

## **CFS Advisory Group Reporting Exercise for the period January – December 2022**

As per the agreed annual reporting exercise, members and ad-hoc Participants of the CFS Advisory Group were invited to provide feedback on the activities undertaken by them over the period January-December 2022, covering the following aspects:

### **I. CONTRIBUTION TO CFS ACTIVITIES**

Describe the work your organization or constituency has carried out in support of various CFS intersessional and plenary activities (meetings, Technical Task Teams, Open-Ended Working Groups, Bureau/Advisory Group meetings, etc), including coordination activities and the exchange of information and consolidation of inputs between your constituency and CFS.

### **II. USE, APPLICATION AND DISSEMINATION OF CFS OUTCOMES**

Provide examples of the use and application of CFS products (guidelines, recommendations, etc.) in your work programmes and describe the main elements of your outreach activities undertaken to disseminate CFS products.

### **III. VOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS FOR 2023**

Share a flavour of the work your organization or constituency intends to undertake in 2023 in support of CFS and to promote the use of existing CFS policy guidance.

### **IV. STRENGTHENING THE LINKAGES BETWEEN THE COMMITTEE AND THE ADVISORY GROUP CONSTITUENCIES**

What suggestions do you have to enhance the interaction between the Committee and different relevant actors on the ground to increase knowledge about CFS work at country level?

### **V. SUCCESS STORIES (optional)**

Describe how your organization or constituency has used a CFS product or products to improve the food security and nutrition situation of individuals, communities, etc. in furtherance of accomplishing SDG 2.

Reports were submitted by the following Advisory Group members:

- ✓ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);
- ✓ United Nations World Food Programme (WFP);
- ✓ International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD);
- ✓ UN Nutrition;

- ✓ World Health Organization (WHO);
- ✓ UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food;
- ✓ The World Bank
- ✓ Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR);
- ✓ Civil Society and Indigenous People's Mechanism (CSIPM)
- ✓ Private Sector Mechanism (PSM);
- ✓ Interim - Philanthropic Foundations Mechanism<sup>1</sup>

## **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

### **1. Contribution to CFS activities**

As a member of the joint CFS Secretariat, FAO continues to provide:

- services to the joint CFS Secretariat, contributing at least 1/3 the costs for human and financial resources, as well as physically hosting the Secretariat
- most of the meeting venues, including for inter-sessional activities/events and CFS Plenary and associated side and other events
- translation, interpretation, and conference services (messengers, security, IT support, etc.)
- assistance for managing financial contributions and trust fund support for CFS activities
- FAO LEG provides legal advice to Plenary and Bureau and Advisory Group, as necessary.
- Through its Indigenous Peoples Unit (PSUI), FAO is hosting a Technical Working Group on Indigenous Peoples Collective Rights, which is based on the principles supported by the VGGT.
- FSN Forum provides services to the CFS High Level Panel on Experts, in particular by carrying out consultations (for example, on HLPE reports) and subsequently developing a report.

FAO actively participated in the joint Bureau and Advisory group meetings, open-ended working groups (OEWG) and other inter-sessional activities and provided substantial inputs to technical task teams (TTT) and to CFS50 Plenary session, including:

- Led the preparation of the annual SOFI report, which gives members the possibility to make statements and ask questions.
- Worked closely with FAO management regarding World Food Day and CFS events
- Provided support to the organization of the Global Thematic Event on the CFS RAI during CFS 50
- Co-hosted, organized and facilitated numerous side events during CFS 50 including:

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<sup>1</sup> Pending of CFS 51 Plenary

— "Promoting Responsible and Climate Smart Investment in Agriculture in Southeast Asia through Multistakeholder Approaches", based on the ASEAN Guidelines on Promoting Responsible Investment in Food, Agriculture and Forestry ([ASEAN RAI](#)) Guidelines, the first regional iteration of the CFS RAI.

— "Linking food & climate action: Complementarities between the UNFSS National Pathways and the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture," in collaboration with CGIAR and WWF International  
*Summary:* <https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/CFS50/SideEvents/Summary/SE19.pdf>

*Recording:*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k2EIDQQjMso&ab\\_channel=AllianceofBioversityInternationalandCIAT](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k2EIDQQjMso&ab_channel=AllianceofBioversityInternationalandCIAT)

— "Solutions for Empowering Women's Engagement in Aquatic Food Systems: A journey through the supply chain"

— "Collective rights to lands, water, territories, and natural resources for sustainable Indigenous Peoples' food systems and biocentric restoration", in the framework of the celebrations of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries of Aquaculture (IYFA) 2022

— "Empowering cities and local governments towards sustainable and inclusive urban and territorial food systems transformation".

— "Imagine a future where new generations and ecosystems thrive: making the national pathways to sustainable food systems the accelerator for SDGs".

- Presented the Global Dialogue on Water Tenure during CFS50 side event on Collective rights to natural resources for indigenous food systems: <https://www.fao.org/in-action/knowat/news-and-events/news/news-details/en/c/1608835/> and recently, at the UN 2023 Water Conference, 22-24 March 2023, the Global Dialogue on Water Tenure was launched.

FAO actively participated in the open-ended working groups (OEWG) and provided substantial inputs to technical task teams (TTT) and to CFS 50 Plenary sessions, including to the Youth workstream, and guaranteed active participation during the negotiation process leading to the adoption of Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition at CFS 50.

Throughout 2022, FAO also actively supported and contributed to the development of the Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition (VG-GEWE), as a member of the correspondent TTT, and CFS participants.

It also participated in several information sessions organized by the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD) aiming at bridging the knowledge gaps among selected members of FAO representation on data- and statistics- related issue relevant to the data stream of CFS. These sessions discussed in more details current global governance and initiatives on data and statistics, which have an impact on the data governance related to food security and nutrition data.

FAO developed and disseminated widely through its channels a wide range of communications products featuring CFS work, including, but not limited to:

- Web news, e.g. <https://www.fao.org/right-to-food/news/news-detail/en/c/1611283> (CFS 50) and <https://www.fao.org/right-to-food/news/news-detail/en/c/1507149/> (International policy tools based on human rights help countries to create a sustainable blue economy, says FAO).
- Interview with experts, e.g. <https://www.fao.org/right-to-food/news/news-detail/en/c/1604671/> (Stefanos Fotiou, Head of the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub).
- Newsletter, e.g. <https://newsletters.fao.org/q/16vtyaGlmcb/wv>
- Post and social media videos, e.g. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74WUSZz-ZxA> (Schools can contribute to making the right to food a reality) and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKM6ebGegul> (climate action and human rights).

## 2. Use, application and dissemination of CFS outcomes

FAO continues to support the uptake and application of CFS products through several outputs within its Strategic Framework, such as:

- FAO continued in 2022 with including additional documents in the [FAO Evidence platform for agrifood systems and nutrition](#), which provides evidence and tools to support governments and stakeholders in the implementation of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (VGFSyN).
- The joint FAO/WHO Secretariat of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition included a reference to the VGFSyN in the progress report of the UN Secretary-General released in April 2022 (see [paragraphs 7, 11, 22, 76 and 77](#)).
- The country-level activities included in the [work plan](#) of the UN Food System Summit Coalition of Action for Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems for Children & All (HDSFS) was deliberately aligned with the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (VGFSyN). The VGFSyN aims to promote policy coherence and reduce policy fragmentation, which is directly linked to one of the main functions of the Coalition: Facilitate and coordinate existing expertise and stakeholders to align policies for actions across food systems for collective impact towards healthy diets from sustainable food systems at the country level. FAO is a member of the HDSFS Coalition Secretariat alongside WHO and the UN-Nutrition Secretariat.
- Contribution to the dissemination of the [Call for Submissions](#). "What are your experiences in the use and application of the CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI) for improving food security and nutrition?", liaising with different stakeholders and supporting around 40 submissions.

- Active promotion of CFS instruments when introducing the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) by highlighting their complementary with CFS instruments.
- The CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition and the HLPE report on Agroecology and Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships informed the discussion held in the CFS 50 side event entitled “Imagine a future where new generations and ecosystems thrive: making the national pathways to sustainable food systems the accelerator for SDGs” on 13 October 2022.
- FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-31 is referring to various CFS products and reports, including “Principles for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems” and “The Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition.”  
*Reference:* <https://www.fao.org/3/cc2274en/cc2274en.pdf>
- FAO’s submissions to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on the Global Stocktake contains a reference to the discussions and advocacy on indigenous food systems under High-Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) was made in  
*Reference:* <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionsStaging/Documents/202203180953---FAO%20Submission%20on%20Global%20Stocktake.pdf>
- Promoted and integrated Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGT) in the Climate Action Pathway for Land Use under the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action.  
*Reference:* [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ActionTable\\_LandUse.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ActionTable_LandUse.pdf)
- The CFS Secretariat and the FAO's Parliamentary Networks Team (PSU) agreed to jointly organize capacity-building activities and develop learning materials on CFS policy products and recommendation. This will be undertaken upon request by and in close coordination with relevant parliamentary institutions and networks, and will be tailored specifically to an audience of members of parliament and parliamentary advisors. The objective of this exercise is to facilitate the use and application of CFS policy guidelines and recommendations at country level, combining the high degree of legitimacy and authoritativeness derived from the inclusiveness and the evidence base underlying CFS processes with FAO's specialist knowledge and outreach capacity.
- In 2022, COAG mandated FAO with the organization of a Global Dialogue on Water Tenure, drawing on the CFS VGGT as well as the recommendations of the CFS HLPE on water, food security and nutrition. Objective of the Dialogue is to define principles for the responsible governance of water tenure. The Global Dialogue on Water Tenure was presented at the UN Water Conference in New York in March 2023 and is one of the 7 commitments of FAO to the conference: <https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/global-dialogue-water-tenure-0> Discussions are ongoing with the government of Germany to support roll-out of

the global dialogue. Given the close relationship to the VGGT, CFS could be a relevant to examine and endorse the outcome of the Global Dialogue on Water Tenure.

- Development of an FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture technical paper which uses the CFS HLPE 2020 food systems framework as framing for going beyond value chain thinking and considering the whole food system dynamics of 'small fish food systems'.
- With regard to promoting the uptake and use of the CFS RAI, FAO developed:
  - a Practical Handbook for Parliamentarians to apply the CFS RAI, used for awareness raising and capacity development in 5 countries (Congo, Gabon, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Zambia)
  - a Guide on incentives for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems with the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, which was used for capacity development activities in three countries (Liberia, Mauritania, Sierra Leone).
  - an investment and investor screening tool for government agencies with the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment. The tool is to be published in Q3 2023 and has already been applied in Liberia.
  - a Training of Trainers Manual to enhance the capacities of civil society and grassroots organizations to engage in policy dialogue and advocacy related to RAI. The Manual will soon be available from the FAO elearning Academy in English and French in the second half of 2023.
  - a series of learning courses composed of the following four courses:
    - Building a gender-responsive policy and legal framework for agricultural investment;
    - Securing women's land rights in the context of agricultural investment;
    - Enabling women producers' successful engagement in agribusiness;
    - Fostering decent wage employment for women and men.
- Through its Indigenous Peoples Unit, FAO ensured translation to several Indigenous Peoples Languages of the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT), as a key step to disseminate the principles of the VGGT closer to Indigenous Peoples so that they can become an effective instrument for the recognition and protection of Indigenous Peoples rights and their role as food systems and knowledge holders
- FAO also
  - Released a video on the linkages between climate actions and human rights, which complements CFS efforts, including work around the VGFSyN (CFS 47), price volatility and food security recommendation (CFS 37), and Right to Food Guidelines;
  - Published a policy brief on the impact of COVID-19 on the enjoyment of the right to adequate food in the Pacific Region, which complements CFS efforts, including work on the Right to Food Guidelines, the gender, food security and nutrition recommendation (CFS 37), and food security and climate change recommendation (CFS 39);

- Released a video on the linkages between social protection and human rights, which complements CFS efforts, including work around the Right to Food Guidelines, the VGFSyN, and the social protection for food security recommendation (CFS 39);
  - Initiated, together with WFP, a project on school nutrition standards for safeguarding children’s right to food, which complements CFS efforts, including work around the Right to Food Guidelines and the GSF (CFS 47).
- FAO supported countries in line with the work areas covered by the Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment, through different initiatives (including on youth engagement, organizations and networks, such as supporting digital platforms like the African Youth Agripreneurs Platform, as well as on youth employment and agripreneurship, green jobs, rural migration, child labour prevention, skills development and access to finance.
  - The CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition were used in the development of United Nation Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and Country Programme Framework (CPF) 2023-2027 in Kirgizstan. One of the priorities of these two strategic documents ("Food system sustainability is enhanced through a more efficient and inclusive approach that ensures healthy and quality nutrition for the population) was aligned with recommendations of the CFS VGFSyN.

