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# CFS INPUTS TO THE 2024 HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM (HLPF)

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**Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions**



February 2024

## I. Proposed key messages for inclusion into the Ministerial Declaration of the 2024 HLPF

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The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) reaffirmed:

- its commitment to strive for a world free from hunger where countries implement the Voluntary Guidelines for the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security (CFS50/Report, item II, para 10 e);
- its concern over the immense challenges to be overcome for achieving Zero Hunger by 2030 with an estimated 691 - 783 million people in the world (around 9.2 percent of the world population) still suffering from hunger (CFS51/Report, item VII, para 18a); and
- the need of combining short and medium-term with long-term solutions to the crisis, leading towards agriculture and food systems that are more resilient, sustainable, and inclusive, in line with the 2030 Agenda (CFS 50/Report, para 10 j,ii).

The Committee expressed deep concern over:

- the disproportionate impact of the crisis on the poor, persons with disabilities, small scale food producers and family farmers, women, youth, older persons and children, as well as those living in vulnerable situations, exacerbating humanitarian needs and increasing the risk of famine around the world; (CFS 50/Report, para 10 c, vi).

## II. Impacts of multiple crises on the implementation of SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17 from the vantage point of your intergovernmental body

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At its 51<sup>st</sup> session in October 2023, the Committee on World Food Security expressed concern over the current global food security crisis. In particular, the Committee:

- reiterated its concern over the immense challenges to be overcome for achieving Zero Hunger by 2030 with an estimated 691 - 783 million people in the world (around 9.2 percent of the world population) still suffering from hunger (CFS51/Report, item VII, para 18a);
- remained deeply concerned about the ongoing food insecurity and malnutrition in different regions of the world and their ongoing negative impact on health and nutrition, especially in Africa, in the Near East and North Africa, in South and West Asia, in the Pacific and in parts of Latin America and the Caribbean, and in this regard underlined the urgent need for joint efforts at all levels to respond to the situation in a coherent and effective manner (CFS51/Report, item IX, para 21b); and
- stressed the need to refrain from using food and water as weapons of war in conflict areas, expressed the need for reliable, sustained, sufficient and unhindered access of essential goods and services to civilians throughout the Gaza Strip, and in other conflict areas, including but not limited to water, food, medical supplies, and energy, and stressed the role of FAO, IFAD and WFP, in coordination and collaboration with other United Nations agencies, international financial institutions and relevant bodies, to assess and address, within their respective mandates, the

impact of the conflict on food security, nutrition, and agriculture in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly in the Gaza Strip<sup>1</sup> (CFS51/Report, item III, para 11).

- endorsed the Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition (GEWGE), which underline that:
  - conflicts, protracted crises and shocks cause hunger and food insecurity globally, disrupting supplies of nutritious and healthy food, economic activity, and food production leading to rising food prices and creating additional challenges for women to feed their families. At the same time, there is a circular relationship between conflicts, food crises and food insecurity that can drive conflicts, protracted crises and shocks. Children born in fragile or conflict-affected states are twice as likely to be malnourished. Conflicts are also a major contributor to displacement which negatively impacts access to nutritious and healthy food and livelihoods and can lead to long-term food insecurity and malnutrition for women and girls, including Indigenous women, and local communities’ women. Conflicts also leave women and girls at a heightened risk of GBV, including sexual violence (GEWGE/ para 105); and
  - the adverse effects of climate change, including extreme weather events and slow onset events, loss of biodiversity, ecosystem degradation and desertification have severe impacts on agricultural production and the productivity, value and availability of natural resources, which are disproportionately affecting women, in particular Indigenous women, rural women and women in local communities (GEWGE/ para 61).

