

[N.B: paragraphs already agreed during the first round of negotiations are marked as 'agreed ad ref.'; text in red font and text from paragraph 3.f and until the end of the document still need to be discussed]

CFS POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS on [STRENGTHENING] [FSN] DATA-COLLECTION and USE of DATA and [ANALYSIS TOOLS] [for FOOD SECURITY and NUTRITION] [for decision-making to realize the right to food and nutrition] [in the context of food security and nutrition]

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RATIONALE

1. High-quality, timely and relevant Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) data¹ is one key tool to inform local, national and global actions, as well as public policies, that promote and improve food security and nutrition. Capacities to produce, interpret and use FSN data, and institutional arrangements that promote the use of data to guide FSN policy, are essential to understand the impacts of policies and determine which policies are successful and which policies should be changed. In line with the approved CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) 2020-2023, the purpose of this document is to provide specific and actionable voluntary **policy recommendations for strengthening the capacities of all stakeholders, especially governments, involved in the collection, analysis, dissemination, protection and the use of quality FSN data**, towards enhancing effective, inclusive, evidence-informed decision making. The overall goal is to contribute to the progressive realization of the right to adequate food, in the context of national food security, as well as to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its targets. The recommendations are informed by the CFS High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) Report 17 “Data Collection and Analysis Tools for Food Security and Nutrition: towards enhancing effective, inclusive, evidence-informed decision making” (2022).

[agreed ad ref]

[Friends of the Chair's proposal for paragraph 2]

2. There is no multilaterally agreed definition of Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Data, [and [that] there are ongoing discussions over this concept,] including within the UN Statistical Commission [as] the primary UN Body [with a] mandate[d] [to develop such definitions as needed] [on this domain]., [Therefore,] for the purpose of these policy recommendations, data relevant to inform [the formulation or the assessment of] FSN policies will be referred to as Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Data. Throughout this document, FSN Data is understood to

¹ Insert definition:

[be] [mean] '[personal, [sensitive], proprietary or public] data [of diverse types, sources and sensitivities] to describe and/or measure individual [or collective/community] food security and nutrition outcomes, [that may be individual or collective,] and/or provide evidence and promote understanding of micro-, meso- or macro-level determinants influencing [these] [nutrition] outcomes and outcomes across the four pillars of FS[N]: availability, access, utilization, stability²³.

3. This definition recognizes the importance of different types of data, qualitative as well as quantitative, and of adopting a **systemic view for FSN data**, which highlights the fundamental roles of all actors spanning the food system, in the production and assessment of relevant FSN data.

4. It is important to note that extensive **FSN data** already exists, and is produced in a variety of ways, by different stakeholders, at least for some dimensions of food (in)security, albeit with varying degrees of quality and granularity. However, they are often not equally accessible, not sufficiently processed or analyzed, nor properly utilized by policymakers, who are often unaware of the existence and relevance of such data, and resources to store, process and analyze them are distributed inequitably. Data relevant to inform FSN policies are often housed across diverse sectors and organizations and, as a result, the ability of decision-makers to make informed policy decisions is impeded by the culmination of challenges along each step of the data cycle.⁴ [agreed ad ref.]

[ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH BEING PROPOSED BY CSIPM:]

4Bis. While a variety of methods exist to generate, collect, store, and use data and related information and knowledge, including those characterized by the agency of Indigenous Peoples, peasants and other small-scale food producers, these methods and their outputs are often not considered in standardized data collection systems, as well as in FSN decision-making. In some cases, the data and related information collected concern phenomena that are not captured by official data collection and statistics and often cannot be reduced to quantitative data. Such data cannot always be quantified in a statistical sense or reduced to a digital format, due to the ways and conditions in which the data and related information are produced and the fact that they come from collective knowledge that does not belong to the written tradition and is part

² [The HLPE-FSN and [several] other FSN stakeholders are considering [recognizing] [within ongoing discussions] 'agency' and 'sustainability' as [evolving] additional [evolving] dimensions of food security and nutrition, though they are not multilaterally agreed.

³ [See Annex Table 1 at page 129 of HLPE-FSN report #17 – which is not multilaterally agreed – [include hyperlink] for some examples of existing FSN data-related initiatives (including database, repositories, data systems and analysis tools), organized by dimension of food security and nutrition].

