



Gender Strategy for the FNS-CELAC PLAN

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Gender Strategy for the FNS-CELAC Plan

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INITIALS AND ACRONYMS

LAIA	Latin American Integration Association
CELAC	Community of Latin American and Caribbean States
ECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
CONASAN	National Food and Nutrition Security Council
COTSAN	Food and Nutritional Security Technical Committee
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
WG	CELAC Working Group for the Advancement of Women
HFLACI	Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean by 2025 Initiative
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
WHO	World Health Organization
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PTP	Pro Tempore Presidency
FNS	Food and Nutritional Security
SICA	Central American Integration System
ICTs	Information and Communication Technologies
LAIA	Latin American Integration Association
CELAC	Community of Latin American and Caribbean States

1 CONTEXT OF THE STRATEGY

1.1 Food and Nutritional Security in Latin America and the Caribbean

1. Over the last few years, concern for food and nutritional security, as well as the eradication of hunger, has been increasingly rising up the agendas of Latin American and Caribbean countries.
2. According to the document Outlook for Food Insecurity in Latin America and the Caribbean (FAO, 2015), the region met the Millennium Development Goal hunger targets, "by reducing its undernourishment rate to 5.5% in the previous three years, from 14.7% in the period 1990-92". It was also possible to reduce by more than half the number of people affected by hunger.
3. The success in meeting the food security goals in the region is largely due to the political commitment of each State to work on this issue. In fact, the region has already announced its commitment to end hunger by 2025 through the incorporation of all countries into the 2025 Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative (HFLACI).
4. The work of States on this subject has enabled not only the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, but also the goal set at the World Food Summit. Considering 34.3 million people in the region are affected by hunger, the progress so far means that 30 million people have stopped suffering from this condition since measurements began.
5. Not all countries in the region, however, have made progress on these targets in the same way. It is in South America where the most undernourished people are found and, in turn, it is also in this region that the greatest advances in the area have been achieved. Central America, meanwhile, has shown a tendency to reduce hunger, but with a lower intensity, while the Caribbean is the region that has shown the least progress, with 7.5 million people currently suffering from hunger, down from 8.1 million people since measurements began.
6. Notwithstanding the above achievements, and the fact that the region has indeed made significant progress in the area of food security, data from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) cited by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) shows that "11.5% of the population does not have sufficient income to meet their minimum nutritional requirements, 8% suffer malnutrition, 13.3% of children under five are chronically malnourished and 3.7% suffer from global acute malnutrition. This is compounded by the problems of micronutrient deficiency and the growing number of overweight and obese people"¹, a problem that today, according to PAHO / WHO, affects 7.1% of girls and boys under 5 and 25% of adults.
7. Taking into account that there has been gradual growth in food production in Latin America and the Caribbean, it is also necessary to look at people's ability to acquire and use the food needed to meet their nutritional needs.

1.2 Framework of international and national policies and agreements on food security

8. Given the global concern about food and nutritional security, a number of countries have promoted different supranational legal instruments for cooperation in this area. In 1996, the Rome Declaration

¹ See ECLAC, Social Development Division, *Food and Nutrition Security in Latin America and the Caribbean*, Statistics [online], in <http://dds.cepal.org/san/estadisticas>

on World Food Security was adopted at the World Food Summit. In it, the Member States of the United Nations made a commitment to eliminate hunger and malnutrition, as well as ensuring sustainable food security for the entire population.

9. Recently, the 189 United Nations Member States committed themselves first to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and then the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The agenda of the first MDGs, set in 2000, established the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, defining as one of its goals the halving of the percentage of people living with hunger; In the SDGs, set in 2015, the second objective proposes to end hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. The goal is to eliminate hunger.
10. According to the United Nations platform for SDGs, if agriculture, forestry and fish farms are adequately strengthened, nutritious food can be provided for all people and generate decent incomes, while supporting the development of rural dwellers and the protection of the environment. "We need a broad reform of the world agriculture and food system if we want to feed the 925 million people who are currently hungry and the two billion additional people who will be alive in 2050." This reform builds on the commitment of the Member States to work on the promotion of public policies that promote food security and sustainable development.
11. The above legal instruments are binding on all countries that are members of the United Nations. In the particular case of Latin America and the Caribbean, nations have also come together to formulate agreements to guide work on food security and nutrition. Among them is the Regional Framework Law on the Right to Food, Food Security and Food Sovereignty, which was approved at the XVIII Assembly of the Latin American Parliament in 2012. This law aims to "establish a legal frame of reference, which allows each State to establish policies and priority strategies to ensure respect for 'The Right to Food', and food and nutritional security for the whole population, for the enjoyment of a healthy and active life"².
12. It is important to highlight the efforts made by each of the countries of the region, which have created their own laws, programs and projects aimed at guaranteeing food and nutritional security in their territories, thereby contributing to the achievement of the goals at the regional and global levels. In the last ten years, Argentina, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras, Ecuador, Bolivia, Brazil and recently the Dominican Republic have approved laws related to food security and/or food sovereignty. El Salvador, Mexico, Peru, Costa Rica and Colombia are also in advanced stages of discussion of their respective bills.

In this regard, the Gender Strategy of the FNS-CELAC Plan must be linked to the existing development plans in each country of the region.

1.3 The Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC)

13. CELAC is an intergovernmental mechanism for dialogue and political coordination. It includes the 33 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and emerged with the objective of advancing in the gradual process of regional integration.

