



COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

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CFS MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK 2020-2023

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I. CFS VISION AND OBJECTIVES ("Standing" Section)

A. CFS Vision

1. CFS “constitutes 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”.

B. CFS Overall objective

2. 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.
3. 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.

II. THEMATIC WORKSTREAMS AND SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES ("Strategic" Section)

A. Thematic Workstreams

Strategic objective 1 - Platform

4. Leverage the convening power of CFS as the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform to discuss the global FSN situation and seek to coordinate collective action at all levels.

Output 1.1 Inclusive discussions

5. Inclusive discussions on FSN developments, trends and emerging and critical issues can be documented through conclusions, reports, chairperson's summaries and other ways.

1.1.1 Food security and nutrition: building a global narrative towards 2030

Rationale:

6. Ten years after its reform, the CFS wishes to take stock of what it has accomplished through, among other things, various contributions of the High-level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Food Security and Nutrition with a view toward informing future CFS actions on FSN for all in the context of the 2030 Agenda.
7. In October 2018, the HLPE was requested to produce a stocktaking analysis, articulating the findings of its previous publications, updated as appropriate, in a coherent narrative around FSN and sustainable development.
8. The objective of this report is not to summarize all the previous HLPE reports but, rather, to elaborate in a forward-looking perspective a global narrative on FSN, enlightened by previous HLPE publications and considering the recent developments in the FSN sector. This narrative should reflect the current state of knowledge, highlighting the main areas of consensus or controversy, as well as the major challenges, gaps or uncertainties.
9. 2020 will be a milestone in the advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with only ten years left before the 2030 deadline. Such a report will help promote strategic guidance towards the achievement of SDG2 and the 2030 Agenda.

Objectives and expected outcomes:

10. The objectives of this activity and the expected contribution to future work of CFS will include:

- Highlighting, using concrete examples, the pathways through which the CFS policy recommendations built on those reports have contributed or could contribute to the advancement of the 2030 Agenda, of its goals and targets, at different scales;
- Informing the preparation of future CFS contributions to the High-Level Political Forum;
- Identifying the main factors affecting FSN that have not been considered so far and that deserve more attention to inform future discussions towards the preparation of future CFS MYPOWs.

11. The analysis will be framed within the CFS vision and take into account the perspective of the most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition as a way to define the actual and potential relevance of CFS and HLPE products.

1.1.2 Thematic events on data collection and analysis and reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition

Rationale:

12. The workstreams Data collection and analysis and Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition described under Strategic Objective 2 present mutual complementarities as well as interlinkages with other thematic workstreams included in section two of this MYPoW.

Objectives and expected outcomes:

13. The thematic events will precede the preparation of the respective HLPE reports to develop common understanding of issues and lay the basis for informed CFS policy convergence work around the two topics. Furthermore, the events are expected to complement the inclusive discussion around Building a global narrative towards 2030, as well as feed into the thematic workstreams on Gender equality and women's empowerment for food security and nutrition, and Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems.

Strategic objective 2 - Policy

14. Develop voluntary global policy guidance for policy convergence and coherence to achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote the progressive realization of the right to adequate food.

Output 2.1 Global policy guidance

15. Delivered through the preparation of negotiated policy products (voluntary guidelines, principles or other policy frameworks) and recommendations on strategic topics.

2.1.1 Food systems and nutrition

Rationale:

16. Combatting malnutrition in all its forms – undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity – is one of the greatest global challenges that countries face today. Urgent joint actions are needed to address these challenges, their main drivers, and the negative impacts of malnutrition.

17. It is crucial to promote policies that shape food systems to improve nutrition and enable healthy diets, bearing in mind the importance of strengthening economic, social and environmental sustainability of agriculture and food systems.

Objectives and expected outcomes:

18. The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) is leading a policy process which will result in Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition to be presented for endorsement at CFS 47 in October 2020. The preparation of the Voluntary Guidelines is informed by the scientific evidence provided by the report of the HLPE on Nutrition and Food Systems.

19. The Voluntary Guidelines (VGs) are intended to provide guidance, mainly to governments, as well as specialized institutions, and other stakeholders, on appropriate policies, investments and institutional arrangements needed to address the key causes of malnutrition in all its forms. In doing so, the VGs will be advancing the implementation of the Framework for Action of the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), as well as contributing to the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025).

