



**FOOD SECURITY
AND NUTRITION
BUILDING
A GLOBAL
NARRATIVE
TOWARDS 2030**



Food Security and Nutrition: Arguments for a six dimensional food security framework

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First, some context

Key Message:

FSN outcomes in recent years show the extent to which the global community is falling short on Agenda 2030 targets, especially SDG#2

- 2.37 billion people face moderate or severe food insecurity
- 1.9 billion adults are overweight, and about 650 million people are obese
- 1.5 billion people suffer from one or more forms of micronutrient deficiency
- Uneven quality of food environments
- Precarious food system livelihoods
- Food systems have crossed several of the proposed “planetary boundaries”
- COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated these trends

Updating conceptual frameworks

Key Message:

There is an urgent need to strengthen and consolidate conceptual and policy thinking in four interlocking ways

First, prioritize the right to food

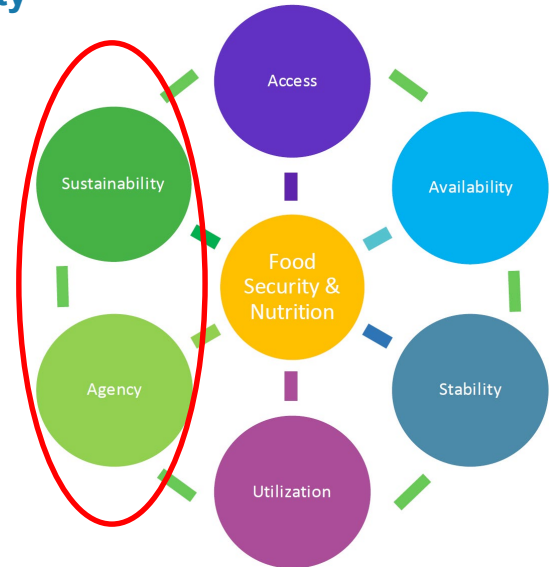
- The Right to Food is enshrined in numerous internationally agreed documents
- Implementation of this right, however, is uneven in practice and much work remains to be done

Second, to **widen our understanding of food security**

Recognize the centrality of **agency** and **sustainability** along with the other four dimensions of **availability**, **access**, **utilization**, and **stability**

Agency - the capacity of individuals or groups to make their own decisions about their engagement with food systems and their ability to participate in processes that shape food system policies and governance

Sustainability - the long-term ability of food systems to provide food security and nutrition in such a way that does not compromise the economic, social, and environmental bases that generate food security and nutrition for future generations.



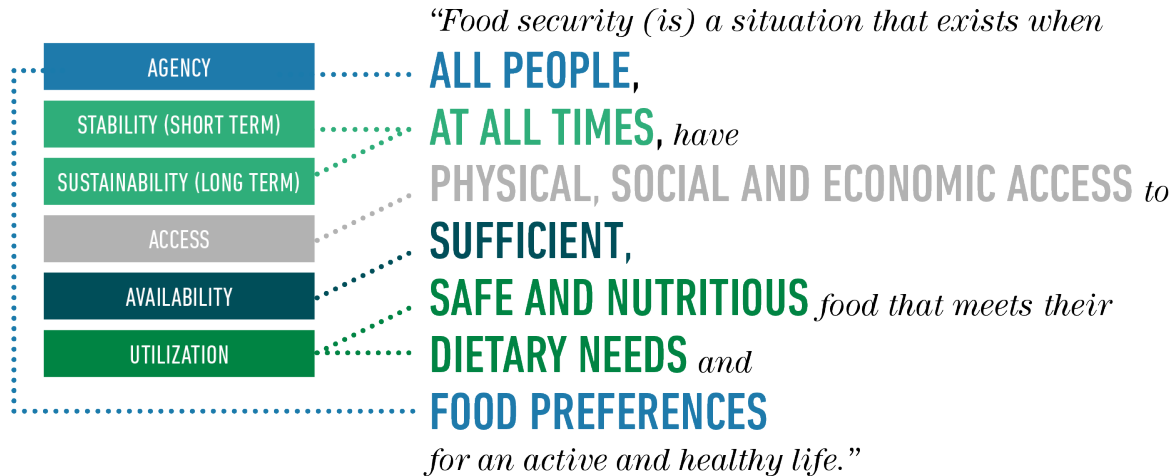
Agency

- Widening inequities and power differentials in society
- There is a need to strengthen people's capacity to engage with food systems on their own terms, both individually and collectively
- The importance of upholding human rights

