CL 170/REP

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REPORT

OF THE COUNCIL OF FAO

Hundred and Seventieth Session

13-17 June 2022

Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

COUNCIL

(as from the end of the 42nd Session of the Conference)

Independent Chairperson of the Council: Mr Hans Hoogeveen

Afghanistan[2]
Angola[1]
Argentina[1]
Australia[2]
Bahamas[1]
Bangladesh[3]
Belarus[3]
Belgium[1]
Bosnia and Herzegovina[3]
Brazil[1]
Burkina Faso[1]
Burundi[5]
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Canada[1]
Chile[3]
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Saudi Arabia[2]
South Africa[2]
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Sweden[2]
Tunisia[2]
United States of America[1]
Zimbabwe[1]

[1] Term of office: end of the 41st Session of the Conference (June 2019) to 30 June 2022

[2] Term of office: 1 July 2020 – end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

[3] Term of office: end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021) – 30 June 2024

[4] Term of office: end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021) – end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

[5] Term of office: end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021) – 30 June 2022

[6] Israel replaced Austria from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2022

[7] Italy replaced France 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2022

[8] Malaysia replaced Thailand from 1 January 2022 to the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

[9] United Kingdom will replace Spain from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2024

COUNCIL

(as from 1 July 2022)

Independent Chairperson of the Council: Mr Hans Hoogeveen

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Sweden[1]
Tunisia[1]
United Kingdom[2,6]
United States of America[3]

[1] Term of office: 1 July 2020 – end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

[2] Term of office: end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021) – 30 June 2024

[3] Term of office: 1 July 2022 – end of the 44th Session of the Conference (2025)

[4] Term of office: end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021) – end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

[5] Malaysia replaced Thailand from 1 January 2022 to the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

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OF THE COUNCIL OF FAO

Hundred and Seventieth Session

13-17 June 2022

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Rome, 2022

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Procedure of the Session

Introductory Items[1]

1. The 170th Session of the Council was held from 13 to 17 June 2022, under the Chairpersonship of Mr Hans Hoogeveen, Independent Chairperson of the Council.

2. The Session was convened in hybrid modality, on an exceptional basis without creating a precedent, in light of the global COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health concerns, with some representatives attending in person at FAO headquarters, and others participating virtually. This followed consultations by the Director-General with the Independent Chairperson of the Council, and with the Regional Groups of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

3. The Council confirmed, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, that it agreed to the suspension of any rules incompatible with the hybrid setting, specifically Rule II.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, which provides that each session of the Council shall be held at the seat of the Organization.

Statement by the Director-General[2]

4. The Director-General, Dr QU Dongyu, delivered a statement to Council.

Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable[3]

5. The Council adopted the Agenda and Timetable for the Session, as amended, and noted the Declaration of Competence and Voting Rights presented by the European Union.

6. The Council approved the special procedures outlined in document CL 170/INF/5, *Special Procedures for the 170th Session of the Council*.

7. The Agenda is given in *Appendix A* to this Report.

Election of three Vice-Chairpersons, and Designation of the Chairperson and Members of the Drafting Committee[4]

8. The Council elected three Vice-Chairpersons for its Session: H.E. Winston Pinnock (Bahamas); Mr Maarten de Groot (Canada); and H.E. Abdul Malik Melvin Castelino Bin Anthony (Malaysia).

9. The Council elected H.E. Nosipho Nausca Jean Ngcaba (South Africa) as Chairperson of the Drafting Committee with the following membership: Argentina, Australia, Cameroon, China, France,[5] Philippines, Russian Federation,[6] Spain, Sudan and the United States of America.

Programmatic Matters

Programme Implementation Report 2020-21[7]

10. The Council welcomed document C 2023/8, *Programme Implementation Report 2020-21,* concurred with the findings of the Joint Meeting of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee and the 191st Session of the Finance Committee, and in particular:

a) commended the Organization for the results achieved in implementing the Programme of Work 2020-21 within the exceptionally challenging context of the COVID-19 pandemic;

[1] CL 170/PV/1; CL 170/PV/10
[2] CL 170/PV/1; CL 170/PV/10
[3] CL 170/1 Rev.1; CL 170/INF/1; CL 170/INF/3; CL 170/INF/5; CL 170/PV/1; CL 170/PV/10
[4] CL 170/PV/1; CL 170/PV/10
[5] The Russian Federation and Belarus chose to disassociate themselves from consensus on the election of France as a member of the Drafting Committee.
[6] The United States of America and the Member States of the European Union which are Members of the Council chose to disassociate themselves from consensus on the election of the Russian Federation as a member of the Drafting Committee.
[7] C 2023/8; C 2023/8 Web Annexes 1-9; CL 170/10 paras.9-10; CL 170/PV/1; CL 170/PV/2; CL 170/PV/10

b) stressed the pivotal importance of assessed contributions in the implementation of the agreed programme of work;

c) highlighted the value to the Organization of unearmarked and lightly earmarked voluntary funding and requested an analysis of the role and effects of earmarked contributions in delivering the Strategic Framework 2022-31;

d) welcomed FAO's enhanced attention to multilingualism and looked forward to continuing its efforts in the current biennium and to receiving further information on the implementation of the strategic policy framework for multilingualism at a future session;

e) encouraged FAO to continue strengthening its policies to promote a gender-sensitive approach to boost equal opportunities and participation, including at senior management level, given that women are the most vulnerable staff assets according to FAO relevant statistics and are underrepresented at senior levels;

f) welcomed the information provided on the FAO flagship publications and other initiatives and highlighted the importance of timely information and communication with Members on all FAO flagship and other initiatives, such as One Country One Priority Product;

g) commended the remarkable level of USD 2.7 billion in resources mobilized in the biennium and encouraged FAO to continue exploring different funding modalities to attract more flexible voluntary contributions; and

h) welcomed the Report and encouraged Management to continue working on the ongoing reform process, providing enhanced transparency, further information and enhanced accountability with all Members.

11. The Council endorsed the Programme Implementation Report 2020-21 and recommended that it be submitted to the 43rd Session of the Conference for its approval.

FAO thematic Strategy on Climate Change[8]

12. The Council considered the recommendations of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee on the FAO Strategy on Climate Change, and in particular:

a) welcomed the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031 with the integration of guidance from relevant Governing Body sessions, such as the 168th Session of the Council, the 2022 Regional Conferences and the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee, and appreciated the open, extensive, inclusive and transparent consultative process for its development;

b) underlined the importance of considering FAO's mandate and comparative advantage and the specific contexts, priorities and capacities globally and across regions, countries and the local level in implementing the Strategy;

c) stressed the need for mechanisms at the international, regional, national and sub-national levels to share information and experiences on the implementation of the Strategy and its action plan;

d) acknowledged sustainable agrifood systems have become widely recognized and adopted as an integral part of the solution to climate change and highlighted the importance of complementing and supporting countries' efforts in tackling climate change in agrifood systems;

e) highlighted the complementary, coherent and synergic nature of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change and the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy, as well as the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors, which, in close articulation and mutually reinforcing, can act as a key driver for boosting sustainability and resilience within agrifood systems; and

[8] CL 170/4 Rev.1; CL 170/11 para.8; C 2023/14 paras.35-36; C 2023/15 paras.34-35; C 2023/16 paras.44-46; C 2023/17 paras.23-24; C 2023/18 paras.73-77; C 2023/LIM/1 paras.19-28; CL 170 PV/3; CL 170/PV/4; CL 170/PV/10

f) concurred with the recommendations of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee, endorsed the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031, as changed at the 170th Session of the Council,[9] and highlighted the importance of mobilizing additional resources and developing an action plan for its effective implementation.

FAO thematic Science and Innovation Strategy[10]

13. The Council welcomed document CL 170/5, *FAO Science and Innovation Strategy*, and:

a) welcomed the initiative to develop FAO's first ever Science and Innovation Strategy with the overall aim of strengthening FAO's capacities to deliver the Strategic Framework 2022-31 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through science and innovation;

b) appreciated the open, inclusive and transparent consultative process that led to its development;

c) highlighted the complementary and synergistic links between the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy, the FAO Strategy on Climate Change, the FAO Strategy for Private Sector Engagement and with the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and stressed the importance of science and innovation in bringing about effective action;

d) stressed the importance of strengthening the linkage with science-policy interface mechanisms;

e) noted the importance of increasing investments and strengthening financial resource mobilization, including via public-private partnerships;

f) concurred with the recommendations of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee and endorsed the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy, as changed at the 170th Session of the Council;[11] and

g) highlighted the importance of developing an action plan for its effective implementation.

Impact of the Ukraine-Russia conflict on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)[12]

14. The Council recalled the decision and recommendations of its 169th Session, welcomed the comprehensive review and assessment presented in document CL 170/6, *Impact of the Ukraine-Russia conflict on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO),* and stressed the important role of FAO, within the United Nations system, in addressing the impacts of the conflict on global food security and agriculture.

15. The Council requested FAO to continue to monitor the situation closely and update Members regularly, including through the FAO webpage dedicated to the crisis in Ukraine.

16. Furthermore, the Council requested FAO to assess the impacts of the conflict on food security in the different regions, with data and information specifically targeted to each region.

17. The Council welcomed FAO's update to its Rapid Response Plan March-December 2022 within the UN's overall Flash Appeal revision, noted that more funds are needed and called on donors to increase funding for this Response Plan.

18. The Council underlined the importance of keeping open the trade of food and agriculture inputs and products to obviate the negative impact on food security globally and avoid trade barriers in this respect.

19. The Council appreciated the policy proposals developed by FAO, requested further information and stressed the need to address the risks, both domestically and globally, resulting from the conflict in

[9] As outlined in Appendix C.
[10] CL 170/5; CL 170/11 paras.9-11; C 2023/14 para.32-34; C 2023/15 paras.36-37; C 2023/16 paras.41-43; C 2023/17 paras.21-22; C 2023/18 paras.67-72; C 2023/LIM/1 paras.14-18; CL 170 PV/2; CL 170/PV/10
[11] As outlined in Appendix D.
[12] CL 170/6; CL 170/PV/4; CL 170/PV/10

Ukraine. It expressed support for further consideration, in coordination and cooperation with other United Nations entities and relevant bodies, especially the Rome-based Agencies (RBAs) and international financial institutions, of:

a) facilitating the establishment of a Food Import Financing Facility (FIFF), in line with FAO's mandate;

b) strengthening social protection for food security and nutrition;

c) assessing investment needs in Ukraine's agricultural reconstruction and recovery;

d) addressing the risk of zoonotic diseases;

e) protecting animal health, particularly through a One Health approach;

f) assessing food insecurity in 2022-2023 at national and sub-national levels in developing countries vulnerable to the effects of the Ukraine-Russia conflict;

g) promoting efficient use of fertilizers, including through soil maps, and sustainable soil management practices, in the context of the FAO International Code of Conduct for the Sustainable Use and Management of Fertilizers; and

h) reducing food loss and waste.

Update on FAO's Response to COVID-19: Building to transform[13]

20. The Council welcomed document CL 170/7, *Update on FAO's Response to COVID-19: Building to transform*, and in particular:

a) recalled the UN General Assembly Resolution 76/264 of 23 May 2022, "*State of global food insecurity*";

b) noted the persistent negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and its ongoing disruptions on food systems worldwide;

c) emphasized the crucial role of FAO in achieving food security and nutrition while promoting sustainable agrifood systems and welcomed the results achieved by FAO through its comprehensive Response and Recovery Programme and its seven priority areas of work, including geographical balance in providing assistance to Members within the programme;

d) expressed concern about the increased gender gap and growing food insecurity among women as a consequence of COVID-19, as well as the drastic drop in nutrition policies, in particular school feeding programmes;

e) requested FAO to continue to monitor the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic on global food security, including analysis of the impact on agrifood systems, i.e. supply chains, smallholder farmers and family farmers, women and youth, Indigenous Peoples and other vulnerable groups;

f) encouraged FAO to strengthen and mobilize more support, including financial support, for the One Health approach, within FAO's mandate;

g) noted the initiative by the UN Secretary-General of the establishment of a Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance and encouraged FAO to continue actively participating in it by, *inter alia*, providing information on food prices, fluctuations in markets and factors that influence these trends;

h) emphasized the importance of cooperation between the Rome-based Agencies and other relevant entities within the United Nations system;

i) recognized the importance of trade for contributing to the availability, accessibility and affordability of food as well as the stability of markets and the limitation of extreme food price volatility, and recalled and underlined the importance that, in line with the World Trade

[13] CL 170/7 Rev.1; CL 170/PV/8; CL 170/PV/10

Organization (WTO) rules and in keeping with their commitments under the WTO agreements, Members correct and prevent unjustified trade restrictions and distortions as well as eliminate and not create unnecessary and unjustified barriers to trade in agricultural markets; and

j) welcoming the contribution of the African Union-FAO Task Force on the impacts of COVID-19 on Food Security and Nutrition in Africa, encouraged FAO and other stakeholders involved to extend support and strengthen the functioning of this multi-partner platform for a more inclusive and collaborative coordination.

Update on the Hand-in-Hand Initiative[14]

21. The Council welcomed document CL 170/8, *The Hand-in-Hand Initiative*, and in particular:

a) commended the increase in the number of countries participating in the Initiative to 52, with seven countries signing on since November 2021;

b) welcomed the ways participating countries are drawing on the Initiative to strengthen and accelerate existing programmes or develop new ones, build national capabilities, and bolster national ownership of the sustainable development efforts;

c) stressed the need to ensure the Initiative is aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and joint programming within the UN development system;

d) noted the extraordinary challenges faced by the participating countries, especially those facing conflict, and appreciated the flexibility and agility of the Initiative;

e) took note of the progress made towards the development of a dashboard that tracks delivery and impact, including the preliminary data from seven countries that have been made available in the initial platform interface, and looked forward to receiving information on the next phase of development;

f) congratulated the Organization on the recognition of the Geospatial Platform at global level and welcomed its expansion to additional countries;

g) acknowledged the progress made in developing a global communications strategy to deepen engagement and develop partnerships at global, national and subnational levels; and

h) looked forward to continued regular updates on the Initiative, including further updates on the Geospatial Platform, and transparency on the financing, with the assurance from Management that it will not have any impact on the agreed regular budget.

Reports of the Regional Conferences[15]

22. The Council reviewed the Reports of the five Regional Conferences,[16] as well as the informal Regional Conference for North America,[17] held between January and May 2022.

23. The Council endorsed the recommendations on programme and budgetary matters, taking into account that those recommendations specific to regions will be implemented within the region concerned.

[14] CL 170/8; CL 170/PV/4; CL 170/PV/5; CL 170/PV/10

[15] C 2023/14; C 2023/15; C 2023/16; C 2023/17; C 2023/18; C 2023/LIM/1; CL 170 PV/5; CL 170/PV/6; CL 170/PV/9; CL 170/PV/10

[16] The Russian Federation and Belarus disassociated themselves from paragraph 30 and 40(o) of the Report of the 33rd Session of the Regional Conference for Europe.

[17] The Russian Federation and Belarus disassociated themselves from the Report of the Seventh Informal Regional Conference for North America.

Reports of the Committees of the Council

Report of the Joint Meeting of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee and 191st Session of the Finance Committee[18] (16, 17 and 20 May 2022)

24. The Council endorsed the Report of the Joint Meeting of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee and 191st Session of the Finance Committee, and in particular:

a) welcomed the recommendations of the Joint Evaluation of the collaboration among the United Nations Rome-based Agencies (RBAs) and its Coordinated Response, and highlighted the importance of further strategic collaboration among the RBAs within the broader UN context and in alignment with the ongoing United Nations development system (UNDS) repositioning;

b) looked forward to the conclusion of the review by Members through continued consultation on the criteria for the Technical Cooperation Programme's resource allocation shares among and within regions, update of operational guidelines, based on Members' consensus, with a view to submission to and adoption by the 43rd Session of the Conference;

c) noted that the UN Secretary-General designated FAO as the host for the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub on behalf of the UN System, and requested FAO to engage in inclusive consultations with Members regarding its work, including actions on supporting Members in implementing their national food system pathways and further requested FAO to update Members on a regular basis, on the work and the financing mechanism thereof; and

d) invited Management to give further information on FAO Country Programming Frameworks at its 171st Session, as appropriate.

Report of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee (16-20 May 2022)[19]

25. The Council reviewed the *Report of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee (16-20 May 2022)*, except for the *Programme Implementation Report 2020-21*, the *FAO thematic Strategy on Climate Change*, the *FAO thematic Science and Innovation Strategy*, and *Governance of FAO's statistical and other data activities and their alignment with the cross-cutting FAO policies on Protection of Data and Intellectual Property Rights*, which were taken up under separate agenda items.

26. The Council:

a) acknowledged the Concept Note[20] in relation to the types of FAO products and the means for their development providing non-exhaustive guidance on the practice of the Organization in relation to the types of FAO products and encouraged inclusive and transparent consultations with Members where the means of development for FAO products are unclear, in particular, to ensure appropriate Member's involvement on strategies and action plans which can serve as a practical orientation tool to guide Members;

b) supported the development of the One Health Joint Plan of Action (OH JPA) by the Quadripartite (FAO, WHO, OIE and UNEP) under FAO's leadership and its continued engagement in existing One Health initiatives and structures;

c) noted with appreciation the progress and achievements in the implementation of the FAO Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-2025; and

d) welcomed the Evaluation of FAO's contribution to availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (SDG 6) and Management's Response and underlined the fundamental importance of sustainable management of water resources to FAO's core mandate, in particular by encouraging its discussion by relevant Governing Bodies.

[18] CL 170/10; CL 170/17; CL 170/PV/6; CL 170/PV/10
[19] CL 170/11; CL 170/INF/6; CL 170/PV/7; CL 170/PV/9; CL 170/PV/10
[20] CL 170/INF/6

27. With these observations, the Council endorsed the recommendations contained in the *Report of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee* on the items which are not listed above.

Reports of the 189th (17 December 2021), 190th (18 February 2022) and 191st (16-20 May 2022) Sessions of the Finance Committee[21]

28. The Council reviewed the Reports of the 189th, 190th and 191st Sessions of the Finance Committee, except for *Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization* and *Resumption of the Management and Administrative Review of FAO by the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations,* which were taken up under separate agenda items.

