

27 October 2023

Dear Private Sector Mechanism Delegates,

PSM had an active participation at CFS51 and with all activities leading up to the event. We sincerely thank all the delegates who participated in the 51st plenary session of the CFS. PSM was represented by a delegation of 127 from 30 countries.

We are pleased to report that this year's delegation included a diverse gender, geographical and age representation (*see below*). The strong return to CFS in such numbers is a confirmation of private sector's commitment to the work of CFS.

CFS52 is planned for 21 - 25 October 2024 in Rome (TBC) under the leadership of the newly elected **CFS Chair for 2023-2025**, H.E Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile, Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa to the Food and Agriculture Organization to the United Nations. Key outcomes include the endorsement of the Voluntary Guidelines on Gender and the Policy Recommendations on Data and the Multi-Year Program of Work which will start with reducing inequalities and then focus on urban and peri-urban food systems.

Key achievements for the Private Sector Mechanism during the 51st plenary session of the CFS include:

- A strong return to in-person CFS sessions with **127 business leaders**,
- **52% women** delegation engaged in plenary, several side events and networking sessions
- Participation across **30 countries**.
- **13 bilateral meetings** that highlighted private sector commitments, priorities, and support for CFS's Multi-Year Program of Work (MYPoW) took place. These included meetings with regional and country representatives as well as representatives of UN agencies. The bilateral meetings were arranged between the PSM and the following:
 - Australia
 - Canada
 - CFS Chair
 - Ecuador, Chair of the FAO Regional Group of GRULAC
 - European Ambassador to FAO
 - FAO Chief Economist
 - FAO Head of World Food Forum
 - FAO Director of Food Systems Summit Hub
 - German Parliamentary Secretary
 - New Zealand
 - Nigeria and Chair of the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems
 - Mexico, Vice Chair of GRULAC
 - United States



- In Plenary, PSM was able to make **13 interventions**, and was complimented on several occasions for its insights and contributions. We would like to thank the following delegates who represented PSM in plenary and/or delivered statements: Yemisi Iranloye, Emmastella Wangui Gakuo, Janice Giddens, Anne Terhorst, Richard Heath, Veronica Papacosta, Brian Baldwin, Mandla Mabunda, Katarina Eriksson, Kyle Bridgeforth, Michael Keller, Hlamalani Ngwenya, and Marie Chantal Messier. The diversity of the PSM delegation was reflected and appreciated at CFS51.



- PSM members organized 4 **side events** this year reaching over **470 attendees in person and virtually**. Members of the delegation also had an opportunity to speak in additional side events and a special event session in plenary. These were the organized side events:

Side event: Empowering women farmers to effectively reduce poverty and hunger

Tuesday, 24th of October 2023

The panel discussion built on the work of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines for Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the context of food security and nutrition. It explored how these guidelines can contribute to helping women overcome of the challenges they face in agriculture and food systems. The panel consisting of: Amb. Carlos Cherniak (Permanent Representation for Argentina to FAO), Amb. Frutiger (Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation), Marie-Chantal Messier (Nestle), Janice Giddens (U.S. Dairy Export Council), Ms Robinah Najjingo (Kahawatu Rwanda), Ms Oluyemisi Iranloye (Psaltry International), also highlighted the importance of collecting sex and gender disaggregated data and provided insights for the upcoming CFS workstream on reducing inequalities.

Side Event: Improved data management for increased sustainability, food security and nutrition

Tuesday, 24th of October 2023

This side event shared the concerns and potential of data management policies from a farmer's perspective to promote data-driven decision-making. Greater collaboration is needed among the multiple actors involved in this space: data producers, users and enablers. Perspectives were shared by: Kenya Mission to Rome, U.S. Mission to the UN Agencies in Rome, USAID, Self

Employed Women's Association, Solutions from the Land and the Digital Agriculture Association. The panel also highlighted the recently endorsed CFS guidelines on Data.