At its 50<sup>th</sup> session in 2022, the Committee:

- under agenda item II on “Ministerial Segment: Coordinating Policy Responses to the Global Food Crisis - The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World”:
  - expressed deep concern over the current global food security crisis, including over the disproportionate impact of the crisis on the poor, persons with disabilities, small scale food producers and family farmers, women, youth, older persons and children, as well as those living in vulnerable situations, exacerbating humanitarian needs and increasing the risk of famine around the world; (CFS 50/Report, para 10 c, vi): and
  - underlined that geopolitical instability and increasing conflicts undermine food security and nutrition and have negative impact on agri-food systems and the role of the CFS within the areas of its competence is emphasized in monitoring and analysing the impacts of crises and conflicts, with a special emphasis on the impact of the war in Ukraine on global food security and agri-food systems under the mandate of CFS, economic downturns, climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, and other shocks and crises<sup>2</sup> (CFS 50/Report, para 10 d).
- endorsed the Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition, which underline that:
  - limited participation in decision-making processes, poor remuneration, income uncertainty, conflicts, protracted crises, climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation, exposure to risks, difficult manual labour and low social recognition for agricultural and food workers,

<sup>1</sup> An Explanation of position on this Item is contained in Appendix D of the [CFS 51 Final Report](#).

<sup>2</sup> The Russian Federation states that it disassociates itself from paragraph d) of the Report of the 50th Session of the Committee on World Food Security due to the fact that conflicts and their characterization with legal implications are not within the mandate of CFS.

turn many youths away from agriculture and rural areas. As a result, many are forced or feel that they have no alternative than to migrate, either to urban areas or abroad. Actions are needed to make agriculture and food systems more attractive, profitable and rewarding for young people, and to increase their capacity to generate decent work and dignified livelihoods, especially in the current and post COVID-19 context (Rationale).

At its 48th Session, the Committee endorsed the Policy Recommendations on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems that Enhance Food Security and Nutrition, which underline that:

- ruptures to the interlinkages between human, animal, and plant health and the environment can compromise both biodiversity and the well-being of people (Rationale).

At its 47<sup>th</sup> Session, the Committee endorsed the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (VGFSN), which stress that:

- complex and protracted crises also have short, medium and long-term adverse consequences on the nutritional status of impacted populations, particularly children under five, pregnant and lactating women, women of reproductive age, and adolescent girls, as applicable. Conflicts, fragility and susceptibility to natural disasters, climate change, epidemics, pandemics, and other cyclical health crises, are also serious factors that affect food systems preventing the availability and access to nutritious foods for healthy diets through sustainable food systems. At the same time, malnutrition and food insecurity in specific cases can be important drivers of social unrest and migration (VGFSN, para 10).

At its 42<sup>nd</sup> Session, the Committee endorsed the "Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises" (CFS-FFA). The Framework stresses that:

- each protracted crisis is different, but some combination of conflict, occupation, terrorism, man-made and natural disasters, natural resource pressures, climate change, inequalities, prevalence of poverty, and governance factors are often underlying causes of food insecurity and undernutrition in protracted crises (CFS-FFA para 3).

### **III. Three key areas where sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions for achieving the SDGs are being effectively delivered, especially related to the cluster of SDGs under review in 2024, considering the three dimensions of sustainable development and the interlinkages across the Goals and targets**

Using its multi-stakeholder and inclusive approach, at the 51th Plenary session of the Committee on World Food Security, 23–27 October 2023 (CFS 51), the Committee succeeded in endorsing a new Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPoW) for 2024-2027 and two key policy agreements. The MYPoW contains all activities and key policy areas where attention is more required in the next four year towards achieving SDG2. The newly endorsed policy instruments (Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls Empowerment and the policy recommendations on Strengthening Collection and Use of Food Security and Nutrition Data) provide key stakeholders with guidelines for sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions for achieving SDG2, and all related SDGs.