⁴ The data cycle comprises the following steps: defining priorities and data needs; reviewing, consolidating, collecting and curating data; analyzing the data using appropriate tools; translating data into relevant insights to be disseminated and discussed; and, finally, using data for decision-making.

of the intangible heritage of humanity. The importance of these data and the related information and knowledge systems calls for the establishment of processes that ensure the direct participation of those who generate and are the custodians of these data, information and knowledge, which are relevant to inform FSN policies and decision making, while respecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples, peasants and other people and communities over their data, including related traditional knowledge, innovations and practices.]

5. **Fundamental data gaps still exist.** There is a need to address these gaps to effectively guide responsible action and inform policymaking, especially timely and sufficiently granular data on people's ability to produce and access food, on food and nutrient consumption, and on nutritional status, while recognizing the importance of safeguarding privacy. More data and information from actors across agriculture and food systems, that shed light on the structural determinants of FSN, and on the FSN of those in vulnerable situations and those subject to various forms of discrimination⁵, and on geographical regions, are also needed. Countries have different data priorities and needs, depending on their statistical capacity, access to technology, financing resources, socio-economic conditions, as well as national FSN contexts. [agreed ad ref.]

6. Data, information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges, and there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing new technologies and data collection and analysis, stressing the need to close the digital divides, both between and within countries. Several other constraints limit the use of data for effective data-informed policy action on FSN. Among them is the **low and imbalanced level of data literacy and analysis skills** (for both qualitative and quantitative data) on the part of some data and information producers and users, at all levels – from data collectors and analysts to decision-makers, and to the people, as rights' holders, and the ultimate beneficiaries of food security and nutrition policies. [agreed ad ref.]

7. Developing countries need financial and technical support, including statistical capacity building, voluntary technology transfers on mutually-agreed terms, as well as innovative frameworks such as south-south and triangular cooperation, among others, to strengthen their capacities to make responsible investments⁶ and to generate, collect, and analyze high-quality data, and use it to guide decision-making related to FSN. Insufficient allocation of financial resources to agricultural development and FSN programmes is a long-standing concern for

⁵ As found in CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition, para 3.6.1b, page 22

⁶ The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) endorsed the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI) on 15th October, 2014

many countries, and the lack of public, private, and international funding have clear consequences for data relevant to inform FSN policies. [agreed ad ref.]

8. FSN statistical data are often not standardized and often fragmented across different international agencies⁷, government sectors, public and private institutions, and they may be collected or managed using different protocols, making them difficult to use. Therefore, it is a priority to strengthen voluntary, national, regional, and international coordination efforts to explore global digital cooperation, taking into account the UN Secretary-General's Data Strategy⁸ and his Roadmap for digital cooperation⁹, which will be essential for comparison and to realize the full potential of statistical data utilization, striving for an equitable world. Better coordination and harmonization across international organizations, government sectors, and public and private institutions should be encouraged to improve the quality and utility of FSN statistical data, while creating synergies and avoiding duplication of efforts and confusion when communicating information. Harmonization is particularly relevant for FSN statistics that are used for global or regional analyses and monitoring. [agreed ad ref.]

9. The number of state and non-state actors that play a role in FSN data collection and use is growing exponentially. It is our collective goal of ensuring that **people are at the heart of decisions, when collecting, analyzing and using data, working to achieve the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security**. People should have a say in data collection that affect their lives and should be included in decisions related to data use and re-use. FSN data systems should be guided by clear principles¹⁰, (in particular participation, accountability, non-discrimination, transparency, human dignity, empowerment, and rule of law), in line with applicable domestic law and effective and participatory processes, to help ensure that FSN data is collected, used, analyzed and disseminated in ways that are effective, non-discriminatory, inclusive, consistent with human rights, transparent, ethical, and equitable, while applying applicable data privacy, data protection, and intellectual property safeguards and principles to ensure that such data are protected, while addressing conflicts of interest. [agreed ad ref.]

⁷ FAO is the custodian of 21 SDG indicators, including indicators 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.3.1, 2.3.2., 2.5.1a, 2.5.1b, 2.5.2, 2.a.1 and 2.c.1, related to ending hunger, achieving food security, and improve nutrition, as well as promoting sustainable agriculture.

⁸ Available at https://www.un.org/en/content/datastrategy/images/pdf/UN_SG_Data-Strategy.pdf

⁹ Available at <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N20/102/51/PDF/N2010251.pdf?OpenElement>

¹⁰ As found in CFS Voluntary Guidelines to Support the progressive realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the context of national food security, paragraph 7, page 2 and in CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition, paragraph 48, page 8.