² FAO (2013), Framework Law: Right to Food, Security and Food Sovereignty. Approved at the XVIII Ordinary Assembly of the Latin American Parliament, Nov.30 – Dec. 1, 2012, Panama. Article 1, p. 6. In <http://www.fao.org/3/a-au351s.pdf>

14. Since its implementation in December 2011, CELAC has contributed to deepening respectful dialogue among all countries in the region, in areas such as social development, education, nuclear disarmament, family farming, culture, finances, energy and the environment. It has also promoted the idea of the Latin America and Caribbean region as a community of nations, able to dialogue and seek consensus on issues of common interest.

1.4 The FNS-CELAC Plan

15. In January 2015, the 33 countries of the region approved CELAC's Plan for Food Security, Nutrition and Hunger Eradication 2025 (FNS-CELAC Plan), prepared with the support of FAO, ECLAC and ALADI.
16. The objective of this Plan is to contribute to "achieving concrete results that will lead to significant improvements in the quality of life of our peoples, aimed at the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, which guarantee food security with a gender focus and respecting the diversity of dietary habits, in order to meet the challenges of food security and nutrition with a view to eradicating hunger and enjoying the Right to Food, especially in vulnerable sectors of the population"³.
17. In addition, at the last Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, held in January 2016, CELAC's Special Declaration on the Plan for Food Security, Nutrition and Hunger Eradication 2025 was adopted. In this Declaration, the countries of the region reiterated their concern about the adverse effects of socio-environmental disasters associated with the effects of climate change and climate variability on food and agriculture production. They also highlighted the second Sustainable Development Goal on ending hunger, achieving food security and improving nutrition and sustainable agriculture.
18. In order to move towards the eradication of hunger, poverty and malnutrition and ensure food and nutritional security, the FNS-CELAC Plan defines specific areas of action that, at the same time, respect the diversity of political and social projects specific to each country in Latin America and the Caribbean. In this framework, the Plan is based on four pillars, which seek to meet the goal of creating a Latin America and the Caribbean free from hunger. They are:
19. Pillar I. Coordinated food security strategies through the formulation and direction of national and regional public policies to address the challenges of food security, with a gender focus and incorporating a human rights perspective.
20. Pillar II. Timely and sustainable access to safe, adequate and nutritious food for all people, especially the most vulnerable, in order to be able to fully develop and maintain their physical and mental faculties.
21. Pillar III. Nutritional well-being and sufficient nutrition with respect for the diversity of dietary habits of all groups in a situation of vulnerability.
22. Pillar IV. Stable production and timely attention to natural disasters that may affect the availability of food.
23. The Plan calls for guiding principles, including a gender and intergenerational approach, the inclusion of indigenous peoples and traditional communities, governance and social organization processes,

³ FAO / ECLAC / ALADI, CELAC's Plan for Food Security, Nutrition and Hunger Eradication 2025 [Executive Summary], p. 2. In <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4493s.pdf>

global challenges for the eradication of hunger and poverty, and access to assets.

1.5 The Working Group for the Advancement of Women

24. The Special Declaration on the Promotion of Equity and the Empowerment of Women in the New Post-2015 Development Agenda was adopted in the framework of the II CELAC Summit held in Havana, Cuba, in January 2014. In the declaration, it was agreed to "promote the establishment of an open-ended working group responsible for identifying and promoting in a comprehensive and inclusive manner key strategies that help meet the needs and demands of women and girls in our countries"⁴.
25. The member States of CELAC, meeting in San Salvador in August 2014, agreed, inter alia, on the establishment of the CELAC Working Group on the Advancement of Women. This working group is a specialized body of CELAC in the area of gender equality and women's empowerment, which promotes reflection and articulation of efforts, with special emphasis on strengthening cooperation among member countries. The working group then held its first meeting and discussed the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the Special Declaration, while also defining a roadmap and regulatory framework for its operation.
26. In the framework of the II Meeting of the working group, held in October 2015 in El Salvador, with the central theme "Food and Nutrition Security: Empowerment of Rural Women", the working group began to design a gender strategy for the implementation of the FNS-CELAC 2025 Plan, which guarantees the empowerment of rural women. At the IV CELAC Summit, held in Quito in January 2016, the heads of state, in their Special Declaration 1 on the FNS-CELAC Plan 2025, reiterated that this Gender Strategy should be an instrument to ensure the empowerment of women in all sectors and processes of the food chain. In May 2016, the working group requested technical assistance from FAO to support its efforts in the implementation of this Strategy.

2 GENDER EQUALITY, SOVEREIGNTY AND FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SECURITY

27. Women working in food production, either on their own premises or on the premises of a third party, performing paid or unpaid work, often simultaneously carry out the work of raising children and caring for their family. Throughout the world, "women face explicit or implicit discrimination in access to key productive resources such as land, in addition to services, such as credit and outreach ... they also face wage discrimination in rural labour markets; More frequently than men they have access to temporary, seasonal and / or low-paid jobs, and it is common for them to work without any remuneration on family farms"⁵.
28. The lack of recognition of women's work in rural areas in developing countries makes their contribution to economic activity invisible and their work is generally not recognized in statistics. Likewise, the productive or reproductive role of women in food security is often not recorded in

⁴ CELAC, Special Declaration on the Promotion of Equity and Empowerment of Women in the New Post 2015 Development Agenda. II CELAC Summit, Havana, January 28-29 2014, para. 6. In http://celac.cubaminrex.cu/sites/default/files/ficheros/doc_3_7_declaracion_esp_sobre_genero_espanol.pdf

⁵ FAO, Department of Economic and Social Development, FAO Gender Equality Policy. Achieving food security goals in agriculture and rural development (Rome, 2013), p. 3. In <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i3205s.pdf>

surveys or censuses. In most cases, only work that is paid or considered the main activity of each individual is counted. As a result, the work done by women in the field, including soil preparation, animal care, fishing, gathering of firewood, loading water, transportation and marketing of agricultural products, preparation of meals, taking care of children and of sick people, among other tasks, within the family and in the community, is not recognized as formal work.