FAO continued to promote the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) with several knowledge publications. FAO supported several countries on implementing land policy reforms and/or modernizing land administration in alignment with the VGGT. FAO co-organized with CFS a celebration event on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the VGGT in May 2022 and also organized an event with several stakeholders to reflect on lessons learnt on the past 10 years of advancing the guidelines.

### 3. **Voluntary commitments for 2023**

- FAO will consider the possibility of submitting a proposal for CFS side events on the regional reports of food security and nutrition.
- FAO Parliamentary Networks Team of the Partnerships and UN Collaboration division and the CFS Secretariat have been discussing the establishment of a joint programme aimed at raising awareness and building capacities among parliamentarians worldwide to promote the uptake and implementation of CFS policy products through national legislation, and developed a project proposal to seek funding for these efforts. The proposed activities (including development of handbooks, technical guides, E-learning courses and the organization of training workshops, webinars and policy dialogue sessions) would support awareness and uptake by national parliaments of a number of CFS policy products, based on country needs and demands.

- FAO Sub-regional Office for Central Asia and country office in Kyrgyzstan will continue to support strengthening multisectoral and multistakeholder coordination and actions across actors of food systems (Recommendation 3.1.2. VGFSyN) particularly for developing the national food based dietary guideline. Furthermore, within the United Nation Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and Country Programme Framework (CPF) for 2023-2027 it is planned to conduct relevant activities in the field of sustainable food system (food security & nutrition, food safety, climate change, gender equality and women empowerment).
- FAO will continue to ensure that CFS results are cited/used, where appropriate, in FAO's submissions and contributions to mandated processes under the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD), and publications and reports on climate change developed by OCB.
- Through its Office of Chief Statistician, FAO will participate actively in the technical task team in charge of supporting the drafting of the CFS Policy Recommendations on Strengthening FSN Data Collection and Analysis Tools for Food Security and Nutrition.
- FAO will also participate in all Open-Ended Working Groups and Negotiation rounds planned for the CFS Data Workstream, as well as bilateral meetings with CFS constituents as needed to discuss in further details some of the contentious issues identified during the negotiations.
- With regard to CFS RAI more specifically, FAO plans to:
  - support Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam to assess the alignment of their policy and legal framework to the ASEAN RAI (regionally adapted from the CFS RAI)
  - launch a Practical Handbook for Parliamentarians on the ASEAN RAI during the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly's Caucus, hosted by the National Assembly of Viet Nam in June 2023;
  - support Tunisia in developing a National Strategy for Responsible Agricultural Investment;
  - support Liberia and Senegal in revising their screening policies and processes in alignment with the CFS-RAI Principles.
  - support Mauritania and Senegal in enhancing their policies and programmes so that they empower youth to invest responsibly in responsible investment in agriculture and food systems.
  - Capture the lessons learned and monitoring the results of the RAI learning programme for civil society organizations rolled out in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Philippines (in collaboration with AsiaDHRRRA)
  - strengthen grassroot rural women's capacity to participate in policy dialogue and foster responsible agricultural investments that empower women and promote gender equality In Sierra Leone (in collaboration with Solidaridad West Africa)
  - The Polytechnic University of Madrid (UPM) will to continue the work on the application of the CFS-RAI Principles through the International Network of Universities committed to the dissemination of the CFS RAI, by expanding the network to include more universities and



related companies, as well as implementing new editions of the International Academic Programme and International Entrepreneurial Programme on RAI.

With regard to Right to Food Guidelines, FAO plans to:

- launch an e-learning course, which will emphasize the Right to Food Guidelines, while referencing CFS tools supporting FAO’s application of a human rights-based approach, including the VGGT, the CFS-RAI, the SSF Guidelines and the VGFSyN;
  - launch, together with the FSN Forum, a call for submissions to probe on the progress made in the realization of the right to adequate food worldwide as well as the uptake of the Right to Food Guidelines;
  - celebrate, together with other CFS stakeholders, the 20th anniversary of the Right to Food Guidelines in 2024 – count-down will be announced at CFS 51.
  - continue to actively promote CFS principles and the application of CFS results, in FAO's programmatic work, through development of projects, designing seminars/side events, etc.
- FAO will also continue to collaborate with the CFS Secretariat in enhancing the outreach of the Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition, including by possibly developing related guidance notes and dialogues.
  - Through its Indigenous Peoples Unit and the Land Tenure Team, FAO plans to develop a technical guide focused on the principles related to Indigenous Peoples contained in the VGGT and of the Voluntary Guidelines on SSF and to move forward towards a well-structured implementation of those principles
  - With regard to the VGGTFAO will continue to develop knowledge publications and support countries on implementing land policy reforms and land administration improvements that are aligned to the VGGT. FAO will also collaborate with other organizations on assessing the state of land tenure and governance.

#### 4. **Strengthening the linkages between CFS and the Advisory Group constituencies**

As part of the Food Systems Summit follow up process, FAO contributes to:

- The Resilient Local Food Supply Chains Alliance lead by World Food Programme (WFP) and co-led by the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD). The Alliance advocates for building resilient local food supply chains through local, national and regional actions and support of countries’ efforts to build resilience in their local food supply chains based on their priorities for food systems transformation and within local contexts.
- The Climate Resilient Food Systems Alliance (CRFS), hosted by the UNFCCC aims to bring forward integrated food and climate action across the entire agrifood systems, to have a world where food systems are climate resilient, sustainable, equitable and inclusive. The Alliance focuses on some

- of the most vulnerable countries and regions and acts as a connector across the multitude of different initiatives and partnerships currently ongoing to provide an accessible entry point to countries to a vast network of climate action with support options.
- Fighting food crisis along the humanitarian, development and peace nexus Coalition to contribute to ending hunger through pursuing peace and unleashing the potential of sustainable food systems to enhance the prospects for peace. The coalition's efforts are supported by a dedicated Secretariat funded by the European Union and hosted by the Global Network Against Food Crises, which in turn is hosted by FAO/WFP.
  - Possible webinars and trainings about CFS strategic functions and work would be useful for Central Asian key target audience to increase knowledge and uptake.
  - It would be useful to analyse existing national legal and policy frameworks on the topics covered by CFS and its products, and link the latter starting from there, to show how CFS work can support the country's priorities (i.e. not introducing the CFS product as something new and detached from the country).
  - Through its OCS, FAO is planning to inform the UN Statistical Commission in its 2024 session on the outcomes of the negotiation process of the CFS Policy Recommendations on Strengthening FSN Data Collection and Analysis Tools for Food Security and Nutrition. As the UNSC is attended by the Chief Statisticians of all Member States, this will increase the visibility of the policy and could lead to a UNSC recommendation to countries to implement the policy recommendations
  - CFS may wish to strengthen the promotion of its knowledge products and provide guidance for their use at country level, including by sharing successful country experiences and facilitating exchanges among CFS stakeholders in this respect and within relevant fora (for example UNFCCC, UNCBD and UNCCD). More specifically, CFS policy products may have high relevance in the COP27 decision "Sharm el-Sheikh Joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security."
  - CFS policy products could be promoted through larger donor projects to ensure their dissemination and implementation on the ground, similarly as it was with the European Union Land Governance Programme supporting implementation and dissemination of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGT)
  - Opportunities to collaborate with local actors in the fight against hunger, leaving no one behind could be increased. In the lead up to the Right to Food Guidelines 20th anniversary celebrations, field capacity building would allow to capture best practices and improve dissemination of all CFS tools.
  - To maintain the youth-inclusive process adopted for the youth workstream, and to strengthen CFS governance and inclusivity, CFS may consider to systematically guaranteeing youth representation in the CSIPM and PSM, so that their contribution can be a permanent element in the CFS deliberations.

- Explore how to better connect CFS and the Aquatic/Blue Foods Coalition that emerged from the UN Food Systems Summit.

## 5. Success stories

- FAO Sub-regional Office for Central Asia and county office in Kyrgyzstan used the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (2022) for supporting Kyrgyzstan in developing a food-based dietary guidelines (FBDG). FAO's support started with the formulation of national multi-stakeholder working group (Recommendation 3.1.2) to strengthen the evidence-base for understanding food and nutritional issues of different population groups.

Currently, the national working group is conducting a food systems and diet assessment which will help defining nutritional objectives of the guideline and context-specific healthy diets by taking into account food systems drivers (Recommendation 3.5.1). The government envisages aligning school meals and food and nutrition education with national food-based dietary guidelines (Recommendation 3.3.2).

- In 2022, in respect of the principles of the VGGT for investments not to hamper livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples and to respect the rights and the good governance of Indigenous Peoples and the respect of the FPIC process, it has been possible to avoid that the rights over their territories and resources of the OGIEK people in Kenya could be put at risk by agroforestry intervention as well as their livelihoods and the forest sustainability if undertaken without proper FPIC.
- A remarkable body of work to raise awareness and develop knowledge and capacities on CFS policy guidance among Members of Parliaments worldwide has been undertaken by a dedicated team within FAO's Responsible Agricultural Investments, Learning, and Agriculture Information Management Unit, in close collaboration of a number of FAO experts from other divisions and external partners, to promote the uptake of the CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (RAI) into national policies and legislation.

These continued efforts represent a success story that may be replicated to promote implementation at country level of other key CFS Policy products, based on donors' interest and subject to the availability of adequate funding.

- FAO and the Parliament of Latin America and the Caribbean adopted a [Joint Declaration](#) to express "their commitment to mitigate the effects of the crisis caused by COVID-19 in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, and rebuild better food systems, urging governments and parliaments in the region to promote increased responsible investment in agriculture and food systems by applying the CFS RAI".

