

CFS

COMMITTEE ON
WORLD FOOD
SECURITY

CFS 52

21-25 OCTOBER 2024

Side Event

CFS 52 SIDE EVENT

Uptake of the CFS policy recommendations on food security and nutrition (FSN) data – where do we stand?

22 October 2024 (13:30 – 14:45 CET)

Red Room and online



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Side Event



Updates on the work at the UN Statistical Commission level to implement the CFS policy recommendations on data

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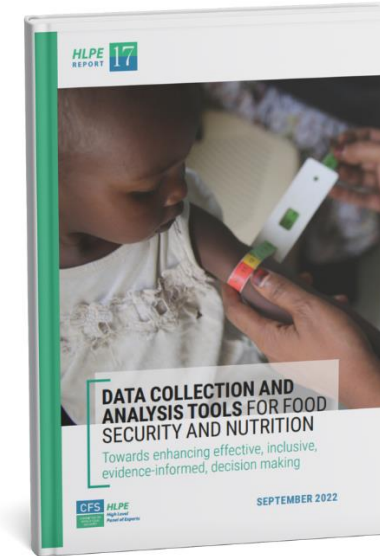
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Overview

- CFS policy recommendations on strengthening collection and use of FSN data and related analysis tools
- Report on the implementation of the CFS policy recommendations: Steps taken under the UN Statistical Commission

CFS Policy recommendations on FSN data – Background

- Mandated by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)
- Result of a three-year process
- Adopted in October 2023
- Addressed to governments, international organizations, international financial and FSN research institutions, private sector associates, philanthropies, rural development experts, universities and academic institutions, and civil society organizations
- Voluntary and non-bidding, **but** represents an **unprecedented opportunity** to raise of profile of FSN data and addressing the challenges related with the production and use of FSN to improve evidence-based decision-making



The CFS recommendations focus on five areas addressing different challenges:

1. CREATE GREATER AWARENESS AND DEMAND FOR BETTER USE OF FSN DATA IN DECISION-MAKING

- Establish multisectoral and multistakeholder FSN mechanisms (1)
- Promote dialogues and cooperation (1b)
- Promote the regular production and dissemination of evidence-based FSN knowledge products (1e)
- Develop guidelines on data-informed policy evaluation (1g)
- Use existing data (1c/i/j) and promote interoperability (1j)

2. INCREASE AND OPTIMIZE INVESTMENT IN THE COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND ENHANCEMENT OF FSN DATA

- Increase, sustain and coordinate investment on FSN data (2a/f/g)
- Build on existing FSN data funding initiatives (2h)
- Elaborate national plans to define priorities, integrated in the NSDS (2b)
- Outline a minimum set of core FSN data to help countries identify priorities when collecting FSN data (2d)
- Identify data gaps and needs and accelerate innovation (2e)

3. DEVELOP CAPACITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGIES

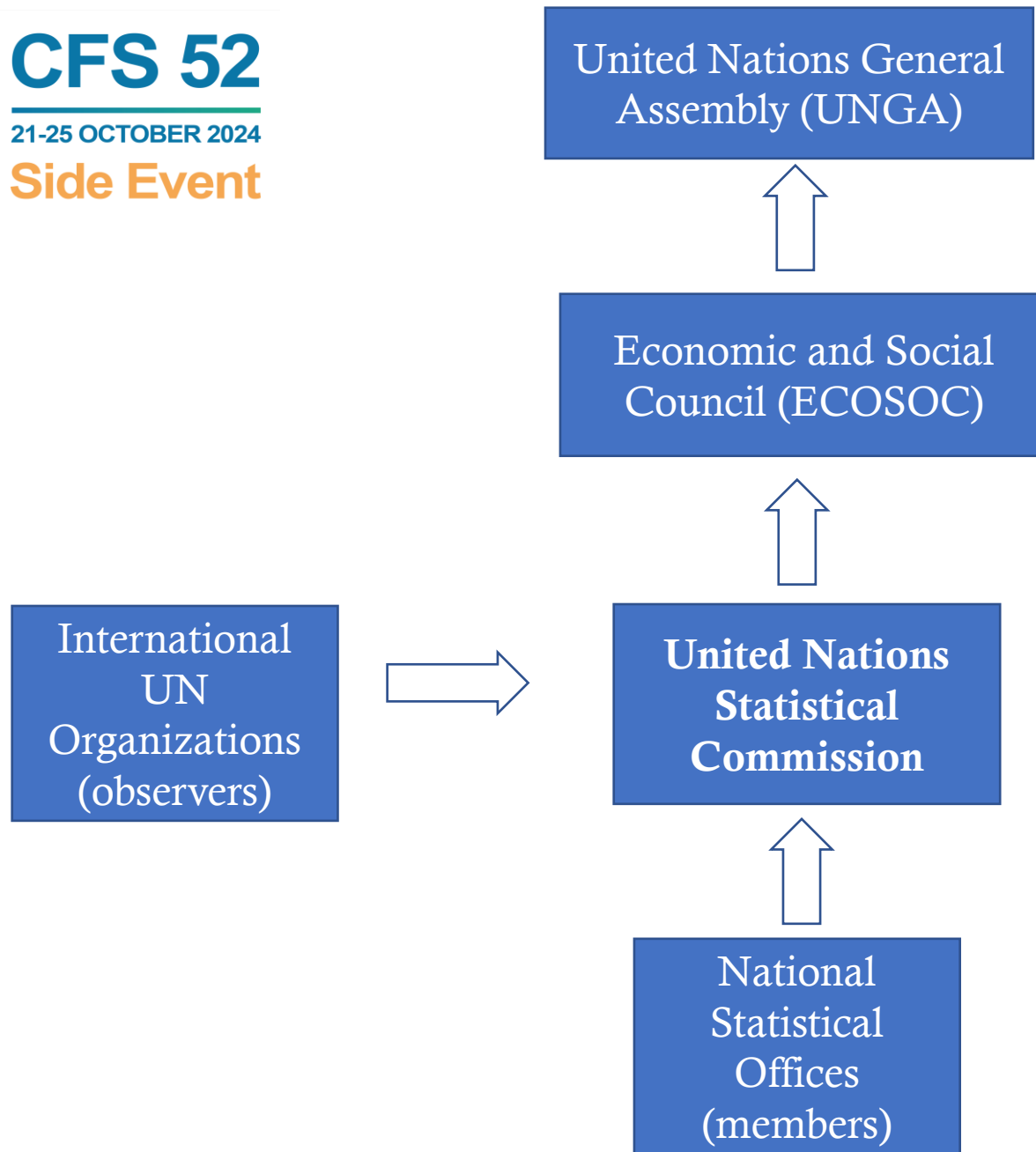
- Invest in building the capacities of statisticians, data experts and social scientists (3a)
- Modernize infrastructures (3b/c)
- Expand training opportunities (3d/e/f)
- Invest in innovation and cost-saving approaches (3g/i)
- Prioritize capacity development for greater impact (3h)
- Reduce language barriers (3k)

