



CFS INPUTS TO THE 2023 HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM (HLPF)

Accelerating recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

CFS CHAIRPERSON'S SUMMARY¹

PROPOSED KEY MESSAGES FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2023 HLPF MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

At its 50th Session in 2022, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) expressed deep concern over the current global food security crisis:

- The current state of global food insecurity, with estimated 702 to 828 million people globally affected by hunger in 2021, about 150 million more since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic; **the projected nearly 670 million people who will still be facing hunger in 2030 – 8 percent of the world population -which is the same as in 2015 when the 2030 Agenda was launched**; the almost 3.1 billion people who could not afford a healthy diet in 2020, 112 million more people than in 2019 (Source: CFS 50/Report, para 10 c, i, ii, iii);
- **The disproportionate impact of the crisis on the poor, persons with disabilities, small scale food producers and family farmers, women, youth, older persons and children, as well as those living in vulnerable situations**, exacerbating humanitarian needs and increasing the risk of famine around the world; the surge and extreme volatility in international food commodity prices; the rise in fertilizer prices and the shortages caused by supply chain disruptions, affecting crop yields and threatening agricultural productivity and production; the rise in energy and fuel prices, which is further increasing food prices, narrowing fiscal space, resulting in, or exacerbating debt distress and economic downturns (Source: CFS 50/Report, para 10 c, vi); **Members reaffirmed their commitment to strive for a world free from hunger where countries implement the Voluntary Guidelines for the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security** (Source: CFS 50/Report, para 10 e);
- **Combining short and medium-term with long-term solutions to the crisis**, leading towards agriculture and food systems that are more resilient, sustainable, and inclusive, in line with the 2030 Agenda (Source: CFS 50/Report, para 10 j,ii).

The Committee welcomed:

- The determination of the international community to address the global food security crisis on the basis of unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation, recognizing the fundamental role of the United Nations system in catalyzing and coordinating a comprehensive global response, under the leadership of the Secretary General (Source: CFS 50/Report, para 10 g,i);
- The progress achieved under the UN Secretary General's GCRG and encourages the Committee to continue to engage in the discussion, including by disseminating GCRG Briefs (Source: CFS 50/Report, para 10 g,iii).

¹ This Chairperson's Summary is the result of a consultative process with the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group, supported by Diana Infante of the Dominican Republic in the role of Rapporteur.

I. CFS ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION IN THE MID-POINT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2030 AGENDA AND THE SDGS, AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

At its 50th session, under agenda item II on “Ministerial Segment: Coordinating Policy Responses to the Global Food Crisis - The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World”, the Committee expressed deep concern over the current global food security crisis, including over:

- i. The current state of global food insecurity, with estimated 702 to 828 million people globally affected by hunger in 2021, about 150 million more since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- ii. The projected nearly 670 million people who will still be facing hunger in 2030 – 8 percent of the world population -which is the same as in 2015 when the 2030 Agenda was launched;
- iii. The almost 3.1 billion people who could not afford a healthy diet in 2020, 112 million more people than in 2019;
- iv. The estimated 22 percent of children under five years of age who were stunted, wasted (6.7 percent) and overweight (5.7 percent) in 2020; as well as the estimated 571 million women (nearly one in three women aged 15 to 49 years) affected by anemia in 2019;
- v. The impact of the food security crisis on the assistance provided by United Nations humanitarian agencies;
- vi. The disproportionate impact of the crisis on the poor, persons with disabilities, small scale food producers and family farmers, women, youth, older persons and children, as well as those living in vulnerable situations, exacerbating humanitarian needs and increasing the risk of famine around the world; the surge and extreme volatility in international food commodity prices; the rise in fertilizer prices and the shortages caused by supply chain disruptions, affecting crop yields and threatening agricultural productivity and production; the rise in energy and fuel prices, which is further increasing food prices, narrowing fiscal space, resulting in, or exacerbating debt distress and economic downturns.