- The Parliament of Congo and Gabon adopted official declarations to apply the CFS RAI in their national framework.
- A regional event bringing together 30 representatives from Government institutions, academia, non-governmental organizations, young agri-entrepreneurs and agribusinesses from Liberia, Mauritania, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Tunisia to exchange knowledge and good practices in the promotion of responsible investment in agriculture and food systems (RAI), resulted in a regional roadmap on two priority areas (governance and youth empowerment) to enhance the application of the CFS-RAI;
- Tunisia has successfully set up its RAI Agri-Accelerator Hub with support from FAO, which provides young agri-entrepreneurs coaching services, as well as technical and financial incentive packages to align their businesses with the CFS-RAI Principles. The Agricultural Investment Promotion Agency of Tunisia (APIA), the National Agricultural Research Institute of Tunisia (INRAT) and FAO joined forces to permanently integrate the “responsible investment coaching toolkit” into the methodologies and requirements for state-certified agribusiness coaches and advisers.
- Liberia has developed its own CFS-RAI aligned investment and investor screening tool with technical support from FAO. FAO will support the pilot deployment, rollout and permanent integration of the tool throughout 2023 and 2024, in partnership with the country's National Investment Commission (NIC).
- Through the RAI learning programme rolled out in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Philippines, 80 representatives of CSOs have been able to develop a strategy to better support support women and youth to engage in responsible agricultural investments and discuss their recommendations with government officials.
- In Sierra Leone, 138 grassroots rural women have formulated and shared their concrete recommendations with local authorities for more responsible agricultural investments that empower women and promote gender equality.
- On Human Rights Day 2022, FAO Director-General reaffirmed FAO’s commitment to the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, one year prior to its 75th anniversary, a celebration marked by a UN-wide call for dignity, freedom and justice for all. The FAO DG stresses that the enjoyment of all human rights, including the right to adequate food, has been under pressure in the last years. Reinforcing CFS’s mandate towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all, for the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security, FAO is supporting Members’ accountability and building capacities to ensure that food is not only perceived as a privilege, but as a human right for everyone. FAO DG reaffirms that FAO is continuing to be firmly committed to the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

Reference link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQe26VNYCYc>

- The Global Dialogue on Water Tenure was highlighted in the press as a notable commitment: [https://enb.iisd.org/un-2023-water-conference/highlights-and-images-24-march-2023?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=ENB%20Update%20-%2025%20March%202023&utm\\_content=ENB%20Update%20-%2025%20March%202023+CID\\_e74db784e0965991ee9bc319d2c040e2&utm\\_source=cm&utm\\_term=Read%20highlights%20and%20images](https://enb.iisd.org/un-2023-water-conference/highlights-and-images-24-march-2023?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ENB%20Update%20-%2025%20March%202023&utm_content=ENB%20Update%20-%2025%20March%202023+CID_e74db784e0965991ee9bc319d2c040e2&utm_source=cm&utm_term=Read%20highlights%20and%20images)
- For World Water Day 2023, FAO published a feature story on water tenure in 6 UN languages: <https://www.fao.org/fao-stories/article/en/c/1634593/>

## **United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)**

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) is jointly supported by the United Nations’ Rome-based Agencies (RBAs) – FAO, IFAD, and WFP – a further example showcasing their productive collaboration. Since 2019, the RBAs are *ex-officio* and *extra-quota* members (i.e., permanent members) of the CFS Advisory Group. In 2022, WFP was actively involved in executing the CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) 2020-2023, while continuing to furnish financial, technical, and staffing assistance to the CFS. This encompasses the secondment of a senior staff member (P5) to the CFS Secretariat at FAO, as well as a short-term professional staff member (P3) within the Secretariat. In 2022, WFP also provided CFS with an additional one-off financial contribution to support its activities. At WFP Headquarters, the Director for Strategic Coordination (D1) in the Programme and Policy Development Department (PD) oversees WFP’s engagement in and support to CFS, including by representing WFP in the CFS Advisory Group. Additionally, a staff member at WFP Headquarters is dedicated to enhancing WFP’s engagement with and support for the Committee.

As of mid-2021, the CFS function within WFP has been integrated into the Programme and Policy Development Department (PD), headed by Deputy Executive Director (DED) Valerie Guarnieri. This integration fosters robust connections between CFS thematic workstreams and WFP’s programmatic areas of focus. WFP’s dedicated capacity for CFS establishes a systematic coordination mechanism and bidirectional communication between WFP and the CFS Secretariat. This ensures the expeditious dissemination of information and requests related to CFS within WFP, while simultaneously consolidating WFP’s technical input and streamlining its submission to CFS.

Throughout 2022, WFP senior and technical staff members have been encouraged, facilitated, and robustly engaged in the CFS workstreams on Gender, Data, and Youth, as well as in the substantive discussions addressing the global food crisis.

### **1. Contribution to CFS Activities**

In the course of 2022, WFP:

- Contributed to the work of CFS through active participation: i) as a Member of the Advisory Group to the Bureau; ii) in Open-Ended Working Groups (OEWGs) and Technical Task Teams (TTTs) of various workstreams; iii) in related intersessional activities, as well as; iv) identifying relevant technical staff for specific workstreams in order to contribute substantive and insightful inputs to CFS processes.
- Engaged in the 50<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of the Committee (CFS 50), and its preparatory processes, at all levels, including by:
  - Executive Director’s participation and [statement](#) in the high-level opening ceremony, as well as Director level participation in the Plenary sessions.
  - Soliciting engagement of a range of WFP stakeholders and providing relevant strategic inputs, technical advice, and support to develop background documents;
  - Co-organizing/hosting, with a wide range of partners, the following side events: (i) “Food Security and Nutrition in Time of Crisis: What Priorities for a Multistakeholder, Coordinated and Comprehensive Global Response?” ([recording/summary](#)); (ii) “Achieving Zero Hunger: What can Governments and the private sector do in the face of a multidimensional crisis?” ([recording/summary](#)); (iii) “The power of gender transformative approaches: addressing discriminatory social norms” ([recording/summary](#)); (iv) “Virtual Exchanges: Digital South-South Triangular Cooperation for Home-Grown School Feeding” ([recording/summary](#)); (v) “Healthy diets from sustainable food systems - the foundation for human, social, and economic capital development in Africa” ([recording/summary](#)).
  - Providing inputs and technical support to the inter-sessional workstreams and related activities leading up to CFS 50: (i) gender; (ii) data; (iii) youth.
  - Co-leading the preparation of the 2022 SOFI report “Repurposing food and agricultural policies to make healthy diets more affordable”, which guided the discussion at CFS 50 inaugural day.
  - Contributing to the CFS 50 Special Event on “Food Systems Transformations: Building Long-Term Resilience to Global Crises” ([link](#)).
- Engaged, through in-person participation of DED Valerie Guarnieri, in the CFS-PGA High-Level Special Event “Time to Act Together: Coordinating Policy Responses to the Global Food Crisis”, held in July 2022 in UN Headquarters in New York. During her intervention, DED Guarnieri:
  - Highlighted the importance of providing immediate food support for the most vulnerable, among other urgent actions, adding that “ensuring that emergency food assistance and nutrition support reach the most vulnerable is our key priority at the World Food Programme”.
  - Underlined that WFP has the biggest scale up ever underway seeking to reach 152 million people in 2022, and that involves sourcing and delivering more food at greater expense given our dependence and reliance on Ukraine. It also means stepping up humanitarian cash transfers while, with increased needs and costs, more resources are required.
  - Stressed the challenges faced in a country like Yemen, where we should be scaling up but instead, we are reducing food rations, in other words taking food from the hungry to give to the starving.
  - Emphasized that, alongside urgent humanitarian assistance, which is a key role for the multilateral system, “if we have any hope of reaching the billions of people who require support,

investing in social protection is also key – strengthening and making national social protection systems more efficient and inclusive”.

- Proactively contributed to the ‘substantive segments’ of CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meetings focused on the global food crisis. WFP Chief Economist, Mr. Arif Husain, joined such segments and provided CFS members and stakeholders with updates on the status and outlook of the global food crisis as well as WFP’s related response.
- Engaged in and supported the CFS workstream on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, drawing on WFP’s work and expertise on gender, including through:
  - Attending, at technical and senior level, the TTT and OEWG meetings, which led to the development of the First Draft and Draft for Negotiations of the Voluntary Guidelines.
  - Providing [inputs](#) to the drafting process of the Voluntary Guidelines.
  - Participating in the negotiation sessions, providing technical support/advice, as appropriate.
- Engaged in the “informal core group” established by the CFS Secretariat to promote the uptake of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (VGFSyN), while contributing to the FAO online platform of supporting evidence for the CFS VGFSyN.
- Contributed to the “Friends of the Chair” Group on the implications of the UNFSS for CFS by making available its expertise through WFP FSS Team.
- Contributed to the HLPE e-consultations on (i) the 3<sup>rd</sup> Note on “Critical, Emerging and Enduring Issues (CEEI)” ([link](#)), (ii) VO Draft of the Report on “Data Collection and Analysis Tools for FSN” ([link](#)), and Scope of the Report on “Reducing Inequalities for FSN” ([link](#)).
- Contributed to the CFS work on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems, including by providing [inputs](#) to the Zero Draft of the Policy Recommendations, drawing on WFP’s parallel expertise on youth-related activities.
- Supported dialogue between the CFS Chairperson and WFP Senior Management, including through a meeting with DED Valerie Guarnieri, held in May 2022 in WFP HQ.
- Continued coordinating and engaging, together with FAO and IFAD, with the CFS Chairperson and CFS Secretary, both in Rome and New York, in support of intensified dialogue on CFS matters, including for CFS-led high-level events.
- Continued overseeing the implementation of the project “Strengthening governance of food security and nutrition through the CFS”, whereby the European Union provides financial support to the CFS Secretariat, HLPE, and CSIPM.

## 2. Use, application and dissemination of CFS outcomes

- CFS policy work has the legitimacy and value-added of being consensus and evidence based.
- WFP’s multi-year Country Strategic Plans (CSPs) not only echo and reinforce principles embedded in the CFS policy products, but also provide a concrete framework to advance their use and application.
- WFP *de facto* applies CFS policy products across its own policies, strategies, and operations, while seeking to promote best practices in this regard.

- Based on the CFS-FFA Principles, the [RBA Resilience Initiative](#), funded by Canada, was designed and implemented to strengthen the resilience of livelihoods in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Niger and Somalia. In particular, the adoption and adaptation of the CFS-FFA were made a precondition for countries to be included in the initiative.
- In 2022, WFP continued to regularly and timely channel all communications/correspondence from the CFS and HLPE Secretariats to relevant HQ divisions and field offices on a case-by-case basis, particularly regarding requests for inputs to CFS workstreams and HLPE e-consultations.
- Reports and highlights from CFS meetings – including the monthly CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meetings – are regularly prepared and shared, including during dedicated sessions, with WFP Senior Management, Directors, as well as relevant divisions/decentralized offices, to keep them abreast of CFS work.
- The outcomes of CFS work were cited/used, where appropriate, in relevant WFP meetings, publications and briefing notes.
- CFS is referenced in WFP’s “Global Initiatives Paper”, which provides an overview of WFP’s engagement with the various global initiatives and fora aimed at addressing the global food crisis.
- CFS policy products on themes of direct relevance to WFP and its stakeholders have continued to be used in various fora as a basis to advance the food security and nutrition agenda.
- Webcast of CFS meetings and events – including CFS 50 – as well as information about CFS workstreams and policy products, were advertised on WFP intranet.
- Ahead of CFS 50, all relevant information, background documents and registration details were made available with WFP staff globally.
- WFP continued to raise awareness of and disseminate relevant CFS policy instruments/outcomes and related information within the Organization at all levels.
- RBA collaboration on CFS was reported on in the [2022 “Update on collaboration among the Rome-based agencies”](#), which was presented and discussed at the second regular session of WFP Executive Board in November 2022.

### 3. Voluntary commitments for 2023

- CFS represents one of the pillars of RBA collaboration. WFP is committed to continue supporting and engaging in the CFS, alongside the other RBAs - FAO and IFAD.
- WFP continues to work closely with the CFS Secretariat and all CFS stakeholders, through the provision of expertise and competencies to inform CFS’ efforts and processes.
- WFP – alongside FAO and IFAD – will continue supporting the CFS Chairperson’s endeavors to increase the visibility of the Committee and its work beyond Rome (e.g., in New York through WFP NY Office), as well as foster engagement with relevant stakeholders at all levels.
- WFP is exploring the possibility of organizing a session with its the Executive Board (EB) – including as part of the EB’s agenda – on the CFS and WFP’s engagement therein, while seeking EB’s views and suggestions on how to further promote the implementation and uptake of CFS policy products, translating them into concrete action at country level to improve food security and nutrition for all people.



