

## Workstreams and Activities Updates

**\*\*\*These updates cover the period since the Bureau and Advisory Group meetings held on 28 January\*\*\***

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### 1. Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems

The Zero Draft on *Strengthening Urban and Peri-Urban Food Systems to Achieve Food Security in the Context of Urbanization and Rural Transformation* was circulated to CFS stakeholders on 7 February. Language versions will soon be available on the CFS website.

CFS stakeholders are encouraged to attend the second Open-Ended Working Group meeting under this workstream, scheduled for 7 March, to share feedback on the Zero Draft. In addition, CFS stakeholders are invited to submit written comments, preferably in the form of concrete text proposals, to [CFS@fao.org](mailto:CFS@fao.org) by 14 March.

### 2. Collaborative governance for coordinated policy responses to emerging global food crises towards sustainable agriculture and food system transformation

A concept note and workplan for the two meetings to be convened under the workstream was discussed at the Bureau meeting on 28 January. Several comments regarding the specific subtopics to be addressed within the first meeting were made. It was agreed that these comments would be considered by the Technical Task Team (TTT) in support of this workstream to refine the concept note.

The TTT met for its second meeting during this intersessional period on 18 February 2025. A revised version of the concept note was prepared based on the discussions in the TTT and circulated to Bureau Members under a silence procedure. Furthermore, a draft agenda for the first Collaborative Governance Dialogue on Financing for food security and nutrition, scheduled to take place on 15 April in Rome, has been prepared and made available to Bureau and Advisory Group members as part of the background documents for this meeting.

### 3. Global Thematic Event on the Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted crises (FFA)

Preparations for the Global Thematic Event (GTE) on the FFA are ongoing in accordance with the provisions of the 2024–2027 Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW). It is important to note that the call for inputs was issued through the Global Food Security and Nutrition Forum on 13 December 2024. However, as the FSN Forum is temporarily undergoing restructuring, the call for inputs, along with all related information, is now available on the [CFS website](#) and will remain open until 15 April 2025.

CFS stakeholders are encouraged to share their experiences and best practices in the use and application of the CFS Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (CFS-FFA) by submitting their contributions to [CFS@fao.org](mailto:CFS@fao.org). Contributions can be provided by filling in the template, which is available in all UN languages on the same webpage.

#### **4. High-Level Forum on Strengthening responsible investment and financing for food security and nutrition**

The Technical Task Team (TTT) in support of organizing the High-Level Forum convened for its first meeting on 24 February. Discussions included potential topics for the agenda of the Forum as well as the structure of the event. A draft agenda will be prepared for further discussions in the TTT before being shared with the Bureau and Advisory Group at its meeting in May.

#### **5. High Level Forum on Tackling climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation through the Right to Food**

As date for the High-Level Forum (HLF), 12 May (at FAO HQ) has now been confirmed.

Options for the agenda of the HLF have been discussed between the Technical Task Team and the Secretariat. A draft agenda can be found [here](#).

Discussions between the Secretariat and the Technical Task Team also include options for how the outcome of the HLF can feed into deliberations under the Rio Conventions. In the short run, the outcome is likely to be presented already at a conference of the “One-Planet Network” entitled “Overcoming the Barriers to Food Systems Transformation - Coherent Policies and Equity-sensitive Solutions to Simultaneously Fight Hunger and Malnutrition, Biodiversity Loss and the Climate Crisis” (27-29 May 2025, Brasilia). Additional potential measures discussed include a presentation of the outcomes at the preparatory meetings to UNFCCC COP30 in June in Bonn.

#### **6. High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (CFS HLPE-FSN)**

The HLPE-FSN opened the e-consultation on the V0 draft of the report “Building resilient food systems” on 12th February and it will be closed on 4th March 2025. A technical workshop for Rome-based agencies will be organized in FAO on 6th March to exchange on the topic of resilient food systems from a diversity of perspectives and disciplines.

The HLPE-FSN consultation on the scope of the report #21 “Preserving, strengthening and promoting Indigenous Peoples’ food and knowledge systems and traditional practices for sustainable food systems” was closed on 13 December 2024 and received 78 contributions. The call for experts for the drafting team of the HLPE-FSN report #21 was closed on 16th December 2024 and generated great interest, receiving 235 applications. The HLPE-FSN is finalizing the selection of the drafting team.

The HLPE-FSN Steering Committee will meet in person on 2-4 April 2025 in Marrakesh, Morocco.

The HLPE-FSN Steering Committee is to be renewed in 2025, for a two-year term starting at the closure of the CFS's ordinary Plenary session in October 2025 and ending at the closure of the ordinary Plenary session in 2027. The nomination procedure is entirely web-based via the online application form. The call has been open from 10th January 2025 and it will close on 10th March 2025.

### 7. CFS Chairperson's outreach and global engagements

On 11 February, the CFS Chairperson attended the first meeting of the **Board of Champions of the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty**. As a board member of this important new initiative, the Chair underlined the willingness of the CFS to continue playing a key role and highlighted the crucial importance of the Alliance in promoting the uptake of CFS policy products.

On 17 February, the Chair participated in the **launch event of the Kofi Annan Commission's report on global governance for food security** as a panelist. Reflecting on the references to the CFS's role for global governance on food security and nutrition, the Chairperson underlined the various activities already carried out by the CFS that align with the report's recommendations.

The **second meeting of the UN Food Systems Advisory Board** took place on 25 February, focused specifically on the preparations of the UNFSS+4 Stocktaking Moment scheduled for July in Addis Ababa. The CFS Chairperson attended the meeting and underlined the importance of collaboration between the CFS and the UN Food Systems process and proposed potential ways of engagement.

On 27 February, the CFS Secretary participated as a panelist on behalf of the Chairperson in an **event organized by the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program** focused on the collaboration with farmers' organizations for food systems transformations. She highlighted the potential role of CFS policy products in contributing to an alignment between policy agendas and financing instruments to maximize impact for food security and nutrition.