29. According to FAO data, "45 percent of the world's population depends on agriculture, forestry, fishing or hunting for their livelihoods. The available statistics also show that women constitute 43 percent of the agricultural labour force in developing countries and that they produce a large part of the world's food crop"⁶.
30. The Declaration of Brasilia, adopted in November 2014, emphasizes that in Latin America and the Caribbean women play a key role in family farming, which is the most important segment in food production, and that food crises impact women differently as they are responsible for reproduction and family production. It also highlights the important role they play in preserving biodiversity through seed recovery and agroecological practices. The need for a rural development model to make gender equality effective in the region is stressed, since it is considered that "the current model is exclusive and does not constitute the necessary framework for the development of policies considering women's diversity (indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants and others) and guaranteeing respect for their rights"(Article 11). It also mentions "that paid and wage workers often work in precarious conditions and without guarantees of basic labour rights" (Article 13). Given the situation described above, it is important that spaces for women's participation in organizations representing rural productive sectors should be improved, since up to now they face great difficulties in creating or participating in existing spaces.
31. Gender gaps not only exist in terms of women's access to resources and growth opportunities, but also affect their well-being and that of their families, especially in terms of food sovereignty and food security. There should be a stage of awareness raising on the co-responsibility of women and men and the equitable distribution of power in production, access and consumption of food in rural households.

2.1 Policy framework

32. Some States in the region have adopted, to a greater or lesser extent, policies, programs and laws that take particular account of the situation of rural women. The willingness of governments in the region to design and implement public policies that contribute to overcoming the poverty conditions affecting rural women in the region has also been expressed in the various Regional Consensus meetings of the Conference on Women in Latin American and the Caribbean, and the Brasilia Declaration. All of them, together with the new SDGs, recognize the economic, social and subsistence value of non-remunerated agricultural work carried out by rural women, and raise the need to value their work and make it visible, to account for their contribution to national economies, and to design and implement equitable and supportive public policies.
33. There are various international declarations and agreements that serve as a framework for efforts to define a gender strategy for the FNS-CELAC Plan. From the most general and global, to more specific efforts in the region, it is necessary to consider the following:

- 1948. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Articles 1 and 3.

⁶ Ibid., p. 3.

- 1975. United Nations World Conference on the International Year of Women, Mexico. Call No. 4 to heads of state in chapter 21 on the condition of women in rural areas.
- 1979. Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, CEDAW. Article 14, paragraph 1, is highlighted.
- 1980. World Conference on the Decade for Women: Equity, Development and Peace. Copenhagen. Resolution 41 on women and nutritional self-sufficiency.
- 1993. Action Program of the World Conference on Human Rights, article 18.
- 1994. Program of Action on the International Conference on Population and Development, Principles 2 and 4.
- 1995. Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing. Articles 246, 247 and 248.
- 2012. Framework Law. Right to Food, Food Security and Food Sovereignty. Promoted by the Latin American Parliament and supported by FAO.
- 2013. Regional Gender Equality and Equity Policy (PRIEG in Spanish) of the Central American Integration System (SICA). This is a transversal policy, based on the pillars of regional integration; a guiding instrument that also integrates the regional consensuses on food security and nutrition.
- 2014. Declaration of Brasilia. Outcome of the Conference on Rural Women in Latin America and the Caribbean in the International Year of Family Agriculture.
- 2016. Sustainable Development Goals. Mainly Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. And Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
- 2016. Montevideo strategy for the implementation of the regional gender agenda in the framework of sustainable development by 2030, agreed at the XIII Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- 2016. Regional Gender Agenda, which includes commitments approved at the meetings of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean since 1977, contained in the document *40 years of a regional gender agenda*⁷.
- 2016. UN General Assembly declares the Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025). The resolution that proclaimed the Nutrition Decade and its work-plan as guidelines for SAN policies for the coming years (draft resolution A / 70 / L42) should also take into account the gender perspective.

All these international instruments, along with the FNS-CELAC Plan, constitute the guiding framework that leads to the elaboration of a gender strategy that, aimed at achieving gender equality in the region, recognizes the importance of the role of women in food sovereignty and food and nutritional security. And this is not only because of their participation in food production, but also because of their fundamental role in raising and caring for their families.

34. Member countries, for their part, have made progress in national gender equality policies and have addressed the relationship of women to the FNS. Specific examples can be found in Appendix 2.

2.2 The gender approach and the empowerment of women

35. According to the FNS-CELAC plan, in order to "achieve concrete results that lead to significant improvements in the quality of life of our peoples, aimed at eradicating poverty, especially extreme

⁷ ECLAC, 40 years of a regional gender agenda. XIII Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Montevideo, October 25-28 2016 [LC / G.2682]. Santiago, 2016. In http://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/40333/1/S1600560_es.pdf

poverty, that guarantee food and nutritional security"⁸, it is necessary to incorporate the gender approach. This, according to FAO, "considers the different opportunities that men and women have, the interrelationships between them and the different roles that are socially assigned to them. All these issues influence the achievement of the goals, policies and plans of national and international agencies and, therefore, have an impact on the development process of society"⁹. This approach allows the identification and analysis of existing asymmetries between women and men in specific contexts and areas.

