

CFS Advisory Group reporting exercise by The Private Sector Mechanism of CFS

23 March 2020

January-December 2019

I. Contribution to CFS activities

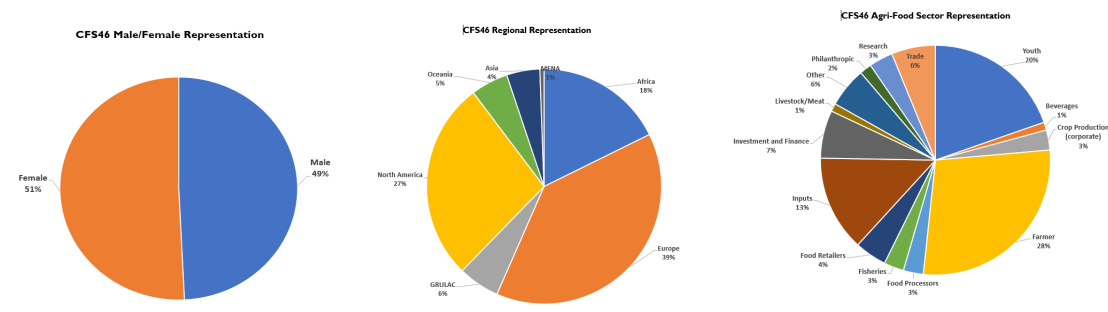
Throughout the year, PSM is active in the diversity of CFS workstreams contributing regularly in meetings, written submissions, and raising \$320,000 to support the co-ordination and participation of private sector at CFS.

CFS46

CFS46 was a very successful event and PSM highlights:

- A 211-person delegation of business leaders from over 45 countries in Rome.
- The delegation was 49% male and 51% female;
- Participation of over 45 youth delegates;
- 5 Side Events organized by PSM members at CFS46 (reports available [here](#)):
 - Youth for World Food Day
 - The Future of Farming
 - Partnering for Change: Multistakeholder Partnerships and CFS
 - Transforming our Food System
 - Food Systems and Nutrition Guidelines: Proposed pathways by the Private Sector and Civil Society
- 14 interventions were delivered by PSM members in plenary from panels and from the floor, on a broad selection of topics under the CFS agenda;
- PSM members participated as panellists or moderators at 11 different CFS side events.

A Breakdown of the CFS46 PSM Delegation



Annual Meeting

In 2019 the PSM Annual Meeting brought together 47 business leaders from throughout the agri-food value chain and across the globe to Rome. The PSM delegation met with CFS Secretary Mr. Chris Hegadorn and then Chair of CFS, H.E. Mario Arvelo, and Chair of the VGFSyN Mme. Liliane Ortega.

CFS Nutrition Workstream:

PSM participated in the Regional Consultations on the VGFSyN, which benefitted from the funding of CFS stakeholders:

- African Regional Consultation in Addis Ababa: 8 PSM members
- Asian Regional Consultation in Bangkok: 6 PSM members
- European Regional Consultation in Budapest: 8 PSM members
- Near East Regional Consultation in Cairo: 4 PSM members
- Latin American Regional Consultation in Panama City: 6 PSM members
- North American Regional Consultation in Washington D.C.: 4 PSM members

On April 26, 2019, the PSM hosted an event in Rome to present forward-looking policy recommendations to be considered for inclusion in the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition. This event provided an opportunity to have a first exchange of views on these recommendations with CFS stakeholders and how they could significantly contribute to transforming the food systems to deliver food which is available, affordable, acceptable, safe and of adequate quantity and quality and contribute to the achievement of the global nutrition goals and towards Agenda 2030:

- Over 75 guests attended, including Ambassadors, staff from all RBA's, CFS Bureau Members, private sector actors, and others
- The report is available [here](#)

Nutrition Strategy Sessions for PSM members were conducted ahead of in-person meetings of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Nutrition during the process of formulating the Terms of Reference (ToR) for Voluntary Nutrition Guidelines;

- The PSM secretariat has attended, with external PSM members all the following OEWG meetings on Nutrition:
 - The last OEWG that took place in November was an opportunity for the OEWG Chairperson to provide an update on the outcomes of the six Regional Consultations held in preparation of the First Draft of the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition to be circulated by the end of the year, as well as on the next steps in the process toward finalizing these guidelines ahead of CFS 47 in October 2020
 - PSM Statements delivered in the OEWG are available [here](#)
- The PSM developed and shared key messages and input to the nutrition guidelines.