- The 2024-2027 MYPoW, through its cross-cutting focus areas, prioritized thematic workstreams and supporting activities, provides a comprehensive framework to support the progressive

realization of the right to adequate food and the achievement of SDG2 (CFS51/Report, item VII, para 18b);

- The “Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition” were endorsed at CFS 51, as a key inter-governmentally agreed global policy framework in support of country-led efforts towards achieving food security and nutrition, taking note of their voluntary and non-binding nature (CFS 51/Report, item V, para 14.a). The Committee:
  - commended countries that have voluntarily pledged to deploy the Voluntary Guidelines in their own national policy and/or legislative circumstances, in conjunction with commitments related to the 2030 Agenda, and encouraged other countries to take similar steps to actively utilize this CFS policy agreement as a tool for national-level, multistakeholder action to address all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls, which negatively impact food security and nutrition for themselves and for their families, households, communities and countries, as well as related social, economic and sustainability issues (CFS 51/Report, item V, para 14.f).
- The CFS Policy Recommendations on “Strengthening Collection and Use of Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Data and Related Analysis Tools to Improve Decision-Making in Support of the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security” were endorsed as an action-oriented, inter-governmentally agreed, voluntary and non-binding, global policy framework in support of country-led efforts towards improving food security and nutrition policies and actions (CFS 51/Report, item VI, para 16.a).

#### **IV. Three examples of specific actions, policies and measures that are most urgently needed to effectively deliver sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions to eradicate poverty and reinforce the 2030 Agenda, building on interlinkages and transformative pathways for achieving the SDGs**

The Committee:

- highlighted the importance of convergence and alignment on the policy responses and strategies in support of country-led actions addressing the food crisis CFS 50/Report para 10 j, i);
- highlighted the importance of combining short and medium-term with long-term solutions to the crisis, leading towards agriculture and food systems that are more resilient, sustainable, and inclusive, in line with the 2030 Agenda (CFS 50/Report para 10 j, ii);
- requested continued deliberation on, and due attention to, the impacts of COVID-19, as well as to the impacts of the ongoing global food crisis, on food systems, agriculture and nutrition at all stages of the implementation of the approved MYPoW workstreams (CFS 50/Report para 17d); and
- endorsed the Voluntary Guidelines on GEWGE in 2023 which urged governments to ensure equal access to adequate social protection through a comprehensive legal framework. Social protection programmes should be comprehensive and accessible by all who need them throughout their life

course. They should also be agile enough to respond to shocks, paying attention to women’s and girls’ special needs, including their specific dietary and nutritional needs (GEWGE 87 i).

## V. Follow-up actions and measures being undertaken by your intergovernmental body to support implementation of the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit

CFS “will constitute the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for a broad range of committed stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner and in support of country-led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) for all human beings. CFS strives for a world free from hunger where countries implement the voluntary guidelines for the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security” (CFS Reform document).

CFS aims at eliminating hunger and malnutrition through improved policy convergence/coherence at global level, which leads to strengthened actions at national and regional levels. All activities in the MYPoW are designed, planned and implemented to promote: resilience of livelihoods; attention to the people most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition; a multi-sectoral inclusive and participatory approach; evidence-based decision-making; social, economic and environmental sustainability; gender equality, women’s and girls’ rights and women’s empowerment in the context of FSN (CFS 2024-2027 MYPoW Standing Section).

## VI. Concrete recommendations from CFS on areas requiring urgent attention in relation to the implementation of SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17

The HLPF is encouraged to consider the urgent need for governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, private sector and other relevant stakeholders to make use of CFS evidence-based policy guidelines and recommendations, as appropriate. In addition to contributing to ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture and food systems, they support the achievement of a number of SDGs in an integrated way.

While voluntary in nature, CFS policy guidance instruments are the result of inclusive processes that ensure that the voices of all relevant stakeholders, particularly those most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition, are heard in the food and agriculture policy dialogue. In CFS, all multi-stakeholder consultations feed into the CFS Plenary, where Member countries remain the ultimate decision makers as well as principal actors in the attainment of food security and nutrition for all.

