

U.S. written inputs for the zero-draft of the CFS Policy Recommendations on Reducing Inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition

<p><b>TACKLE INEQUALITIES WITHIN FOOD SYSTEMS</b></p>	
<p><b>Access to natural resources and access to markets,</b></p>	
<p>1. Promote equitable tenure [<del>land</del>; U.S. add] rights and access to land, fisheries, forests, aquatic resources and other food production resources for all, [<del>including</del>; U.S. add] women and men, youth, Indigenous and vulnerable and traditionally marginalized people within the national context, in accordance with the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (CFS-VGGT) and other relevant frameworks; (<i>tenure rights</i>)</p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> Add missing word “including”, add “land” for specificity.</p>
<p>2. Develop and strengthen policies that foster a more enabling environment for vulnerable and marginalized groups to improve their access to markets for land, inputs, services, and water while <del>mitigating harm to these groups from concentration of resources</del> [<del>minimizing involuntary concentration of resources</del>; U.S. add]; (<i>access to resources</i>)</p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> replace “while mitigating concentration of resources” with “while <b>minimizing involuntary</b> concentration of resources”</p>
<p>3. Increase smallholders’, vulnerable and marginalized groups’ capacity to access to [<del>local, regional, and international</del>; U.S. add] markets by strengthening cooperatives, associations and networks, and other organizations which can expand their bargaining power and participation in value chains, prioritizing nutritious foods to address all forms of malnutrition; (<i>access to markets</i>)</p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> add: “local, regional, and international”.</p>
<p>4. Foster public procurement programs for public institutions, food assistance and school feeding and implement policies that prioritize family farmers and smallholders. (<i>public procurement</i>)</p>	

<p><b>Institutions and partnerships</b></p>	
<p>5. Facilitate formal and informal organizations of disadvantaged groups and build inclusive institutions and partnerships to foster their collective action and participation in decision-making processes by empowering individuals and communities to actively participate in shaping food systems; <i>(participation and representation)</i></p>	
<p>6. Promote, strengthen and implement FSN strategies, policies and programmes for supporting and enhancing the social and solidarity economy recognizing their role in providing decent work opportunities, particularly to the most disadvantaged, and in eliminating poverty; <i>(social and solidarity economy)</i></p>	
<p>7. Promote South-South and Triangular Cooperation, as well as North-South Cooperation, to improve disadvantaged groups' productivity and capacity to engage in all markets. <i>(cooperation for development)</i></p>	
<p><b>Investments in supply chains and in disadvantaged areas</b></p>	
<p>8. Increase investment in inclusive value chain approaches, labor rights protection, equity-sensitive storage, food processing and distribution to reduce inequalities in food supply chains; <i>(inclusive value chains)</i></p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> Request to define 'equity-sensitive storage'.</p>
<p>9. Increase responsible investment in infrastructure, logistics and supply chains [and / including; U.S. add] in disadvantaged areas by adopting territorial approaches and strengthening regional and local trade and market connections; <i>(improved connectivity)</i></p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> Tracked; consider replacing "and" with "including".</p>
<p>10. Create opportunities for smallholders, vulnerable and marginalized groups and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to access finance, including through credit, savings and insurance; <i>(access to finance)</i></p>	

<p>11. Invest in inclusive information systems across agriculture and food systems, leveraging digital technologies – such as market price information services, weather forecasting and video-based extension – to enable all stakeholders to make informed decisions and help overcome asymmetries in access to information; (<i>access to information</i>)</p>	
<p>12. Strengthen responsible investments in support of agroecological [and other innovative approaches, U.S.] that contribute to the transition to more sustainable, resilient, inclusive agriculture and food systems;</p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> Must maintain the “and other innovation approaches”.</p>
<p>13. Increase investment in research, extension, innovation, and technical assistance in collaboration with universities, research institutions, and civil society organizations, with the aim of improving linkages between institutional markets and disadvantaged groups, particularly smallholders. (<i>inclusive research and extension</i>)</p>	
<p><b>Food environments including processing, retail and trade</b></p>	
<p>14. Undertake proactive planning of food environments in areas of rapid demographic growth to ensure that all populations, particularly those most at risk of food insecurity and malnutrition, have equitable access to sufficient, affordable, safe and nutritious food. Depending on the specific context, this may include interventions to support the availability of accurate information for consumers about nutritional content in foods; (<i>healthy food environments</i>)</p>	
<p>15. Recognize the role of informal vendors in meeting the food security and nutritional needs of populations and develop planning and policy</p>	

