CSM Update
May & June 2019

Updates on CFS processes

- Updates on the CFS Advisory Group and Bureau meetings of 14 May and 3 June, with related CFS Bureau Outcomes including on MYPOW and the CFS 46 Plenary session agenda and timetable
- Updates on the upcoming process on Agroecology and other innovations
- Updates on the last OEWG on Food Systems and Nutrition of 30 May 2019
- Updates on the upcoming CFS Regional Consultations on Food Systems and Nutrition
- Updates on the upcoming CFS meetings and processes of July

Updates on CSM internal issues

- Report from the CC meeting of 7-9 May 2019
- Update on the CC renewal process
- Updates on October Activities towards the CSM Forum and CFS Plenary Session
- Updates on CSM Side Events during CFS 46 Plenary Session
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Updates on the CFS Advisory Group and Bureau meetings of 14 May and 3 June, with related CFS Bureau Outcomes including on MYPOW and the CFS 46 Plenary session agenda and timetable

On May 14 and June 3, two meetings of the CFS Advisory Group and Bureau took place. The meeting of 14 May aimed at discussing the draft concept note of the event on commercial plantations and their impact on food security and nutrition scheduled for the 17 of September 2019, the upcoming process of Agroecology and other innovations, the reporting exercise of Advisory Group participants and some aspects related to the management of the Plenary Session itself. Please find at this link the CSM Contributions to the meeting and here the related CFS Bureau Outcomes. On the 3rd of June, the meeting of the CFS Advisory Group and Bureau focused on the discussion related to the first draft of the MYPOW and the CFS 46 Plenary Session overview and timetable. Please find at this link the CSM contributions and here the Bureau Outcomes.

One of the major challenges in these two meetings were the process on Agroecology and other innovations, as the objection of one member state blocked the discussion, design and approval of a proposed schedule and a rapporteur for the policy convergence process. The rationale given for this objection was that they would want to first see the publication of the HLPE Report, assess its content, before defining the subsequent policy process. The majority of members and participants of the AG/Bureau meeting, including the CSM, expressed the opinion, that a clear proposal for a roadmap, schedule and calendar of the policy convergence process needs to be defined before arriving at the Plenary in October, to have clarity for what happens between October 2019 and October 2020. Also, the rapporteur for the process should be appointed before the summer break. This controversial issue is going to be dealt with by the AG-Bureau on 22 July and Bureau Meeting of 25 of July.

Another challenge faced is related to the event on the relation between commercial plantations and food security and nutrition. as it had been agreed by the CFS Plenary Session of 2017 in the context of the with the approval of the CFS Policy Recommendations on Sustainable Forestry. Over the past one year and a half, there was some tension about the event and its focus. After repeated discussion, the CFS Bureau agreed to hold the event in September this year, but without interpretation, budget to fund participation and without a Chair’s summary. There were also attempts to
change the focus of the event. However, it is now planned to hold the event with the original focus on 17 September 2019. The draft outline of the event shall be finalized by July 2019 and discussed at the AG-Bureau meeting of 22 July and hopefully agreed by the CFS Bureau of 25 of July.

Finally, regarding the first draft of the MYPOW, CSM had noted with concern that the proposal on reducing inequalities for FSN had been dropped, in spite of broad support from CFS membership and participants. In the end of May, a decision was taken to reincorporate the theme in the MYPOW. A revised proposal was drafted by FAO and IFAD which is now for consultation. While CSM welcomed the fact that the theme of inequality is back on the MYPOW agenda, we will comment on the new proposal by ensuring that the most important element of the original proposal, jointly submitted with Hungary, South Africa, IFAD, and Indonesia, are not lost. On the MYPOW Youth discussion, Margarita Gomez, co-coordinator of the CSM Youth working group raised the demands of the CSM youth during the meeting of 3 June. The CFS Bureau also agreed that the Friday morning session of the CFS Plenary week will be dedicated to a global consultation of the youth, to be designed jointly by CSM and PSM with the aim of sharing the expectations and demands towards the upcoming CFS policy process on Youth that is foreseen in the upcoming MYPoW 2020-2023.

Updates on the upcoming process on Agroecology and other innovations

As mentioned above, the topic remains controversial in the CFS. The upcoming process foresees the launch of the HLPE Report on 3 July. The summary and recommendations of the report were published on 19 June in English. One day before the launch, the full publication will be made available online, together with the translations of the Summary in all UN languages. The translation of the full HLPE report in all UN languages will be made available in early September. Following the presentation, the CFS Bureau meeting of 25th of July should appoint a Rapporteur for the policy process and agree on the outline for the three-hour session of debate on the Report during the CFS Plenary week, kicking off the policy convergence process. The CSM Working Group on Agroecology will hold a meeting from 20-24 July in Rome, pending funding availability. Stay tuned for more information within the **CSM Working Group on Agroecology**!

Updates on the last OEWG on Food Systems and Nutrition of 30 May 2019

The **OEWG session on May 30** was the first occasion for delegates in Rome to provide input to the **Zero Draft of the CFS Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition**. The OEWG session was much livelier than the previous session in March with a lot of contributions from governments. Still the
participation was largely limited to European and North American (some Latin American) States. Many comments reflected our own assessment of the document (including on problematic elements). There was a strong emphasis on the sustainability dimension, a human rights approach throughout the document, and more emphasis on the drivers of malnutrition as policy entry points. At the same time there were the usual positions of some members claiming that human rights should not go beyond the right to food, and that the CFS should not overstep its competences into policy areas dealt with by other bodies. The session is also captured on video (available in different languages).

