

HLPE 4th Steering Committee (2017-2019)



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CFS
COMMITTEE ON
WORLD FOOD
SECURITY

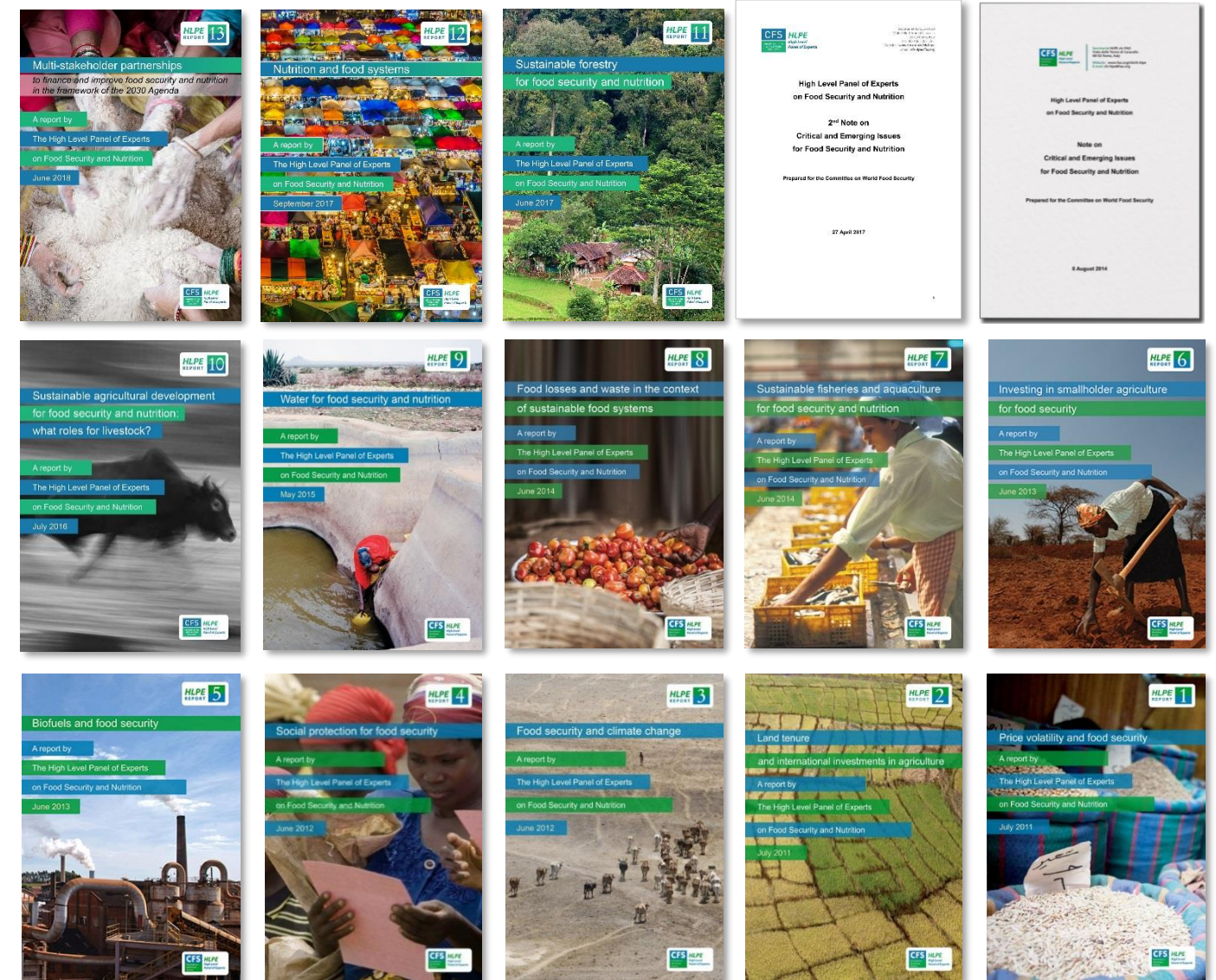


HLPE
High Level
Panel of Experts

The High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

HLPE publications (2011-2018)

Since its establishment in 2010, the **HLPE** has produced 13 reports, all followed by debates in **CFS** and adoption of policy recommendations. The **HLPE** has also produced two notes on *Critical and emerging issues for food security and nutrition*. **HLPE reports** are widely used as reference documents within and beyond **CFS** and the UN System, by the scientific community as well as by political decision-makers and different stakeholders at international, regional and national levels.



Ongoing studies:

Agroecological approaches and other innovations for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition



For more information about the HLPE and to download the reports, please visit the HLPE website at:
www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe

The HLPE is the science policy interface of the CFS

The **Committee on World Food Security (CFS)** is the foremost **inclusive** and **evidence-based** international and intergovernmental platform for **food security and nutrition (FSN)**, where policies can be designed, interventions can be coordinated, options can be shared and decisions at different levels can be prepared.

The **High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE)**, science-policy interface of the **CFS**, was created in October 2009, as an essential element of the reform of the **CFS**, and was given 3 key functions:

- (i) Assess and analyze the current state of food security and nutrition and its underlying causes.
- (ii) Provide scientific and knowledge-based analysis and advice on specific policy-relevant issues, utilizing existing high quality research, data and technical studies.
- (iii) Identify emerging issues, and help members prioritize future actions and attentions on key focal areas.

The **HLPE** produces its scientific reports and recommendations, through an **independent, inclusive** and **evidence-based** process, in order to inform **CFS** debates and contribute to policy convergence.

