CFS Open Ended Working Group meeting on "Data collection and analysis tools for food security and nutrition", 12 January 2023

Here: GER position on the discussion of inputs to the Zero Draft

General remarks:

- GER thanks the CFS for the preparations of its convergence process on data collection and analysis tools for food security and nutrition.
- The potential in this field is enormous: Data can contribute to improving global food security and nutrition, point out existing and upcoming challenges and play an important role in addressing interlinkages with the climate crisis and biodiversity loss.
- Reliable, quality data is the basis for well-informed, transparent and democratic decision-making by public and private stakeholders.
- The CFS Policy Recommendations can contribute to achieving SDG 2 and the realization on the right to adequate food. The topic "data" also plays an important role in the follow-up to the UN Food Systems Summit, to which the CFS Policy Recommendations can also contribute.

Guiding question: Which priority issues and policy-relevant areas should be addressed through this CFS policy convergence process and included in the policy recommendations?

- As highlighted by the 17th HLPE Report on Data collection and analysis tools for food security and nutrition, inequalities exist in terms of available data, access to data, and the ability to process and translate it into policy and action. Specific attention should be given to specific and different territorial settings within national and regional levels, in particular rural areas.
- Decision makers and analysts are facing both an abundance of data for food security and nutrition as well as a lack of data for specific food security areas. Thus, data gaps need to be addressed and overcome in order to achieve the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs, including by capitalizing on the Rome-based agencies as well as their collaboration among themselves and the CFS.
- This should be brought up at all levels, as data gaps can affect an effective response to global food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms at country and global level. At the same time, the policy recommendations should provide guidance how to tackle the challenge of analyzing existing data effectively and set the required standards, while keeping data collection and analysis ethics upheld.

- **First**, it is important to consider what type of data is being produced, who is being targeted, how it will be disaggregated, and how subsequent use can be ensured.
- It is important that resources are allocated to improving data, monitoring and analysis to improve the effectiveness of policy decisions for food security and nutrition and contribute to 2030 Agenda. Good examples in this regard include the 50x2030 Initiative to close the Agricultural Data Gap or the recently launched Global Diet Quality Project.
- Germany is advocating for a feminist development and foreign policy. Gender-disaggregated data is key in understanding power imbalances and change them on the mid- and long-term. This is one of the key gaps for effective decision-making in our perspective.
- Greater efforts will be needed to effectively analyze existing food security and nutrition data and make sense of what this data can tell us. The Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) is an outstanding example for a very effective and widely used analysis tool. Efforts by the Global Alliance for Food Security (GAFS) to expand IPC should be supported.
- We underline the need to exchange closely with other initiatives working on a coherent data picture on food security and nutrition, such as the GAFS and its Global Food Security and Nutrition Dashboard.

- **Second**, data collection should follow common harmonized standards and principles (e.g. FAIR Guiding Principles[1]), including between sectors such as agriculture and health, to make it usable as a global public good.
- We need to build an effective institutional environment for data collection and analysis on food security and nutrition that is conducive to effective decision-making. This should be rooted in broader UN-level debates about data for development.
- An important aspect to this is the availability and utilization of different types of data, including data from alternative sources such as the private sector or the grass-roots level, as well as the use of technological innovations for data collection and analysis.

- **Third**, the policy recommendations should provide guidance on how to improve capacities for data collection and analysis at country and regional level.
- For example, we need to promote the development of national and regional disaggregated food security and nutrition information systems and support capacity building in this area to be able to use data and analysis effectively. This entails not only that responsible actors are able to collect useful data and conduct comprehensive analysis but also integrating the use of data and analysis into decision-making processes.

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[1] Principles of findability, accessibility, interoperability, and reusability (FAIR)

- Here, an important aspect is the exchange among policy-makers and the providers of data and analysis on what is actually needed and where there are opportunities for improving data and analysis on all scales.