

CSIPM inputs to the CFS contribution to the HLPF

2025

Thank you for preparing this contribution document for the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF). The document is highly comprehensive and presents a wide range of critical and urgent recommendations that must be taken into account to genuinely eradicate poverty and hunger. The initial section appropriately focuses on conflict-affected areas, which is essential. However, it would be beneficial to expand this scope, as the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) is also responsible for monitoring situations in other regions where, despite the absence of direct armed conflict, people face violence or death due to struggles over access to land and oceans, as well as displacement driven by climate change.

In this regard, it would be important to explicitly address the current challenges within the United Nations system, including the weakening of the human rights framework, the erosion of multilateral spaces, the increasing corporate influence over public policy decision-making, and the continued prioritization of profit over people's rights and well-being.

More specifically, the CSIPM considers the following paragraphs particularly relevant for inclusion in the submission:

With reference to SDG 5, the following recommendations should be also highlighted:

- 70(iii) Encourage equal investments in agricultural development that integrate and respond to the priorities, capabilities and constraints of women. Promote agroecological and other innovative approaches²⁴, climate resilient agriculture and knowledge and technologies for women across the agriculture and food systems and its value chains in particular micro-, small-and medium-scale food producers and entrepreneurs that respond to their needs.
- 70 (v) Promote and support investments in gender-responsive climate change resilience, adaptation and mitigation measures responsive to local needs, priorities, capacities and circumstances.
- 87 (iii) Provide adequate and sustained financial investments and allocations to support long-term universal social protection programmes.
- 31.iii) Ensure equal access to justice and legal assistance so that all women and girls have their rights protected, including the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security, and on issues related to property, in particular land tenure, in rural and urban areas, inheritance and financial services
- 32.iii) Address gender discriminatory socio-cultural norms at all levels of the food system that perpetuate gender inequality in the context of food security and nutrition, including engagement with all stakeholders and relevant leaders as allies in change processes. In order to achieve gender equality, transformation needs to go from individual to systemic change and across informal to formal spheres of life. Ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and men in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of food security and nutrition programmes and policies
- 44.ii) Promote the full, equal, effective inclusive and meaningful participation and engagement of all women and girls and their organizations in the process of policy design, implementation, oversight and programmatic decisions for food security, nutrition, agriculture and food systems, as applicable. A wide range of measures will be needed to effectively support women's leadership

and women's and girls' empowerment, such as training and capacity building including South–South and Triangular Cooperation

- 69.iii) (this rec also refers to the VGGTs) Support tenure rights of all women and girls in accordance with the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (CFS-VGGT) and CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI), including protecting holders against the arbitrary loss of their tenure rights, including forced evictions, that are inconsistent with their States' existing obligations and commitments under national and international law

With reference to SDG 14 it would be good to emphasize the need to ensure that customary, traditional, indigenous and artisanal fisherfolks (small-scale fishers) are supported in securing their legitimate tenure rights over the waters, and are respected and included in the decision-making on the resources, including for its protection (in line with SDG14).

Regarding small-scale fisheries and traditional fisherfolks, SDG 14 specifically addresses them in Target 14.b, which states: "Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets." the following Policy Recommendations/guidelines are highlighted as relevant:

- The Committee on World Food Security (CFS), 41st Session, 2014, endorsed the following **recommendations on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture for Food Security and Nutrition**:
 - Support all efforts aimed at addressing overcapacity and overfishing in the context of food security and nutrition
 - Support and promote initiatives to minimize fish discards and post-harvest losses and waste at all steps of the fish value chain.
 - Identify and promote policies, programmes and activities aimed at addressing the impact of land-based agriculture, including the management of pollutants, sediments and nutrients to receiving coastal and inland waters.
 - Recognize the specific contribution of small-scale fisheries to food security and nutrition.
 - Promote and support the implementation of the 'Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication' (VGSSF), with respect to food security and nutrition.
 - Seek to avoid trade measures that may disadvantage small-scale fisheries and small-scale aquaculture.
 - Strengthen international cooperation to build the capacity of developing countries, to: • sustainably manage their living aquatic resources; • prevent, deter and eliminate Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing; • promote and support the implementation of the VGSSF;
- In 2012 the CFS endorsed the **VGGT (Voluntary Guidelines on Governance of Tenure)**, which give guidance on securing tenure rights for **coastal and fishing communities**.
 - Customary tenure refers to tenure of land and other natural resources that is generally associated with indigenous and traditional communities and governed in accordance with their customs (customary or traditional rights). Local norms and practices, as well as customary or otherwise preferential access to fishery resources and land by small-scale fishing communities should be recognized, respected and protected in consistence with international human rights law.

