

## CFS 2012 Outcomes Highlights for Private Sector Mechanism

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) held its Thirty-ninth Session from 15 to 20 October 2012 at FAO Headquarters in Rome. *The following are selected highlights from the CFS deliberation in which the private sector mechanism was most involved.* Results and the full CFS report are available at: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/mf115e.pdf>

### Addressing Policy Gaps and Emerging Issues

#### CFS 2013 Workstream

- A. Policy discussions based on the HLPE's studies:
  - i. Constraints on smallholder investment
  - ii. Biofuels
- B. Responsible agricultural investment principles (rai)
- C. Development of an Agenda for Action on food security and nutrition in countries in protracted crises
- D. Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Terminology Options Paper (tbd based on resources)

#### Plus Standard Committees

- Monitoring and reporting on the state of implementation of past policy recommendations
- Multi Year Programme Of Work
- Mapping of Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Actions at Country Level (on going)
- Communication
- Preparation of the Plenary session

#### CFS 2014

In 2014, CFS will hold a session will be included on a ten year retrospective on progress made in implementing the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security.

#### High Level Panel of Experts

##### 2013

- Biofuels and food security
- Constraints to smallholder investments

##### 2014

- The role of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition
- Food losses and waste in the context of sustainable food systems

## Policy Roundtable: Food Security and Climate Change

The Committee expressed its appreciation for the work of the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Food Security and Climate Change and for the relevant reports.

The Committee reiterated the role of CFS in promoting greater policy convergence and coordination with regards to food security, and recognized that the adverse effects of climate change can pose serious threats to food security especially to small scale food producers' lives and livelihoods, and to the progressive realization of the right to food in the context of national food security, and urged action.

The Committee recognized the responsibility of member states to ensure that their policies, programmes, actions and strategies are fully consistent with existing international obligations, including food security related commitments.

The Committee recognized the role of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as the key competent forum to deal with climate change and that this decision box does not prejudice efforts under the UNFCCC to address climate change.

The Committee recognized the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), in particular regarding food security and nutrition and sustainable agriculture.

Taking into account the urgent need for actions to address the effects of climate change on food security as well as the root causes of food insecurity in a manner coherent with the progressive realization of the right to food in the context of national food security, the Committee invited Member States (MS), International Organizations (IO) and other CFS stakeholders, as appropriate, and recognizing the role of the UNFCCC:

- a) To integrate climate change concerns in food security policies and programmes and to increase resilience of vulnerable groups and food systems to climate change, emphasizing adaptation to climate change as a major concern and objective for all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers, including through:
  - Increasing public and private investment and international cooperation for enhancing food security in the face of climate change threats, in particular for adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change, sustainable use of natural resources, water management and soil conservation;
  - Developing national and local capacities to deal with food security-related climate change challenges, including improving extension services, and making available and accessible, weather and climate forecasting and risk management tools, in support of farmers' and small-scale food producers' networks and organizations (MS, IO);
  - Conducting assessments of risks, vulnerability and capacities, giving due consideration to gender and nutrition-sensitive perspectives, and improving and implementing early warning systems, especially in a coordinated manner (MS, IO);
  - Developing integrated land-use policies for food security and adaptation to climate change and, where appropriate, contributing to climate change mitigation considering the "Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security" in accordance with nationally defined priorities; (MS);
  - Integrating climate change adaptation and disaster risk management in food security policies and programmes (MS, IO);