10. [The complex array of public and private actors and institutions involved in FSN data, coupled with the rapidly changing data ecosystem due to the proliferation of the internet and mobile telephony, and the emergence of big data and advanced methods of data capture, storage, and analytics (including machine learning and Artificial Intelligence - AI), as well as the fast pace of technological innovations, brings to centre stage the need for **global [digital cooperation] [coordination to improve data [collection] governance]**. It is [also] important [that] [to recognize the nature of] [FSN] data and information [relevant to FSN policy] [as a public good.] [that] is widely accessible, broadly circulated and used in the public interest, while at the same time preserving the rights of the people to whom the data ultimately belong, while taking into account national laws and regulations.] and taking steps to address imbalances in power among actors with respect to generating, accessing and using data, which would deepen inequalities. These urgent data governance issues are not unique to FSN data, and efforts are already well underway towards building the foundations for a global framework for data governance that strikes the right balance between data access and sharing, on the one hand, and data protections and control, on the other. Such efforts can serve as guidance for developing national data governance frameworks, adapted to local contexts, which in turn will provide an overarching governance umbrella for FSN data systems].

11. These policy recommendations are addressed primarily to Governments (relevant ministries, national, regional and local authorities and institutions), international organizations¹¹, international financial and FSN research institutions, private sector associations, philanthropies, rural development experts, universities and academic institutions, and civil society organizations. They are voluntary and non-binding and aim to complement other CFS policy recommendations and guidelines. They should be interpreted and applied consistently with existing obligations under national and international law, and with due regard to voluntary commitments under applicable regional and international instruments and in accordance with national legal systems and their institutions. [agreed ad ref.]

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. CREATE GREATER AWARENESS AND DEMANDFOR BETTER USE OF FSN DATA IN DECISION-MAKING [agreed ad ref.]

Governments should strive to:

- a) establish – or, when appropriate, strengthen existing - effective national **multi-sectoral and multistakeholder FSN mechanisms** responsible for guiding FSN policy

¹¹ Throughout the document, *international organizations* refer, among others, to the UN Rome-based Agencies (FAO, IFAD, and WFP), other inter-governmental organizations, both international and regional, with a mandate related to food security and nutrition, as well as International Financial Institutions.

and programme planning, linked to national development planning, and for **setting local, national, regional and global priorities for better production and use of data in FSN decision-making**, aligned to required analysis, within the data and statistical systems, to inform these policies. Such mechanisms should ensure that civil society, academia, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, those in vulnerable situations and those subject to various forms of discrimination¹², and other relevant stakeholders have an active and well-defined role in determining priorities. [agreed ad ref].

- b) promote and facilitate **dialogues and cooperation** among a broad range of relevant stakeholders at the national and sub-national levels to develop concrete and feasible recommendations, facilitated by the aforementioned multi-sectoral FSN mechanisms, taking into consideration existing power imbalances between different actors and encouraging active, free, effective, and meaningful participation, in order to **1) discuss FSN data priorities**, identifying what is already available¹³ and what are the most urgent needs; **2) stimulate analysis of existing data** to produce information that is relevant for FSN policies and programmes at regional, national and local levels; and **3) discuss the most effective means/platforms to disseminate the FSN data**, (e.g. a one-stop shop platform, among others). [agreed ad ref.]
- c) [conduct cost-benefit analyses and [independent and participatory] risk assessments [of data utilization, as needed and according to national priorities], []to assist policy-makers to estimate [] [the benefits] of [using [FSN] data for decision-making] [] [and the trade-offs of] using FSN data from varying sources, [with the financial, technical, administrative or in-kind support of international financial institutions, international organizations, regional institutions and organizations, multidisciplinary academic perspectives, donor countries, philanthropic foundations, [including through Official Development Assistance], as appropriate.]
- d) whenever data is used to inform FSN-related national legislation and public policies, include, as necessary, **detailed data annexes**, presenting **available data sources** and the **analytic tools** used for their development. [agreed ad ref.]
- e) promote the regular production and dissemination by government units responsible for collecting, storing, processing, analyzing and disseminating FSN-data- of knowledge products informed by FSN data that summarize the main findings resulting from government data collection initiatives in user-friendly and inclusive

¹² As found in *CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition*, paragraph 3.6.1b, page 22.

