



COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

Fiftieth Session

"Making a Difference in Food Security and Nutrition"

10-13 OCTOBER 2022

CFS ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2022

1. This Annual Progress Report provides an overview of key activities carried out in the intersessional period from October 2021 to September 2022. It includes progress made on decisions and recommendations of the 49th CFS Plenary Session in October 2021, updates on workstreams, communication and outreach, budget, resource mobilization, as well as activities and finances of the CFS High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN), the CFS Private Sector Mechanism (PSM) and the CFS Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples Mechanism (CSIPM).

I. KEY ACTIVITIES AFTER CFS 49 LEADING UP TO CFS 50

Food Systems and Nutrition

2. On 28 October 2021 the World Trade Organization (WTO) organized a [dialogue on the interlinkages between international trade and food security](#), with a focus on the role of the CFS VGFSN. The dialogue brought together experts from governments, non-governmental organizations, businesses, academia, think tanks and foundations to discuss the complexity of the food-trade nexus and policy implications. The CFS Secretary was among the panellists, and spoke about the Guidelines and the Secretariat's efforts to promote their visibility, uptake and impact.

3. As part of the coordination and outreach strategy developed by the CFS Secretariat, a high-level Ministerial Event, titled "Food Systems Transformation in Action: The CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition", was held at Expo Dubai on 24 February 2022 within the UN FAO Agri Innovations Days. The event, organized in collaboration with the FAO Regional Office for Near East and North Africa and the Government of the United Arab Emirates had the following objectives:

- i) Raise awareness of CFS and its role in the global governance of food security, and its VGFSN and other key policy tools;
- ii) Learn from sharing experiences on the use and application of the CFS VGFSN at country level;
- iii) Discuss how VGFSN can support accelerated policy action at global, regional, national, and local levels to contribute to food systems transformation and achieve the 2030 Agenda.

- iv) Further incentivize leadership of regional governments and development partners, by highlighting how the UAE is using the VGFSN in its domestic Nutrition Strategy.

4. The session successfully brought together the CFS Chairperson, the UAE Minister of Environment and Food Security, and other food systems and nutrition actors who shared experiences as well as plans and ideas on uptake of the Voluntary Guidelines, and their potential use at regional, national, and local levels.

5. During 2022, the [FAO Food Coalition](#) provided financial support to promote the use of CFS VGFSN in Laos, the Kingdom of Bhutan and Thailand. National multistakeholder and multisectoral workshops will take place to foster and guide an inclusive dialogue among different institutions, sectors and all relevant stakeholders that play a role in advancing the food systems transformation and nutrition agenda at national levels. The objective of the project is to support the review of current food, agricultural and nutrition policies and action plans in place, the mapping of existing platforms to coordinate food systems' and nutrition-related policy implementation, and the identification of a set of selected VGFSN recommendations as priority focus areas for potential new actions and further steps towards their operationalization.

Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems that Enhance Food Security and Nutrition

6. Following the endorsement of the policy recommendations on *Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches* by plenary at its 48th special session, the Committee is working to identify opportunities for partnerships and joint actions, events and/or projects with other key stakeholders as part of the promotion, uptake and utilization of these policy recommendations.

7. Key among these efforts being made by several organizations in the promotion of these policy recommendations is the [Coalition for the Transformation of Food Systems through Agroecology](#) which views the dissemination and implementation of the CFS policy recommendations on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches as one of its goals to accelerate the transformation of food systems through agroecology to ensure food security and nutrition for all.

8. In addition to the branded versions of the Policy Recommendations in FAO's six official languages, a [two-pager](#) (also translated) of these policy recommendations is available on the Policy Products section of the CFS website.

Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition

9. The objective of this workstream is to develop *Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the context of Food Security and Nutrition* as part of CFS MYPoW 2020-2023 to provide CFS Member and other CFS stakeholders with guidance on how to advance gender equality, and women's and girls' rights and empowerment in their efforts to eradicate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.

10. Draft Guidelines were prepared following an inclusive multistakeholder process, based on the Terms of Reference agreed by Plenary in February 2021. The process included several OEWG meetings, six regional consultations and a global e-consultation between September and November 2021.

11. A Draft for Negotiations of the Guidelines was released in March 2022 and negotiated during three week-long negotiation sessions between May-July 2022. The draft Guidelines remain under negotiation, with the OEWG not reaching agreement during its last scheduled round.

