

National consultations on water and food security

Contributing to national and regional dialogues in Sub Saharan Africa in the context of climate change in the perspective of CFS 42nd session, COP 21 on Climate, and for the sake of preparing development programs to support development projects

1. Background

- Food insecurity, Africa engaged but confronted to climate change impacts

Africa, in particular its sub Saharan part, is one of the most affected areas in the world regarding food insecurity (2014 report on hunger, IFPRI).

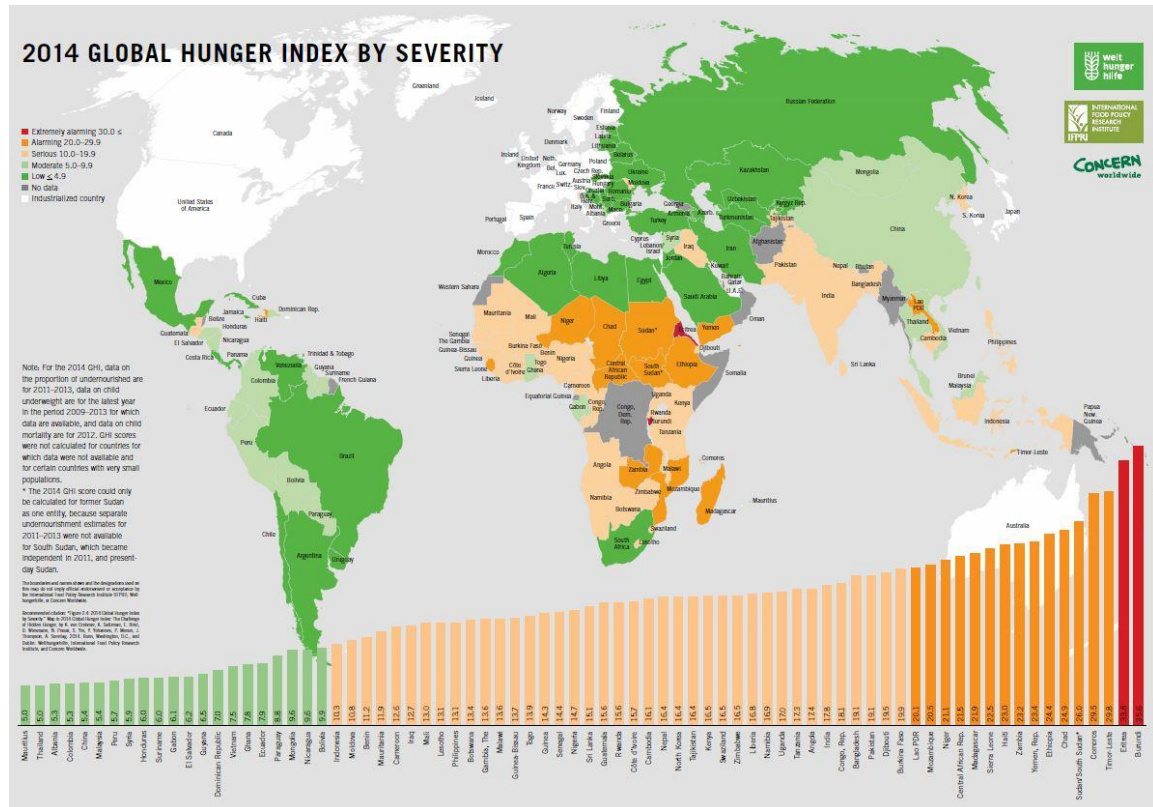


Figure 1: 2014 Global Hunger Index by severity, IFPRI, 2014

Climate change is going to amplify the challenges faced by the agricultural sector and more widely food production due to an increased climate variability – a challenge in itself for cultures and livestock breeding – and to more frequent extreme events (floods and droughts). In its latest report the IPCC explains very clearly the expected impacts in the coming years or decades. For the agricultural sector which food security and poverty reduction depends very much on in Africa, climate change impacts on water will indeed be the main driver of major changes, dramatic ones if adequate measures are not taken. The lack of water along the production cycle (in rain fed systems – the most important one in surfaces used for cultures or grazing – and in irrigated systems), floods before harvest, are actual threats for food security in areas where this is already a challenge.

