



COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

Fiftieth Session

"Making a Difference in Food Security and Nutrition"

10-13 October 2022

**MONITORING THE USE AND APPLICATION OF THE CFS
PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD SYSTEMS – SECRETARIAT’S ANALYSIS OF THE
CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED TO INFORM THE GLOBAL
THEMATIC EVENT**

Table of Contents

I. SUMMARY	2
II. BACKGROUND.....	3
III. CONTEXTUAL DEVELOPMENTS SINCE 2014.....	5
IV. SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER CONTRIBUTIONS ON THE USE AND APPLICATION OF THE CFS-RAI.....	8
A. Meta-data on the features of contributions received (e.g. from which constituencies - at global/regional/country level etc.);.....	8
B. Principles most frequently used;	8
C. Reported qualitative results - how were the CFS-RAI used and which principles were found most useful;	9
D. Reported key catalysts to successful adoption and/or adaptation;	12

Documents can be consulted at www.fao.org

NJ982

E.	Reported key constraints and challenges to uptake and/or use of CFS-RAI;.....	13
F.	Highlights on some good practices;	13
G.	Concrete next steps to enhance further use the CFS-RAI	14
V.	SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER CONTRIBUTIONS ON EVENTS ORGANIZED TO DISCUSS AND/OR DISSEMINATE THE CFS-RAI.....	15
A.	Meta-data on the features of contributions received;	15
B.	Key highlights on reported lessons from the events on CFS-RAI – at global/regional/country levels.....	18
VI.	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	19
	Annex 1: Contributions documenting the use of the CFS-RAI at different levels.....	20

I. SUMMARY

1. The CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI Principles) were approved by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in 2014. The CFS-RAI provide a comprehensive set of ten interconnected and complementary principles to promote responsible investment in agriculture and food systems that contribute to food security and nutrition, thus supporting the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security.

2. The CFS Secretariat issued two calls to its stakeholders to share their experiences in using the CFS-RAI, and the results of multistakeholder events organized to discuss the CFS-RAI, respectively. The inputs received will inform the CFS Global Thematic Event (GTE) that will take place at CFS 50 to take stock of the uptake of the CFS-RAI. Fifty-five (55) contributions provided relevant and complete information and were used to compile the analysis presented in this report

3. Forty-two (42) of the contributions received document individual experiences on the use and application of the CFS-RAI. Seven (7) contributions were received from civil society, 4 from governments, 4 from UN organizations, 4 from private sector, and 2 from academia. A total of ten (10) contributions were *jointly* submitted by several constituencies (see chapter IV. a), and eleven (11) contributions were received from “other” constituencies (see chapter IV. a). Thirteen (13) of the contribution document the results of multistakeholders events organized to discuss the use and application of the CFS-RAI Principles.

4. The contributions underlined the fact that all ten CFS-RAI Principles were relevant and useful for the work carried out by the different stakeholders. Stakeholders documented how CFS-RAI was used and how their experiences were consistent with the CFS-RAI Principles, in a wide spectrum of situations characterized by different contexts, needs and priorities.

5. The contributions documented several good practices that contributed to the successful use of CFS-RAI. These practices included the involvement of all actors at all levels in the design, implementation and monitoring of activities, and the contextualization of the CFS-RAI Principles and adapting them to specific contexts. This required an open, transparent and continuous dialogue, including the establishment of partnerships with key institutions, to coordinate all actors, including young people and women, at all levels and across sectors, with well-defined respective responsibilities and accountability for achieving agreed common objectives.

6. A significant number of contributions highlight the importance of a favourable political environment, reflected in national and regional strategies to address hunger and malnutrition at all levels. Stakeholders stressed the importance of a strong engagement and support of UN Organizations, CSOs, academia and other technical agencies, to disseminate, translate and adapt the CFS-RAI’s

Principles by providing technical workshops and practical tools for building and framing policies and programmes, and facilitating the integration of the CFS-RAI Principles into the national, regional and global legal frameworks. Finally, stakeholders recommended that use of CFS-RAI and other CFS policy products should be routinely monitored to measure progress in achieving the CFS vision of eliminating hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all.

7. The report is based on voluntary contributions that document experiences in using the CFS-RAI. This report does not provide baselines for future monitoring but establishes a reference by providing information on what is being done, what is foreseen to be done, where and by whom. It is in line with the CFS role of promoting accountability and good practice.

II. BACKGROUND

Context and rationale:

8. Responsible investment in agriculture and food systems 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. A significant increase in responsible investment in agriculture and food systems is required to address the four dimensions of food security and nutrition - availability, access, stability, and utilization, let alone the two new dimensions of agency and sustainability, increasingly referenced in the scientific literature ¹.

9. With the purpose to offer policy guidance and a common understanding of issues experienced by all stakeholders - governments, international organizations, investors and others - and ensure that investments in agriculture have positive impacts on food security and nutrition, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) decided, at its 36th Session in October 2012², to initiate an inclusive process for the development of principles for responsible agricultural investment, that would comprehensively consider all actors and possible types of investments to the agricultural sector.

10. Whilst the CFS-RAI policy process was to give due attention and consideration to existing related guiding frameworks³, the Committee “*urged the explicit recognition of smallholder-sensitive investment among the criteria for characterizing responsible corporate investment in agriculture*”⁴, and requested the Principles to address all types of investment in agricultural value chains and food systems including that of, by, for and with smallholder producers, that is made in agricultural research, extension and technology transfer as well as including foreign and domestic, public and private small, medium and large scale investments. Within the CFS-RAI policy process, a purposeful recognition of farmers’ crucial role as key contributors to food security and nutrition and as major investors in the agricultural sector, serves as the conceptual basis, as the need to secure and strengthen their capacity.

The CFS-RAI Policy Process:

11. The RAI Principles were developed by an Open-Ended Working Group over the course of 2 years, from October 2012 to October 2014, and adopted by CFS at its 41st Session in October 2014, through a multistakeholder, holistic, and consensus-driven approach which fosters global ownership and application. This process saw the involvement of, and technical support from, the three Rome-based Agencies – Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural

¹ CFS-HLPE [Report # 15 – Food security and nutrition: building a global narrative towards 2030](#)

² CFS 39, [Multi-year programme of work \(MYPOW\) and prioritization of activities for CFS](#)

³ In particular the 2010 *Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investments that Respect Rights, Livelihoods and Resources (RAI)* - undertaken by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the World Bank - themselves building from the 2004 CFS Voluntary Guidelines on [the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security](#), as well as the 2012 CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the [Responsible Governance on Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security](#) (VGGT).

⁴ More information available at: [CFS 2012/39/6](#)

Development (IFAD) and World Food Programme (WFP)⁵ – as well as governments, other UN agencies, civil society, non-governmental organizations, international agricultural research institutions, private sector associations, private philanthropic foundations, international and regional financial institutions.

12. The CFS-RAI addresses the core elements of what constitute investment in agriculture and food systems responsibly; identifies who the key stakeholders are, and their respective roles and responsibilities with respect to responsible investment in agriculture and food systems; serves as a framework to guide the actions of all stakeholders engaged in agriculture and food systems by defining Principles which can promote much needed responsible investment, enhance livelihoods, and guard against and mitigate risks to food security and nutrition.

