



Making Food Systems Work For Healthy Diets

The Committee on World Food Security and the preparation of Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition

Webinar (Zoom)
28th July 14. 00- 15.30 CET

Globally, one in every three people today is malnourished, which could rise to one in two by 2030 if there is no course correction. While hunger remains a critical concern, overweight, obesity and diet-related non-communicable diseases are rising rapidly all over the world. Food systems have a dramatic effect on human and environmental health. They shape the availability of and access to the food we eat. As part of global efforts by the international community, the United Nations (UN) Global Food Security Cluster (gFSC) and the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) are working to promote policy dialogue, build political commitment, promote coordinated action, and provide technical guidance on making our food systems equitable, resilient and environmentally sustainable.

Within this context, the CFS Secretariat and the gFSC are jointly organizing this virtual webinar, which will present the co-hosts' overall work and CFS policy products, with a special focus on its draft Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition. The session will discuss the nature, objectives, and content of the Guidelines and their relevance to the work of the gFSC and its partners at national level.

CONTEXT

The gFSC was established in 2011 as the eleventh Global Cluster within the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC). It is led jointly by the Food and the Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) and represents

a partnership of 64 institutions from UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (ICRC). The gFSC's main objective is to enhance partnerships for coordinated food security response during a humanitarian crisis, by addressing issues of food availability, access, utilization and stability.

[The Committee on World Food Security \(CFS\)](#) was established in 1974 and reformed in 2009. It is the foremost international and intergovernmental body for advancing progress on food security and nutrition, supporting processes around policy formulation and implementation. Through a multistakeholder and inclusive approach, the CFS creates an enabling environment for the participation and coordination of a broad range of stakeholders, from civil society representatives to international financial and trade institutions, and from UN bodies and member states to private sector and philanthropic foundations.

The CFS develops and endorses [policy recommendations and guidance](#) on a wide range of food security and nutrition topics through an inclusive and multistakeholder process. These products are developed using scientific and evidence-based reports produced by the CFS High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) and through work supported technically by FAO, IFAD, WFP and other partners.

The Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition. The CFS is currently undertaking a policy process to produce these Guidelines to be adopted at its next plenary session (CFS 47). The current version of the Guidelines is available in [English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#) and [Russian](#). These are the result of a long and intense consultation process, informed by a [report of the HLPE](#) and to be further negotiated by CFS stakeholders in the coming months.

The Guidelines use a “food systems lens” to promote policy coherence and represent a reference point and guidance for countries to accelerate efforts to eradicate all forms of malnutrition. The objective is to promote sustainable food systems that contribute to and enable healthy diets, in line with the goals of the 2030 Agenda.

OBJECTIVES

Through an interactive discussion, this event will offer participants an opportunity to learn about the work of the gFSC and the initiatives under the CFS, especially the relevance of the Guidelines. Discussions will touch on ways to promote their use in shaping policies and coordinated action at country and regional levels.

Panelists will provide an overview of the work of the CFS and its role in the global governance of food security and nutrition, present the content of the Guidelines with particular attention to the policy recommendations included in Part 3, and present ideas on how UN agencies and bodies could promote their implementation.

More specifically, the webinar will:

- Familiarize participants with the CFS and showcase examples of its processes and products;
- Introduce participants to the current version of the Guidelines, its core messages and overarching goals;
- Stimulate a discussion on the potential role of the Guidelines in steering policymakers and relevant stakeholders when designing policies, laws, regulatory frameworks, strategies, and programmes at local, country, and regional levels;
- Reflect on potential areas of collaboration between the CFS and the gFSC, with particular attention to the potential use of CFS products – and more specifically the Guidelines – in support of the gFSC’s coordination activities, strategic programming and operations.

AGENDA

Welcome remarks

- Bruno Minjauw, Global Coordinator, gFSC

Moderated Panel Discussion

- Christopher Hegadorn (CFS Secretary)
- Jessica Fanzo (John Hopkins University)
- Stineke Oenema (UN Standing Committee on Nutrition Coordinator)

Q&A session

- Moderated by Bruno Minjauw