29. The Council:

a) called upon all Member Nations to make payment of assessed contributions on time and in full;

b) urged Management to continue its efforts in the implementation of the Human Resources Strategic Plan;

c) approved the extension of the term of Mr Fayezul Choudhury on the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee for a further, final three years and the proposed update to the Terms of Reference of the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee; and

d) noting the importance of internal oversight, as conveyed in the 2021 Annual Report of the Inspector General, requested strengthening of internal control, in particular in high risk areas and Decentralized Offices.

30. With these observations, the Council endorsed the recommendations contained in the Reports of the 189th, 190th and 191st Sessions of the Finance Committee on the items which are not listed above.

Report of the 115th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters[22] (21-23 March 2022)

31. The Council reviewed the *Report of the 115th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (21-23 March 2022)*, except for *Governance of FAO's statistical and other data activities and their alignment with the cross-cutting FAO policies on Protection of Data and Intellectual Property Rights* and *Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization*, taken under separate agenda items.

32. The Council:

a) acknowledged the Concept Note[23] in relation to the types of FAO products and the means for their development providing non-exhaustive guidance on the practice of the Organization in relation to the types of FAO products and encouraged inclusive and transparent consultations with Members where the means of development for FAO products are unclear, in particular, to ensure appropriate Members' involvement on strategies and action plans which can serve as a practical orientation tool to guide Members; and

b) noted the procedural steps involved in the proposed change of name of the Regional Conference for Europe.

33. With regard to specific recommendations in the Report, the Council:

a) decided to amend Staff Regulation 301.13.6, changing the name of the Associate Professional Officers (APO) Programme to the Junior Professional Officers (JPO) Programme, as recommended by the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM);

b) agreed that the Data Protection Policy should be revised to address the following: i) that the language expressing the requirement of affirmative consent be strengthened, with the cases

[21] CL 170/12; CL 170/15; CL 170/16; CL 170/PV/6; CL 170/PV/9; CL 170/PV/10
[22] CL 170/13; CL 170/21; CL 170/PV/7; CL 170/PV/9; CL 170/PV/10
[23] CL 170/INF/6

where implicit consent could exceptionally be relied upon clarified, including setting limits to the duration for which implicit consent could form a basis for data processing; ii) that the linkages between the internal bodies addressing data protection and data in general be clarified, for example through the definitions set out in Annex I to the Policy; iii) that the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee could discharge an independent oversight function with regards to data protection; and iv) that the Data Protection Policy reflects the rights of data owners who are not data providers;

c) agreed that the Data Protection Policy should be promulgated with a view to its early implementation, revised in accordance with the recommendations of the CCLM, and that informal consultations should be held with Members, as recommended by the CCLM;

d) requested the Independent Chairperson of the Council undertake informal consultations with FAO Members on the matter of participation of private sector observers in sessions of the FAO Governing Bodies, in light of the approval at its 165th Session of the Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-2025, in particular to elicit from the Membership its interest in developing a permanent observer status for private sector entities; and with a view to submitting a proposal for approval to the Council through the CCLM; and

e) agreed that pending the results of these informal consultations of the ICC and any decisions thereon by the Council or Conference, as appropriate, the current *ad hoc* arrangements continue to be applied on a case by case basis.

34. With these observations, the Council endorsed the recommendations of the Report on the items which are not listed above.

Governance Matters

Dates for submission of nominations for the Office of the Director-General[24]

35. The Council set the dates of 1 December 2022 to 28 February 2023 as the period during which Member Nations could submit nominations for the office of Director-General.

Governance of FAO's statistical and other data activities and their alignment with the cross-cutting FAO policies on Protection of Data and Intellectual Property Rights[25]

36. The Council reviewed the Reports of the 115th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters and the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee on *Governance of FAO's statistical and other data activities and their alignment with the cross-cutting FAO policies on Protection of Data and Intellectual Property Rights*.

37. The Council:

a) acknowledged the clarifications to the proposal for improved internal coordination of FAO statistical activities and other data activities related to statistics, particularly with regard to its alignment with FAO's corporate policies on data protection and intellectual property rights; and

b) reiterated the importance and critical role of the Organization's statistical work.

38. With regard to specific recommendations, the Council decided:

a) to request that Management continue improving its activities on governance of FAO's statistical and other data activities, continue to improve internal coordination of FAO statistical activities, and clarify the linkages between the internal structures addressing data protection, data and statistics governance and data;

b) to request an update on the alignment of FAO's statistical activities with FAO's corporate policies on data protection, once these have been promulgated; and

[24] CL 170/14; CL 170/PV/8; CL 170/PV/10
[25] CL 170/18; CL 170/11 para.12; CL 170/13 paras.27-30; CL 170/PV/7; CL 170/PV/9; CL 170/PV/10

c) to request FAO to provide regularly an updated information on the content, use and technical characteristics of data and statistical tools and platforms deployed by FAO through its Governing Bodies and informal technical consultations.

39. With these observations, the Council endorsed the recommendations of the Reports on the items which are not listed above.

Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 168th Session of the Council (29 November-4 December 2021)[26]

40. The Council took note of the status of implementation of decisions taken at its 168th Session (29 November-4 December 2021).

Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization[27]

41. The Council noted document CL 170/19, *Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization*, and CL 170/21, *Report of the 116th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (Rome, 8 June 2022)* and:

a) appreciated the open and transparent consultations held by the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) on this matter and the substantive outcome of these consultations; and

b) noting the draft Conference Resolution discussed at the 116th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM), requested the ICC to continue the informal consultations with Members to achieve consensus before submitting an updated version of the Conference Resolution for review by the Council through the CCLM and the Finance Committee, with a view for submission to the Conference at its 43rd Session for approval.

Resumption of the Management and Administrative Review of FAO by the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations[28]

42. The Council took note of the information provided in CL 170/20, *Update on the Management and Administration Review of FAO by the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations* and information provided on the Members Gateway.

43. In line with the procedures within the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) and noting with appreciation the assurance from Management that it will continue to fully cooperate with the JIU, the Council requested Management to communicate in writing its willingness that the rescheduling of the Management and Administration Review with the JIU be confirmed at the earliest convenience of the Unit.

44. The Council requested Management to provide regular updates to Members on the progress of this matter with the JIU.

Other Matters

Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies and other main Sessions 2022-2023[29]

45. The Council approved the Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies for 2022-2023, as reproduced in *Appendix E* to this Report.

[26] CL 170/LIM/3; CL 170/PV/8; CL 170/PV/10
[27] CL 170/19; CL 170/21; CL 170/12 paras.15-16; CL 170/13 paras.34-37; CL 170/PV/8; CL 170/PV/10
[28] CL 170/20; CL 170/PV/8; CL 170/PV/10
[29] CL 170/LIM/1; CL 170/PV/8; CL 170/PV/10

Tentative Agenda for the 171st Session of the Council[30]

46. The Council endorsed the Tentative Agenda of its 171st Session (December 2022) as contained in CL 170/INF/2 and amended it according to the comments provided by Members at this Session.

Developments in fora of importance for the mandate of FAO[31]

47. The Council received Briefing Notes on the following topics for information only:

a) The 15th Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and negotiations for a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and from COP 26 to COP 27;

b) Digital for Impact: Leveraging FAO Digital Public Goods to accelerate progress towards agrifood systems transformation and SDG1 by the Rural-Multidimensional Poverty Index (R-MPI); and

c) Preventing and addressing acute food insecurity at its roots – the Global Network Against Food Crises and Emergency reaction.

Appointment of a Representative of the FAO Conference to the Staff Pension Committee[32]

48. In accordance with Article 6(c) of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, the Council, on behalf of the Conference, confirmed[33] the appointment to the Staff Pension Committee of Mr Jerzy Nowak, Deputy Permanent Representative of Poland to FAO, replacing Mr Vlad Mustaciosu, former Deputy Permanent Representative of Romania to FAO as Alternate Member Representative of the FAO Conference to the Staff Pension Committee for the remainder of his term (1 January 2020 – 31 December 2022), due to Mr Mustaciosu's departure from Rome.

Code of Conduct for Voting[34]

49. The Council commended the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) for his efforts in leading the informal consultations on the draft Code of Conduct for Voting Procedures and requested the ICC to continue the informal consultations with Members to achieve consensus before submitting an updated version of the draft Code of Conduct for Voting to the relevant Governing Bodies, with a view for a draft Code to be submitted for approval at the 43rd Session of the Conference.

Statement by a Representative of the FAO Staff Bodies[35]

50. Ms Susan Murray, General Secretary of the Union of General Service Staff, made a statement on behalf of the FAO Staff Representative Bodies.

[30] CL 170/INF/2; CL 170/PV/8; CL 170/PV/10
[31] CL 170/INF/4; CL 170/INF/4 Web Annexes 1-3; CL 170/PV/8; CL 170/PV/10
[32] CL 170/LIM/4 Rev.1; CL 170/PV/9; CL 170/PV/10
[33] The Russian Federation disassociates itself from the appointment of Mr Jerzy Nowak, Deputy Permanent Representative of Poland to FAO to the Staff Pension Committee.
[34] CL 170/INF/7; CL 170/PV/9; CL 170/PV/10
[35] CL 170/PV/9; CL 170/PV/10

Appendix A

Agenda for the 170th Session of the Council

Procedure of the Session

1. Adoption of the agenda and timetable
2. Election of three Vice-Chairpersons, and designation of the Chairperson and Members of the Drafting Committee

Programmatic Matters

3. Programme Implementation Report 2020-21
4. FAO thematic Strategy on Climate Change
5. FAO thematic Science and Innovation Strategy
6. Impact of the Ukraine-Russia conflict on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
7. Update on FAO's Response to COVID-19: Building to transform
8. Update on the Hand-in-Hand Initiative

Reports of the Regional Conferences

9. Regional Conferences
   - 9.1 Report of the 32nd Session of the Regional Conference for Africa (Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, 11-14 April 2022)
   - 9.2 Report of the 36th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (Dhaka, Bangladesh, 8-11 March 2022)
   - 9.3 Report of the 33rd Session of the Regional Conference for Europe (Łódź, Poland, 10-13 May 2022)
   - 9.4 Report of the 37th Session of the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (Quito, Ecuador, 28 March - 1 April 2022)
   - 9.5 Report of the 36th Session of the Regional Conference of the Near East (Baghdad, Iraq, Senior Officers Meeting 10-13 January 2022 and Ministerial Meeting 7-8 February 2022)
   - 9.6 Report of the Seventh Informal Regional Conference for North America (United States of America, 12-14 April 2022)

Reports of the Committees of the Council

10. Report of the Joint Meeting of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee and 191st Session of the Finance Committee (May 2022)
11. Report of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee (16-20 May 2022)
12. Reports of the 189th (17 December 2021), 190th (18 February 2022) and 191st (16-20 May 2022) Sessions of the Finance Committee

12.1 Status of Current Assessment and Arrears

13. Report of the 115th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (21-23 March 2022)

Governance Matters

14. Dates for submission of nominations for the Office of Director-General

15. Governance of FAO's statistical and other data activities and their alignment with the cross-cutting FAO policies on Protection of Data and Intellectual Property Rights

16. Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 168th session of the Council (29 November-4 December 2021)

17. Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization

18. Resumption of the Management and Administrative Review of FAO by the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations

Other Matters

19. Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies and other main sessions 2022-2023

20. Tentative agenda for the 171st Session of the Council

21. Developments in fora of importance for the mandate of FAO

22. Any other matters

22.1 Appointment of a Representative of the FAO Conference to the Staff Pension Committee

22.2 Code of Conduct for Voting

22.3 Statement by a Representative of the FAO Staff Bodies

Appendix B

List of Documents

CL 170/1 Rev.1	Provisional Agenda
CL 170/4 Rev.1	FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031
CL 170/5	FAO Science and Innovation Strategy
CL 170/6	Impact of the Ukraine-Russia conflict on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
CL 170/7 Rev.1	Update on the FAO's Response to COVID-19: Building to transform
CL 170/8	The Hand-in-Hand Initiative
CL 170/10	Report of the Joint Meeting of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee and 191st Session of the Finance Committee (Rome, 16, 17 and 20 May 2022)
CL 170/11	Report of the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee (Rome, 16-20 May 2022)
CL 170/12	Report of the 191st Session of the Finance Committee (16-20 May 2022)
CL 170/13	Report of the 115th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (21-23 March 2022)
CL 170/14	Dates for submission of nominations for the Office of Director-General
CL 170/15	Report of the 189th Session of the Finance Committee (17 December 2021)
CL 170/16	Report of the 190th Session of the Finance Committee (18 February 2022)
CL 170/17	Update on Rome-based Agencies collaboration
CL 170/18	Governance of FAO's statistical and other data activities and their alignment with the cross-cutting FAO policies on Protection of Data and Intellectual Property Rights - Proposal for an improved internal coordination and its alignment with corporate policies on Data Protection and Intellectual Property Rights
CL 170/19	Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization
CL 170/20	Update on the Management and Administration Review of FAO by the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations
CL 170/21	Report of the 116th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (Rome, 8 June 2022)

C 2023 Series

C 2023/8	Programme Implementation Report 2020-21
C 2023/14	Report of the 32nd Session of the Regional Conference for Africa (Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, 11-14 April 2022)
C 2023/15	Report of the 36th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (Dhaka, Bangladesh, 8-11 March 2022)
C 2023/16	Report of the 33rd Session of the Regional Conference for Europe (Łódź, Poland, 10-13 May 2022)
C 2023/17	Report of the 37th Session of the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (Quito, Ecuador, 28 March-1 April 2022)
C 2023/18	Report of the 36th Session of the Regional Conference of the Near East (Baghdad, Iraq, Senior Officers Meeting 10-13 January and Ministerial Meeting 7-8 February 2022)
C 2023/LIM/1	Report of the Seventh Informal Regional Conference for North America (United States of America,12-14 April 2022)

CL 170 INF Series

CL 170/INF/1	Provisional Timetable
CL 170/INF/2	Tentative Agenda for the 171st Session of the Council
CL 170/INF/3	Statement of competence and voting rights submitted by the European Union and its Member States
CL 170/INF/4	Developments in fora of importance for the mandate of FAO
CL 170/INF/4 Web Annex 1	The 15th Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and negotiations for a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and from COP 26 to COP 27
CL 170/INF/4 Web Annex 2	Digital for Impact: Leveraging FAO Digital Public Goods to accelerate progress towards agrifood systems transformation and SDG1 by The Rural-Multidimensional Poverty Index (R-MPI)
CL 170/INF/4 Web Annex 3	Preventing and addressing acute food insecurity at its roots – the Global Network Against Food Crises and Emergency reaction
CL 170/INF/5	Special Procedures for the 170th Session of the Council
CL 170/INF/6	Concept note in relation to the types of FAO products and the means for their development
CL 170/INF/7	Draft report of the Independent Chairperson of the Council on the progress of the Code of Conduct for Voting

CL 170 LIM Series

CL 170/LIM/1	Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies and other Main Sessions 2022-2023
CL 170/LIM/2	Status of current assessments and arrears as at 6 June 2022
CL 170/LIM/3	Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 168th Session of the Council (29 November-4 December 2021)
CL 170/LIM/4 Rev.1	Appointment of Representatives of the FAO Conference to the Staff Pension Committee

Other Documents

	List of Delegates and Observers

CL 170/Draft Report	Draft Report of Plenary

CL 170 PV Series

CL 170/PV/1 to CL 170/PV/10	Verbatim Records of Plenary

CL 170 OD Series

CL 170/OD/1 to CL 170/OD/5	Orders of the Day

Appendix C

FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031

I. Introduction

1. With the estimated number of people facing hunger rising to 720-811 million in 2020[1] and the already tangible impacts of climate change and extreme weather events on food security, nutrition and poverty, the urgency to address climate change has significantly increased. The food security and nutrition challenges have further grown due to the COVID-19 pandemic and related containment measures.[2] Current analyses indicate that hunger and all forms of malnutrition[3] will not be eradicated by 2030 unless bold actions are taken to accelerate progress, especially to sustainably increase agricultural productivity and incomes and address inequality in access to safe and nutritious food for healthy diets while accelerating climate action.[4]

2. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[5] set universally agreed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Decade of Action to deliver the SDGs called for accelerated solutions to the world's biggest and often intertwined challenges, which include poverty and hunger, inequality, climate change, loss of biodiversity, ecosystem degradation and desertification. The United Nations Secretary-General's report "Our Common Agenda"[6] outlined the transformation of agrifood systems[7] as a key action area recalling that transforming agrifood systems should be made in a coherent manner, as appropriate, in accordance with and dependent on national contexts and capacities.

3. The multiple and complex causes of the food crises that occur in different regions of the world, affecting developing countries, especially net food importers, and their consequences for food security and nutrition require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments, civil society, the private sector and the international community, reiterating that the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition are poverty, growing inequality, inequity and lack of access to resources and income - earning opportunities, the effects of climate change and disasters, and conflicts, and remaining concerned that excessively volatile food prices can pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and improved nutrition and to achieve internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and malnutrition.

4. Noted the 2021 Food Systems Summit, convened by the Secretary-General on 23 and 24 September 2021, as well as its pre-Summit, held from 26 to 28 July 2021 in Rome, recalling that the

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[1] FAO, International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations Children's Fund, World Food Programme and World Health Organization. 2021. *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021*: *Transforming Food Systems for Food Security, Improved Nutrition and Affordable Healthy Diets for All*. Rome, FAO. http://www.fao.org/3/cb4474en/cb4474en.pdf

[2] As footnote 1 above.

[3] FAO. 2021. *Vision and Strategy for FAO's Work in Nutrition* (in press). Adopted by the 166th Session of the Council as per paragraph 24(b).

[4] Climate action means stepped-up efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-induced impacts. https://sdghelpdesk.unescap.org/learn-more-about-climate-action

[5] United Nations. 2015. *Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. Adopted: United Nations General Assembly, 25 September 2015. UNGA A/RES/70/1.

[6] United Nations. 2021. *Our Common Agenda: Report of the Secretary-General*. New York, United Nations. https://www.un.org/en/content/common-agenda-report/assets/pdf/Common_Agenda_Report_English.pdf

[7] The agrifood system covers the journey of food from farm to table – including when it is grown, fished, harvested, processed, packaged, transported, distributed, traded, bought, prepared, eaten and disposed of. It also encompasses non-food products that also constitute livelihoods and all of the people as well as the activities, investments and choices that play a part in getting us these food and agricultural products. In the FAO Constitution, the term "agriculture" and its derivatives include fisheries, marine products, forestry and primary forestry products. https://www.fao.org/3/nf693en/nf693en.pdf

Chair's Summary and Statement of Action on the United Nations Food Systems Summit, issued by the Secretary-General, does not constitute a negotiated document.

