

May 2024

CFS Call for inputs

First Draft of CFS Policy Recommendations on Reducing Inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition

Contribution of the Philanthropic Foundations Mechanism (PFM)

Dear CFS Secretariat,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide inputs on the First Draft of CFS Policy Recommendations on Reducing Inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition.

In our previous inputs provided to the Zero Draft in April, we: i) highlighted how specific issues of interest to philanthropies were being covered in the text - namely the need to address systemic drivers, power asymmetries, social protection, participatory decision-making, data for inequality and inequality impacts - and ii) offered a preliminary proposal on how to strengthen the critical question of financing policies and strategies that could address inequalities.

We note important advancements in this new version of the draft, however we would like to continue to suggest that these **policy recommendations could further explore how the linkages with previous CFS decisions are established**. In more detail, a comprehensive and more critical attention to **gender equality** is needed across all recommendations, and **references to urban food systems and resilience are still missing**. Being the topic of the next HLPE Reports, we reaffirm that exploring these links could create a sense of continuity throughout the work of the CFS.

In terms of **financing (now paragraph 43.)**, we continue to believe that the text could be **strengthened** pointing to issues of decentralization, stronger inclusion, coherence and other crucial aspects of the governance of funding flows. Our text proposal below offers elements that reflect these issues and, we believe, could be greatly improved by discussions during negotiations:

"43. Foster funding mechanisms to support the transformation towards more equitable, inclusive and resilient food systems. Improve decentralization and inclusion in decision-making in public funding. Develop diverse blended approaches that align higher risk investments with flexible financial returns, private philanthropic grants and public finance. Shift existing funds that do not account for all food system dimensions, explore shared metric and evaluations that assess comprehensive impact

investments and divestment from unequal and unsustainable practices. Promote more internal alignment and coherence within public and private financing institutions, to support a diverse ecosystem of food system funders, connected and aligned with each other, moving out of isolated project-based financing to more synergic systemic impact.”

Finally, we expect that **negotiations will provide space for the CFS community to discuss prioritization**, pointing to areas where members and other actors are prepared to move forward. Focus and potentially applicability of the forthcoming CFS recommendations will certainly support future implementation and impact.

We look forward to the first round of negotiations and we thank you again for the opportunity to provide our inputs in this process.

Yours sincerely,

The Philanthropic Foundations Mechanism