

CFS draft contribution to the  
2019 High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development global  
review

*“Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”*

In depth-review of SDGs 4, 8, 10, 13, 16, 17

**The Committee on World Food Security**

The vision of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) is to be the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for a broad range of committed stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner in support of country led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all human beings. CFS will strive for a world free from hunger where countries implement the Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security. The unique features of the reformed CFS include expanded participation rules and a specific science-policy interface. The CFS inclusive policy making processes ensure that the voices of all relevant stakeholders, particularly those most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition, are heard in the food and agriculture policy dialogue. The High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) provides independent evidence-based reports to inform and support policy convergence.

Within the CFS framework, inclusiveness is not considered an end in itself but rather a means for the Committee to better deliver on its roles as a UN intergovernmental global governance body for food security and nutrition. In CFS, all multistakeholder consultations feed into the CFS Plenary, where Member countries remain the ultimate decision makers as well as principal actors in the attainment of food security and nutrition for all.

*[Placeholder for CFS submission to top level event at UNGA in 2019,*

*Maximum 1 page – This section will be fully developed once the nature, objectives and format of the event are defined.*

*Overarching messages: We are not moving towards Zero-Hunger and the elimination of all forms of malnutrition. Increased hunger and malnutrition are impacting and impacted by inequality between and*

*within countries. A Zero Hunger vision, guided by a stronger commitment to the Right to Food will enable us to tackle inequality and reverse the negative trends. Reversing the trends will also require greater focus on conflict resolution, sustainable food systems and responsible investments and creating opportunities in rural areas.*

## **Executive summary**

Chapeau

- *Introductory paragraphs on FSN situation (SOFI 2018 and other relevant UN reports);*
- *Short overview of interlinkages between SDG2 and SDGs under review in 2019*

Key messages:

- 1. Ensuring access to resources and services for smallholder farmers, rural women, indigenous people and family farmers creates the enabling conditions for reduced inequalities and improved food security and nutrition (#10).** Although smallholder farmers produce most of the world's food, many millions among them remain food insecure themselves. Globally, they form the majority of people living in poverty. Women producers are even more likely to suffer from the lack of access – especially to land, finance, productive resources and services, decent work, and participation in political processes at all levels. When appropriate conditions are in place, smallholder farmers, rural women, indigenous people and family farmers are key agents of change in promoting food security and nutrition and in generating inclusive economic growth.
- 2. Responsible investment in agriculture and food systems advances sustainable and inclusive economic growth and generates more employment and decent work <sup>[1]</sup>for all (#8).** Responsible investment in agriculture and food systems engages and empowers youth and women, and fosters gender equality. It contributes to on-farm and off-farm employment across sectors and therefore has much potential especially in countries prioritizing youth employment. Responsible, inclusive investment also improves the conditions of workers in the agriculture and agri-food sectors, who suffer some of the poorest labour conditions and rights violations. An appropriate public policy framework fosters the enabling environment for responsible investments.
- 3. Fostering sustainable agriculture strengthens resilience, climate change mitigation and adaptation, particularly for the most vulnerable. (#13)** Promoting sustainable agricultural systems, including through organic and agro-ecological approaches, and sustainable intensification, is key to enhancing the capacity of communities and countries to adapt to climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Sustainable production systems also play

---

<sup>[1]</sup> Decent work definition by ILO: *Decent work involves opportunities for work that are productive and deliver a fair income, security in the workplace and social protection for families, better prospects for personal development and [social integration](#), freedom for people to express their concerns, organize and participate in the decisions that affect their lives and [equality of opportunity](#) and treatment for all women and men.*

a fundamental role in strengthening resilience to shocks, preserving biodiversity, maintaining and enhancing soil fertility and minimizing environmental degradation. Likewise, it is important to recognize, protect and respect the significant contribution traditional production systems, including agro-pastoral systems, which contribute to the food security and nutrition of the communities practicing them.

- 4. *The full realization of the right to adequate food contributes to achieving stable and peaceful societies and vice versa. (#16).*** The fulfilment of the human right to adequate food is interconnected with other human rights such as social protection, decent work, living wage, water and sanitation and plays a key role in creating social stability. Respecting, protecting and fulfilling the legitimate rights of people and communities to access, use and control land, water, fisheries and forest resources, such as through responsible governance of tenure, also play an essential role in conflict prevention. Conversely, conflicts negatively impact food security, both directly and indirectly, making their prevention and resolution a priority for the achievement of zero hunger. Securing livelihoods mitigates migration pressures, from rural areas into cities and abroad.

*Are we moving towards people's empowerment and inclusive, equal societies in 2030?*

*Findings of SOFI, SOFA from 2018 and previous years + other UN reports*

*Concrete recommendations from CFS*

- 1. *Ensuring access to resources and services for small-scale food producers, rural women, indigenous people and family farmers creates the enabling conditions for reduced inequalities and improved food security and nutrition (#10).***

*Key message to be further developed with concise references to CFS language, inspired by:*

- Voluntary guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security
- Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT)
- Policy recommendations on Connecting smallholders to markets (CFS 43)
- Policy recommendations on Gender, food security and nutrition (CFS 37)
- Plenary outcomes of the Forum on Women's Empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition (CFS 44)

**2. Responsible investment in agriculture and food systems advances sustainable and inclusive economic growth and generates more employment and decent work <sup>[1]</sup>for all (# 8).**

*Key message to be further developed with concise reference to CFS language, inspired by:*

- Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI)
  - Policy recommendations on Connecting smallholders to markets (CFS 43)
  - Policy recommendations on Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition including the role of livestock (CFS 43)
  - Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT)
  - Policy recommendations on Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security (CFS40)
  - Policy recommendations on How to increase food security and smallholder sensitive investments in agriculture (CFS 37)
  - Policy recommendations on Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition (CFS 41)
  - Policy recommendations on Social protection for food security (CFS 39)
- 3. Fostering sustainable agriculture strengthens resilience, climate change mitigation and adaptation, particularly for the most vulnerable. (#13)**

*Key message to be further developed with concise reference to CFS language, inspired by:*

- Policy recommendations on Food Security and Climate change (CFS 39)
  - Policy recommendations on Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition including the role of livestock (CFS 43)
  - Policy recommendations on Food Losses and Waste in the Context of Sustainable Food Systems (CFS 41)
  - Policy recommendations on Sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition (CFS44)
  - Policy recommendations on Water for Food Security and Nutrition (CFS 42)
- 4. The full realization of the right to adequate food contributes to achieving stable and peaceful societies and vice versa. (#16).**

*Key message to be further developed with concise reference to CFS language, inspired by:*

- Voluntary guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security
- Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crisis (CFS-FFA)
- Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT)
- Policy recommendations on Water for Food Security and Nutrition (CFS 42)

---

<sup>[1]</sup> Decent work definition by ILO: *Decent work involves opportunities for work that are productive and deliver a fair income, security in the workplace and social protection for families, better prospects for personal development and [social integration](#), freedom for people to express their concerns, organize and participate in the decisions that affect their lives and [equality of opportunity](#) and treatment for all women and men.*

*Annex: CFS reference documents*