**With reference to SDG1 (End poverty in all its forms everywhere), the following policy recommendations/guidelines are highlighted as relevant:**

CFS endorsed the [Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security](#) in 2004, and it is part of the CFS vision where “CFS strives for a world free from hunger where countries implement the voluntary guidelines for the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security” . These include, among others, the following Guidelines:

- states should also promote good governance as an essential factor for sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty and hunger eradication and for the realization of all human rights including the progressive realization of the right to adequate food (VG on RTF, para 1.3); and

- states should consider adopting a holistic and comprehensive approach to hunger and poverty reduction. Such an approach entails, inter alia, direct and immediate measures to ensure access to adequate food as part of a social safety net; investment in productive activities and projects to improve the livelihoods of the poor and hungry in a sustainable manner; the development of appropriate institutions, functioning markets, a conducive legal and regulatory framework; and access to employment, productive resources and appropriate services (VG on RTF, para 2.4).

CFS endorsed the [Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition](#) (GEWGE) in 2023. These Guidelines stress that “a growing body of evidence demonstrates the mutually reinforcing links between GEWGE and food security and nutrition. Supporting the rights and empowerment of all women and girls, particularly those in vulnerable situations, is also one of the most effective ways to improve food security and nutrition outcomes for all - women themselves, their family, community and society - and to lower infant mortality, reduce child malnutrition and prevent non communicable diseases. These are central to break intergenerational cycles of malnutrition, with special attention to the nutritional needs of children under two years of age, and of women, including during pregnancy and breastfeeding, and of girls throughout their life course”. Moreover, these Guidelines include, among others, the following recommendations:

- governments are urged to ensure equal access to adequate social protection through a comprehensive legal framework. Social protection programmes should be comprehensive and accessible by all who need them throughout their life course. They should also be agile enough to respond to shocks, paying attention to women’s and girls’ special needs, including their specific dietary and nutritional needs (GEWGE 3.7.2, para 87 i);
- governments, with the support of all relevant stakeholders including civil society, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, private sector and development partners, should recognize, make visible and value women’s unpaid work, including their crucial contributions to agriculture, food production, provision and preparation, through measures that may include counting and including it in national statistics (GEWGE 3.8.2, para 94 i); and
- governments are urged to foster transformative and gender-responsive curricula and education systems, resources and processes to promote gender equality, eliminate discriminatory gender norms and deliver more equal education results for girls and boys. (GEWGE 3.6.1.2, para 73 iii).

CFS endorsed the [CFS Principles on Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems](#) (CFS-RAI) in 2014. These include, among others, the following Principles:

- 1) *“Contribute to food security and nutrition”*
  - Responsible investment in agriculture and food systems contributes to food security and nutrition, particularly for the most vulnerable, at the household, local, national, regional, or global level, and to eradicating poverty through:
    - improving income and reducing poverty, including through participation in agriculture and food systems and/or through improving the ability to produce food for oneself and others (para 21, ii).
- 2) *“Contribute to sustainable and inclusive economic development and the eradication of poverty”*
  - Responsible investment in agriculture and food systems contributes to sustainable and inclusive economic development and poverty eradication by:

- contributing to rural development, improving social protection coverage and the provision of public goods and services such as research, health, education, capacity development, finance, infrastructure, market functioning, and fostering rural institutions (para 22 v);
- supporting the implementation of policies and actions aimed at empowering and improving human resource capacity for stakeholders, particularly for smallholders, including those that are family farmers - women and men - and their organizations, and promoting their access to resources and inputs, as appropriate (para 22, vi).

CFS endorsed the [Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of national Food Security](#) (VGGT) in 2012. These include, among others, the following guidelines:

- states should strive to ensure responsible governance of tenure because land, fisheries and forests are central for the realization of human rights, food security, poverty eradication, sustainable livelihoods, social stability, housing security, rural development, and social and economic growth (VGGT, para 4.1);
- considering that smallholder producers and their organizations in developing countries provide a major share of agricultural investments that contribute significantly to food security, nutrition, poverty eradication and environmental resilience, States should support investments by smallholders as well as public and private smallholder-sensitive investments (VGGT, para 12.2).