- Depending on the country contexts and WFP's priorities, relevant CFS policy products will continue to be duly considered when developing Country Strategic Plans (CSPs), as well as in WFP's policy dialogue efforts.
- WFP will continue advocating for the role of the 'Coalition of Action for Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems' in promoting awareness and utilization of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (VGFSyN). The Coalition, among other goals, aims to promote the implementation of the VGFSyN at country level, through complementary actions, advocacy, and engagement with CFS.
- WFP continues to be actively engaged in the implementation of the current CFS MYPoW 2020-2023, including the two ongoing policy development processes on Gender and Data, and the call for submissions on the use and application of the CFS policy recommendations on price volatility and social protection for food security and nutrition (WFP's contribution can be found [here](#)). WFP is also supporting the development of the next CFS MYPoW 2024-2027.
- More CFS meetings and the launch of HLPE reports could be hosted by WFP HQ and be live webcast both in Rome and in the field. This would in turn help raising the profile of CFS and HLPE within WFP.
- WFP will continue to actively contribute to the Bureau and Advisory Group (BAG) meetings by updating/briefing BAG Members on its work for improved food security and nutrition at country level.
- In doing so, WFP's analytical and monitoring tools and products (i.e., [Hunger Map](#), Cost of Hunger/Cost of Diet/[Fill the Nutrient Gap](#) reports, etc.), among others, could be used as reference.
- WFP, working with FAO and the EU, is available to provide an overview of the Global Network Against Food Crises, and its annual Global Report on Food Crises (2023 report was just released and can be accessed [here](#)), during one of the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meetings, as one of its 'substantive segments'. This is particularly relevant in the face of the ongoing global food crisis.

#### 4. **Strengthening the linkages between the Committee and the Advisory Group constituencies**

##### **General remarks and suggestions**

- CFS is a unique platform for learning, sharing experiences and catalyzing the implementation and investments needed by countries and their partners to achieve the 2030 Agenda and, particularly, SDG 2.
- The political and strategic leadership role of the CFS Chair - along with his/her outreach efforts - is key to raise the CFS' profile at all levels, strengthen the interaction with relevant FSN actors on the ground, as well as increase the knowledge about CFS work in different fora at global, regional, and country level.
- Side/Special Events organized by CFS during the HLPF sessions in New York, FAO Regional Conferences, Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) in Berlin, UN COPs, and events linked to the UN Food Systems Summit follow-up, are a major opportunity to showcase the relevance of CFS work and its policy products to a global multi-stakeholder audience.

- Side events held on the margins of CFS Plenaries are good examples of vibrant interaction among CFS Members and stakeholders, as well as a strategic opportunity to reflect on context specific issues and share ideas for an effective application of CFS policy products.
- In 2023, CFS should explore ways to further engage in key global fora and related processes (such as the UN Food Systems Summit Stocktaking Moment in July, and SDG Summit in September), building on its role as global platform for policy convergence. This would provide CFS with a strategic opportunity to further raise its profile and the importance of its work.
- It is crucial that CFS ensures a solid and systematic connection to country level, namely relevant Ministries (e.g., Food and Agriculture, Health, etc.) through its Member Countries, as well as regional and country networks through its Advisory Group Members. CFS' inclusive platform can provide the safe space needed to share ideas and best practices.
- Outreach events and thematic webinars can enhance the interaction between CFS and the different relevant FSN actors on the ground, as well as increase the knowledge of CFS and its policy products at country and regional level.
- Use and uptake, adoption, and adaptation to context of CFS policy products are also opportunities for sound programming.
- The awareness of CFS policy products could be raised by looking into the CFS Communication Strategy, which outlines ways to target not only UN agencies, aid and development organizations, civil society, and food security organizations, but also academic institutions, media, and members of the general public.
- CFS should continue to provide guidance to countries on the use of CFS policy products at country level, including by sharing successful country experiences and facilitating exchanges among CFS stakeholders in this respect and within relevant fora.
- The CFS Secretariat should continue disseminating the "CFS quarterly newsletters", as well as developing information briefs on the Committee's work and its policy products, when appropriate, to support and facilitate CFS stakeholders' interaction with their constituencies and relevant actors on the ground.
- It is key to further strengthen CFS social media presence by engaging in regular use of Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, TikTok and LinkedIn platforms. This would be particularly useful when it comes to reaching younger generations and future policymakers. This would require accessible formats of policy documents without the use of jargon, and instead sharing blogs, infographics, as well as short articles and videos (no longer than 1:30 minute).
- It would also be important for CFS to establish connections with academic institutions - particularly those with a nutrition focus - and international development departments and centers at universities. This would be an effective outreach strategy to promote CFS policy products to students, as often universities have dedicated blog pages and distribute regular e-newsletters, which could be used to spread awareness of CFS and its policy work.
- The HLPE, as the science-policy interface of CFS, is an integral part of the Committee. The HLPE should continue to accompany the launch of its reports with short documents containing the reports' main findings and recommendations with a set of key messages which can be disseminated to a wide and non-technical audience.

### **Bureau and Advisory Group Members**

- CFS Members, with the support of all CFS stakeholders, have the necessary convening power to take up a leading role in outreach and awareness raising activities (e.g., workshops, webinars, seminars, etc.) at regional and country level.
- A systematic linkage and coordination between the Permanent Representations in Rome and capitals should be strengthened to ensure that relevant Ministries are aware of the CFS work and policy products – as well as their potential impact on the national policy-making processes – especially when interacting with partners at country level.
- Technical dialogues and thematic webinars could also be convened between Rome Permanent Representations and Missions based in UN hubs under the umbrella of the CFS intensifying existing engagement.
- Advisory Group members should:
  - Ensure timely correspondence, including through periodic updates, on all CFS-related matters.
  - Further actively engage in the Advisory Group, OEWGs and TTTs, as appropriate.
  - Strengthen internal communications and preparation to CFS processes/activities.
  - Enhance advocacy efforts and disseminate the results of CFS work through various channels (e.g., publications, meetings, seminars, etc.).

## **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**

### **1. Contribution to CFS activities**

IFAD's role within CFS is to provide strategic guidance around the CFS objectives and workplan. IFAD works closely with CFS to support the formulation of CFS policy recommendations, participate in the Committee's Advisory Group, and lend IFAD staff expertise to the related technical workstreams and open-ended working groups (such as: on the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition; Recommendations on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches; Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment) to support the Committee's Multi-Year Programme of Work 2020-2023, which focused on the areas of gender, youth and data. In addition to advisory and technical contributions, IFAD provides an annual financial contribution of US\$500,000 in cash to CFS in the form of a small regular grant to support its activities and reinforce IFAD's commitment. Since 2014, the RBAs have provided funding for the CFS Secretariat on a regular basis with a total biennial budget of US\$4,050,000, which is meant to be divided equally among the three agencies.

Key achievements from IFAD's strategic engagement with CFS include:

- i. Contributing to CFS strategic direction through the Bureau and Advisory Group (B/AG) meetings, actively contributing to important discussions around food security. In particular, this has enabled

- IFAD to advocate for longer-term responses and coordinated actions towards addressing crisis in the context of the war in Ukraine;
- ii. United Nations Food Systems Summit. In this context IFAD has advocated for the use of CFS products and further collaboration between CFS and UNFSS hub;
  - iii. Contributing to the development, operationalization and promotion of CFS products;
  - iv. Promoting rural transformation and sustainable investment in smallholder farmers in the context of the current crisis;
  - v. Organization of an information session to inform staff on IFAD's engagement in the CFS, where the Chair participated;
  - vi. Participated in the plenary and 7 side events in CFS50 and co-led the session on international rural women's day.

## **2. Use, application and dissemination of CFS outcomes**

IFAD has explicitly referenced CFS products such as the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) in how-to-do land tenure toolkits (for youth and gender) and the IFAD's Rural Youth Action Plan 2021-2028. Additionally, IFAD's use of CFS products can be seen in the recently developed IFAD/FAO online peer-to-peer training programme called GeoTech4Tenure. This programme aims to enhance the capacity of IFAD and FAO country and project teams and their partners, in order to secure tenure rights as a key factor for rural transformation and social inclusion in a manner that is consistent with the principles of the VGGTs. To further facilitate the utilization and dissemination of CFS products, IFAD launched the CFS database in October 2020, where all CFS recommendations are readily accessible online. The aim of the database was to assist in expanding the use and application of CFS products, particularly in IFAD's policy dialogue with borrowing-country governments. In an effort to increase the visibility of CFS and the database within IFAD, an internal learning session was organized in May 2022 to inform staff of IFAD's engagement with CFS.

## **3. Voluntary commitments for 2023**

While IFAD recognizes the CFS platform as a representative platform to collectively discuss critical policy principles and ways to combat the global food security crisis, the Fund also acknowledges that there is still potential to improve both the visibility and utility of the CFS platform. To this end, IFAD will continue to encourage the Committee to engage in ongoing multilateral mechanisms and relevant global initiatives to promote CFS knowledge-sharing at all levels.

Additionally, IFAD is committed to ensuring that the discussions of CFS continue to be inclusive and relevant to on-the-ground operations. Looking ahead, IFAD will continue to support and guide CFS by actively contributing to the B/AG, provide experience and technical support to the formulation and implementation of the MyPOW, and support the CFS annual plenary. In addition, IFAD will enhance the usage and dissemination of CFS policy guidance at the country level; develop a feedback loop to assess the accessibility and usability of CFS policy products on the ground; design a tool to capture the

dissemination and utilization of the CFS products; and work to utilize CFS knowledge and policy products in the UNFSS follow-up and crisis response for long-term transformation.

#### **4. Strengthening the linkages between CFS and the Advisory Group constituencies**

With only eight years left to achieve the 2030 Agenda, IFAD commits to strengthening its partnership and engagement with CFS and its partners to move together to achieve the shared goal of delivering on the Decade of Action and achieving the SDGs by 2030. This reflects IFAD Management's unwavering commitment to CFS' principles and respect for the achievements of this consensus-building institution, as it strives for better world food security.

IFAD will continue to support the CFS B/AG in carrying out its activities, and the development of the new Multi-year Programme of Work 2024-2027, promote the use of CFS products at country level, and support the organization of CFS51 and the organization of the special celebration on the International Day of Rural Women.

#### **5. Success stories**

CFS' voluntary principles and guidelines are informed by IFAD's own work and underpin IFAD's own efforts towards food systems transformation. IFAD is committed to supporting the Member States in utilizing CFS products when relevant and applicable to translate these principles and guidelines into concrete progress for the smallholder farmers and rural poor.

IFAD has explicitly referenced CFS products such as the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) in how-to-do land tenure toolkits (for youth and gender) and the IFAD's Rural Youth Action Plan 2021-2028. Additionally, IFAD's use of CFS products can be seen in the recently developed IFAD/FAO online peer-to-peer training programme called GeoTech4Tenure. This programme aims to enhance the capacity of IFAD and FAO country and project teams and their partners, in order to secure tenure rights as a key factor for rural transformation and social inclusion in a manner that is consistent with the principles of the VGGTs.

## **UN Nutrition**

### **1. Contribution to CFS activities**

UN-Nutrition is an ad-hoc member of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) Advisory group and in 2022 actively engaged in CFS activities to make sure nutrition (through one UN voice) is highlighted in relevant workstreams and to strengthen the linkages between CFS work and other UN System processes in the area of nutrition. The UN-Nutrition Executive Secretary participated in all Advisory group meetings of 2022 and, when relevant, facilitated engagement and inputs from other UN Agencies that are not part of the Advisory group.

Throughout 2022, the Secretariat also attended the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Security & Nutrition (VGFSN) core group meetings, providing updates on behalf of members, when requested, and ensuring linkages with other relevant initiatives, such as the Coalition of Action on Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems (HDSFS).

At the 50th session of the CFS Plenary, UN-Nutrition was one of the co-organizers of virtual side event #30 Healthy diets from sustainable food systems. The foundation for human, social, and economic capital development in Africa. The event took place on Thursday 13 October and aimed at highlighting opportunities to leverage existing CFS-related resources and harnessing the critical role of youth, building on the momentum of the HDSFS Coalition and the African Union Year of Nutrition (AU YoN) and inspiring Member States to increase their commitments towards delivering healthy diets from sustainable food systems.