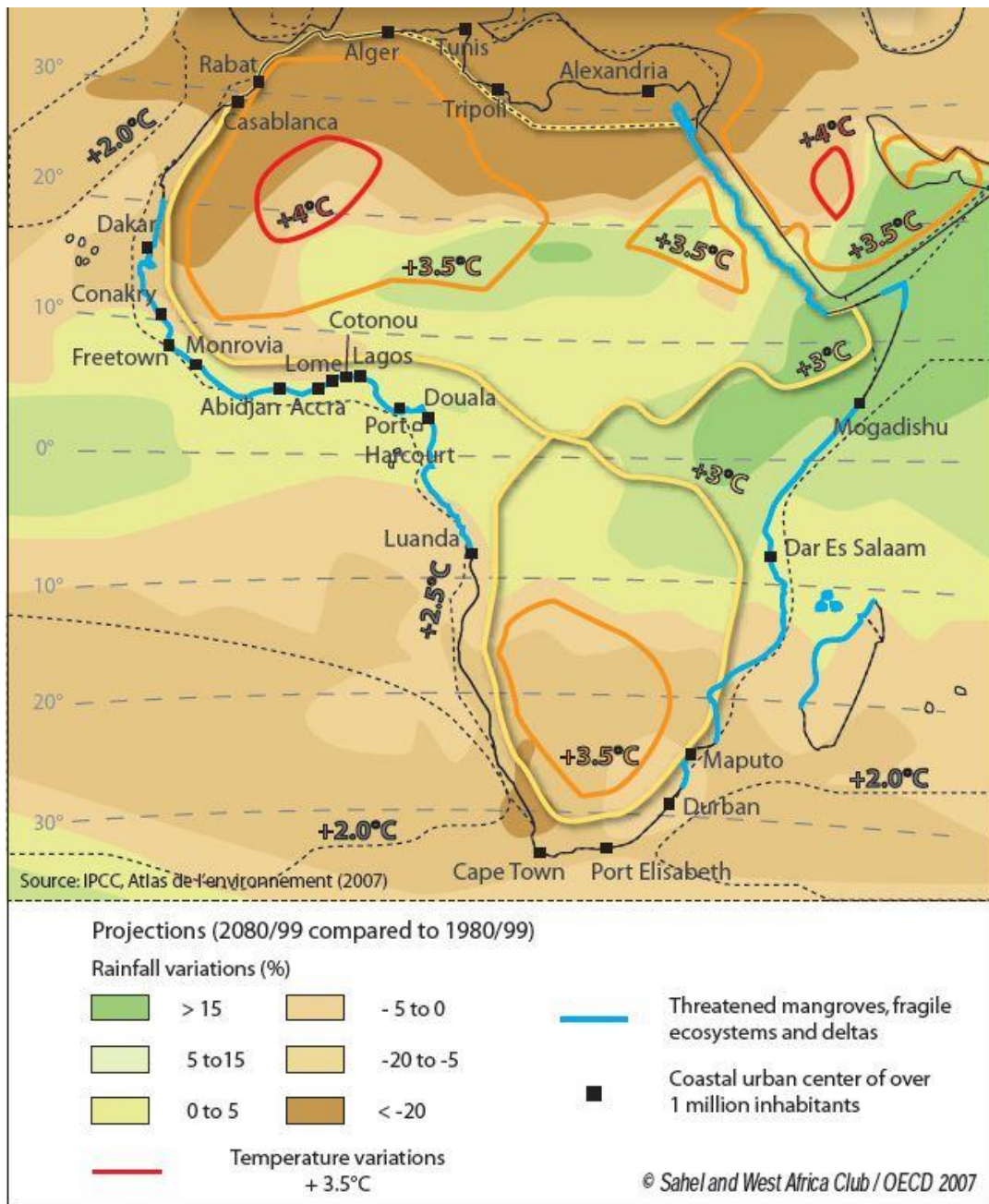


Figure 2: Impact projeté du changement climatique sur les précipitations et les températures

The African Union has been inviting for several years its member states to elaborate national policies for agriculture development, asking them to elaborate “country agricultural development plan”, CAADP. Likewise some regional economic commissions have adopted a similar approach in complementarity to that at country level.