CFS endorsed the [Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition](#) (VGFSN) in 2021. These include, among others, the following recommendations:

- governments should foster policy coordination and coherence across sectors and agencies to reduce all forms of malnutrition from a food systems perspective. These sectors and agencies may include those impacting health, agriculture, education, environment, water, sanitation, gender equality, social protection, trade, employment, and finance. Governments should include the sustainability of food systems as a priority in order to effectively align relevant sectors around a common set of goals (VGFSN, 3.1.1 a);
- governments and intergovernmental actors should facilitate an inclusive and transparent dialogue ensuring the participation of all relevant stakeholders and actors in the food system, giving special attention to small-medium enterprises and smallholder producers and to the most affected by hunger and malnutrition in all its forms. This dialogue should include all dimensions of sustainable development in food systems (VGFSN, 3.1.2 b); and
- governments, with the support of intergovernmental organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, should strengthen public procurement systems by ensuring healthy diets are available, accessible, affordable and convenient in public settings and institutions, including kindergartens and other childcare facilities, schools, hospitals, foodbanks, government offices and workplaces, military bases and prisons, nursing homes, and care settings, in line with national food-based dietary guidelines, and engaging with, where available, smallholders and family farmers and vulnerable local food producers (VGFSN, 3.3.2 b).

**With reference to SDG2 (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture), the following policy recommendations/guidelines are highlighted as relevant:**



CFS will support country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, focusing primarily on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 and its linkages with other SDGs and targets relevant to food security and nutrition. Recommendations from past CFS policy guidance include:

The Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition include, among others, the following recommendations:

- governments should integrate and promote sustainable food system strategies and actions that enable healthy diets and improved nutrition into national and local development, health, economic, agricultural, climate/environment, and disaster risk and pandemic diseases reduction policies. Governments should consider increased and improved budgetary allocations, where appropriate, to food system activities and components, assessing and taking into account all positive and negative environmental, economic and social impacts of the various food systems activities and components, considering, as appropriate, indicators of the 2030 Agenda, with clear and transparent objectives of improving diets and nutrition, to address malnutrition in all its forms (VGFSN para 3.1.1 b).

The CFS Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security include:

- the progressive realization of the right to adequate food requires States to fulfil their relevant human rights obligations under international law (para 16).

CFS endorsed the policy recommendations on [Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems that Enhance Food Security and Nutrition](#) in 2021. These include, among others:

- promote healthy diets through sustainable food systems, including through the implementation of agroecological and other innovative approaches in order to improve food security and nutrition (AOIA para 3 f); and
- in collaboration with relevant actors, including the private sector, promote local, national, regional and global markets, and their interconnections, as appropriate, that enhance food security and nutrition, strengthen supply chains in particular local ones<sup>34</sup> and demonstrate concrete contributions to sustainable agriculture and food systems, that do not impact negatively on livelihoods ((AOIA para 3 p).

The Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI) define the ‘Roles and Responsibilities of stakeholders’ to achieve food security and nutrition, including the following:

- states are encouraged to develop stable and long-term national food security and nutrition strategies, including, as appropriate, social protection strategies and systems, such as social protection floors and safety-nets, to protect the most vulnerable including agricultural and food workers (CFS-RAI para 35); and
- all stakeholders should play their role in resilience building and coordinate their efforts, in order to prevent or respond to shocks, disasters, crises, including protracted crises, and conflicts. They are encouraged to support the most vulnerable, protect existing investments, and promote targeted investment in food security and nutrition, in line with the Principles and States’

obligations regarding the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security (CFS-RAI para 61).