The CFS-RAI GTE process:

13. At its 44th Session in 2017, CFS decided to hold Global Thematic Events (GTE) in Plenary every two years to share experiences and take stock of the use and application of CFS' main policy products. A GTE on the *CFS Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems* (CFS-RAI) was henceforth planned for October 2022, at CFS 50.

14. The objectives of the GTEs, as per their Terms of Reference⁶ endorsed by the Committee in 2016, are to:

- Share experiences and good practices in applying CFS decisions and recommendations through organizing events at national, regional and global levels;
- Foster the adoption, adaptation and scaling up of good practices and learning from experiences in implementing CFS policy guidelines;
- Monitor progress (qualitatively and quantitatively) in implementing CFS policy guidelines at national, regional and global levels;
- Draw lessons to improve the relevance and effectiveness of CFS work, including for the achievement of food security and nutrition national goals; and
- Increase awareness and understanding of CFS and CFS-endorsed policy guidelines.

15. The TORs recommend the organization of events that are country-owned, participative and inclusive (involving the full range of stakeholders concerned with food security and nutrition, in particular food insecure and vulnerable communities). They promote collaboration with existing CFS-like platforms and coordination mechanisms and joint reporting of the results of the events in consultation with all groups of stakeholders participating in these events. The recommended approach is consistent with the Principles defined in the CFS [Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition](#) (last update GSF-2021).

16. The GTE TORs clarify that practices should be consistent with the values promoted by CFS, as applicable, including:

- **Inclusiveness and participation:** all main relevant actors were involved and participated in the decision-making processes related to the practice, including all those who have or could have been affected by the decisions;
- **Evidence-based analysis:** the effectiveness of the practice in contributing to the objectives of CFS products was analyzed based on independent evidence;
- **Environmental, economic and social sustainability:** the practice contributed to achieving its specific objectives, without compromising the ability of addressing future needs;
- **Gender equality:** the practice promoted equal rights and participation for women and men and addressed gender inequalities;

⁵ More information available at: [FAO, IFAD](#) and [WFP](#)

⁶ More information available at: [CFS 2016/43/7](#)

- **Focus on the most vulnerable and marginalized people and groups:** the practice benefitted the most vulnerable and marginalized people and groups;
- **Multi-sectoral approach:** all main relevant sectors were consulted and involved in implementation;
- **Resilience of livelihoods:** the practice contributed to building households and communities resilient to shocks and crises, including those related to climate change.

17. In preparation for CFS 50 in October 2022, CFS issued, between September 2021 and April 2022, a call for inputs for reporting on the adoption and adaptation of the CFS-RAI to all CFS stakeholders to inform the preparation of the GTE on the CFS-RAI, ensuring a comprehensive, inclusive and transparent review of all actions related to the implementation of the CFS-RAI. See Sections IV and V on inputs received.

18. The call for inputs invited stakeholders to:

- document *individual experiences* in applying the CFS-RAI by a group of stakeholders (e.g. a member state, civil society, or the private sector); and/or
- share the results of multi-stakeholder *events* organized at national, regional and global levels to discuss experiences and good practices in applying the CFS-RAI.

19. This report summarizes the inputs received from stakeholders. It will be made available to delegates attending the GTE at CFS 50. It outlines experiences in using, adapting and applying the CFS-RAI; key catalysts, constraints and challenges; results obtained; good practices to be shared with CFS stakeholders; and anticipated future uses of the CFS-RAI.

III. CONTEXTUAL DEVELOPMENTS SINCE 2014

20. A significant increase in the quantity and quality of investments in food and agriculture is needed to help achieve food security and nutrition, improve food safety, create economic growth and opportunities, and to support the realization of the 2030 Agenda.

21. The CFS-RAI Principles serve as a framework to inform policy actions and guide policy makers and all relevant stakeholders engaged in agriculture and food systems to move forward the achievement of food security and nutrition worldwide.

22. Since their adoption in October 2014, various guidelines, key reports and initiatives have been developed by other stakeholders with a focus on responsible investments in agriculture and food systems, providing additional elements from different perspectives and angles to be taken into consideration when facing the issue of investments in agriculture and food systems⁷. For example, with the increasing frequency and impact of environmental, health and social crises, and the aggravated inequalities, the concept of sustainable and responsible investments (SRI) is quickly evolving, with emerging financial service providers developing approaches and methods to consider Environment, Sustainability and Governance (ESG) issues in business scenarios and decision-making.

23. In 2015, a *policy brief on Principles on Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems*⁸ was developed by the Transnational Institute (TNI), highlighting the Civil Society and Indigenous People's Mechanism (CSIPM) position in relation to the endorsement of the CFS-RAI. While they recognized the added value of CFS as the legitimate platform to consolidate a single set of standards on investment developed through the food security lens and anchored in a human rights framework, they also stressed that, as a result of negotiated outcomes, human rights principles were

⁷ 2018. [UNCTAD's reform package for the International Investment Regime](#).

⁸ 2015. TNI. [Policy brief on Principles on Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems](#)

placed alongside international trade and investment rules; smallholders were conflated with large holders; and the key role of the state was mentioned but then undermined through weak language.

24. FAO set up a Team specifically dedicated to support of the application of the CFS-RAI Principles in 2015 with a specific focus on the Organization's functional objectives capacity development, advocacy and strengthened partnerships. The RAI Team, which is part of the Organization's Partnerships and UN Collaboration Division, has launched the Umbrella Programme "Supporting responsible investments in agriculture and food systems" in 2016. Since then, the RAI Team has supported 26 countries in applying the CFS-RAI Principles.

25. In 2016, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) launched a needs-driven *Umbrella Programme*⁹ to enhance responsible investment in agriculture and food systems with a view of addressing the global challenges of food security and hunger, particularly in low income countries. This programme builds on existing guiding instruments - including the CFS-RAI Principles, and the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the *Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security*¹⁰ (VGGT), and includes support for the implementation of these CFS policy tools. In line with the CFS-RAI Principles, FAO recognizes that enhancing responsible investments in agriculture and food systems is a collective responsibility of all stakeholders and requires their greater engagement. To this end, FAO organized several multi-stakeholder capacity assessment events¹¹ between 2015 and 2017 to raise awareness, increase engagement across a range of key stakeholders and initiate the identification of capacity development needs at the global and regional levels, thus identifying the needs and priorities of all relevant stakeholders for the Umbrella Programme.

26. In the same year, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and FAO developed the *OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains*¹² to help enterprises observe standards of responsible business conduct and undertake due diligence along agricultural supply chains in order to ensure that their operations contribute to sustainable development. This Guidance aims to prevent risks of adverse environmental, social and human rights impacts, considering existing standards that are relevant for responsible business conduct along agricultural supply chains, including the CFS RAI's Principles, and the CFS VGGT.

27. In 2018, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) launched the [SDG Impact: Investment Solutions for Global Impact](#) initiative to help investors and enterprises operate more sustainably and contribute positively to sustainable development and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It focusses on 3 pillars – facilitation, intelligence (and mapping), and management (and standards setting). The SDG Facilitation events help to guide implementation of SDG Investor Maps, defining viable investment opportunities for the private sector to create positive social, environmental, and economic impact. The [UNDP Standards](#) are decision-making standards, not performance or reporting standards, and are designed to help organizations integrate operating responsibly and sustainably and contributing positively to sustainable development and the SDGs into organizational systems, investment frameworks and decision-making practices, using a common language and shared approach to do so.

