

## **Brazil's contributions- Zero Draft**

### CFS Policy Recommendations on Urban and Periurban Food Systems

Based on our national policies and programs, Brazil would like to see the following Policy Recommendations reflected on the Zero Draft of the document:

#### **In the rationale of the document:**

- Cities face social inequities (unjust and avoidable inequalities) that limit access to and availability of healthy food. These challenges are exacerbated by inefficient food supply and distribution models, the presence of food deserts and food swamps in peripheral areas, as well as the growing consumption of ultra-processed foods, along with the increasingly severe impacts of climate change on people's lives.
- Currently, 85% of the population live in urban areas, and 80% of people experiencing food and nutrition insecurity are in urban centers. Additionally, expenditure on out-of-home food consumption is higher in urban areas than in rural areas.
- All of these challenges are intersected by income, gender, and race inequalities, which heighten the risk of food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition.
- Emphasis on the importance of understanding and addressing the complex challenges associated with changes in lifestyle patterns and dynamics of Food Systems, considering the urban and periurban context and its implications for shaping food systems and food and nutrition insecurity in all its forms;
- Recognize the importance of the urban and periurban food agenda and its active contribution to shaping food systems, as well as its implications for food security and nutrition, especially taking into account the projected and continuous growth of the urban population;
- Recognize that urban food environments do not favor adequate and healthy nutrition, posing significant barriers to achieving Food and Nutritional Security, especially in peripheral territories.
- Highlight that studies reveal the presence of obesogenic environments in urban and periurban areas, with high availability of unhealthy foods at more affordable prices, the influence of processed food advertising, and inequalities in access to adequate and healthy foods;
- Underscores that climate change is a global phenomenon primarily caused by human activity, including fossil fuel combustion, deforestation, unsustainable food systems, and waste decomposition, contributing to food insecurity. Urban areas are most affected by disasters that impact the food and nutritional security of residents. One of the most perverse consequences of climate change and its intersection with food and nutritional insecurity is the deepening of race and gender inequalities as a result of structural racism.
- Recognize the need to involve the participation of experts, representatives from municipal and state governments, and other social actors engaged in the urban

and periurban food agenda in order to achieve the objective to expand the production, access, availability, and consumption of adequate and healthy foods, prioritizing urban peripheral territories and populations in situations of vulnerability and social risk;

- Highlights that Food and Nutritional Security is only attained when the realization of the right to food is guaranteed to all; that happens when access is regular and permanent; access to these foods should not compromise access to other essential needs; and that these foods should be environmentally, culturally, economically, and socially sustainable.
- Urban and periurban sustainable food systems need to incorporate ecological production methods that recognize the importance of agroecology, innovative approaches, sustainable intensification, bioeconomy, biodiversity, and renewable resources; protect soil, water, and other resources' quality; and work toward regenerative food systems.
- Inclusive, transparent, participatory, and democratic governance mechanisms are fundamental to sustaining these three dimensions of sustainable food systems (social, economic and environmental).
- - Urban and peri-urban agriculture can play a crucial role in the sustainable transformation of cities;
- - Stresses that the female condition cannot be treated as a universal concept but rather must be analyzed through the lens of intersectionality, which considers the simultaneous interrelation of gender, race, and class-based oppressions. Added to this is the perspective of peripheral territories, which highlights the combination of poverty, structural racism, and geographic exclusion.
- Underlines that **Bioeconomy** can play a crucial role in transforming urban and peri-urban food systems by supporting more sustainable agricultural practices, such as: the use of clean technologies in food production; the strengthening of local production chains through agroecology and biodiversity, creating a more resilient food systems; the promotion of the production and processing of organic foods, which are beneficial to health and the environment; and the utilization of agricultural waste and by-products to generate new food products or “biomaterials”, contributing to a circular economy.
- Recognizes that **bioeconomy** production chains can help mitigate the effects of climate change by offering alternatives for food production in more challenging contexts and creating new jobs in both rural and urban areas.
- Emphasizes that **multilevel and multisectoral governance**, including mechanisms for **multilateral and cross-border cooperation**, is essential to address the complexity of urban and peri-urban food systems. The creation of **local and international forums** for the exchange of experiences and the customization of interventions that consider the diversity of local contexts — such as income, connectivity, and governance — are also fundamental to increasing the effectiveness of public policies.

- Highlights that **conditional cash transfer programs** play a central role in promoting gender equality and food and nutrition security, as they ensure that cash transfers are made directly to women. These programs should **recognize women's role** as heads of household in the management of domestic resources and in ensuring the food and nutritional security of their families. They should also **establish conditionalities that promote access to healthcare and education**, with a focus on pregnant women, mothers, and children. By prioritizing women, these programs aim to **reduce structural gender inequalities**, provide greater financial autonomy, and help to break intergenerational cycles of poverty, especially in the most vulnerable areas;
- Emphasizes that an **adequate food supply** is a fundamental condition for ensuring social stability, public order, and the socio-economic development process.