The policy recommendations on [Social Protection for Food Security and Nutrition](#) endorsed in 2012, include, among others, the following:

- urged Member States, international organizations and other stakeholders to improve the design and use of social protection interventions to address vulnerability to chronic and acute food insecurity, considering:
  - the importance of providing predictable and reliable access to social protection to all those in need at any time of the year, and at particularly vulnerable stages of life (para C 1);
- reminded Member States that social protection programmes for food security and nutrition should be guided by human rights norms and standards and should be complemented as appropriate by policies, guidelines, including legislation as appropriate, to support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, and social security, as well as gender equality and empowerment through interalia:
  - the adoption of integrated and mutually supportive social protection and food security and nutrition strategies and policies, based on human rights standards and principles, including non-discrimination and equality (including gender), meaningful participation, transparency and accountability (para D 3).

CFS endorsed the policy recommendations on [Strengthening Collection and Use of Food Security and Nutrition Data and Related Analysis Tools to improve decision-making in support of the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security](#) include, among others, the following recommendation:

- governments, international organizations and academic research institutions are encouraged to:
  - prioritize capacity building in areas where current relevant FSN data availability is poor, with a focus on those countries which are lacking resources, infrastructures, data literacy and skills to fill data gaps with the goal of improving food security and nutrition (chapter 3, para h).

**With reference to SDG13 (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts), the following policy recommendations/guidelines are highlighted as relevant:**

CFS endorsed the policy recommendations on [Food Security and Climate Change](#) in 2012. These include, among others:

- to integrate climate change concerns in food security policies and programmes and to increase resilience of vulnerable groups and food systems to climate change, emphasizing adaptation to climate change as a major concern and objective for all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers, including through:
  - increasing public and private investment and international cooperation for enhancing food security in the face of climate change threats, in particular for adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change, sustainable use of natural resources, water management and soil conservation (para i) 1);

- developing national and local capacities to deal with food security-related climate change challenges, including improving extension services, and making available and accessible, weather and climate forecasting and risk management tools, in support of farmers' and small-scale food producers' networks and organizations (Member States, International Organizations) (para i) 2);
- develop agricultural strategies that take into account: a) the need to respond to climate change and to safeguard food security; b) the diversity of agricultural conditions and systems; and c) the countries' and regions' specific levels of development, needs, contexts and priorities (para iii); and
- to enhance research, including farmer-led research, and improve information collection and sharing by increasing international cooperation and public and private investment for research, on climate change adaptation and mitigation in order to favour alignment with sustainable development and food security and nutrition including the adaptation needs of small-scale producers (para iv) 1).

The Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition include, among others, the following recommendations:

- strengthen gender-responsive resilience, adaptation and mitigation policies and programmes in the face of climate change and biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, particularly for women in agriculture, including Indigenous Peoples, and local communities with more support and investment in climate-resilient agriculture, agroecological and other innovative approaches, as well as affordable, local sources of clean water in accordance with local needs, priorities, capacities and circumstances to achieve food security and nutrition targets (GEWE 3.10.2, para 107, i);
- support the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and girls in discussions and decisions on climate change adaptation and mitigation. This includes discussions under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its gender action plan, and other relevant international processes<sup>34</sup> related to agriculture and the development of climate-related policies in their countries and communities (GEWE 3.10.2, para 107, iii); and
- promote and support investments in gender-responsive climate change resilience, adaptation and mitigation measures responsive to local needs, priorities, capacities and circumstances (GEWGE 3.5.2, para 70, v).

The CFS Principles on Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems include, among others, the following Principles:

- 6) *"Conserve and sustainably manage natural resources, increase resilience, and reduce disaster risks"*
  - Responsible investment in agriculture and food systems conserves, and sustainably manages natural resources, increases resilience, and reduces disaster risks by:
    - increasing resilience of agriculture and food systems, the supporting habitats, and related livelihoods, particularly of smallholders, to the effects of climate change through adaptation measures (para 26, iv).