2.1.2 Agroecological and other innovative approaches

Rationale:

20. The global food system is at a crossroads. In the face of a rapidly growing population, increased pressure and competition over natural resources, increasingly severe consequences of climate change, degradation of soils, and the loss of biodiversity, sustainable and innovative approaches need to be developed and applied to successfully combat hunger and malnutrition. It is key to promote sustainable agriculture and food systems. During the policy convergence process due attention will be paid to existing CFS policy recommendations, in particular those on "Sustainable agriculture for food security and nutrition, including the role of livestock".

21. Sustainable approaches and interventions have to address the challenges behind poverty and inequality, unhealthy diets and consumption patterns, soil degradation, land and water scarcity, climate change and loss of biodiversity. Given the challenges that food systems have to address in order to ensure food security and nutrition now and in the future, CFS seeks to build a better understanding of the roles that agroecological and other innovative approaches, practices and technologies can play.

Objectives and expected outcomes:

22. The objective is to broaden understanding on the type of interventions, enabling policies and tools, institutional arrangements and organizational changes that can enable and promote positive changes in sustainable agriculture and food systems.

23. The policy convergence process that will start at CFS 46 will result in the negotiated policy recommendations to be presented for endorsement at CFS 47 in October 2020. The preparation of the policy recommendations will be informed by the scientific evidence provided by the report of the HLPE on "Agroecological and other innovative approaches for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition". The policy recommendations should contribute to the 2019-2028 UN Decade of Family Farming, guiding the development and implementation of effective public policies.

2.1.3 Gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition

Rationale:

24. Persistent hunger and malnutrition is a problem affecting millions of people globally, the majority of whom are women and girls. A large body of evidence demonstrates that improving gender equality and empowering women and girls have positive effects on food security and nutrition. Numerous studies have shown that when women are able to earn their own income, they invest the majority of their earnings back into their families - on nutrition, healthy food, healthcare, schooling, and farming activities - which is crucial for food security, nutrition, and agricultural development.

25. Despite this evidence, and the numerous global commitments made to address gender inequalities, progress in eliminating gender discrimination in the context of food security and nutrition has been slow. Unfortunately, gender inequality remains the most pervasive form of inequality around the world, placing women and girls at a disadvantage in every sphere of life and every level of income.

26. This workstream will complement and reinforce the efforts of CFS to systematically mainstream gender issues in all of its products and activities.

27. Moreover, in view of the important role women play in family farming as well as in securing household food security and nutrition, the empowerment of women is also a priority of the UN Decade of Family Farming and the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition. This workstream will therefore support the implementation of the Action Plans of both Decades. Establishing complementarities and synergies with these two UN Decades will create opportunities for applying a more coordinated and integrated approach to tackling issues of women's empowerment and gender equality in the context of food security and nutrition.

28. Acknowledging that the principle of "leaving no one behind" guides the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and while also recognizing that gender equality is essential for achieving all seventeen Sustainable Development Goals, this workstream will support the country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with particular focus on SDG 2 (zero hunger) and SDG 5 (gender equality).

Objectives and expected outcomes:

29. The objective of the workstream is to develop a set of globally accepted Voluntary Guidelines (VGs) on Gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition. The VGs will provide Member Countries and development partners with concrete practical guidance on how to advance gender equality, women's and girls' rights, and women's empowerment as part of their efforts to eradicate hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition.

30. Through the VGs, CFS will address specific gaps and problems in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in the food and agriculture sector, and identify transformative interventions that can eliminate structural discrimination against women and girls and lead to improved food security and nutrition.

31. The Voluntary Guidelines will:

- Reference the mandates and commitments expressed in international fora (e.g. article 14 of the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); and general recommendation No. 34 (2016) of CEDAW on the rights of rural women) and other regional agreements and strategies (e.g. the Gender Strategy of the CELAC Plan for Food Security, Nutrition and Hunger Eradication 2025; the Gender Strategy of the African Union 2017-2027, etc.);
- Acknowledge the conclusions of the 62nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) regarding the empowerment of rural women and girls;
- Consolidate previous work of CFS on this topic, in particular: CFS Policy recommendations on Gender, food security and nutrition (CFS 2011/Final Report); the background document (CFS 2017/Inf 21) and outcomes of the CFS Forum on Women's empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition (CFS 2017/44/Report);
- Complement, and contribute to, effective implementation of existing policy guidance tools such as the VGGTs, CFS-RAI, CFS-FFA and the Right to Food Guidelines;