28. In October 2018, the ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry, officially adopted the ASEAN RAI Guidelines¹³ focusing on promoting responsible investment in the ASEAN region's food, agriculture and forestry sectors. These Guidelines, developed through an inclusive, multi-stakeholder process, are inspired by, and grounded in, the *Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems* (CFS-RAI), with the primary purpose of contributing to regional economic

⁹ 2016. FAO. [Umbrella Programme - supporting responsible investments in agriculture and food systems](#)

¹⁰ 2012. CFS. [Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security](#)

¹¹ See here to read more: [Overview of the FAO Umbrella Programme](#)

¹² 2016. OECD-FAO. [Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains](#)

¹³ 2018. [ASEAN RAI Guidelines](#).

development, food and nutrition security, food safety and equitable benefits, as well as the sustainable use of natural resources.

29. In 2018, the European Commission launched the new Africa-Europe Alliance for sustainable investment and jobs¹⁴ to boost public and private investments in African countries, including in the agricultural sector, and for the farmers' organizations. The EU demonstrated a strong commitment in the use and application of the CFS-RAI Principles - as well as of the CFS VGGT - and supported countries to develop technical guides that facilitate the use and application of these policy tools.

30. Two years ago, in 2020, FAO and IISD, with the support of the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL), developed a practical handbook for parliamentarians on responsible investments in agriculture and food systems¹⁵. It aims at informing and inspiring parliamentarians and their advisors *'to advance along the road of positioning the CFS-RAI Principles on the public agenda, in the legislative drafting process, for the approval of budgets and the oversight of policies'*. It also highlights that while the CFS-RAI Principles have since their endorsement become the benchmark on how to design and implement agricultural investments responsibly towards sustainable development, transparent and stable policies, legal frameworks and incentives at country and regional levels are essential to take the CFS-RAI Principles to the next level¹⁶.

31. Also in 2020, the United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) released a new report on [Investing with SDG Outcomes](#) providing signatories with a new high-level framework of investor actions to shape outcomes in line with the UN's SDGs. The report lays out how investors shape both positive and negative outcomes of pressing global issues such as human rights abuses, climate change and social inequality, and argues that investors can look beyond financially material environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues, and consider taking on societal and environmental issues on a systemic level as part of their investment strategies, and wider collaborative actions, to support achievement of the SDGs by 2030¹⁷.

32. With less than 8 years left to achieve the objectives of the 2030 Agenda, it is clear that a significant increase in investment of various types in agriculture, food systems and rural development is needed towards the achievement of the SDGs.

33. All these initiatives, guidelines, events, capacity development and awareness raising workshops highlight the crucial role of responsible investment in the global food security and nutrition arena. Without responsible and positive investments towards agriculture and food systems, we cannot address the four dimensions of food security and nutrition - availability, access, stability, and utilization- thus we cannot enhance food security and nutrition either.

34. While the amount of work carried out by different stakeholders in this thematic area suggest that the CFS-RAI have been, and still are, a crucial tool to support policy makers in designing and implementing agricultural investments policy plans, they also demonstrate that these Principles need to be contextualized and adapted to take into consideration local realities, priorities and needs.

35. Their application requires a greater engagement of all actors involved in the food security and nutrition sector, including in support of small-scale food producers and workers by strengthening their participation in the planning and decision making processes around agricultural investments, as well as

¹⁴ 2018. [EU External Investment Plan \(EIP\)](#)

¹⁵2020. FAO and IISD. [A practical handbook for parliamentarians and parliamentary advisors](#)

¹⁶For further information please consult: 1) 2021. FAO-CCSI. [Guide on Incentives for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems](#); 2) series of [FAO e-learning courses on RAI](#).

¹⁷ 2021. FAO. [Policy brief: The right to food and responsible investment in agriculture and food systems](#); 2021. FAO. [Linkages between the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems and the Sustainable Development Goals](#)

in land and resource use and management.

IV. SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER CONTRIBUTIONS ON THE USE AND APPLICATION OF THE CFS-RAI

A. Meta-data on the features of contributions received (e.g. from which constituencies - at global/regional/country level etc.);

36. A total of sixty (60) contributions were received in response to the two calls for inputs. Fifty five (55) of the contributions provided relevant and complete information (submitted using the requested template) and were used to compile the analysis presented in this report. Thirteen (13) of them document the results of multistakeholders events organized to discuss the use and application of the CFS-RAI Principles. The list of contributions is provided in **Annex 1**. The events are summarized in **chapter V**.

37. Of the 42 contributions received to document individual experiences on the use and application of the CFS-RAI, 27 were at national level, 10 at regional level and five contribution was submitted at global level. All the contributions received are available on the CFS 50 web page of the [CFS website](#) in original language.

38. The most represented region in the national and regional experiences was Africa with 16 contributions, followed by Latin-American and the Caribbean with a total of 14 contributions, Asia and the Pacific with 6 contributions and Europe and Central Asia with 1 contribution.

39. Seven (7) contributions were received from civil society, 4 from governments, 4 from UN organizations, 4 from the private sector, and 2 from academia. A total of ten (10) contributions were *jointly* submitted by several constituencies, specifically: 4 contributions were jointly submitted by civil society and academia, 2 contributions by government and academia, 2 contributions by civil society and UN Organizations, one contribution was jointly submitted by a UN Organization, academia, donor, and ‘other’ (Swiss national committee of the FAO), and one contribution jointly submitted by civil society, private sector and academia.

40. Eleven (11) contributions were received from “*other*” constituencies, specifically: 7 from the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), 1 from the Latin American Parliament (Parlatino), 1 from the Parliamentary Front Against Hunger (PFH), 1 from the International Land Coalition (ILC), and 1 from the East African Legislative Assembly (Parliament).

B. Principles most frequently used;

41. All ten Principles of the CFS-RAI are critical to the meaningful implementation of the CFS-RAI and the contributions confirmed that they are all extremely relevant for promoting responsible investment in agriculture and food systems. Some of the Principles were mentioned more than others in the contributions, reflecting a greater focus on some Principles in specific situations, as appropriate. Although many of the contributions document the use of most of the Principles, additional efforts should be made to continue to encourage actors to engage with all the CFS-RAI Principles as they are interconnected and complementary.

42. The most frequently mentioned principles were Principle 1 “Contribute to food security and nutrition”, which was reported in 44 contributions, followed by Principle 2 “Contribute to sustainable and inclusive economic development and the eradication of poverty” in 43 contributions (see Figure 1).

