



## Swiss Inputs for OEWG-Meeting on “Data Collection and Analysis Tools for Food Security and Nutrition” – January 12, 2023

### Guiding question:

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

- a) **Food security and nutrition with its six dimensions:** Switzerland very much welcomes that the HLPE report on “Data Collection and Analysis Tools for Food Security and Nutrition” build on the expanded understanding of food security and nutrition through the dimensions of agency and sustainability. Hence, food security is only given when food is available, accessible and utilizable, when individuals and groups are their own food agents and when the food is sustainably sourced.

During the adoption of HLPE 2020 report “Building a Global narrative towards 2030”, we have highlighted that it will be of utmost importance that the ongoing and future work of the CFS fully integrates this evolved understanding of food security and nutrition, as endorsed by CFS45.

The CFS Policy Recommendation should therefore be based on the expanded understanding of food security and nutrition and the corresponding HLPE report.

- b) **Food-Systems-Approach:** The CFS Policy Recommendations have to take into account a holistic and systemic food systems approach. With the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and especially with SDGs 2 and 12, the global community has acknowledged that working in silos is no longer an option. We need to think out of silos and with a holistic food systems approach.

Interlinkages between sustainable production and healthy diets: The CFS Policy Recommendations should refer the conditions under which the food was produced and how to make food systems more sustainable in order to ensure a healthy diet. Nutrition should not only be healthy for the individual, but also produced sustainably (in all three dimensions) and consumed sustainably. Therefore, we recommend that it builds on the concept of “Healthy diets through sustainable food systems”, a key concept in the latest CFS major product, the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition.

- c) **SDG-Indicator 2.4.1:** SDG target 2.4 refers to sustainable food production systems and establishes in Indicator 2.4.1 an indicator system of how to measure this. The CFS Policy Recommendations need to make special reference to this, especially as it considers the six dimensions of food security, in particular sustainability.
- d) **Shift from productivity indicators by kg/ha to the nutritional value per hectare:** Given the threatened state of our resource base, it is time to shift from productivity indicators that are primarily determined by kg / ha to the nutritional value per hectare. The CFS Policy Recommendations should take this into account and set in value the corresponding parts of HLPE Report in this regard. We believe, that there is a need to develop new methodologies and indicators to measure sustainability performance of agricultural and food systems, including agroecological systems, beyond the yield.



- e) **Data harmonization:** The potential of already collected data is, as of today, not adequately used. Much of this data is collected in the private or scientific sector with a lack of well-functioning interfaces and common framework and taxonomies. Approaches to address this lack of data harmonization and resulting loss of information should in our view be addressed in the CFS Policy Recommendations.
- f) **Synergies between HLPE and OECD:** Issues around data and knowledge gaps are also strongly discussed and analyzed at the OECD (speaking around evidence gaps [Overcoming evidence gaps on food systems | OECD Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Papers | OECD iLibrary \(oecd-ilibrary.org\)](#)). The CFS Policy Recommendations should take into account what already exists in order to avoid duplication and to enhance knowledge sharing.
- g) **New and emerging technologies be relevant to each of the FSN dimensions (i.e. Availability, Access, Utilization, Stability, Agency, and Sustainability):** The CFS Policy Recommendations need to address all technologies in a balanced way. Technologies under “Sustainability” should cover the all three dimensions of sustainability.
- h) **Disaggregated data:** to ensure that the most affected are represented.
- i) **Reliability, compatibility and comparability of data:** Precise and timely information is essential in shaping effective, fact-based policy across all areas, such as sustainable development and humanitarian aid.
- j) **Personal data:** to be properly protected. More and more personal data is being collected, which is used in a variety of ways. It is often not clear exactly what happens to this data, and communities and society benefit little from the insights and economic value that this data could provide.
- k) **Self-determination:** to have access to the data that has been collected about them, being able to understand the relevance and value of this data, and being able to manage how the data is used.
- l) **Human rights based approach:** to protect people’s privacy and freedom of expression.
- m) **Data storage:** secure and reliable.
- n) **Cooperation between the private and public sectors:** in order to standardize datasets and interfaces and make data more usable.
- o) **Governance:** to allow for the creation of common rules.