5. Following its mandate,[8] FAO is working for the world to get back on track to achieve the goal of eradicating hunger and all forms of malnutrition (SDG 2), ending poverty (SDG 1) and reducing inequalities (SDG 10) by 2030, while ensuring clean water (SDG 6), sustainable production and consumption (SDG 12), sustainable management of natural resources (SDGs 14 and 15) and leveraging partnerships (SDG 17). In view of the high reliance of agrifood systems on climate and environmental conditions, climate action (SDG 13) is essential to achieving these goals and the long-term sustainability of agrifood systems. As part of its efforts towards the 2030 Agenda, FAO has developed a new Strategy on Climate Change (SCC) for the next ten years.

6. The SCC aligns with the SDGs based on the three dimensions of sustainable development and shared goals and cooperation towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including their principles, as relevant[9], the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, including Article 2.1 and 2.2[10,] and the relevant paragraphs of the Glasgow Climate Pact and notes in this regard 1/CP.26 paragraphs 5 and 6 and 1/CMA.3 paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Glasgow Climate Pact decisions, and 1/CP.26 paragraphs 17 and 18 and 1/CMA.3 paragraphs 22 and 23 from the Glasgow Climate Pact CMA decisions.

7. Through the SCC, FAO aims to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement, as referred to in paragraph 4 in a coherent manner taking into account national contexts and capacities. The SCC responds to the need to support all Members, particularly developing countries in formulating and implementing their climate commitments, as appropriate, in coordination with other existing initiatives and mechanisms, focusing on FAO's added value on land-related mitigation and adaptation options, including through the voluntary sharing of knowledge and practices, research and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and improve equitable access to research results and technologies on mutually agreed terms at the national, regional and international levels, such as through South-South and Triangular Cooperation and improve access to investments and financial resources.

8. To respond to the growing short- and long-term climate, food security, nutrition and poverty challenges while considering major environmental concerns, the SCC aims at scaling up FAO's climate action to support Member nations if so required at global, regional, country and local levels. Owing to the many interconnections of its impacts, climate change needs to be dealt with in a holistic and integrative way to maximize co-benefits and address trade-offs of climate action with other key environmental areas and sustainable socioeconomic development.

9. Building on the 2017 FAO Strategy on Climate Change[11] and the recommendations of the *Evaluation of FAO's Support to Climate Action (SDG 13) and the Implementation of the FAO Strategy*

[8] The preamble of the FAO constitution defines FAO's purpose as follows: raising levels of nutrition and standards of living of the peoples under their respective jurisdictions; securing improvements in the efficiency of the production and distribution of all food and agricultural products; bettering the condition of rural populations; and thus contributing towards an expanding world economy and ensuring humanity's freedom from hunger.

[9] In particular, those principles related to the paragraph on Adaptation

[10] Article 2 of the Paris Agreement: 2.1 This Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the Convention, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by:
(a) Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change;
(b) Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; and
(c) Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.
2.2 This Agreement will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances.

[11] FAO. 2017. *FAO Strategy on Climate Change*. Rome, FAO. https://www.fao.org/3/i7175e/i7175e.pdf

on Climate Change (2017),[12] the SCC emphasizes the relevance of efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems as part of the solutions to climate change. The SCC enhances FAO's efforts towards achieving SDG 13 and other related goals, and better aligns with the 2030 Agenda. It aims to address a broad range of interlinked challenges, including the loss of biodiversity, desertification, environmental degradation, the need for accessible, renewable energy, and food and water security. The SCC looks at agrifood systems, taking into consideration all agricultural sectors, related value chains and ecosystems in a holistic way and recognizing the importance of a balance between the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. It is rooted in the principles of best available science and innovation and recognizes the importance of scaling up finance and responsible investment[13] for the transformation of agrifood systems in a coherent manner according to, and dependent on, national contexts and capacities. Furthermore, the SCC aims to empower and engage women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and people in vulnerable situations in climate action.

10. The SCC emphasizes tailoring FAO's climate action to different contexts and realities, including rural, peri-urban and urban areas, and supporting countries, as appropriate, in designing, revising and implementing agrifood systems related parts of their country-driven commitments and plans, including nationally determined contributions (NDCs), national adaptation plans (NAPs), nationally appropriate mitigation actions, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies, disaster risk reduction plans and other related targets and commitments. Moreover, it considers different dimensions of risk, including the risk of non-acting, systemic risks, climate and environmental risk reduction, the specific needs and capacities of people and communities in vulnerable situations and integrating climate risk management[14] in FAO's areas of work.

11. The SCC also considers countries' new and updated NDCs,[15] noting that 95 percent of the adaptation elements include adaptation in the agricultural sectors and most of them reference ecosystems and natural resources, including land and water, as well as livelihoods as priority areas for adaptation. In addition, 95 percent of updated NDCs include mitigation in the agricultural and/or land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) sectors and 70 percent include disaster risk reduction and management. The SCC takes into account the diversity of national circumstances, needs and priorities, giving a solid ground for FAO's consideration of regional, national and local specificities.

II. Climate change: a global threat to food security and nutrition

A. The latest scientific evidence

12. The contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis[16] confirms the unequivocal and unprecedented climate risks the planet is facing now and in coming decades from the

[12] FAO. 2021. *Evaluation of FAO's Support to Climate Action (SDG 13) and the Implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change (2017).* Thematic Evaluation Series 03/2021. Rome, FAO. https://www.fao.org/3/cb3738en/cb3738en.pdf

[13] Committee on World Food Security. 2014. *Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems*. Rome, Committee on World Food Security. https://www.fao.org/3/au866e/au866e.pdf

[14] FAO's work on climate risk management focuses on mainstreaming climate risk considerations into its programming and on supporting evidence-based interventions and decision-making.

[15] Crumpler, K., Abi Khalil, R., Tanganelli, E., Rai, N., Roffredi, L., Meybeck, A., Umulisa, V., Wolf, J. and Bernoux, M. 2021. *2021 (Interim) Global update report – Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in the Nationally Determined Contributions*. Environment and Natural Resources Management Working Paper No. 91. Rome, FAO. https://doi.org/10.4060/cb7442en

[16] IPCC. 2021. *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis*. *Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. V. Masson-Delmotte, P. Zhai, A. Pirani, S.L. Connors, C. Péan, S. Berger, N. Caud, Y. Chen, L. Goldfarb, M.I. Gomis, M. Huang, K. Leitzell, E. Lonnoy, J.B.R. Matthews, T.K. Maycock, T. Waterfield, O. Yelekçi, R. Yu and B. Zhou, (eds.). Cambridge, Cambridge University Press. https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGI_Full_Report.pdf

intensifying heatwaves, heavy precipitation and droughts, fires and tropical cyclones that are expected to affect all regions of the world.

13. Furthermore, longer-term slow onset changes in climate will affect agrifood systems, food production and people's livelihoods in many ways and require accelerated adaptation action. IPCC reports[17, 18] mention longer-term changes in climate, such as an increasing mean temperature, altered seasonality, combined heat and drought stress, heavy rain events, water stress, changes in the occurrence of pests and diseases, sea level rise and ocean acidification. Moreover, the global water cycle will continue to intensify as global temperatures rise, with precipitation and surface water flows projected to become more variable over most land regions within seasons and from year to year. These will all have impacts on the agricultural sectors and related value chains, livelihoods and ecosystems.

14. The IPCC report on Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability (2022)[19] states that increasing weather and climate extreme events have already exposed millions of people to acute food insecurity and reduced water security. Economic damages from climate change have been detected in climate-exposed sectors, with regional effects to agriculture, forestry and fisheries, Global hotspots of high human vulnerability are found particularly in West, Central and East Africa, South Asia, Central and South America, Small Island Developing States and the Arctic. Vulnerability is more critical in locations with poverty, governance challenges and limited access to basic services and resources, violent conflicts and high levels of climate-sensitive livelihoods, including agriculture, forestry and fisheries. There are feasible and effective adaptation options that can reduce risks to people and nature. Comprehensive, effective and innovative responses can use synergies and reduce trade-offs between adaptation and mitigation to advance sustainable development. Safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystems is fundamental to climate resilient development, given the threats posed by climate change to them and their role in adaptation and mitigation.

15. According to the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land,[20] forests play an important role in relation to climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation, including serving as carbon sinks and storage and housing biodiversity, as well as buffering risks caused by climate change impacts. Changes in forest cover from afforestation, reforestation and deforestation directly affect regional surface temperature through exchanges of water and energy. Moreover, forests protect coastal areas, and wood products are sources of renewable materials and energy that can substitute non-renewable and polluting ones.

16. The IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land also reveals that 21-37 percent of total greenhouse gas emissions could be attributed to the global food system. These arise from production, land-use change, processing, packaging, distribution, preparation and consumption of food, including food loss and waste. Given the diversity of agrifood systems, there are large local, national and regional differences in how the different steps contribute to total emissions. Carbon sinks need to be enhanced and greenhouse gas emissions and emissions intensity reduced across agrifood systems, in addition to a drastic reduction in emissions from all other sources, to reach the goal of holding the increase in the

[17] See footnote 16 above.
[18] IPCC. 2019. *Summary for Policymakers.* In: *IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*. H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, V. Masson-Delmotte, P. Zhai, M. Tignor, E. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegría, M. Nicolai, A. Okem, J. Petzold, B. Rama, N.M. Weyer (eds.). https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/3/2019/11/03_SROCC_SPM_FINAL.pdf
[19] IPCC. 2022. *Summary for Policymakers*. In: *Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, M. Tignor, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama (eds.). Cambridge, Cambridge University Press. https://report.ipcc.ch/ar6wg2/pdf/IPCC_AR6_WGII_SummaryForPolicymakers.pdf
[20] IPCC. 2019. *Climate Change and Land*. An IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems. P.R. Shukla, J. Skea, E. Calvo Buendia, V. Masson-Delmotte, H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, P. Zhai, R. Slade, S. Connors, R. van Diemen, M. Ferrat, E. Haughey, S. Luz, S. Neogi, M. Pathak, J. Petzold, J. Portugal Pereira, P. Vyas, E. Huntley, K. Kissick, M. Belkacemi and J. Malley (eds.).

global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels in accordance with the Paris Agreement.

17. As indicated in the IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere,[21] the ocean has warmed since 1970 and has taken up more than 90 percent of the excess heat in the climate system. Human communities in close connection with coastal environments, small islands (including Small Island Developing States), polar areas and high mountains are particularly exposed to ocean and cryosphere change and related impacts, such as ocean acidification, sea level rise, extreme sea level events, marine heatwaves, shrinking cryosphere and permafrost thaw. Many marine species have already undergone shifts in geographical range and seasonal variations in their biological cycle in response to ocean warming, sea ice change and biogeochemical changes to their habitats. This has resulted in shifts in species composition, abundance and biomass production of marine ecosystems from the equator to the poles. In many tropical regions, declines in fish and shellfish stocks due to direct and indirect effects of global warming and biogeochemical changes have already contributed to reduced fisheries catches.

B. Agrifood systems and climate change

18. Agrifood systems already face the challenge of sustainably providing sufficient, accessible, affordable, safe and nutritious foods that contribute to healthy diets, as well as other raw materials, bioenergy, processed products and services, to a growing and urbanizing global population. Climate change, along with other drivers, is already undermining the recent progress made in promoting sustainable rural livelihoods and fighting against hunger and all forms of malnutrition. At the same time, agrifood systems and related livelihoods are affected in the short and longer term by the intertwined impact of biodiversity loss (including degradation of ecosystems, loss of species and genetic resources erosion[22]) and competition over access to natural resources, which requires an ambitious and coordinated response.

19. Climate variability and the increasing frequency and intensity of weather extremes due to climate change pose multiple challenges: they aggravate risk and impacts, affect all dimensions of food security and nutrition (availability, access, utilization and stability), disproportionally impact the social groups in the most vulnerable situations and add pressure on land and water resources and fragile agrifood systems and ecosystems.[23] Urgent actions are needed to reduce climate risk through developing capacities in the areas of prevention, anticipation, absorption, adaptation and transformation[24] for driving all decision-making, policies and climate actions such as climate risk, impact and vulnerability assessments; multi-hazard early warning systems; and climate-proofing infrastructure and risk transfer systems, including insurance and social protection, anticipatory action, and emergency preparedness and response for climate change adaptation and resilience across agrifood systems.

20. Allowing agrifood systems actors to continue producing, processing, marketing and consuming safe and nutritious foods and other products and services thus requires a range of efficient climate resilience and adaptation actions built on healthy ecosystems, and the sustainable use and conservation of natural resources. At the same time, agrifood systems are called to address concerns related to greenhouse gas emissions, particularly carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4) and nitrous oxide (N_2O), including through reduced ecosystem conversion, on-farm energy use and food loss and waste.

21. The shift and disruptions in production potential induced by climate change may lead to changes in the trade of agricultural commodities. In the short term, by moving food from surplus to

[21] As footnote 18 above.
[22] The SCC recognizes the objectives of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture: "the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their use, in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity, for sustainable agriculture and food security."
[23] FAO. 2015. *Climate change and food security: risks and responses*. Rome, FAO. http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5188e.pdf
[24] United Nations Sustainable Development Group. 2021. *UN Common Guidance on Helping Build Resilient Societies*. Executive Summary. https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2021-09/UN-Resilience-Guidance-Exec-Summ-Sept.pdf

deficit areas, trade can play an important role in addressing production shortfalls due to increased weather variability and extreme events. Conducive trade policies in accordance with World Trade Organization rules can be part of climate change adaptation strategies, as the volume and flow of trade can stabilize regional changes in productivity and food price volatility caused by the changing climate.[25]

22. Some actions across agrifood systems already contribute to climate change adaptation, mitigation and sustainable development. These actions include but are not limited to sustainable production of food and bioenergy sustainable forest management, landscape restoration, reduced deforestation and forest degradation, agroforestry, sustainable management and restoration of high-carbon ecosystems, such as peatlands, wetlands, rangelands, mangroves and forests, reclamation of degraded soils and reduced food loss and waste.

C. Harnessing good practices and innovative solutions

23. To respond to climate challenges, good practices and innovative solutions should be harnessed, tailored and piloted in the diverse range of regional, country and community contexts within which FAO works, ensuring protection of intellectual property rights. Moreover, developing partnerships and capacities for country- and local level agrifood innovation systems and their actors is key to co-creating, adapting, disseminating, accessing and adopting innovations.

24. Science- and evidence-based innovations focusing on climate action – technological, financial, policy, legislative, social and institutional – are needed across agrifood systems. These solutions often come as packages; for example, scaling up a new technology may require conducive policy and legal frameworks, targeted financing, closing of the digital divide, social acceptance, and sound governance and institutions. Exploring and learning from Indigenous Peoples' food systems and integrating local and indigenous knowledge and practices with science-based solutions and innovations is also vital.

25. To transform agrifood systems, policies supported by good governance and appropriate legal and institutional frameworks should stimulate and lower barriers to public and private investments and the adoption of good practices, technologies and innovations and within its mandate, contribute to the multilateral trading system in line with the rules of the World Trade Organization. A critical look at current policies and legislation may be needed, including at how incentives might undermine climate and other environmental concerns[26] or unintentionally exacerbate vulnerability to climate change.

26. Accelerating agrifood systems transformation in a coherent manner according to, and dependent on, national contexts and capacities also calls for innovative and inclusive financing mechanisms and seizing evolving financing options. This requires, for example, assessing investment-related risks and applying appropriate risk-mitigation mechanisms.[27] Innovative ways of financing climate action are emerging, including approaches for carbon markets, public–private efforts and new modalities for paying for ecosystems services. These will also require measurement, reporting and verification systems, baseline setting and capacity development on the ground, on which FAO can already offer significant expertise at the request of Members. Furthermore, opportunities for blending different types of financing, including grants and credits from public and private origins, insurance and microfinancing, are increasingly arising. In this context, it is important to encourage all parties to fully implement the Paris Agreement, including their financial commitments.

27. Recently, building on the analyses of policy and project results and social studies, more emphasis has been put on behavioural sciences that provide new insights on lowering the barriers to

[25] FAO. 2018. *The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets 2018*: *Agricultural Trade, Climate Change and Food Security*. Rome, FAO. https://www.fao.org/3/I9542EN/i9542en.pdf

[26] FAO, United Nations Development Programme and United Nations Environment Programme. 2021. *A Multi-Billion-Dollar Opportunity. Repurposing Agricultural Support to Transform Food Systems*. Rome, FAO.

[27] Limketkai, B., Guarnaschelli, S. and Millan, A. 2020. *Financing the Transformation of Food Systems Under a Changing Climate*. Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security and KOIS Caring Finance. https://cgspace.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10568/101132/CCAFS%20KOIS%20Financing%20the%20Transformation%20of%20Food%20Systems%20Under%20a%20Changing%20Climate.pdf

take necessary climate action.[28] Engaging diverse agrifood systems actors, including youth and women, from the outset in the planning and implementation of climate change interventions is needed to better understand the values, motivations, limitations and competing pressures of each.

28. The FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31[29] identifies science, technology and innovation as having substantial transformative potential, while recognizing the potential risks; for example, as technologies reshape, the risks of unequal access and exclusion may emerge. Therefore, as well as policies and regulations minimizing such risks, investments in human capital and capacity development for innovation systems are required, as highlighted in the new FAO Science and Innovation Strategy.[30]

III. Scope of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change

A. Climate change in the FAO Strategic Framework

29. The SCC will be implemented in the context of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, which aims to "support the 2030 Agenda through the transformation to MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for *better production*, *better nutrition*, a *better environment* and a *better life*, leaving no one behind." Due to the cross-cutting nature of FAO's climate change work, the SCC is closely linked to these "four betters" and thus contributes to their achievement. Four triggers for transforming agrifood systems are recognized as priorities: institutions and governance; consumer awareness; income and wealth distribution; and innovative technologies and approaches.

30. The four betters reflect the interconnected economic, social and environmental dimensions of agrifood systems and as such, encourage a strategic and system-oriented approach within all FAO interventions, which are articulated in 20 Programme Priority Areas (PPAs), one of which focuses on climate change: "Climate change mitigating and adapted agrifood systems". Furthermore, climate change is directly reflected in 11 other PPAs[31] and indirectly embedded in all PPAs.

31. The effectiveness and coherence of FAO's climate change interventions are highly dependent on building on the four cross-cutting/cross-sectional "accelerators": technology, innovation, data and complements (governance, human capital and institutions); and the cross-cutting themes of gender, youth and inclusion of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31.

