

CFS 3rd Open-Ended WG on Data

Dear Mr. Rapporteur,

The World Farmers' Organisation deeply appreciated the comprehensive and exhaustive effort embedded in the draft. Nevertheless, as a general comment, we would like to highlight how **the role of farmers in providing FSN data could be strengthened even more.**

We consulted our members, National Farmers Organization from all across the world and they agree that in order to collect FSN data **farmers must be recognized as one of the major FSN data providers.** Their contribution to the building of a fair, representative, and productive data ecosystem cannot be overlooked.

Also, forecasting the availability of food starting from agricultural production at local and national level must be linked to indicators that are based on the collection of data at the farmers' level. This is even more necessary in this phase of greater instability in expected production levels due to the worsening impact of natural events and climate change on agricultural yields.

As per the first section paragraph e) we would like to suggest "Governments are urged to promote the regular production and dissemination, by government units *or partners of such government* that collect FSN data..." as we got feedback from our members that in some cases, they **already provide these kinds of services for their governments.** Hence, engage farmers organizations as data providers, while respecting members' privacy and data ownership.

Moreover, it would be helpful to explicit, in this paragraph or elsewhere, the **urgent need for a set of common guidelines**, both on a national and international level, regarding data ownership & privacy as this is pivotal to highlight even more the need to maximize data benefits while minimizing their risk".

Moving to the third section we think that the focus related to investments should mention **data security** as well. Hacking and cybercrimes must be structurally tackled with the implementation of safe infrastructures to set up a trustworthy data-driven environment.

Another point that we think should be stressed is related to investments in areas where current **data availability is poor** with a tailored focus on those countries which are lacking resources, infrastructures, and skills to fill the gap with the rest of the world.



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Lastly, in the fifth section, we find the phrasing *open by default* too vague. We recognize the value of data as an accessible, public good. Yet, **the providers' identity must be preserved through data aggregation and anonymization.**