- Implementing relevant initiatives, such as for example FAO-Adapt, as appropriate, to strengthen support to countries' efforts toward climate change adaptation (IO).
- b) To create conditions to facilitate access to genetic resources for food and agriculture and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their use for example by:
- Recognizing the importance of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and of the Nagoya Protocol adopted by the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (COP) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);
  - Inviting the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture to continue and strengthen its work on climate change and genetic resources including conservation and use of genetic resources for adaptation to climate change (MS);
- c) To develop agricultural strategies that take into account: (i) the need to respond to climate change and to safeguard food security; (ii) the diversity of agricultural conditions and systems; and (iii) the countries' and regions' specific levels of development, needs, contexts and priorities, including by:
- Taking into account gender-sensitive and participatory approaches that enable both men and women to gain equitable access to land use, information, and resources when addressing food security in the context of climate change;
  - Encouraging farmers in adopting good practices, including, inter alia, farming and grazing practices to prevent land degradation and loss of soil carbon, increasing the efficiency of nitrogen use, improving livestock productivity and the use of manure, improving water management, and increasing the use of agro-forestry;
  - Providing multi-stakeholder country-led assessments and research for agricultural development strategies to face the adverse effects of climate change, taking into account differences between agricultural systems, farming practices, and regional, national and local conditions;
  - Promoting efficiencies in the food chain and the reduction of post-harvest losses and food waste in a sustainable manner (MS, in partnership with private sector and civil society).
- d) To enhance research, including farmer-led research, and improve information collection and sharing by:
- Increasing international cooperation and public and private investment for research, on climate change adaptation and mitigation in order to favour alignment with sustainable development and food security and nutrition including the adaptation needs of small scale producers;
  - Fostering exchanges of information among research programs on climate change and food security (MS, IO);
- e) To facilitate, as appropriate, participation of all stakeholders in food security policies and programmes to address climate change recognizing the contribution of all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers, to food security, by:
- Encouraging multi-stakeholder fora at local, national and regional levels to promote broad participation of local communities and the most vulnerable groups, as well as the private sector, in decision-making processes;
  - Supporting CSOs, notably those representing the most hunger-affected populations, small-scale producers' organizations, and women farmers' organizations, to participate in decision making and the implementation of food security policies and programmes to address climate change.
- f) To support the consideration of food security within the UNFCCC activities, in accordance with its mandate and in the context of the objectives, principles and provisions of that convention, by:

- Inviting FAO to continue collaboration with the UNFCCC Secretariat including through the provision of sound technical information on food security issues;
- Inviting the CFS Secretariat to transmit for information the HLPE report on Food Security and Climate Change and the present document of the CFS to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and to the UNFCCC Secretariat.

## **STATE OF FOOD INSECURITY**

### *Highlights:*

- a) With almost 870 million people chronically undernourished in 2010–12, the number of hungry people in the world remains unacceptably high.
- b) Improved undernourishment estimates, from 1990, suggest that progress in reducing hunger has been more pronounced than previously believed.
- c) Most of the progress, however, was achieved before 2007–08. Since then, global progress in reducing hunger has slowed and then levelled off.
- d) The revised results imply that the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target of halving by 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger is within reach, if appropriate actions are taken to reverse the slowdown since 2007–08.

The Committee welcomed the new methodology for estimating hunger presented by Mr Pietro Gennari, Director, FAO Statistics Division (ESS). The Committee supported the new methodology and welcomed any further improvements as new information is made available, including a broader set of key indicators to provide a more comprehensive picture of food insecurity and under-nutrition.

## **Food Security and Nutrition Terminology**

### *Highlights:*

Currently there is no consensus among member states about the use of the combined term “food and nutrition security”.

Recommended that the Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group and the joint Secretariat determines the scope and timing of further work to be carried out to address the issues under point (b) above, and that based on priorities and available resources the results of this work should be presented to the CFS plenary.

## **Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF)**

### *Highlights:*

The committee:

- a) Expressed its gratitude to the Chair of the OEWG on the GSF, its Members and Participants, as well as the Secretariat, for the successful conclusions of the negotiations, which have

been conducted in an inclusive, transparent and participatory manner, while recognising the diversity of views on issues and policy gaps as referenced in Chapter VI.