Towards the end of the year, the UN-Nutrition Secretariat partnered with CFS to submit a proposal for a high level panel at the 15th Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in Berlin in early 2023 on “Coherent policies, efficient actions: How to address the global food crisis”. The event was accepted and took place on 20 January 2023.

## **2. Use, application and dissemination of CFS outcomes**

The UN-Nutrition Secretariat makes sure to distribute CFS outcomes and reports to relevant members, including beyond the Rome-based Agencies (RBAs) and WHO, who are already part of the Advisory Group. It is important to note that RBAs representatives attending these meetings are not the nutrition focal points, so UN-Nutrition works to make sure the nutrition voice of various UN agencies can feed into relevant CFS discussions.

With regard to CFS products, UN-Nutrition has been particularly active in promoting the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (VGFSN) both at global and country levels. In February 2022, at the 60th Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD60), UN-Nutrition co-organized the event ‘Working together in 2022 towards realizing food and nutrition commitments’ during which the CFS Chair was invited to speak about the implementation of the Guidelines.

In November 2022, the UN-Nutrition Journal on Transforming Nutrition was published, including an article co-authored by Prof. Jessica Fanzo and Emilio Colonnelli from the CFS Secretariat on the ‘food systems approach’ that is proposed in the VGFSN. The article also presents a concrete example of how the VGFSN are being used at country level.

Finally, in 2022, UN-Nutrition finalized A guidance note on nutrition for United Nations country teams, their government counterparts and other stakeholders (published in early 2023); the note helps

integrating nutrition across the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) cycle and refers to the VGFSN as an important tool for governments and relevant stakeholders.

Throughout the year, UN-Nutrition facilitated outreach in several international meetings, contributing to increasing awareness about CFS and its products beyond Rome, including at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP27). CFS products and activities are also widely promoted through the several UN-Nutrition outreach channels (landing page, e-newsletters and e-alerts, social media, etc).

### **3. Voluntary commitments for 2023**

UN-Nutrition will continue to promote CFS products, especially in countries, through its close collaboration with UN staff at country and regional level. For example, in the second half of 2023, UN-Nutrition will organize regional webinars to further promote its Guidance note, which also refers to the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (VGFSN).

In Q1 of 2023, the UN-Nutrition Secretariat, the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, and SUN Secretariat organized two clinics for UN Resident Coordinators (RCOs) and Country Teams (UNCTs) of 10 countries aimed at creating a shared understanding of how effective policy and strategic food systems actions can be used to deliver healthy and sustainable diets and good nutrition for all. Relevant resources were shared with the participants, including the CFS VGFSN. In addition, UN-Nutrition, being a member of the Coalition of Action on Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems for Children and All (HDSFS), is well positioned to ensure synergies and identify opportunities for collaboration, for example with regard to function 1 of the HDSFS Coalition on “Aligning policy action at country level for collective impact” and the implementation of the recommendations included in the VGFSN. A concrete example could be to support the organization of peer-to-peer learning/thematic sessions to enhance information sharing on utilization of the VGFSN two years after their endorsement at the 47th CFS Plenary.

In general, UN-Nutrition is ready to support CFS in the organization of intersessional thematic meetings about its policy products to enhance interaction with relevant actors beyond Rome, increase awareness of the work of the CFS, and promote uptake. UN-Nutrition has more than 15 members among UN agencies, funds and programmes and can thus build on their technical expertise and comparative advantage to support implementation of CFS products by Member States.

### **4. Strengthening the linkages between CFS and the Advisory Group constituencies**

Governments have the primary responsibility to strengthen the linkages between CFS and actors on the ground as well as ensure CFS products are well received and used at country level.

UN Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UN Country teams (UNCTs) are important actors to ensure policy coherence and coordination at country level and, as mentioned in other sections of this report, UN-Nutrition works closely with them as part of its country efforts to ensure coordinated UN action for

nutrition. UN-Nutrition is available to support the CFS in strengthening linkages with UN country offices in order to increase knowledge about the work of the CFS at country level.

## **World Health Organization (WHO)**

### **1. Contribution to CFS Activities**

WHO is an active member of the Bureau and Advisory Group advocating for nutrition and health considerations in the work of the CFS. As co-lead of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016 – 2025), WHO promotes nutrition through the six action areas of the Nutrition Decade: 1) Sustainable resilient food systems for healthy diets; 2) Health systems providing universal coverage of essential nutrition actions; 3) Social protection and nutrition education; 4) trade and investment for improved nutrition; 5) Safe and supportive environments for nutrition at all ages; and 6) Strengthened governance and accountability for nutrition. WHO has provided the AG with updates, notably a debrief on the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021 outcomes, presentation of the WHO 2021 annual report, the work of the WHO Executive Board, World Health Assembly and the health-related response to the war in Ukraine and its impact on global food security.

### **2. Use, application and dissemination of CFS outcomes**

#### **Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (CFS 47, 2021)**

Regarding CFS policy convergence work, a focus of engagement was on the follow-up of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines for Food Systems and Nutrition (CFS VGFSyN), CFS's contribution to the Nutrition Decade and aiming to address the existing policy fragmentation between food, agriculture and health sectors. With regards to the communication on the CFS VGFSyN to WHO constituencies; WHO provided the opportunity for the CFS Secretariat to speak in the virtual webinar during the WHO's Health Talks on Food Safety, where the CFS Secretary presented the CFS VGFSyN in the session Empowering consumers to access safe food, 8 June 2022, co-organized with Consumers International.

<https://foodsafety.whohealthtalks.org/talks/how-to-support-consumers-to-make-safer-food-choices/>

### **3. Voluntary commitments for 2023**

WHO will engage in the Open-Ended Working Group on data on food security and nutrition.

WHO will support the preparation of the CFS51 Annual Session (particularly on the ICN2/Nutrition Decade progress reporting)

WHO will engage in the development of the new CFS Work programme (MYPOW)

WHO will continue to promote the voluntary guidelines on food systems and nutrition



#### 4. Strengthening the linkages between the Committee and the Advisory Group constituencies

WHO has also emphasized the need for increased collaboration and potential joint convening of technical dialogues between the Geneva and Rome permanent missions under the umbrella of and facilitated by CFS. This could be done in preparation for the agenda item on ICN2/UN decade of Nutrition of the CFS51

Further explore engagement with country offices from various UN Agencies, Resident Coordinators' Offices and UN-Nutrition country teams and promote the work conducted by the CFS.

### UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food

#### 1. Contribution to CFS Activities

The Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, took part in six AG Bureau meetings taking place from January to September 2022. He contributed to the substantive segments dealing with the global coordinated response to the food crisis, that started in the AG Bureau after the Russian invasion of Ukraine followed by the production of notes by the HLPE and the FAO. The SR has regularly updated the AG Bureau on the activities and processes related to the Right to Food taking place in Geneva or NY.

The SR contributed with written inputs to the Gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment "0 draft" guidelines. He sent written inputs on the elements to be included in the Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems "0 draft".

He contributed to negotiations of the Gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment Guidelines and on Youth engagement and employment in agriculture recommendations. He provided regular written inputs to the text and attended the OEWG and negotiations sessions (21 February, 21 April, 4-6 May, 7-8 June, 27 June- 1th July, 25-28 July, 5 October). Thanks to his inputs the Right to Food has been widely acknowledged in the documents and a more comprehensive understanding of the meaning of applying a right to food approach to these topics has been fostered. He monitored the HLPE Critical, Emerging and Enduring issues elaboration process, attended the launch of the HLPE Data Report and provided input to the HLPE consultation on the V0 draft of the report on Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition.

#### 2. Use, application and dissemination of CFS outcomes

**Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems for food security and nutrition (CFS 50, 2022)** : The SR used those recommendations in his Reports, speeches, presentations and advocacy activities

**Connecting Smallholders to Markets (CFS 43, 2016):** The SR used the recommendations in his reports and presentations

**Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (CFS 38, 2012)**

**Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of the national food security (2004)**

The SR always mentioned the Guidelines as a wonderful example of a participative process, leading to a meaningful outcome. This is one of the pillars of the SR work, he used to promote them as a guide on how to build right to food action plans at country levels.

### **3. Voluntary commitments for 2023**

Will be available to intervene in the CFS plenary on the substantive segments discussions. He will be active in the preparation of the 20th anniversary of the VG on the Right to Food.

### **4. Strengthening the linkages between the Committee and the Advisory Group constituencies**

The Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food could contribute to strengthen these linkages in his/her field and country visits, where relevant, promoting seminars and working meetings at this purpose. It is also very important to solicit contribution in the monitoring of the implementation phase, which should take place in a more substantive manner, to share experiences, promote mutual learning and strengthening the use and implementation of the CFS products by all the CFS stakeholders. The PSM and the philanthropic foundations could also play a role, particularly engaging in funding outreach and training meetings at country level.

## **The World Bank**

### **1. Contribution to CFS Activities**

In March 2022, Mr van Nieuwkoop presented in the BAG meeting on the substantive segment 'SDG2 and Financing for Sustainable Development' joint with IF AD and the Global Platform for Rural Development. His presentation highlighted the food finance architecture, repurposing of public support to agriculture, and the World Benchmarking Alliance.

In July 2022, Geeta Sethi (Adviser for Agriculture and Food) participated in the CFS special event 'Time to Act Together: Coordinating Policy Responses to the Global Food Crisis' at UNHQ in New York.

In October 2022, Mr van Nieuwkoop led a WBG delegation to CFS 50 in Rome. Mr van Nieuwkoop delivered keynote remarks in the Global Thematic Event on the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI) 'Boosting responsible investment in sustainable agriculture and food systems', where he highlighted opportunities for repurposing public spending and incentivizing private sector investment in sustainability. Mr van Nieuwkoop also delivered remarks in the plenary session 'Data Collection and Analysis Tools', highlighting the value of the 50x2030 initiative, food price monitoring and AMIS, the Food Prices for Nutrition program, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), earth observation data, and the GAFS Dashboard.

In addition, the WBG has been engaged in the workstreams for the VGFSN, the VG on Gender, and the Working Group on Data Collection and Analysis Tools for FNS. The WBG is part of the core group for the CFS VGFSN (with participation in core group meetings in May and October 2022) and is closely following the developments regarding the VG on Gender. Finally, the WBG participated in BAG meetings whenever possible.

## **2. Use, application and dissemination of CFS outcomes**

At the December 2021 N4G Summit, the WBG committed to "Review all agri-food pipeline projects against the CFS VGFSN, to identify opportunities to mainstream nutrition over the next five years." To operationalize this commitment, the Agriculture and Food (AGF) GP initiated a pilot in October 2022 to mainstream the VGFSN across the AGF pipeline portfolio. The pilot involves reviewing projects against the VGFSN guideline 3.2.3- 'promoting nutrition within agriculture and food supply chains' which includes seven recommendations (a to g). Project activities that meet the recommendations are then recorded and are rated on their degree of alignment. As of March 2023, 13 operations have been reviewed under this pilot. For projects with weaker alignment, teams are advised to incorporate the promotion of diversified nutritious foods into relevant project activities. The vision is to use the pilot to develop an integrated process to monitor and steer the AGF portfolio towards increased nutrition-contributing activities. In addition to the pilot, the evidence platform for agrifood systems and nutrition has been shared regularly with all AGF staff.

## **3. Voluntary commitments for 2023**

The WBG continues to implement the pilot to review AGF pipeline projects against the VGFSN. In 2023, our goal would be to integrate this review into our current review processes, to record best practices, and to ensure that these best practices are accessible to WBG task teams in a way which makes a menu of impactful intervention options available to positively influence project design. Furthermore, on the VGFSN, the WBG is working with the CFS secretariat to explore the following engagements in 2023: i) a technical presentation of the pilot to the VGFSN core group, ii) a presentation at a BAG meeting, and iii) a DC or Rome joint event with Johns Hopkins and the Swiss Government on application of the VGFSN. While an active early participant in the technical support committee for the VF on Gender, the WBG has taken an observer role in resolving critical differences in the phrasing of certain elements. With a revised and

concerted version now available for consultation, the WBG will continue to work with CFS and the consultation process to finalize the agreement on the important VG on Gender. The WBG will also continue to participate in the OEWG meetings on Data for FNS.

