

PRELIMINARY PROPOSALS CONCERNING CFS THEMATIC WORKSTREAMS

PROPOSAL J

Policy guidance on Conflicts, Migrations and Food Security and Nutrition

a) Proponents

Italy and South Africa

b) Outputs associated with the proposed thematic workstream

The workstream is intended to contribute to output 2.1 (global policy guidance).

c) Rationale for including the proposed thematic workstream, based on the prioritization criteria and building on CFS main comparative advantages, as described in Annex B of the CFS Evaluation Implementation Report

The nexus between conflicts, migration, internally displaced persons and FSN is one of the topics identified by the HLPE in its second Note on Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition, released in 2017. As per the Reform Document, one of the key functions of the HLPE is actually to “Identify emerging issues, and help members prioritize future actions and attentions on key focal areas.”

This nexus is being analyzed and tackled by a growing number of international institutions, from different perspectives, not only in the UN System.

SOFI 2017 highlighted that conflict is a key driver of situations of severe food crisis and recently re-emerged famines, while hunger and undernutrition are significantly worse where conflicts are prolonged and institutional capacities weak.

SOFA 2018 on “Migration, agriculture and rural development”, stressed that Migration decisions lie along a continuum: from voluntary migration – driven by the search for opportunities – to forced migration and internally displaced persons, generally driven by conflicts, crises and appalling socio-economic conditions.

Since 2016, FAO and WFP produce a periodic and specific joint report to the UN Security Council to address the food insecurity situation in the countries under conflict which are regularly assessed by the Security Council.

In 2017, WFP published the report “At the root of exodus: Food security, conflict and international migration”, that analyses the role that food security and other factors play in triggering cross-border migration. The report was presented at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The three RBAs with IOM produced this year a technical report on “Linkages between Migration, Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development” in which conflicts, political instability and protracted crises are included among the drivers of migration.

The International Network on Conflict and Fragility (INCAF), a network of donors and multi-lateral organizations to improve donor coordination and support in conflict affected and fragile contexts set up by the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC), in 2019 will focus on how to improve coherence and coordination across the ‘Humanitarian-Development-Peacebuilding Nexus’ (“Triple Nexus”).

Last but not least, UNSC in its Resolution 2417/18 for the first time paves the way to address conflict-induced hunger around the world, recognizing “that food security is an essential factor in bringing about peace and security” and expressing “deep concern that ongoing armed conflicts and violence have devastating humanitarian consequences, often hindering an effective humanitarian response, and are therefore a major cause of the current risk of famine.”, and looking forward “to future opportunities within the Security Council to address food insecurity’s role both as a result and driver of conflicts worldwide.”

“CFS FFA in protracted crises” gives a number of recommendations to deal with FSN in context of conflicts and natural disasters to poverty and climate change, where the proposed workstream would look at better understanding the role of agriculture and food security in conflict and emergency situations, as well as the impacts of migration on nutrition, in order to identify possible models of resilience and design food security and nutrition systems that will be not only sustainable in peaceful times, but also resilient during conflicts.

Based on the above elements, the proposed thematic workstream is clearly closely linked to global priorities in FSN.

CFS could offer a real added value tackling this theme, given all CFS main comparative advantages

CFS would look at the issue focusing on SDG2 and its interlinkages with other FSN related SDGs and targets. In addition the proposed thematic workstream is intended to contribute to all three CFS MYPoW Strategic Objectives as it will reinforce the CFS convening power as the foremost inclusive platform dealing with FSN issues, to promote policy guidance as well as the use and application of a CFS policy tools.

d) Expected results and how they will contribute to the achievements of the CFS MYPoW Strategic Objectives and FSN-relevant targets of the 2030 Agenda

The objective of the workstream would be to produce an integrated and comprehensive policy framework in 2021 (or 2022) to be a reference for the multiple actors involved in addressing the relations between conflicts, migrations and food security and nutrition.

e) Potential activities that could be considered after the adoption of the CFS policy product to promote its use and application

The dissemination of the policy product through specific activities, the use and application of the policy product through its integration in RBAs activities at country level and through national assimilation by

countries.

f) Budget estimate, human resources and timeline

Timeline: a) HLPE report; b) development of the policy framework c) approval by Plenary in 2021(2022)

Costs: a) HLPE report; b) translation of documents; c) translation/interpretation negotiation process

g) Indications on whether the preparation of a HLPE report is foreseen and its potential contribution to the proposed CFS thematic workstream

The proposed thematic workstream should benefit from the findings of a HLPE report which will represent the starting point of the policy convergence process.