36. The FNS-CELAC Plan considers the importance of the contribution of women in FNS and recognizes that their role has been undervalued, while making their participation invisible. That is why the adoption of a strategy that guarantees the gender approach as a fundamental tool for the analysis and construction of proposals within the framework of the FNS-CELAC Plan is a guide aimed at improving the participation of women in the generation and enjoyment of FNS and human rights.
37. In addition, the documents agreed at the II Meeting of the working group and those emanating from the IV Summit of Heads of State and Government of CELAC consider that the implementation of a gender strategy for the implementation of FNS-CELAC Plan 2025 must guarantee the empowerment of rural women in the processes of the food and nutrition production chain.
38. The pillars of the FNS-CELAC Plan provide the opportunity for women to take a leading role in FNS activities at the regional and country levels, not only because of their contribution to the achievement of SDG No. 2 of zero hunger, but also because of their contribution to improvements in their situation and personal condition, in relation to their personal development as well as food and nutritional aspects. In fact, the pillars of the Plan cover areas relevant to women, such as the framework of public policies; timely and sustainable access to healthy, safe, adequate, sufficient and nutritious food; nutritional well-being and nutrient assurance; stable production and timely disaster response.

3 OBJECTIVE OF THE GENDER STRATEGY IN THE FNS-CELAC PLAN

39. This Strategy aims to ensure that the implementation of the FNS-CELAC Plan guarantees the empowerment of women, so that its results benefit women and men alike¹⁰. To this end, it is necessary to consider the different conditions under which hunger affects both groups, as well as the contribution by both women and men to FNS. This means taking measures to address gender inequalities in opportunities for participation and access to benefits derived from the implementation of the Plan.
40. In this regard, the Strategy seeks to:
 - Guide the institutions of member countries of CELAC to ensure the focus of gender equality in the implementation of the Plan and other actions related to food and nutrition security, eradication of poverty and hunger.

⁸ CELAC, Draft. CELAC Action Plan. II CELAC Summit, Havana 2014. Section 1: Food and Nutrition Security, introduction. In <http://www.cancilleria.gov.co/sites/default/files/doc.3.2-plan-accion-celac-espanol-rev-2701-l-ene.27.pdf>

⁹ FAO, Document storage [online], II. The gender approach, 2.1 The concept of gender. In <http://www.fao.org/docrep/004/x2919s/x2919s04.htm>

¹⁰ The draft document of the CELAC Working Group for the Advancement of Women, the Gender Strategy of the FNS-CELAC Plan (FAO, CELAC, Government of El Salvador, PPT-CELAC, October 2016), available in http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/FAO-countries/Republica_Dominicana/docs/1_Estrategia-de-GA_nero-Plan-FNS-CELAC-versiA_n-para-consulta-III-ReuniA_n-GT-RD-4nov16.pdf

- Act as a technical-operational guide for the design of national and local SAN plans with a focus on gender equality.
 - Serve as a framework for the dialogue, with a focus on gender equality, between the public sector, the private sector and civil society organizations involved in the implementation of the Plan in LAC, and in each of the countries.
 - Serve as a framework for dialogue with a focus on gender equality between the public sector, the private sector and civil society organizations involved in the implementation of the Plan in LAC, and in each of the countries.
 - Contribute to the institutionalization of a culture of food and nutritional security with a focus on equality between women and men throughout the public policy cycle at the Latin American level.
41. This Strategy will be implemented over four years (until 2020), with its completion expected to occur after half of the implementation period of the FNS-CELAC Plan. Upon completion of this period, an evaluation of the strategy will be carried out and adjustments made for the execution of a new five-year period, coinciding with the end of the FNS-CELAC Plan (in 2025).

4 STRATEGIC MEASURES TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES

42. Strategic measures, defined as those required to ensure compliance with the proposed objectives and to promote their implementation within the framework of the FNS-CELAC Plan, include the following:
- a) Generate, as far as possible in each country where the Plan is implemented, statistics and indicators disaggregated by sex, as well as studies that provide information on access and differentiated conditions between women and men, taking into account the gender divisions of work in different aspects related to FNS (Including availability, access, utilization and stability). This information should be collected at the different levels of action of the Plan, from the local (grassroots organization and community) to the national, sub-regional and LAC region. These studies should ensure the full and effective participation of women in all their diversity and use as a reference, where appropriate, the global indicators created under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This information will allow the design of actions aimed at promoting women's empowerment, gender equality and effectiveness in improving FNS.
 - b) Consider the possibility of carrying out an analysis of FNS-related institutions, in order to identify the opportunities and constraints faced in mainstreaming the gender equality approach and strengthening women's participation in the design and operation of public policies.
 - c) Adapt the services offered by institutions to a differentiated approach for women and men, with adequate and timely services aimed at reducing and eliminating barriers to equal participation in the goal for FNS for all. There is a need to promote opportunities for women to improve access to services and programs for agricultural production, and not only related to the tasks of feeding and caring for the family, which reproduce inequalities and the traditional distribution of gender roles.
 - d) Strengthen, promote and/or propose new initiatives that improve women's access to information, training and knowledge about FNS. This will be supported by actions aimed at increasing women's literacy, training activities about rights, SDGs and, within the framework of this Strategy, access to documentation and management of information and communication technologies (ICT). Training spaces and public education will be made available, guaranteeing the right to consultation and free

and informed consent, specifically taking into account rural women (indigenous people, Afro-descendants, women with disabilities).

