

UNSCN input on the Zero draft MYPoW 2020-2023

UNSCN welcomes the zero draft of CFS Multi-year programme of work (MYPoW) for 2020-2023 presented at the MYPoW – second open meeting on the 17th of April in FAO.

Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and *Promoting youth employment in food systems, sustainable rural transformation and territorial approaches* have been indicated by UNSCN members as important topics and we welcome the proposal of dedicated workstreams on these issues in the MYPoW 2020-2023.

In addition to this, as already indicated in the prioritization phase, UNSCN members consider *Reducing inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition* a top priority for CFS. Therefore, besides the two main workstreams already proposed, UNSCN would like to reiterate its support to the topic of inequalities as relevant for the work of the CFS in the coming MYPoW.

As indicated in the second HLPE note on critical and emerging issues, the issue of inequalities (already identified in the first HLPE note) continues to be critical and a major concern for many organizations. Inequalities of income, unequal access to resources, gender and social inequalities, and power and economic imbalances, are main underlying drivers of all forms of malnutrition, including obesity and NCDs.

Inherent barriers exist in food systems that prevent people from overcoming persistent and intergenerational malnutrition and poverty. To overcome these barriers and ensure that no one is left behind, systematic analysis of food system dynamics, as well as the various causes of malnutrition, is needed.

Furthermore, a focus on inequalities will also be in line with Agenda 2030 and its call for leaving no one behind and with SDG10 on Reducing Inequalities.

We believe the narrative the HLPE is developing could feed into the work on inequalities, providing a starting point to analyze how different forms of inequalities (not only inequality of income) coexist in different parts of the food system and how they interact with the driving forces affecting it. Many HLPE reports already contain some indications about the impact of the several topics that are described on food security and nutrition, often including an analysis of the impacts on several marginalized groups. Possibly, the HLPE could highlight these elements in the upcoming narrative on reducing inequalities.

To conclude, we would suggest to have an HLPE report on this topic in the upcoming MYPoW (2020-2023) and possibly a policy discussion based on the findings of the report in the following MYPoW (2024-2027).