Table 1: Principles most frequently mentioned

Ten Principles of the CFS-RAI	Number of times each principle was mentioned
<i>Principle 1:</i> Contribute to food security and nutrition	44
<i>Principle 2:</i> Contribute to sustainable and inclusive economic development and the eradication of poverty	43
<i>Principle 3:</i> Foster gender equality and women's empowerment	32
<i>Principle 4:</i> Engage and empower youth	32
<i>Principle 5:</i> Respect tenure of land, fisheries, and forests, and access to water	33
<i>Principle 6:</i> Conserve and sustainably manage natural resources, increase resilience, and reduce disaster risks	32
<i>Principle 7:</i> Respect cultural heritage and traditional knowledge, and support diversity and innovation	19
<i>Principle 8:</i> Promote safe and healthy agriculture and food systems	29
<i>Principle 9:</i> Incorporate inclusive and transparent governance structures, processes, and grievance mechanisms	29
<i>Principle 10:</i> Assess and address impacts and promote accountability	29

Note: the table also includes principles mentioned in the contributions sharing the results of the multistakeholder events organized to discuss the use of the CFS-RAI; and most contributions mentioned more than one principle

C. Reported qualitative results - how were the CFS-RAI used and which principles were found most useful;

43. The experiences documented in the contributions had different objectives, and showed that the CFS-RAI Principles were used in different ways:

- **Awareness raising:** many awareness raising activities were implemented, including holding small to large scale events and information dissemination activities such as communication campaigns, workshops, seminars, technical group discussions and consultations, panel debates and dialogues, platforms, publications and policy briefs.

Examples of quantitative results: More than 1000 parliamentarians, from the ECOWAS region, received awareness raising trainings on the use of the CFS-RAI Principles, with a particular focus on principle 3 “Foster gender equality and women empowerment”;

More than 100 parliamentarians and advisers from the Latin America Region were trained providing them with increased understanding of the foundations and scope of the RAI’s Principles.

- **Capacity development:** many capacity development activities and trainings were documented, and supported by governments, UN Organizations - in particular FAO - CSOs¹⁸ and other specialized agencies and international institutes such as IISD. For example holding of trainings and workshops, development of advocacy and technical tools¹⁹, sharing experiences and good practices, peer-to-peer dialogues were highlighted, leading to a greater ability of:
 - government officials, parliamentarians, and other key actors involved in the policy making processes, in creating legal and policy environments that integrate the RAI’s Principles based on the context needs; and in reforming their contract farming laws²⁰; and
 - young entrepreneurs, rural women and other stakeholders to advocate for responsible investment in agriculture and take actions to influence policies that support their livelihoods and economies.

Capacity development activities were, in most cases, implemented together with awareness raising activities.

Examples of quantitative results: in 11 African countries, a series of multistakeholders capacity assessment workshops (organized by FAO²¹) were conducted targeting more than 125 representatives from governments, youth organizations, NGOs and private sector leading to increased capacity to implement the CFS-RAI. Moreover, participants were empowered to become agents of change;

In Malawi, through national workshops (organized by IISD-COMESA-FAO) around 40 government officials enhanced their understanding and capacity to use and implement the Principles of CFS-RAI to promote sustainable and responsible investment;

- **Creation of networks and Think Tanks:** many activities have been carried out leading to the creation of networks, core groups, and Think Tanks (e.g. Confederation of Young Agri-entrepreneurs Network, RAI and Gender core group, Think Tank on Young Agri-Entrepreneurs’ Investments, and network of academia) to bring together key stakeholders and facilitate their participation in constructive dialogues with policy makers with the aim of increasing responsible investment, including for young agripreneurs and rural women, and to

¹⁸ For example, AsiaDHRRA, which is part of the CSIPM, had invested in grounding the CFS-RAI’s Principles in the ASEAN countries through several activities, including awareness raising and capacity development trainings with a specific focus to empower women and youth on RAI.

¹⁹ For example: the Responsible Agricultural Investment Scoring Tool (RAI Scoring Tool); OECD-FAO tool addressing deforestation and forest degradation in agricultural supply chains;

²⁰ Contract farming laws were often revised based on [Model Agreement](#) (2018. FAO and IISD) which is aligned with the CFS-RAI;

²¹ 2020. FAO. [Catalysing young agri-entrepreneurs' investments and ensuring their sustainability – Strategic planning tool](#)

the dissemination of successful good practice that promote transformative changes in agriculture and food systems.

Examples of quantitative results: in Tunisia, a multi-stakeholder think tank consisting of more than 60 representatives from more than 25 institutions developed policy proposals to empower youth to engage in responsible investment in agriculture and food systems which were validated by hundreds of Tunisians via online consultations. Some solutions were also pilot-tested through the Agri-Accelerator Hub. Elements for a national strategy on RAI have been jointly published by the national Agricultural Investment Promotion Agency, the National Agricultural Research Institute and FAO

GESPLAN of the Polytechnic University of Madrid (UPM) coordinated the creation of a Network of Latin American Universities for the dissemination and application of the CFS-RAI's Principles taking advantage of the crucial role played by the academia in requiring a comprehensive approach to the university, including through insertion of the Principles for responsible investment in agriculture in the universities curricula.

- **Development/assessment of projects, national strategies, plans of action, agricultural investment codes, model contracts, legislative or policy framework:** many projects, programmes, national strategies, plans of actions, agricultural investment codes²², model contracts and legislative and policy frameworks were influenced by the CFS-RAI's Principles. Moreover, some projects included the use of analysis tools that aim to identify challenges and opportunities for responsible investment in agriculture in line with the CFS-RAI's Principles. Several small-scale food producers' organizations, young agribusiness organizations, and other CSOs engaged in a policy dialogue with governments, developing proposals for legal and/or policy frameworks.

Examples of quantitative results: in Burkina Faso, hundreds of people were involved in drafting, reviewing and adopting new (or revised) legal frameworks consistent with the RAI's Principles;

A number of national action plans were developed in Liberia, Mauritania, Senegal and Sierra Leone to create enabling environment for RAI;

- **Investments** (by governments, international institutions, private sector or non-governmental organizations- civil society-NGOs): a number of experiences documented investments by governments, international institutions, private sector or NGOs in favour of all agricultural and food workers, in particular smallholders, including youth and women with the overall objective of training them to increase their technical capacities and became agents of change as well as improving their income, creating jobs, improving livelihoods, thus contributing to the development of rural areas.

Examples of quantitative results: In Azerbaijan, over 10,000 smallholders farmers benefitted from targeted investment and support that contributed to creating and maintaining jobs, improving income and reducing poverty;

In Ecuador, the "Fundación Casa Campesina Cayambe"²³ (FCCC) documented a series of projects where investments were made in technical equipment and/or capacity building trainings for smallholders, including indigenous communities, to improve the quality and

²² A few examples: 1) Burkina Faso adopted a new [Agricultural Investment Code](#), consistent with the SDGs and the CFS-RAI; Ethiopia developed an investment Code of practice "[Social and Environmental Code of Practice for Responsible Commercial Agriculture in Ethiopia](#)" (SECoP) for implementing responsible investment in agriculture;

²³For more information visit: "[La Fundación Casa Campesina Cayambe y el modelo de desarrollo](#)" (FCCC)

quantity of agricultural production, hence contributing to improve their incomes and livelihoods.

- **Formulation and implementation of specific national and regional strategies:** formulation and implementation of specific national and regional strategies for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems in favour of all agricultural and food workers, in particular smallholders, including youth and women, were reported. Information was provided on formally approved national and regional policies and legislations that establish the obligation of the government to address the issues of food security and nutrition by applying the CFS-RAI's Principles.

Examples of quantitative results: efforts by parliamentarians from the Latin American and Caribbean region were documented to approve national and regional legislations (Model Laws) that incorporated the RAI's Principles;

ASEAN Member States (AMS) adopted an action plan for the implementation of the ASEAN-RAI, which are grounded in the CFS-RAI, to increase responsible investments in ASEAN's food, agriculture and forestry sectors.

