

Norway: Written input to Zero Draft shared 16 March 2023

Norway commends the efforts of the CFS Secretariat and the Rapporteur in compiling this zero-draft and in facilitating an inclusive process. It is an ambitious document that forces us to think about and address important aspects of data value chains in the FSN context.

Norway finds the document to be ambitious, and we support the general direction of the zero-draft. Concrete inputs follow underneath.

Overarching input:

- Norway restates its earlier input regarding **interoperability and harmonization**. This relates to vertical levels ensuring a logic coherence from the local to the multilateral, in understanding and using standards and concepts, as well as practical competence. It also relates to horizontal levels, ensuring that data can be contrasted across regions and countries for the aggregation towards the SDGs. Furthermore, it also means engaging with existing mechanisms and entities instead of creating new ones.
- Norway firmly supports the clear references to the **human rights principles** in the draft and urges the Secretariat to keep the references - and to expand it to also apply to other entities beyond governments (Recommendation 5a).
- We request the inclusion of **fisheries and aquaculture** as sectors/arenas for FSN data. Where specific sectors are mentioned (predominantly agriculture) we request the addition of fisheries and aquaculture. Alternatively, the secretariat could consider using generic terms encompassing all food production sectors.

Input to specific recommendations in Zero Draft:

- **Recommendation 1:**

two new letters to be added under two additional target groups:

[Civil Society and Research Institutions are urged to:

- i) Use already existing FSN data, and address existing FSN data gaps, in advocacy efforts towards decision-makers, including governments, and to promote research and development of knowledge products.]

[International organizations, donors and governments are urged to:

- j) Request and use relevant FSN data that already exists, thus avoiding duplication of efforts and contributing to financial efficiency and timeliness of efforts.]

- **Recommendation 2a):**

Norway recommends avoiding listing elements under general categories as a practice, as one risks excluding elements or subcategories inadvertently. On line three “vulnerable groups” is mentioned with a list of subcategories as examples of such groups. Persons with disabilities is not included. Norway therefore proposes 1) to delete the parenthesis altogether or 2) that persons with disabilities is included in it.

- **Recommendation 2b):**

textual addition in red color:

Elaborate national plans to define priorities for FSN data collection and analysis[, aligned with the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics, if existing,] and to improve and optimize existing national data systems for FSN, guided by the aforementioned [...]

- **Recommendation 2d):**

Norway proposes to remove this item and instead seek synergies with existing mechanisms. Norway is unsure of the value-added such a task team would have, considering the already existing UN-CEAG – and that the proposed tasks of such a task team would be possible to cover in the already existing UN-CEAG or its task team on food security. In addition, we would prefer to have closer linkages to national statistical offices in any such proposed task team, as we find national involvement to be important when it comes to national statistics.

- **Recommendation 2g):**

textual addition in red color:

Improve coordination of investments[, acknowledging the importance of robust data for sound decision-making,] aimed at supporting FSN data [collection and analysis] in order to avoid duplication of efforts, improve efficiency, and maximize synergies[, including adding capacity-building in statistics and data work of national stakeholders]

- **Recommendation 3:**

Addition of one new letter after current j), under *International organizations are urged to:*

- [Ensure that national-level surveys on FSN or related data is combined with capacity-strengthening of and knowledge-transfer to national stakeholders, in addition to securing local ownership to national statistical systems, where applicable.]

- **Recommendation 4d):**

Same as for 2a): Norway recommends avoiding listing elements or subcategories comprised under general categories. In this case, under the general category “Multiple sectors”, fisheries and aquaculture are excluded. Norway requests the inclusion of these in the parenthesis or the deletion of the parenthesis.

- **Recommendation 5a)**

textual addition in red color:

*establish, in collaboration with all stakeholders involved, a national **FSN data governance system** [, or strengthen equivalent preexisting systems, aligned with National Strategy for Development of Statistics (NSDS), if existing]with a regulatory framework, that: 1) is anchored in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and consistent [...]*

- **Recommendation 5:**

Addition of one new letter before current f), under *International organizations are called upon to:*

- [ensure that of national-level surveys on FSN or related data is aligned with national priorities on FSN data, if applicable, and existing National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS), also if applicable.]