The Committee also:

- Underlined that geopolitical instability and increasing conflicts undermine food security and nutrition and have negative impact on agri-food systems and the role of the CFS within the areas of its competence is emphasized in monitoring and analysing the impacts of crises and conflicts, with a special emphasis on the impact of the war in Ukraine on global food security and agri-food systems under the mandate of CFS, economic downturns, climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, and other shocks and crises² (Source: CFS 50/Report, para 10 d);
- Took note of the different views expressed by delegations on the impact of economic, financial and trade measures in relation to food security and nutrition during the global food crisis, recalling Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (Source: CFS50/Report, para 10.j, iii);
- Decided through a roll call³ vote to reject an amendment to the above sub-paragraph j) iii of paragraph 10, submitted by Belarus on the addition of “including sanctions” as reflected in Annex G of the [CFS 50 Report](#);

A comprehensive and in-depth review of [Critical, emerging and enduring issues for food security and nutrition](#) is provided in the Note prepared by the CFS High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) in September 2022 and considered under agenda item IV.A at CFS 50, stressing and recalling that its content was not negotiated by CFS members and stakeholders and therefore cannot be considered multilaterally agreed. Key issues identified relevant to accelerating recovery from the pandemic include building resilient and equitable supply chains for food security and nutrition, conflicts and the fragility of food systems and emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases and other biological hazard events challenging food security and nutrition.

² The Russian Federation states that it disassociates itself from paragraph d) of the Report of the 50th Session of the Committee on World Food Security due to the fact that conflicts and their characterization with legal implications are not within the mandate of CFS.

³ The Result Sheet of the vote is included in Appendix G

II. EXAMPLES OF SPECIFIC ACTIONS TAKEN TO RECOVER FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC THAT ALSO ACCELERATE PROGRESS TOWARDS MULTIPLE SDG TARGETS, INCLUDING ACTIONS IDENTIFIED BY YOUR INTER-GOVERNMENTAL BODY, BUILDING ON INTERLINKAGES AND TRANSFORMATIVE PATHWAYS FOR ACHIEVING SDGS

The President of the General Assembly and the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) co-convened a High-Level Special Event in July 2022 to foster coordinated global policy responses to the current global food crisis supported by – and in support of – the UN Secretary-General’s Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy, and Finance. The Co-Chairs’ Summary of the event titled “[Time to Act Together: Coordinating Policy Responses to the Global Food Crisis](#)”⁴ was acknowledged by the Committee at CFS 50 (CFS 50/Report para 10.g iv; 10.h). The event addressed the need to act together in a coherent and coordinated manner to enhance country-led responses with the SDGs as our compass and guided by the UN Secretary-General’s Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy, and Finance that is fostering joint analysis and coordinated policy recommendations from the UN System and the international financial institutions.

Key messages from the event were:

- Short-and medium-term solutions to the crisis should go hand-in-hand with long-term and sustainable transformation of agriculture and food systems to ones that are more resilient, fair, sustainable, and inclusive, with the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement as the world’s compass.
- Convergence is emerging around core elements of integrated responses to the crisis at the global, regional, country and local levels:
 1. Step up humanitarian response, in all humanitarian contexts;
 2. Stabilize markets and commodity prices, and avoid unnecessary trade restrictions;
 3. Encourage increased local production, supporting and protecting smallholder and family farmers, cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and reduce food loss and food waste;
 4. Restore the availability and affordability of inputs including fertilizers, coupled with increased efficiency, unleashing the full potential of agroecology and other innovative approaches;
 5. Reinforce the social protection systems;
 6. Equip countries with the financial resources, fiscal space and funds needed.

III. THREE KEY AREAS WHERE TRANSFORMATIVE ACTIONS FOR ACCELERATED PROGRESS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL, AND THREE KEY AREAS WHERE SUPPORT IS MOST URGENTLY NEEDED, WITH REGARD TO THE CLUSTER OF SDGS UNDER REVIEW IN JULY 2023

Key areas where transformative actions for accelerated progress have been successful:

- The CFS Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition were endorsed at CFS 50, as a key inter-governmentally-agreed, voluntary and non-binding global policy framework in support of country-led efforts towards achieving food security and nutrition (CFS 50/Report para 23.a);
- A Global Thematic Event on the CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems was convened at CFS 50, with Members recognizing that the CFS-RAI Principles, since their adoption in October 2014, have been utilized at global, national, and local levels, with coordinated effort applied by CFS Members, its Advisory Group, and the CFS Secretariat to ensure their dissemination and

⁴ The content of this section was not negotiated by CFS Member and stakeholders and therefore cannot be considered multilaterally agreed text.

application in various international fora (CFS 50/Report para 26.e);

- At CFS 49, the Committee welcomed the discussion on the uptake of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition to mobilize political commitments by governments and all relevant stakeholders for further promotion and implementation of these Voluntary Guidelines. It also recognized the role of the VGFSyN as a useful tool in the hands of policy-makers and development partners and highlighted the importance of various actors and coordination mechanisms in promoting their effective utilization and uptake. (CFS 49 Report, para 13).