- Capitalize on the lessons learned and knowledge generated by the project being jointly implemented by the three Rome-based Agencies (FAO, IFAD, WFP) on “Scaling up gender transformative approaches to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture”;
- Prioritize among the following themes those that are the most relevant in the context of food security and nutrition, as well as CFS: i) underlying causes of gender inequality, lack of fulfillment and protection of women’s rights, women’s disempowerment, and their impact on food security and nutrition; ii) women’s participation in decision-making and leadership; iii) access to, and control over, natural and productive resources, and access to productive services; iv) access to decent work and markets; v) recognizing, reducing, and redistributing unpaid care work; vi) women’s role in food production, utilization, commercialization, and consumption; vii) mechanisms for the elimination of violence and discrimination against women and girls; and viii) enabling policies and institutional environments.

2.1.4 Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems

Rationale:

32. Young people are one of the keys to achieving sustainable development, in particular in developing countries, where the vast majority of them reside, often in rural areas.
33. There is a large untapped reservoir of employment opportunities in the agri-food sector. Yet, poor access to land, natural resources, infrastructure, finance, technology, knowledge, and poor remuneration for agricultural and food workers turn youth away from agriculture and from remaining rural areas. As a result, many feel that their best option is to migrate, either to urban areas or overseas. Actions are needed to make the agri-food sector more attractive to young people and to promote their capacity to generate incomes.
34. The potential returns of investing in young people are boundless in terms of food security, poverty reduction, employment generation, as well as peace and political stability.
35. As the average age of farmers worldwide approaches 60, it is essential to develop systems, policies, and programmes that engage more youth in agriculture and agricultural professions. Youth engagement and leadership are linked intrinsically to countless aspects of the achievement of food security and good nutrition for all. Among these aspects, interlinkages with gender equality and women’s empowerment, the rural-urban continuum and innovative practices and technologies, including new uses of data and knowledge-sharing platforms, are particularly relevant. The workstream will strengthen recognition of youth agency, autonomy, and diversity in food security and nutrition related policies.

Objectives and expected outcomes:

36. The objectives of the workstream are twofold:
- i) to initiate a discussion among all CFS stakeholders, including youth themselves, around fostering the participation of youth in FSN-related decision-making;
 - ii) to create a set of policy recommendations on engaging, recruiting, and retaining youth in agriculture and food systems as a key means of achieving the CFS vision, SDG2, and an array of other SDGs, with a secondary focus on SDGs 5, 8, and 9, 10. The CFS policy recommendations on youth are envisioned as a focused, action-oriented document that will encourage public policies to foster enabling environments capable of tapping into the energy and skills of youth to improve food systems.
37. The workstream will benefit from the findings and recommendations of a HLPE report on the topic. The report will:

- Review the opportunities for, and constraining factors to youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems, including youth access to: 1) knowledge, information and education; 2) productive land, natural resources and inputs; 3) productive tools, extension, advisory and financial services; 4) training, education and mentorship programmes; 5) innovation and new technologies; 6) markets; 7) policy-making processes;
- Examine aspects related to employment, salaries, and working conditions;
- Review rules, regulations and policy approaches, including territorial approaches, aimed at addressing the complexity of structural economic, cultural, social and spatial transformations currently taking place globally;
- Explore the potential of food systems and enhanced rural-urban linkages to provide more and better jobs for women and youth.

2.1.5 Data collection and analysis tools

Rationale:

38. Although it is widely recognized that sound decisions are based on good information and data, in many countries, particularly low and lower middle-income countries, the availability of timely and reliable rural, agricultural and food security statistics is largely lacking. Despite all efforts, most of these countries still do not conduct regular household and farm surveys, do not meet the minimum data requirements, lack sustainable data systems, and have insufficient capacity to analyze and use the data at their disposal.

39. Addressing the gap in quality data is also essential to monitor progress and understand where the world stands in achieving its shared goals - the SDGs. Custodian UN specialized agencies were identified for each SDG indicator to ensure that robust, global statistics were provided to measure progress in achieving the 2030 Agenda. However, the success of the SDGs rests largely upon strengthening data collection and statistical capacity-development at national level, including capacity building that strengthens coordination among national statistical offices.

40. In recent years, several initiatives¹ have begun to invest in strengthening national data systems through technical assistance, methodological innovation and research, and by supporting national capacity to collect, process, analyze, and use agricultural data.

