

HLPE

The High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition

Science-policy interface of the
UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS)



The link between science and policy matters!

Special International Seminar HLPE/SDC

15 November 2018

Patrick Caron

HLPE Chairperson

2009: CFS reform: 2 key elements

CFS : the foremost international and intergovernmental platform to deal with FSN and related issues

CFS IS INCLUSIVE AND EVIDENCE-BASED

HLPE

- created 2010
- contributes to both these 2 elements

HLPE Roles (as per CFS rules)

(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.

Key attributes of the HLPE

- **Created, appointed, mandated** by the CFS but working independently
- Addressing the **multidisciplinary complexity of food security and nutrition**
- **Demand-driven**, tight agenda, present status of knowledge
- **Works in a transparent and open way**, in particular openness to various forms of knowledge
- **Consultation and rigor**

What value-added for HLPE reports?

They are different from other scientific reports:

- Driven by CFS demand
- Answer a political question, often a “burning” issue (urgency)
- Provide information, no “need more research”
- Provide policy recommendations: normative, although not prescriptive

They are different from other reports produced by international organizations:

- Not limited by the mandate of the organization
- They present difficult topics from an independent scientific perspective

The HLPE reports

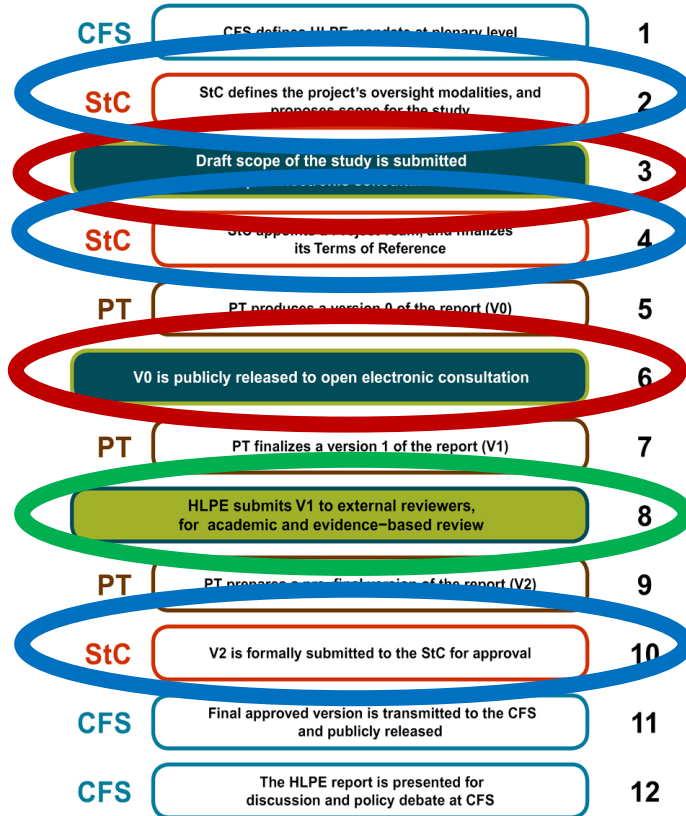
The HLPE reports :

- a better common understanding of complex FSN related issues
- a better mutual understanding among stakeholders

“One of the key roles of the reports is to help members and participants in CFS to understand why they disagree”

MS Swaminathan, 1st HLPE Chair

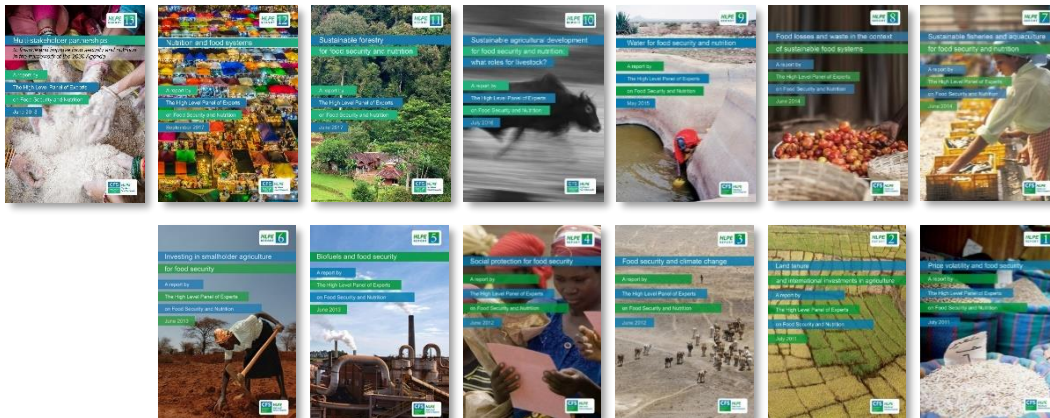
And how accepting and moving beyond such disagreement help designing future actions



A inclusive,
rigorous, collective
process

Which is a starting
 point!
 (before, after)

All HLPE published reports until now



For more information about the HLPE and to download the reports, please visit the HLPE website:

www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe

A new science positioning to fuel policy

- Complexity : issue / challenge
- Evidence :
 - ✓ evolution of knowledge production: address a question... highlight uncertainty
 - ✓ Moving beyond selling certainty / selling doubts
- Knowledge based initiation of policy convergence (IPCC, HLPE, IpBES, GSDR)
- Building on the basis of disagreements



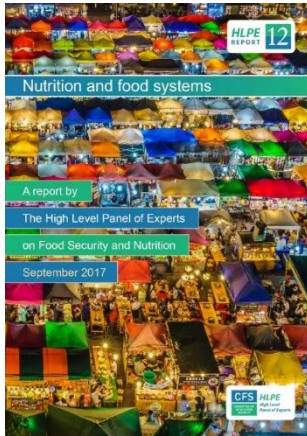
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If not the decision, guidelines and norms



Turning controversy into a fertile field



Voluntary guidelines on
food systems?

12 reports for a consistent and holistic analysis of FSN

- 1. The tight and complex interactions between sectors**
- 2. Beyond hunger, a new vision of FSN related challenges**
- 3. The need for a radical transformation of agriculture and food systems as a whole to improve FSN and achieve the Agenda 2030**
- 4. Diverse situations, diverse solutions, global challenges**



Current Roadmap



Making the agenda: C&EI for FSN (HLPE 2017)

- Anticipating the inter-connected future of urbanization and rural transformation
- Conflicts, migrations and FSN
- Inequalities, vulnerability, marginalized groups and FSN (reviewing C&EI in 2014)
- Impacts of trade on FSN
- Agroecology for FSN in a context of uncertainty and change
- Agrobiodiversity, genetic resources and modern breeding for FSN
- Food safety and emerging diseases
- From technology promises towards knowledge for FSN
- Strengthening governance of food systems for an improved FSN