Key areas where support is most urgently needed:

- The Committee highlighted the importance of convergence and alignment on the policy responses and strategies in support of country-led actions addressing the food crisis CFS 50/Report para 10 j, i);
- The Committee highlighted the importance of combining short and medium-term with long-term solutions to the crisis, leading towards agriculture and food systems that are more resilient, sustainable, and inclusive, in line with the 2030 Agenda (CFS 50/Report para 10 j, ii);
- The Committee requested continued deliberation on, and due attention to, the impacts of COVID-19, as well as to the impacts of the ongoing global food crisis, on food systems, agriculture and nutrition at all stages of the implementation of the approved MYPoW workstreams (CFS 50/Report para 17d).

IV. CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CFS ON AREAS REQUIRING URGENT ATTENTION IN RELATION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SDGS 6, 7, 9, 11, 17, INCLUDING IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The HLPF is encouraged to consider the urgent need for governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, private sector and other relevant stakeholders to make use of CFS evidence-based policy guidelines and recommendations, as appropriate. In addition to contributing to ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture and food systems, they support the achievement of various SDGs in an integrated way.

While voluntary in nature, CFS policy guidance instruments are the result of inclusive processes that ensure that the voices of all relevant stakeholders, particularly those most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition, are heard in the food and agriculture policy dialogue. In CFS, all multi-stakeholder consultations feed into the CFS Plenary, where Member countries remain the ultimate decision makers as well as principal actors in the attainment of food security and nutrition for all.

With reference to SDG6 (Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all), the following policy recommendations/guidelines are highlighted as relevant:

The CFS agreed on the [Policy recommendations on Water for Food Security and Nutrition](#) in 2015. These include detailed measures to:

1. Promote sustainable management and conservation of ecosystems for the continued availability, quality and reliability of water for food security and nutrition;
2. Improve coherence between water and food security and nutrition related policies, strategies and plans;
3. Achieve equal access to water for all, prioritise the most vulnerable and marginalised at all ages and empower women and youth;
4. Improve the efficiency and diversity of water use and the productivity of agricultural systems for food security and nutrition;
5. Manage risk and increase resilience to water variability for food security and nutrition;
6. Develop and share knowledge, technologies and tools related to water for food security and nutrition;

7. Foster inclusive and effective collaboration and national and local governance on water for food security and nutrition;
8. Promote the full and meaningful implementation of international human rights obligations and instruments as they relate to water for food security and nutrition.

In addition, relevant policy guidelines in other CFS policy agreements include the following:

CFS agreed on the [*Policy Recommendations on Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems for food security and nutrition*](#) in 2022. These include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Recognize and respect all legitimate tenure right holders and their rights and support youth equitable access, sustainable use, conservation and protection of land, natural resources, water, seeds and biodiversity, fisheries and forests by adopting appropriate policies, legal measures and programmes at the national level, redistributive reforms, where appropriate, consistent with the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (CFS VGGT) and other relevant frameworks (#Natural resources) (para 3.a);
- Support the establishment and functioning of gender-equitable cooperatives and other organizations to empower youth and facilitate their access to productive assets, markets, technology and services that increase their capacity to sustainably manage agricultural land, water resources and businesses, and that can assist directly with business and cash flow management and planning. Additionally, encourage existing cooperatives and other organizations to establish youth sections (#Productive resources) (para 3.c).