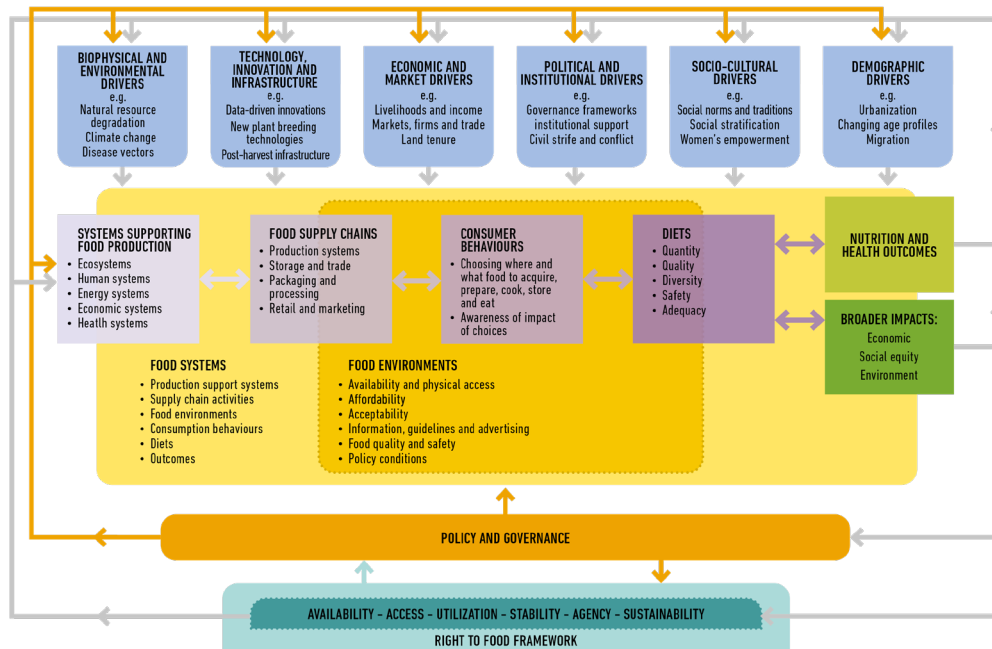
Sustainability

- 1. Food systems entwined in broader ecological systems
- 2. False tension between FSN and environmental sustainability
- 3. Agroecology

All six dimensions of food security are already implied in its current definition and in conceptual and legal understandings of the Right to Food



Third, adopt a sustainable food systems (SFS) framework



Fourth, embrace critical policy shifts necessary for more sustainable food systems

CRITICAL SHIFTS IN POLICY APPROACHES ADVOCATED BY THE HLPE



Potential policy directions. Policy Shift 1:

EXCLUSIVE FOCUS ON INCREASING AGRICULTURAL
SUPPLY IN A CONTEXT OF POPULATION GROWTH



WORKING TOWARD A RADICAL TRANSFORMATION OF
FOOD SYSTEMS AS A WHOLE TO IMPROVE FSN AND
ACHIEVE AGENDA 2030

- FSN policy must work to **boldly reshape the underlying principles of food systems from production to consumption**:
 - Empower the most vulnerable and marginalized food system actors
 - Promote regenerative production practices, such as agroecology
 - Support the development of diverse distribution networks, such as territorial markets
- These measures lead to more empowering, productive, regenerative and equitable food systems

Policy Shift 2

VIEWING FSN AS A SECTORAL ISSUE



VIEWING FSN AS A SYSTEM INTERCONNECTED WITH
OTHER SYSTEMS AND SECTORS

- FSN policy must **appreciate the complexities of food systems** and the interaction with other systems:
 - Improve coordination across sectors and systems, such as policies that ensure economic systems work in ways that support food systems
 - Address challenges at the intersection of ecosystems and food systems;
 - Build on lessons from crises, such as COVID-19, to build more resilient food systems
- These measures ensure more regenerative, productive and resilient food systems

Policy Shift 3:

EXCLUSIVE FOCUS ON REDUCING HUNGER AND UNDERNUTRITION



FOCUS ON HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION IN ALL ITS FORMS, IN THEIR COMPLEX RELATION TO ONE ANOTHER

- FSN policy must support **healthy and sustainable food choices** for all:
 - Measures to support basic entitlements and to improve food environments & ensure access to fresh, local fruits and vegetables
 - Address all forms of malnutrition, including hunger, obesity and overweight, and micronutrient deficiencies, especially for the most marginalized populations
- These measures encourage food systems that are equitable, empowering, and healthy and nutritious

Policy Shift 4:

FOCUS ON FINDING GLOBALLY APPLICABLE FSN SOLUTIONS



UNDERSTANDING THAT FSN IS CONTEXT-SPECIFIC, REQUIRING DIVERSE SOLUTIONS

- Food Security policy must take **local conditions and knowledge into account**:
 - Tackle the distinct challenges that arise in diverse types of rural and urban contexts
 - Address the unique challenges posed by conflict situations
- These measures encourage more empowering, productive, and resilient food systems

Key enabling conditions support these policy shifts

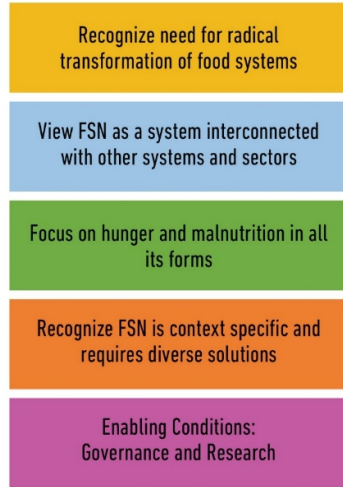


- **Effective governance** is essential, including a renewed commitment to multilateral cooperation and coordination, upholding established international obligations, and participation and representation of all stakeholders

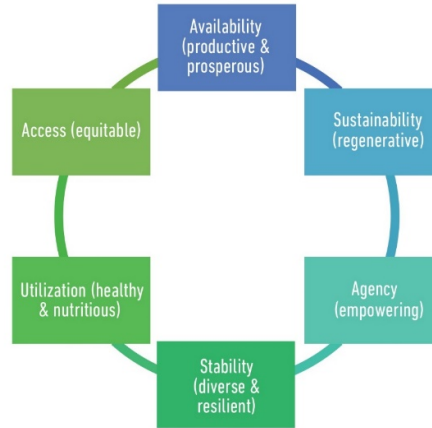


- A **robust research agenda** is needed on a wide range of FSN issues, including crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, especially their impact on the most marginalized and vulnerable people

Theory of Change



CRITICAL POLICY ELEMENTS



SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS THAT SUPPORT THE SIX INTERCONNECTED DIMENSIONS OF FOOD SECURITY



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS, ESPECIALLY SDG2 - ZERO HUNGER

These policy shifts, along with our theory of change, inform the report's recommendations

NECESSARY ELEMENTS FOR FSN POLICIES TO SUPPORT SFS AND SDGS

Recognize the need for a radical transformation of food systems

1. Uphold the central role of the **Right to Food and other human rights in FSN**
2. Urgently build more **sustainable, resource efficient and resilient food systems**
3. **Strengthen the important role of the state** in food systems to better support all six dimensions of food security

View FSN as a system interconnected with other systems and sectors

4. **Ensure integration and coordination across multiple interconnected sectors and at all levels** when setting FSN policies
5. Accelerate actions to address the **impacts of climate change, natural resource degradation, and natural disasters** on food systems
6. Learn from the FSN impacts of the **COVID-19 pandemic** to build more robust and resilient food systems

Focus on **hunger and all forms of malnutrition**

7. Support **healthy food choices** from sustainable food systems
8. Address **multiple manifestations of malnutrition and food-related diseases** through coordinated, multisectoral policies and actions

Recognize **FSN is context specific** and requires **diverse solutions**

9. Address the specific needs of **diverse rural and urban contexts** in formulating FSN policies
10. Address the needs of **those affected by conflicts**

Enabling conditions

11. Improve **FSN governance** at different scales
12. Encourage and support **more research on FSN**, key emerging issues and contentious areas

Linking to the GDSR 4 levers:

- **Individual and collective action** – recognition of the importance of individual and collective agency within food systems help improve human capabilities necessary to address hunger and malnutrition
- **Science and technology** – recognition of the importance of sustainability and the science of agroecology strengthens efforts to achieve more resilient food systems
- **Economy and finance** – financial support is needed to support more locally embedded food markets
- **Governance** – widening understandings of food security in governance institutions can pave the way to necessary policy shifts needed to meet SDG2

In Summary

- **A bold transformation of food systems** is needed
- **Agency** and **sustainability** are key dimensions of food security & six dimensions of food security are key to upholding the **right to food**
- **Critical policy shifts** needed to support **sustainable food systems** & bring about new policy norms to improve prospects for meeting SDG2

Thank you!

Key references:

- 1) HLPE. 2020. “Food Security & Nutrition: Building A Global Narrative Towards 2030.” Report #15. High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security & Nutrition, Rome;
- 2) Clapp, J., W.G. Moseley, B. Burlingame and P. Termine. 2021. “The case for a six-dimensional food security framework.” *Food Policy*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodpol.2021.102164>