

CFS 2024-2027 MYPoW Mid-Term Review
PSM comments- March 14th, 2025

1) Which elements, if any, of the 2026-2027 programme of work would benefit from further discussion with a view to sharpen their objectives and expected outcomes?

In line with the overall objective of the MTR the PSM has focused on assessing and adjusting and refining, if necessary, the remaining elements of the MYPoW until 2027. In this regard, we have reviewed the updated presentation of CFS estimated extra-budgetary costs and have the following comments:

- i. The MTR focus is on the 2026-27 programme of work, but the table of extra-budgetary costs gives information on available resources' for 2025-27 rather than just 2026-27, the period under MTR review. The following points should be considered:
 - a. Based on budget utilisation in 2024/25 the workstreams of **A.1.1.** "The progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security: Actions towards 2030" and **A.2.2.** "Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems to achieve food security and nutrition in the context of urbanization and rural transformation" have no resources available. Are these workstreams considered to be completed?
 - b. The funds available for **A.1.3.** "Strengthening responsible investment and financing for FSN" are estimated to be only \$50,000 for 2026-27 given utilisation to date. Given the focus this year on Finance for Development in several fora and the recent support by both the COPs for Biodiversity & Climate for enhanced financial support, it would be important to calibrate the outcomes of that workstream with those initiatives.
 - c. The funds available in 2026-27 for the workstream **A.1.4.** "Collaborative governance for coordinated policy responses to emerging global food crises towards sustainable agriculture and food system transformation" are estimated to be \$120,000, given expenditure to date. Given both the shortfall in other workstreams and the varied discussions in the TTT of the workstream on the objectives of the workstream it would be recommended for the Bureau review the expected activities and outcomes in 2026-27 with a view to adjustments that may be needed and the reallocation of budget to other workstreams, as noted above.
 - d. The HLPE Report on workstream **A.2.3.** Building sustainable food systems should be concluded and presented to CFS Plenary in 2025 and it therefore not clear what the estimated resource of \$170,000 is earmarked for, nor why there is an estimated gap of \$80,000.
- ii. The budget utilisation in 2024-25 for **A.3.1.** "In depth debate on enhanced efforts to increase awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy outcomes at all levels" would indicate the entire allocation as per CFS 52 has already been used. Clarity is

therefore needed on why there remains an estimated gap of \$380,000 but, nevertheless, the availability \$50,000 for 2026-27.

- iii. Confirmation is required on the source/availability of budget for the two HLPE reports proposed for completion in 2026 & 2027.
- iv. The additional thematic workstream “Additional High Level Fora, Global Thematic Events or intersessional activities 2027” was not included in the CFS 52 Rolling update of the MYPoW, nor the allocated resource of \$50,000. Further clarity on this item may be considered in line with a review of the Supporting Activity **B.2**. “Linkages with other relevant process / institutions” and the outcomes of this Activity to date and the extent of engagement with workshops/side events/consultations at UNGA, FAO regional meetings & other fora. In this light, the balance available for 2026-27 and the estimated gap of \$170,000 needs clarification.

2) Which element, if any, of the 2026-2027 programme of work would benefit from further discussion with a view to aligning with the evolving global context and initiatives relevant to food security and nutrition?

- i. Both the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) to be held Seville, Spain 30 June – 3 July 2025 followed by the UNFSS+4, co-chaired by Ethiopia and Italy, July 28-30th 2025 (which includes the objective: “Unlocking Investments for food systems transformation”) together with the emphasis of both the Biodiversity COP 16 and forthcoming Climate Change COP 30 on enhancing finance at country level highlight the global initiatives to address finance & investment. There is therefore the opportunity to consider an enhanced follow up to the forthcoming HLF on responsible investment & finance with further CFS led activities in 2026 and 2027 that could include, but not be limited to, enhancing domestic mobilisation finance and a focus on provision of credit to small scale producers and SMEs.
- ii. The CFS should consider how it can contribute to the dialogue underway on the post 2030 SDG scenarios, including initiatives to develop new indicators and targets for FSN.
- iii. Responding to the evolving global context and initiatives, as noted above, may suggest that the proposed HLPE report & subsequent policy guidance on “sustainable fisheries” be postponed until 2028 to facilitate the HLPE focus on establishing the basis for a renewed focus on FSN post 2030, with an emphasis on domestic resource mobilisation and finance for smallholders & SMEs, particularly those engaged by women and youth.