



Swiss Inputs on the Zero Draft “Data Collection and Analysis Tools for Food Security and Nutrition” — April 2023

1. Structure:

- Switzerland thanks the Secretariat for the Draft of the policy recommendations and welcomes the concise and concrete manner in which they have been drafted. In their brevity, we believe they are useful and applicable for policy makers while still addressing the needs of implementers. We consider the Draft as a good and ambitious starting point for the policy convergence process.
- We welcome the proposed structure of the policy recommendations with a "rational" and the to the point formulated recommendations, which have been divided into five Areas.
- We particularly welcome the division of the formulated recommendations to governments and other stakeholders. This has been the practice in the development of all CFS policy products up to 2017 and has proved very useful for handling implementation. We would like to suggest that the role and responsibility of the private sector be considered again and, if necessary, that the recommendations be completed accordingly.

2. Link to HLPE Report:

- We consider the HLPE report and especially its recommendation as an excellent basis for the development of the policy recommendations, as states the CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work.
- Therefore, we are pleased to see that the Zero Draft draws content from the HLPE Report and follows its structures of the recommendations.

3. General remarks:

- Food security and nutrition should be addressed in all six dimensions.
- Data to be addressed should always follow a food systems approach, including e.g., the drivers of FSN or all dimension of sustainability. Some paragraphs already include this approach, while others take a too narrow an approach.
- The policy recommendations should be based on a human rights-based approach.

4. Specific remarks to the Zero Draft

Rational:

- We share the view, that data gaps are still existing and that we have to close them. In this chapter, we would like to see a reference to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and how this topic is covered within it. A link to the relevant targets should be mentioned.
- We consider para 8 and 9 as crucial for the recommendations.

Area 1 “CREATE GREATER AWARENESS AND DEMAND FOR BETTER USE OF FSN DATA IN DECISION-MAKING”:

- We would like to see a link to the national data and statistical systems. FSN data are part of it and it should be linked to it.



- The aspect of data-driven decision-making processes for governments through their ministries and agencies, including statistical offices, comes up short.
- Multi-sectoral and multistakeholder FSN governing bodies should have a strong connection to the already existing national data and statistics bodies.

Area 2 “INCREASE AND SUSTAIN INVESTMENT IN THE COLLECTION AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT OF PRIORITY DATA FOR FSN, WHILE OPTIMIZING AND/OR REPURPOSING CURRENT DATA-RELATED INVESTMENTS”

- Regarding the government: The National Statistical System (NSS) normally knows a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS). National plans to define priorities for FSN data collection and analysis have to be linked to the NSDS (as it is stated under point c).
- Regarding international organizations: We support the creation of a task team of UN agencies and other stakeholders. As it was in the past, we demand FAO and WHO to report back on the work conducted to the UN Statistical Commission.
- Regarding the funding, we share the view that more and better funding is needed. Under the leadership of the Bern Network on Financing Data for Development (FAO is a partner of this network) the Clearinghouse for Financing Development Data was established and presented at the third UN World Data Forum in October 2021. The Clearinghouse is a platform to help countries, donors and development agencies identify funding opportunities, bring projects to scale, advocate for support to data and statistics and connect to new partners. It provides information and services to match the supply and demand of financing for data and statistics to foster transparency, accountability, and alignment and facilitate coordination among donors and partner countries. We strongly recommend to collaborate with the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) that hosts the Clearinghouse. FSN data projects and needs can be included in this platform. The World Bank recently launched the Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB). Creating new funds is challenging and a cooperation with existing funds might be more useful.

Area 4 “INCREASE COLLABORATION AMONG ALL PARTIES TO HARMONIZE METHODS, IMPROVE FSN DATA QUALITY, AND PROMOTE THE SHARING OF FSN DATA FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD”

- We, again, support in general a stronger collaboration. However, we urge to use existing bodies and initiatives.
- Aspect of government that need to review existing national- data-collections systems relevant for FSN and making effort to modernize national statistic systems in order to establish comprehensive, coordinated FSN data systems needs to be strengthened with concrete recommendations in this area (see HLPE report).

Area 5: “ESTABLISH OR STRENGTHEN FSN DATA GOVERNANCE AT GLOBAL, REGIONAL, NATIONAL AND SUB-NATIONAL LEVELS”

- We support this recommendation, especially the reference to the human rights.
- Additionally, we support in general the statement to treat agriculture and FSN data as a public good and “open by default” and consider the link to the data collection /data flow work related to the SDGs is important.
- We consider it is worth to look into the concrete HLPE recommendations addressing CFS, its work and processes and reconsider these recommendations (e.g., CFS convenes a workshop to assess the state of private data sharing in agriculture, food security and nutrition and consider exploring the possibility of piloting the data trust for food security and nutrition).



PROMOTION, IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING and EVALUATION:

- Such a formulation has never been part of a CFS product as such but was part of the Decision taken by the CFS Plenary's adoption of the policy product.

Switzerland hopes to see these points further enhanced in the Draft for Negotiation of the policy recommendations.

5. Outlook on negotiations:

- Switzerland would like to encourage all CFS stakeholders to build on the lessons learnt of the policy convergence process on Youth, such as for example stick to the given negotiation time or the focus on the subject area.
- We are looking forward to an inclusive and constructive negotiation process leading to the adoption of the policy recommendations at CFS51 in October 2023.