CFS agreed on the [*Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition*](#) in 2021. These include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Governments should promote and improve the sustainable management and sustainable use of water resources for agriculture and food production through, where appropriate, improved regulation, integrated water resource management at watershed scale, inclusive and participatory approaches, and enhanced water cooperation approaches that involve civil society organizations, farmer organizations, peasants and other small-scale food producers, indigenous peoples and local communities, private sector, and other relevant stakeholders, that take into account the variety of water needs across different sectors. These approaches should foster irrigation systems that use water resources sustainably, the reduction of water wastage, support the systematic use of appropriate water saving technologies, minimize water pollution stemming from agriculture, promote the multiple safe and environmentally-sound uses and reuse of water for domestic and productive purposes without compromising the ability of farmers and food producers to grow sufficient nutritious foods, while recognizing the crucial importance of access to water for all people living and working in rural areas for personal and domestic use (para 3.2.2b);
- Private sector should improve the nutritional status of its workers and ensure their access to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation and to nutritious foods in the workplace, facilitate access to nutrition-related health services and encourage the establishment of facilities for breastfeeding (para 3.2.5c);
- Governments should undertake efforts to ensure access to safe and unhindered access to safe drinking water for all, including those in emergency situations, and reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity (para 3.7.1a).

CFS agreed on the [*Policy recommendations on Sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition*](#) in 2017. These include, among others, the following recommendation:

- Promote an integrated approach including the nexus among forestry, agriculture, water and food security and nutrition to strengthen policy coherence across sectors and at different scales, by reinforcing cross-sectoral coordination through a participatory and inclusive process (para III.A).

CFS agreed on the [*Policy recommendations on Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition: what roles for livestock?*](#) in 2016. These include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Promote integrated agricultural systems making better use of natural resources, halting deforestation, restoring degraded lands, improving soil quality, and fostering the sustainable management of water resources (para V.B);
- Identify options for improving efficiency throughout food systems, while minimizing negative environmental impacts and optimize the efficient use of energy, water, nitrogen and other natural resources (para V.E);
- Enable pastoralists' mobility, including transboundary passage as appropriate; securing access to land, water, markets and services, adaptive land management, and facilitate responsible governance of common resources, in accordance with national and international laws (para IX.B);
- Enhance the role of grazing systems in the provision of ecosystem services, including carbon storage, by improving the sustainable management of biodiversity, soil and water (para X.A);
- Promote manure management and the use of by-products and re use and recycling of waste, as appropriate, while protecting water and air quality, and improving soil health (para XI.C).

CFS agreed on the [Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises](#) in 2015. These include, among others, the following principles:

- Align humanitarian and development policies and actions and enhance resilience, by x) Promoting inclusive, non-discriminatory and sustained access to relevant basic services such as education, health, safe drinking water and sanitation (para 22.x).

CFS agreed on the [Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security](#) in 2004. These include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Bearing in mind that access to water in sufficient quantity and quality for all is fundamental for life and health, States should strive to improve access to, and promote sustainable use of, water resources and their allocation among users giving due regard to efficiency and the satisfaction of basic human needs in an equitable manner and that balances the requirement of preserving or restoring the functioning of ecosystems with domestic, industrial and agricultural needs, including safeguarding drinking-water quality (Guideline 8C; para 8.11).

With reference to SDG7 (Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all), the following policy recommendations/guidelines are highlighted as relevant:

CFS agreed on [Policy recommendations on Biofuels and Food Security](#) in 2013. The following action points are recommended:

- Actions towards enhanced policy coherence for food security and biofuels
 - Governments, FAO, Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS), the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP), International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and other international organizations are encouraged to regularly share with CFS the results of their work on biofuels food security linkages;
 - Governments, FAO, and all other relevant stakeholders are encouraged to promote and facilitate exchange of information and cooperation on biofuels and food security links. This includes analysis, assessments and projections as well as providing transparent information on assumptions, methods, tools and gender-disaggregated data;
 - Governments and other stakeholders are encouraged to implement policies and investments for the production of biofuels and food in accordance with national development strategies and multilateral agreements applicable to food security. Special attention should also be given to the situation of vulnerable groups and small scale food producers;