32. The seven FAO core functions[32] also shape the delivery of climate action, which will be further elaborated in the Action Plan of the SCC. FAO has recently developed mutually reinforcing strategies on

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[28] Barrett, C.B., Benton, T., Fanzo, J., Herrero, M., Nelson, R.J., Bageant, E., Buckler, E., Cooper, K., Culotta, I., Fan, S., Gandhi, R., James, S., Kahn, M., Lawson-Lartego, L., Liu, J., Marshall, Q., Mason-D'Croz, D., Mathys, A., Mathys, C., Mazariegos-Anastassiou, V., Miller, A., Misra, K., Mude, A.G., Shen, J., Majele Sibanda, L., Song, C., Steiner, R., Thornton, P. and Wood, S. 2020. *Socio-Technical Innovation Bundles for Agri-food Systems Transformation*. Report of the International Expert Panel on Innovations to Build Sustainable, Equitable, Inclusive Food Value Chains. Ithaca, New York, and London, Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability and Springer Nature. https://www.nature.com/documents/Bundles_agrifood_transformation.pdf

[29] FAO. 2021. *Strategic Framework 2022-31*. Rome, FAO. https://www.fao.org/3/cb7099en/cb7099en.pdf

[30] FAO. 2021. The outline and roadmap of the "FAO Science and Innovation Strategy". The 168th Session of the Council. Rome, FAO.

[31] BP1: Innovation for sustainable agriculture production; BP2: Blue Transformation; BP4: Small-scale producers' equitable access to resources; BN2: Nutrition for the most vulnerable; BN3: Safe food for everyone; BE2: Bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture; BL1: Gender equality and rural women's empowerment; BL2: Inclusive rural transformation; BL3: Agriculture and food emergencies; BL4: Resilient agrifood systems; and BL5: Hand-in-Hand initiative.

[32] FAO core functions: 1. *Assemble, analyse, monitor and improve access to data and information;* 2. *Facilitate and support countries and other partners in the development and implementation of normative and standard setting instruments;* 3. *Facilitate, promote and support agrifood systems policy dialogue at global, regional and country levels;* 4. *Support institutions at all levels, including through capacity development, to prepare, implement, monitor and evaluate evidence-based policies and programmes, and leverage investments;* 5.

themes including nutrition, private sector engagement, gender equality, mainstreaming biodiversity across agricultural sectors, corporate environmental responsibility, and science and innovation. The SCC and its Action Plan seek connections, synergies and complementarities with all of these.

B. Vision and guiding principles

33. The Vision and guiding principles of the SCC provide a lens through which FAO's climate actions will be implemented at global, regional, country and local levels.

34. **Vision**. FAO envisions the future state brought about by its climate action: *Agrifood systems are sustainable, inclusive, resilient and adaptive to climate change and its impacts and contribute to low-emission economies while providing sufficient, safe and nutritious foods for healthy diets, as well as other agricultural products and services, for present and future generations, leaving no one behind.*

35. **Guiding principles**. The SCC aims to facilitate and scale up FAO's contribution to transforming agrifood systems and dependent livelihoods to become more climate resilient, adaptive and low emission. The SCC is founded on the following principles, which are directly linked to the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31:

i. Take an agrifood systems approach. Complex problems call for climate action in synergy with action on biodiversity and other environmental and development goals that relate to agrifood systems. A system-oriented approach includes value chains and their actors from the natural resources base to production, processing and marketing, food environment[33] and consumption, consumer behaviour, food quality and safety, food loss and waste, renewable energy generation, energy efficiency and use, and the complex interactions between all these. To achieve SDGs 1 and 2, a system-oriented approach is required in addressing food security and nutrition concerns that are further exacerbated by climate change. Addressing the food-water-energy nexus and One Health[34] are examples of such approaches.

ii. Put farmers, livestock keepers, fishers, aquaculturists and forest-dependent people at the centre, in particular small-scale producers, Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, local and marginalized communities, and people in vulnerable situations. Empowering people and supporting local-level climate action, targeting and engaging the rural and urban populations who are most at risk of the climate change impacts, such as small island developing states and coastal communities and who manage much of the world's ecosystem resources needs to be at the frontline of FAO's climate work.

iii. Embrace good practices and innovations. Core actions of the SCC include supporting the stocktaking of existing good practices and local, traditional and indigenous knowledge and the emergence, exploration and promotion of innovative, proactive, sustainable and context-specific climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation solutions, and strengthening countries' agrifood innovation capacity and systems,

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Facilitate partnerships and coalitions for more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems; 6. *Advise and support activities that assemble, disseminate and improve the uptake of knowledge, technologies and good practices;* and 7. *Advocate and communicate at national, regional and global levels*.

[33] Food environments comprise foods available and accessible to people in their surroundings and the nutritional quality, safety, price, convenience, labelling and promotion of these foods. These environments should ensure that people have equal and equitable access to sufficient, affordable, safe and nutritious foods that meet dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life, considering the various physical, social, economic, cultural, and political factors that influence that access. CFS 2021/49/INF/14 - The CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (VGFSyN) (fao.org)

[34] One Health is an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems. It recognizes that the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are closely linked and interdependent. https://www.who.int/news/item/01-12-2021-tripartite-and-unep-support-ohhlep-s-definition-of-one-health

iv. Build on science-based evidence, including open science and data. Solving climate change challenges requires the generation, sharing and efficient utilization, in a multidisciplinary manner, of the most reliable gender and age disaggregated data on global, regional and local scales, including on climate, natural resources, environment and socio-economy, and information on prevalent agrifood systems in different regions. FAO is one of the leading custodian agencies for the SDG indicators (under SDGs 2, 5, 6, 12, 14 and 15) and the most comprehensive source of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, food, soils, water and socioeconomic statistics. Therefore, FAO is uniquely placed to support science- and evidence-based decision-making and the use of local and indigenous knowledge, while complying with FAO policies on data, including the forthcoming data protection policy, paying close attention to the protection of privacy rights and intellectual property rights.

v. Promote country-driven climate action for sustainable results. The Strategy aligns with the principles of effectiveness anchored in country ownership, leadership, commitment and mutual accountability for results, with countries in the driving seat supported by FAO on their demand through a system-wide capacity development approach[35] to effectively strengthen countries' institutional and technical capacities for climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation. The SCC should by implemented through priorities set by the Governing Bodies of FAO.

vi. Deliver through strategic partnerships. Through wide engagement with partners, FAO and its Members can increase the extent and impact of climate action. This involves actors interested and engaged across agrifood systems, including government institutions, international, regional and national climate and other financing institutions, Rome-based Agencies (RBAs) and other United Nations organizations, regional and subregional organizations and economic communities, private companies, research and academia, media, foundations, farmers' and other civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations. In addition to fostering existing partnerships, such as the Global Soil Partnership and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, FAO seeks engagement with new partners, including private sector actors of different types and sizes for collaboration in capacity development, technical cooperation, knowledge and research, financing and investment, sustainable innovation and data sharing and dissemination,[36] as well as the South–South and Triangular Cooperation partners to catalyse resources, solutions, techniques and knowledge from the global South.[37]

vii. Mainstream gender equality, youth engagement, Indigenous People's participation and social inclusiveness. The SCC promotes planning and implementation of gender-transformative,[38,39] youth-engaging, participatory and socially inclusive climate action, including strengthening of knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts of local communities and Indigenous Peoples in responding to climate change. Moreover, FAO emphasizes ensuring equal opportunities and sharing of benefits of climate action, engagement of women, youth and Indigenous Peoples in climate debates and providing support to countries to reduce social exclusion, including through legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks.

viii. Support inclusive multi-stakeholder approaches. In line with good practices on multi-stakeholder approaches,[40] the engagement of all stakeholders of the agrifood system, national

[35] FAO. 2019. *Sustainable Food and Agriculture: An Integrated Approach.* Rome, FAO and Elsevier. https://www.sciencedirect.com/book/9780128121344/sustainable-food-and-agriculture
[36] FAO. 2021. *FAO Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021–2025*. Rome, FAO.
[37] FAO. 2021. *South-South and Triangular Cooperation Guidelines for Action (2022–2025)*. Rome, FAO.
[38] FAO. 2020. *FAO Policy on Gender Equality 2020–2030*. Rome, FAO.
[39] UNFCCC decision 3/CP.25 (Enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan).
[40] High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition. 2018. *Multi-stakeholder Partnerships to Finance and Improve Food Security and Nutrition in the Framework of the 2030 Agenda.* A report by the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition. Rome, Committee on World Food Security.

and international entities, the public and private sectors and civil society in a complementary manner in planning and decision-making processes across national and subnational levels helps to ensure that no one is left behind in FAO's climate action. Such an approach comprises improved coordination, joint problem analyses, co-creation of solutions, co-development of methods and metrics, planning and action and innovative multi-stakeholder governance mechanisms.

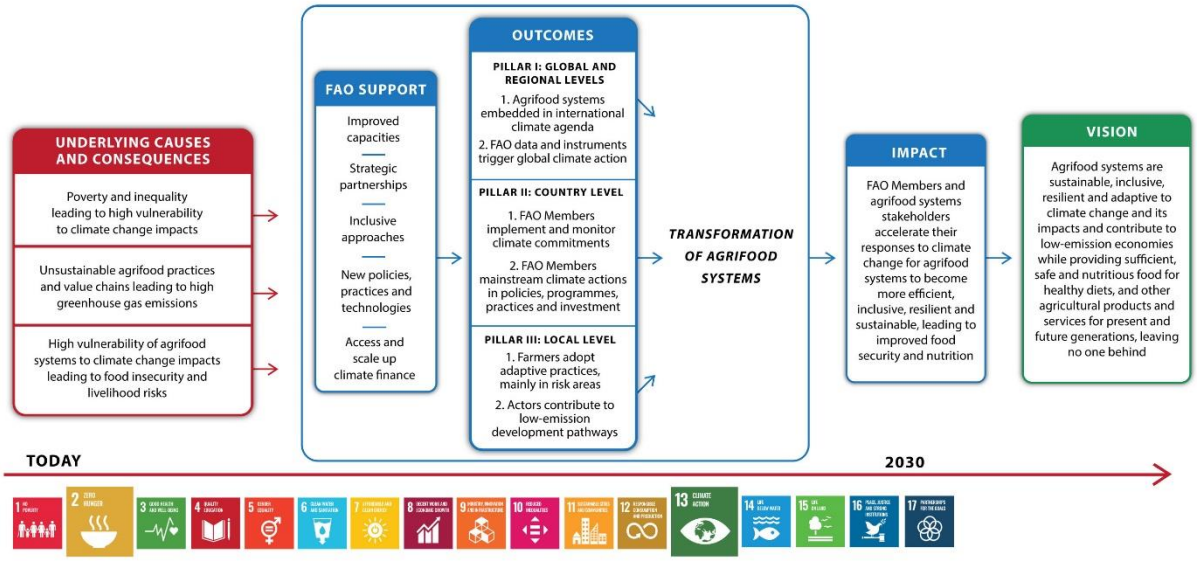
ix. Scale up support. There is an urgent need to scale up action to strengthen resilience, improve adaptive capacity and reduce risk and vulnerability to climate change across agrifood systems. Climate action through agrifood systems offers some of the most cost-effective options to maximise co-benefits of adaptation and mitigation on the ground. FAO will build on lessons learned to scale up good practices and accelerate climate action to support its Members, as appropriate, in relation to climate resilience, adaptation, mitigation and finance across agrifood systems and in addressing gaps in the implementation of the goals of the Paris Agreement.

x. Adopt a "no-one-size-fits-all" approach. FAO's climate action considers national circumstances, diversity of contexts, specificities, priorities, synergies and capabilities across regions and countries and at the local level in terms of environmental, economic and social development and with regard to peace and stability. This means a context-specific approach, refraining from providing uniform types of assistance to problems that have different origins and causes and may require different means to achieve the common goals.

C. Theory of Change of the Strategy on Climate Change

36. The logic underlying the SCC is underpinned by an analysis of the interaction between a set of **Challenges**, the **Impact** and the three **Pillars** of action and their expected **Outcomes**, as well as a set of assumptions and prerequisites for FAO's climate action.

Figure: An outline of the Theory of Change



37. The **Challenges** that are described as underlying causes and consequences illustrate the problems that FAO addresses in the SCC: Climate change is severely affecting agrifood systems and related ecosystems and livelihoods with negative impacts on poverty, food security and nutrition, while agrifood systems also contribute to climate change. FAO Members still require support in their efforts to adopt good practices and innovative solutions to address climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation for sustainable agrifood systems that are key for meeting the growing demand for nutritious and safe food and other agricultural products and services. Without urgent action to transform agrifood systems, climate change will keep disrupting food production, food security and nutrition and accelerating the loss of biodiversity, ecosystem degradation, poverty and inequality as well as potentially exacerbate conflicts and displacement, particularly in countries and regions that are already highly food insecure, and unsustainable practices across agrifood systems will continue contributing to climate change.

38. **FAO support** as illustrated in the Figure consists of elements aligned with the core functions of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, including capacity development, strategic partnerships, inclusive approaches, new policies, practices and technologies and improved access to financing. These are further elaborated under each of the Pillars in Section IV below.

39. The **Pillars**, which constitute three mutually reinforcing lines of action at global, regional, country and local levels, are based on the understanding that moving towards the expected Outcomes, Impact and Vision requires simultaneous work at all three levels. The three Pillars contain elements of intertwined climate-resilient and low-emission development pathways: **I Global and regional levels**: *Strengthening global and regional climate policy and governance*; **II Country level**: *Developing countries' capacities for climate action*; and **III Local level**: *Scaling up climate action on the ground.*

40. Six **Outcomes** at global and regional, country and local levels materialize through a combined effort of climate action by FAO and other stakeholders, including climate risk anticipatory and preventive measures, adaptation and mitigation (see the Figure). The Outcomes together can induce and accelerate the anticipated transformation across agrifood systems in a coherent manner according to, and dependent on, national contexts and capacities and along countries' own development pathways. FAO strives to ensure that all parts of agrifood systems, related livelihoods and ecosystems are mutually reinforcing, and climate vulnerability and risk analyses are conducted for the natural resources base, production, processing, marketing and consumption as well as for other sectors whose vulnerability can be reduced through actions towards sustainable agrifood systems.

41. The **Impact** refers to a milestone in a transformational process across agrifood systems that FAO can influence with its knowledge and other forms of support, but that is beyond FAO's exclusive

control. The SCC aims to achieve the following impact: *FAO Members and agrifood system stakeholders accelerate their climate action for agrifood systems to become MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient, low-emission and sustainable, leading to improved food security and nutrition.*

42. **The main assumptions** underlying the SCC and its implementation are as follows:

- *Climate change remains a global priority despite uncertainties and delays in action and is to be tackled hand-in-hand with the COVID-19 pandemic and socioeconomic challenges.*
- *Agrifood systems become widely recognized and adopted as an integral part of the solution to climate change.*
- *Political will to prioritize and scale up climate action in general and across agrifood systems in particular is strong.*
- *Climate financing, including for agrifood systems, is increased through vertical funds and other public and private sources in recognition of the scale and urgency of the action needed.*

43. **Prerequisites for successful climate action** include the following:

i. FAO delivers efficiently. FAO needs adequate human and financial resources in its headquarters and decentralized offices and to expand its in-house coordination, external collaboration and partnerships in order to efficiently respond to the increasing needs at global, regional, country and local levels. This will include, for example, investment in in-house capacity and human resources development, enhanced collaboration, coordination and communication of climate work and knowledge management, new initiatives as well as innovative public and private partnerships, strengthened climate finance mobilization and mainstreaming climate change in FAO areas of work. Coherence and collaboration need to be ensured between the SCC and the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and its PPAs, and other FAO recent strategies[41] and the country programming frameworks. The Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment is responsible for the internal coordination of FAO's climate-related work and will facilitate interactions and links with other FAO units, decentralized offices and programmes to promote efficiency and avoid duplication. The SCC implementation will be aligned with the FAO data protection policy currently under development. Finally, the implementation of the FAO Corporate Environmental Responsibility Strategy 2020-2030 will contribute to the reduction of FAO's own carbon footprint.

ii. Access to climate finance is scaled up. It is key to integrate climate change considerations into domestic and international financing for agrifood systems development, including crops and livestock, forests and land use, fisheries and aquaculture. FAO will promote the provision of international and domestic climate finance and investments to agrifood systems. Vertical funds, in particular from the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Adaptation Fund (AF) and multilateral development banks, together with other multilateral and bilateral funds, will continue to play an important role in strengthening FAO's impact on the ground. Innovative climate finance opportunities will be explored, particularly in the context of the mechanisms being developed under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Aligning with the FAO Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-2025, collaboration with the private sector will also be promoted through innovative partnerships and investments. FAO will support the preparation, implementation and monitoring of the projects of Members who request such support in order to increase the scale, scope and pace of their climate action. FAO will continue to use its unique comparative advantage to marshal climate finance for countries in a way that links global, regional, national and local priorities and helps to drive the climate agenda forward.

[41] Such as, the FAO Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-2025, the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors, the Vision and Strategy for FAO Work in Nutrition, the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy

IV. Three Pillars for enhanced action

44. The SCC focuses on the three mutually reinforcing strategic Pillars set out below. The "accelerators" of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, namely technology, innovation, data and complements (governance, human capital and institutions) as well as cross-cutting themes of gender, youth and inclusion, are all reflected in these Pillars. As part of the Action Plan, a dedicated communication plan for the general public and specialized audiences will support the implementation of the Pillars.

A. GLOBAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS: Strengthening global and regional climate policy and governance

45. This Pillar focuses on FAO's global and regional advocacy to make inclusive agrifood systems part of the solution to climate change, with the following expected outcomes:

- *Considerations of food security, nutrition, agrifood systems, natural resources and livelihoods are fully addressed in the international climate, environment, disaster risk, humanitarian and development agendas as part of the solution to address climate change, and climate finance for agrifood systems is supportive.*
- *The global community, countries and partners have access to and utilize data, science, evidence, tools, protocols, guidelines and standards related to climate change and agrifood systems that are collected and developed by FAO and partners, including for monitoring and reporting [at Member's request] climate vulnerability and risk analyses, barriers to adaptation and adaptation cost analysis, assessment models and good practices and policies on climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation.*

46. There is an urgent need to step up the debate on climate action in the areas of crops and livestock production, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, related value chains and the livelihoods dependent on these sectors, food security and nutrition, water management and the sustainable management and restoration of terrestrial and marine ecosystems. This can be facilitated by FAO's strengthened advocacy at regional and global levels. With these actions, FAO aims to contribute to higher profiling of agrifood systems as part of essential climate solutions, including leveraging necessary climate financing.[42] At the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP 26), countries agreed to continue working on the areas of policy discussion of the Koronivia joint work on agriculture[43] and strengthen ocean-based action[44] where aquatic food production has a critical role to play.