- e) Promote the effective and conscious participation of women in organizations related to agrifood systems and in the processes of elaboration of public policies at all levels, prioritizing the social, economic and community aspects related to deficiencies in food and nutrition. This participation should include personal development, with emphasis on a self-assessment that facilitates women's involvement in decision-making.
- f) Foster and strengthen alliances between state actors, social movements, community-based and feminist women's organizations, NGOs, indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples, the private sector and the population in general, facilitating international cooperation in a coordinated manner. The collaboration between these sectors will be sought to promote the implementation of the gender equality approach, in response to both the complexity of the FNS system and the multiple roles of women and the variety of their needs that must be met.
- g) Recommend to countries the development of policies, legal frameworks and programs that respond to the specific needs of women farmers, indigenous and Afro-descendants, and women with disabilities, always respecting the autonomy of peoples, their worldview and cultural identity.
- h) Promote the design and operation of policies that intentionally involve young women, considering their interests, characteristics and particular needs.
- i) Identify and develop actions through which women can contribute to the achievement of the goals established in SDG 2 - "End Hunger, Achieve Food Security and Improve Nutrition, and Promote Sustainable Agriculture" - with the purpose of ensuring their participation in the implementation process of this Strategy.
- j) Establish mechanisms for positioning and disseminating the Gender Strategy aimed at implementing the FNS-CELAC Plan at all levels - civil society, agencies responsible for the implementation of policies, laws and programs binding in the States - and incorporate in CELAC's online platform (platformcelac.org) an area designed to gather information on policies, programs and good practices regarding the empowerment of women in the area of FNS, as well as the dissemination of the Strategy and its specific measures.
- k) Establish synergies with the Montevideo Strategy in intersectoral work, in order to achieve the necessary autonomies for the development of women: economic autonomy, autonomy in decision-making and physical autonomy.

5 SPECIFIC MEASURES ACCORDING TO THE FNS-CELAC PILLARS AND LINES OF ACTION

PILLARS	LINES OF ACTION	SPECIFIC MEASURES OF THE STRATEGY
Pillar 1	Line of action 1:	1.1.1 Incorporate rights and gender-based approaches in

PILLARS	LINES OF ACTION	SPECIFIC MEASURES OF THE STRATEGY	
<p>Coordinated strategies of food security through the formulation and management of national and regional public policies in order to face the challenges of food security (availability, access, usage and stability) with a gender approach and incorporating the human rights perspective, particularly the Human Right to Food.</p>	<p>Strengthening of institutional legal framework for Food and Nutritional Security (FNS)</p>	<p>the legal framework and policies linked to the right to food, food and nutritional security and/or sovereignty.</p> <p>1.1.2 Promote policies that guarantee affirmative measures on FNS in the framework of social protection and that involve women of different age groups and ethnicity (indigenous people, afro-descendants), as well as the handicapped, especially with respect to land access and the recognition of women's work.</p> <p>1.1.3 Promote the development of a baseline strategy regarding women's participation in FNS, which considers qualitative and quantitative information.</p> <p>1.1.4 Promote monitoring and evaluation systems for FNS public policies, including the equal participation of women and men.</p> <p>1.1.5 Evaluate the possibility of creating citizen oversight for the implementation of the FNS-CELAC Plan.</p> <p>1.1.6 Enable the exchange of good practices and other experiences among countries to understand legal frameworks and the implementation of FNS from the gender perspective.</p>	
	<p>Line of Action 2: Trade facilitation</p>	<p>1.2.1 Strengthen the knowledge of women to generate the capacity for innovation, competitiveness and negotiation to face the challenges of national and intraregional trade.</p> <p>1.2.2 Create specific mechanisms for the participation of women producers in public food purchases in order to strengthen their autonomy.</p> <p>1.2.3 Encourage the creation of trade facilitation policies for national and intraregional trade between organizations of family farmers and their communities.</p>	
	<p>Line of action 3: Food Loss and Waste</p>	<p>1.3.1 Ensure the participation, information and training of individual women and women's social organizations in food conservation and use of by-products to minimize the risks of food loss and waste in the harvesting and post-harvesting stages, and promote responsible consumption.</p>	
	<p>Line of action 4: Food Supply Programs</p>	<p>1.4.1 Design interventions on supply and production programs, according to the national reality, and which consider gender analysis, ensuring the participation of women in decision-making and promoting associativity.</p>	
	<p>Pillar 2</p> <p>Timely and sustainable access to safe, adequate, sufficient, and nutritious food for all people, especially the most vulnerable, in order to</p>	<p>Line of action 1: Conditional transfer programs (CTP)</p>	<p>2.1.1 Coordinate and plan actions for interventions that go beyond the protection of women in family agriculture through monetary contributory and non-contributory benefits, with a broad vision of social protection that includes strengthening livelihoods and reducing poverty, such as transfer of inputs. These actions may include preferential access to productive assets; the promotion of rural organizations and cooperatives; access to and</p>

PILLARS	LINES OF ACTION	SPECIFIC MEASURES OF THE STRATEGY
allow them to fully develop and maintain their physical and mental faculties in different cultural contexts		preservation of land, water, and native seeds; and the provision of facilities to give women access to financial services.
		2.1.2. Guarantee access to food and water, as well as healthcare, for pregnant and nursing women with children less than two years old, as well as older adult women with disabilities “belonging to groups of economic vulnerability”.
		2.1.3 Encourage the delivery of conditional transfers to women heads of households and that the fulfillment of the conditions associated with these transfers are shared within the family, including both men and women.
		2.1.4 Carry out follow-up studies about the distribution and use of the benefits of conditional transfers among members of participating families, especially considering the access of women.
	Line of action 2: Labor Market	2.2.1 Identify, promote and strengthen policies, programs, measures and laws aimed at formalizing the working conditions of rural women, including their participation in social security and pension systems and access to decent work.
		2.2.2 Identify and promote equitable employment and self-employment opportunities linked to inclusive agro-food systems, mainly food, agriculture, livestock and fisheries, for women and men, young people, indigenous people and Afro-descendant populations.
		2.2.3 Develop mechanisms that motivate and guide the participation of women and young people in training and tertiary or technical education in trades, agriculture and farming, as well as other areas required by the rural sector. This training should be designed by eliminating horizontal and vertical segregation in education opportunities and in policies that encourage equal access to decent work.
	Line of action 3: Family Farming	2.3.1 Review and strengthen policies related to land allocation and inheritance, as well as access to water and native seeds. Implement reforms and mechanisms based on rights and social recognition, especially those favouring female heads of households and young women farmers as a stimulus for them to stay and/or return in the field. Create favorable conditions for this to happen by generating opportunities with basic quality services that promote rural development.
		2.3.2. Include productive women’s organizations in the national registries of family agriculture so that they may benefit from public food purchases by States.