- b) Endorsed the First Version of the GSF, as attached to this Report as an Addendum.
- c) Noted that the main added value of the GSF is to provide an overarching framework and a single reference document with practical guidance on core recommendations for food security and nutrition strategies, policies and actions validated by the wide ownership, participation and consultation afforded by CFS, and noted that the GSF is not a legally binding document.
- d) Agreed that the GSF should be updated regularly to reflect the outcomes and recommendations of CFS in a manner consistent with multilateral principles, agreements and mandates.

Link to Document:

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/me597e.pdf>

## **Responsible agricultural investments: the Way Forward**

- a) Approved the Terms of Reference (ToR) for an inclusive consultation process within CFS to develop and ensure broad ownership of principles for responsible agricultural investments;

### **PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE TO DEVELOP PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT**

#### **A. Purpose**

*1. The expected outcome of the inclusive, consultative process within CFS is a set of principles to promote investments in agriculture that contribute to food security and nutrition and to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security.*

#### **B. Intended users of the principles**

*2. The principles are intended for all stakeholders that are involved in, benefit from, or are affected by agricultural investments, including among others:*

- a) Governments (national, sub-national, local) in host states and states of origin of investments;*
- b) Private and public investors (both domestic and foreign), such as small – medium – large farmers, farmers' organizations, cooperatives, private companies, joint ventures, chambers of commerce, trade unions, state funds, pension funds, financial institutions, commodities traders, partnerships and corporations;*
- c) Intergovernmental and regional organizations, including international and regional financial institutions;*
- d) Civil society organizations;*
- e) Research organizations and universities;*
- f) Donors;*
- g) Foundations.*

#### **C. Type of instrument**

*3. The principles will be voluntary and non-binding and should be interpreted and applied consistent with existing obligations under national and international law, and with due regard to voluntary commitments under applicable regional and international instruments. These principles should be interpreted and applied in accordance with national legal systems and their institutions. They should be endorsed by CFS.*

#### **D. Nature of the principles**

4. The principles to be developed by the consultative process will take into account existing guidance frameworks such as the rai principles developed by FAO, IFAD, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Bank and build on the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security.

5. The principles will address all types of investment in agricultural value chains and food systems including by, for and with smallholder producers and including investments in agricultural research, extension and technology transfer. They will include foreign and domestic, public and private small, medium and large scale investments.

6. The principles should take into account the following key considerations:

- a) The broad diversity of agricultural value chains and food systems including smallholder food production, processing and marketing;
- b) Recognition of special interests and needs of smallholder producers with respect to research, development and technology transfer;
- c) The impact of agricultural investments on environmental, economic, social and cultural aspects, including, but not limited to impacts on:
  - i) Food security and nutrition
  - ii) Food producers
  - iii) The most vulnerable segments of the population
  - iv) Employment creation and labour conditions
  - v) Gender related aspects including particular obstacles faced by women and girls (see VGGT,5.4)
  - vi) The contribution to the sustainable use of natural resources
  - vii) Improved sustainable agricultural productivity
  - viii) Access to productive agricultural resources
  - ix) The functioning of markets
  - x) Improved access to markets by smallholder producers and processors
- d) The relevant obligations of states, and responsibilities of non-state actors conducive to responsible governance of investment such as existing human rights standards and the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security (based on VGGT sections 3B and 4)
- e) Governance structures and decision making processes to enable and facilitate key elements such as consultation, participation, anti-corruption and conflict resolution
- f) Coordination, cooperation and partnerships among stakeholders
- g) Mechanisms to review, investments and to promote accountability of individuals, state and non-state actors for their actions (based on VGGT, sections 3B and 4, and part 7)

7. Furthermore the principles should:

- a) Build on the VGGT, particularly regarding section 12 on Investments, without reopening issues agreed to and include explicit references to the VGGT;
- b) Clarify for the purpose of this process, commonly used terms such as responsible investment, private sector, smallholder producers, smallholder sensitive investment, and;
- c) Ensure they do not duplicate existing agreements and ongoing intergovernmental negotiations across the UN and multilateral system.