¹³ There may be a need for taking stock of available FSN data being collected by different agencies across seasons and levels (national, sub-national, local) to identify fundamental gaps and most appropriate data sources for both qualitative and quantitative data.

formats that facilitate the use and uptake of information by decision-makers, including rural actors, and those in vulnerable situations, especially in remote areas.
[agreed ad ref.]

International¹⁴ organizations are encouraged to: [agreed ad ref.]

- f) foster dialogue, collaboration and coordination on good practices, for FSN data-driven decision-making, according to national priorities. [agreed ad ref.]
- g) [develop practical guidelines] [foster debate] on **data-informed ex-ante and ex-post policy evaluation** in the FSN domain. [for national-level policymakers and administrators].
- h) develop and promote, in collaboration with national and international training institutions, and based on needs assessments, [and upon request of stakeholders, tailor-made and inclusive,] **education courses about [benefits, risks, and limits of] FSN [statistical] data utilization [and governance]** to inform FSN policy and programme planning, including how to use the data for producing diagnostics and analysis to identify [] bottlenecks and priorities.

Civil Society, Private Sector, Indigenous Peoples, and Research Institutions are urged to:
[agreed ad ref.]

- i) use already existing FSN data in advocacy efforts towards all stakeholders, especially decision-makers and governments, to further research and development of knowledge products that seek to bridge existing FSN data gaps, towards the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in context of national food security. [agreed ad ref.]

International organizations¹⁵, donors and governments are encouraged to: [agreed ad ref.]

- j) request and use relevant FSN data that already exist and promote inter-operability, where possible, thus avoiding duplication of efforts, and contributing to efficiency and timeliness of efforts. [Agreed ad ref.]

¹⁴ See footnote 11.

¹⁵ See footnote 11.

2. INCREASE AND SUSTAIN INVESTMENT IN THE COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND ENHANCEMENT OF QUALITY AND PRIORITIZED FSN DATA, WHILE OPTIMIZING AND/OR REPURPOSING CURRENT RESOURCES, TO IMPROVE DECISION-MAKING, FOR THE PROGRESSIVE REALIZATION OF THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE FOOD IN THE CONTEXT OF NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY. [agreed ad ref.]

Governments should strive to: [agreed ad ref.]

- a) with the support of international organizations¹⁶, and donors, where appropriate, **increase and sustain responsible investment and adequate resources for the production of timely, quality, disaggregated¹⁷, where relevant, reliable and consistent FSN data**, on people's ability to produce and access food and healthy diets, on their food consumption and dietary patterns, and on their nutritional status, particularly of those in vulnerable situations, and other national prioritized data, as well as resources for the development of quality national standards and good practices for their use. [agreed ad ref.]
- b) **elaborate national plans, through participatory processes and approaches, to define priorities for FSN data collection and analysis**, to be integrated in their national strategies for the development of statistics, if existing, and to improve and optimize existing national FSN data systems, taking into account the different types of data from different sources. Governments that require assistance in implementing these plans could, upon request, be supported both technically and financially by international organizations¹⁸, and donors, as appropriate, and their plans are recommended to be aligned with applicable international standards and good practices, while preserving national priorities and country ownership.
[agreed ad ref.]
- c) regularly **review existing national data-collection systems¹⁹ relevant for FSN**, through participatory processes, with the aim of identifying gaps, opportunities, and risks to streamline and modernize them, and enhance their efficiency and relevance, beyond statistical data collection, according to national priorities and domestic laws, and with due regard to applicable international standards and good practices. [agreed ad ref.]

¹⁶ See footnote 11.

¹⁷ disaggregated by sex and age, and other established demographic criteria and socio-economic variables, in accordance with the Beijing Declaration.

¹⁸ See footnote 11.

¹⁹ National data-collection systems include, among others: administrative records, geospatial information, sensor data and other data not necessarily collected for statistical purposes, as well as the traditional statistical operations, i.e., surveys and censuses.

International organizations are [called upon] encouraged to:

- d) [form an inclusive **task team of UN agencies and other stakeholders**, including National Statistical Offices, under FAO and WHO leadership, responsible for producing **guidelines outlining a minimum set of core FSN data** that countries should strive to collect, with respective recommended methodologies and indicators to be produced as well as providing guidance to identify other priority FSN data for countries. The task team should report back on the work conducted to the UN Statistical Commission.]

OR

[Alternative Rapporteur's proposal, built on a proposal from Brazil]

Foster FSN data collection at country level and provide guidance to countries **outlining a minimum set of core FSN data**, with respective recommended methodologies and indicators, to help countries identify priorities when collecting FSN data.