47. FAO is recognized for its trusted advisory role at international level regarding developmental and environmental processes, including the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, CBD, UNCCD, the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. FAO's advocacy and support has been crucial in successfully advancing some UNFCCC actions, including through the Koronivia joint work on agriculture, supporting the integration of agriculture in NDCs and NAPs, REDD+[45] activities and the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action. Upon request, FAO will continue supporting UNFCCC work and negotiation streams, subsidiary and constituted bodies (Adaptation Committee, Least Developed Countries Expert Group), and the enhanced transparency framework and the global stocktake under the Paris Agreement, in aspects relevant to agrifood systems.

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[42] Buto, O., Galbiati, G.M., Alekseeva, N. and Bernoux, M. 2021. *Climate Finance in the Agriculture and Land Use Sector – Global and Regional Trends between 2000 and 2018*. Rome, FAO.

[43] See UNFCCC documents FCCC/SBI/2021/16, paragraphs 42–53, and FCCC/SBSTA/2021/3, paragraphs 43-54.

[44] UNFCCC decision 1/CP.26, paragraphs 60-61.

[45] Reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (UNFCCC decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70).

48. Furthermore, it is important to recognize that climate change and biodiversity loss are interconnected challenges that should be addressed jointly. FAO can raise awareness and provide technical expertise at global, regional and national levels to enable coherence of climate and biodiversity planning, including through support to the development and implementation of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

49. **FAO will support the integration of agrifood systems in climate action by:**

- **continuing to engage in global and regional climate change and other fora** to advocate for and promote efficient, inclusive, resilient, low-emission and sustainable agrifood systems as part of the solution to address climate change, biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation and part of a broader sustainability agenda;
- **supporting Members and partners in the identification, formulation, implementation and monitoring of relevant global and regional initiatives and pledges**, including those launched at COP 26 (Global Methane Pledge, Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use and the African Union Green Recovery Action Plan), and in the preparations for the forthcoming sessions of the UNFCCC COP;
- **continuing to facilitate better integration of agrifood systems considerations**, including crops, livestock, forests, fisheries, aquaculture and related value chains, ecosystems and livelihoods in the key workstreams under UNFCCC;
- **advocating for building the food-water-energy-forest nexus** to improve access to sustainable energy and energy efficiency and to enhance sustainable water management for adaptation across all agrifood systems;
- **continuing to advocate for** blue food systems/aquatic food systems, which better integrate the sustainable use of marine living resources with other uses of the ocean; and
- **advocating to ensure that the climate and environment financing agenda recognize and support** the contribution of sustainable agrifood systems to climate action.

50. **FAO will promote innovation and collaboration by:**

- **scaling up and expanding agricultural innovation**, including through engagement in global and regional partnerships and initiatives such as but not limited to the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate and the Global Action Agenda for Innovation in Agriculture, and aligning with the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy; and
- **fostering dialogue, interaction and exchange** of stakeholders across agrifood systems and other sectors affected by climate change, and biodiversity, environment and humanitarian development agendas.

51. **FAO will enable and enhance the use of data, information, digitalization and science to trigger action by:**

- **generating, collecting, analysing, validating, harmonizing and making accessible open data** as well as best available science, information, knowledge, good practices, innovations, tools and technologies (utilizing and building on existing FAO tools, including Ex-Act, GLEAM and FAOSTAT data) on climate change, adaptation and mitigation across agrifood systems to the global community, partners and decision-makers at different levels;
- **updating the knowledge base on the impacts of climate change on agrifood systems,** identifying and closing global knowledge gaps and balancing potential trade-offs between climate and other SDGs;
- **contributing to science and evidence generation for carbon sequestration** in croplands, pastures, rangelands, forests, peatlands and other wetlands, oceans and other aquatic environments, reducing CO_2, CH_4 and N_2O emissions from agrifood systems, as

appropriate, and if applicable, supporting the design of carbon market mechanisms for agrifood systems that are inclusive and accessible to agrifood producers; and

- **mainstreaming consideration of climate risks into FAO corporate systems and programming** through the identification of climate risks as a separate standard in FAO's upgraded environmental and social safeguards system and their integration into FAO's project cycle.

B. COUNTRY-LEVEL: Developing countries' capacities for climate action

52. FAO works as a catalyst for its Members to identify, prioritize and achieve their climate objectives for agrifood systems. This Pillar focuses on context-specific, transformative and country-driven climate action often backed up by partnering and collaboration, leveraging financing and strengthening sustainable agrifood systems as part of the solution to address climate change, with the following expected outcomes:

- *FAO Members implement, monitor and report their climate commitments as outlined in their agrifood system strategies and/or climate change strategies, link them with the other commitments and tracking for sustainable development, including through their regular reporting to UNFCCC under the enhanced transparency framework and other international reporting frameworks.*
- *FAO Members mainstream climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation in their policies and legislation, plans, programmes, practices and domestic and international investments across agrifood systems, including through FAO country programming frameworks and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.*

53. While addressing climate change challenges at the country level, effective synergies and links are explored between climate change and agrifood relevant areas such as disaster risk reduction, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including protection of pollinators, ecosystem restoration, soil health and erosion control, plant and animal health, integrated land and water resources management, energy efficiency, land tenure and collective territorial rights, ocean acidification, combating desertification, halting deforestation and land degradation, and improved food security, safety and nutrition.

54. **FAO will enhance its assistance to:**

- **support countries in developing their capacities in climate change negotiations** under the UNFCCC umbrella, at their request, including for designing, implementing and updating national commitments related to transforming agrifood systems and reversing biodiversity loss, including in NDCs, NAPs, REDD+ strategies and long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies;
- **support countries in strengthening their research, extension, training institutions and innovation systems** in line with the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy in order to better respond to climate change challenges, including identifying, developing and disseminating country-specific and locally adapted solutions as well as preparedness to handle and recover from climate disasters;
- **support countries in scaling up anticipatory action, early warning systems, analysis and planning** to contribute to building resilience and to the humanitarian-development-peace nexus;
- **enhance countries' capacities to generate, collect, monitor, analyse and report, and utilize the data and information** needed for climate action and advance digitalization, including geographic information system (GIS) technologies; and
- **support countries at their request in setting baselines, monitoring and reporting** on progress in their climate commitments, including through supporting the development of monitoring and evaluation, and emissions and carbon sequestration measuring, reporting and verification systems, including CO_2 and other greenhouse gas metrics

under the enhanced transparency framework and other international reporting frameworks.

55. **FAO will enhance partnerships and access to climate financing by:**

- **providing support to countries to access financial resources to carry out adaptation and mitigation measures at scale** through leveraging evolving financing sources and mechanisms;
- **providing support to countries to prioritize and allocate international and domestic finance to climate action across agrifood systems**; and
- **providing support to countries to identify and establish strategic public and private partnerships** with regional, national and local organizations, including farmers' organizations, civil society, RBAs and other United Nations agencies, research organizations and financial institutions and through South–South and Triangular Cooperation for accelerating climate action.

56. **FAO will promote adoption of good practices and innovative solutions by:**

- **providing support for identifying and scaling up existing good practices and innovative technological, social, policy, legislative, financial and institutional solutions** in support of climate action; and
- **supporting countries in building synergies and addressing trade-offs** between short- and longer-term climate action measures and outcomes, as well as climate action and action under relevant SDGs, including through agroecological and other innovative approaches[46] , integrated landscape and ecosystem approaches, noting that there are many approaches to sustainable agriculture production and value-chain development.

57. **FAO will mainstream equality and inclusiveness with a view to ensuring that no one is left behind:**

- **through promoting livelihood** opportunities, inclusiveness, effective integration and engagement of women, youth and legitimate tenure rights holders, including Indigenous Peoples, marginalized and minority groups and persons with disabilities, in country-level climate planning, decision-making and action; and through providing technical, legal and policy support for inclusive and gender-transformative climate policies, legislation and action; and
- **through supporting countries particularly at risk** and affected by the changing climate, especially small island developing States, the least developed countries and **landlocked developing countries, in developing specific resilience and adaptation** actions.

58. **FAO will provide policy and legal support by:**

- **promoting the mainstreaming of climate change considerations** into national and subnational policies, legal and institutional frameworks, strategies and development and financing plans and budgeting across agrifood systems, national social protection systems and other key sectors, as appropriate;
- **supporting countries at their request in incorporating agrifood systems considerations** into their national strategies and plans, including NAPs, NDCs, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies, disaster risk reduction plans and humanitarian response plans;
- **supporting countries at their request in integrating overlapping climate and biodiversity considerations** into relevant national plans (NDCs, NAPs, National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies, land-degradation neutrality targets) and coherently integrate biodiversity in NDCs and climate objectives in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans; and,

[46] Innovative approaches including among others, sustainable intensification, no-till farming, organic agriculture, and all other innovations and technologies to promote sustainable agrifood systems.

- **promoting policy and legal reforms** that support and enable climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation.

C. LOCAL LEVEL: Scaling up climate action on the ground

59. This Pillar aims to accelerate FAO support in collaboration with and complementing the efforts of other agencies, including the RBAs, across agrifood systems for sustainable local development and empowerment, particularly for those women and men who are most at risk of the changing climate across agrifood systems, including rural, peri-urban and urban smallholder farmers, livestock keepers, pastoralists, foresters, forest-dependent people, fishers, aquaculturists, workers at different parts of food value chains, women's groups, youth, children, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, and marginalized and minority groups to gradually reduce vulnerability with the following expected outcomes:

- *Actors strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity through climate risk management and adaptation, especially in areas most vulnerable to climate change, reducing risks and enhancing sustainability of agrifood systems, ecosystems and related livelihoods.*
- *Actors contribute to low-emission development pathways through more resilient and adapted agrifood systems with mitigation co-benefits.*

60. FAO aims at inclusive and gender-transformative engagement of actors across agrifood systems and their communities, groups and value chains to improve access to knowledge, good practices, innovation and financing to promote sustainable local development while tackling food security and nutrition, climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation challenges, and taking other environmental and socioeconomic concerns into consideration. The solutions for small- and larger-scale farmers and other actors vary across locations and priorities, capacities and assets for adaptation and mitigation towards sustainable development. FAO will thus enable local stakeholders to directly benefit from the adoption of inclusive, climate-resilient and low-emission agrifood practices and approaches in farms, watersheds, landscapes and seascapes along the food value chains.

61. **FAO will support local actors by:**

- **empowering farmers, fishers and aquaculturists, forest managers, forest-dependent people, land managers, local groups and communities, and other local actors with knowledge and innovative solutions related to agrifood systems and climate change,** by promoting peer-to-peer learning (e.g. Farmer and Pastoralist Field Schools), other types of education, extension and training, the use of digital technologies to scale up knowledge exchange, lowering the barriers to adoption of good practices and enhancing access to and sustainable use of natural and financial resources; and
- **enhancing existing and developing new partnerships and initiatives, including through South–South and Triangular Cooperation** to support farmers and other local actors in identifying and engaging with relevant partners and, as appropriate, organizing themselves in groups, associations and cooperatives to be better positioned to take climate action.

62. **FAO will promote good practices and innovations by:**

- **providing support to climate risk management** through providing more accurate information on anticipated climate impacts at local level and making available low-cost, inclusive and easily accessible climate risk management measures, including early warning mechanisms;
- **exploring and promoting good adaptation practices and innovative approaches** and related co-benefits tailored to local conditions, landscapes and seascapes as well as to the needs of different groups, including women, men and youth, and integrating local and indigenous knowledge;
- **exploring and promoting low emission results**, including for CO_2, CH_4 and N_2O emission reduction and carbon sequestration, as appropriate, while considering potential

trade-offs, risks of maladaptation and transition risks associated with moving towards low-greenhouse gas development pathways;

- **sharing of good practices from sustainable and inclusive business models** across agrifood systems; and
- **raising awareness and developing capacities among local actors, groups and communities,** including those of Indigenous Peoples, to better understand and benefit from climate financing, such as evolving carbon market opportunities for the agricultural sectors, including carbon sequestration and offsetting schemes and other schemes of payment for environmental services, and related monitoring systems when made available.

V. Implementing the Strategy and measuring its success

63. FAO will implement the SCC based on its mandate and comparative advantage as the world's leading agrifood systems knowledge agency for normative work, technical cooperation, capacity development, policy and dialogue, and supporting action from global to local levels. FAO plays a key role in providing: i) international technical expertise across agrifood systems and natural resources management associated with an active presence in countries; ii) advocacy and normative roles influencing the international debate and global and regional agreements, as well as the development of guidelines, tools, approaches and standards in a neutral forum; iii) data collection and analysis to support informed policies and decision-making, and the development of indicators to monitor progress; iv) support to institutional development, governance and planning; and v) support to Members in mobilizing public and private resources, investment support and promotion of South-South cooperation. Furthermore, FAO offers an invaluable and neutral platform for the science-policy-practice interface, supporting the implementation of various international initiatives, agreements and treaties, and helping to put science into practice. FAO's normative role combined with its broad technical and policy expertise in natural resources management and all aspects of the agricultural sectors places FAO at the forefront of facilitating dialogue and exchange of experience and knowledge and supporting Members and partners in climate action across agrifood systems.

64. An Action Plan will be developed to guide the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031. To enable monitoring and reporting at Member countries' request on the progress and impact of the SCC implementation, the Action Plan will comprise outcomes, outputs, indicators, targets, timelines and responsibilities. This will entail setting specific indicators and targets for FAO's climate action that are adequately disaggregated to capture the effects and impacts of interventions on different population segments, including on men, women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and marginalized groups. These indicators and targets will – to the extent possible – be harmonized with those of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and its PPAs as well as the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs. They will also be aligned with the Paris Agreement milestones and the Sendai Framework monitoring system and with the ongoing work on the development of international adaptation metrics.

65. Furthermore, the Action Plan will set out the ways in which FAO will enhance its own operational modalities to deliver climate action under the three pillars of the Strategy in an efficient and coherent manner. In particular, the Action Plan will address the capacity development, resource mobilization, partnerships and communication needed for the SCC implementation. Based on a capacity needs assessment, the learning, knowledge and capacities of the FAO headquarters and decentralized offices will be addressed. A resources mobilization plan, including a core budget and external climate financing through diversified partnership and financing agreements, will be developed as part of the Action Plan. A targeted communication plan will be created to raise awareness of the links between climate change, poverty, inequality, food security and nutrition and reinforce FAO's leading role in addressing climate change across agrifood systems. Moreover, sharing existing knowledge, good practices and novel solutions to address climate challenges through efficient communication will enable timely climate action at different levels. Enhancing South-South and Triangular Cooperation and

expanding for example the use of the FAO Hand-in-Hand geospatial platform[47] are important for the exchange of information and knowledge, including the outcomes of research on tropical agriculture, forestry and fisheries among countries and agrifood systems actors.

66. Finally, the Action Plan will consider external stakeholders from a wide range of sectors to become key partners for the implementation of the Strategy at global, regional, national and local levels. Within FAO, climate work guided by the SCC and its Action Plan will involve all levels and units to ensure a shared ownership across the organization. The Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment will be responsible for the coordination of the implementation of FAO's climate work across the organization and for monitoring and reporting on the progress and impact of the SCC implementation at corporate level.

67. The Council will discuss a mid-term review 5 years after the adoption of the SCC.

[47] https://www.fao.org/hih-geospatial-platform/en/about/index

ANNEX. Definition of terms as used in this document

Adaptive capacity *(IPCC, 2022a)*. The ability of systems, institutions, humans and other organisms to adjust to potential damage, to take advantage of opportunities, or to respond to consequences.

Agrifood systems *(FAO, 2021a)*. The agrifood system covers the journey of food from farm to table – including when it is grown, fished, harvested, processed, packaged, transported, distributed, traded, bought, prepared, eaten and disposed of. It also encompasses non-food products that also constitute livelihoods and all of the people as well as the activities, investments and choices that play a part in getting us these food and agricultural products. In the FAO Constitution, the term "agriculture" and its derivatives include fisheries, marine products, forestry and primary forestry products.

Agroecological approach *(FAO, 2019a).* Agroecology is one approach, among others, to contribute to feeding sustainably a growing population and support countries in achieving SDGs. Agroecology considers the interactions among key environmental, social and economic characteristics that are typical of diversified agricultural systems. It recognizes the great potential of knowledge sharing, and deepened understanding, that favour the behavioural changes in food systems that are required for sustainable agriculture to become a reality.

Biological diversity (*CBD, 1992).* The variability among living organisms from all sources, including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part: this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.

Capacity development *(FAO, 2019b).* System-wide capacity development aims to achieve more impactful, transformational and sustainable results at scale by enabling countries to own and lead their endogenous development process aligned with national priorities. Operationally, system-wide capacity development interdependently enables and empowers people, strengthens organizations, networks, collective action mechanisms and multi-stakeholder processes as well as fosters a more conducive enabling policy and governance environment.

Climate change *(IPCC, 2022a)*. A change in the state of the climate that can be identified (e.g., by using statistical tests) by changes in the mean and/or the variability of its properties and that persists for an extended period, typically decades or longer. Climate change may be due to natural internal processes or external forcings such as modulations of the solar cycles, volcanic eruptions and persistent anthropogenic changes in the composition of the atmosphere or in land use. Note that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), in its Article 1, defines climate change as: 'a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods'. The UNFCCC thus makes a distinction between climate change attributable to human activities altering the atmospheric composition and climate variability attributable to natural causes.

Climate change adaptation *(IPCC, 2022a)*. In human systems, the process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects, in order to moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities. In natural systems, the process of adjustment to actual climate and its effects; human intervention may facilitate adjustment to expected climate and its effects.

Climate change mitigation *(IPCC, 2022b).* A human intervention to reduce emissions or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases.

Climate extreme (extreme weather or climate event) (*IPCC, 2021*) The occurrence of a value of a weather or climate variable above (or below) a threshold value near the upper (or lower) ends of the range of observed values of the variable. By definition, the characteristics of what is called extreme weather may vary from place to place in an absolute sense. When a pattern of extreme weather persists for some time, such as a season, it may be classified as an extreme climate event, especially if it yields an average or total that is itself extreme (e.g., high temperature, drought, or heavy rainfall over a season).