41. Yet, beyond these first steps, more needs to be done at the global level to support the process of laying the groundwork for informed decision making, setting standards for improved data-driven policies around food security and nutrition, and strengthening effective monitoring, review and follow-up to deliver SDG 2.

42. Of course, data sources are wide and varied and should be collected and utilized with an eye towards transparency, openness, and consistent with legal standards and relevant human rights principles.

Objectives and expected outcome:

43. The primary objective of this workstream is to develop actionable policy recommendations that will strengthen the capacity of countries to collect, analyze, and use quality data to improve critical decision-making around food security and nutrition policies.

¹ The The Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics at FAO (GSARS), the World Bank's Living Standard Measurement Study's Integrated Surveys on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA), FAO's AGRISurvey programme and the new 50x2030 Initiative to Close Agricultural Data Gaps

44. The workstream will benefit from the findings and recommendations of the HLPE, which will produce a report on the topic. The report will:

- Identify the barriers impeding quality data collection, analysis, and use in decision-making;
- Identify specific high priority gaps in data production and analysis not covered by ongoing initiatives;
- Highlight the benefits of using data and the opportunity costs of not using data for decisions;
- Illustrate initiatives that have encouraged evidence-based decisions in agriculture and food security across the public, private, and academic sectors as well as approaches that have not worked;
- Provide insights into how to ensure data collection and its utilization give voice to the people most affected by policies stemming from that data, including farmers and other food producers.

2.1.6 Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition

Rationale:

45. Sustained disparities between vulnerable and other social groups – reflecting inequalities between and within countries - can slow growth and lead to political instability, migration fluxes, with related adverse consequences on food security and nutrition. Stark inequalities – including between rural and urban areas – in access to basic services and assets lead to unequal processes of economic growth and transformation. These inequalities affect households' prospects for overcoming rural poverty, food insecurity and malnutrition.

46. The relationship between inequality, food security and nutritional outcomes is evident in the data of certain countries. For instance, in Brazil the steep decline in stunting that took place in the 1996 – 2007 period (from 37.1% to 7.1%) was associated with an equally steep reduction in the gaps between poor and wealthy families with children under five. This was the outcome of a set of policies implemented in that country aimed at curbing what was a historically high level of income inequality.

47. The same pattern did not materialize in other countries, where the political will was weaker and the policy framework less conducive to reducing inequality.

48. The HLPE Note on critical and emerging issues from 2017 describes the relevance of inequalities for food security and nutrition in very clear and precise terms. Evidence shows that increasing risks to food security and nutrition can be linked to high levels of income concentration, corporate concentration in food trade, transformation and distribution, as well as to uneven distribution of agricultural assets and access to natural resources. All these elements affect the conditions of food security and nutrition.

Objectives and expected outcomes:

49. The proposed thematic workstream will contribute to the CFS vision and the overall objective of addressing the root causes of food insecurity with a focus on the people most affected by hunger and malnutrition.

50. The focus will be on inequalities within agri-food systems. The workstream will provide an analysis, based on a HLPE report, on drivers of socio-economic inequalities between actors within agri-food systems that influence food security and nutrition outcomes. Gender inequalities and the need to create opportunities for youth would inform the analysis, so there will be scope for complementarities with other MYPOW workstreams, although the overall focus will differ from these workstreams.

51. Specifically, the HLPE report will:
- Analyse quantitative and qualitative evidence relating to how inequalities in access to assets (particularly land, other natural resources and finance), and incomes within the agri-food systems impede opportunities for many actors to overcome food insecurity and malnutrition. Relevant data on asset endowments in rural communities will be useful in this respect, along with the findings of the 2019 SOFI report. Given the focus on agri-food systems and the key role of family farmers within these systems, linkages and complementarities with the UN Decade of Family Farming will be examined, including as reference to decent employment issues in the agri-food sector;
 - Analyse the drivers of inequalities and provide recommendations on entry points to address these;
 - Identify areas requiring further research and data collection, also in view of the opportunities provided by the ongoing joint effort of the World Bank, FAO and IFAD within the 50 x 2030 Initiative².

Strategic objective 3 - Uptake

52. Foster the uptake, follow-up and review, and sharing of experiences and best practices on the use and application of CFS products at all levels.

Output 3.1 Conclusion of follow-up and review sessions

53. Delivered through the follow-up and review of both global and country/region specific FSN situations, trends, progress, challenges and sharing lessons; assessing the effectiveness of CFS and voluntarily monitoring the use and application of its policy products and recommendations.