CAADP Country Process

Regions

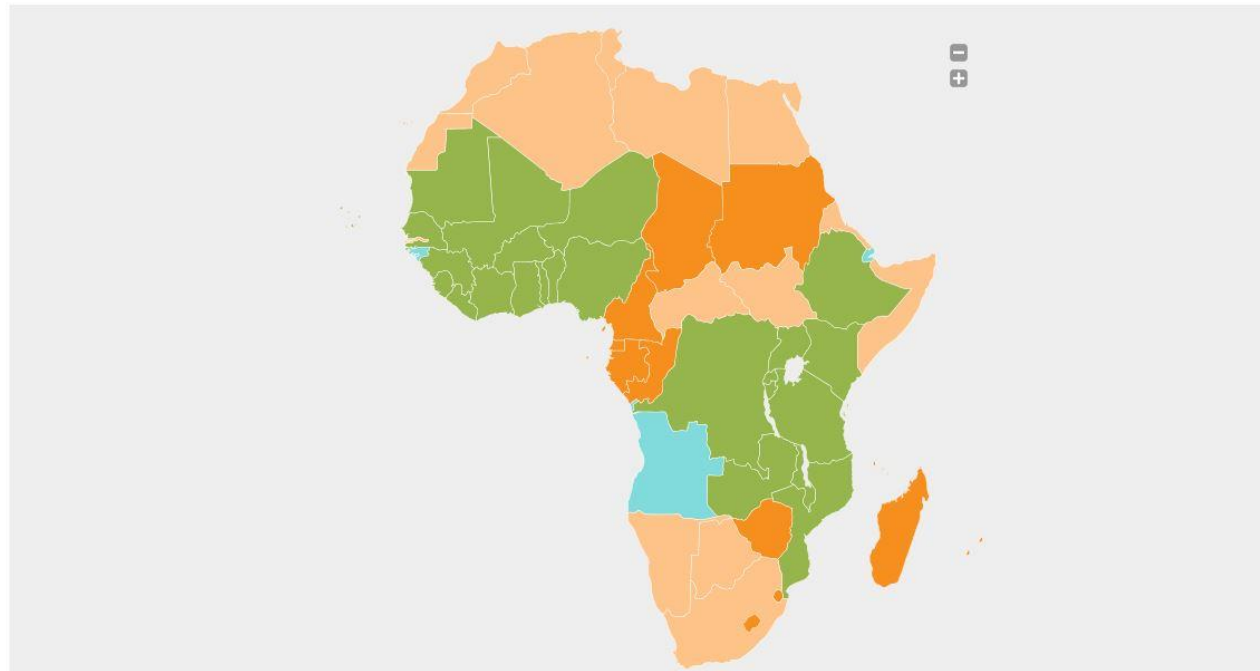


Figure 3: Etat de la mise en oeuvre du processus PDAA, NEPAD, <http://caadp.net/caadp-country-process>, janvier 2015

Without describing in details the methodology of CAADP it's interesting to recall that "the vision is, at once, that Africa is bale to mobilize effectively and efficiently both its own resources and international aid in order to have a real impact on agricultural productivity and thus to influence food security and poverty reduction..." (Accelerating CAADP Country Implementation, A Guide for Implementors, New Partnership for Africa's Development, 2010). Based on 4 pillars the methodology deals in particular with water issues under pillar 1, coordinated by the Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel and Zambia University, members states remaining free to decide on the modalities and their implementation.

At their meeting end of April 2014 on the results framework for the CAADP program the ministers notably underscored that climate change was going to be one of the biggest challenges in reaching this ambition. Indeed "Resilience to climate change and other risks affecting African agriculture through strong integration of climate change adaptation in agricultural investment plans" as identified during this high level meeting as one of the key priorities regarding food security and poverty alleviation in Africa (Joint AU Conference of Ministers of Agriculture, Rural Development, Fisheries & Aquaculture 28 April – 02 May 2014, AUCC, Addis Ababa).