Desertification *(UNCCD, 1994).* Land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas resulting from various factors, including climatic variations and human activities.

Disaster risk reduction *(UNGA, 2016).* Disaster risk reduction is aimed at preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and managing residual risk, all of which contribute to strengthening resilience and therefore to the achievement of sustainable development.

Ecosystem *(CBD, 1992).* A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.

Ecosystem approach *(CBD, 2000)*. The ecosystem approach is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way.

Emission *(UNFCCC, 1992).* Release of greenhouse gases and/or their precursors into the atmosphere over a specified area and period.

Greenhouse gases *(UNFCCC, 1992)*. Those gaseous constituents of the atmosphere, both natural and anthropogenic, that absorb and re-emit infrared radiation.

Healthy diet (adapted from *FAO et al. 2021*). Healthy diets are those diets that are of adequate quantity and quality to achieve optimal growth and development of all individuals and support functioning and physical, mental and social well-being at all life stages, and that help to protect against malnutrition in all its forms. The exact make-up of healthy diets varies depending on individual characteristics (e.g. age, gender, lifestyle). They are diversified, balanced and safe and should limit the intake of saturated and trans-fats, added sugars and sodium.

Innovation *(UNIN, 2019).* Innovation consists of doing something new and different whether solving an old problem in a new way, addressing a new problem with a proven solution, or bringing a new solution to a new problem. **Agricultural innovation** (*FAO, 2019c*) is the process whereby individuals or organizations bring new or existing products, processes or ways of organization into use for the first time in a specific context in order to increase effectiveness, competitiveness, resilience to shocks or environmental sustainability and thereby contribute to food security and nutrition, economic development or sustainable natural resource management. **In the context of agrifood systems, innovation** *(HLPE, 2019)* is used as a verb (to innovate) referring to the process by which individuals, communities or organizations generate changes in the design, production or recycling of goods and services, as well as changes in the surrounding institutional environment, that are new to their context and foster transitions towards sustainable food systems for food security and nutrition. Innovation is also used as a noun to refer to the changes generated by this process. Innovation includes changes in practices, norms, markets and institutional arrangements, which may foster new networks of food production, processing, distribution and consumption that may challenge the status quo.

Nutrition *(FAO, 2013a).* The intake of food and the interplay of biological, social and economic processes that influence the growth, function and repair of the body.

Partnership *(FAO, 2013b).* Cooperation and collaboration between FAO units and external parties in joint or coordinated action for a common purpose. It involves a relationship where all parties contribute to the output and the achievement of the objectives rather than a solely financial relationship.

Private sector *(FAO, 2021b).* FAO considers the private sector to encompass a broad array of entities, ranging from farmers, fishers and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperatives, farmers', fishers' or producers' organizations and social enterprises) to large firms, domestic and multinational companies and philanthropic foundations. This includes industry and trade associations and consortia that represent private sector interests. Any consortium, organization or foundation largely funded or governed by private entities will be considered private sector, as well as state-owned enterprises.

Resilience *(United Nations, 2021)*. Resilience is the ability of individuals, households, communities, cities, institutions, systems and societies to prevent, resist, absorb, adapt, respond and recover positively, efficiently and effectively when faced with a wide range of risks, while maintaining an acceptable level of functioning without compromising long-term prospects for sustainable development, peace and security, human rights and well-being for all.

Sink *(UNFCCC, 1992).* Any process, activity or mechanism which removes a greenhouse gas, an aerosol or a precursor of a greenhouse gas from the atmosphere.

Source *(UNFCCC, 1992).* Any process or activity which releases a greenhouse gas, an aerosol or a precursor of a greenhouse gas into the atmosphere.

Vulnerability *(UNGA, 2016).* The conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes which increase the susceptibility of an individual, a community, assets or systems to the impacts of hazards.

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Appendix D

FAO Science and Innovation Strategy

I. Background

1. The challenges facing agrifood systems[1] are significant, wide-ranging, and interlinked. The world's biggest and often inter-twined challenges include poverty and hunger, as well as inequality and lack of access to resources and income-earning opportunities, climate change, loss of biodiversity, ecosystem degradation and desertification, disasters and conflicts. Agrifood systems both contribute to, and endure the negative consequences of, the climate crisis and degraded natural resources and their transformation should be made in a coherent manner, as appropriate, in accordance with and dependent on national contexts and capacities. Realizing more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems is necessary to accelerate progress across most Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, and is a major pathway to achieving the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability.

2. A wide range of approaches, technologies[2] and practices exist that can contribute to transforming agrifood systems to nourish people, nurture the planet, advance equitable livelihoods and build resilient ecosystems. Science and innovation[3] underpin them all. Indeed, science and innovation can be a powerful engine to transform agrifood systems and end hunger and malnutrition when accompanied by strong institutions, good governance, political will, enabling regulatory frameworks, and effective measures to promote equity among agrifood system actors.

3. Both within and beyond agrifood systems, the landscape of science and innovation is continuously evolving and ushering in new opportunities for achieving the SDGs. Important strides have been made in a range of scientific and technological fields ranging from biotechnologies, nuclear techniques in food and agriculture, digital tools, nanotechnology, big data, data analytics, data science, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning – to advancements in the fields of ecology, agronomy, sociology of rural development, and innovations related to agroecology, agroforestry, and facing the challenges of climate change. Public-private partnerships are on the rise in research and development. At the same time, market concentration (in technologies, products, and intellectual property) has heightened concerns about gaps in income and access to resources and knowledge between and within countries and social groups.

4. Science and innovation are also emerging as prominent components of the evolving global development agenda. Science, technology and innovation are at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and appear in numerous SDG targets, and feature strongly in several regional commitments and strategies.[4] Further, the 2019 Global Sustainable Development Report identified science and technology as one of the levers for transformation that accelerate progress in achieving the SDGs while minimizing trade-offs.[5] In 2021, both the UN Secretary-General's Chair's Summary and Statement of Action on the UN Food Systems Summit[6] and the Glasgow Climate Pact[7] affirmed the need to invest in science and innovation for the SDGs and effective climate action, as also reflected in the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031.[8]

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[1] See Annex for description of key terms as they are used in this document.

[2] See Annex for description of key terms as they are used in this document.

[3] See Annex for description of key terms as they are used in this document.

[4] For example, the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024, which informs strategic directions for the Malabo Commitments and Agenda 2063.

[5] Independent Group of Scientists appointed by the Secretary-General, *Global Sustainable Development Report 2019: The Future is Now – Science for Achieving Sustainable Development*, United Nations, New York, 2019.

[6] The UN Secretary-General's Chair's Summary and Statement of Action on the UN Food Systems Summit does not constitute a negotiated document. https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit/news/making-food-systems-work-people-planet-and-prosperity

[7] UNFCCC. 2021. The Glasgow Climate Pact.https://ukcop26.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/COP26-Presidency-Outcomes-The-Climate-Pact.pdf

[8] The FAO Strategy on Climate Change will be considered by the Programme Committee at its 133rd Session and by the Council at its 170th Session.

5. As the UN specialized agency for food and agriculture, FAO is called upon to be a driving force for facilitating solutions to agrifood system challenges through science and innovation. The Organization is taking major steps to rise to the challenge of harnessing the transformative potential of science and innovation. In 2020, the first-ever position of Chief Scientist was established to join the core leadership team of the Director-General. A new Office of Innovation was also created to ensure that FAO leverages the use of innovation, technology and new approaches across the Organization. Technology and innovation are rising on the agenda of FAO Members: recent sessions of Governing Bodies, including the Regional Conferences and Technical Committees, have included issues related to science, technology and innovation as important agenda items.

6. A number of recent initiatives further demonstrate FAO's commitment to strengthening its leadership role on science and innovation for the transformation of agrifood systems. In 2020, FAO established the International Platform for Digital Food and Agriculture. FAO participates actively in the implementation of the Science, Technology and Innovation component of SDG 17.[9] As host of the Food Systems Coordination Hub, FAO has a key role in the UN Food Systems Summit follow-up, including through its work on science and innovation. Regional and country offices are moving forward with tailored and globally coordinated programmes, such as under the framework of the Hand-in-Hand Initiative and its Geospatial Platform, 1000 Digital Villages, and the Global Action on Green Development of Special Agricultural Products: One Country One Priority Product. FAO is also collaborating with other UN agencies on the elaboration of ethical issues raised by new technologies and innovations.[10]

7. The FAO Science and Innovation Strategy (the Strategy) aims to bolster these recent developments by providing Organization-wide guidance, coherence and alignment on science and innovation to better serve Members by strengthening FAO's capacities. The Strategy is a tool to support the delivery of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and hence the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (see Table 1 for an overview of the main elements of the Strategy).

8. The Science and Innovation Strategy will contribute to the implementation of the Strategy on Climate Change.

9. The Science and Innovation Strategy is aligned with the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across the Agricultural Sectors and they mutually reinforce each other.

10. The Science and Innovation Strategy aims to strengthen the linkages with existing science-policy interface mechanisms of the three Rio Conventions.

11. The Science and Innovation Strategy is aligned with the FAO Strategy for Private Sector Engagement.

12. With FAO's normative work on and support to standard setting (e.g Codex Alimentarius and IPPC) and within its mandate, the Science and Innovation Strategy can contribute to the multilateral trading system in line with the rules of the World Trade Organization.

13. The Science and Innovation Strategy promotes planning and implementation of gender transformative, youth-engaging, participatory and socially inclusive action, including strengthening of knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts of local communities and Indigenous Peoples in the development and use of science and innovation. Moreover, FAO emphasizes ensuring equal opportunities and sharing of benefits of science and innovation, engagement of women, youth and Indigenous Peoples debates relating to science and innovation and providing support to countries to reduce social exclusion, including through legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks.

[9] The 2030 Agenda's Technology Facilitation Mechanism and its UN Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation, in which FAO is an active member, provide a multi-stakeholder cooperation mechanism to promote coordination within the UN system.

[10] FAO contributed to the development of the Recommendation on the ethics of artificial intelligence, adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 2021. https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000380455

II. The role of FAO on science and innovation

14. FAO facilitates solutions to agrifood system challenges, with particular attention to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), including through science and innovation. In undertaking this work, FAO will avoid duplication with other organizations by clearly focusing on science and innovation for agrifood systems in alignment with its mandate[11] and core functions.[12]

15. Due to its unique position as a facilitator of intergovernmental processes, FAO provides a neutral platform and scientific analysis for exchange between countries and serves as an authoritative source of guidance through its indispensable work on norms and standards, regulatory frameworks, guidelines, codes of conduct and other standard setting instruments. FAO also synthesizes scientific knowledge and presents it to policy makers. It provides evidence and analysis, including on benefits, risks, trade-offs and potential for adaptation to different contexts, thus empowering Members to decide their development pathways. These functions underpin FAO's role of providing global public goods for agrifood systems.[13]

16. FAO provides information and shares knowledge and experiences among countries on the range of existing and emerging innovations. It provides support to countries on innovative technologies, policies, practices, processes, approaches, methodologies, tools, and platforms. It also implements projects at country level, using its technical expertise to assist small scale producers directly while ensuring that innovations are adapted to local needs and that no one is left behind. Being the foremost convening partner on science and innovation for agrifood systems, FAO is well-positioned to bring relevant stakeholders together in scaling up pilot initiatives. FAO's technical interventions allow it to learn lessons that will be incorporated into its normative guidance leading to more effective interventions in a continuous loop of learning and improvement.

17. While FAO is not a research organization, it is mandated to translate science and innovation into normative and policy guidance and practical tools for development. FAO has an important role in supporting the essential contribution of national, regional and international research organizations. FAO's Governing and Statutory Bodies provide an interface for science and policy. Finally, FAO has an important role in analysing and communicating the latest scientific evidence to Members and the public.

[11] FAO Constitution. Article I, paragraph 2. "The Organization shall promote and, where appropriate, shall recommend national and international action with respect to a) scientific, technological, social and economic research relating to nutrition, food and agriculture; b) the improvement of education and administration relating to nutrition, food and agriculture, and the spread of public knowledge of nutritional and agricultural science and practice." https://www.fao.org/3/mp046e/mp046e.pdf

[12] FAO's core functions are described in the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, paragraph 43. https://www.fao.org/3/cb7099en/cb7099en.pdf

[13] FAO provides a range of global public goods. For example, the Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS) is the world's leading source of information on global food production, consumption and trade. It continuously monitors the food security situation in every country of the world and alerts the world to emerging food shortages. A further example is the courses offered by the FAO elearning Academy.

Table 1: Goal, pillars, outcomes and enablers of the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy

GOAL

Members harness science and innovation to realize context-specific and systemic solutions for MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for *better production, better nutrition,* a *better environment,* and a *better life,* leaving no one behind, in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

PILLARS	OUTCOMES			ENABLERS
Strengthening science and evidence-based decision-making	1. Agrifood systems knowledge and evidence enhanced	3. Science-policy interfaces for agrifood systems strengthened	2. Research for development strengthened	**Transformative partnerships** **Innovative funding and financing**
Supporting innovation and technology at regional and country level	1. Access to, and use of, inclusive, affordable and context-specific innovations and technologies aiming at achieving sustainable agrifood systems by small-scale producers, family farmers and other agrifood systems actors enhanced	3. Capacities of national agrifood innovation systems to prioritize, co-create, and scale appropriate innovations and technologies aiming at achieving sustainable agrifood systems strengthened	2. National capacity to design, implement and evaluate strategies, policies and regulatory frameworks on science, technology and innovation strengthened	
Serving Members better by reinforcing FAO's capacities	1. Knowledge management and exchange of information and experiences enhanced across the Organization	2. Science communication enhanced	3. FAO capacities to enable science and innovation enhanced across the Organization	

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Rights-based and people-centered; 2. Gender-equal; 3. Evidence-based; 4. Needs-driven**;** 5. Sustainability-aligned; 6. Risk-informed, 7. Ethics-based

III. Vision

18. A world free from hunger and malnutrition, where the potential of science and innovation is fully leveraged to overcome complex social, economic and environmental challenges of agrifood systems in a globally equitable, inclusive and sustainable manner.

IV. Goal

19. Members harness science and innovation to realize context-specific and systemic solutions for MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for *better production*, *better nutrition*, a *better environment*, and a *better life*, leaving no one behind, in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

V. Scope

20. The FAO Science and Innovation Strategy facilitates coherence of the Organization's extensive and ongoing work on science and innovation, which is articulated through the PPAs, accelerators and cross-cutting themes. It seeks to be consistent with, and to mutually reinforce, FAO strategic documents,[14] including the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031,[15] as well as relevant platforms. As a tool to deliver the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, the Strategy considers all innovations that are needed to deliver the 20 PPAs.

21. The Strategy covers all sectors and areas of agrifood systems, including crop, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture – from natural resource management, to production, storage, transportation, marketing, consumption, and food losses and waste.

22. The full range of scientific disciplines (i.e. the natural, social, economic and applied sciences) are considered relevant, as well as sustainability science, interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity in order to address systemic challenges in a holistic manner.

23. FAO recognizes the need for a diversity of innovations (technological [including digital], social, policy, financial, and institutional). The knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and small-scale producers is recognized as an important source of innovation for agrifood systems and is considered within the scope of the Strategy.

24. Particular attention is given to the needs of LMICs, including Small-Island Developing States, focusing on small-scale producers, family farmers, Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, and other under-represented agrifood systems actors, including micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), in order to accelerate progress towards the achievement of the SDGs.

25. FAO will consider the importance of the specificities of global, regional, national, and local contexts when implementing the Strategy to ensure that all types of knowledge, science and innovation are accessible and adaptable to local realities.

26. Data is an integral part of science- and evidence-based decision-making. FAO's strategic priorities on data are articulated in the plan for the modernization of FAO statistics[16] and the proposal for improved governance of FAO statistical activities.[17] The FAO Science and Innovation Strategy complements these initiatives, and will be implemented in strict compliance with the FAO policies on protection of data and intellectual property rights, currently under development.

[14] Other FAO strategies include: the Strategy for FAO's Work in Nutrition. https://www.fao.org/3/ne853en/ne853en.pdf, the FAO Strategy for Mainstreaming Biodiversity across the Agricultural Sectors. https://www.fao.org/3/ca7722en/ca7722en.pdf, the FAO Policy on Gender Equality 2020-2030. https://www.fao.org/3/cb1583en/cb1583en.pdf, and the Rural Youth Action Plan. https://www.fao.org/3/ng776e/ng776e.pdf

[15] The FAO Strategy on Climate Change will be considered by the Programme Committee at its 133rd Session and by the Council at its 170th Session.

[16] Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on recent developments in agricultural and rural statistics, 2020. E/CN.3/2020/1.

[17] Proposal for improved governance of FAO statistical activities, 2021. https://www.fao.org/3/ng778e/ng778e.pdf

VI. Theory of change

27. The strategic deployment of science and innovation is a central and significant enabling factor for agrifood system transformation and ultimately, contributes to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the three inter-linked dimensions of sustainability. FAO recognizes that countries have diverse challenges, needs and capacities with respect to science and innovation, including in relation to infrastructure, levels of education and technical capacities. At the same time, there are major common challenges at national, regional and global levels. Addressing these challenges requires the coordinated efforts of a range of actors, with FAO playing a key role in the provision of global public goods, knowledge, guidance, coordination and policy coherence.

28. Achieving the Strategy's vision means that all countries have access to the science and innovation they need to overcome complex social, economic and environmental challenges of agrifood systems. To achieve this vision in a globally equitable, inclusive and sustainable manner means that under-represented stakeholders – in particular small-scale producers, including women and youth – are actively included in processes of developing and using science and innovation.

29. The challenges in harnessing science and innovation for agrifood systems range from under-investment in research, lack of accessibility and uptake of innovations, and gaps in using science and evidence for decision-making. Among other inequalities, the highly uneven global distribution of scientific capacity and access to knowledge threatens to derail the 2030 Agenda.[18]

30. After a decade of slow growth in the 1990s, global investments in agricultural research grew by 50 percent during 2000–2016, mostly driven by large middle-income countries. During the same period, public sector spending in high-income countries stalled while private sector investments in agricultural research doubled. Nevertheless, the public sector continues to play a key role in setting policy frameworks, investing in research in basic sciences and in topics with lower financial returns in the short-term (a key feature of small-scale production systems).[19]

31. Providing the science and evidence base for policy making faces numerous challenges. Science and evidence are essential for sound decision-making, but do not necessarily provide a singular course of action. Scientific findings may be limited by insufficient data, uncertainties, contrasting results, and can be contested. Decision-making is often influenced by a variety of both structural and behavioral drivers and barriers as well as numerous stakeholders with diverse values and with significant power asymmetries.

