

CFS Policy Convergence Process on Sustainable Agricultural Development and Livestock

Comments from Afghanistan

SAD

1. Elaborate context-specific pathways to SAD for FSN, paying special attention to dietary diversification, increasing efficiency in the use of natural resources, strengthening the coping capacity of the rural population and fostering coherence between sustainable agriculture, food systems, social equity and policies to improve the status of nutrition, health and education. (Recommendations 1 and 3 of HLPE)
2. Uphold the strategic role of smallholder mixed farming systems in FSN by building on VGGT, increasing the market value and share of small producers, improving infrastructure and strengthening the organizational capacity of smallholders and vulnerable groups, especially women and young girls. (Recommendation 11 of HLPE)

Livestock

1. Strengthen the integration of livestock systems in national SAD strategy with special attention to crop-livestock integration at scale and through means adaptable to the diversity of ecosystems and which can improve rural livelihood rapidly, without causing environmental damage. (Recommendation 2 of HLPE)
2. Approach intensive livestock systems from the perspective of input utilization and long-term cost implications, environmental impact, market access, benefit-sharing between small, medium and large producers, implication of animal diseases on human health, better living conditions for livestock workers and concern for animal welfare. (Recommendation 14 of HLPE)
3. Strengthen the resilience of pastoral systems, and protect the interest of the population dependent on them, through measures tailored to local conditions and, where appropriate, promote sustainable environmentally neutral commercial grazing systems. (Recommendations 12 and 13 of HLPE)
4. Improve the surveillance and control of livestock diseases through existing international and national laws and regulations and by giving special emphasis to institutional reform and building technical capacity at local level. (Recommendation 8 of HLPE)

Cross-cutting Issues

1. Implement gender-sensitive crop and livestock policies and interventions that give women access to a range of services across the value chain with a view to improving their productive capabilities, opening new employment opportunities, especially for young girls, building the resilience of households to shocks and strengthening the base for sustainable family income. (Recommendation 4 of HLPE)

2. Promote research and development in low energy and low water consumption practices in the production, processing and distribution of major food crops and livestock, encourage the use of solar energy in farming operations, promote community-based vegetable farms and fruit gardens to expand the supply of micro-nutrient rich foods, and increase the production of small animals which also contribute to reducing micronutrient deficiency. (Recommendation 9 of HLPE)
3. Protect, preserve and facilitate the sharing of crop and livestock genetic resources and consider the formation of regional and international mechanisms to realize these objectives, with particular attention to protecting the right of access and benefits of smallholder and indigenous people in such mechanisms. (Recommendation 7 of HLPE)
4. Integrate SAD issues in trade policies (at national, regional and international level) to ensure food safety and maintain quality standards, manage excessive price volatility by establishing storage facilities for major cereals used for human and animal consumption and develop a robust data system with indicators to monitor and evaluate progress in all aspects of national SAD for FSN. (Recommendations 5, 6 and 10 of HLPE)