

28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture

Item 4.1: FAO's Programme of Work in the Agrifood Sectors under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-2031

FAO's Programme of Work in the Agrifood Sectors under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, builds on the review of its achievements during the 2020–21 biennium, on the analyses of major trends and emerging issues that will influence FAO's work and activities in these sectors, and presents the priority areas of its work for 2022–23 and beyond for the Committee's guidance.

FAO implements the Strategic Framework through 20 Programme Priority Areas (PPAs), which articulate FAO's thematic, technical, and comparative advantage and competency to deliver. It supports the Agenda 2030 through the transformation to MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for *better* production, *better* nutrition, a *better* environment and a *better* life, leaving no one behind.

Inputs from Technical Committees represent an important step in the process of Governing Body input and oversight. Accordingly, this Committee is requested to provide guidance on areas of technical priority in 2022–23 and beyond, in the context of the 20 PPAs, related SDG targets and areas of emphasis. FAO's related achievements during the biennium, including for crosscutting issues, and the regional results are reported in detail in the Programme Implementation Report 2020-21 (PIR).

The implementation of the Strategic Framework is guided and informed by a number of strategies, initiatives and actions, including the i. FAO Strategy on mainstreaming biodiversity across agricultural sectors, ii. FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031, iii. FAO Science and Innovation Strategy, and the iv. the Vision and Strategy for FAO's work on nutrition.

In the 2022-23 biennium, FAO will further continue to maximize impact at country-level and other levels through key corporate initiatives, such as the Hand-in-Hand Initiative, the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Programme, the follow-up to the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS), and the World Food Forum (WFF).

At global level, FAO continued strengthening strategic partnerships through platforms and initiatives promoting international cooperation comprising the Decade of Family Farming (2019-2028); the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030); the UN Decade of Action; Sustainable Food Systems Programme of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP); UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030; the Decade on Indigenous Languages (2022-2032); the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture, the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-5) Resolution to End Plastic Pollution; the Green Cities Initiative, and the One Health Quadripartite.

In particular, FAO gained major recognition as a key player on (i) the international climate arena, especially through its high-level participation and contributions to UNFCCC pre-COP, COP26, and sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies, Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture; (ii) Biodiversity; and (iii) Combating desertification and drought through the active participation to the COP15 of the UN Convention on Combating Desertification in May 2022; as well as for the 2021 UNFSS.

To address the major global trends and challenges identified, in line with the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, the specific developments for the agrifood sectors are examined through the lens of the four *bettters*. These will influence priority areas of action in 2022-23 and beyond, and can be summarized under four closely interrelated and overarching themes: 1. Achieving resilient sustainable agrifood systems for food security and nutrition for all; 2. Addressing threats to plant, animal and human health through the One Health approach; 3. Climate and Natural Resources (biodiversity, land and water); and, 4. Revitalizing agriculture and inclusive rural transformation.

Several of related key issues are presented to COAG 28, such as One Health, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), food safety, the outcomes of the First Session of the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock, natural resource management (biodiversity, land and water), climate change, agriculture and forestry linkages, the governance of tenure of water resources, the use of agricultural plastics, Agricultural Innovation Systems, and the overall transformation towards more resilient, inclusive and sustainable agrifood systems.

These actions are underpinned by FAO's efforts towards a reinvigorated business model to create an inclusive and agile Organization that is transparent, open, innovative, responsible, effective and impactful. FAO's actions focus on transformative partnerships, its normative work, innovative funding and financing, delivering as a unified FAO, efficiency and innovative approaches, and operating in the context of increasing risk and uncertainty, with the aim to serve its Members to achieve the four *betters* and the SDGs.

The Committee is invited to:

- *take note* and *provide* comments on the achievements, developments and trends identified with respect to the agrifood sectors (Sections II and III);
- *provide* guidance on the main priorities for FAO's work in the agrifood sectors in 2022-23 within the PWB 2022-23 (Section IV), as well as for the implementation of the Strategic Framework 2022-31, and specifically the Medium Term Plan 2022-2025; and
- *review* and advise on global developments and their implications for the agrifood sectors.

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