#### **E. Proposed process and timeframe for the consultations**

8. The consultation process to develop the principles should be open and include all stakeholders that are key to ensure ownership and legitimacy. Adequate participation of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), the private sector (companies and investors of all sizes), of initiatives such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development (CAADP), UN Global

Compact, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Grow Africa, national investment frameworks, and of research organizations, should be ensured.

9. The process should take into account lessons learnt from other CFS led processes such as the VGGT and the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF).

10. The consultation and negotiation process should be properly planned, simple and efficient. Regional, national, thematic and/or stakeholder specific, electronic consultations, which enable multi-stakeholder dialogue should be considered. Where possible, appropriate existing forums/meetings should be used, and stakeholders should be periodically informed about the stage of development of the principles.

11. The consultation schedule and relevant documents such as the draft principles should be made available well in advance in all UN official languages in the interests of maximum participation by all stakeholders.

12. The CFS Secretariat will implement the consultation process under the oversight of the Bureau and in close collaboration with the OEWG.

13. Adequate financial and human resources should be secured in advance to enable the consultations.

14. The following tentative schedule is proposed:

<b>Task</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
<i>OEWG meeting to discuss preliminary work on the Zero Draft and prepare a calendar of consultations</i>	<i>Early November 2012</i>
<i>CFS Secretariat to prepare a Zero Draft of the principles</i>	<i>Nov 2012 - Jan 2013</i>
<i>Zero draft is discussed in OEWG and CFS Bureau</i>	<i>Feb 2013</i>
<i>Regional multi-stakeholder consultations, e-consultation and consultations within existing regional meetings/fora</i>	<i>Feb 2013 - Jan 2014</i>
<i>CFS Secretariat to prepare Draft One</i>	<i>Feb 2014</i>
<i>Draft One is discussed in OEWG and CFS</i>	<i>Bureau March 2014</i>
<i>Global meeting to be held in Rome to negotiate Final Version</i>	<i>June/July 2014</i>
<i>Principles are endorsed at CFS Plenary</i>	<i>October 2014</i>

15. Estimated costs to implement the above would be \$2.000.000 and would cover the costs for human resources, organization of meetings and travel expenses for selected participants.

b) Agreed that the consultation process will be implemented by the CFS Secretariat under the oversight of the Bureau and in close collaboration with the OEWG on responsible agricultural investments

c) Requested that the principles emanating from the CFS consultative process be submitted for endorsement by CFS at its 41<sup>st</sup> Session in October 2014

d) Emphasized the important role of the planned consultations on responsible agricultural investments, and encouraged all stakeholders to participate actively in the process

## **Addressing Food Insecurity in Protracted Crises**

## *Highlights:*

Re-iterated its support for a consultative process including all relevant stakeholders with a view to presenting for consideration by the CFS Plenary an “Agenda for Action for Food Security in Countries in Protracted Crises”, building as appropriate on the elements provided in para 28 of CFS 2012/39/7.

## **Policy Round Table: Social Protection**

The Committee endorsed the following recommendations regarding Social Protection for Food Security and Nutrition:

- a) Urged Member States to design and put in place, or strengthen, comprehensive, nationally-owned, context-sensitive social protection systems for food security and nutrition, considering:
  - Inter-ministerial and cross-sectoral coordination, including the agriculture sector, to ensure that social protection is integrated with broader food security and nutrition programming
  - The progressive development of comprehensive country-led social protection portfolios and action plans that ensure active, inclusive, meaningful stakeholder participation, and are sensitive to country differences in terms of policy, institutions and financial capacity
  - Appropriate national assessments, including food security and nutrition and gender assessments, to ensure the inclusion of food and nutrition insecurity-sensitive targeting, effective registration methods, gender-sensitive programming, institutional arrangements, delivery mechanisms, robust monitoring, accountability and evaluation
  - The particular challenges faced by least developed countries, fragile states and countries in protracted crises, including linkages between short-term social transfers and longer-term social protection programmes, taking into account the role of international cooperation in reinforcing national actions to implement sustainable social protection programmes and systems;
  - The various components of effective social protection, including non-contributory social transfers or safety nets, insurance mechanisms, and access to social services, including recognition and strengthening of informal/traditional social protection mechanisms.
- b) Called upon Member States, international organizations and other stakeholders to ensure that social protection systems embrace a "twin-track" strategy to maximize impact on resilience and food security and nutrition, through:
  - Provision of essential assistance in the short-term while simultaneously protecting or building productive assets and infrastructure that support livelihoods and human development in the long-term
  - Fostering integrated programmes which directly support agricultural livelihoods and productivity for the poor, particularly smallholder farmers and small-scale food producers, including through production input support, weather, crop and livestock insurance, farmer organizations and co-operatives for market access, decent jobs and public works that create agricultural assets, home-grown school feeding that purchases food from local smallholder farmers, in-kind transfers (food, seeds), vouchers and cash transfers, agricultural livelihood packages and extension services
  - Establishment of strong linkages amongst sectors such as education, health and agriculture to ensure decent employment and social welfare in rural and urban areas, including enhancing people' access, especially women, to markets and financial services required for effective social protection
  - Ensuring the provision of technical, financial and capacity building support, and also conducting and sharing of research results on social protection, including through enhanced South-South cooperation
- c) Urged Member States, international organizations and other stakeholders to improve the

design and use of social protection interventions to address vulnerability to chronic and acute food insecurity, considering:

- the importance of providing predictable and reliable access to social protection to all those in need at any time of the year, and at particularly vulnerable stages of life
- that chronically vulnerable individuals, unable to participate in the workforce, might need permanent assistance, recognizing that not everyone can graduate out of poverty and food insecurity
- that under a life-cycle approach to nutrition, priority should be given to social protection that addresses the critical “first 1,000 days” from pregnancy to 2 years old, including policies that promote and support breastfeeding, ensuring access to social services particularly health care, ensuring adequate knowledge of all relevant aspects of child care, and access to affordable and acceptable nutritious food products through the marketplace where possible, appropriate and sustainable
- flexible mechanisms to monitor and adjust design features and modalities as appropriate
- that social protection systems should be designed in such a way that they can respond quickly to shocks such as droughts, floods and food price spikes.

d) Reminded Member States that social protection programmes for food security and nutrition should be guided by human rights norms and standards and should be complemented as appropriate by policies, guidelines, including legislation as appropriate, to support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, and social security, as well as gender equality and empowerment through interalia:

- the consideration of provisions recommended by the International Labour Conference on the Social Protection Floors. Social protection can be a catalyst for the fulfilment of other relevant international rights
- the grounding of social protection in national institutional frameworks and legislation, where appropriate, establishing targets, benchmarks, indicators and institutional responsibilities;
- the adoption of integrated and mutually-supportive social protection and food security and nutrition strategies and policies, based on human rights standards and principles, including non-discrimination and equality (including gender), meaningful participation, transparency and accountability.

e) Suggested that the CFS Bureau, in consultation with the Advisory Group and with the support of the Secretariat consider, given the already full agenda and limited resources, support for social protection for food security and nutrition, through inter-alia:

- facilitation and convening of lesson-sharing events on social protection for food security and nutrition, including complementing existing global and regional platforms;
- further exploration of a way forward on integrating food security and nutrition issues in social protection floors, in consultation with Rome-based Agencies and relevant organizations and entities, such as the High-Level Task Force on Food Security (HLTF), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Bank;
- the CFS Open-ended Working Group on Monitoring (OEWG-Monitoring) further clarifying the support CFS could offer to stakeholders in the monitoring, reporting and evaluation of social protection programmes for food security and nutrition, taking into account the roles of other relevant stakeholders and existing monitoring mechanisms.

## **Monitoring, Mapping And Follow-Up**

These monitoring, mapping of food security and nutrition actions at country level, and rules of procedure were discussed.

**CFS 2013 - October 7 -11 in Rome**