**Policy Recommendations in the following areas:**

I - Supply and availability of healthy foods in public and social food and nutritional security facilities;

II - Supply and availability of healthy foods in public and private supply facilities;

III - Promotion of urban food environments that favor adequate and healthy nutrition;

IV - Production of healthy and sustainable foods in cities and their surroundings;

V - Reduction of food losses and waste;

VI - Food and nutritional education, communication, and information on adequate and healthy nutrition;

VII - Intersectoral articulation between areas of social assistance, food and nutritional security, and health, among others, to provide actions and services for families and individuals in situations of food and nutritional insecurity at the local level; and

VIII - Support for Urban Healthy Food Networks as a mechanism for mobilization, intersectoral and intergovernmental governance to promote horizontal cooperation among participating entities;

**Main guidelines to orient the policy recommendations:**

Governments and other actors should develop and implement guidelines, policies, and strategies that:

- Ensure the availability and accessibility of healthy and safe food in cities, including at affordable prices;
- Focus on reducing inequalities, taking into account the intersections of factors that deepen inequities within urban structures;

- Reduce food and nutrition insecurity and all forms of malnutrition;
- Promote healthy, sustainable, and circular food environments and systems, with local and regional food circuits that cover the entire food system, from production to consumption, as well as integrated food supply systems;
- Foster the circularity process at different stages of production, distribution, consumption, and solid waste management, ensuring rural-urban integration; and
- Encourage the coordination and innovation of actions that promote food sovereignty, considering civil society initiatives, climate action adaptation and mitigation, and the active and informed participation of organizations and communities in the design, implementation, and monitoring of actions, as well as horizontal cooperation among cities.

**Policy recommendations:**

I - Increase access, availability, and consumption of adequate, healthy, and safe foods in cities;

II - Reduce inequalities in populations in situations of vulnerability and social risk, considering the intersectionality of factors deepening social inequities;

III - Contribute to reducing food and nutritional insecurity and all forms of malnutrition;

IV - Strengthen:

a) Healthy, sustainable, and circular food systems, including traditional agricultural systems; and

b) Governance of actions related to urban and periurban food.

V - Promote:

a) Healthy and sustainable urban food environments;

b) Local and regional food circuits, from production to consumption; and

c) Integrated and sustainable food supply systems.

VI - Favor the circularity of processes in different stages of production, distribution, consumption, and solid waste management, considering rural and urban integration; and

VII - Foster:

a) Articulation and innovation of actions, programs, and strategies at the local level that promote food sovereignty;

b) Initiatives of organized civil society in peripheral urban territories;

c) Development of healthy and sustainable cities;

d) Adaptation and mitigation of climate action;

e) Active and informed participation of organizations and communities in the conception, implementation, and monitoring of actions; and

f) Horizontal cooperation among cities that have joined the Strategy.

**Other recommendations:**

National and regional governments should provide cities and urban areas with a toolbox to support the **implementation and management of food strategies**, containing instruments for local diagnosis, a platform for exchanging experiences, technical assistance, and funding for some actions, among others;

Governments and other stakeholder should promote and **support urban gardens, solidarity kitchens, popular markets, food banks, institutional markets** linked to family farming, among other actions;

Governments and other stakeholder should adopt **multi-level, multi-stakeholder governance approaches**, recognizing the complexity of these systems;

Governments and International Organizations should strengthen governance and sustainability in urban and peri-urban Food Systems; They should conduct a comprehensive assessment of existing projects, identifying funding opportunities and improving monitoring mechanisms. This could stimulate the consolidation of **multilevel, multilateral, multi-actor, and multisectoral governance processes**, including actions that transcend national borders. The central goal should be to ensure that food systems become increasingly sustainable and resilient, guaranteeing the supply of safe, balanced, adequate, and healthy diets for all.

Governments should **establish instances and arenas necessary for the implementation of intersectoral public policies** as demanded by the urban and peri-urban food agenda;

Governments and other stakeholder should take into consideration the perspective of **intersectionality** and its implications for the realization of FSN by different population groups. They should also analyze the **determinants that condition and restrict the right to adequate food**, both related to race/color, disability, gender, vulnerability, social risk, poverty and sexual orientation.

Governments and other stakeholders should **support cities in achieving healthy urban food systems for people and the planet**, resilient to climate and economic vulnerabilities, and **promoters of social justice**.

Governments should design, implement and manage public policies aimed at: **access to water**, promotion of the production, acquisition and donation of food, promotion of adequate and healthy nutrition, food and nutrition security equipment, and intersectoral and intergovernmental coordination.

Governments should design and implement policies and programs aimed at **improving the production, access, availability and consumption of adequate and safe food, prioritizing people in precarious situations and social risks.**

Recognizing that food supply is an essential component not only for the nutrition and health of the population but also for the political and economic stability of countries, Governments should develop strategies to **connect urban and rural areas** with the goal of **ensuring the supply of basic food products** and strengthening resilience to external shocks, such as economic and climate crises.

Governments and other stakeholders should acknowledge the legitimacy of **traditional knowledge** as an essential step to **promote equity and social justice.** Recognizing and respecting this knowledge not only enriches data analysis but also contributes to building more sensitive and effective policies and interventions aligned with the real needs of communities.