#### **4. Strengthening the linkages between the Committee and the Advisory Group constituencies**

Our ability to join CFS meetings is limited, and depends on possibility to remotely connect at reasonable times of the day.

### **Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)**

#### **1. Contribution to CFS Activities**

CGIAR is represented in the CFS Advisory Group by the Global Directorate, Partnership and Advocacy, led by Dr Juan Lucas Restrepo; participation at the CFS AG has been Dr RD Cooke during 2022, and Mr James Stapleton (Senior Strategic Adviser, Advocacy for Impact, reporting to Dr Restrepo) from March 2023. Participation in these meetings focused on preparation for and participation in the global CFS meeting, CFS 50, and related events and inputs.

#### **CFS 50**

CGIAR intervened/ participated in several side events and plenaries. CGIAR's Executive Managing Director, Claudia Sadoff intervened in plenary Session II: Ministerial Segment: Coordinating Policy Responses to the Global Food Crisis, The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022. Claudia also intervened in the plenary Special Event on 13 October. In that Event, the Director of the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, stated: "The 2030 Agenda cannot be achieved without the transformation of food systems." This was an apt setting for Claudia's intervention.

CGIAR staff were involved in the CFS work-stream on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment (session III). Session IV was on **Critical, Emerging and Enduring Issues for Food Security and Nutrition**, CGIAR had contributed to the on-line phases and in CFS B/AG meeting discussions.

CGIAR's Dr Brian King participated in Session V Strengthening Data Collection and Analysis. Dr Cooke participated in the Private Sector Mechanism's (PSM of the CFS) corresponding session that evening. CGIAR participated /co-organised 4 of the 32 Side events to CFS 50.

#### **Principal related contributions**

**CFS High Level Panel in the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (January).**

Ruth Meinzen-Dick of IFPRI participated; Ruth had worked in the development of the VGGTs and contributed to the operationalization guides on commons and gender.

**Contributions to HLPE consultations** i) on reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition ii) on Critical Emerging and Enduring issues

**HLPF Side Event 2022: Food System Transformations as 2030 Agenda Accelerators.**

**‘Time to Act Together: Coordinating Policy Responses to the Global Food Crisis’;** event supporting SG’s Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy, and Finance.

**The Transformative Partnership Platform on Agroecology (related to CFS work stream)**

## 2. Use, application and dissemination of CFS outcomes

The use and dissemination of CFS policy products is a mechanism for the implementation of SDGs. SDGs and FSN provide the overall strategic direction, research priorities and results framework for the CGIAR Portfolio. The uptake and impact of CGIAR programmes in the policy sector is the link to CFS outcomes, and the way of promoting appropriate CFS products.

A major channel of CGIAR impact derives from the contribution of its research results and outcomes to policies and investments at national and international levels. In the 2021 Annual Performance Report 2021 (published in August 2022, available on [cgiar.org](http://cgiar.org)), CGIAR reported a total of 95 policies, legal instruments, investments or curricula informed by CGIAR research. 54 showed evidence of research findings being taken up by next users and 40 involved a policy being passed or a law enacted. Policies in 2021 were linked to 13 United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Significantly, 34 related to SDG17 (partnerships for the goals), 41 to SDG13 (climate action), and 35 to SDG2 (zero hunger). In 2021, 73 of achievements under this indicator were policies and strategies, 9 were budgets and investments, 5 were curricula, and 8 were legal instruments.

Partnerships are at the core of CGIAR’s work; these involve a wide range of partners, from policymakers in governments and international agencies, to research collaborators in research and academic institutions, as well as public- and private-sector companies and civil society institutions. CGIAR highlighted this year, 261 partnerships; 40% of these partnerships were focused on research, 19% on capacity development, 22% on delivery and 10% on policy.

CGIAR seeks to deepen its engagement with National Agricultural Research and Innovation Systems, working more closely with government agencies, academic institutions, research centres, private sector, and civil society actors. Consequently, CGIAR developed in 2022 a new Partnerships and Advocacy Engagement Framework.

In 2020, a total of 718,136 people were trained by CGIAR: 47% women; 53% men. A total of 353 PhD students were incorporated in CGIAR research initiatives in 2021, 41% of them were women.

A complete list of these outcomes and policy products is given in this CGIAR Annual Performance Report 2021.

### 3. Voluntary commitments for 2023

CFS will develop for CFS 51, policy guidance on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment (GEWGE), and on Strengthening Data Collection and Analysis. Both work-streams are based on work starting in 2021. CGIAR will work in support of the realisation and uptake of these policy products via the complementary elements of its portfolio:

#### GEWGE

Several CGIAR staff are involved in this work-stream: Nicoline de Haan (Director, Gender Equality, Youth and Social Inclusion Platform), Steven Cole, (IITA) and Lynn Brown (IFPRI and Harvest Plus, who also participated in CFS 50).

CGIAR advanced in 2022 with the development of the new research and innovation portfolio comprising 32 CGIAR Initiatives. The most relevant CGIAR initiative for GEWGE is the Gender Equality Initiative. This aims to use gender research to address the four dimensions of gender inequality by applying gender-transformative approaches to harmful norms; co-designing and bundling socio-technical innovations for women's empowerment; leveraging social protection to increase women's access to and control over resources; and promoting inclusive governance and policies for increased resilience. The Gender, Equality, Youth, and Social Inclusion Platform, established in 2022 and led by Dr de Haan, is guiding mainstreaming of this research throughout the 32 initiatives, synthesis of evidence, identification of critical research gaps, and development of CGIAR's research and innovation portfolio.

#### Data Collection

Dr Brian King of CGIAR's Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT represented CGIAR in the Technical Task Team, and in the CFS 50 discussions. The relevant CGIAR Initiative for this work stream is the Digital Innovation Initiative. This develops and supports digital innovations to stimulate the inclusive, sustainable transformation of food, land and water systems in the areas of investments that policymakers could make to close the digital divide: information delivery systems that allow more people to take action against predicted risks, and ways for partner organizations and marginalized communities to enhance digital capabilities, access resources and opportunities. This initiative built on the CGIAR Platform for Big Data in Agriculture (led by Dr King\*), which operated for 5 years to 2021.

CGIAR has a presence in over 100 countries with a deep knowledge of their customs, values and market operations. The complementarity between the CGIAR portfolio and the aims of these CFS policy products enables uptake and impact.

\* now CGIAR's Head of Digital & Data Innovation Accelerator.

#### 4. Strengthening the linkages between the Committee and the Advisory Group constituencies

The One CGIAR transition, outlined in the 2020 and 2021 CGIAR reports to the CFS, is based on the premise that CGIAR's people, together with partners, can have more impact when brought together under fewer institutional boundaries and supported by empowered management, clear governance and an integrated operational structure. CGIAR is stepping up its engagement and consultations, striving to ensure the views of valued country and regional partners are appropriately incorporated. Linkages with Advisory Group constituencies will also benefit.

CGIAR advanced in 2022 with the development of the new research and innovation portfolio comprising 32 CGIAR Initiatives aimed at transforming food, land, and water systems in a climate crisis. This portfolio will deliver CGIAR's 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy. This places CGIAR in the evolving global context, which demands a systems transformation approach for food, land, and water systems. That demand for transformation is evidenced this year by the UNFSS progress on implementing national food systems transformation pathways; the HLPE document Critical, Emerging and Enduring Issues (C.E.E.I) for Food Security and Nutrition approved at CFS 50; the early theme development for CFS MYPoW 2024-2027; the CFS 50 Special Event 'Food Systems Transformations: Building Long-term Resilience to Global Crises'; and the HLPE work on 'Reducing inequalities for FSN'.

All of CGIAR's Initiatives can be found on the CGIAR web site, in the Portfolio Explorer, which outlines the scope and aims of the Initiatives. This new portfolio creates positive impacts in five areas: 1) nutrition, health, and food security; 2) poverty reduction, livelihoods, and jobs; 3) gender equality, youth, and social inclusion; 4) climate adaptation and mitigation; and 5) environmental health and biodiversity.

CGIAR is aligning all work with its new Partnerships and Advocacy Engagement Framework, which sets out the guiding principles, systems and approaches for partners and CGIAR to achieve common goals. All of this enables also strengthening the linkages between CGIAR and CFS. Juan Lucas Restrepo, as Global Director, Partnerships and Advocacy, and Director General, The Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT has the leadership of this Framework. Both he and James Stapleton are based in Rome, which facilitates CFS

#### 5. Success stories

Indicative examples related to FSN are given below. These are drawn from the CGIAR Annual Performance Report 'Harvesting Research and Innovation for Impact'. A fuller series of success stories is given there.

##### 1. Climate services help farmers translate information into action in Latin America

CGIAR has co-developed, tested, and scaled climate services approaches that have been used for agricultural decision-making by more than 420 institutions in 11 countries in Latin America, reaching 501,000 farmers. Local stakeholders and farmers in Latin America generally have limited access to

agro-climatic information or mechanisms to relate this information to local climate impacts. This lack of access prevents stakeholders from translating information into actionable knowledge.

## 2. Improved capacity and management increases sales of potato for Kenyan farmers

The International Potato Centre, and Kenyan partners implemented the Accelerated Value Chain Development (AVCD) program to strengthen the capacities of potato farmers and stakeholders. In Kenya, potatoes are produced by 800,000 smallholders, with another 2.5 million people involved in the value chain. Despite the importance of potatoes, yields plummeted from 22 tons per ha in 2010 to less than 10 tons by 2019. To address this challenge, the AVCD program reached 74,690 smallholder farmers with potato value chain agricultural and nutrition-related interventions.

## 3. Better breeding research and partnerships help farmers grow more stress-tolerant maize in Africa.

Innovations in rapid-cycle maize breeding and variety replacements have delivered improved maize varieties to farmers across Africa. These innovations help maize systems adapt to increasing climate variability and facilitate a farmer-accessible, competitive seed sector. Stress-tolerant maize is a key intervention to improve the livelihoods of millions of resource-constrained smallholder farmers, offset potential losses under climate change, and sustainably meet the needs of future generations.

## 4. Improved grain, legume, and cereal crop varieties have been widely adopted across South Asia and Africa

Research by CGIAR indicates that 17.64 million households have adopted improved Grain Legumes and Dryland Cereals (GLDC) crop varieties on more than 15.37 million hectares of land in GLDC's 13 priority countries. Numerous studies have been conducted in the past to document the adoption of GLDC crops, but there have been gaps in the analysis and synthesis of these findings. To better understand these results, CGIAR carried out a review of 69 impact studies in 35 independent country crop combinations.

## **Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism (CSM)**

Following the *CFS Rules of Procedure*<sup>2</sup>, and the Guide of preparation to the reporting exercise<sup>3</sup> where we highlight proposed questions, you will find in this text the synthesis of inputs coming from contributions of the Advisory Group of the CSIPM during the sessions which took place during the

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<sup>2</sup> CFS Rules of Procedure, Rule IV, paragraph 4.

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/Docs2223/BurAg/230324/CFS\\_BurAG\\_2023\\_03\\_24\\_04\\_AG\\_Reporting\\_Exercise\\_2022.pdf](https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/Docs2223/BurAg/230324/CFS_BurAG_2023_03_24_04_AG_Reporting_Exercise_2022.pdf)



year 2022, and in general the contribution to the CFS activities, the use application and dissemination of CFS outcomes, the linkages between the committee and the Advisory Group constituencies and success stories.