- o Governments and other appropriate stakeholders are encouraged to review biofuels policies - where applicable and if necessary - according to balanced science-based assessments of the opportunities and risks they may present for food security, and so that biofuels can be produced according to the three pillars of sustainable development;
- Actions to promote Research and Development (R&D) on biofuels and food security
 - o Food security, smallholder and gender concerns should be integrated as appropriate in the design, monitoring and evaluation of R&D on biofuels. R&D is important in improving the efficiency of biofuels regarding both resources and processes, and in exploring new technologies including biofuels of the second and third generations. Research partners are encouraged to devise solutions adapted to the needs of all stakeholders, especially those in least-developed countries and of women and smallholders who are most in need of access to modern energy services;
 - o R&D, as appropriate, should strengthen capabilities to adapt biofuel production and processing units so that they can modulate their supply chain between food, feed and energy;
- Actions with regard to linkages between energy and food security
 - o Stakeholders are encouraged to support more energy and other resource use efficiency, increased use of sources of renewable energy and improved access to sustainable energy services, including among others in agri-food chains, according to each country's specificities;
 - o Governments and operators should support the participation of farmers, in particular smallholders and women, in food-energy security programmes (including on biofuel production and consumption), as appropriate on the basis of fair and equitable conditions.

In addition, relevant policy guidelines in other recent CFS policy agreements include the following:

The Policy recommendations on *Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems for food security and nutrition* include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Engage, support and invest in youth-led research based on country-driven policies according to their respective priorities and capacities related to sustainable agriculture and food systems, sustainable use and conservation of natural resources, biodiversity and the environment, climate change adaptation and mitigation, renewable energy, agroecological and other innovative approaches^{5,6} as well as strengthen and develop opportunities for youth to participate in community-based and other research partnerships that recognize diverse forms of knowledge (#Research) (para IV.d).

With reference to SDG9 (Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation), the following policy recommendations/guidelines are highlighted as relevant:

The policy recommendations on *Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems for food security and nutrition* include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Reduce present and future situations of vulnerability of youth by ensuring their access to necessary infrastructure and services and by designing and implementing context-specific social protection systems that are responsive to specific needs of youth, including food and nutrition, with specific attention towards girls and young women (#Social protection) (para I.c);
- Improve public and private infrastructure to increase gender-equitable access to formal and informal markets and agricultural inputs for youth producers, entrepreneurs, smallholders, traders and promote public policies to empower youth to contribute to: i) better linking urban and rural territories, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities for more sustainable agriculture and food systems; ii) addressing food loss and waste; iii) promoting decent working conditions; iv) improving incomes for small-scale food producers; v) and lowering existing barriers for youth; (#Infrastructure) (para III.f);

⁵ Innovative approaches including among others, sustainable intensification, no-till farming, organic agriculture and all other innovations and technologies to promote sustainable agrifood systems (CL 170/4 Rev.1).

⁶ FAO Ten Elements of Agroecology (2019).

- Invest in public and private technical and digital infrastructure and promote digital literacy and digitalization to improve connectivity in peri-urban, rural and remote areas as a means of strengthening and diversifying food systems as well as creating employment, job, entrepreneurship and market opportunities for youth (#Digital connectivity) (para V.e).

The *Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition* include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Governments, private sector, and other stakeholders should, where appropriate, invest in infrastructure (e.g. storage facilities, transport infrastructure, physical markets and market information systems) and logistical support to prevent postharvest loss and waste and support the ability of food producers, including smallholders and micro, small and medium-size enterprises to deliver diverse, perishable and safe food to local, regional, international markets in sustainable ways, in accordance with paragraph 41, 45 and 3.1.1c. (para 3.2.4a).

CFS agreed on the [*Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security*](#) in 2012. These include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Where appropriate, States may consider encouraging and facilitating land consolidation and land banks in environmental protection and infrastructure projects to facilitate the acquisition of private land for such public projects, and to provide affected owners, farmers and small-scale food producers with land in compensation that will allow them to continue, and even increase, production (para 13.3).

CFS agreed on the [*Policy recommendations on Connecting smallholders to markets*](#) in 2016. These include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Develop or improve smallholder-targeted infrastructure, such as irrigation, small-scale centers for processing and packaging; and infrastructure that links rural areas with urban areas and relevant markets, such as feeder roads, and market places for direct sales; and improve access to energy (recommendation 11);
- Invest in capacity building, research and smallholder adapted innovative technologies, and technology transfer, to promote value addition, diversification of production, employment, and income sources, that help insure against food price volatility and mitigate the impacts of risks and shocks in agricultural income (recommendation 16).

