

# Strengthening Food Security and Nutrition Statistics: Towards a new domain under the umbrella of the Statistical Commission

Wednesday, 28 February 2024, 8:15am-9:30am EST

**Venue:** Labouisse Hall, UNICEF House, 3 United Nations Plaza, New York City

(Open session)

## BACKGROUND

High-quality, timely and relevant data on Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) are a key tool to inform local, national and global action towards the progressive realization of the right to adequate food and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. However, FSN statistics are currently not part of the discussions and debates in the Statistical Commission. This leaves a vital topic outside of the main intergovernmental body responsible for promoting the development of national statistics by setting statistical standards, methods and guidelines.

Recently, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), which is the main international and intergovernmental platform working to ensure food security and nutrition and reports to the UN General Assembly through the UN Economic and Social Council, discussed the issue of FSN data and adopted a set of [\*Policy recommendations on strengthening collection and use of FSN Data and related analysis tools to improve decision-making in support of the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security\*](#). This CFS data policy recommendations are a call to action targeting different range of stakeholders with the objective of strengthening FSN data systems for improved decision-making, in which the Commission and its members can play a crucial role. A key challenge recognized by the CFS is the need for a more systemic view of FSN data, which are often not standardized and fragmented across different international agencies, government sectors, public and private institutions.

The session will bring together a panel of experts and countries to share their insights, with the expected outcome being commitments to support the CFS recommendations and strengthen FSN data systems at the global and country levels. The side event will support the recommendations of [FAO report on "Recent Developments in Agricultural and Rural Statistics"](#) which will be presented under agenda item 3 i) at the 55<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Statistical Commission.

## OBJECTIVE

The objective of this side event is to take stock on the process followed by the CFS and of its recent decisions, focusing on their implication for the Statistical Commission. In particular, the session will advocate for the CFS recommendation to the Commission to recognize FSN statistics as a stand-alone domain within the UN Statistical Commission, which will provide a space for country members to discuss and endorse methods, concepts, and guidelines for measuring these important development goals.

The side event will provide an opportunity to receive comments and raise awareness of the FAO report's recommendations, which are scheduled to be discussed at the UNSC plenary session in the afternoon of the same day.

## PARTICIPANTS AND TARGET AUDIENCE

The session will bring together representatives from NSOs and CSOs, as well as experts from the main international organizations involved in the implementation of the CFS data policy recommendations. Target participants are NSO representatives who could support the implementation of CFS recommendations, specifically the creation of a FSN statistics stand-alone domain within the UNSC.

# PROGRAM

PROGRAM		
8:00-8:15	<b>Welcome Breakfast</b>	
8:15-8:20	<b>Opening remarks and Statement from the Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security</b>	<p><b>José Rosero Moncayo</b>, Chief Statistician and Director, FAO Statistics Division</p> <p><b>Ambassador Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile</b>, Chairperson, Committee on World Food Security</p>
8:20-8:30	<b>Strengthening Food Security and Nutrition Statistics: <i>Operationalizing Policy recommendations in the Statistical Commission</i></b>	<b>Valerie Bizier</b> , Senior Statistician, Data Governance and Quality Assurance, FAO Statistics Division
8:30-8:40	<b>Advancing global monitoring of Healthy Diets: <i>the Healthy Diets Monitoring Initiative (HDMI)</i></b>	<b>Chika Hayashi</b> Senior Advisor, Monitoring and Statistics; Chief, Nutrition Data Unit, UNICEF
8:40-9:15	<b>Panel discussion</b>	<p><b>Macdonald George Obudho</b>, Director General, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics</p> <p><b>Dominik Rozkrut</b>, President, Statistics Poland</p> <p><b>Claire Melamed</b>, Director, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data</p> <p><b>Francesca Perucci</b>, Director of policy and partnerships, Open Data Watch</p> <p><b>Moderator: Stephen Mac Feely</b>, Director of Data and Analytics, WHO</p>
9:15-9:25	<b>Q&amp;A</b>	
9:25-9:30	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	<b>Joao Pedro Azevedo</b> , Chief Statistician, UNICEF