

Overall comment

- The CSM appreciated the revised draft and congratulates the work of the TTT. While most of the document and the articulation of the three key messages are broadly acceptable (with a number of suggested edits below indicated), the actual formulation of the key messages requires strengthening to counter excessive simplification that may not provide adequate policy significance;
- Annex 1 on CFS Reference Documents is missing, but the CSM assumes that it will be reincluded in the final version.

Key messages

- The document should explicitly mention that the Plenary should discuss and possibly further qualify the key messages. As the key messages are a “new elaboration” (they spring from approved text but do not correspond to it), the CSM believes that the document needs to reflect the plenary discussion and requires full buy-in by the Plenary;
- Chapeaux – Last sentence: “The use and application ~~at country level~~ of CFS integrated policy instruments is critical **for the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security** and advance progress on these issues in the context of Agenda 2030”;
- KM1: “~~Lack of~~ **Inequalities in** access to land, water, sanitation and energy, unsustainable management of natural resources, and limited economic opportunities in rural areas exacerbate tensions within societies, undermine global food security, and therefore stability, sustainability and resilience, and contribute to the underlying causes of protracted crises. ~~Enhancing access~~ **Policies and investments to tackle these inequalities** are essential, with a specific focus on social groups tending to be left behind: rural and farming communities, women, youth and indigenous peoples;
- KM2: “(...) An enabling institutional environment is needed for these actors to **effectively participate in policy design** and support their livelihoods”;
- KM3: This key message is somehow problematic as it refers to workstreams that have not yet concluded their policy convergence process. Title and content are also asynchronous. Suggested reformulation of the para (keeping the title as it is): “(...) **Equitable development strategies based on mutually beneficial links between urban and rural areas and** political commitment **to strengthen the nexus between food systems and nutrition** to ensure healthy and sustainable diets for all, ~~through responsible consumption in urbanizing societies and mutually beneficial links with rural areas,~~ can trigger the positive transformation needed towards sustainable societies.”

Section (a)

- First para: The first para should reflect the CFS 44 Plenary discussion on “The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World”. This should be included in the text;
- End of second para: “(...) Agenda 2030 – ~~has created~~ **contributed to creating** the conditions for the instability and conflicts which today risk reversing recent improvements in FSN globally”;

Section (b)

- Opening Para – First sentence: “CFS calls for better policy **convergence and coordination** integration **as well as** inclusive governance and policy processes, ~~supported by effective partnerships~~”;
- KM1 - Title: “Enhanced access to natural resources **by small-scale food producers and** vulnerable groups will contribute to food security, improved nutrition, stability and resilience”;
- KM1 - Para on VGGT: “(...) emphasis **on small scale food producers** and vulnerable and marginalized people”;
- KM1 – The CSM objects to the removal of the para on Women’s Empowerment and Gender Equality as it remains critical to the first key message and not only. The CSM proposes the re-inclusion of the para featured in the previous version with minor edits (see below);
- KM1: The CSM proposed to place here the para on youth that is currently located under KM3. However, the current text does not correspond to agreed language within the CFS. The following edits are therefore suggested (based on VGGT and RAI): “In many countries and regions with higher rates of poverty and hunger, more than half of the population is currently under 25, with the majority of these young people living in rural areas and settlements, even as migration to cities expands. **Addressing constraints to engaging young women and men in smallholder agriculture and related non-farm rural sectors through targeted policy interventions is key to make sure that no one is left behind. Enhancing youth access to productive resources as well as appropriate training, education and mentorship programmes will increase their opportunities for decent work and entrepreneurship and** ~~Access to new technologies and financial support, the provision of adequate skills and training (agricultural, financial, and entrepreneurial), complemented by the transmission of ICTs for development, can empower youth to become innovative (agro-) entrepreneurs. When developed at scale, this can drive solutions to hunger and poverty eradication and promote stable, sustainable and resilient societies in the long term~~”;
- KM1 – Para on Biofuels: “(...) biofuel crops and food crops **as well as implications on legitimate tenure rights of the most vulnerable people**”;
- KM2 - Para on SADL: “(...) call for their protection and support **as well as for** the enhancement (...)” and then in the last sentence “(...) the ~~adoption~~ **promotion** of sustainable practices and lifestyles”;
- KM2 - Para on Water: Add the “(...) nexus **and the linkages between the right to safe drinking water and sanitation and the progressive realization of the right to adequate food, (...)**”;
- KM3 – RAI: Reverse order. “They recognize **the vital role of smallholders, providing the bulk of investment, as well as** that States play a unique role in fostering an enabling environment for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems in promoting an enabling policy, legal, regulatory, and institutional environment, ~~as well as recognize the vital role of smallholders, providing the bulk of investment.~~”
- KM3 – Para on Rural/Urban: Delete first sentence of second para as no policy recommendations have been agreed yet in this workstream. “~~Integrated policies must be stepped up, and will be most effective if they include provisions related to multi-level institutions and governance, such as integrated approaches addressing inter sector and inter spatial linkages; institutions and capacity development; nutrition education and consumer awareness; inclusion and the creation of opportunities, especially for marginalized/vulnerable groups; innovation at technological as well as social levels; infrastructure to enhance connectivity; and information and policy decision support systems.~~”;
- KM3 – As above mentioned, it is proposed that the para on youth is relocated to KM1.

Para on “Empower women and achieve gender equality” (in previous version of the document)

A world with zero hunger can only be achieved when everyone has equal opportunities, equal access to resources, and equal voice in the decisions that shape their own lives, households, communities and societies. Whether policies and programmes involve mainstreaming gender or targeting gender equality, they must address the ~~strategic interests,~~ **aspirations and demands** of women and men (and girls and boys, as applicable) - not solely their practical needs - so that gender relations shift towards equality and all persons can enjoy food security and nutrition. The 2011 CFS “Gender, Food Security and Nutrition” policy recommendations aim to enhance gender equality, to improve the nutritional status of women, adolescent girls, and children in particular, and **eliminate any form of discrimination and violence against women**; and require systemic action across policies, plans and programmes, from emergency to development contexts.