This concern was also mentioned by the technical and financial partners at their meeting held in February 2014 (Development Partners Task Team (DPTT), 17 February 2014). Finally, the African Union in its Malabo declaration of the 26th-27th of June 2014 recalled and reinforced the commitment of African countries to reinforce and to act within the CAADP framework.

- The Global Water Partnership network

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) was created in order to facilitate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals agreed upon at the Earth Summit in 1992. 20 years later the partnership plays fully its role of catalyst for better public policies and governance mechanisms in more than 180 countries, by sharing and disseminating knowledge and by generating synergies between actors at global, regional, country and local levels.

GWP regions



Figure 4: Les 13 régions du partenariat mondial de l'eau, Stratégie 2014-2020 du GWP

In Africa the network counts hundreds of very committed partners which have set up 5 regional partnerships, 30 country ones and some local ones motivated by particular issues (urban areas, irrigated schemes, ...).



Figure 5: Country Water Partnerships in Africa, GWPO, 2015

One type of support facilitated by GWP through the water country partnerships consists in convening national dialogs on issues related to integrated water resources management. In 2014 within the global dialog on the post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals 29 country water partnerships facilitated national consultations on the relevance of a dedicated water goal. This collective effort allowed 29 countries to better take into consideration this issue and was compiled into a synthetic report which was used by the open working group tasked with preparing the UN work. This was an important piece of work that helped justify a proposal of a water goal. The usefulness of such a coordinated approach in several countries in the context of global dialog or negotiations has been confirmed by this recent experience on SDGs.

- Committee on world Food Security (CFS), focusing on water and food security for its 2015 session

CFS was created in 1974. It is an intergovernmental body open to all FAO member states and dedicated to food security and nutrition issues. The composition and the process were reviewed in 2009 in order to open up this framework to other categories of stakeholders concerned by this global debate. CFS so renewed aims at being the global and intergovernmental platform where all stakeholders can collectively discuss and agree on strategic goals and means for improved food security and nutrition. CFS tackles short term crisis as well as longer term structural issues. Every year CFS reports to UN ECOSOC.

Before each annual session a high level panel of experts (HLPE) consults and elaborate a report on the theme agreed upon by CFS in previous sessions. The report is supposed to deal with all different aspects of the topic and to include draft resolutions for the consideration of the general assembly. The process is led by the CFS secretariat and has different phases: desk work done by experts, open consultation on a draft report, amendment of the draft and publication. Based on the final report representatives discuss and agree on final resolutions that are adopted in a plenary session held each year in October in Rome.

The draft report on water and food security was open to comments in November 2014 and the final version is expected to be released mid-May 2015. Once the report is released the process of appropriation of the

topic and of the approach suggested by the experts will start in all countries in the perspective of the plenary session in October 2015. The plenary session is expected to endorse recommendations based on the proposals made by the experts and the negotiations among all stakeholders.

2. Description of the project

In this context, the GWP network wants to facilitate consultations on water and food security at country level in order to provide concerned governments with widely shared position on water and food security issues and challenges in their country. These elements shall be presented by end of June to officials and made available to country representatives at FAO as an additional support for negotiating and promoting country positions in the CFS discussions.

Country Water Partnerships (CWPs) are made of dozens of stakeholders involved in water resources management and uses. They are aimed in particular at organizing and facilitating exchanges on issues related to water resources in order to share experiences and to suggest orientations for better water resources governance. Building on past successful similar experiences, CWPs will be at the core of this initiative and will associate regional partners as much as possible. They will also mobilize the expertise of the whole network, namely GWP regional technical committees and regional and global secretariats.

The value added of this initiative lays in the establishment of a bridge between two issues very often separately tackled in public policies, food security and water security. Indeed integrating CFS resolutions and implementing adapted policies at country level requires that at country level stakeholders of both water security and food security can exchange and agree on common priorities and possible way forwards. This will be done by using the experience and the network of GWP. The methodology of this project will allow the different actors to highlight main challenges and strategic directions to be adopted in order to build on existing frameworks like CAADP and to improve synergies between sectorial public policies.