Side event: Investing in Youth to Reduce Inequalities – Implementing CFS Guidelines on Engaging Youth in Agriculture and Food Systems

Thursday, 26th of October 2023

Following the endorsement of the CFS Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition during CFS's 50th Plenary session in 2022, the time has now come to ensure effective implementation of those policy recommendations. The side event showcased existing programs that focus on education, capacity development and academic opportunities for youth engaged in agriculture and food systems that require additional investments to be scaled to a global level. The side event was co-organized with Canada, World Food Forum, NGIN, Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture, Nuffield International and the International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences (IAAS).

Side event: The inextricable link between diet quality, food accessibility, & global inequality

Thursday, 26th of October 2023

The recent HLPE report, "Reducing Inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition," has highlighted a critical issue: inequalities in food systems are intricately tied to food accessibility and availability. Access to healthier, nutritionally adequate diets plays a pivotal role in reducing inequalities across populations. It leads to improved health, better education, and increased employment opportunities for all. The speakers: Dr. Jujavarapu Balaji (Embassy of India in Rome), Dist. Prof. Paul Moughan (Riddet Institute), Dr. Imelda Angeles-Agdeppa (Food and Nutrition Research Institute), Dr. Sylvia Chungchunlam (Riddet Institute), Mr. Roger Pelissero (Egg Farmers of Canada), Ms. Marie Chantal Messier (Nestlé) shined a spotlight on two essential aspects:

- The creation of a least-cost diet model that generates foods and diets rich in nutrients at the lowest possible cost. This model aims to ensure that everyone can access the essential nutrients they need to thrive.
- Insights on malnutrition in India and Africa, with a particular focus on the importance of providing low-cost, high-quality protein sources. This approach can help combat stunting, wasting, and related conditions that affect vulnerable populations.



International Agri-Food Network

- This year's **High-Level Dinner on Resilient and Inclusive Food Systems** was hugely successful, bringing together over 160 guests, including H.E Gabriel Ferrero, Chairperson of the CFS 2021-2023, the Independent Chair of FAO Council, H.E. Hans Hoogeveen, incoming CFS Chair, H.E Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile, FAO Chief Economist, Dr. Maximo Torero, IFAD Vice-President Dr. Jo Puri, Mr. Guenter Hemrich, the Interim Secretary of the CFS. Ambassadors, Representatives of CFS, Member States, UN agencies, NGOs, and companies were invited to examine the ways and tools to emphasise inclusion across the agrifood value chains and effectively support food system transformation.
- The dinner discussed resilient and inclusive food systems, and prepared for the upcoming discussion at the CFS on “Reducing Inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition.” The discussions also explored programs and initiatives of the private sector, member states, multilateral agencies, NGOs and academia. Guests looked at how they to work together on furthering inclusion and resilience and ensuring collaboration, mutual understanding and coordinated responses. We would like to thank our sponsors, BASF and Rabobank for this wonderful opportunity.
- A report will be available soon highlighting the discussions.



CFS Plenary

- New CFS Chairperson for 2023-2025



H.E. Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile, Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa to the Food and Agriculture Organization to the United Nations was elected as Chair of the Committee on World Food Security for the term 2023-2025.

H.E. Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile was the Director General for the Department of Environmental Affairs of South Africa for twelve years. As PSM, we would like to wish a successful mandate to H.E. Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile and we would like to thank H.E. Gabriel Ferrero, the outgoing Chair of the

CFS for his leadership and for helping amplify the voice of the private sector in the work of food security and nutrition at the United Nations.

You can find the bio of the new chairperson of the CFS [here](#).

- Plenary started this year with a presentation of the 2023 State of Food Security (SOFI) Report which highlighted that while levels of hunger remain unchanged, it is still far higher than pre-COVID levels. More than one in five people in 48 food crisis countries was facing hunger in 2022. The presentation of the SOFI report was followed by members states' responses alongside those of advisory groups, including the PSM. The Private Sector is an important partner in global efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, as an engine of economic growth and job creation. Most of the world's food is grown, processed, and sold via the Private Sector and we are committed to working with all Stakeholders, including governments, towards the achievement of Zero hunger, SDG2.