3.1.1 Global thematic events on CFS-FFA and CFS-RAI

54. The Committee at its 44th Session in 2017 decided to hold a Global Thematic Event (GTE) in plenary every two years to monitor CFS main policy products. A GTE will take place at CFS 47 in 2020 and another at CFS 49 in 2022 to share experiences and take stock of the use and application of the Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (CFS-FFA) in 2020, with a strong focus on the prevention of future conflicts that are presently impacting so heavily and negatively on global food security and nutrition, and the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (RAI) in 2022.

55. The CFS Plenary in 2017 also agreed to hold events on an ad hoc basis to monitor other CFS policy recommendations. Any decision to monitor other CFS policy recommendations in 2020-23 will be taken by the Bureau, after consultation with the Advisory Group.

3.1.2 Event to monitor the use of CFS policy recommendations

56. In line with CFS decisions (CFS 2017/44/11, an event will be organized to take stock of the uptake of two sets of CFS policy recommendations on Water for Food Security and Nutrition (endorsed in 2015) and Food Security and Climate Change (endorsed in 2012).

Output 3.2 Communication and outreach

57. A chief aim of this work will be to raise awareness of CFS and its work through the CFS website and social media, reporting to global bodies such as UN ECOSOC and sharing information

² FAO and the World Bank are working towards the definition of an integrated farm survey mode, which includes the socio-economic aspects such as access to assets and the associated inequality, along with poverty, well-being and food security measures. The 50x2030 initiative plans to promote the use of such an integrated model in up to 50 countries before 2030.

with other UN bodies, supporting outreach activities of the CFS Chairperson and Secretariat staff subject to available resources.

3.2.1 Forum - Dialogue and uptake of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food systems and nutrition

58. Following the ongoing CFS policy convergence process towards Voluntary Guidelines on Food systems and nutrition, the proposed activity is intended to leverage the convening power of CFS to provide the platform for CFS members to engage in a dialogue on implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines.

59. A Forum will take place at CFS 48 (2021) to provide an opportunity to discuss and mobilize political commitments from governments, donors, civil society, private sector, and the UN system for the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on food systems and nutrition. This will further help translate the commitments made through the Rome Declaration on Nutrition into SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time-Bounded) commitments for action, in the context of national food system and nutrition-related policies, and in dialogue with a wide range of stakeholders.

3.2.2 Forum - Dialogue and Uptake of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition

60. Following the CFS policy convergence process towards Voluntary Guidelines on Gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition, the proposed activity is intended to leverage the convening power of CFS to provide the platform for CFS members to engage in a dialogue on the implementation of the VGs.

61. A Forum will take place at CFS 50 (2023) to provide an opportunity to discuss and mobilize political commitment from governments, donors, civil society, private sector, and the UN system for the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on Gender equality and women's empowerment.

B. Supporting activities

B.2.1 CFS Engagement in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

62. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted in September 2015 calls for a global shift in the approach to development and provides a framework for countries to implement their commitment to leaving no one behind, including eradicating hunger and malnutrition.

63. The 2030 Agenda explicitly recognizes the important role and inclusive nature of CFS to advance food security and nutrition³. CFS decided to put the 2030 Agenda at the center of its work until 2030 by:

- a) providing space in its Plenary for global thematic reviews of progress as well as for governments and stakeholders to learn from one another, also based on the Voluntary National Reports to the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) that are presented each year in New York⁴;
- b) contributing to the HLPF global follow-up and review, based on the modalities to be agreed at the HLPF in July 2019 and SDG Summit in September 2019⁵.

³ A/RES/70/1 – 21 October 2015: Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – Para 24

⁴ CFS 2016/43/6 "CFS engagement in advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", endorsed at CFS 43

⁵ CFS 2018/45/Report, Para 23 e)

64. This supporting activity will also benefit from the upcoming HLPE report on “Food security and nutrition: building a global narrative towards 2030”, which will closely examine how CFS engages in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

B.2.2 CFS Multi-year Programme of Work

65. As established in Annex B of the CFS Evaluation Implementation Report, following the adoption of the MYPoW 2020-2023 at CFS 46 in October 2019, “annual updates of the rolling section of the MYPoW will be prepared by the Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group, and presented to the Plenary for consideration and endorsement. They are intended to reflect Plenary decisions, consider possible adjustment, and review implementation of the MYPoW. The updates will be carried out taking into account resource and workload implications.”