A common methodological note developed by the GWP and its partners at global and regional level will be shared with the countries, up to them to further develop it in particular to address specific issues. This will ensure a common basis to all country analysis. As a valuing of this important work synthesis reports, regional and pan African ones, will be made.

The process of the national consultation has two steps:

- First one is to undertake a desk study and consult a range of key partners on the CFS HLPE report in order to elaborate a draft country report on water security and food security in particular by identifying priorities. National documents like CAADPs and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) will be key in this effort.
- Second one is, based on the previous study, to invite relevant stakeholders – government representative, private sector, civil society, development partners - to a workshop to comment, amend, agree on the report and on proposals that could feed the elaboration of CFS final recommendations. The convening power of country water partnerships is key in this endeavor.

In addition to this work at country level CWPs and RWPs will strive to mobilize regional entities like regional economic commissions in order to facilitate discussions at regional level too, valuing the national consultations but also identifying regional specificities and priorities.

All results and documents will be widely disseminated at country, regional and global level. A special attention will be paid to governments: it won't be sufficient that representatives will participate to the process. CWPs will make sure that the results reach country representative at FAO. Having a meeting with them for instance will ensure a good ownership of the results to be used as supporting inputs for CFS discussions.

The same will be done with government representative at COP 21 on climate because the issue of water security and food security can either be managed and become a key adaptation mechanism or be neglected and become a terrible aspect of climate change impact on African people.

3. Objectives and results

The objective of the initiative is aligned with GWP mission which is to contribute to water resources governance for sustainable and equitable development.

By creating a cross-sectoral dynamic for innovation within the implementation of solutions to optimize connections between water and food security, the project will contribute to equitable green growth in countries whose population is severely affected today.

National stakeholders will enhance their understanding of the complexities of water and food security at country level thanks to the exchange/dialogue between participants of diverse backgrounds.

In doing so, each participant will get the benefit of becoming a resource person for a cultural synergy which will ultimately develop and validate intersectoral common positions, share common views and commit to solutions and actions to be taken.

This will enhance the quality of their involvement in this area and contribute to a positive and common culture that promotes development of new collaborations.

The key project deliverables will be diverse in nature including:

- National contributions, in the form of reports that will be appropriate to inform decisions at political level.
- National contributions that will support thinking at regional level for sustainable development.
- Reinforcement of partnerships and alliances between different stakeholders from the water and agricultural sector at both national and regional level.
- Identification of needs and priorities by national and regional stakeholders.
- Inputs for stakeholders to team-up and formulate innovative joint development projects and cooperation channels in harmony with regional/national needs and priorities.

Governments, especially ministries concerned with participation to CFS 2015 discussions, will be armed with a synthesis report that is the outcome of a thorough debate that targeted the thematic session supported by preparatory work.

Similarly, in view of the COP Climate Summit in December 2015, such a solid analysis conducted across silos will usefully complement other sources available to governments.

If most of the work will be conducted at country level, the results of the various consultations will be also very useful for regional bodies such as the Regional Economic Commissions. Indeed the existence of a common methodology will facilitate the identification of potential regional trends or shared views.

Moreover, these diagnoses and evaluation of needs will be the basis for concerted development programs that will address development priorities in terms of food security and water in the face of climate change. Indeed this work will provide all actors with elements related to needs in terms of support, training and capacity building, exchange of knowledge.

An expected follow-up which GWP will endeavor to encourage and facilitate will then be to propose to local authorities and donors projects aimed at implementing identified priority actions in particular demonstration projects necessary for effective dissemination of good practices and a change of behaviors.

