

1. PURPOSE: MAKE THE LINK BETWEEN CFS MISSION TO REALIZE FOOD SECURITY AND SUPPORTING INVESTMENTS BY AND FOR SMALL-SCALE FOOD PRODUCERS

See new opening paragraph:

The purpose of the guidelines is to encourage and promote sustainable investment that fosters food security and nutrition and contributes to the realization of the right to food. These guidelines should build strongly on the investments made by small-scale food producers, who are highly affected by food insecurity, yet contribute significantly to food security. This is key to enabling a large portion of the one billion people living in poverty, the majority of whom live in rural areas, to achieve decent livelihoods.

In the October 2011 Policy Round Table on Increasing Smallholder Sensitive Investment in Agriculture, the CFS recognised that the bulk of investment in agriculture is undertaken by farmers themselves, their cooperatives and other rural enterprises and that smallholder farmers, many of which are women, play a central role in producing most of the food consumed locally in many developing regions

Given this reality, key points to stress as the purpose of the guidelines are:

Point (j) to assist governments prepare legal and administrative frameworks for investment in order to.....**Point (e)** mobilize, catalyze and prioritise investment by and for small-scale food producers, and for the strengthening and advancement of local food production systems as the lynchpin of local and national food security and the progressive realization of the right to food.

2. TYPE OF INSTRUMENT: GUIDELINES NOT PRINCIPLES

- Following the example of the VGs – Guidelines are more stimulating than Principles.
- Strategy is to push for binding guidelines on agricultural investment. Even if this is not achieved, it is a way to ratchet up pressure on governments and to increase our chances of a normative document emerging from the process involving a strong implementation mechanism.
- Push for new name
 - get rid off of the term ‘responsible’ which came from PRAI with the corporate investments in mind.
 - Should not include the word “voluntary”
 - Possibility: “sustainable agricultural investment”?

3. SCOPE/THEMES: PRIORITIES AND PITFALLS

PRIORITIES

i) Primary focus is on local food systems, which offer decent livelihoods and which are based on sustainable agricultural production processes and use of natural resources.

- Points (r), (s), (f)

ii) How the state/public investment should support and protect this type of investment:

- CFS 37 recognised that “the State has a crucial role to play in facilitating access of smallholders to credit, technical and extension services, insurance, market”

iii) Integration of human rights standards, and monitoring the social, environmental and economic impacts of various kinds of agricultural investment on the most marginalised segments of the population

- Points (d), (e), (l), (q), (w)
- Should also include regulations for private sector (corporate) investment

PITFALLS (things that are problematic in current wording or missing)

iv) non-inclusion of fisheries and forests

→ push here for use of the term ‘small-scale food producers’, the definition of which includes these categories.

v) corporate interests, especially as they are potentially represented in points (f), (g), (i) and (j) on enabling environments for investment, governance structures, decision making processes, partnerships and cooperation

→ push for our interpretation of these points (see negotiating document for further details)

vi) trade issues excluded if they fall under remit of WTO (point x)

4. PROCESS:

“Urgency” should not be an excuse for not conducting a proper consultation.

Proposed time-table for CFS-rai consultation process to proceed:

Should aim for bi-annual deadline – 2014. In the intermediary during 2013 :

- Through the work of the OEWG, and electronic consultations, develop Draft 1 after October 2012
- Present Draft 1 during CFS 2013, and on the basis of that conduct comprehensive consultations within the FAO Regional conferences and IFAD Farmers Forum.
- Draft 2 or 3 will then be presented to CFS 41 in 2014.

Demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of this proposal.