

Dear Chair and colleagues,

We would like to start our intervention thanking Anthony for taking the lead for the CFS Data OEWG: we truly believe you'll do a great job and we look forward to collaborating with you and all CFS stakeholders on this important workstream.

We know from CFS policy convergence processes that focus is key to a successful outcome, and for this reason we would like to remind our colleagues about what we agreed under the MYPOW (2020-2023) and the data workstream proposal that was endorsed: "**The primary objective of this workstream is to develop actionable policy recommendations that will strengthen the capacity of countries to collect, analyze, and use quality data to improve critical decision-making around food security and nutrition policies.**"

We are excited about what we've heard in the room and therefore we want to echo what was identified in the plenary discussion at CFS50 as an imminently actionable area - and as the chair's summary captures - a plea to the multilateral financial institutions and the donor community to mobilize resources to fund initiatives aimed at closing data funding gaps. We'd be pleased to work with the CFS community to address this gap.

Finally, since some members have noted that we may have too much information, let me conclude by repeating the importance of this work from the HLPE report - 92 countries have not conducted an agricultural census in the last ten years, 52 of which have not done so in the last 20 years; 10 countries have no agricultural census on record at all; 96 percent of countries do not have sufficient data to compute indicators for the productivity and income of smallholders, food loss, waste and land rights.

Thanks a lot.