

On agenda item 3: CFS Policy Convergence. Sustainable Forestry for FSN: process and expected outcomes

- We welcome the HLPE Report as the basis for a meaningful policy convergence process, and we welcome the fact that this policy convergence process can still be conducted before the CFS 44, thanks to the last-minute efforts of several countries to overcome the funding constraints.
- We believe that the whole process and the resulting CFS Policy recommendations should have a strong focus on the people who live in, with and from the forests. Therefore, the policy outcomes should communicate to local communities, forest people and other forest dependent people, particularly indigenous peoples, peasants, pastoralists, fisherfolks, forest dwellers, forest workers, and particularly women in all these groups.
- The livelihood of these people, their relation to the forests and their contributions to food security and nutrition should be at the center of the debate.
- The practices and achievements of Community Forest Management need to be recognized, respected and supported.
- The policy recommendation need to name clear roles and responsibilities for the different actors, so that they can be implemented and monitored. Our constituencies have huge expectations on this process. They are willing to engage with the CFS in a way that the outcomes of this process make a real difference for the communities on the ground.
- The process proposal that is now presented, shows that the actual negotiation period is very short. This shall not affect the quality and substance of its outcome. The process needs still methodological guidance, which we expect the rapporteur to outline at the consultation meeting on 19 September. We are looking forward to fully engage in this important process.