4. Implementation

The action comprises:

- A facilitation and methodical support at international level.
- A national review of documents, useful and existing plans to clarify debates including the PDAA where possible, supported by a series of interviews with representatives and key stakeholders (relevant ministries, private sector, professional organizations, local communities, civil society).
- A national workshop bringing together representatives of different points of view (listed above + possibly others to see in context) to enable:
 - the review of the national synthesis proposed ;
 - synthetic presentation of the report of the CFS and HLPE draft resolutions;
 - identifying priorities for the country ;
- The valuing at regional level of the work done at country level
- The valuing of the work done to develop programs or projects.

Water Partnerships will be responsible for the implementation of the various phases of the action and the link with all stakeholders at national and regional levels. They shall mobilize, where necessary, relevant experts of regional technical committees.

GWP Global Secretariat will support regional and national partnerships with the implementation, including methodology and the management of the funds.

Representatives of donors will be involved at country level and regularly informed of the progress of actions, in addition to being associated to the activities to being recipients of all final project documents.

5. Financial aspects

The funds will be fully managed, in countries and regions globally, according to the standards in force in the GWP network. This includes an audit by a certified audit firm.

Funds received from the Global Secretariat will be transferred as part of partnership agreements responsible for the implementation of actions. It will be the same for the funds received at regional level.

A detailed financial report of all the action will be sent to each donor.

The estimated costs for the first phase (national consultations) are € 9K per country, implemented in the country for about 70% of expenditure and regional / global for the rest.

Annex 1: Guidelines for National/Regional Consultations on Water and food security within the WEF¹ nexus

1: Water Energy Food Ecosystems

March 2015

1 Background

It is widely acknowledged that food security is one of the most important issues that the world is facing. For this reason the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development has made a proposal for a dedicated goal on food security (Goal 2) – *“end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.”* A key element of achieving food security and sustainable agriculture is water, which is also proposed as a dedicated goal (Goal 6) – *“ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.”*

In recognition of this strong interconnection the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) requested, in October 2013, the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) to prepare a report on Water and Food Security. It is expected that the final findings of this report will be available in May 2015, and will feed into the bilateral and multilateral negotiations that will precede the CFS 42nd session in October 2015.

As part of the process of the elaboration of the HLPE report a series of issues that will have significant consequences for the implementation of resolutions emanating from the CFS 42nd session have been identified. These issues include:

- Are the linkages between water and food security and nutrition adequately addressed? Is there important evidence or aspects that are not addressed?
- Are the diversity of approaches and methodological issues, in particular concerning metrics and data for water and food security adequately covered? Which metrics are particularly useful and which not?
- Food security involves trade of agricultural produce, and a virtual trade of water. Agricultural trade interacts with water and food security in various ways, and differently for food importing countries, food exporting countries, water scarce versus water rich countries. Do you think these issues are adequately addressed?
- Land and water are two critical conditions to agriculture. Is the link between water management and land management and the potential need for more integrated management adequately addressed in the report regarding the situation of the country?

- What kind of practical and policy challenges would an expansion of the right to water to also encompass productive uses bring?
- Which systemic actions/solutions/approaches would be the most effective to enhance water governance, management and use for food security? How could the fact that water is an intersectoral question be tackled so that food security is not underrated in the overall context?

While these issues have been canvassed by the HLPE at a global level, there are particular nuances in the national and regional context that may be hidden or not well captured. Likewise are the solutions and approaches likely to prove efficient with regard to these issues. Therefore, it is important when considering the interaction between food and water security that these more localized perspectives are understood and considered in preparing resolutions from the CFS 42nd session.

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) has considerable experience of providing a neutral platform at national and regional level where a diversity of actors can come together in dialogue. For example, in 2014 GWP undertook an extensive set of 29 national consultations on the framing of a dedicated water goal as part of the post-2015 development agenda. The outputs of these consultations become a key input to the final advice provided by UN-Water to the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development, as well as supporting national governments negotiate specific sustainable development goals and targets.

Building on this experience GWP proposes to convene a series of National/Regional Consultations in Sub Saharan Africa on the work of the HLPE to support the final resolutions of the 42nd CFS.