Local governments should **subsidize marketing equipment for healthy foods, urban farms and gardens, and promote the organization of food production around the city** to ensure food reaches urban areas.

Governments should implement **tax policies** that prioritize tax exemptions for fresh or minimally processed foods and culinary ingredients.

Governments should **promote clean and environmentally friendly kitchens** by fostering the installation of biodigesters in kitchens in order to produce gas via organic inputs/compounds.

Governments should promote **Bioeconomy** production chains programs, which aim to promote the development of **new production models** that integrate the sustainable use of natural resources with technological innovation.

National governments should support municipal governments integrate agriculture into the urban planning process;

Local governments should promote the implementation of **school meals programs, fostering purchases from local family farming** and incentivizing locally produced foods.

Governments and other stakeholder should support the implementation of policies aimed at **reducing food loss and waste.** These actions should address different stages of the food chain, from production to consumption, and involve initiatives such as **creating awareness programs, technical training, and training for producers, as well as tax incentives for food donation and the promotion of food reuse.**

Governments and other stakeholder should **promote irrigated agriculture** as a means to ensure food security through agricultural productivity, with a "land-saving" effect for environmental conservation, including in peri-urban areas;

Governments should promote the establishment of **vegetable gardens**, the provision of inputs and equipment for urban farmers, technical assistance, integrated measures between **composting and production**, and develop tools and methodologies that could support municipalities, states and civil society organizations. Some examples are:

1. **Pedagogical Garden Projects**, which includes a strategy for securing food and nutrition in the school environment;
2. **Urban Agriculture Platform**;
3. **Urban Agriculture Digital Library**;
4. Virtual courses to promote the culture of volunteering in urban and peri-urban agricultural practices;
5. Municipal urban and peri-urban agriculture agendas: guides to insert urban agriculture into urban planning processes.

Governments should strengthen and implement federal and local programs aimed at **peripheral territories** and populations in situations of social vulnerability. These actions should focus on **expanding the supply of food in public and social facilities** (such as solidarity kitchens, popular restaurants, and other community initiatives).

Governments and other stakeholders should prioritize the **organization of a popular food supply network**, including markets, local fairs, and community-based food distribution points.

Governments should strengthen urban and peri-urban agriculture, promote food and nutrition education, and design strategies to reduce food loss and waste, such as **supporting the strengthening of food banks**.

Furthermore, governments should support the creation of **Urban Networks for Healthy Eating** as a mechanism for mobilization and the exchange of experiences.

Governments and other actors should **foster robust production chains**, including in peri-urban areas, to mitigate logistical losses, reduce costs, and **promote closer connections between producers and consumers**.

All stakeholders should promote free, just, fair and rules-based **international trade**, in order to support the guarantee of food security in urban and peri-urban areas.

Governments should adopt public policies aimed at **strengthening production and marketing chains for oilseeds and fruits**, as this aligns with the goal of promoting healthier eating habits among urban populations, thereby **reducing dependence on ultra-processed products**.

Governments must ensure **investments in logistics and storage infrastructure**, with a focus on preserving the quality of perishable products, such as fruits, which are

highly perishable and require specific conditions for preservation and transportation.

### **Foster Science, Technology, and Innovation to Strengthen Family Farming**

Governments should develop technological platforms that facilitate **solidarity-based commercialization** within a "network of networks" **cooperative framework**. The goal should be to create a model based on social indicators for matching, recommendation, and support for the management of production, purchasing, sales, and collective distribution. To achieve this, governments should leverage **Innovative Social Technology** based on Platform Cooperativism and apply it within the context of food and nutrition security for urban and peri-urban populations. This approach aims to strengthen local production, commercialization, distribution, and consumption chains for agroecological food products.

Governments and international organizations must take into account the diversity of urban and peri-urban settings, recognizing that factors such as income, connectivity, city size, governance structures, and institutional capacities vary significantly across different contexts. An **integrated approach** can enhance the capacity to respond to both local and global demands, promoting **greater equity and sustainability in food systems** and contributing to comprehensive and inclusive food and nutrition security.

Governments and other stakeholders should **strengthen local production chains**. They should **promote Agroecology and biodiversity**, which can contribute to the creation of **more resilient food systems** and provide alternatives for food production in challenging contexts. This approach also fosters the **generation of alternative jobs** in both rural and urban areas. The **integration of urban and rural food systems** is crucial for the future of food and nutrition security, as it promotes the development of **resilient distribution networks**, ensures **access to fresh and sustainable food**, and fosters rural development based on the sustainable use of natural resources.

Governments and other stakeholder should:

- (i) consider the use of artificial intelligence in environmental monitoring to ensure the proper use and conservation of natural resources, especially in food production and its entire logistics chain;
- (ii) Promote technology as a tool to guarantee the nutritional quality of food and to promote healthy production and consumption practices that support adequate health and nutrition;
- (iii) Foster and invest in new technologies aimed at the reuse of food waste and its reintegration into the food chain;
- (iv) Promote the development of artificial intelligence applications (apps) to facilitate the exchange of information and knowledge, with the goal of ensuring global food and nutrition security.