Governments, International organizations²⁰ and relevant stakeholders are encouraged to:

[agreed ad ref.]

- e) collaborate on identifying specific data gaps and needs required to improve existing FSN analyses as well as to continue and accelerate **innovation in the areas of statistics, qualitative data, data science and survey-based research**, in working towards the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security, while addressing possible conflicts of interest. [agreed ad ref.]

International organizations²¹, donors, governments, [and philanthropies] are encouraged to:

- f) **increase and sustain** the amount of **resources** that are allocated to improve FSN data collection, quality enhancement, analysis, dissemination and use to improve the effectiveness of FSN-relevant policies, leveraging existing financing mechanisms and assessing and re-purposing existing funding as needed. [In line with a recent pledge for increased investments in data financing²², donors should aim at allocating a minimum of 0.8% of their development investment to data, with a dedicated share allocated to FSN data. To complement this, lower-income (IDA-eligible) and middle income (IBRD-only eligible) countries should aim to allocate respectively a minimum of 0.5% and 0.1%, of annual expenditure to data, with a dedicated share to FSN data.] Investments in FSN data [should be made] [must reflect a good balance

²⁰ See footnote 11.

²¹ See footnote 11.

[²² One recent pledges is the Data for Purpose campaign: <https://datawithpurpose.org>. See: https://static1.squarespace.com/static/62669c6628ceed259712c4dd/t/632bc074fbb93c5c571ba8e3/1663811700575/Investment+case_Multiplying+progress+through+data+ecosystems_vFINAL.pdf]

between data for development as well as data for situations of crisis and emergencies] according to national needs.

OR

[Alternative proposal from FAO]

increase and sustain the amount of resources that are allocated to improve FSN data collection, quality enhancement, analysis, dissemination and use to improve the effectiveness of FSN-relevant policies, leveraging existing financing mechanisms and assessing and re-purposing existing funding as needed. [Recalling SDG target 17.18 and its global monitoring framework, capacity-building support, from all sources, allocated to developing countries to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by characteristics relevant in national contexts should aim at ensuring that national statistical plans, in which FSN data should be embedded, are fully funded.] Investments in FSN data should reflect a good balance between data for development as well as data for situations of crisis and emergencies, according to national needs.

g) **improve coordination and alignment of investment** initiatives aimed at supporting FSN data collection and analysis, taking into account data protection, privacy and security in order to avoid duplication of efforts, improve efficiency, and maximize synergies, including adding capacity-building in statistics and data work of national stakeholders, upon request of governments and according to national priorities. [agreed ad ref.]

h) continue to strengthen and support existing FSN data funding initiatives to help countries and other stakeholders, including, for example, local communities organizations and organizations of Indigenous Peoples, to obtain financial support to strengthen their capacities, including statistical, in order to benefit from FSN data and make decisions, taking into account data protection, privacy, and security, with a vision that such initiatives could be coordinated. [agreed ad ref.]

International organizations, governments, civil society, [Indigenous Peoples], academia, and the private sector are [urged] [encouraged] to:

i) promote the collection, quality enhancement, analysis, and use of **multiple forms of FSN data**, beyond quantitative and machine-readable data, such as qualitative data and other forms of information. This implies valuing and applying **multiple approaches** to information collection, including participatory, qualitative methodologies [and mixed-methods approaches] that are already used by [local] communities, including Indigenous [Peoples], [with free, prior, and informed consent, [under the UN DRIP and with due regard for particular positions and understandings of individual States] [communities] [as well as mixed-method approaches].

3. DEVELOP CAPACITIES AND THE INFRASTRUCTURES AND TECHNOLOGIES NEEDED TO ENSURE THE SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY OF FSN-DATA PRODUCTION CYCLE AND ANALYTIC CAPACITY *FOR DECISION-MAKING* [agreed ad ref.]