32. There is a gap between existing science, innovation and technologies, and their accessibility and uptake at local level – particularly in LMICs and among small-scale producers. Most recently, the digital divide has become a key concern for many countries. A key challenge for science and innovation in agrifood systems is the strategic importance of responding to the needs of a diversity of local contexts, including the needs of the large number of small-scale producers and family farmers. In addition, there is under-investment in national agrifood innovation systems, which are crucial to adapting innovations to local contexts. Public extension systems have been neglected over the last two decades. National policies and regulatory frameworks on science and innovation are challenged by fast-paced changes to technologies and legal frameworks.

33. FAO will address these challenges by focusing on strengthening science- and evidence-based decision-making at global, regional and national levels and by supporting innovation and technology at country level. To enable progress on these priorities, FAO will strengthen transformative partnerships and innovative funding and financing. In addition, FAO will take the necessary steps to ensure that it has the capacities needed to deliver on these priorities for its Members. A more complete description of FAO's intended interventions is included under the section on the pillars, outcomes, and enablers below.

34. The Strategy is based on several assumptions, including strong mobilization of resources through voluntary contributions to ensure impact on the ground (including unearmarked funds to support a programmatic approach), enabling policies, the disposition of stakeholders to collaborate,

[18] Independent Group of Scientists appointed by the Secretary-General, *Global Sustainable Development Report 2019: The Future is Now – Science for Achieving Sustainable Development,* United Nations, New York, 2019.

[19] Beintema, N., Nin Pratt, A., and Stads, G. 2020. Key trends in global agricultural research investment. International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, DC.

developing transformative partnerships, and continued prioritization of the science and innovation agenda by countries.

VII. Guiding principles

35. The guiding principles aim to ensure that FAO harnesses science and innovation in alignment with global values, including the five inter-dependent principles that underscore the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership.[20] The guiding principles are inter-linked and will guide all of the Organization's science and innovation-related work in line with Agenda 2030.

i. **Rights-based and people-centered**. FAO maintains that science and innovation must contribute to a *better life*, leaving no one behind, through the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security. This requires equitable access to science and innovation, investments and participation in decision-making for small-scale producers, family farmers, Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, consumers and other under-represented agrifood systems actors. FAO will therefore ensure their meaningful and informed engagement in all its work related to science and innovation.

ii. **Gender-equal**. FAO aims to achieve equality and equity between women and men in agrifood systems for the elimination of hunger and poverty. In its approach to science and innovation, FAO will consider the heterogeneous roles of women and men and ensure that its interventions respond to the needs of women as well as men, including by promoting women's inclusion and providing equal decision-making power to shape relevant legal frameworks, policies, programmes and initiatives.

iii. **Evidence-based**. FAO's technical work and normative guidance will be based on the most credible, relevant and legitimate evidence available, including findings from scientific research in the natural and social sciences – including systemic approaches, such as sustainability science, interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity – as well as the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and small-scale producers. Evidence will be assessed in a rigorous, transparent and neutral manner.

iv. **Needs-driven**. FAO recognizes that countries are at different levels of harnessing science and innovation and have diverse needs, priorities and capacities and will thus avoid a one-size-fits-all approach. A participatory, needs-driven and problem-focused approach to science and innovation will be adopted to ensure that science and innovation are adapted to local, national and regional contexts, responding to the needs of small-scale producers and other under-represented groups and securing ownership at national level.[21]

v. **Sustainability-aligned**. FAO will support innovations that have been shown to enhance sustainability by respecting its social, economic and environmental dimensions through analysis of synergies and trade-offs, impact assessments, and monitoring and evaluation.

vi. **Risk-informed**. Science and innovation can best be harnessed for development when risks are identified and mitigated. FAO recognizes the importance of assessing potential benefits and risks of using new technologies and innovations– including unintended consequences – based on the three dimensions of sustainability[22] according to evidence-based, transparent and rigorous processes.

vii. **Ethics-based**. FAO recognizes the importance of considering ethical issues related to science and innovation within its mandate, [23] including the need for transparency, accountability,[24] managing conflicts of interest, avoiding potential for harm, protecting the

[20] United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), 2015. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. UN Doc A/RES/70/1.
[21] In line with paragraph 25. e) of the Report of the 168th Session of the FAO Council.
[22] In line with paragraph 25. j) of the Report of the 168th Session of the FAO Council.
[23] In line with paragraph 25. k) of the Report of the 168th Session of the FAO Council.
[24] In line with paragraph 25. d) of the Report of the 168th Session of the FAO Council.

knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and small-scale producers,[25] and respecting the importance of Free Prior and Informed Consent of Indigenous Peoples, as applicable. It will establish mechanisms to provide guidance on any relevant ethical, legal, scientific and social issues in its work.[26]

VIII. Pillars

36. The Strategy is built on three inter-dependent and mutually reinforcing pillars that define its thematic priorities. The pillars define pathways to contribute to the overall goal of the Strategy and will thus incorporate an integrated approach to achieving *better production, better nutrition*, a *better environment*, and a *better life*, leaving no one behind. Action under the pillars will contribute to nine outcomes which will be catalysed by two cross-cutting enablers (transformative partnerships and innovative funding and financing). The enablers are key to delivering each of the outcomes (Table 1). The guiding principles of the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy will be mainstreamed in each of the outcomes through appropriate mechanisms.

A. Pillar 1: Strengthening science and evidence-based decision-making

37. In recent years, Members have reiterated the essential role of FAO's scientific and evidence-based normative and standard-setting work and called for its normative work to be based on robust scientific evidence and risk analysis principles.[27] Although FAO is not a research organization, it contributes to strengthening the link between science, research and development at national, regional and global levels,[28] and responds to the need for science-based and accessible information materials.[29]

38. FAO manages a range of global databases and knowledge portals, and strengthens national and regional institutional capacities to generate, collect and use relevant information and data.[30] Efforts are underway to break down silos and support systemic approaches.[31]

39. Due to its unique position as a facilitator of intergovernmental processes, FAO provides an essential and neutral platform for exchange between countries, allows Members to establish international consensus on global policy issues related to science and innovation, serves as an authoritative source of guidance, and supports the development of new codes of practice, guidelines and standards. FAO has many opportunities to strengthen the interface between science and policy, including through its Governing and Statutory Bodies.[32]

40. Three outcomes are grouped under this pillar to further enhance FAO's efforts to strengthen science- and evidence-based decision-making:

i. Agrifood systems knowledge and evidence enhanced. FAO will strengthen its provision of global public goods by reinforcing its work to generate, collate, analyse and widely

[25] As requested by the 168th Session of the FAO Council (paragraph 25. b) of the report). Protection of local and indigenous knowledge can entail ensuring that it is appropriately credited, acknowledged, and compensated and that the resulting knowledge is transferred back to those sources, as recommended by the UNESCO World Conference on Science, Declaration on Science and the Use of Scientific Knowledge, 1999 (paragraph 26)

[26] FAO will take into consideration UNESCO guidance on ethics in science, including the UNESCO Conference Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers, 2017. https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000260889.page=116

[27] Report of the 42nd Session of the Conference of FAO, 2021. https://www.fao.org/3/ng170en/ng170en.pdf, and Report of the 41st Session of the Conference of FAO, 2019. https://www.fao.org/3/na421en/na421en.pdf

[28] For example, FAO hosts the Secretariat of the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) which was formed with a coalition of 52 partners from various stakeholder groups to strengthen the capacity of agricultural innovation systems by consolidating the different approaches of agricultural innovation.

[29] For example, in 2021 FAO launched the Information Toolkit on Food Biotechnologies with a Focus on Food Safety.

[30] For example, the FAO platform, Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA), provides free or low-cost online access to academic and professional peer-reviewed content related to food and agriculture through a public-private partnership with up to 150 of the world's leading science publishers.

[31] For example, FAO's manages early warning systems on animal, plant, aquaculture, and forest health risks, which will be integrated under the One Health PPA.

[32] The High Level Panel of Experts of the Committee on World Food Security, whose Secretariat is hosted at FAO, is a prominent example of an inclusive science-policy interface. Other expert bodies and platforms include the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) and the Global-Hub on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems.

disseminate information and knowledge on an ongoing basis at national, regional and global levels, through interoperable platforms. It will reinforce multi-stakeholder platforms and facilitation mechanisms for sharing countries' experiences on issues related to science and innovation. Knowledge on emerging technologies, including synergies, trade-offs and possible benefits and risks, will be reinforced and shared. FAO will establish systems that incorporate multi-disciplinary knowledge for strengthened science- and evidence-based decision-making. It will create platforms for comprehensive mappings of existing science, technology and innovation initiatives, mechanisms, and programmes within and beyond FAO. A more coherent approach to assessing the quality of science and evidence will be promoted. Countries will be supported to better prepare for alternative plausible futures by strengthening strategic participatory foresight, and continuous, rigorous, and systematic horizon scanning and scenario-building exercises. FAO will strengthen its presence in UN scientific assessments to highlight issues related to agrifood systems, food security and nutrition.

ii. Science-policy interfaces for agrifood systems strengthened.[33] FAO will strengthen its contribution to science-policy interfaces (SPIs) at national, regional and global levels to support organized dialogue between scientists, policy-makers and other relevant stakeholders in support of inclusive science-based policy making for greater policy coherence, shared ownership and collective action. The added value of FAO's contribution is to focus at national and regional levels in addition to the global level, to address issues that are relevant to agrifood systems taking into account as appropriate information and analyses produced by existing SPIs, such as the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and to enable ongoing and effective dialogue through the institutional architecture provided by the FAO Governing Bodies. *Ad hoc* interdisciplinary and regionally balanced scientific committees of global experts will be established on key issues to respond to Members' needs for information and analysis. Based on robust science and evidence, FAO will strive to provide understanding of the differences of view on contentious scientific issues, and help to explain areas of disagreement in order to support continued dialogue and convergence. In support of open dialogue, FAO will consider in its analyses the varied and sometimes competing needs, goals and interests of different agrifood system actors.

iii. Research for development strengthened.[34] FAO will strengthen its cooperation with national, regional and international agrifood research organizations, such as CGIAR and AIRCA,[35] and relevant global inter-governmental organizations, to maximize collective impact while leveraging the comparative advantages and building on the institutional strengths of each partner organization. FAO will promote public investments in research and support the strengthening of capacities of regional, national and local research and higher education institutions – both formal and informal,[36] while building on existing networks, programs and partnerships. Co-creation and co-innovation approaches that promote dialogue between scientific knowledge and local knowledge will be promoted. The participation of beneficiaries of research throughout the entire research cycle, including setting research agendas and developing demand-driven participatory research and systemic approaches, will be promoted to ensure effective outcomes that are adapted to the local context and respond to the need of small-scale producers. Centres of excellence, global networks, reference centres and mutual learning processes between national, regional and international research organizations will be supported. Working through reinvigorated partnerships with the full range of relevant actors, FAO will co-develop a shared global agenda on science and innovation in agrifood systems.

[33] The term 'Science-Policy Interface' refers to mechanisms for organized dialogue between scientists, policy-makers and other relevant stakeholders in support of inclusive science-based policy making. Effective science-policy interfaces are characterized by relevance, legitimacy, transparency, inclusivity, and ongoing and effective dialogue through an appropriate institutional architecture.

[34] Research for development demonstrates a clear path to impact development outcomes and includes crisis situations.

[35] CGIAR is a global partnership that unites organizations engaged in research for a food-secure future, and AIRCA is the Association of International Research and Development Centers of Agriculture.

[36] In line with paragraph 25. n) of the Report of the 168th Session of the FAO Council.

B. Pillar 2: Supporting innovation and technology at regional and country level

41. The need to accelerate impact at country level to achieve the SDGs is highlighted in the FAO Strategic Framework. Supporting the development and uptake of innovations (technological (including digital), social, policy, financial, and institutional), plays a decisive role in this effort. Regional cooperation plays an important role in supporting country level action by facilitating mutual learning processes among countries with shared features. Synergies between regions will be harnessed through inter-regional cooperation on key issues of common interest.

42. FAO provides information and shares technologies, innovations, good practices and case studies, and assists in their adaptation to local contexts. It also provides support to countries on innovative methodologies and tools. While many actors are involved in piloting, FAO's considerable convening capacity gives it the potential of playing a major role, in partnership with other relevant actors, in scaling up pilot initiatives. It also has an important role in ensuring that the uptake of innovation and technology is adapted to local needs and contexts and that no one is left behind. FAO's technical interventions allow it to learn lessons that are incorporated into its normative guidance which then improve technical interventions in a continuous loop of learning and improvement.

43. This pillar will reinforce FAO's role in supporting innovation and technology at regional and country level through:

i. Access to, and use of, inclusive, affordable and context-specific innovations and technologies aiming at achieving sustainable agrifood systems by small-scale producers, family farmers and other agrifood system actors enhanced. FAO will deliver updated information about the full range of technological, social, policy, financial and institutional innovations, including evidence of their effectiveness in given contexts. It will develop evidence-based guidance on options for accessing innovations and technologies with sustainable institutional and business models, and support access for small-scale producers and MSMEs across the agrifood system, in particular women and youth. Guidance will be provided on overcoming barriers such as infrastructure, affordability and education, as well as on the institutions that need to be in place to ensure that innovations are inclusive. FAO will work with the private sector to promote incentive mechanisms to make appropriate new technologies accessible in LMICs. Equitable access to education, information and innovations will be promoted through adequate services, including advisory and rural communication services. Innovative, timely and coherent communication and dissemination of available innovations, technologies and good practices will be enhanced.

ii. Capacities of national agrifood innovation systems to prioritize, co-create, and scale appropriate innovations and strengthened technologies aiming at achieving sustainable agrifood systems. FAO will assist countries in increasing the capacity of agrifood innovation systems for the co-creation, local adaptation and uptake of innovations through a rigorous approach to the prioritization of innovations and technologies, in line with the guiding principles of this Strategy. Evidence of risks will be assessed and possible risks of the introduction of technologies will be mitigated through the application of the Environmental and Social Management Guidelines. The introduction of new technologies will be informed by relevant UN guidance. FAO will promote co-creation and co-innovation approaches in national agrifood innovation systems. Working in collaboration with its partners, it will promote coordinated pluralistic extension and advisory services that support farmer-to-farmer knowledge sharing. FAO will support the establishment and strengthening of national and regional innovation platforms and hubs for knowledge sharing and capacity development for innovation.

iii. National capacity to design, implement and evaluate strategies, policies and regulatory frameworks on science, technology and innovation strengthened. FAO will provide guidance to countries, upon requests, on national policies and regulatory frameworks, institutional arrangements and governance systems for strengthening science and innovation for sustainable agrifood systems. It will provide guidance on dealing with opportunities and challenges posed by new technologies. FAO will promote policies and incentives that create the conditions for innovation to flourish at local, national and regional levels, supported through enhanced regional cooperation, and include consideration of how to identify and

manage trade-offs resulting from science and innovation interventions. It will also support the development of national capacities for the implementation and evaluation of policies and frameworks.

C. Pillar 3: Serving Members better by reinforcing FAO's capacities

44. The Strategy is a tool to accelerate implementation of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, which underlines the need to reinforce FAO's capacities through a reinvigorated business model. Reinforcing FAO's capacities on science and innovation is an essential prerequisite for serving Members better and delivering the Strategy, and therefore constitutes its third pillar. While the focus of the Strategy is on FAO Members, the primary responsibility of implementing the Strategy rests with FAO, which acts in support of its Members. FAO will focus on enhanced knowledge management to improve access to information, improved science communication to provide clear messaging and facilitate informed debate, and enhancing its capacities across the Organization. The Strategy will focus on the following outcomes:

i. Knowledge management and exchange of information and experiences enhanced. Documentation and sharing of information on science and innovation will be enhanced across the Organization, from country to global level through improved knowledge management. FAO will ensure that all science- and innovation-focused knowledge products are easily accessible. Knowledge management will be designed to facilitate capturing project evaluations and feeding this into the design of new innovation-focused projects.

ii. Science communication improved. Science communication practices will be improved both within and by FAO to strengthen public awareness and debate, and support science- and evidence-based decision-making. Building on FAO's convening power, science and evidence- based exchange of knowledge will be fostered. Guidance will be provided on communication on new technologies and innovations and scientific uncertainties. Science communication will be timely, consistent and coherent. Special attention will be given to communication on contentious issues.

iii. FAO capacities to enable science and innovation enhanced across the Organization. FAO will strengthen the use of science and innovation across its programme of work, with particular attention to country offices. FAO's core capability as a trusted source of neutral and scientific based information and analysis, and ability to engage effectively with stakeholders at the local, national and regional level with cultural awareness will be reinforced. It will strengthen its work on keeping up with the latest developments in science and innovation, impact assessment, monitoring and evaluation capabilities, and cross-Organization coordination. Capacities to adopt systemic approaches will be strengthened, including through the modular, flatter structure, which will break down silos and strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration, as foreseen in the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31. FAO will strengthen its capacities and capabilities in science and innovation through capacity development and better targeted skills profiling to fill gaps, and will draw on lessons from the UN Innovation Network. Progress will be monitored throughout the Organization to allow it to learn lessons from past interventions.[37]

D. Enablers: Partnerships and innovative funding and financing

45. Transformative partnerships. Partnerships are essential for leveraging technical expertise, accessing research and knowledge, harnessing investments and social capital, creating momentum, sparking innovation, avoiding duplication and enhancing complementarities, expanding capacity development and strengthening communication, outreach and inclusiveness to deliver impact at scale for the SDGs. FAO will develop effective and transformative partnerships for harnessing science and innovation, based on an understanding of the differentiated roles, responsibilities and knowledge of

[37] Lessons will be incorporated from the Evaluation of FAO's quality of science, which is included in FAO's Indicative rolling plan of evaluations 2022-2025 (see Programme Committee's document PC 132/8).

partners. Partnerships with local, national and regional organizations are particularly important for delivering impact on the ground. Partnerships will be guided by relevant FAO policies.[38]

46. Partnerships with research organizations at national, regional and international levels will be prioritized, including CGIAR, AIRCA, regional research consortia, relevant associations, networks, programs and partnerships, universities, academies of science, national ministries and extension and advisory organizations.