The SOFI report for 2023 is available [here](#).

- A significant outcome of CFS51: The endorsement of The Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls Empowerment in the context of Food Security and Nutrition. The document recognizes the important roles women play in our food systems, as well as they will play even bigger roles in the transformation to more resilient and sustainable food systems. CFS multi-stakeholders are urged to show leadership and signal their commitment to greater equity for women, including rights to land and other productive resources, access to financial services, business registration and operation, healthcare, education, and employment opportunities.

These Voluntary Guidelines document is available [here](#).

- Another important outcome is the endorsement of the CFS Policy Recommendations on strengthening Collection and Use of Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Data and Related Analysis Tools to Improve Decision-Making in Support of the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security. Farmers use data daily and it is vital that data be accurate, timely, and accessible to facilitate the best-informed decisions, development, and design of most effective policies. It is equally important that the rights of farmers be protected by adhering to principles for proper management of data based on their best practices to promote data-driven decision-making.

These Policy Recommendations can be accessed [here](#).

- CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2024-2027. Below is the agreed policy focus of the CFS until CFS56:



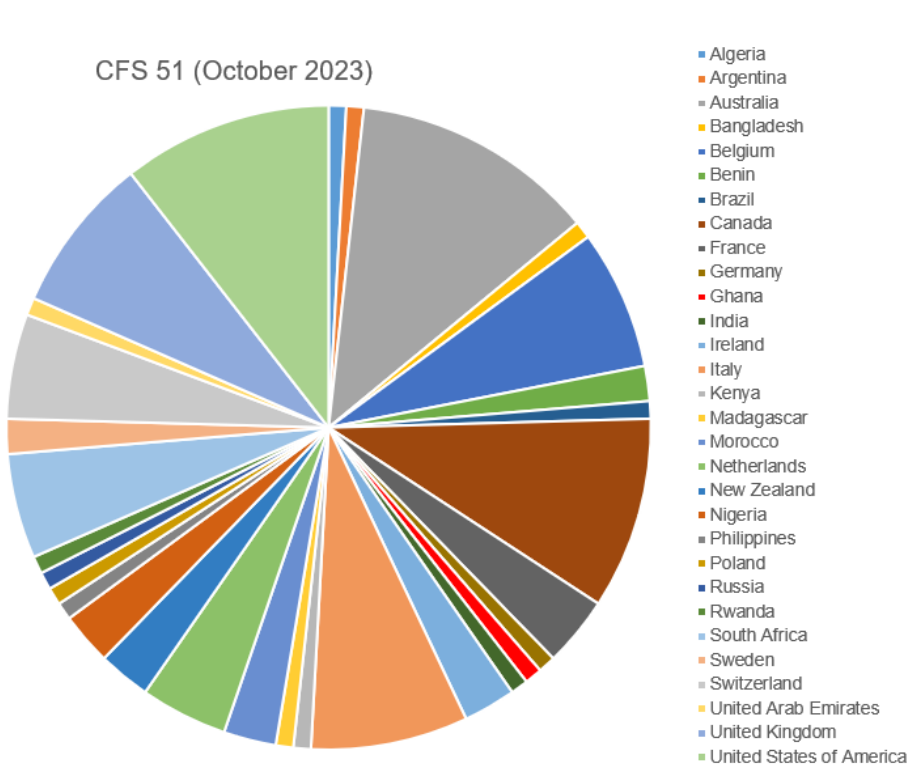
Access the full document [here](#).

The PSM secretariat has prepared a brief survey to collect delegates' feedback on CFS experiences. Please take five minutes to fill it out, as your participation will help improve next year's event! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GTPJ3XX>

Best wishes,

Robynne, Wayne, Bibi, Brian, Rosemary, Ashleigh, Francesca, Omar, Sophie, Chloe, & Fabio

CFS51 GENDER BREAKDOWN



The official CFS photo album is available on FAOs Flickr account [here](#).