Governments are encouraged to:

- a) **hire and invest in building the capacities** of FSN statisticians, data experts and social scientists in the analysis and interpretation of quantitative and qualitative FSN-data, with knowledge of and capacity in risk-assessment and data privacy, to work in relevant ministries and national statistics offices, and incubate analytical units within relevant ministries. **[agreed ad ref.]**
- b) **modernize national statistics system infrastructures** in order to establish interoperable, comprehensive, coordinated FSN data systems and to sustain the independent and transparent collection of quality disaggregated²³ and detailed FSN data over time, with **technical and financial assistance from national and international organizations²⁴** and Official Development Assistance as a means to support national efforts, upon request and according to national priorities. **[agreed ad ref.]**
- c) **expand training opportunities including through south-south and triangular cooperation for staff in national statistics offices and other government units [civil society] and relevant stakeholders engaged in local, regional, and multisectoral FSN data collection, processing and analysis**, with support from national and international organizations as appropriate, upon request, to enhance their analytic competencies [(e.g. on food supply and demand including forecasting [of future] values for better decision making)], including the use of [new data sources] [and the use of participatory] co-designed and] [open-] source[s] [software][and their awareness of the opportunities as well as of the risks of these tools [towards progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security].
- d) with the financial assistance from national and international organizations²⁵, as appropriate, create targeted **scholarship programmes** to allow youth, especially women, and those subject to various forms of discriminations²⁶, to study in scientific programmes related to FSN data, as understood in this document, that have a strong data focus (quantitative and qualitative), as well as data science and statistics, taking into account ancestral and Indigenous Peoples' knowledge. **[agreed ad ref.]**

²³ disaggregated by sex and age, and other established demographic criteria and socio-economic variables, in accordance with the Beijing Declaration.

²⁴ See footnote 11.

²⁵ See footnote 11.

²⁶ See footnote 12.

- e) build capacities of other data stakeholders such as farmers, small-holders, peasants, Indigenous Peoples, fishers, pastoralists, traders, local communities, government officials, rural experts etc. in the analysis, interpretation and use of quantitative and qualitative FSN data and associated risk-assessments. [agreed ad ref.]

Governments, international organizations, [and relevant stakeholders] [donors, philanthropists], private sector; civil society; and academic research institutions] are [urged] [encouraged] to:

- f) [invest in further refinement, validation and] [Assess comprehensively the risks and regulate through robust data governance framework the] application of cost-saving data collection approaches [and novel sources of data], such as integrated survey programmes, remote sensing, natural resource scanning by drones and digital FSN data collection tools [development of budget tagging tool for better appropriations in relation to data collection and analysis]. Tools and technology that streamline and simplify FSN data collection while improving data quality (computer-assisted data collection tools) [should] [could] be used and promoted at all levels, according to national priorities and in respect of national and international [applicable frameworks] legislation that regulates these matters. [within the context of adequate FSN data governance and proper regulation of the use of the data collected].

Governments, international organizations²⁷ and academic research institutions are urged to:

- g) prioritize capacity building in areas where current data availability is poor, with a tailored focus on those countries which are lacking resources, infrastructures, and skills to fill the data gap with the rest of the world.
- h) based on participatory assessments, **improve existing analytic models** and develop new ones to be employed in various areas of relevance for FSN decision-making. Especially relevant are **validated model-based approaches** to forecast future values of FSN determinants and outcomes. Such models should be **transparent**, with good quality training data, and flexibly implemented so that they can generate predictions under clear, alternative scenarios.
- i) develop, in collaboration with national and international training institutions, **learning materials** that focus on FSN data collection, quality control, analysis, interpretation and communication of results for specific types of FSN data and methodologies, including analytical models. Materials should promote an integrated understanding of the relationship between the different types of data and resulting indicators – i.e. a systems perspective.

²⁷ See footnote 11.

- j) **reduce language barriers** by expanding the set of languages in which FSN e-learning courses and relevant FSN data platforms and analysis tools are offered and develop peer-to-peer learning.

International organizations²⁸ are urged to:

- k) **support the often relatively scarce local capacities** by making all efforts to work closely with professionals from national public institutions whenever the need exists to collect and analyse FSN data at national and subnational levels.
- l) ensure that national-level surveys on FSN or related data is combined with capacity strengthening of and knowledge-transfer to national stakeholders, in addition to securing local ownership to national statistical systems, where applicable.

4. INCREASE COLLABORATION AMONG ALL PARTIES TO HARMONIZE AND MAXIMIZE THE SHARING OF EXISTING FSN DATA

Governments and international organizations²⁹ are encouraged to:

- a) advocate for the inclusion of FSN data as a statistical domain inside the UN Statistical Commission, in which the standardization of methods and concepts can be discussed in an intergovernmental setting.
- b) form a **working group under the UN Statistical Commission, led by FAO**, with the inclusive collaboration of relevant sectors and stakeholders, **to promote the standardization, coherence, and interoperability of FSN data and data platforms**, aimed at harmonizing methods and indicators, and facilitating the sharing of FSN data while always respecting data privacy and Free Prior and Informed Consent, as applicable.