D. Reported key catalysts to successful adoption and/or adaptation;

44. Several external factors have positively influenced the results obtained. The contributions highlighted several recurring key catalysts, i.e. externalities which were conducive to positive outcomes of the use of the CFS-RAI:

- **Favourable political environments**, reflected in national and regional strategies. The **priority given by governments** as well as **parliamentarians** to address hunger and malnutrition at all levels was mentioned as key, including by promoting responsible investment in agriculture and food systems and ensuring that national strategies are in line with the CFS-RAI Principles;
- **Strong engagement and support of UN Organizations, CSOs, academia and other technical agencies**, to disseminate, translate and adapt the CFS Principles for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems. In particular, **technical partnerships and support** to governments from UN Organizations, the Swiss federal office of agriculture, academia and other specialized agencies such as the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), to provide practical tools for building and framing policies and programmes and facilitating the integration of the CFS-RAI Principles into the national, regional and global legal frameworks;
- **Awareness raising activities among all stakeholders**, including governments, parliaments, civil society, academia, development agencies, international institutes, farmers' organizations and cooperatives and others to work together for developing initiatives, action plans and policy changes in favour of responsible investment in agriculture and food systems;
- **Multistakeholder dialogues, partnerships, and collaboration** among key stakeholders to develop and implement strategic plans addressing gaps in the implementation of the RAI's Principles;
- **Strong interest of all stakeholders**, including governments and UN Organizations to carry out initiatives that foster gender equality and women's empowerment, and engage and support youth in the agri-business sectors;
- **Participation and accountability** of local actors, including indigenous people, with capacity to identify context-specific solutions to integrate the RAI's Principles for more sustainable programmes and strategies in the agricultural sector;
- **Completeness and clarity of the CFS-RAI policy tool**, which includes a broad range of economic, social, governance and environmental issues that provides an excellent basis to develop context-specific responsible investments plans;

- **Learning programmes and technical workshops** focused on responsible investment in agriculture were key to identify priorities and needs of participants and align the use of the CFS-RAI Principles according to the needs arose during the discussions;
- **Successful integration of previous CFS policy tools** such as the CFS-VGGT into government structures has led to arousing interest in addressing specific issues in the context of agricultural investment by implementing specific CFS-RAI Principles into related policies, laws and programmes.

E. **Reported key constraints and challenges to uptake and/or use of CFS-RAI;**

45. This section provides an overview of the constraints and challenges in using the CFS-RAI Principles:

- **Low awareness of the existence of the CFS-RAI Principles**, leading to the recurring advice to improve communication to promote, share and disseminate them **at all levels**, including to grassroots stakeholders;
- **Absence of a favorable environment for investments**, especially by young people in the agricultural and agri-food sectors;
- **Lack of business continuity at managerial level** in governments and ministries affecting the implementation of initiatives and their successful outcomes;
- **Insufficient financial and technical support** to apply the CFS-RAI, including for transforming the theoretical concepts of the CFS-RAI into feasible and practical activities, projects and plans, and adapting the Principles to specific context needs and translating them into local languages;
- **Low political will and commitment** to implement the Principles;
- **Lack of availability of specific methodology and support material** that guide stakeholders in the identification of key concrete actions to operationalize the CFS-RAI Principles;
- **Ongoing conflicts** which pose major challenges to all economic and social developments, including barriers for the integration of the CFS-RAI to reform currently weak legal frameworks;
- The **COVID-19 pandemic** which caused numerous delays in carrying out activities, regardless of the interest and commitment of the partners involved;
- **Lack of well-defined accountability and effective multistakeholder coordination mechanisms** between multiple government sectors at all levels and with all actors involved to sustain dialogues, learn from sharing experiences thus support the uptake of the RAI's Principles;
- **Poor infrastructure** which disadvantages the agricultural activities of smallholders, in particular of those living in rural and remote areas.

F. **Highlights on some good practices;**

46. The contributions outlined a number of good practices that contributed to making the experiences in using the CFS-RAI successful. These include, but are not limited to:

- **Empowerment of all stakeholders**, enabling them to actively engage in the use of the CFS-RAI Principles in national and regional policies and programmes through:
 - Conducting capacity assessments²⁴ to understand what capacities need to be strengthened at institutional, organizational and individual levels as well as

²⁴ Examples of capacity assessment tools: 2018, FAO. [Empowering youth to engage in responsible investment in agriculture and food systems: Rapid capacity assessment tool](#); 2020, FAO and HAFL. [Catalysing young agri-entrepreneurs' investments and ensuring their sustainability – Strategic planning tool](#); 2021, FAO. [Rapid capacity assessment tool - Strengthening capacities to enhance responsible investment in agriculture and food systems](#).

preliminary consultations with government counterparts to determine all relevant ministries/agencies that would be best suited to attend the various meetings and technical trainings planned over the years;

- Effective sensitization of target groups, including government officials, parliamentarians, and communities through awareness-raising events and dialogues, and capacity building trainings in order to correctly apply the CFS-RAI's Principles and create engaged stakeholders that support each other to in enhancing the enabling environment for RAI;
 - Development of tools and instruments contextualizing the RAI's Principles and adjusting them to the specific realities;
- **Identification of well defined “entry point”**, based on national and local priorities, from which to target the initial stages of the project / programme in order to simplify the implementation of the Principles;
 - **Establishment of partnerships with key institutions** capable of supporting capacity development and technical support on responsible investment in agriculture and food systems, such as FAO, IISD, as well as other specialized agencies supporting the development of responsible investments policies that incorporate the RAI Principles;
 - Creation of **strong political will** and multistakeholder consensus;
 - **Utilization of the CFS-RAI policy guidance** as a tool that is essential **to complement** other existing tools on responsible investment in agriculture;
 - **Multistakeholder approach which brings together all relevant stakeholders, in an inclusive and participatory manner**, such as government and non-government actors, parliaments, academia, research institutions, affected and local communities, including women and youth, the private sector to design a common “roadmap”, implement and monitor activities for the successful uptake of the CFS-RAI Principles:
 - **Accountability** as a fundamental factor in building trust among partners, linking women and youth, and advancing the work without major resistance;
 - **Mobilization of financial resources** to support stakeholders in the implementation of the RAI's Principles;
 - **Definition of a monitoring mechanism** of the activities for the successful implementation of the CFS-RAI. A defined methodology should be developed to ensure monitoring is carried out in a consistent, transparent and comprehensive manner.

G. Concrete next steps to enhance further use the CFS-RAI

47. The contributions mentioned the need to improve the dissemination of the CFS-RAI's Principles to raise stakeholders' and duty-holders' awareness of its existence and ensure networking and coordination, in particular with policy makers and people on the ground. This will be done through the development (or maintenance) of multistakeholder platforms, education tools, technical trainings, learning programmes, seminars, workshops, conferences and publications. This includes programmes to empower youth and rural women to engage with RAI and participate in policy-making processes related to RAI.

48. In partnerships with specialized agencies, the CFS-RAI will continue to be used as a basis to design and develop new guidelines at national level, policy tools and model contracts for investors and/or to update and complement existing instruments to operationalize the CFS-RAI Principles with concrete and practical measures and to monitor the implementation by different actors of its Principles at national, regional and global levels.