You can find the link on the FSN Workstream site. Please find at this link the interventions made by the CSM during the session, as well as the broader comments compiled during our preparatory meeting. We will be submitting more comprehensive comments as CSM - based on our vision document as well as comments received by working group members on the zero draft - to the e-consultation this summer.

**Updates on the upcoming CFS Regional Consultations on Food Systems and Nutrition**

As anticipated in our last CSM Update, a series of CFS Regional consultations on the Zero Draft of the Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition will take place from July to October to inform the policy negotiations process that will go from November 2019 to October 2020. The CFS Secretariat is currently translating the Concept Note with Guiding Questions for the Regional Consultations.

The basis for discussion will be the same Zero Draft discussed at the OEWG session on May 30. For each regional consultation the CSM is allocated 10 seats (8 funded and 2 self-funded) plus one additional seat for a member of the WG’s Coordination and Facilitation Team. The Working Group’s coordination and facilitation have been approaching regional representatives of CSM constituencies with a view to ensuring a balanced delegation both in terms of constituencies and gender, taking into account as well the criterion of engagement in the working group process so far. Please find below the calendar of the CFS Regional Consultations and related information available at the moment:

- **Africa**: Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) 16-17 July 2019
- **Asia and Pacific**: Bangkok (Thailand) 25-26 July 2019
- **Europe**: Budapest (Hungary) 17-18 September 2019
- **Near East**: Cairo (Egypt) 25-26 September 2019
- **Latin America and the Caribbean**: Panama City (Panama), 28-29 October 2019
- **North America**: Washington (USA) 24-25 October 2019
The CFS regional consultations were originally expected to be concluded before the CFS Plenary Session in October in order to allow a meaningful and comprehensive political debate on the outcomes of the different regional meetings. At the moment, 4 out of the 6 consultations will be held before the plenary. Nevertheless, the CSM expressed its expectation that the debate at the CFS plenary should provide a moment of stocktaking with a feedback from the first 4 consultations.

From July to October 2019, an electronic consultation on the draft will be conducted through the FSN Forum. More information and details on this will be sent in the next CSM Update and circulated through the CSM WG on food systems and nutrition. The CSM Working Group is also finalizing its vision document that will help informing CSM contributions throughout the process and will also be shared with the upcoming CSM update.

**Updates on the upcoming CFS meetings and processes of July**

The upcoming CFS meeting before the institutional break of August will be taking place on 22 of July with the CFS Advisory Group and Bureau meeting. Electronic comments on the revised first draft of the MYPoW are expected to be submitted by July 5th.

**Updates on CSM internal issues**

**Report from the CC meeting of 7-9 May 2019**

The CSM Coordination Committee (CC) meeting took place in May in Collevecchio (in the province of Rieti). The meeting was focused on analyzing the current political conjuncture at global and regional level and identifying strategic elements aimed at building a CSM strategy towards the upcoming CFS Plenary Session and beyond. The CC also discussed experiences and strategies to foster the use, application and monitoring of CFS policy outcomes at national, regional and global level. The meeting offered the opportunity to discuss and agree on several internal issues such as the CC renewal process, the upcoming framing and timelines for the October activities and the response to the outcomes of the CSM Evaluation conducted and presented last year.

Attached to the CC meeting a strategic global consultation of the CSM Working Group on Monitoring took place to inform the upcoming process of monitoring of CFS specific policy recommendations on investing in smallholder agriculture, connecting smallholders to markets, and sustainable agricultural development, including livestock. The Stocktaking event on these policy recommendations will take place in CFS Plenary Session in October 2019.
**Update on the CC renewal process**

This year, the CSM Coordination Committee (CC) is conducting its biannual renewal process. The process was launched in May 2019 and is expected to be concluded by mid July 2019, in order to ensure the beginning of the new CC mandate by October 2019. All 11 global constituencies and 17 sub-regions of the CSM were called to update their lists of participating organizations and to conduct a renewal process, in accordance with the CSM Technical Guidelines for the renewal process. The Coordination Committee meeting of May encouraged all constituencies and sub-regions to ensure gender and regional balance and encourage youth participation also on the CC level.

**Updates on October Activities towards the CSM Forum and CFS Plenary Session**

Please find below the calendar for our October activities:

- **9-11 October**: Meeting of the CSM Coordination Committee
- **12-13 October**: CSM Forum
- **14-19 October**: CFS Plenary Session

Stay tuned for the next CSM Update to follow-up the registration process to the CSM Forum and the CFS 46th Plenary Session. At this link you will find the current CFS draft timetable and Plenary overview that will be further finalized in the meeting of the CFS Advisory Group and Bureau of 22nd and 25th of July.
Updates on CSM Side Events during CFS 46 Plenary Session

As every year, the CSM is submitting five side events proposals on a serious of priority themes identified by the Coordination Committee during its meeting of May. The themes are the following (working titles) and the responsibilities to prepare them are with the related CSM working groups:

• Youth and the Future of Food - Responsibility of the Youth WG
• Human Rights and inequalities- Responsibility of the Global Food Governance WG
• Use, application and monitoring of CFS policy outcomes: the case of the Framework for Action on protracted crises- Responsibility of the WGs on Monitoring and Protracted Crises
• The nexus between the process on Agroecology and other innovations and Food Systems and Nutrition - Responsibility of the WGs on Food Systems and Nutrition and Agroecology
• The impact of Extractivism on women’s Right to food - Responsibility of the Women WG in coordination with the youth WG.