12. The CFS Chairperson has conducted extensive bilateral consultations with Ministers, Permanent Representatives and Ambassadors, CFS mechanisms and other Advisory Group and ad-hoc

members and observers to identify common ground and will propose a way forward for CFS to finalize the Guidelines and fulfil its commitment.

Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems

13. The CFS Youth Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG), led by Ambassador Pio Wennubst (Switzerland), finalized the *CFS Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition*, resulting from two rounds of negotiations that took place at the end of May and early July 2022.

14. The process kicked off with the launch of the HLPE-FSN report in July 2021, followed by active participation of a wide range of interested stakeholders, including several representatives of youth organizations and constituencies, in the different steps to prepare the policy recommendations.

15. These included a thematic discussion on the definition of youth and on the role of human rights for enabling environment for youth, followed by two OEWG meetings where draft versions of the policy recommendations were discussed. CFS stakeholders were also given different opportunities to provide written inputs that were used to inform the preparation of the different versions of the policy document.

16. The final version of the policy recommendations is presented to the Plenary at CFS 50 for consideration and formal endorsement.

Monitoring CFS Effectiveness

Global Thematic Event at CFS 50 in October 2022 on the use and application of the CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI Principles)

17. Following two calls for inputs issued in September 2021 and closed in April 2022 – the first one on events organized to discuss experiences in using the [Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems](#) (CFS-RAI Principles), and the second on experiences and good practices in applying the CFS-RAI's Principles - the Secretariat compiled and analysed sixty inputs received from CFS stakeholders in a document (CFS 2022/50/Inf.21) "*Monitoring the use and application of the CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems – secretariat's analysis of the contributions received to inform the Global Thematic Event*".

18. The *Secretariat's analysis* of the contributions was shared ahead of the event, and finalized with the support of a Technical Task Team (TTT) in preparation of the Global Thematic Event (GTE) on CFS-RAI at CFS 50 and shared ahead of the GTE. TTT Composition: CGIAR, CSM, FAO, IFAD, IISD, PSM, WB.

Data Collection and Analysis Tools for Food Security and Nutrition

19. The HLPE-FSN conducted an electronic consultations on the V0 draft of the CFS-HLPE-FSN report on "Data collection and analysis tools for food security and nutrition" between December 2021 and February 2022 through the FSN Forum. A total of 56 contributions were received and served as inputs to the V1 draft of the report.

20. The report "Data collection and analysis tools for food security and nutrition: towards enhancing effective, inclusive, evidence-informed decision making" was launched at FAO headquarters on 16 September 2022, ahead of CFS50, which will mark the start of the policy convergence process.

21. A Technical Task Team will be organized to support the Secretariat from the start of the policy convergence process, which has been supported financially from among CFS Members and Participants.

CFS Response to Global Food Crisis

22. As the world continues to grapple with the escalating global food crisis, CFS offered its platform for use by Members and other stakeholders to coordinate policy responses.
23. These discussions were held in a three-part substantive segment of the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meetings.
24. In addition, on 18 July 2022, CFS and the 76th President of the UN General Assembly co-convened a High-Level Special Event to foster coordinated global policy responses to the crisis supported by – and in support of – the UN Secretary-General’s Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy, and Finance. More information on the event, including its [summary](#), is available on the [CFS website](#).
25. The CFS Chair and Secretary were invited to participate in the UN Secretary-General’s Global UN Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance.

CFS Engagement in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

26. The [CFS inputs to the 2022 High Level Political Forum \(HLPF\)](#) were prepared as a CFS Chairperson’s Summary resulting from a consultative process with the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group, supported by the CFS Vice Chair in the role of Rapporteur.
27. In addition to selected key messages, the contribution offers concrete recommendations from CFS on areas requiring urgent attention in relation to the implementation of SDGs 4,5,14,15,17 under the overall theme “Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.
28. Also in the context of the 2022 HLPF, CFS co-organized a side event with the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub on 15 July. The side event titled “**Food System Transformations as 2030 Agenda Accelerators**” aimed to:
- i) Highlight the role of food system transformation in advancing the 2030 Agenda;
 - ii) Showcase Member States’ Pathways and key issues of focus;
 - iii) Understand Member States’ needs, opportunities and barriers to implementing food systems transformation strategies;
 - iv) Link national pathways to the ecosystem of support, including from CFS;
 - v) Promote food systems transformation into legal frameworks and political processes (e.g. Rio convention COPs, G-7, G-20 and others);
 - vi) Underline the critical importance of inclusive governance and accountability at all levels.
29. The side event successfully featured the experiences of countries, private sector, civil society and youth representatives in building sustainable and inclusive food systems.
30. The event also served as a precursor to the CFS 50 Special Event that will provide a platform for a group of national conveners to share their experiences, lessons learned, and challenges linked to food systems Pathways.