4. COLLABORATION ON HARMONIZATION AND SHARING OF FSN DATA

- Promote harmonization, coherence and interoperability of FSN data and platforms (4a)
- Consider FSN statistics as a domain in the UNSC (4b)
- Treat FSN data as open as possible but as closed as necessary to serve the public good (4d)
- Promote the use and integration of FSN data from various sources (4e)
- Increase collaboration on data access/sharing (4f)
- Promote compliance with open-access and fair use principles (4h)

5. STRENGTHEN FSN DATA GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORKS

- Include FSN data within a broader national data governance (5a)
- Discuss the development of FSN data principles (5c)
- Non-state actors are encouraged to share FSN data and analytics for the public good (5d)



The UN Statistical Commission

- The United Nations Statistical Commission is the highest body of the global statistical system
- Composed by the Chief Statisticians from member states from around the world.
- Responsible for setting of statistical standards and the development of concepts and methods.

CFS Policy recommendations - Activities under the aegis of the UN Statistical Commission

1) Creation of a new data domain on food security and nutrition statistics under the aegis of the UNSC

- Forum for discussions on concepts and methodologies for measuring food security and nutrition and the underlying data sources.
- Forum to standardize methodologies and harmonize available data.
- Forum to promote the production and use of food security and nutrition statistics.
- Regular reports on the state and progress to the UNSC.

The UN Statistical Commission (2024):

Decision 55/110 (d) - *Welcomed the Committee on World Food Security policy recommendations on strengthening the collection and use of food security and nutrition data and related analytical tools;*

Decision 55/110(e) - Approved the inclusion of a new agenda item on food security and nutrition statistics under the aegis of the Commission, invited *FAO, WHO and UNICEF* to report on progress made on this item every two years, and recommended that the United Nations Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications consider food security and nutrition as a stand-alone statistical data domain in the classification of statistical activities and report back to the Commission.

CFS Policy recommendations - Activities under the aegis of the UN Statistical Commission

2) In the short term (next 2 years), establish two lines of work identified as priority for the CFS under the aegis of the UNSC

- Definition of food security and nutrition (statistical) data (and its proposed delineation in the CSA nomenclature)
- Development of guidelines targeting the statistical community and FSN data users, which will include:
 - The definition of a **minimum set of core data** for assessing the state of FSN (**for development**)
 - References to **recommended indicators, methodologies and data sources**
 - Guidance to help countries **prioritize and facilitate the collection, dissemination and use** of relevant FSN data

These activities were proposed and endorsed at the 55th session of the UNSC (agenda item 3i)

CFS Policy recommendations - Activities under the aegis of the UN Statistical Commission

Progress and Next steps

- Finalization of guidelines of a minimum set of core FSN data
 - Draft document on January 2025
 - Expert consultation: August 2024 and October 2024
 - Report to the UN Statistical commission at the 55th Session (agenda item 3i): March 2025
 - Global consultation to countries: April-July 2025
 - Finalization of the document: November 2025
 - Endorsement of the UN statistical commission at the 56th Session: March 2026

CFS Policy recommendations - Activities under the aegis of the UN Statistical Commission

Progress and Next steps

- Approval of “Food Security and Nutrition Statistics” as a category in the classification of Statistical Activities (includes the definition of FSN statistics).
 - Presentation of the case to the Expert group of the commission on Statistical Classifications: October 2024
 - Discussion of the proposal: Along 2025
 - For endorsement at the 56th Session: March 2026
- Formalize the creation of a UN Committee of Experts on FSN data and Statistics under the UNSC to facilitate continuous work in this area
 - Terms of reference of the group: October 2024
 - For endorsement at the 55th Session: March 2025

Thank you for your attention!

For more information:

<https://www.fao.org/about/ce-on-food-security-agricultural-rural-statistics/en/>

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