PILLARS	LINES OF ACTION	SPECIFIC MEASURES OF THE STRATEGY
<p>Pillar 4</p> <p>Stable production and timely reaction in the case of socio-natural disasters that may affect the availability of food</p>	<p>Line of action 1: Emergencies and natural disasters</p>	<p>4.1.1. Encourage national and local plans for risk management, disaster prevention, and adaptation to climate change and/or climate impacts, which are developed with a gender approach that ensures equal participation and empowerment of women in the disaster-response committees.</p>
		<p>4.1.2 Promote the participation of women’s organizations and gender-specific associations in emergency and risk management committees to ensure that decisions include a gender perspective and approach.</p>
		<p>4.1.3 Create spaces for training and participation of women in family farming for self-sustainability in situations of disasters and climatic effects.</p>
		<p>4.1.4 Strengthen crop insurance policies and provide direct economic support to women farmers, family farmers, indigenous people and people of Afro-descent affected by disasters and climate change.</p>
		<p>4.1.5 Consider the contribution of women and their role in food production when farming recovery programs are established after adverse climatic events, recognizing and reinforcing their role in environmental sustainability, resilience and adaptation to climate change. These measures should be linked to national and local plans for risk management and disaster prevention.</p>
		<p>4.1.6 Stimulate the creation of seed banks managed by women at the member country level to meet the food and seed supply needs of the population in a disaster situation and food crisis.</p>

6 ORGANIZATION FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE STRATEGY

6.1 Institutional responsibility

Regional level

43. The Pro Tempore Presidency (PTP) of CELAC, as well as the Working Group for the Advancement of Women, comprising a focal point in each country, will be the regional bodies responsible for advising, monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Gender Strategy in the FNS-CELAC Plan.
44. While the PTP will primarily be responsible for coordinating and following up on the agreements and commitments adopted by the Working Group for the Advancement of Women, the latter, with the

participation of FAO, will support countries in the implementation of the Gender Strategy through policies and instruments resulting from the FNS-CELAC Plan.

This Group will include an Advisory Council comprised of a representative from each of the member countries of CELAC. This Council will be convened at the request of the WG for matters relevant to the implementation of this Strategy.

45. In order to strengthen efforts for the empowerment of women in FNS, the Working Group for the Advancement of Women will establish alliances and partnerships with other Family Farming and social rights working groups, among other relevant working groups within CELAC.
46. Both the PTP and the Working Group for the Advancement of Women will be supported by FAO and will be able to call on the United Nations and other regional organizations to assist in the implementation of this Gender Strategy, They will also promote the exchange of experiences and the smooth and on-going development of South-South cooperation among the countries of the region within the framework of CELAC.

National level

47. The implementation of the Gender Strategy will be the responsibility of the institutions responsible for FNS in each country. These institutions will undertake the adoption of strategic measures and implement the specific measures at the level of national FNS plans and policies.
48. In establishing the link with the WG, there are country Focal Points, which will act as links with the WG and support the implementation of the Country Strategy. These Focal Points will participate in the decision-making bodies convened in the country for the definition and implementation of FNS and may bring representatives of these bodies together for the implementation of this Strategy.
49. The Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women in each country will act as advisors at this level, in many countries forming part of existing FNS initiatives. It is recommended that they act in an advisory capacity for the governing body in charge of policies and actions directed at women in each country.

6.2 Monitoring and evaluation system

50. In line with the FNS-CELAC Plan, a system for the regular monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of this Gender Strategy will be established with a view to identifying and incorporating proposals for improvement. This system will consider, when relevant, the indicators created under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
51. Depending on the situation in each country, quantitative and qualitative indicators will be defined and statistical databases will be used alongside techniques such as case studies, workshops and others. Interdisciplinary teams will be formed for the design and implementation of the system and especially for the analysis of information. These teams will have gender specialists, along with professionals in the specific FNS issues to be addressed. In the same way, the mechanisms of participation of other groups of actors in FNS, which also include women, will be established.
52. The WG, with technical support, will work on the definition of results indicators for each measure adopted in this strategy, according to the FNS-CELAC pillars and lines of action. In addition, a timetable will be established for action at the regional and country level, which will serve as a basis for monitoring and evaluation.
53. Both the WG and the Focal Points at the national level, as well as entities in charge of FNS, will provide information to the monitoring and evaluation system. In addition, the participation of women and men in

the consultation processes will be promoted as appropriate.

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8 APPENDIX 1: PROCESS FOR THE FORMULATION OF A GENDER STRATEGY IN THE CELAC-FNS PLAN

The formulation of this Strategy was an initiative of CELAC's Working Group for the Advancement of Women and FAO's Regional Gender Office has provided technical support for its implementation.