66. Following CFS plenary discussions on critical and emerging FSN issues at CFS 49 in 2022, Bureau and Advisory Group members, in the intersessional period 2022-2023, are expected to work on the preparation of the MYPoW 2024-2027.

B.2.3 Communication/Outreach and Resource mobilization

67. CFS follows the principle that communication about CFS is the responsibility of all CFS Members and other stakeholders. The Rome-based Agencies (RBAs), with their global networks, play a key role in outreach as other members of the Advisory Group. All CFS stakeholders are encouraged to reach out to their constituencies, networks and regions to raise awareness of CFS and its policy guidance and recommendations, and to solicit feedback from them on their use. In this way the responsibility of communicating and profiling CFS, especially at regional and national levels, is shared. The role of the CFS Secretariat is to support communication efforts of all CFS stakeholders, subject to available resources.

68. The CFS annual Plenary session is usually held in FAO in October and represents the main opportunity to communicate with, and hear from CFS Members, Participants, and Observers and goes beyond the stakeholders who deal with CFS on a day to day basis. The convening power of CFS is strong and the session is seen by many as the most important event in the food security and nutrition calendar. Media are invited to cover the CFS session and according to what topics are on the agenda, attention by specialist media can be attracted. Side events that are held during the session are a major attraction for both organizers and attendees. Because of the high attendance that side events attract, CFS week is seen as a major networking opportunity for the FSN community. Communication channels include the public website, social media channels, and a mailing list with approximately 6,000 subscribers.

III. ACTIVITIES AND COST ESTIMATE ("Rolling" section)⁶

A. Thematic workstreams

Activity 1.1.1. Food security and nutrition: building a global narrative toward 2030

Process:

69. After the release of the HLPE report a Rapporteur will be identified to guide an inclusive discussion to at CFS 47.

⁶ In line with the provisions of Annex B of the CFS Implementation Report on the new MYPoW structure and process (CFS 2018/45/3), endorsed at CFS 45: Annual updates of the rolling section of the MYPoW will be prepared by the Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group, and presented to the Plenary for consideration and endorsement. These are intended to reflect the Plenary decisions, consider possible adjustment, and review the implementation of the MYPoW. The updates will be carried out taking into account resource and workload implications

70. The plenary session will be forward looking and its conclusions will be captured in a Chair's summary to be appended to the CFS 47 Final report.

71. No additional extra-budgetary resources are anticipated for this activity, as the inclusive discussion will be held in the plenary, for which costs are covered by the core budget.

72. Additional extra-budgetary resources:

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
Food security and nutrition: building a global narrative towards 2030	Inclusive discussion at CFS 47		Included in the core budget as it is a plenary activity

Activity 1.1.2. Thematic events on data collection and analysis and reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition

Process:

73. The events will be organized by the CFS Secretariat under the oversight of the Bureau with input from the Advisory Group. They will be held between CFS 46 and CFS 48 so as to precede the preparation of the HLPE reports. Their outcomes will be captured in a Chair's summary.

74. Additional extra-budgetary resources:

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
Data collection and analysis and Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition	Thematic events	25,000 (x2)	50,000

Activity 2.1.1. Food systems and nutrition

Process:

75. The Voluntary Guidelines on Food systems and nutrition will result from an inclusive consultative process open to all relevant and interested stakeholders through OEWG meetings, e-consultations and regional consultations.

76. The final version of the Voluntary Guidelines on Food systems and nutrition will be submitted for consideration and endorsement by the CFS Plenary at CFS 47.

77. Additional extra-budgetary resources:

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
Food systems and nutrition	OEWG Consultations/negotiations	100,000	100,000 ⁷

⁷ Additional extra-budgetary costs for this workstream are accounted for in the 2018-19 MYPoW.

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Activity 2.1.2. Agroecological and other innovative approaches

Process:

78. Following the launch of the HLPE report in July 2019, the identification of a Rapporteur among CFS Members and a Plenary discussion at CFS 46, CFS will conduct a policy convergence process, leading to the development of policy recommendations to be presented to the Committee for endorsement at CFS 47.

79. Additional extra-budgetary resources:

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
Agroecological and other innovative approaches	Costs associated with the negotiation process: interpretation of meetings and translation of documents	100,000	100,000

Activity 2.1.3. Gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition

Process:

80. CFS will start the process by setting-up an Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) whose first task will be reviewing existing CFS policy guidance and other reference documents in order to inform the development of Terms of Reference (ToRs). The ToRs will prioritize the most relevant issues that can best be tackled in the final version of the VGs in the context of CFS and FSN.