The policy recommendations on *Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition: what roles for livestock?* include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Develop and foster innovation that addresses challenges in achieving sustainable agricultural development in livestock systems, including through collaborative and participatory research, transfer of knowledge and capacity building (recommendation VII.C);
- Improve production efficiency and protect the environment, including by improving the management of waste and the use of by-products, and through the use and sharing of innovative and appropriate technologies and practices (recommendation XII.B).

With reference to SDG11 (Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable), the following policy recommendations/guidelines are highlighted as relevant:

CFS endorsed the policy recommendations on [*Agroecological and other innovative approaches for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition*](#) in 2021. These include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Governments, regional, national and local authorities, as appropriate, along with relevant intergovernmental organizations, research organizations, extension agencies, civil society (including producer and consumer organizations) and the private sector (including micro, small and medium sized enterprises) are invited to: Govern territories and landscapes at appropriate levels and in an inclusive way, with particular attention to people in vulnerable situations, so as to respond to local needs. This includes

enhancing the provision of ecosystem services and managing trade-offs between them, protecting biodiversity-rich habitats, and responding to the local impacts of global emergencies; in particular by supporting social innovation and strengthening inclusive public bodies, such as local food policy councils and multi-stakeholder landscape and watershed management platforms (para 3m); Support market and social innovations that strengthen linkages between urban communities and food producers, in particular small-scale producers and family farmers that provide sustainably produced healthy, safe and nutritious food to all consumers while providing living wages and decent livelihoods to producers. This could include Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), participatory guarantee systems (in compliance with public policy and safety standards), and relevant product differentiation systems (para 3.s).

The *Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition* include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Governments should, where appropriate integrate urban and peri-urban agriculture and land use into national and local food systems and nutrition development strategies and programmes, as well as urban and territorial planning, as a viable input into enabling healthy diets through sustainable food systems and support stable supply of safe and nutritious food (para 3.2.3.c);
- Governments, intergovernmental organizations and private sector should promote development, rural-urban linkages, and access to information, social innovations, resource hubs, and new technologies and practices for youth along food supply chains that enhance the sustainability of food systems, improve nutrition and support social enterprises and of youth entrepreneurship (particularly in countries experiencing high rates of youth internal and external migration). Governments, intergovernmental organizations and private sector should, in accordance to national legislations, enable youth active engagement and participation in policy-making across sectors and support the individual and collective capacities to shape food systems by recognizing their agency (para 3.2.6.c).

The policy recommendations on *Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems for food security and nutrition* include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Create enabling conditions for the engagement and leadership of youth to obtain a better income from their production, in line with the guidance provided by the CFS Policy Recommendations on Connecting Smallholders to Markets, through sustainable and resilient food supply chains, including by encouraging community supported agriculture, urban and peri-urban agriculture, food baskets and public procurement programmes in support of markets that reduce the distance between consumers and producers (#Markets) (para III.g);
- Support the provision of demand-driven, culturally-appropriate, rural and urban extension, advisory services and digital services tailored to youth needs and priorities, while ensuring inclusive access to these services, including to close the gender and digital divides (#Extension and digital services) (Para V.c).

In addition, at CFS 50 the Committee requested the CFS HLPE-FSN to undertake a study on “Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems to achieve food security and nutrition in the context of urbanization and rural transformation”, to be prepared and presented in 2024 (CFS 50/Report para 18.a, 18.b) with the following rationale: *with almost sixty percent of the global population currently living in urban areas, it is imperative to address the challenges of urbanization in relation to rural transformation to “build back better” in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic, the impact of climate change and conflicts (CFS 2022/50/7/Rev.1 para 3).*

With reference to SDG17 (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development), the following policy recommendations/guidelines are highlighted as relevant:

The *Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition* include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Governments, intergovernmental organizations and development partners, across sectors at all levels, should work to enable healthy diets and improved nutrition through sustainable food systems,

strengthened policy and legal frameworks and institutional capacities that address the multiple causes and consequences of malnutrition in all its forms and food-related economic, social and environmental challenges. This coordination should establish and/or strengthen multisectoral, multilevel and multistakeholder mechanisms that oversee the design and implementation of evidence- and science-based, context specific policies, strategies, and interventions respecting cultural diversity that contribute to improved nutrition outcomes at national, sub-national and local levels (para 3.1.2a).