Timeline:

January 2014	The II Summit of CELAC was held in Havana, Cuba, in January 2014. The Special Declaration on the Promotion of Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in the New Post-2015 Development Agenda was adopted by the members, which agreed to "promote the establishment of an open-ended working group responsible for identifying and promoting key strategies that help meet the needs and demands of women and girls in our countries".
August 2014	I Meeting of the Working Group held in El Salvador, which analysed the fulfilment of the commitments made in the Special Declaration and defined a roadmap and regulatory framework for the functioning of the working group.
October 2015	II Meeting of the Working Group in El Salvador with the theme "Food and Nutrition Security: Empowerment of Rural Women". The working group initiated the design of a gender strategy for the implementation of the 2025 CELAC-FNS Plan, which guarantees the empowerment of rural women.
January 2016	IV Summit of CELAC held in Quito. In their Special Declaration 1 on the 2025 CELAC-FNS Plan, the CELAC heads of state reiterated that this Gender Strategy should be an instrument to ensure the empowerment of women in all processes in the food chain.

May 2016	The working group requests technical assistance from FAO to support its efforts in the implementation of this Strategy.
June 2016	Work begins on the first draft of the Gender Strategy for the revision of the working group, with the technical assistance of FAO.
September 2016	A new draft of the Strategy is sent to participants through face-to-face consultation.
October 2016	Face-to-face consultation on the Gender Strategy with the participation of the Women's Advancement Mechanisms / Focal Points from the following countries: Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador and Dominica as CARICOM's link with CELAC's Quartet of foreign ministers, as well as members of the Alliance for Food Sovereignty (Civil Society), academia, gender research centres and the Parliamentary Front.
November 2016	Consultation and validation of the Strategy at the III Meeting of the CELAC working group in the Dominican Republic.
January 2017	The Strategy will be announced at the next CELAC Presidential Summit.

9 APPENDIX 2: TABLE NO 1.

Food security and gender equality: Examples of progress by country

Country	Advances
Argentina	<p>Most Argentine policies and laws incorporate gender equality, including Law 17,118, which seeks to contribute to the elimination of gender gaps and stereotypes by implementing policies that recognize the role of women in family agriculture, as well as contributing to the food sovereignty and food security of the nation.</p> <p>In addition, Decree 1018/2003 created the Food Security Plan with four lines of action: family and nutrition, a community approach, the "Pro Huerta" family garden program, and nutritional food education.</p>
Colombia	<p>Colombia has worked on the gender issue from a transversal policy perspective, and the National Development Plan also includes commitments related to gender equality.</p> <p>With regard to food security, Colombia created the National Policy on Food and Nutritional Security, including gender-specific plans designed for the population of ethnic groups with an emphasis on early childhood education in these communities and women heads of household. In addition, priority has been given to strategies aimed at reducing global malnutrition, chronic malnutrition, as well as nutritional anemia in early childhood and in women who are pregnant or of fertile age.</p>
El Salvador	<p>In 2009, through executive decree No. 63, FNS was established as a priority of the government, which created the National Council for Food and Nutrition Security (CONASAN in Spanish) and the National Technical Committee (COTSAN) as entities responsible for the management of FNS policy. In 2011, the National Policy on Food and Nutritional Security was approved with the participation of the National Institute of</p>

	<p>Women (ISDEMU).</p> <p>In 2011, the Law on Gender Equality and the Eradication of Discrimination against Women was adopted, and the National Gender Equality Plan was formulated, which includes an autonomous area that establishes measures to advance the elimination of inequalities and discrimination against women in the economic and labor spheres.</p>
Peru	<p>Through a Decree, Peru declared the food and nutritional security of the population as a public good of national interest, while creating the Multisectoral Commission on Food and Nutritional Security.</p> <p>Within this framework, the National Strategy for Food and Nutritional Security was approved, which seeks to ensure that the population's nutritional requirements are met at all times. Through its gender approach, it also recognizes the fundamental role of women in the food and nutritional security of families given their participation in food production, purchasing decisions, and the preparation and distribution of food.</p>
Dominican Republic	<p>On June 8, 2016, the country's Senate and Chamber of Deputies approved the Law of Food Sovereignty and Food and Nutritional Security (Law FNS 589-16), which was then promulgated by the Executive Branch on July 5, 2016. This law created the National System for Food Sovereignty and Food and Nutritional Security, which will facilitate the design and implementation of all policies, programs and projects related to food sovereignty and food and nutritional security in the country following a rights-based approach. This law was preceded by the third strategic axis of the National Development Strategy, which calls for a productive structure that contributes to food security, harnesses the country's export potential and generates employment and income for the rural population. In terms of gender, the Dominican Republic has developed the National Plan for Gender Equality 2007-2017 (PLANEG II).</p>
Cuba	<p>The Network of Agencies and Institutions for Rural Women was established in 1992 at the request of FAO and its existence has been uninterrupted. It is chaired by the FMC¹¹ and made up of different organizations and institutions. It promotes plans and each year commemorates Rural Women's Day on October 15 and World Food Day on October 16.</p> <p>The Ministry of Agriculture (MINAG) has implemented a Gender Strategy and Gender Committees have enriched the vision of working with rural women. In conjunction with MINAG, the IGECSA project (Quality management with gender equality for food security at the local level) has been implemented, which has facilitated the employment of women in cooperatives participating in the project, while the following Cuban associations also have a gender strategy: -Cuban Association of Animal Production (ACPA), -Cuban Association of Forest Technicians (ACTAF)-Alliance of FMC with ANAP, ACTAF and the Veterinary Scientific Council</p>

¹¹ Federación de Mujeres Cubanas.

