

**Call for Input - *Strengthening Urban and Peri-Urban Food Systems to Achieve Food Security and Nutrition in the Context of Urbanization and Rural Transformation***

Below are the items reflected in the CFS 52 final report on the Plenary discussion for *Strengthening Urban and Peri-Urban Food Systems to Achieve Food Security and Nutrition in the Context of Urbanization and Rural Transformation*:

- i. the importance of recognizing that addressing urban and peri-urban food insecurity and malnutrition requires building upon all relevant CFS policy products and workstreams and considering the interaction between food systems and other systems such as housing, water, energy, sanitation, waste and transport;
- ii. the importance of nutrition, food safety, climate and biodiversity to ensure that food systems are sustainable, resilient and capable of providing safe, balanced and healthy diets for all;
- iii. the need to address the complex nature of urban and peri-urban food systems, which involves multi-level, multilateral and multi-actor governance processes within and beyond national borders;
- iv. the call for taking the diversity of urban and peri-urban situations into account, recognizing that contexts may vary based on income, connectivity, size, governance structures and capacities.

**Priority Inputs from the United States:**

- Highlighting the opportunities available to strengthen urban and peri-urban agriculture through public procurement.
- Investing in urban and peri-urban food systems to help reduce food loss and waste, including through community food waste facilities and accessible composting sites.
- The importance of food safety standards and proper processing facilities for food products produced and/or marketed within the urban and peri-urban space.
- Highlighting opportunities that are available to strengthen land access and preservation programs, public lands, and innovative production methods such as vertical and indoor farming.
- The importance of supporting current and new opportunities for profitable entrepreneurship for producers within the urban and peri-urban space.
- Highlighting the employment opportunities provided by urban food production including the importance of work force development and agricultural education for urban and peri-urban school-aged youth and linking this to the CFS policy recommendation on promoting youth engagement and employment.

- The important role urban and peri-urban agriculture and food systems can play in diversifying our food supply chains, enhancing food system resilience and creating added competition within markets.
- The opportunities urban and peri-urban agriculture represent for technological and social innovation.
- Underscoring, as discussed during CFS 52 Plenary, the importance of recognizing the varying local contexts, and the differing institutions and political structures that govern Member States urban and peri-urban food systems.
- We strongly recommend the drafters avoid introducing new terms in these voluntary recommendations; especially those that could imply binding obligations, namely “right to the city”. The “right to the city” is introduced as a “foundational right” within the HLPE report. This is not a right that has been agreed by Member States or, to our knowledge, discussed in any other UN forums. CFS is not the appropriate forum to be introducing and cementing new human rights.
- The important role trade plays in strengthening FSN should be reflected in the recommendations. We note that the report does not shine a favorable light on trade.
- The report contains multiple references to “sustainable food”, however it is not the food itself that qualifies it as sustainable or unsustainable, it depends on the process through which it is produced. We recommend this framing is revised to “sustainably produced food.”