

## Comments on CFS MYPOW 2020-2023 (first draft)

The CSM **comment on the revised proposal on reducing inequalities for FSN** has been submitted jointly with Hungary and Indonesia in a separate document today.

The CSM **remarks the revised proposal on data collection and analysis** are the following:

- Although several members and participants, including the CSM, have underlined in previous discussions that data collection and data analysis tools are of high importance for food security and nutrition, the topic as proposed does not seem appropriate for a policy convergence process. The revised proposal also lacks a proper explanation of what the comparative advantage and added value of the CFS would be in such an endeavor.
- During previous discussion, the proposal failed to obtain broad support from member states. It also did not meet the minimum requirement of support by at least two countries from two regions that was established in the context of the new MYPOW process agreed by Plenary in response to the CFS Evaluation. Other proposals which have since been dropped in the process can arguably claim to have received significantly more member states' support.
- In our view, the issue of quantitative and qualitative data collection and data analysis should be included as a transversal approach in all CFS workstreams. To a certain extent this is already the case, but it could be strengthened in the future.
- The revised proposal also states that an HLPE report should be requested on the topic, followed by a discussion in the Plenary. We do not believe that an HLPE report is appropriately used if it only informs a debate in Plenary. Given the efforts and cost of an HLPE report, it does not seem cost-efficient and politically effective to request such an HLPE report without a meaningful policy process.
- Maybe, as an alternative proposal emanating from the discussions on the topic so far, the CFS could convene a well-prepared High-Level Forum on the topic, where experts from institutions such as the RBA, World Bank, CGIAR, countries, national research institutions, academia, community-based researchers and others could share their analysis and knowledge on data collection and analysis in the field of FSN, to seek improved synergies, identify gaps and work on strategies to overcome them. Such High-Level Forum would certainly provide a significant contribution to the first strategic objective of the MYPOW 2020-2023 (i.e. CFS as a platform for inclusive discussions).

With our **previous written contributions to the AG/Bureau meeting**, submitted on 5 June 2019, we already submitted our comments on **other aspects of the MYPOW First Draft** which we document here again for a complete overview of CSM comments on the MYPOW First Draft:

- a) Regarding the policy convergence process on **agroecology and other innovations**:
  1. It is very important that the Objectives and expected outcomes are clearly formulated. Therefore, it should explicitly state that the process will lead to policy

recommendations on agroecological approaches and other innovations for adoption at CFS 47.

2. The text should also be slightly corrected by saying that the policy convergence process will not start after CFS 46, but with the Plenary discussion of CFS 46, taking into account the importance of the Plenary and the substantial debate that will be held in this occasion.
3. It is fundamental that a proposal for the policy convergence process on agroecology and other innovations is agreed by the Bureau the latest by end of July, so that it can be submitted as a draft decision box to the Plenary in October.
4. For that purpose, it would be very useful to appoint as soon as possible the rapporteur of this process. As in previous processes, it is important that the rapporteur participates to the deliberations about the way how the policy process is set up.
5. We would like to remind as well that the design of the policy process on agroecology and other innovations should seek the best possible synergies with the process on food systems and nutrition, as they are interrelated in many aspects. A specific methodology should be worked out for that purpose.
6. Finally, it is recommendable to also include in this workstream the fact that it will be a contribution of the CFS to the UN Decade on Nutrition and the recently started UN Decade on Family farming.

b) **On the Youth proposal**, we have the most detailed and substantive contributions to make, mainly due to the fact that many of our most important suggestions as CSM Youth Constituency have not been adequately dealt with so far:

- We need a clear title for this workstream which comprises the theme properly. We propose the title: “Youth Engagement and Employment in Food Systems”.
- We want to see the scope and direction of this workstream defined in response to needs, rights and demands of our diverse youth constituencies, not in response to an anonymous global agricultural system that sees us only as their current and future workforce. We don’t want to be seen only as an element of the labor market.
- The scope of this workstream should therefore address public policies that ensure permanence, retention and return to the rural areas of young people.
- We need to talk about employment, especially decent employment and decent salaries and decent working conditions.
- But we must also talk about the access to territories to natural resources to the means of production, including the ownership of land and natural resources such as water among others, because most of us are food producers, small-scale family farmers, indigenous peoples, pastoralists, fisherfolks, we are part of our communities and territories, and we will determine our future ourselves.
- We need public policies that allow us to advance in the way we define. Public policies, on means of production, in health, in education, in recreation, social services, access to local markets, to native seeds.
- But we need public policies that support the way that we choose and we want to stop those policies and practices, such as land grabbing, exploitation, discrimination and destruction of our planet which continues to undermine the livelihoods of our generation as well as of future generation, if we don’t change direction. If we don’t change, we will continue to have social inequalities and have even more hunger in the world.

- In this sense, we want to see our most pressing priorities to be part of this important policy workstream:
  - The access to land and other natural resources for us young food producers who already live producing food and for those who will come.
  - promote and generate rural education spaces adapting modalities and curricula to peasant life with the promotion of agroecology. Promote young people's access to them.
  - Promote financing programs for the permanence, retention and return to the rural areas of young people.
  - The full recognition of our diversity and autonomy as young peasants, farmers, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, rural and urban youth, workers, consumers, and especially as contributors to the economy.
  - The full recognition of our rights as youth, our women's rights, our agency of our own development, of us food producers and contributors to the economy; the respect of our human rights, our rights of our identities, in our lands and territories.
  - This also includes our essential role to participate in policy making processes, on all levels, including on the global level.
  - Decent income, decent livelihoods, decent work and working conditions are fundamental to us.
  - We cannot ignore longer the huge challenges of climate change, loss of biodiversity and ecological destruction: they are main drivers of hunger and malnutrition among present and future generations. It cannot be that this CFS workstream does not address these questions which are so central to food security and nutrition, and so central to our lives and communities and future generations.
  - We cannot think about young people only as employees of the labor force: we have to feel proud to live in the countryside and produce, generating our own income and contributing to the economy.
  - If we achieve this, we will have more new generations in the field producing the food, contributing to the economy, we will lower the forced migration, the hunger in the world. For that we must work all together.
  
- c) **UPTAKE:** on this section, we welcome the suggested activities for an enhanced use, application and monitoring. However, we would reiterate two specific suggestions which we already presented before:
  - a. We should plan uptake activities for all CFS policy outcomes, which in this case also means that we should plan for an event on the CFS policy recommendations on agroecological approaches and other innovations for 2021
  - b. A stocktaking event on the CFS policy recommendations on water and climate change could be scheduled for 2021, in a similar way as the current Stocktaking event at CFS 46 is being prepared on the 3 sets of policy recommendations focusing on smallholders