The HLPE structures a worldwide community of scientific experts

The **HLPE** has a two-tier structure: a **Steering Committee (StC)** composed of 10 to 15 internationally recognized experts in a variety of food security and nutrition related fields (*see back page for the composition of the current Steering Committee*); and **Project Teams (PT)**, acting on a project-specific basis, selected and managed by the StC.

Since its creation, **225** experts from **57** countries of all regions of the world have been directly involved in the **HLPE** work either as **StC** or **PT** members, or as peer reviewers for the **HLPE reports**. Since its creation, the **HLPE** is at the heart of a growing, rich and diversified community of scientists and knowledge-holders working on **FSN** related issues, now gathering over **2,500** experts.

The HLPE produces comprehensive and evidence-based independent reports

HLPE reports (*see cover*) serve as a common, comprehensive, evidence-based starting point for intergovernmental and international multi-stakeholder policy debates in **CFS**. The **HLPE** draws its studies based on existing research and knowledge. The **HLPE** thrives to clarify contradictory information and knowledge, elicit the backgrounds and rationales of controversies, and identify emerging issues. **HLPE reports** are the result of a continuous dialogue between **HLPE experts** and a wide range of knowledge-holders across the world, building bridges across regions and countries, across scientific disciplines and professional experiences.

“One of the key roles of the reports is to help members and participants in CFS to understand why they disagree.” MS Swaminathan, first **HLPE** Chairperson

HLPE reports are widely used as reference documents within and beyond **CFS** and the UN System, by the scientific community as well as by political decision-makers and other stakeholders, at international, regional and national levels (*see next page for some emblematic impacts of the HLPE publications*).

The HLPE is entirely funded through an extra budgetary Trust Fund

The **HLPE** is exclusively funded through a voluntary trust fund based in FAO (*see back page for the list of all its resource partners*). This Trust Fund covers the costs of elaboration, translation and publication of the reports, as well as StC and PT meetings. As per standard practice in international expert panels, all the experts involved in the **HLPE** are working on a *pro-bono* basis. The annual budget for the **HLPE** is around **1 million USD**, plus in-kind contributions.

Emblematic impacts of HLPE publications

Ideally, the impact of **HLPE publications** should be monitored, from international to national levels, down to implementation on the ground. However, given the growing number of publications (14) and the multiple possible channels of dissemination, it's impossible to track all these impacts. Below are presented some emblematic impacts for the year 2017.

The three **HLPE publications** presented during the **CFS 44 Plenary session** received a general support. In its final report, the **CFS** “*acknowledged with appreciation*” the **HLPE reports** #11 on forestry and #12 on nutrition. It also “*took note of the second note prepared by the HLPE on Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition as an important element for future discussions concerning the preparation of future programmes of work*”. The **CFS** “*mandated the OEWG on nutrition*” to initiate a “*policy convergence process leading to voluntary guidelines for food systems and nutrition*”, “*informed by the HLPE Report on Nutrition and Food Systems*”.

HLPE publications are used as background documents for political discussions at the global level, not only for **CFS** but more widely in the whole **UN System**. The **UN-SG report** on *Agriculture development, food security and nutrition* (8 August 2017), acknowledges **HLPE reports** (#6 on smallholders, #10 on sustainable agriculture and #11 on forestry) and corresponding **CFS policy recommendations** as valuable guidance tools.

FAO requested 1750 hard copies of the **HLPE report** #11 on forestry in all UN languages to disseminate and use it as a key background document in major FAO events held in 2017 and 2018 at international and regional levels (including the FAO Forestry regional commissions; the FAO Committees on Forestry (COFO) and on Agriculture (COAG); the International Conference on Halting Deforestation and Increasing Forest Area; and, the International Day of Forests).

Dr Eileen Kennedy, **HLPE StC** member presented the **HLPE report** #12 at the Symposium on Sustainable Food Systems for Healthy Diets and Improved Nutrition in Budapest, during a session devoted to the **CFS**, with the participation of the newly appointed **CFS Chairperson**, Dr Mario Arvelo. Overall, 550 hard copies of the **HLPE report** #12 on nutrition have been distributed to the various symposia on Sustainable Food Systems for Healthy Diets and Improved Nutrition (held in Bangkok, Budapest and Oman).

HLPE publications are used in academic and research institutions as teaching material and references for scientific debates and research. They contribute to the progressive emergence around the **HLPE** of a network of universities and academic institutions working on **FSN**. In June 2017, the **HLPE report** #11 on forestry was discussed in Roma III University. For the first time, researchers, teachers and students from other Universities across the world (University of Rosario, Argentina; SupAgro, Montpellier, France; International University College, Torino, Italy; University of Valencia, Spain), were also able to participate through an interactive session involving the webcast of the presentations and questions being sent via social media.

HLPE publications are used by different categories of non-State actors and non-governmental organizations to raise awareness and build capacities on complex **FSN** related issues. The **World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish workers** (WFF) 5th General Assembly, held in Salinas (Ecuador) from 26 to 29 January 2017, gathered 42 WFF member organizations from Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and Latin America. The WFF included HLPE reports (#1 on price volatility, #3 on climate change, #4 on social protection, #7 on fisheries and aquaculture, #8 on food losses and waste, #9 on water) in the toolbox distributed to all participants.

Key figures for 2017

- **3 HLPE major publications presented to CFS 44 Plenary session.**
- **Around 6,300 printed copies of HLPE reports distributed**
- **Around 20,000 results on Google for a search on “HLPE report”**
- **Over 2,500 experts in the HLPE network**