CFS Agroecology & Other Innovative Approaches Workstream:

The PSM secretariat has attended, with external PSM members the following sessions on Agroecology:

- 16 October 2019 (extraordinary session within the CFS Plenary) to provide guidance on the policy priorities to be addressed
- 29 November 2019—PSM input was provided on the priority issues to be addressed during the CFS policy convergence process

CFS MYPOW Workstream

Throughout the development of the MYPOW, PSM was active and particularly advocated for a focus on Youth. In relation to this, PSM raised funds to have youth participate at CFS, and a strong delegation was present. Youth Members also participated in meetings with the outgoing CFS Chair: H.E. Mario Arvelo as well as the incoming CFS Chair: Mr Thanawat Tiensin. Another successful meeting was held with youth focal points from the RBAs to discuss current projects at country level, the type of support needed for youth in their programmes and how youth can identify/develop the skills to jointly participate in RBA projects.

II. Use, application, and dissemination of CFS outcomes

PSM members are closely involved in the drafting of CFS products, since they recognize their value as a tool to highlight the challenges and successes of Private Sector in promoting food security.

The PSM held an event with the DFID Core Land Support Team in October 2019 (and a related CFS side-event) to take stock of lessons to implement the VGGT from recent pilots, partnership and platform initiatives with governments, CSOs and business to improve responsible land investment. The principle lessons from analysis and practical piloting were: i) timely identification of land rights issues; ii) prior documentation of legitimate land rights; iii) fair negotiation processes and community consent to investments; iv) independent, politically informed community legal support; v) mainstreaming land issues in companies' operations and business practice; vi) flexibility and inclusiveness in business plans and models vii) a systemic approach to building an equitable regulatory environment for land investments. The three top measures to ensure that agricultural investments respect legitimate land rights were highlighted by participants as:

1. Stronger national investment rules and procedures for regulation of agricultural investment are essential to obtain full buy-in from the private sector;
2. Prior land rights mapping and registration of;
3. Greater investment in smallholder and community businesses.

All final CFS documents and PSM input into CFS outputs are posted on the [IAFN agrifood website](http://www.agrifood.net).

III. Strengthening the linkages between the Committee and Advisory Group constituencies

Upon request by the CFS Secretariat, the PSM and CSM developed a joint side event: Proposed Pathways by the Private Sector and Civil Society provided perspectives, expectations and concrete proposals of the PSM and CSM on the VGFSyN.

This was extremely useful since each CFS stakeholder group will have side event proposals that align with their own member requests and may overlook the possibility of working together. The Side event was very successful and benefitted from a diverse panel and moderation by the CFS OEWG Nutrition Chair, Dr Liliane Ortega. The PSM would suggest these requests from CFS secretariat continue to promote interaction between the mechanisms, perhaps with greater participation by CFS leadership.

Member States active on CFS often mention the desire to see more work on common ground between PSM and CSM, but this can be made more feasible when the requests originate from a third party, such as was the case with this side event.

Another useful suggestion would be for Regional Chairs to request joint informational updates from CSM and PSM at their regional meetings. PSM would be very happy to participate in these and has pro-actively requested these with regional groups, but a nod/nudge by the CFS secretariat to do so may be useful.

IV. Success stories

The PSM used the HLPE 2018 report “Multistakeholder Partnerships to improve food security and nutrition in the framework of the 2030 Agenda” through side-events at CFS 46 and made it the theme of the PSM High Level Dinner. The Dinner aimed to encourage, promote and create effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

In order to enable successful multistakeholder partnerships, it is important to develop a clear narrative and framework for stakeholder cooperation in public, private, and civil society. Partnerships should have a defined problem, which the multistakeholder partnership addresses directly with clear, evidence-based targets, common goals and commitments to frame the partnership. With a clear set of indicators, success can be measured and potentially replicated in other partnerships. Participants also encouraged partnerships between institutional investors, local or indigenous entrepreneurs and smallholders. This also includes partnerships between public, private, and youth that focus on the case for sustainability, and not solely the business perspective.

In addition to this, it was a pleasure to announce several new multi-stakeholder partnerships in 2019. Please see a variety of resources on the website, including this thoughtful blog by academic Herman Brouwer: <https://agrifood.net/iafn-updates/445-are-multistakeholder-partnerships-effective-to-reach-sdq-goals>