The "Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises" (CFS-FFA), include, among others) the following Principle and recommendation:

10) *"Manage natural resources sustainably and reduce disaster risks"*

- Mitigate the effects of natural and man-made disasters, adapt to climate change, and promote sustainable use of natural resources, by:
  - promoting effective measures to support adaptation to climate change that address the specific needs of members of affected and at-risk populations, vulnerable and marginalized groups, as well as people living in vulnerable situations, including smallholders (para 33, vi).

The Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition include, among others, the following recommendations:

- governments, development partners, civil society and non-governmental organizations and private sector should collaborate with food producers and their organizations for them to achieve decent livelihoods and to enhance the resilience of food supply chains to climate change impacts by managing risk and building preparedness and resilience and by mitigating food supply chains negative impacts on the environment. This can include building on local knowledge and innovation and increasing access to finance, extension services, insurance, weather forecasting, early warning systems, capacity development, knowledge sharing and information dissemination and assistance through service application. It could also include protecting crops, livestock, and fisheries and overall production systems, in terms of nutritional content and productivity from the anticipated impacts of climate change in the form of pests, diseases, and weather-related shocks. This could entail disseminating good practices of resilient farming and locally adopting varieties resistant to drought, frost, heat, pests, or diseases caused or exacerbated by climate change as well as reducing post-harvest and other food losses and developing productive-asset creation initiatives (VGFSN 3.2.1 a).

The policy recommendations on [Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture for Food Security and Nutrition](#), endorsed in 2014, include, among other, the following recommendations:

- promote sustainable fisheries and aquaculture policies and management and design climate change adaptation strategies for food security and nutrition (para B);
- collect information and data to improve knowledge regarding the impacts of climate change on fish harvesting and farming, and monitor the impact of climate change on fisheries resources (para B2); and
- mainstream and integrate climate change adaptation in fisheries and aquaculture policies, and include fisheries and aquaculture considerations in policies on climate change, as appropriate (para B3).

The policy recommendations on [Connecting Smallholders to Markets](#), endorsed in 2016, include, among others, the following recommendation:

- facilitate production diversification to increase resilience to climate change, natural disasters and price shocks, to enable more diverse food consumption and reduce seasonal food and income fluctuations (para 15).

The CFS Policy Recommendations on [Biofuels and Food Security](#) endorsed in 2013, include, among others, the following recommendations:

- stressed the importance of concerted international and national actions to encourage that biofuel development and policies are in line with the objective to eradicate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, and contribute to sustainable rural development (para g. H); and
- encouraged governments to seek coordination of their respective food security and energy security strategies, giving due consideration to the sustainable management of natural resources (rec 2).

**With reference to SDG16 (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels), the following policy recommendations/guidelines are highlighted as relevant:**

The "Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises" (CFS-FFA), include, among others, the following Principle and recommendations:

9) *“Contribute to Peacebuilding through Food Security and Nutrition”*

- In situations of conflict and instability, address food insecurity and undernutrition in a conflict-sensitive manner and contribute to peacebuilding initiatives, by:
  - working to ensure that food security and nutrition objectives are adequately addressed as peacekeeping, peacebuilding, and state-building assessments, strategies and related actions are formulated and carried out (CFS-FFA para 32 iii); and
  - working to guarantee that members of affected populations, vulnerable and marginalized groups as well as people living in vulnerable situations are not at risk and that gains in building peace are not reversed when food and nutrition assistance is phased out (CFS-FFA para 32 iv).

The Voluntary Guidelines on the Right to Adequate Food include, among others, the following guidelines:

- states should promote and safeguard a free, democratic and just society in order to provide a peaceful, stable and enabling economic, social, political and cultural environment in which individuals can feed themselves and their families in freedom and dignity (VGs on the RtF, para 1.1).