## 1. Contribution to CFS Activities

### 1.1. Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems workstream

1.1.1. The CFS zero draft of the Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems, released in February 2022, was the starting point for expressing the shortcomings contained in the documents of this workstream, and offering recommendations to bring about the real transformations that young people desperately need.

The CSIPM Youth working group (WG) comments on the zero draft of the CFS Policy Recommendations are firmly grounded in the empirical evidence detailed in the HLPE's report "Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems" and seek to achieve radical transformation through building economies of well-being, realizing food sovereignty and promoting youth agency, supporting agroecology and climate justice, and centering human rights and responsible governance.

Considering Youth are the future of our food systems and their engagement in food systems is of the utmost importance, a paradigm shift is urgently needed to address the compounding social, political, economic, health, and ecological crises of today<sup>4</sup>.

1.1.2. On 18 March 2022, the CSIPM submitted written comments on the zero draft<sup>5</sup>.

CSM Youth comments on the zero draft of CFS Policy Recommendations are firmly grounded in the empirical evidence detailed in the HLPE's report "Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems" and seek to achieve radical transformation through, building economies of well-being, realizing food sovereignty and promoting youth agency, supporting agroecology and climate justice, and centering human rights and responsible governance.

1.1.3. On 15 June 2022, the CSIPM hosted a virtual public briefing with the participation of CSIPM youth constituency speakers from peasants' and small-scale food producer organizations, Indigenous Peoples and other CSIPM constituencies, to present the key priorities to be addressed during the CFS Policy Recommendations negotiations, and the importance to engage youth in agriculture and food systems.

1.1.4. During the side event on the CFS 50, under the title "Our right, our bodies, our futures: Youth voices on the future of food systems and the CFS youth policy recommendations", youth from around

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/csm-youth-comments-on-the-zero-draft-of-cfs-policy-recommendations/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CSM-Youth-WG-Comments-on-Zero-Draft-EN-2.pdf>

the world presented visions for the future of food systems and assessed the CFS's Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems policy product and its potential to contribute to realizing this future.

Topics covered included:

1. The need for land and power redistribution
2. Creating enabling environments for agroecology and diversified food production
3. Shortening supply chains and supporting local and territorial markets.
4. Climate justice
5. Restitution and reparations to historically marginalized peoples, including Indigenous Peoples
6. Confronting narratives of digitalization and entrepreneurship
7. Ensuring dignified livelihoods for all youth
8. Realizing the human rights of youth, in all their diversities.

1.1.5. Statement and Youth Reservations on the CFS policy recommendations.

The CSIPM supported the endorsement of the final version of the [CFS Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition](#) . However, this [explanatory statement](#) expresses the CSIPM's reservations on the final text of the policy product.<sup>6</sup>

1.2. Women and Gender Diversities working group of the CSIPM

The Women and Gender Diversities Working Group is the CSIPM space of policy articulation and convergence of women and LGBTI movements and organizations. It is a space to build and strengthen, at the global level, the autonomy and self-determination of women and LBGTI individuals to deconstruct the patriarchal narrative that considers them as mere victims and not agents of change, and to operate a radical transformation of our food systems. It is a space to exchange demands, visions, struggles, expectations and ambitions to build convergence towards CFS policy processes and CSIPM initiatives. The Women and Gender Diversities working group is a safe space open to all women, men and non-binary gender identities. The Working Group leads CSIPM's engagement towards the policy process of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women and Girl's empowerment in the context of Food Security and Nutrition (GEWGE) which is expected to be finalized by October 2023.

In April 2022, the Working Group was renamed from Women Working Group to Women and Gender Diversities Working Group to better reflect members' experiences and needs and include the diversity of gender identities and sexual orientations.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/youth-reservations-on-the-cfs-policy-recommendations/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/policy-working-groups/women/>

1.2.1. From September to November 2021 the CFS held [six regional consultations](#), with the aim to gather inputs, comments, and suggestions on how to best align the Guidelines on Gender equality and Women and Girls' Empowerment with regional/national priorities and needs. The outcomes of the CFS regional consultations and the outcomes of the [CFS Global electronic consultation](#) on the [zero draft of the Guidelines](#) fed the preparation of the First Draft of the CFS Guidelines. The CSIPM submitted written inputs on this first draft by 18 February 2022<sup>8</sup>.

1.2.2. On the 27 April, the CSIPM hosted a public briefing. Speakers from peasants' and small-scale food producer organizations, Indigenous Peoples, and other CSIPM constituencies, mobilized for Gender Equality and Women's and Girl's Empowerment, presented their main expectations and proposals for the upcoming negotiations.

1.2.3. Global Pride Day (28 June 2022). On the occasion of the Global Pride Day, the CSIPM women and Gender Diversities Working Group delegation participating at the negotiations of the Voluntary Guidelines at CFS held a public action to call for the recognition of all their diversities in this policy product<sup>9</sup>.

1.2.4. New statement delivered on July 22<sup>10</sup>. The Statement was delivered by Deirdre "Dee" Woods on behalf of the CSIPM during the third round of negotiations of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment. In the voice of a participant who embodies oppression and exclusion in many of its forms, attention was drawn to the turn taken by the progressive contents of the documents produced up to that point, drawing attention to the need to advance them without omitting the categories constructed by the collective.

1.2.5. The working group organized a side event in the margins of the 50<sup>th</sup> CFS Plenary Session entitled "[Intersectionality, Gender Equality and Right to food](#)". The main key message echoed by speakers at the event focused on intersectionality. In fact, recognizing the impact of multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination on the enjoyment of key human rights, such as the right to food, is an essential precondition to designing effective gender-transformative policy measures that simultaneously advance gender equality and enhance food security and nutrition<sup>11</sup>.

1.2.6. Statement on CFS Gender Equality and Women's and girls' Empowerment<sup>12</sup>. Through the statement, the CSIPM strongly propose that the CFS organises special sessions in which experts (i.e. UN officials, Special Rapporteurs, UN Independent Experts, UN WGs, academics, specialized civil society

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/Docs2122/Gender/OEWG-22-02-21/csm.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/statement-on-the-occasion-of-the-global-pride-day/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/csipm-statement-during-the-negotiations-of-the-cfs-guidelines-on-gender-equality-and-womens-and-girls-empowerment/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/intersectionality-gender-equality-and-right-to-food-cfs-50-side-event/>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/women-and-gender-diversities-working-group-statement-on-cfs-gender-equality-and-womensand-girls-empowerment/>

organizations, etc.) can present evidence to inform successive debates among CFS Members and participants. Given that the GEWE process did not benefit from a High-Level Panel of Experts' (HLPE) report, these meetings were actually already planned and budgeted for, but never took place.

1.2.7. Statement of the WG entitled “Violence against women prevents the full realization of the Right to food”. The statement demands a comprehensive and inclusive CFS Voluntary Guidelines process with support from specialists in a wide range of intersecting issues that prevent the realization of the right to food.<sup>13</sup>

1.2.8. The process involved three rounds of negotiations during 2022, from 4 to 6 May and 7 to 8 June; from 27 June to 1 July; and from 25 to 28 July. During these negotiation processes, the CSIPM participated actively, with more than thirty participants in total during the three meetings, contributing central elements to the discussion during each round. Participants came from all 11 sectors and all sub regions of the CSIPM.

### 1.3. Global Food Governance Working Group

The role of the Global Food Governance Working Group is to support the CSIPM Coordination Committee, the Advisory Group as well as the whole CSIPM transversally across other Working Groups on issues related to the role of the CFS in the overall food governance architecture.

1.3.1. In September 2022, through the Launch of the report entitled [\*Voices from the ground 2: transformative solutions to the global systemic food crises\*](#), speakers from different CSIPM constituencies, UN agencies, and governments spoke about how to respond to the new layer of the global food crisis, based on lived experiences on the ground and people’s policy demands. The event provided a space to exchange on how to build a globally coordinated response and the role of the CFS.<sup>14</sup>

1.3.2. In September 2022, the CSIPM issued a Declaration entitled “Grassroots impacts of COVID-19, conflicts, and crises on the right to food and food sovereignty in Africa”.<sup>15</sup>

1.3.3. CSIPM report “Voices from the ground 2: transformative solutions to the global systemic food crises”. When COVID-19 erupted in 2020, the CSIPM conducted popular consultations and reached out to different constituencies in all regions. Based on peoples’ evidence, the CSIPM published a report entitled [\*“Voices from the Ground: From Covid-19 to Radical Transformation of Food Systems”\*](#), in which it advocated for the strengthening of human rights-based solutions to the global food crises, by placing the

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<sup>13</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/violence-against-women-prevents-the-full-realisation-of-their-right-to-food/>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/webinar-and-report-launch-responding-to-the-new-layer-of-global-food-crisis/>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/declaration-grassroots-impacts-of-covid-19-conflicts-and-crisis-on-the-right-to-food-and-food-sovereignty-in-africa/>

CFS at the centre of the global policy response. The CFS did not adopt this role, and in 2022 the war in Ukraine added another layer to the systemic food crises, as food and fuel prices spiraled, exacerbating hunger. In response, in 2022 the CSIPM reached out to its constituencies once again with another round of popular consultations on grassroots impacts of COVID-19, conflicts, and crises on the right to food and food sovereignty. The consultation, which took place by means of an online questionnaire and 20 hours of video conferencing sessions, garnered 539 contributions from 63 countries across the globe, in Thai, Arabic, Urdu, Filipino, Russian, Portuguese, Spanish, French and English.<sup>16</sup> The synthesis of these consultations gave birth to the report “Voices from the ground 2”.

1.3.4. On 29 September 2022, CSIPM organizations demanded a globally coordinated policy response to tackle the food crisis.<sup>17</sup>

1.3.5. CSIPM Statement on Food Crisis Response during CFS 50.18 During the *Ministerial Segment on coordinating policy responses to the global food crisis*, on the [first day of the CFS 50 Plenary Session](#), André Luzzi, from Habitat International and a member of the [CSIPM Coordination Committee](#), presented key findings from the recent [global report Voices from the ground 2: Transformative solutions to the global systemic food crisis](#).

#### 1.4. Participation in the sessions of the Advisory Group during the year 2022

Six Advisory Group and CFS Bureau meetings took place during the year, during which the CSIPM participated by contributing elements to the discussions and follow-up of the tasks.<sup>19</sup>

## 2. Use, application and dissemination of CFS outcomes

The use and dissemination of CFS policy tools has been an intrinsic task of the CSIPM. On the one hand, using them in the regions to advance local and regional advocacy, and on the other, using the work of the CSIPM to differentiate its proposals from those that have not been an integral reflection of the CSIPM's contributions to the work streams. In this report, we would like to highlight an important milestone in the way in which the CSIPM's own tools have impacted the context in which the CFS makes decisions.

2.1. “You do politics, we go hungry” is the title of the advocacy campaign the CSIPM launched in December 2022 to create awareness and call on governments for urgent action on the reconvened CFS 50, and on social movements and individuals to raise their voices and demand their representatives to join a globally coordinated policy response.<sup>20</sup> This can be seen as a way of urgently calling for the fulfilment of CFS

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<sup>16</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/layout-CSIPM-report-EN.pdf>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/civil-society-and-indigenous-peoples-organisations-demand-a-globally-coordinated-policyresponse-to-tackle-food-crisis%ef%bf%bc/>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/csipm-statement-on-food-crisis-response-during-cfs-50/>

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/policy-processes/cfs-advisory-group-and-bureau/>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.csm4cfs.org/civil-society-and-indigenous-peoples-urge-the-committee-on-world-food-security-to-respond-to-the-global-food-crisis/>

objectives to advance its recommendations and policies and to have an impact with the dissemination of its products.