49. Stakeholders will seek to improve the enabling environment for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems, increase high-level political commitment in using the CFS-RAI to develop, improve and monitor the implementation of strategies, policies, laws and programs with corresponding (increased) public and private responsible investment in agriculture, including to support young entrepreneurs, to achieve food security and nutrition.

V. SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER CONTRIBUTIONS ON EVENTS ORGANIZED TO DISCUSS AND/OR DISSEMINATE THE CFS-RAI

A. Meta-data on the features of contributions received;

50. Thirteen contributions were received to document the results of the multistakeholder events. The list of contributions is provided in Annex 1. Events differ in terms of geographic coverage (3 national, 6 regional and 4 global), scope and participation. All events were attended by several groups of food security and nutrition stakeholders including governments, parliamentarians, CSOs, academia, UN organizations and the private sector. Communities affected by food insecurity and malnutrition were either represented or directly participated in all global, regional and national events. The events are briefly presented below.

E1. National level - Gabonese Republic, “Capacity building workshop for Gabonese parliamentarians on responsible investments in agriculture and food systems”, 3-4 March 2022

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) and the Gabonese Parliamentary Alliance for Food and Nutritional Security (APGSAN) organized capacity building workshops to increase parliamentarians’ awareness on the CFS-RAI, and to provide them with guidance on their role in creating enabling policy environments that promote sustainable and responsible investments in agriculture and food systems. Parliamentarians committed to ensure that their national, legislative and institutional frameworks are in line with the CFS-RAI, and to continue building capacity of parliamentarians and parliamentary officials.

E2. National Level – Republic of Congo, “Capacity Building Workshop for Parliamentarians on Responsible Investments in Agriculture and Food Systems”, 23-24 November 2021

Following a webinar on “the role of parliamentarians in strengthening responsible investments in agriculture in Africa” organized in December 2020 by FAO, IISD, the Pan-African Parliament, the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) and the Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), parliamentarians expressed their interest to be better informed about the CFS-RAI Principles. In November 2021, FAO, IISD and the Congolese Parliamentary Alliance for Food and Nutrition Security organized capacity building workshops for 150 members of the National Assembly and Senate of the Republic of Congo to increase awareness on the CFS-RAI and provide a better understanding of this policy instrument. As follow up actions, the Congolese Parliamentary Alliance for Food and Nutrition Security will develop a roadmap aimed at concretizing the commitments made during this workshops to move towards more sustainable food systems in Africa.

E3. National level – Lao PDR, “National Multistakeholder Dialogue on Responsible Agricultural Investment”, 10 November 2021

The Multistakeholder Dialogue was co-organized by the government of Lao PDR with the support of FAO in collaboration with Helvetas, and the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ). A total of 151 participants attended the day-long dialogue, of which 69 from government agencies (at central, provincial and district levels), 58 from UN/CSOs/NGOs, 9 from the academia, 2 from the private sector, and 14 identified as freelance consultants. This Dialogue provided an opportunity to discuss how to enhance an enabling environment for RAI in Lao PDR. Moreover, a survey was made during the dialogue showing that participants agreed that, while Lao PDR has recently attracted more responsible investments, there are still many RAI-related issues in agriculture and forestry in Lao PDR such as contract farming, land leasing provisions, and pesticide misuse. A series of additional RAI dialogues are planned for the current and coming years on key priority actions such as strengthening legal framework related to RAI, raising awareness to targeted audience, building capacity to local stakeholders, clarifying roles and responsibilities among sectors and actors.

E4. Regional level – Latin America and Caribbean, “*Application of the CFS-RAI Principles to the agro-industrial business sector*”, 24 March 2022, Lima.

Representatives from UN Organizations, CSOs and private sector participated in an event organized by the Polytechnic University of Madrid (UPM) that aimed to present the results obtained from a Programme carried out between December 2021 and January 2022 and focused on the use of the CFS-RAI Principles in each specific context (cooperative, company, productive association etc.). This Programme included 69 participants from 10 countries grouped into 8 working groups, and a total of 20 universities from 10 countries which worked to disseminate the CFS-RAI Principles contributing to the success of this exercise. This event showed that each participant of the Programme could analyze each RAI Principle to their specific context, also determining their shortcomings, and associated a number of objectives next to each RAI’s principle in order to achieve them. This will allow an improvement in the governance of the entities participating in the event.

E5. Regional level – Latin America and Caribbean, “*Towards responsible business conduct with the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture (IRA) and Agrifood Systems*”, 3-4 November 2020, Lima

Representatives from UN, CSOs and private sector participated in a two-day seminar organized by the academic world with the aim of making producers, entrepreneurs, directors of associations and academics more familiar with the CFS-RAI Principles thus facilitating their incorporation into companies’ workplans and objectives ([Letter of Agreement FAO/FGUPM of 11-29-2019](#)). This would generate a greater collaboration and dialogues between the actors involved and an improved governance in the businesses. More than 200 people participated in the seminar either as observers or as speakers, and managers of large companies/ associations in the agri-food sector showed that they are applying specific RAI’s Principles according to their needs. A new Letter of Agreement is being developed (from June 2021 to July 2022) with the objectives of increasing awareness and strengthening implementation of the CFS-RAI. In addition, new training activities for the agro-industrial business sector will be organized.

E6. Regional level – Latin America and Caribbean, “*Towards a transformative global university teaching: the CFS-RAI principles for responsible investment in agricultural and food systems*”, 1 -2 October 2020, Ecuador

About 250 representatives from UN, CSOs, private sector and academia participated in a two-day conference organized by the academic world with the main objective of exchanging experiences on the use and application of the CFS-RAI Principles, particularly their inclusion into the university curricula, and share lessons learned as well as ideas to continue advancing the dissemination of the Principles. During the conference, a [website](#) was launched as an academic initiative of the research group Gesplan-UPM which collects all information related to the training program on the principles for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems in collaboration with FAO, with the idea of transparently showing a synthesis of the work carried out since 2016.

E7. Regional level – Latin America and Caribbean, “*Strengthening capacities on legal and policy frameworks for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems: capacity needs assessment workshops*”, 16-18 May 2018 Guatemala, 19-21 September 2018, Dominican Republic

The International Development Law Organization (IDLO) and FAO organized a series of capacity needs assessment workshops to assess national capacity needs required to enhance responsible agricultural investment in Guatemala and Dominican Republic. It was highlighted that in both countries there is an extensive legal framework related to investments in agriculture, and this could be strengthened by aligning it with the CFS-RAI. However, a limited knowledge of the CFS-RAI Principles and their relevance into these national contexts resulted in limiting the effective adoption at national level in both countries.

E8. Regional level – Africa, “*The role of parliamentarians in enhancing responsible investments in agriculture for the transition toward more sustainable food systems in Africa*”, 15 December 2020

The Pan-African Parliament, East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) parliament co-organized an event with FAO and civil society to explore linkages between responsible investments in Agriculture and the SDGs; consider how parliamentarians have promoted the meaningful participation of women in Agriculture and food security; and how the FAO-IISD [“Responsible investments in agriculture and food systems – A practical handbook for parliamentarians and parliamentary advisors”](#) can be implemented. Among several points discussed, it was highlighted the importance of the CFS-RAI Principles being leveraged upon and incorporated into transparent and stable policies, legal frameworks, and incentives at country and regional levels. Moreover, the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat and the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) decided to revive the process of development of the EAC Model Contract for agribusiness investment as tool for governments, parliamentarians, farmers, investors, and civil society that creates a regional benchmark based on the CFS-RAI.