81. Following the adoption of ToRs, the OEWG will develop and agree on policy guidance through an inclusive and consensus-based process.

82. The process will benefit from the organization of e-consultations, expert group meetings and regional consultations involving all CFS stakeholders.

83. Additional extra-budgetary resources:

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
Gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition	Translation of background documents	30,000	
	Translation/interpretation negotiation process	90,000	

	Expert meeting	60,000	
	E-consultations	20,000	
	Regional multi-stakeholder consultations	500,000	
			700,000

Activity 2.1.4. Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems

Process:

84. The process will start with a dedicated and substantive discussion within the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group on how youth can meaningfully engage in food security and nutrition related policy-making. Advisory Group members will be encouraged to invite representatives of their youth constituencies to provide inputs and share their perspectives and experiences.

85. Following the launch of the HLPE report in 2021, the identification of a Rapporteur among CFS Members and a plenary discussion at CFS 47, CFS will conduct a policy convergence process. The process will lead to the development of policy recommendations to be presented to the Committee for endorsement at CFS 49.

86. Additional extra-budgetary resources:

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems	Costs associated with the negotiation process: interpretation of meetings and translation of documents	100,000	100,000

Activity 2.1.5. Data collection and analysis tools

Process:

87. Following the launch of the HLPE report in 2023, the identification of a Rapporteur among CFS Members and a plenary discussion at CFS 49, CFS will conduct a policy convergence process. The process will lead to the development of policy recommendations to be presented to the Committee for endorsement at CFS 50.

88. Additional extra-budgetary resources:

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
Data collection and analysis tools	Costs associated with the negotiation process:	100,000	100,000

	interpretation of meetings and translation of documents		
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Activity 2.1.6. Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition

Process:

89. Following the launch of the HLPE report in 2022, the identification of a Rapporteur among CFS Members and a plenary discussion at CFS 50, CFS will conduct a policy convergence process. The process will lead to the development of policy recommendations to be presented to the Committee for endorsement at CFS 51.

90. Additional extra-budgetary resources:

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition	Costs associated with the negotiation process: interpretation of meetings and translation of documents	100,000	100,000

Activity 3.1.1. Global thematic events on CFS-FFA and CFS-RAI

Process:

91. The Global Thematic Events will be informed by inputs provided by stakeholders on their experiences in using CFS policy products at national, regional and global level.

92. Additional extra-budgetary resources:

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
Global Thematic events on CFS-FFA and CFS-RAI	E-consultations	10,000 (x2)	20,000 ⁸

Activity 3.1.2. Monitoring event on the use of CFS policy recommendations on Water for food security and nutrition, and Food security and climate change⁹

Process:

⁸ Other costs are included in the core budget as it is a plenary activity.

⁹ The Bureau will decide whether the event should be held during CFS plenary, back-to-back with Plenary or during the intersessional period.

93. The event will be informed by the experiences and good practices of a broad range of stakeholders in the use and application of these policy recommendations.

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
Monitoring event	E-consultation	10,000	10,000 ¹⁰

Activity 3.2.1. Forum - Dialogue and uptake of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food systems and nutrition

94. Additional extra-budgetary resources:

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
Dialogue and uptake of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines	Forum		Included in the core budget as it is a plenary activity

Activity 3.2.2. Forum – Dialogue and uptake of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender equality and women’s empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition

95. Additional extra-budgetary resources:

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
Dialogue and uptake of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines	Forum		Included in the core budget as it is a plenary activity

B. Supporting Activities

Activity B2.1 CFS Engagement in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Process:

96. Contributions to the HLPF will be developed by the CFS Secretariat on the basis of the substantive guidance provided by Members and Participants through open meetings facilitated by a Member. HLPF contributions will be finalized in a further open, facilitated meeting and conveyed to the CFS Bureau in consultation with the Advisory Group after consideration by Plenary.

97. Additional extra-budgetary resources

¹⁰ Additional extra-budgetary resources will be required if the event is held during the intersessional period.