High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN)

31. After the 2021 October Plenary (CFS 49), the 6th Steering Committee of the HLPE-FSN was established, including designation of its Chair, Dr. Bernard Lehmann, and Vice Chair, Prof. Jennifer Clapp. The 6th Steering Committee consists of 15 world renowned experts in a variety of fields relevant for food security and nutrition and diverse regional expertise.

32. In 2022, the HLPE-FSN achieved some major milestones. It launched its 17th report: “[Data collection and analysis tools for food security and nutrition: towards enhancing effective, inclusive, evidence-informed decision making](#)” on 16 September.

33. Substantial progress was achieved in the preparation of the forthcoming report “Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition”, which will be launched in June 2023. The e-consultation on the scope of the report was undertaken through the FSN-Forum platform during the month of April 2022 and attracted 38 contributions. The Project Team for the elaboration of the report was established, led by Prof. Bhavani Shankar of the University of Sheffield, and an in-person meeting of the team is taking place in London on 23-25th September. The e-consultation on the V0 draft of the report is planned for December 2022.

34. The HLPE-FSN published a briefing note on “[The impacts on global food security and nutrition of the military conflict in Ukraine](#)” in English, French and Spanish, as a background document for the 28 April 2022 CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meeting.

35. The HLPE-FSN prepared the “[Note on Critical, emerging and enduring issues for food security and nutrition](#)”, the third such note produced for the attention of the CFS, to inform the development of the next MYPoW. The e-consultation on the V0 draft of the Note was undertaken through the FSN Forum platform between April and May 2022, while the note was launched on 30, September 2022.

CFS Private Sector Mechanism (PSM)

36. In 2022 PSM contributed to all CFS negotiations, including those related to the CFS Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition, and on the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls’ Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition. The Mechanism hopes the work on the latter will be concluded and provide much needed and long-overdue guidance to the international community.

37. While the virtual format made it possible to include a wider range of actors, PSM looks forward to re-establish, refresh and reinvigorate relations within the multistakeholder platform through more in-person meetings, starting with CFS50.

38. In addition, PSM conducted the following special virtual events aligned to CFS workstreams:

- a) A Gender Roundtable: Business Accelerating Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls’ Empowerment in Food Systems
- b) 3 regional youth dialogues, culminating in the 1 Global Youth Dialogue in May of 2022.

39. PSM also partnered on the following CFS50 side events, including:

- a) SE03: The Role of Farmers in Concurrently Delivering Agroecosystems Services and Food & Nutrition Security
- b) SE04: Achieving Zero Hunger: What can Governments and the private sector do in the face of a multidimensional crisis?
- c) SE10: Intersectionality, Gender Equality and the Right to Food
- d) SE30: Philanthropy in times of crisis: A new approach with the CFS

40. In addition to co-ordinating delegation and inputs, PSM has been an advocate for uptake of CFS products, including in the context of the High Level Political Forum and special events with UN Agencies, including WTO.

CFS Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples Mechanism (CSIPM)

41. No inputs received

II. COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

CFS 49 Round-Up

42. The forty-ninth Session of CFS (CFS 49) was held from 11 to 14 October 2021. With more than 1,300 registered participants, 131 Member and non-Member Nations, the Plenary focused on, among other items, the 2021 State of Food Security and Nutrition report, uptake of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition, the implications of the UN Food Systems Summit on CFS, CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work, and other ongoing CFS workstreams and priorities. The Plenary also featured a Special Event by the CFS Secretariat on synergies and opportunities between CFS and the 3 Rio Conventions.

43. CFS 49 report and all relevant documents including speeches, presentations and national statement are on the [CFS 49 webpage](#). See this [summary of the plenary](#) by the IISD Earth Negotiations Bulletin for a highlight of the outcomes of the Plenary.