### 3. **Strengthening the linkages between the Committee and the Advisory Group constituencies**

The way to strengthen the relationship between the advisory group constituencies and the bureau during 2022, was centered on the discussion supported by the CSIPM regarding the substantive segments of the AG sessions that should be incorporated as a constituent element of the space, in direct relation to the bureau, in order to contribute to a democratic and multilateral, participatory and broad-based support to determine the progress of the CFS. The AG will thus fulfill its role of advice, and support to the final decisions of the Bureau in the CFS.

This proposal to integrate elements for the coordinated global response, is a way of *ensuring a two-way exchange of information during CFS inter-sessional periods*.

In the sense to *Assist the Bureau in the identification of important developments in the area of food security and nutrition at global, regional and national levels and raise awareness towards the ongoing activities carried out by the different entities represented in each category*, the best example of CSIPM support is the input coming from the regional consultations described before.

Finally, the aspect of dissemination of CFS outcomes and deliberations, are reflected on the statements, movements and campaigns oriented by the CSIPM, and the outcomes produced by the interaction between the constituencies and the other participants of the CFS.

## **Private Sector Mechanism (PSM)**

### 4. **Contribution to CFS Activities**

Throughout the year, PSM is active in the various CFS workstreams contributing regularly in meetings, written submissions, and raising of \$494,175 USD to support the coordination and participation of private sector at CFS.

- 176 PSM delegates attended CFS50 plenary, drawn from 37 countries
- 15 bilateral meetings held in the margins of CFS50
- Over 1000 attendees in 5 side events organized by PSM members during CFS50
- 120 guests virtually attended the Gender Roundtable organized by the PSM in April
- 425 guests virtually attended 5 youth forums organized by the PSM in May
- 63 PSM members and special guests attended the PSM AGM in June, with 37 of whom joined in-person in Rome

- 7 bilateral meetings held in the margins of the PSM AGM in June
- 45 guests attended the SDG Implementation reception held in the margins of the AGM in June
- Global Crisis Response Group, Food Workstream Network monthly meetings held between April and October 2022.
- Rome Tour meetings held between 8 - 14 September with representatives of FAO, CFS, WFP, International Chamber of Commerce, Missions of the Netherlands, France, and Switzerland.
- Zero Hunger Coalition side event at CFS50 on 10 October: Achieving Zero Hunger: What can Governments and the private sector do in the face of a multidimensional crisis?
- In-person meeting of the Zero Hunger Coalition and the Zero Hunger Private Sector Pledge at CFS50 on 11 October.
- Launch of the G7 Sustainable Supply Chain Initiative Private Sector Report and Open Call for businesses outside of G7 to join the initiative at CFS50 on 12 October.

## 5. Use, application and dissemination of CFS outcomes

- Bimonthly (6) Advisory Group meetings to advise and guide CFS operational planning for CFS events and workstreams were attended to by PSM secretariat.
- The 50th Session of the CFS was held in-person in Rome and virtually on 10-13 October and focused on the 2022 State of Food Security and Nutrition report, Gender workstream path forward, adoption of the Youth Policy Recommendations, CFS Strategic direction towards 2030, data collection and analysis tools, and other organizational matters. Key achievements for the Private Sector Mechanism included:
  - 176 business leaders, including 37 young people, from 37 countries formed the PSM delegation
  - 15 bilateral meetings held in the margins of the CFS
  - 13 interventions were made by PSM in Plenary
  - 5 side events were organized by PSM members, reaching over 1000 attendees in a hybrid mode
  - 5 youth delegates delivered powerful remarks in plenary during the adoption of the Youth policy recommendations
  - 190 guests attended the High-Level Dinner on Data
- In addition to macro committee work and the resumed in-person and hybrid meetings (CFS Plenary, Open-ended Working Group and the Annual General Meeting), PSM contributed to the coordination of the following activities, starting most notably with the Global Crisis Response Group (GCRG).

## 6. Voluntary commitments for 2023

The PSM has effectively raised funding to support the 2023 workplan which consists of:

Core secretariat services; engagement with CFS outreach activities, including the Global Crisis response Group, relevant Food Systems stock-taking opportunities, engagement with core CFS workstreams

organized under the following organizing elements:

- PSM Macro Committee on Gender & Inequality
- PSM Youth Macro Committee
- PSM Data Collection & Monitoring Tools Macro Committee
- PSM Nutrition Macro Committee

A high-level dinner is planned on October 24 in the margins of CFS51 on the theme of Resilient and Inclusive Food Systems. As has become tradition, with the strong participation of the CFS Secretariat, the High Level Dinner provides a forum for senior leadership from the private sector, UN organizations, civil society, ambassadors and leaders from the Rome-based agencies and other sectors to interact with each other and address current Food Security and Nutrition Challenges.

## **7. Strengthening the linkages between the Committee and the Advisory Group constituencies**

PSM suggestions to enhance interaction and increase knowledge of CFS work at country and global level include:

- Greater opportunities both for constituency engagement and CFS events through the biannual FAO Regional Conferences, where relevant.
- Side Events are widely acknowledged as good examples of CFS membership interaction. While back to face-to face side events are encouraged, the virtual events have also allowed for greater regional diversity and PSM encourages some hybrid elements remain.
- For workstreams such as Data and Gender, more regional/sub-regional events are encouraged to tackle context specific issues. This would both allow all CFS members, mechanisms and participants to share local knowledge, ideas and the opportunities for CFS product application, as well as discuss the constraints.
- PSM involvement in CFS Special Events in collaboration continue to provide valuable opportunities to highlight the importance of CFS outputs outside of the CFS environment.

## **8. Success stories**

In preparation for the Data Workstream convergence and related activities, a High-Level Dinner on Data was held as a forum for discussions to feed into the CFS Data Workstream and further the policy recommendations for endorsement at CFS51. The 190 enthusiastic guests included Ambassadors and other representatives of Member States, UN agencies, NGOs, and companies, as well as Deputy Director General of FAO, Beth Bechdol. Discussions were lively and set the tone for engagement in the data workstream, following the HLPE report. The HLD showcased the potential for data collection and analysis to strengthen our food systems and the need to respond to the data gaps in agriculture through data-informed and science-based policies for food security and better nutrition.

Addressing the data gaps and challenges requires greater investment in high quality data, more



actionable data, the use of new sources of data, the creation of an enabling environment, and increased exchange of data to reduce disaster risk. Data was described as having several key steps: prioritization, production, curation & aggregation, analysis, interpretation, and use. This response demonstrates there is certainly an interest and momentum picking up with this workstream, which we are hopeful will continue.

## **Interim - Philanthropic Foundations Mechanism**

Throughout 2022, the three organizations founders of the Philanthropic Foundations Mechanism - Agroecology Fund (AEF), Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), and Global Alliance for the Future of Food (GA) - gave continuity to the proposal to establish the PFM presented in 2021. This included responding to the CFS Chair invitation to consult with members of the Bureau, and to hear comments by members in an informal meeting in July 2022, as well as in a B&AG meeting in September 2022. We have been discussing ever since how to best address the concerns raised by CFS members, and these will be presented in upcoming meetings in 2023. We initiated a selection process to hire a Liaison Advisor for the PFM, and started building a working programme for the 2022-2023 period, which included engaging at CFS programmatic work, and supporting the dissemination and discussion of CFS products within our networks.

### **1. Contribution to CFS Activities**

In parallel, we continued to participate and contribute to the B&AG meetings as ad hoc invites by the CFS Chair, and we observed the negotiating process of the Youth and of the Gender workstreams; we also attended the preliminary discussions of the Data workstream and its Technical Task team. At the CFS50 Plenary Session, our main activity was the public announcement of our efforts to build the Private Philanthropic Mechanism through the side event “Philanthropy in times of crisis: A new approach with the CFS”. This event was very well attended, with many delegations in the room and also served for collecting inputs and discussing how best to connect the philanthropic community with the work of the CFS.

Organizations of the PFM were also co-organizers of the side event “Three Pioneering Examples of Building Resilience through Diversity”, in partnership with IPES-Food, Swissaid, Alliance Biodiversity-CIAT, and Tanzania, which discussed the importance of timely and effective reaction by states and other actors to help farmers and citizens cope with the price spikes on food and agricultural inputs.

### **2. Use, application and dissemination of CFS outcomes**

Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems for food security and nutrition (CFS 50, 2022)

Agroecological and other innovative approaches for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition (CFS 48, 2021)

Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (CFS 47, 2021)

Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS 41, 2014)

Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security (CFS 40, 2013)

Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (CFS 38, 2012)

Gender, food security and nutrition (CFS 37, 2011), Price volatility and food security (CFS 37, 2011)

Land tenure and international investments in agriculture (CFS 37, 2011)

The AEF and the GA have been consistently using the CFS policy recommendations on agroecology and other innovative approaches to support the work of the Agroecology Coalition (Coalition for the Transformation of Food System Through Agroecology), particularly by assisting the policy working group discussions. The GA also used these policy recommendations in their advocacy work at the COP15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, by highlighting how these approaches can support the implementation of the Target 10 of the Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at that meeting.

The Transformational Investing in Food Systems (TIFS) initiative - an allied initiative of the GA and the AEF - also used the above mentioned policy recommendations to develop a Systems Investment Assessment (SIA), and is exploring the use of this tool to assess impact funds and inform investment decisions. More information can be found at:

[www.tifsinitiative.org/investing/](http://www.tifsinitiative.org/investing/)

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation during the past year used CFS products as it follows: Reports and highlights of CFS outcomes documents were prepared and shared internally at BMGF and with other like-minded partners; CFS products and news on CFS activities were disseminated through BMGF partners such as 50x2030, Alliance to End Hunger, Ceres2030/Hesat2030, SDG2 Advocacy Hub; CFS events and outcome documents were an occasion for foundation supported donor conversations, such as the SDG2 Roadmap Working Group of GDPRD.

### **3. Voluntary commitments for 2023**

For 2023, our focus continues to be on: i) building and designing the PFM, including addressing comments, inputs, and suggestions collected in the past months, ii) directly engaging with CFS' working programme, and iii) exploring how to strengthen the connection between our networks with the work of the CFS, both in terms of bringing inputs from the wider philanthropic community, and of disseminating and discussing CFS products and processes within these networks.

In 2023 we intend to address members' concerns about the PFM and actively participate in the CFS51. We will launch a website where we intend to upload all PFM contributions, allowing for stronger transparency and accountability. We have already hired a Liaison Advisor (Ludovica Donati) to make our presence in Rome stronger, complementing the presence of BMGF's focal point, Fabrizio Moscatelli. And we intend to organize an Annual Review after CFS51, to analyze our progress and decide on next steps.

In terms of programmatic work, PFM members are actively participating in the Data workstreams, and the MYPoW discussions, consulting with their networks for inputs whenever possible. We are having initial consultation within our networks on how to contribute to the upcoming Inequalities and Urban and Peri-Urban Food System debates. And we intend to explore how to position ongoing discussions by the philanthropic community on investing in food system transformation with the initiative of the CFS Chair in strengthening coordinated policy responses to the global food crisis.

#### **4. Strengthening the linkages between the Committee and the Advisory Group constituencies**

As already expressed in the ongoing discussions of the MYPoW 2024-2027, to explore different formats of inter-sessional events could strengthen the linkages between the Committee, its members at the country-level, and the Advisory Group constituencies. As it is being done similarly at the CFS Chair initiative of strengthening coordinated policy responses to the global food crisis, deliberative sessions, webinars, and other informal meetings would be interesting ways of engaging country-level actors, and we believe philanthropic organizations would be very interested in engaging in these debates.

As we have underlined in past interventions, an important structural challenge for the achievement of food and nutrition security is adequate access to resources and the lack of coordination amongst regional and global actors supporting their delivery. The CFS could consider additional emphasis on this investment gap in its future work. More tactically, this could be supported by a clearer rationale on why countries should take up the recommendations of the CFS – the inclusive nature of its structure is one component of such a rationale but the CFS could improve its own understanding of the incentives for policy change.