tools that enhance their capacity to sell healthy, nutritious and safe foods; <i>(informal vendors)</i>	
16. Promote better access by disadvantaged groups to knowledge and innovation (e.g through training and capacity building), markets, financial services, logistics (e.g. storage, processing, packaging, and transport) and other services which are important to reducing food losses and waste at all stages of the food chain; (FLW)	<b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> Request rewrite. This entire paragraph is confusing. 'Access to knowledge' and 'FLW' should be separated, perhaps by two separate paragraphs.
<i>17. Develop and strengthen programs and partnerships, such as state, community, or public-private food banks and popular kitchens, that foster the recovery and redistribution of food fit-for-human consumption, in order to promote food security and the access to healthy food by disadvantaged groups. (food recovery and redistribution)</i>	<b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> Please rephrase to include the link between food security and food banks.
<b>TACKLE INEQUALITIES IN RELATED SYSTEMS</b>	
<b>Access to services and resources that impact food security and nutrition</b>	
18. Foster universal access to services that are relevant to food security and nutrition, including primary healthcare, [ <b>maternal, child and newborn care, care for orphans and vulnerable children and other vulnerable populations; U.S. add</b> ], immunization, nutrition education, housing, sanitation and safe drinking water; <i>(universal access to services)</i>	<b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> ... healthcare, add: " <b>maternal, child and newborn care, care for orphans and vulnerable children and other vulnerable populations,</b> " immunization, nutrition education...
<i>19. Foster universal access to social protection as direct support to food security and nutrition among the most vulnerable. This involves analyzing specific barriers to accessing social protection systems and promoting the participation of community organizations and actors in the design, implementation, and</i>	

<p><i>monitoring of social protection policies and programs; (social protection)</i></p>	
<p>20. <i>Promote access to decent work for all in agriculture and food systems by strengthening regulatory frameworks and the enforcement of laws and regulations [in accordance with national legal systems and institutions; U.S. add]; (decent work)</i></p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> Add “in accordance with national legal systems and institutions.” To include national context.</p>
<p>21. <i>Leverage fiscal space, including through measures [such as; U.S. add] progressive taxation, to prioritize basic public services and use the available resources to support those most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition. (fiscal space)</i></p>	<p><b>External Talking Points:</b> add “such as”.</p>
<p><b>Trade, investment and debt governance related to food security and nutrition</b></p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> Request clarification on what is meant by “debt governance”.</p>
<p>22. <i>Incorporate an equity focus into trade, investment related to food security and nutrition by addressing existing disparities of opportunity, wealth and decision-making power within food systems governance; (equity focus)</i></p>	
<p>23. <i>Foster increased transparency in the negotiation of multilateral trade and investment agreements to promote access to healthy diets and healthy food environments for all, while also prioritizing the needs of the most affected; (transparency)</i></p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> Delete paragraph.</p>
<p>24. <i>Strengthen the rules-based, and science-based policies to foster multilateral trade in agricultural products to increase food security and market access within a non-discriminatory, open, fair, inclusive, equitable and transparent multilateral trading system with the World</i></p>	

<p><i>Trade Organization at its core; (rules-based multilateral trade)</i></p>	
<p><i>25. Assess the food security and nutrition constraints associated with national debt and undertake appropriate measures for its restructuring, swap or cancellation; (debt relief)</i></p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> Delete paragraph.</p>
<p><i>26. Continue efforts to decrease agricultural subsidies which negatively affect production, food prices, nutrition, trade and environment. (subsidies)</i></p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> Delete paragraph as CFS’ is not the appropriate forum to call for a decrease in subsidies.</p>
<p><b>TACKLE SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND OTHER DRIVERS OF INEQUALITIES</b></p>	
<p><b>Systemic drivers of inequality</b></p>	
<p><i>27. Leverage SDG 10 (Reduce inequalities within and among countries) to address the systemic drivers of inequalities by promoting inclusion of marginalized groups in policymaking and practice; (SDG10)</i></p>	
<p><i>28. Promote a strong focus on reducing inequalities within interministerial and international platforms on food security and nutrition to enhance policy coherence and coordination across sectors such as agriculture, livestock, fisheries, forest, health, economy, finance, and trade; (multisectoral approach)</i></p>	
<p><i>29. Identify and manage conflicts of interests, including in research, by developing and strengthening safeguards against power imbalances in agriculture and food systems, and other safeguards to prioritize public interests and promote participatory decision-making; (conflicts of interest)</i></p>	

