relief & Development Organization (LRDO) in Somalia, Livelihood Relief & Development Organization (LRDO)
15	Contribution to monitor the uptake of CFS policy recommendations on water and climate, WFP
16	Contribution to monitor the uptake of CFS policy recommendations on water and climate, CGIAR
17	Building cooperative partnerships for a sustainable and climate efficient food future, using the water-food-energy nexus, Belgian Cooperative Partnership for Climate Smart Food and Forestry
18	GWP contributions to disseminate and implement CFS policy recommendations on water, Global Water Partnership
19	Contribution of the Research Center and Ethnobiological Garden in Food and Nutrition Security and Climate Change, Universidad Autónoma de Coahuila
20	Une approche holistique pour le renforcement de la planification de l'adaptation pour la sécurité alimentaire et la nutrition, FAO
21	Contribution to monitor the uptake of CFS policy recommendations on water and climate, Interstate Commission for Water coordination in Central Asia
22	El rol central del productor en el proceso de innovación colaborativa para la implementación de sistemas de siembra directa en Argentina, Asociación Argentina de Productores en Siembra Directa
23	Development and adoption of Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Ak-Talaa and Batken districts and integration into the Strategic Development Plan of District State Administrations, FAO
24	The UN Human Rights Council incorporates water for food security and nutrition in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas, FIAN International
25	Contribution to monitor the uptake of CFS policy recommendations on water and climate, Kenya National Farmers' Federation
26	Contribution to monitor the uptake of CFS policy recommendations on water and climate, Warangala National Institute of Technology of India
27	Building cooperative partnerships for a sustainable and climate efficient food future, using the water-food-energy nexus, Belgian Cooperative Partnership for Climate Smart Food and Forestry
28	Food Security and Nutrition in Brazil, Government of Brazil
29	Contribution to monitor the uptake of CFS policy recommendations on water and climate, Pan-African Institute for Development of Cameroon
30	FAO's contribution to monitor the uptake of CFS policy recommendations on water and climate, FAO