E9. Regional level – Europe, “*The role of responsible investments in agriculture for the transition towards more sustainable food systems*”, 7 December 2020

About 130 representatives from the UN, CSOs, academia, the European Commission and Council of the European Union, and parliamentarians and parliamentary advisors from the European Parliament, participated in this event jointly organized by the European Parliamentary Alliance against Hunger and Malnutrition and FAO., The main objective was to discuss the importance of responsible investments in agriculture for the transition towards more sustainable food systems. During the event it was highlighted that, whilst prior to the event the European Parliamentary Alliance against Hunger and Malnutrition and European Institutions had limited knowledge about the CFS-RAI Principles, the CFS-RAI Principles should be used as a tool towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and members of the European Parliament should be brought together to discuss on their role in the enhancement of RAI within the European Union, including increasing their commitment in applying the CFS-RAI Principles.

E10. Global level – “*Incentives for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems*”, 30 June 2021

This event co-organized by FAO and academia (specifically the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment – CCSI), has increased the understanding of its 268 participants from governments, UN, CFS, civil society – in particular the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), and the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA), on the CFS-RAI Principles and investment incentives as practical tools to increase responsible investments. During the event, the [FAO-CCSI Guide on Incentives for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems](#) was presented. The FAO-CCSI Guide is based on the CFS-RAI Principles, provides policymakers and government technical staff with guidance on how investment incentives can be used (and how they should not be used) to enhance responsible investment in agriculture and food systems. The event also

presented the Agri-Accelerator Hub Tunisia which has provided incubation services blended with trainings on RAI and territorial development.

E11. Global level – “*International Symposium on the topic: “Parliamentary Networks and Food Security Challenges”*”- 30-31 October and 1 November 2019, Morocco

The Association of Senates, Shoora and Equivalent Councils in Africa and the Arab World in cooperation with the Council of Advisors in the Kingdom of Morocco and FAO organized this event on “Parliamentary Networks and Food Security Challenges”. The event showed that a lot of efforts have been made in several regions around the world to contribute to achieving food security and ending hunger. In particular, it was stressed that activities related to the RAI Principles 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9 were carried out. Moreover, the event represented an opportunity to increase knowledge among parliamentarians through the dissemination of good practices and lessons learned, build capacities of parliamentarians in order to strengthen the appropriate legal frameworks to meet the challenges of food security and nutrition, and raise awareness of the importance of responsible investment in agriculture and food systems to achieve the sustainable development goals.

E12. Global level – “*Implementing CFS Guidelines for People and Planet*”, 3 June 2021 (at CFS48)

Representatives from governments, UN, CSOs, private sector, and academia participated in this event organized by the UN with the aim of showing how CFS policy products, including the CFS-RAI Principles have been used by organizations representing various stakeholder groups, including business (WBCSD), civil society (the World Benchmarking Alliance - WBA), farmers (WFO), science (CIAT). In particular, the WBA gave a technical presentation to how the CFS-RAI and CFS-VGGT Principles have been used in the development of [WBA’s Food & Agriculture Benchmark](#). The WBA has aligned its Food and Agriculture methodology with the CFS-RAI and in 2021, 350 of the global leading food and agriculture companies across the globe have been assessed against the benchmark methodologies. WBA will assess additional companies until 2023 allowing to inform corporate disclosure developments against the CFS-RAI Principles.

E13. Global level – “*Webinar on Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems*”, 25 November 2021

The ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) co-organized a webinar on responsible investment in agriculture and food systems with FAO, and IISD. The event aimed to introduce the concept of responsible investments in agriculture and food systems showing that the CFS-RAI Principles were adapted into relevant national laws and regulation, including through the use of the ASEAN RAI Guidelines. During the webinar, participants were familiarized with the ASEAN RAI Guidelines and with the Handbook for Parliamentarians on RAI. Further integration of the ASEAN RAI into national policies of each ASEAN Member Country is envisaged, and FAO and IISD will continue providing technical assistance to the AIPA parliamentarians for advocacy and guidance on RAI promotion and implementation.

B. Key highlights on reported lessons from the events on CFS-RAI – at global/regional/country levels

51. The experiences discussed during the events reflected similar approaches documented in the experiences submitted individually. Some examples of key highlights on reported lessons from events are presented below:

- Events, workshops, trainings and **awareness-raising activities** on the CFS-RAI Principles are necessary to ensure that policy makers become familiar with the Principles and thus allow the alignment of national regulatory frameworks to the RAI Principles;

- Raising awareness to **targeted audiences** regarding the RAI Principles in order to **contextualize** them based on the needs of specific regions or countries, and promote their application through legislation and policies at national level;
- **Capacity building trainings** were recognized as essential activities to guide key stakeholders, including parliamentarians and government representatives, in the implementation of the CFS-RAI Principles into national legal frameworks;
- The need of **developing capacities of investors** for them to operate in line with the RAI Principles was highlighted;
- **Strengthening coordination and dialogue** between governments, companies and communities were found key to achieve successful results. In particular, it was highlighted that **coordination mechanisms** could facilitate the use of the CFS-RAI Principles, keeping **inclusiveness and participation** as guiding principles;
- A **lack of clarity on roles and responsibilities** among government agencies and other key actors was found, and the "[*Practical Handbook for Parliamentarians and parliamentary advisors*](#)" was considered extremely useful to provide them with guidance on the implementation of the CFS- RAI, including ASEAN RAI;
- Establishment of a systematic investment **monitoring and evaluation mechanism** plays a crucial role to identify gaps, overcome them and monitor progress the implementation of the RAI's Principles.

VI. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

52. Many contributions have highlighted the relevance of the CFS-RAI as a guiding tool to design, implement and monitor initiatives that address the core elements of what makes investment in agriculture and food systems responsible; identify who the key stakeholders are, and their respective roles and responsibilities with respect to responsible investment in agriculture and food systems; and guide the actions of all stakeholders engaged to promote much needed responsible investment. The CFS-RAI was considered valuable in ensuring the coherence and coordination of the initiatives of all actors involved or in measuring progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda and the progressive realization of the right to adequate food.

53. The contributions documented how the CFS-RAI was used and how experiences were consistent with the CFS-RAI Principles in various contexts. They underlined the fact that the empowerment of all stakeholders, through awareness raising activities and capacity building trainings, was key to enable them to actively engage in the use of the CFS-RAI Principles in national and regional policies and programmes. Moreover, stakeholders recommended the establishment of multistakeholders dialogues, partnerships, and collaboration among key stakeholders to coordinate the application of the interconnected and complementary Principles of the CFS-RAI. This requires the involvement of actors and organizations with different mandates, competencies and operational modes, at national and local levels and across sectors, from parliaments, governments and non-government entities, UN bodies, donors, academia and research institutions, and most importantly the grass root stakeholders. Responsibilities and accountability of each actor should also be clearly established.

