

Statement by the World Bank on  
CFS - MYPOW 2020-2023 First Draft (revised)

1. Section 2.1.2. Agroecological approaches and other innovations

The World Bank welcomes the launch of the HLPE report on Agroecology on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and looks forward to the start of the policy convergence process in a timely manner.

2. Section 2.1.3. Gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of Food Security and Nutrition

The World Bank welcomes the development of a set of globally accepted Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in the Context of FSN.

The success of the future VG will depend on identifying concrete actions to be implemented in national policies in response to critical constraining factors and providing clear guidance on how to move forward to promote gender equality and women/s empowerment.

3. Section 2.1.4. Putting youth at the centre: engaging youth in FSN policies and practices; and promoting (rural) decent jobs for youth in agriculture and food systems.

Besides emphasizing aspects of Urbanization and Rural Transformation in policy recommendations for promoting youth employment in food systems, sustainable rural transformation and territorial approaches, the World Bank reiterates that a key focus has to be jobs, skills, training and harnessing the energy and skills of the youth to leverage the rapidly transforming food system (all along the value chain to raise value-added, agro-processing, quality and food safety).

4. 2.1.5. Data collection and analysis tools

In view of the need for solid and agreed objectives on data collection, analysis, and use to inform and improve critical agricultural policy and investment decision-making, the WB strongly supports the revised proposal 2.1.5. on Data collection and analysis tools.

Although it is widely recognized that sound decisions can only be based on good information and data, in many countries, particularly low and lower middle-income countries, the availability of timely and reliable rural, agricultural and food security statistics is largely lacking. Despite all efforts, most of these countries still do not conduct regular household and farm surveys, do not meet the minimum data requirements, lack sustainable data systems, and have insufficient capacity to analyze and use the data at their disposal.

The 50x2030 Initiative to Close Agricultural Data Gaps builds on existing programs like the World Bank's Living Standard Measurement Study and its Integrated Study on Agriculture, and FAO's AGRISurvey program, and represents a coordinated effort to address this situation, by investing in strengthening national data systems through technical assistance, methodological innovation and research, and by supporting national capacity to collect, process, analyze and use agriculture data.

This proposal enables CFS to provide an informed overview over these efforts to fill gaps and identify barriers on the production and analysis of data. The proposed HLPE report and the following policy convergence process offer CFS the opportunity not only to be part of this important process of laying the data base for informed decision making but influencing and setting standards for these efforts.

It is not clear if the differences between Section C – Activities and cost estimates (HLPE report and a cost of 100K) and Overview of Estimated Cost table at the end (High Level Forum and a cost of 60K) are meant to be complementary (HLPE report plus High-Level Forum) or alternative. The World Bank sees added value in a comprehensive HLPE report to give guidance on responsible and sustainable data collection and analysis tools including recommendations on how to ensure data literacy in all countries and to reduce inequalities in the use of data.

In closing, the World Bank fully supports the proposed workstream and stands ready to work with the CFS and other partners to ensure that more and better data are produced, made available and used, and better policies are formulated to end hunger, eradicate poverty and promote shared prosperity for all.

#### 5. Reducing Inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition

The WB welcomes the revised proposal on reducing inequality by addressing the root causes of food insecurity with a focus on the people most affected by hunger and malnutrition. Therefore, the WB strongly supports the approach suggested to analyze quantitative and qualitative evidence relating to how inequalities in access to assets, and incomes in rural areas and agri-food systems impedes the opportunities for many actors to overcome food insecurity and malnutrition.

For this task, the WB strongly supports the ongoing efforts to collect sound data from the household level. The WB is partnering with FAO and IFAD on a joint effort within the 50 x 2030 Initiative and is undertaking the development of an integrated farm survey model within this framework with FAO which will include collecting data on key socio-economic aspects such as access to assets and the associated inequality, with poverty, well-being and food security measures. The 50 x 2030 initiative plans to promote the use of such integrated model in up to 50 countries before year 2030.

In view of the close relationship between the data collection and analysis tools the WB notes that both the proposed workstreams are closely linked and complement each other, and as such strongly supports both workstreams and stands ready to engage in both of them.

#### 6. Countries in fragility, conflict and violence situation

The World bank notes with regret the lack of support for the proposal for the development of an integrated and comprehensive policy framework/guidance on Nutritious Food Security for countries in

fragile, conflict and violent situations, and with forcibly displaced people. The WB recommends keeping it on the reserve list.