44. **New CFS Chairperson Elected:** Mr Gabriel Ferrero, Ambassador at Large, Global Food Security at Spain's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation was elected as new CFS Chairperson (2021 - 2023).

45. **New CFS Bureau and Alternates (2021-2023):** The following countries were confirmed as new CFS Bureau Members and Alternates: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Germany, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Mauritania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Russian Federation, South Africa, Switzerland, United States of America, and Zambia.

46. **CFS 49 Side Events:** To enrich and complement the CFS 49 Plenary, CFS gave its partners and stakeholders an opportunity to highlight their work in 16 virtual side events over four days on diverse topics ranging from data to youth to land rights and finance. Recordings and summaries of each side event are available on the CFS 49 webpage.

CFS at the 2022 Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA)

47. CFS and its work featured prominently at the 2022 GFFA, hosted by H.E. Cem Özdemir, Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture of Germany, from 24-28 January, under the theme of "Sustainable Land Use: Food Security Starts with the Soil".

48. CFS was invited to organize one of two High-Level Panels at the Forum. Consequently, the Committee organized an exciting High Level Panel on "Responsible Land Governance for Sustainable Food Systems", with a focus on the CFS VGGTs. In addition, the CFS Chairperson spoke at the Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference and at the Forum's closing press conference. The final 2022 GFFA Communiqué encouraged utilization of the CFS platform and its key products, highlighting their relevance to global governance of food security and nutrition.

49. A dedicated webpage has been created on the CFS website featuring statements, remarks and speeches by the CFS Chair.

LinkedIn

50. To continue driving communication and engagement with our stakeholders, the CFS Secretariat has launched a corporate CFS LinkedIn page with regular updates on the work of the Committee.

Video series

51. The CFS Secretariat also premiered a series of short, interview-based videos - #CFSConversations, with thought leaders and partners focused on the work of CFS, its platform and policy products, and their use.

Commemorating the 10th Anniversary of the CFS VGGT

52. CFS and FAO jointly organized a high-level event on 27 May 2022 to assess the lessons learnt over the past ten years; remind policy makers and stakeholders of the potential these guidelines hold; and to re-confirm political, policy and financial commitments to accelerate implementation of the Guidelines. More information, including a link to the recording of the event, is available on the [CFS webpage](#).

53. [New cover of the CFS VGGT](#): As part of the 10-year anniversary, CFS and FAO updated the front cover of the CFS VGGT.

Chair's Outreach Activities

54. The CFS Chair participated in a series of high-level events throughout the year to raise awareness of CFS and its multi-stakeholder model, to promote its policy documents, and to highlight the Committee's efforts to address food security and nutrition challenges.

55. Since his election on 14 October 2021, the CFS Chairperson has undertaken many strategic public, bilateral and private engagements with critical CFS partners and stakeholders to advance knowledge of CFS, its multi-stakeholder model, and its policy products. All public statements and [speeches by the CFS Chairperson are published on a newly created speeches section of the CFS website](#)

HLPE-FSN Outreach

56. The HLPE-FSN, as the science-policy interface of the CFS, is a cornerstone of the 2009 reform and contributes to its two key objectives, i.e. inclusiveness and evidence-base.

57. The HLPE-FSN Steering Committee members participated in a series of meetings and events throughout the year to raise awareness of the HLPE-FSN products. The Steering Committee members also published several op-eds and scientific articles by HLPE-FSN members drawing from and/or referring to HLPE-FSN reports and issues papers all published in a [special section of the website to collect most of media mentions and interviews](#).

58. Links to engagements by the HLPE-FSN Steering Committee and Secretariat have been posted on the [redesigned HLPE-FSN website](#) (English version was currently online). This improved website is hoped to add credibility to the HLPE-FSN and strengthen its brand and messages alongside increased its social media and digital presence.

III. BUDGET AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

59. The overall expenditures for CFS Secretariat's activities for 2021 was USD 2,315,742. This does not include funding figures for the HLPE-FSN nor CSIPM/PSM. Projected figures for 2022 CFS Secretariat's expenditures is USD 3,015,677.

60. It is anticipated that expected contributions of the Rome-based Agencies (of USD 2,250,0000) along with extra-budgetary contributions will just cover the planned expenditures for the 2022 calendar year.