54. CFS stakeholders recommended continuing monitoring the use of the CFS-RAI and other CFS policy products to measure progress in achieving the CFS vision of eliminating hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all.

Annex 1: Contributions documenting the use of the CFS-RAI at different levels

CONTRIBUTIONS DOCUMENTING EXPERIENCES IN THE USE AND APPLICATION OF THE CFS PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS
Country level contributions
Africa
A 1. Burkina Faso: Adoption of an Agricultural Investment Code in Burkina Faso
A 2. Ethiopia: Integration of the CFS-RAI Principles in Ethiopia's legal framework for agricultural investment
A 3. Madagascar: L'application des principes CSA-RAI aux zones d'émergence agricole à Madagascar
A 4. Malawi: Malawi's integration of the CFS-RAI principles in contract templates for the Greenbelt Authority
A 5. Niger: Le Complexe de Magasins de stockage d'oignon à Echangeur Géothermique
A 6. Senegal: Vers une confédération de réseaux de jeunes agri-entrepreneurs sénégalais œuvrant en faveur d'un accroissement de l'investissement responsable dans l'agriculture et les systèmes alimentaires
A 7. Sierra Leone: A roadmap for responsible investment that empower women and promote gender equality in agriculture and food systems
A 8. Tanzania: Dairy Nourishes Africa
A 9. Tunisia: Stimuler et pérenniser les investissements agricoles responsables des jeunes agri-entrepreneurs en Tunisie
A 10. Zambia: Zambia's experience
Asia and the Pacific
P 1. India: India's experience
P 2. LAO PDR: Development of legal instruments for responsible investment in agriculture in Lao PDR
P 3. LAO PDR: Youth in Agriculture in Lao PDR – Raising awareness and developing the capacities of youth on RAI
P 4. Philippines: Responsible Investments in Agriculture: A private Sector Experience with Morination as ASEAN Case Study in the Philippines
Europe and Central Asia
EcA 1. Azerbaijan: Investment in expanding operational capacity for cotton ginning
Latin America and the Caribbean
L 1. Argentina: Desarrollo rural inclusivo: proyecto piloto en una comunidad rural deprimida
L 2. Bolivia: Implementación de Parcelas Demostrativas para la Seguridad Alimentaria

L 3: Bolivia: Mujeres campesinas e indígenas empoderadas hacia la seguridad alimentaria sostenible
L 4: Colombia: Sustitución de Cultivos Ilícitos en zonas de posconflicto en Colombia – Asociación de Productores de Cacao de Vistahermosa - Meta “AGROCAVIS”
L 5. Ecuador: Acopio comunitario de leche (Fundación Casa Campesina Cayambe 2022)
L 6. Ecuador: Desarrollo rural comunitario mediante el uso autogestionado y sostenible del microcrédito Fundación Casa Campesina Cayambe 2022
L 7. Ecuador: Producción agroecológica de hortalizas en las comunidades del cantón Cayambe. Fundación Casa Campesina Cayambe 2022
L 8. Ecuador: Recuperación de sistemas de producción andina
L 9. Ecuador: Sistemas de optimización del agua en la agricultura Fundación Casa Campesina Cayambe, 2022
L 10. México: Incremento de la resiliencia y desarrollo económico de productores de maíz mediante la producción y comercialización de semilla propia en los Valles Altos Centrales de México
L 11. Perú: Alianza UNMSM-ACRICUCEN para el desarrollo de la producción comercial de cuyes en el valle del Mantaro
L 12. Perú: Desarrollo rural inclusivo invirtiendo en formación para el liderazgo de la mujer y el uso sostenible de la lana de alpaca en el altiplano Peruano
Regional level contributions
R 1. Animating the CFS-RAI tool in Southeast Asia with Rural Development NGOs and Rural Peoples’ Organizations
R 2. Compromisos y acciones en la aplicación de los Principios CSA-IRA en legislación regional y nacional, y en los planes trabajo del Parlamento Latinoamericano y Caribeño (PARLATINO)
R 3. Creating an enabling environment for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems – Blended Learning Programmes for Six Western African Countries
R 4. Fortalecimiento de capacidades para parlamentarias/parlamentarios y asesoras/asesores en torno a los Principios CSA-IRA (Frente Parlamentario contra el Hambre de América Latina y el Caribe (FPH-ALC)
R 5. From dialogues to action: Promoting gender equality and responsible investment in agriculture in the ECOWAS Region
R 6. Inclusive business models for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems
R 7. Learning programme on responsible investment in agriculture and food systems for graduate and postgraduate students
R 8. Promoting responsible investment in agriculture and Food systems in East Africa African Community: Experience from the East African Legislative Assembly
R 9. Stimuler et pérenniser les investissements responsables des jeunes agri-entrepreneurs

R 10. The development and implementation of the ASEAN Guidelines on Promoting Responsible Investment in Food, Agriculture, and Forestry (ASEAN-RAI)
Global level contributions
G 1. IISD Guide to Negotiating Investment Contracts for Farmland and Water
G 2. Land Governance Multistakeholders Platform & Responsible Agricultural Investment: A cross-regional exchange and learning cycle for land governance MSP facilitators
G 3. Model agreement for responsible contract farming
G 4. OECD-FAO Practical Business Tool on Deforestation, Forest Degradation and Due Diligence in Agricultural Supply Chains
G 5. RAI Scoring Tool
CONTRIBUTIONS DOCUMENTING MULTISTAKEHOLDER EVENTS ORGANIZED ON THE USE AND APPLICATION OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION
Country level contributions
E 1. Atelier de renforcement des capacités des parlementaires gabonais sur les investissements responsables dans l'agriculture et les systèmes alimentaires (Gabonese Republic)
E 2. Atelier de renforcement des capacités des parlementaires sur les investissements responsables dans l'agriculture et les systèmes alimentaires (Republic of the Congo)
E 3. National Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (MSD) on Responsible Agricultural Investment in Lao PDR (2021)
Regional level contributions
E 4. Aplicación de los Principios CSA-IRA, promovidos por FAO, al sector empresarial agroindustrial
E 5. Hacia una conducta empresarial responsable con los Principios para la Inversión Responsable en Agricultura (IRA) y los Sistemas Agroalimentarios
E 6. Hacia una docencia universitaria mundial transformadora: Los Principios CSA-IRA: Principios para la inversión responsable en la agricultura y los sistemas alimentarios
E 7. Strengthening capacities on legal and policy frameworks for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems: capacity needs assessment workshops
E 8. The role of parliamentarians in enhancing responsible investments in agriculture for the transition toward more sustainable food systems in Africa
E 9. The role of responsible investments in agriculture for the transition towards more sustainable food systems
Global level contributions
E 10. Incentives for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems

E 11. International Symposium on the topic: "Parliamentary Networks and Food Security Challenges" - الغذائي الأمن ورهانات البرلمانية الشبكات: موضوع حول الدولية الندوة
E 12. Implementing CFS Guidelines for People and Planet
E 13. Webinar on Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS RECEIVED
a. Civil Society Alliance for Nutrition (CSANN)
b. Department of Agronomy, The University of Agriculture Peshawar
c. FAO publications
d. Retired from the Ministry of Agriculture (Iran)
e. Imperial College, London