The CFS Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition include, among others, the following recommendation:

- recognize and respect all legitimate tenure right holders and their rights and support youth equitable access, sustainable use, conservation and protection of land, natural resources, water, seeds and biodiversity, fisheries and forests by adopting appropriate policies, legal measures and programmes at the national level, redistributive reforms, where appropriate, consistent with the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (CFS-VGGT) and other relevant frameworks (rec 3a).

The CFS Policy Recommendations on Connecting Smallholders to Markets include, among others, the following recommendation:

- promote inclusive participation in local food systems by encouraging relevant authorities' engagement with all interested actors, including smallholders' organizations, consumers and producers, especially women and youth (rec 8).

**With reference to SDG17 (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development), the following policy recommendations/guidelines are highlighted as relevant:**

The policy recommendations on [Strengthening Collection and Use of Food Security and Nutrition Data and Related Analysis Tools to improve decision-making in support of the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security](#) in 2023. These include, among others, the following recommendations:

- governments should strive to: a) establish – or, when appropriate, strengthen existing – effective national multi-sectoral and multistakeholder FSN mechanisms responsible for guiding FSN policy and programme planning, linked to national development planning, and for setting local, national, regional and global priorities for better production and use of data in FSN decision-making, aligned to required analysis, within the data and statistical systems, to inform these policies. Such mechanisms should ensure that civil society, academia, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, those in vulnerable situations and those subject to various forms of discrimination, and other relevant stakeholders have an active and well-defined role in determining priorities (para 1 a).

The Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition include, among others, the following recommendations:

- governments, intergovernmental organizations and development partners, across sectors at all levels, should work to enable healthy diets and improved nutrition through sustainable food systems, strengthened policy and legal frameworks and institutional capacities that address the multiple causes and consequences of malnutrition in all its forms and food-related economic, social and environmental challenges. This coordination should establish and/or strengthen multisectoral, multilevel and multistakeholder mechanisms that oversee the design and implementation of evidence- and science based, context specific policies, strategies, and interventions respecting cultural diversity that contribute to improved nutrition outcomes at national, sub-national and local levels (para 3.1.2a).

CFS endorsed the policy recommendations on [Investing in smallholder agriculture for Food Security and Nutrition](#), in 2013. These include, among others, the following recommendation:

- in order to address constraints on investment in smallholder agriculture in general, with special attention to those faced by women and youth, and thereby improve food security and nutrition, the CFS encouraged governments, together with smallholder organizations and other national and international stakeholders (civil society, local organizations, private sector, research institutions and international development partners), to Improve governance for agriculture and rural development through a coordinated multisectoral approach, with particular focus on smallholder agriculture, ensuring adequate participation of all relevant organizations, especially those representing smallholder farmers. This involves developing context-specific solutions for smallholder-sensitive public and private investments (para 1 c 8).

The Voluntary Guidelines to support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the context of the national food security include, among others, the following recommendation:

- states, international organizations, civil society, the private sector, all relevant non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders should promote the strengthening of partnerships and coordinated action, including programmes and capacity development efforts, with a view to strengthening the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security (Partnerships with NGOs/CSOs/private sector, para 14).

With reference to the CFS Principles on Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS RAI) at CFS 50 the Committee discussed the importance of boosting financing for sustainable development and access to resources for actions and efforts to achieve SDG 2 by 2030, in line with the integrated and indivisible framework of the 17 SDGs. Among other actions, Members:

- agreed that responsible investment in sustainable agriculture and food systems, aligned with the SDGs, is essential for enhancing food security and nutrition and in supporting the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security, and that appropriate responses - such as a significant increase in financing sustainable and inclusive food systems - are required to address the four pillars of food security and nutrition, and the SDGs (CFS 50 Report, para 26 c); and
- recognized that the CFS-RAI Principles, since their adoption in October 2014, have been utilized at global, national, and local levels, with coordinated effort applied by CFS Members, its Advisory Group, and the CFS Secretariat to ensure their dissemination and application in various international fora (CFS 50 Report, para 26 e).