CFS Budget Update		2021 (as of 31 Dec)		2022 Forecast
INCOME	2021 Forecast USD	2021 Actual USD	2022 Forecast USD	
Regular Programme:				
- FAO	675,000	675,000	675,000	
- IFAD	1,175,000	600,000	900,000 ¹	
- WFP	675,000	675,000	675,000	
TOTAL Regular Programme	2,525,000	1,950,000	2,250,000	
Trust Funds:				
EU (2019-2022)*	208,049	-	349,890 ²	
MUL 932 (2019-2023)				
France	65,088	77,283	17,813	
Spain	103,286	103,286	TBC	
Others - TBC			100,000	
MUL 493 GEWE (2020-2023)			Fully funded	
Sweden	234,769	234,769	-	
Spain	206,573	206,573	-	
Finland	238,949	229,358	-	
France	95,579	97,561	-	
MTF/GLO/1038/BMG (2022-2023) - Data	-	-	174,480	
TOTAL Trust Funds:	1,152,293	948,830	642,183	
TOTAL INCOME	3,677,293	2,898,830	2,892,183	
EXPENDITURES	2021 Forecast USD	2021 Actuals USD	2022 Forecast USD	
STAFF	1,700,000	1,255,640	1,300,000	
OUTREACH – CHAIR AND STAFF	40,000	6,470	100,000³	
PLENARY (and other events):				
		<i>CFS 47-48-49 & HLPF</i>	<i>CFS 50 + HLPF</i>	
Communication and reporting	10,000	17,462	20,000	
General Operating Expenses	20,000	58,304	35,000	
Interpretation	195,000	242,080	200,000 ⁴	
Translation/printing	205,000	280,264	150,000	
Travel: Panellists and speakers	50,000	0	50,000	
TOTAL PLENARY + EVENTS	480,000	598,110	455,000	
WORKSTREAMS:				
Agroecology - follow-up	200,000	232,102	75,000	
VG - FSyN follow up	0	76,003	20,000	
MYPOW - Youth	0	13,814	150,000	
MYPOW - Data	0	0	173,410	
MYPOW - Gender Equality	700,000	133,603	642,267	
SDGs/HLPF	0	0	50,000	
Monitoring and Uptake	40,000	0	40,000	
- 2022: 10th Anniversary VGGT	10,000	0	10,000	
TOTAL WORKSTREAMS	950,000	455,522	1,160,677	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,170,000	2,315,742	3,015,677	
BALANCE AVAILABLE		583,088 ⁵	-123,494	

¹ Remainder of IFAD 2021 contribution balance (\$400K) + expected contribution for 2022 (\$500K) = \$900K.

² This figure contains EU 2021 and 2022 combined contributions. EU donation divided over 4 years, roughly USD 208,049 per year.

³ Higher cost estimate reflects end of COVID travel restrictions, heavy global meeting schedule, and staff support/accompaniment.

⁴ Higher interpretation costs divided between Regular Program and Trust Funds.

⁵ Balance available at close of 2021 reflects Trust Fund balances, as Regular Program zeroed out at close of FAO biennial cycle on 31 December.

HLPE-FSN

Budget figures not received

Civil Society Mechanism (CSM)

Budget figures not received

Private Sector Mechanism (PSM)

SUMMARY: 2020 Total Budget \$356,975; 2021 Total Budget \$550,354		
	2021 Approved Budget (in USD)	Actual YTD (Contributions Received; Expenditures Made)
Conversion Rate 2021: 1.2 USD = 1 EUR		
TOTAL INCOME	550,354.04	550,354.04
TOTAL EXPENSES	550,354.04	550,354.04
BALANCE OF INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES	-	-

	2021 Approved Budget (in USD)	Actual YTD (Contributions Received; Expenditures Made)
Conversion Rate 2021: 1.2 USD = 1 EUR		
TOTAL INCOME	550,354.04	550,354.04
EXPENSES		
<i>Core Secretariat Services Expenses</i>	214,134.60	214,134.60
<i>Nutrition Workstream Expenses</i>	50,000.00	50,000.00
<i>World Food Systems Summit Expenses</i>	235,000.00	235,000.00
<i>Sponsorship Expenses</i>	51,219.44	51,219.44
TOTAL EXPENSES	550,354.04	550,354.04
BALANCE OF INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES	-	-

61. For more information on the PSM budget, please contact robynne@emergingag.com and visit www.agrifood.net