47. Other key knowledge holders in agrifood systems include academic institutes, private sector and civil society organizations and these partnerships will be promoted to enhance FAO's access to relevant knowledge networks and support knowledge dissemination.

48. Private sector partnerships will be enhanced – with special attention to MSMEs and entrepreneurs, start-ups and incubators (particularly women and youth). FAO will engage with private sector-led innovations and harness them to achieve the *four betters* through open innovation initiatives, challenges, dedicated grants, prizes, etc.

49. Collaboration with UN entities on science and innovation will be enhanced while avoiding duplication of roles,[39] especially the Rome-based Agencies,[40] and the UN Technology Facilitation Mechanism.[41] FAO will aim to learn lessons from other UN agencies' experiences on innovation. FAO's ongoing collaboration with relevant UN science-policy interfaces will be strengthened in line with FAO's priorities and programmes and as required by the relevant conventions and inter-governmental processes. Innovative cooperation mechanisms, such as the Joint Centres with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), will be strengthened.[42]

50. Innovative funding and financing. Innovative funding and financing – for example through public-private partnerships – is needed to ensure that LMICs do not fall behind on harnessing science and innovation, further exacerbating existing divides.[43] FAO will support, facilitate, de-risk and leverage investments at scale and ensure that the quality of funding and financing responds to investment needs, including being inclusive and providing long-term benefits for the poor. FAO's updated Due Diligence Framework for Risk Assessment and Management for Engagements (FRAME) with non-state actors will be followed to avoid any potential conflicts of interest.[44]

51. FAO will strengthen the cooperation in the area of science, research, technology and innovation, including traditional knowledge, to bring sustainable practices to everyone, including through the voluntary sharing of knowledge and practices, research and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and improve equitable access to research results and technologies on mutually agreed terms at the national, regional and international levels, such as through South-South and Triangular Cooperation and improve access to investments and financial resources.

[38] These include the FAO Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-2025, the FAO Strategy for Partnerships with Civil Society Organizations, and the FAO Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples.

[39] For example, The FAO-UNIDO Accelerator for Agriculture and Agro-industry Development and Innovation (3ADI+) programme aims to facilitate the development of inclusive and sustainable agrifood systems that effectively link smallholders and larger farmers to processing, value addition and end-markets supplying higher-value, nutritious and differentiated food, fiber, feed and fuel products to consumers.

[40] For example, FAO has partnered with the IFAD, WFP and others, with support from the European Union, to establish the Joint Programme on Gender Transformative Approaches for Food Security, Improved Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture.

[41] The UN Technology Facilitation Mechanisms includes the following components: the UN Inter-Agency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation, the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for SDGs, and the Online Platform - 2030 Connect.

[42] The Joint FAO/WHO Centre (Codex Food Standards and Zoonotic Diseases) and the Joint FAO/IAEA Centre (Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture).

[43] For example, FAO launched the AgrIntel initiative with the European Union (EU) in 2018 to support efforts to crowd in private investment for small and medium Enterprises.

[44] FAO Strategy on Private Sector Engagement – Updates and Implementation Status. Report No. PC 132/2. 2021, Rome. https://www.fao.org/3/ng775e/ng775e.pdf

52. FAO has many opportunities, especially as an implementing agency of the Green Climate Fund (GCF)[45] and the Global Environment Facility (GEF)[46], to link technical interventions at the country level with normative guidance at the global, regional and national levels in a continuous loop of implementation, learning and guidance.

IX. Accountability Framework

53. The Strategy is a tool to accelerate implementation of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, which contributes to the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. It will be operationalized through an Action Plan that is developed following endorsement of the Strategy, and that will emphasize a broad approach to all types of innovations and all scientific disciplines. Monitoring will be fully aligned with the causal results chains and SDG targets established in the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, reflecting all three dimensions of sustainability.

54. The technology and innovation accelerators will be monitored through the relevant key performance indicators (KPIs), and activities under the PPAs will be measured through the most relevant SDG indicators.[47]

55. Reporting on the Strategy will take place in line with the established corporate reporting processes, including through the Mid-Term Review and Programme Implementation Report. Mechanisms will be identified to make adjustments based on findings from regular evaluations, monitoring and reporting to enable continuous learning and improvement. Effective knowledge management will play a key role in ensuring that lessons are learned to inform future improvements of FAO's use of science and innovation.

56. The Council will discuss a mid-term review five years after the adoption of the Strategy. The Strategy may be periodically updated, at Members' request, to reflect important developments.

[45] Since becoming partners in 2016, FAO and GCF have been scaling up climate investments in high-impact projects that make the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors more efficient, inclusive, sustainable and resilient to climate change with a portfolio of USD 934.5 million.

[46] The FAO-GEF program serves as a key vehicle and catalyst to help FAO achieve its strategic priorities. Since 2006, FAO has helped over 130 countries access more than USD 1.2 billion in GEF funding to deliver tremendous results at the intersection between agrifood systems and the environment.

[47] FAO. 2021. The Director General's Medium Term Plan 2022-25 and Programme of Work and Budget 2022-23. https://www.fao.org/3/ne576en/ne576en.pdf . The full results framework is available in document CL 168/3 Annex 1: Updated results framework 2022-25. https://www.fao.org/3/nh231en/nh231en.pdf

X. Annex: Description of terms as they are used in this document

The **agrifood system** covers the journey of food from farm to table – including when it is grown, fished, harvested, processed, packaged, transported, distributed, traded, bought, prepared, eaten and disposed of. It also encompasses non-food products that also constitute livelihoods and all of the people as well as the activities, investments and choices that play a part in getting us these food and agricultural products. In the FAO Constitution, the term "agriculture" and its derivatives include fisheries, marine products, forestry and primary forestry products,[48] as well as livestock.[49]

Innovation consists of doing something new and different whether solving an old problem in a new way, addressing a new problem with a proven solution, or bringing a new solution to a new problem.[50]

Agricultural innovation is the process whereby individuals or organizations bring new or existing products, processes or ways of organization into use for the first time in a specific context in order to increase effectiveness, competitiveness, resilience to shocks or environmental sustainability and thereby contribute to food security and nutrition, economic development or sustainable natural resource management.[51]

In the context of agrifood systems, innovation is used as a verb (to innovate) referring to the process by which individuals, communities or organizations generate changes in the design, production or recycling of goods and services, as well as changes in the surrounding institutional environment, that are new to their context and foster transitions towards sustainable food systems for food security and nutrition. Innovation is also used as a noun to refer to the changes generated by this process. Innovation includes changes in practices, norms, markets and institutional arrangements, which may foster new networks of food production, processing, distribution and consumption that may challenge the status quo.[52]

Interdisciplinary science refers to the specific combination of different fields and/or disciplines to frame research questions, to observe, analyse, and explain a problem. Interdisciplinary science aims at cross-fertilization and mutually enriching collaboration between different types of expertise, within and between disciplines. True interdisciplinary collaboration treats all participating disciplines on an equal footing and develops approaches which transcend established scientific fields. The further apart some disciplines are, the more challenging interdisciplinary science is. Empirically, a genuinely interdisciplinary collaboration between the natural sciences, the social sciences and the humanities is still more the exception than the norm today.[53]

Science signifies the enterprise whereby humankind, acting individually or in small or large groups, makes an organized attempt, by means of the objective study of observed phenomena and its validation through sharing of findings and data and through peer review, to discover and master the chain of causalities, relations or interactions; brings together in a coordinated form subsystems of knowledge by means of systematic reflection and conceptualization; and, thereby furnishes itself with the opportunity of using, to its own advantage, understanding of the processes and phenomena occurring in nature and society.[54] As stated by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, other systems of knowledge and ways of knowing coexist with science, including local, traditional and indigenous knowledge, and have an important role to play in the global scientific dialogue.[55]

Sustainability Science is research and education that result in new knowledge, technology, innovation and holistic understanding which will allow societies to better address global and local sustainability

[48] FAO Constitution, Article I, paragraph 1. https://www.fao.org/3/k8024e/k8024e.pdf
[49] FAO Constitution, Rule XXXII, paragraph 6.b). https://www.fao.org/3/k8024e/k8024e.pdf
[50] UN Innovation Network. 2019. UN Innovation Toolkit.
[51] FAO (2019) Proceedings of the International Symposium on Agricultural Innovation for Family Farmers - Unlocking the potential of agricultural innovation to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Ruane, J. (ed.). Rome.
[52] HLPE. 2019. Agroecological and other innovative approaches for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition. A report by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security, Rome. http://www.fao.org/3/ca5602en/ca5602en.pdf
[53] UNESCO. 2018. Guidelines on Sustainability Science in Research and Education.
[54] UNESCO Conference, Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers, 2017 (paragraph 1.a.i)
[55] Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, General comment No. 25 on science and economic, social and cultural rights in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 2020 (paragraph 39)

challenges. Sustainability Science can include disciplinary, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary science. Sustainability Science is a user-driven and user-inspired academic research process, building from integrated knowledge from various scientific and societal bodies of knowledge and from territories-based integrated experiences. [56]

Technology for sustainable agrifood systems can be defined as the application of science and knowledge to develop techniques to deliver a product and/or service that enhances the sustainability of agrifood systems.[57]

Transdisciplinary science is the methodology that addresses topics across and beyond disciplines, through a comprehensive and holistic framework. In this context, it engages disciplines and interdisciplinary research, but should also consider the collaboration between professional scientists and diverse non-academic stakeholders, either individuals or institutions, in order to benefit from and contribute to their understanding of a problem and their specific knowledge. Transdisciplinarity involves interaction at every step of a scientific endeavour. [58]

[56] UNESCO. 2018. Guidelines on Sustainability Science in Research and Education.
[57] Adapted from A/74/238. Agriculture technology for sustainable development. Report of the Secretary-General. Seventy-fourth session
[58] UNESCO. 2018. Guidelines on Sustainability Science in Research and Education.

Appendix E

Calendar of FAO/IFAD/WFP Governing Bodies and other Main Sessions 2022-2023

	2022		2023	
JANUARY	**36 NERC (SOM)**	**10-13**		
FEBRUARY	IFAD/EB* **36 NERC (MM) (cont'd)** IFAD/GC **FC 190 (WFP)*** WFP*	4 **7-8** 14-18 **18** 28/2-3/3	IFAD/GC WFP	13-17 27/2-3/3
MARCH	**36 APRC** **115 CCLM** **37 LARC**	**8-11** **21-23** **28/3-1/4**	**118 CCLM*** **195 FC*** **135 PC**	**6-8** **13-17** **13-17**
APRIL	**169 CL*** **32 ARC*** 7 INARC* IFAD/EB	**8** **11-14** 12-14 25-29	**172 CL***	**24-28**
MAY	**33 ERC** **191 FC*** **133 PC**	**10-13** **16-20** **16-20**	IFAD/EB	8-12
JUNE	**192 FC (WFP)*** **116 CCLM*** **170 CL*** WFP	**1-3** **8** **13-17** 20-24	**196 FC (WFP)*** WFP	**5-7** 26-30
JULY	IFAD/GC* **75 CCP** **28 COAG**	7 **13-15** **18-22**	**43 C** **173 CL*** 19 CGRFA	**1-7** **10** 24-28
AUGUST				
SEPTEMBER	**35 COFI** IFAD/EB	**5-9** 12-16	IFAD/EB	18-22
OCTOBER	**26 COFO** **50 CFS** **WFD** **117 CCLM*** **193 FC (WFP)***	**3-7** **10-13** **14 (Friday)** **24-26** **27-28**	**51 CFS** **WFD** **119 CCLM*** **197 FC (WFP)***	**16-20** **16 (Monday)** **23-25** **30-31**
NOVEMBER	**194 FC*** **134 PC** WFP 45 CODEX (Rome)	**7-11** **7-11** 14-18 21-25	**198 FC*** **136 PC** WFP 46 CODEX (Rome)*	**6-10** **6-10** 13-17 27/11-2/12
DECEMBER	**171 CL*** 45 CODEX (Rome)* (cont'd) IFAD/EB	**5-9** 12-13 12-16	**174 CL*** IFAD/EB	**4-8** 11-15

(*) Change compared to Calendar submitted to the previous Council session

Easter:	17 April 2022	Easter:	9 April 2023
Orthodox Easter:	24 April 2022	Orthodox Easter:	16 April 2023
Ramadan:	2 April – 1 May 2022	Ramadan:	22 March – 20 April 2023
Eid Al-Fitr:	3 May 2022	Eid Al-Fitr:	21 April 2023
Eid Al-Adha:	10 July 2022	Eid Al-Adha:	29 June 2023

APRC	Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific	COFO	Committee on Forestry
ARC	Regional Conference for Africa	ERC	Regional Conference for Europe
C	Conference	FC	Finance Committee
CCLM	Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters	IFAD/EB	IFAD Executive Board
CCP	Committee on Commodity Problems	IFAD/GC	IFAD Governing Council
CFS	Committee on World Food Security	INARC	Informal Regional Conference for North America
CGRFA	Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	LARC	Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean
		NERC	Regional Conference for the Near East
CL	Council	PC	Programme Committee
COAG	Committee on Agriculture	WFD	World Food Day
CODEX	Codex Alimentarius Commission	WFP	World Food Programme Executive Board
COFI	Committee on Fisheries		

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE
(July 2021 - July 2023)

Chairperson	Members	
Ms Yael Rubinstein (Israel)	Argentina (Mr Carlos Bernardo Cherniak)	Iraq (Mr Zaid Al-Ani)
	Brazil (Mr Fernando José Marroni de Abreu)	Mali (Ms Traoré Halimatou Koné)
	Canada (Mr Maarten de Groot)	New Zealand (Mr Donald Syme)
	China (Mr Ni Hongxing)	Norway (Mr Morten Aasland)
	France (Ms Delphine Babin-Pelliard)	Sudan (Ms Saadia Elmubarak Ahmed Daak)
	India (Mr Bommakanti Rajender)	Zambia (Mr Kayoya Masuhwa)

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FINANCE COMMITTEE
(July 2021 - July 2023)

Chairperson	Members	
Ms Imelda Smolcic (Uruguay)	Australia (Ms Lynda Hayden)	Panama (Mr Tomás Duncan Jurado)
	Egypt (Mr Haitham Abdelhady)	Russian Federation (Mr Vladimir V. Kuznetsov)
	Ethiopia (Mr Kaba Urgessa Dinssa)	Saudi Arabia (Mr Mohammed M. Alghamdi)
	Japan (Mr Kuraya Yoshihiro)	Sweden (Ms Pernilla Ivarsson)
	Mexico (Mr Miguel García Winder)	Thailand (Mr Thanawat Tiensin)
	Niger (Ms Rahila Rabiou Tahirou)	United States of America (Ms Jennifer Harhigh)

https://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/finance-committee/substitute-representatives/en/

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL MATTERS
(July 2021 - July 2023)

Chairperson	Members	
Ms Alison Storsve (United States of America)	Afghanistan (Mr Khaled Ahmad Zekriya)	Nicaragua (Ms Mónica Robelo Raffone)
	Algeria (Ms Lamia Ben Redouane)	Philippines (Ms Nina P. Cainglet)
	Canada (Ms Julie Emond)	Slovakia (Ms Zora Weberova)
	Fiji (Ms Esala Nayasi)	

WFP EXECUTIVE BOARD 2022

Term of office expiring	Elected by FAO Council	Elected by ECOSOC
31 December 2022	Canada (D)	Australia (D)
	Dominican Republic (C)[1]	Burundi (A)
	Germany (D)	Cuba (C)
	Saudi Arabia (B)	Madagascar (A)
	Somalia (A)	Spain (D)
	South Africa (A)[2]	Turkmenistan (B)
31 December 2023	Argentina (C) [3,4]	China (B)
	Brazil (C)[5]	Japan (D)
	Denmark (D)	Lesotho (A)
	Hungary (E)	Mexico (C)
	Morocco (A)	Poland (E)
	Norway (D)	United Kingdom (D)
31 December 2024	Bangladesh (B)[6]	Ghana (A)
	Iran (B)[7]	India (B)
	Netherlands (D)	Republic of Korea (B)
	Peru (C)	France (D)
	Senegal (A)	Sweden (D)
	United States of America (D)	Russian Federation (E)

[1]Dominican Republic replaced Argentina from 1 January 2021 until 31 December 2022 having reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat.

[2] South Africa replaced Angola from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2022 having reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat.

[3] Rotating seat occupied by a country of List C (2021-2023) held by Argentina

[4] Argentina replaced Guatemala from 1 January 2022 having reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat.

[5] Brazil and Guatemala reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat, with Brazil serving in 2021 and 2022 and Guatemala serving in 2023.

[6] Bangladesh and Iran reached an agreement to share an FAO Council elected seat, with Bangladesh serving from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023 and Iran occupying the seat from 1 January 2024 until 31 December 2024.

[7] Iran and Kuwait reached an agreement to share an FAO Council elected seat, with Iran serving from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 and Kuwait occupying the seat from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024.

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194 Member Nations
2 Associate Members
1 Member Organization

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Algeria
Andorra
Angola
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Armenia
Australia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Bahamas
Bahrain
Bangladesh
Barbados
Belarus
Belgium
Belize
Benin
Bhutan
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Botswana
Brazil
Brunei Darussalam
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cabo Verde
Cambodia
Cameroon
Canada
Central African Republic
Chad
Chile
China
Colombia
Comoros
Congo
Cook Islands
Costa Rica
Côte d'Ivoire
Croatia
Cuba
Cyprus
Czechia
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Denmark
Djibouti
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Estonia
Eswatini
Ethiopia
European Union
(Member Organization)
Faroe Islands
(Associate Member)
Fiji
Finland
France
Gabon
Gambia
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Grenada
Guatemala
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Guyana
Haiti
Honduras
Hungary
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Iraq
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kenya
Kiribati
Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
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Lebanon
Lesotho
Liberia
Libya
Lithuania
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Madagascar
Malawi
Malaysia
Maldives
Mali
Malta
Marshall Islands
Mauritania
Mauritius
Mexico
Micronesia
(Federated States of)
Monaco
Mongolia
Montenegro
Morocco
Mozambique
Myanmar
Namibia
Nauru
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Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
Rwanda
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Samoa
San Marino
Sao Tome and Principe
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Serbia
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Singapore
Slovakia
Slovenia
Solomon Islands
Somalia
South Africa
South Sudan
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Suriname
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Switzerland
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Yemen
Zambia
Zimbabwe