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
CFS Engagement in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	Lesson sharing events		Included in the core budget as it is a plenary activity
	CFS Contributions to the HLPF		Included in the core budget
	HLPF side events		Included under communication and outreach

Activity B2.2 CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work

Process:

98. In 2022 the HLPE will produce the 3rd note on critical and emerging issues for food security and nutrition, which will be discussed at CFS 49 plenary session and it will be the basis for the definition of the CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) 2024-2027. In 2023, CFS will prepare the draft MYPoW 2024-2027, following the process established as per the Annex B of the CFS Evaluation Implementation Report.

99. Additional extra-budgetary resources:

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD)
CFS Multi Year Programme of Work 2024-2027	Open meetings		Included in the core budget

Activity B2.3 Communication/Outreach and Resource mobilization

100. For each endorsed MYPoW activity a tailored communication strategy and related cost estimates will be developed both for the upstream stage (during the policy convergence process) and the downstream stage (after endorsement). This will include identifying the target stakeholders and the main channels of communication. The strategies will be developed with the active participation of the CFS stakeholders who are the proponents of the workstream. Appropriate digital and print outreach material for the topic will be commissioned which could include, among others, the graphic layout of any endorsed policy work, videos, infographics and webinars.

101. Likewise, a resource mobilization strategy will be developed for each agreed activity after the endorsement of the MYPoW.

102. In line with the Evaluation Implementation Report (2018/45/3), a robust resource mobilization strategy will be put in place to help support the Plenary and Workstreams, the HLPE and the CSM to support CFS priorities as identified in the MYPoW with clear safeguards, in line with FAO guidelines, to prevent potential conflict of interest regarding funding. Continued efforts will be made to expand and diversify the financing base, including by reaching out to CFS Member States, private foundations, the private sector and financial institutions.

OVERVIEW OF ESTIMATED COSTS

Workstream/activity	Items	Cost estimate (USD)	Total (USD) 4 years
Data collection and analysis + Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition	Thematic events	50,000	50,000
Food systems and nutrition ¹¹	OEWG Consultations/negotiations	100,000	100,000
Agroecological and other innovative approaches	Translation of background document; Consultations/negotiations	100,000	100,000
Data collection and analysis	Translation of background document; Consultations/negotiations	100,000	100,000
Gender equality, women's empowerment for FSN	Translation of background documents	30,000	
	Translation/interpretation negotiation process	90,000	
	Expert meetings	60,000	
	E-consultations	20,000	
	Regional multi-stakeholder consultations	500,000	
			700,000
Reducing inequalities for FSN (HLPE report)	Translation of background document; Consultations/negotiations	100,000	100,000
Promoting youth engagement and employment in food systems (HLPE report)	Translation of background document; Consultations/negotiations	100,000	100,000
monitoring event on the use and application of CFS policy recommendations on water for FSN and climate change and fsn	e-consultation; and/or intersessional workshop	10,000	10,000 ¹²

¹¹ Additional extra-budgetary costs for this workstream are accounted for in the 2018-19 MYPoW.

¹² Additional extra-budgetary resources will be required if the event is held during the intersessional period.

2 Global thematic events (CFS FFA – CFS RAI)	E-consultations	20,000	20,000 Other costs are included in the core budget
Communication, outreach and resource mobilization	Chair’s outreach, digital outreach, HLPF side event and other NY related activities		200,000
Fora on dialogue and uptake of VG Food systems/gender equality			Included in the core budget
MYPOW	Intersessional meetings		Included in the core budget
CFS Engagement in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	Lesson sharing events at Plenary; contributions to the HLPF		Included in the core budget

IV. PROPOSED TIMELINE

	2020	2021	2022	2023
	CFS 47	CFS 48	CFS 49	CFS 50
HLPE Reports	Global narrative towards 2030	Youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems	Data collection and analysis	Reducing inequalities for FSN
Policy guidance	Agroecological and other innovative approaches		Youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems	Data collection and analysis
	VGs on Food systems and nutrition	VGs on Gender equality and women’s empowerment for FSN		Reducing inequalities for FSN
Inclusive discussions	Global narrative towards 2030	Data collection and analysis		
		Reducing inequalities for FSN		
Uptake/ outreach	GTE CFS-FFA		GTE CFS-RAI	
		Forum on VG Food Systems and Nutrition		Forum on VG Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment
Supporting activities	SDG Global Thematic Reviews and HLPF contributions			

		HLPE note on critical and emerging issues for FSN	MYPoW 2024-2027
	Communication and Outreach; Resource Mobilization		
	Plenary and Bureau and Advisory Group meeting planning and organization		