[Alternative text proposal for 4b]

- b) Promote the harmonization, coherence, and interoperability of FSN data and data platforms, aimed at harmonizing methods and indicators, and facilitating the sharing of FSN data, while always respecting data privacy and Free Prior and Informed Consent, as applicable.
- c) **publicly disseminate** macro, micro and metadata that is relevant to FSN, in order to increase access for policy and research purposes, respecting confidentiality and data privacy,

²⁸ See footnote 11.

²⁹ See footnote 11.

based on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics³⁰ and the Principles Governing International Statistical Activities³¹, and in conformity with national laws and regulations.

- d) promote the **use and integration of FSN data from multiple sources** (including private sector and data produced by communities and civil society organizations) and **multiple sectors** (e.g., food, agriculture³², health, nutrition, social development, environment, budget and planning, etc.) related to FSN, including by promoting dialogue at technical as well as between technical and political level.
- e) increase collaboration on sharing of **data on international trade of food and agricultural products, and on trade policies**, including through strengthening of instruments such as the Agricultural Marker Information System (AMIS), while underscoring the importance of also collecting data on local, national and territorial markets.

International organizations³³ responsible for producing key FSN data are encouraged to:

- f) strengthen the collaboration to harmonize methods and indicators on important FSN domains (in particular food security assessments) and the coordination on the release of datasets and knowledge products, avoiding the publication of competing datasets.

5. STRENGTHEN FSN DATA SYSTEMS AT GLOBAL, REGIONAL, NATIONAL AND SUB-NATIONAL LEVELS IN LINE WITH INTERNATIONAL DATA GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORKS

Governments are urged to:

- a) ensure the inclusion of FSN data within a national broader data governance system that: 1) is anchored in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and consistent with UNFPOS³⁴; 2) respects the rights/principles of: ethics in the production and use of data; transparency and accountability; privacy; protection of personal data; quality and integrity; participation; freedom of expression; and informational self-determination; 3) promotes open data while at the same time protecting data privacy and promoting fairness, inclusion and equitable distribution of benefits when it comes to the

³⁰ <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/dnss/gp/FP-Rev2013-E.pdf> (adopted on 29 January 2014 at the highest political level as a General Assembly resolution (A/RES/68/261)

³¹ <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/acccsub/2013docs-22nd/SA-2013-8-FP-UNSD.pdf>

³² Throughout the document, the term agriculture refers to the broader set of activities that involve the use of natural resources (land, water, forests, fish) to produce food.

³³ See footnote 11.

³⁴ United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

collection, processing, dissemination, use and management of FSN data; and 4) is informed by emerging international data governance frameworks.

b) treat **FSN data as a public good and as open as possible but as closed as necessary**, to increase the availability of FSN data, address data gaps in national and international systems, and to support efforts to monitor achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Governments, international organizations³⁵, research institutions, civil society and the private sector are called upon to:

c) ensure that **FSN data comply with existing open-access principles for data and analysis tools**, ensuring access to and reproducibility of relevant research results, while at the same time protecting data privacy and promoting fairness, inclusion and equitable distribution of benefits when it comes to the collection, processing, dissemination, use and management of FSN data; continually adapt to enhance data access, as open-access principles and guidance evolve.

d) explore the adoption of the **principles of inclusivity, equity, non-discrimination and participation**, freedom of expression, and self-determination of data and how to apply them to FSN data.

e) explore ways to **improve legal frameworks that protect sensitive FSN data and privacy**, developing accountability systems for their implementation.

International organizations³⁶ are called upon to:

f) ensure that governance of their own FSN data complies with emerging international data governance frameworks.

The private sector and Civil Society are urged to:

g) **share FSN data and analytics with the public sector and academia for policy and research purposes**, exploring mechanisms such as data trusts to make their FSN data more promptly and widely available.

PROMOTION, IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING and EVALUATION

In accordance with the voluntary nature of these policy recommendations, Members of the Committee on World Food Security have the primary responsibility for their promotion,

³⁵ See footnote 11.

³⁶ See footnote 11.

implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Development partners, specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations, international financial institutions, academic research institutes, private sector, philanthropies and civil society organizations are encouraged to support efforts by Member States to implement these policy recommendations, including through South-South and Triangular cooperation.