<p>30. Increase responsible and equity-sensitive investments that support the most vulnerable populations in developing countries through appropriate financing instruments, such as climate financing, blended finance, sovereign risk insurance, loss and damage funding; (financing for development)</p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> Question for clarification: Is “responsible and equity-sensitive investments” a defined term in this forum? If not re-phrase or deleting.</p>
<p>31. Develop and strengthen policies that pay specific attention to [<i>the unequal distribution of unpaid care and domestic responsibilities the disproportionate share performed by women and girls; U.S. add</i>] in food security and nutrition. These can include measures to reconcile paid work and unpaid care work responsibilities, such as flexible working arrangements [<i>U.S. delete – <del>for women and men</del></i>] and the provision of high-quality, accessible, affordable and inclusive childcare. (gender equality)</p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> add: “<i>the unequal distribution of unpaid care and domestic responsibilities the disproportionate share performed by women and girls</i>”.</p> <p>Delete: “for women and men”.</p>
<p><b>Climate, ecological, political and economic crises and FSN related actions</b></p>	
<p>32. Prioritize populations whose livelihoods and safety are threatened by climate change, conflict and other contemporary global crises through targeted policies and resource allocations, including by increasing, adapting and diversifying incomes and by increasing access to early-warning systems, anticipatory actions, climate risk management services; (protecting livelihoods)</p>	
<p><i>32bis. Promote sustainable food systems and ensure that promoting food security and nutrition does not lead to biodiversity loss</i></p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> add para:” <i>Promote sustainable food systems and ensure that promoting food security and nutrition does not lead to biodiversity loss</i>”.</p>

<p>33. Promote the participation of the most affected populations in climate action decision-making; (participation in climate action)</p>	
<p>34. Address the multiple drivers of food security and nutrition inequalities by working across fragile contexts and the humanitarian-development-peace nexus; (HDPnexus)</p>	
<p>35. Foster funding mechanisms to support the transformation towards more equitable <i>[and sustainable; U.S. add]</i> climate resilient food systems. (funding mechanisms)</p>	<p><b>Edit/Alternate language:</b> add “and sustainable” after equitable.</p>
<p><b>STRENGTHEN DATA AND KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS TO ENABLE IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING AND MONITORING OF EQUITY IN FSN-RELEVANT DOMAINS</b></p>	
<p><b>FSN data collection and analysis</b></p>	
<p>36. Prioritize capacity building on FSN data collection and analysis in areas where current relevant food security and nutrition data availability is poor, with a focus on those countries which are lacking resources, infrastructures, data literacy and skills, in order to guide decision-making related to FSN; (FSN data capacity building)</p>	
<p>37. Identify and fill data gaps through investment in FSN collection and analysis with the aim of assessing which groups have the poorest FSN outcomes in different contexts, paying special attention to historically marginalized groups and disadvantaged regions; (closing FSN data gaps)</p>	



<p><i>38. Collect and share data to monitor agriculture and food systems market trends, including market concentration; (market trends data)</i></p>	
<p>39. Promote innovative and inclusive governance frameworks for FSN data which strike the right balance between access, sharing and protection, while facilitating equitable access to data benefits. (FSN data governance)</p>	
<p><b>FSN related research</b></p>	
<p><i>40. Increase investment in agricultural and food systems research, including on FSN indicators and metrics that facilitate globally standardized reporting, with focus on inequalities in FSN outcomes and tailored to the most marginalized groups and areas; (equity-sensitive research)</i></p>	
<p><i>41. Promote the development and use of research that focuses on the systemic drivers of FSN inequalities, with special consideration to research carried out in and by developing countries, including qualitative research, engaging with local universities and local knowledge institutions, while also taking into account diverse knowledges, such as those of Indigenous and local communities. (diverse knowledge)</i></p>	