The policy recommendations on *Agroecological and other innovative approaches for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition* include, among others, the following recommendations:

- Governments (national, regional and local authorities, as appropriate) in consultation with intergovernmental organizations, producer organizations, the private sector (including micro, small and medium as well as larger-sized-entities) and civil society, are invited to - Recognizing the need to promote enabling conditions for agroecological and other innovative approaches for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition:
 - Promote the development of policies and the implementation of joint actions among all relevant stakeholders for the reduction of food losses and waste including, when promoting agroecological and other innovative approaches, in order to achieve sustainable development;
 - Strengthen the policy coherence and synergy between the promotion of healthy diets through sustainable food systems and the support for agroecological and other innovative approaches (para l, j).

The *CFS Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises* (CFS-FFA) includes, among others, the following Principle:

- “Promote effective financing” Promote effective and adequate financing to address the challenges of food security and nutrition in protracted crises, by building strategic financing partnerships and synergies among different actors to underpin a holistic response, and avoid duplication and gaps (Principle 8, para 30, iii).

The *Policy recommendations on Connecting smallholders to markets* include, among others, the following recommendation:

- Establish policy and institutional arrangements, including innovative partnerships, related to value chains’ functioning that empower smallholders, particularly women and youth, and their organizations, to have an effective and equitable role in the design and implementation of contractual arrangements (Recommendation 6).

CFS agreed on the policy recommendations on [Investing in smallholder agriculture for Food Security and Nutrition](#), in 2013. These include, among others, the following recommendation:

- In order to address constraints on investment in smallholder agriculture in general, with special attention to those faced by women and youth, and thereby improve food security and nutrition, the CFS encouraged governments, together with smallholder organizations and other national and international stakeholders (civil society, local organizations, private sector, research institutions and international development partners), to improve governance for agriculture and rural development through a coordinated multi-sectoral approach, with particular focus on smallholder agriculture, ensuring adequate participation of all relevant organizations, especially those representing smallholder farmers. This involves developing context-specific solutions for smallholder-sensitive public and private investments (para 1 c 8).

CFS agreed on the policy recommendations on [Price Volatility and Food Security](#) in 2012. These include, among others, the following action point:

- Support the development, or review, by Member Countries, of comprehensive national food security strategies which are country-owned and led, evidence-based and inclusive of all key partners at national level, in particular civil society, women’s and farmers’ organizations, and which establish policy coherence

in respective sectors, including national economic policies, to address food price volatility (para c).

The *Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of the national food security* include, among others, the following recommendation:

- States, international organizations, civil society, the private sector, all relevant non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders should promote the strengthening of partnerships and coordinated action, including programmes and capacity development efforts, with a view to strengthening the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security (Partnerships with NGOs/CSOs/private sector, para 14).

With reference to the [CFS Principles on Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems \(CFS RAI\)](#) agreed in 2014, at CFS 50 the Committee discussed the importance of boosting financing for sustainable development and access to resources for actions and efforts to achieve SDG 2 by 2030, in line with the integrated and indivisible framework of the 17 SDGs. Among other actions, Members:

- agreed that responsible investment in sustainable agriculture and food systems, aligned with the SDGs, is essential for enhancing food security and nutrition and in supporting the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security, and that appropriate responses - such as a significant increase in financing sustainable and inclusive food systems - are required to address the four pillars of food security and nutrition, and the SDGs;
- recognized that the CFS-RAI Principles, since their adoption in October 2014, have been utilized at global, national, and local levels, with coordinated effort applied by CFS Members, its Advisory Group, and the CFS Secretariat to ensure their dissemination and application in various international fora;
- requested the Chairperson of the Committee to propose to the Bureau, for discussion and consideration, during 2023, actionable steps to enhance the monitoring of responsible investments in agriculture and food systems and the financing for achieving SDG 2, in time for the 10th anniversary in 2024 of adoption of the CFS-RAI Principles.

Additionally, the report by the CFS HLPE-FSN on [Multi-stakeholder partnerships to finance and improve food security and nutrition](#) in the framework of the 2030 Agenda is highlighted as a valuable input to this year's High Level Political Forum.