- States must facilitate broad and equitable access to land, fisheries and forest through redistribution.
 - o The VGGT which look into several ways to facilitate broad and equitable access to land, fisheries and forest through redistribution. The VGGT also address the issue of restitution when appropriate and possible legitimate rights to land, fisheries and forest for those individuals, peoples and communities who have lost them
 - o 11.2- States should facilitate the operations of efficient and transparent markets to promote participation under equal conditions and opportunities for mutually beneficial transfers of tenure rights which lessen conflict and instability; promote the sustainable use of land, fisheries and forests and conservation of the environment; promote the fair and equitable use of genetic resources associated with land, fisheries and forests in accordance with applicable treaties; expand economic opportunities; and increase participation by the poor. States should take measures to prevent undesirable impacts on local communities, indigenous peoples and vulnerable groups that may arise from, inter alia, land speculation, land concentration and abuse of customary forms of tenure. States and other parties should recognize that values, such as social, cultural and environmental values, are not always well served by unregulated markets. States should protect the wider interests of societies through appropriate policies and laws on tenure.
- **CFS Policy Recommendations on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture for Food Security and Nutrition (2014).** These policy recommendations include, among others, the following recommendations:
 - o Promote sustainable fisheries and aquaculture policies and management and design climate change adaptation strategies for food security and nutrition
 - o Mainstream and integrate climate change adaptation in fisheries and aquaculture policies, and include fisheries and aquaculture considerations in policies on climate change, as appropriate.
 - o Identify and promote policies, programmes and activities aimed at addressing the impact of land-based agriculture, including the management of pollutants, sediments and nutrients to receiving coastal and inland waters.
 - o Promote and support the implementation of the 'Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication'(VGSSF), with respect to food security and nutrition.
 - o Take into account the requirements of small-scale fisheries in the design and implementation of national and international policies and programmes related to fisheries, including investment plans, as appropriate.
 - o Support local organizations to foster the integration of small- scale fisheries into the decision- making processes.
- The 2015 **policy recommendations on Connecting small-holders to markets** are also relevant for SDG as they provide recommendations on ensuring access to markets, in line with SDG 14.
- The **CFS-FFA (Framework for Action in Protracted Crises)** provides guidance on protecting food security in crises, including **coastal communities affected by climate change, pollution, and disasters**.
- **The CFS Policy Recommendations on Water for Food Security and Nutrition (2015)** recognize that 'Water is the lifeblood of ecosystems on which the food security and nutrition of present and

future generations depend’ and that ‘Water of appropriate quality and quantity is essential for food production (fisheries, crops and livestock), processing, transformation and preparation.’ These recommendations are particularly relevant to SDG 14:

- Implement policies for equal opportunities and security in access to water and land for food producers - both women and men - and promote responsible investments in line with the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests and the Principles for Responsible Investments in Agriculture and Food Systems so that they can use water effectively to improve their livelihoods and meet their FSN needs.
- Respect the rights and address the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized individuals and communities through measures which may include legislation, policies and programs.
- Refrain from using water as an instrument for political or economical pressure
- Promote effective participation of all relevant actors in the development of policies and national and local governance mechanisms for the management of water of FSN and empower water users’ organisations and local communities, in particular Indigenous Peoples, to effectively participate in decisions affecting them on the planning, management, use and conservation of water.