Venezuela	<p>Since the promulgation of the 1999 Constitution and the recognition of equal rights of men and women, Venezuela has initiated a process to revindicate the role of women in Venezuelan society, as well as facing persistent schemes of gender-based discrimination. The Law on the Equality of Opportunities for Women was approved that same year and the Bolivarian Government has supported efforts in the planning of women's policies since 2004 through National Plans for Gender Equality, as well as through the following plans, programs and initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The "Mamá Rosa" Plan for Gender Equality 2013-2019 -The Council on Gender Equality and the Presidential Council of the Popular Government of Women -National Union of Women (UNAMUJER)
Mexico	<p>A gender equality component was integrated into the 2013-2018 national development plan, which means that under the mandate of the PND, all public policies must incorporate the gender perspective in sectoral, institutional, special and regional programs.</p> <p>With regard to food policy, the Mexico without Hunger 2014-2018 program has been implemented, which is a strategy to reduce hunger and food deprivation of the population in extreme poverty that includes the participation of 82 federal government programs.</p>
Honduras	<p>In Honduras Food and Nutritional Security is a state priority reflected in the Law on Food and Nutritional Security that considers gender equality and non-discrimination as a guiding principle. In addition, the Long-term Policy on Food and Nutritional Security and the State Policy for the Agri-food Sector and the Rural Environment of Honduras 2004-2021 have adopted a GENDER EQUALITY APPROACH as a condition to achieve the objectives of economic development and social justice, aimed at reducing the social, economic, political and cultural gaps between genders. These objectives also take into account gender diversity, even within families, and recognize the unequal starting point in which women find themselves in relation to men regarding their access to and enjoyment of the benefits of development.</p> <p>The II Gender Equality Plan of Honduras 2010-2022 includes the promotion, protection and guarantee of women's health throughout their lifetime and respect for their sexual and reproductive rights. The National Strategy for Food and Nutritional Security 2010-2022, which responds to the problems of Food and Nutritional Security in the country, also establishes "GENDER EQUALITY" as a guiding principle.</p>
Brazil	<p>New public policies are the result of the recognition of the various impacts of existing public policies. In the case of the development of public policies for rural women in Brazil, these are designed to promote access and economic autonomy.</p> <p>Specific actions aimed at rural women include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural Workers' Documentation Program (PNDTR), Productive Organization Program for Rural Women (POPMPR), and the Food Acquisition Program (PAA) The National School Feeding Program (PNAE), the Rural Technical Assistance and Extension Program (ATER), and the Productive Inclusion Program for Rural Women. The National Program for Strengthening Agriculture (PRONAF), the Zafra Plan The Brazil without Poverty Plan, the National Plan for Agrarian Reform, the National Policy for Technical Assistance and Rural Extension for Agriculture and Agrarian Reform (PNATER), created by Law 12.188 / 2010; The National Program of Access to Technical Education and Employment (PRONATEC). Electoral and party legislation through the 2009 reform of Law 12.034, the Standing Committee on the Promotion of Policies for Rural Women of the Council for Sustainable Rural Development (CONDRAF), the National Plan for Agroecology and Organic Production (Planapo) and the National Program for

	Strengthening Family Agriculture.
Nicaragua	Nicaragua has achieved remarkable achievements in gender equality, with the commitment of the Sandinista Government to continue to change Nicaragua, promoting gender equality and a gender-based approach. This is reflected in direct actions promoting women to reach positions of power in all areas of political, economic, and social life. According to The Global Gender Gap Report 2016, prepared by the Economic Forum, Nicaragua is ranked 10th among the countries with the highest gender equality worldwide, occupying the 4th position in the ranking of Political Empowerment. This has been achieved through the implementation of laws and gender practices in public policies, with a focus on equal rights between women and men (50%: 50%), and in decision-making with specific functions, which allows women greater participation in all areas of policy decision-making. Among other gender equity initiatives, Nicaragua has passed Law No. 693, the "Law on Sovereignty and Food and Nutritional Security", Law No. 717 and Law No. 648, the Law for Equal Gender Rights.
Guyana	The government is working hard to make Guyana a more egalitarian society. Poverty has had a significant impact on the well-being of mothers and babies throughout the country, and there are children born to mothers living in poverty, including mothers in single-parent families, who face the biggest challenges to their everyday survival. The Ministry of Social Protection continues to create and support programs aimed at women, especially single parents in rural and urban areas throughout the country, such as the School Feeding Program and the National Microcredit Program for Single Parent Women of Worth (WOW), which was established as a microcredit initiative in June 2010.
Suriname	Suriname's commitment with regard to development and implementation of gender equality policy is underlined in the National Development Plans of all governments since Suriname ratified CEDAW. The Integral Gender Action Plans 2000-2005; 2006 – 2010 and the Gender Work Plan 2013 are based on the action programs of MDG's, ICPD, CEDAW, the Belém do Pará Convention, BPFA, Government Statements, National Government Programs. Guidelines for gender mainstreaming of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries has been formulated in 2007. With the formulation of the Agriculture Sector Plan gender mainstreaming has been included as a policy principle. Projects and Programs have enabled the livelihood of women and youth through agriculture and agro-processing, as, for example, in collaboration with the Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture (IICA), through the Rural Women's Network or the Ti Colon Women's Group for the production and processing of herbs for food and health security and income generation, the SEED Foundation Inc. conducted a Farmer Field School (principle – learning by doing), project by UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme, promotion of backyard garden and school feeding programme as well as the Farmer Certification to facilitate food safety.