2 Purpose of the consultations, considering the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus

The purpose of the National/Regional Consultations is to obtain views from countries on the proposals from the HLPE on the interconnections between food and water security. These National/Regional Consultations will build awareness and examine the country and regional relevance of global perspectives, and provide inputs and options to support bilateral and multilateral negotiations, and recommendations that will enhance resolutions from the 42nd CFS.

Although water is central to development its value is often overlooked. It is thus essential that the national/regional consultations help to ensure water and the complexity of its governance is properly reflected in any food security agenda.

Moreover water is tied to most sustainable development themes – e.g. food, health, energy, ecosystems, etc so it is essential to recognize the obvious linkages with these other thematic approaches. The consultations thus aim to mobilize the voice of stakeholders in the broader national development context on the issues related to the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus. This in addition provides input to a broader regional dialogue. The country/regional level feedback will influence the global policy dialogue and contribute to shaping potential resolutions from the CFS in 2015.

In some countries the present consultation will build on the earlier country dialogues on the post-2015 development agenda organized by GWP in 2014 (these dialogues were held in 29 countries to determine priorities for a future post-2015 development agenda).

3 Scope of the Consultations, engaging with regional partners

National consultations will take place in a sample of 9 selected countries, facilitated by the Global Water Partnership (GWP).

The choice of the countries where consultations will take place will be submitted to the acceptance of country stakeholders.

Most countries will have already considered many of these issues in recent years and the aim is not to re-invent the wheel, but rather to bring together and synthesize this local knowledge for submission to the global level to feed CFS processes and global goals setting. The consultation should also motivate national stakeholder's participation in the other, water-relevant, thematic dialogues such as food, energy, health, ecosystems, etc.

The concerned regions will be engaged by Regional Water Partnerships based on the national consultations. RWPs will determine the best way to engage with their regional partners depending on the circumstances (a regional meeting set for another reason can be an excellent opportunity to generate a short but efficient debate on this topic).

4 Process guide for consultations

4.1 Preparatory processes: It is essential that the Consultation organizers become familiar with these Guidelines. In addition, at least the following background publications provide the basis for the discussion:

- (a) HLPE report
- (b) NEPAD CAADP where available
- (c) Sample national consultation report from the post-2015 consultations where available;
- (d) FAO AQUASTAT Country Profiles
- (e) Water Country Briefs issued by UN Water and GWP where available

The key input for the consultations is the HLPE report, which has been prepared by the High Level Panel of Experts with the active participation of many members and partners. It sets out the considerations for food and water security, and will be one of the main inputs to the 42nd CFS in October 2015.

The HLPE paper, or relevant extracts therefrom, and other papers should be circulated to participants in advance of any meeting and a powerpoint presentation given at the start of the meeting so that the participants understand the context. GWPO will provide a draft powerpoint for the HLPE report but it should be finalised locally so it is 'owned' and 'targeted' at the local situation. The organisers should also prepare questions for participants to prompt their views during breakout sessions.

Before the meeting the organisers should carry out some preparatory **work to assess the implications of the HLPE report for food and water security in the country/region**. In particular, this should consider what the report would mean in terms of additional resources: for example, human capacities, infrastructure needs, institutional reforms and knowledge/science support. If possible some idea of cost implications would be useful.

Where relevant the preparatory process may include some bilateral meetings with resource persons in the country.

4.2 Identifying stakeholders to be part of the consultation process:

Government involvement is important. In collaboration with the government the organizers should agree on the consultation process and a senior government official should chair or introduce the consultation. The national organizer will identify the key people considered necessary and relevant to the consultation. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and/or Ministry of Agriculture will, in most countries, be responsible for negotiating the CFS resolutions. It is thus important to invite participation from the MoFA and/or Agriculture and other key ministries such as Planning, Finance, Health and not only officials from Water ministries.

Stakeholders from key institutions with knowledge and influence on the areas covered by the report: i.e. food, nutrition, trade, finance, health, agriculture, farming, and water will be important to associate. It is also important to include stakeholders involved in environment issues and those from large water using sectors, not only agriculture but also industry and energy which are crucial elements of the water-food-energy and ecosystems nexus. Future sustainability of agriculture will depend on the way in which these sectors manage their water use.

Practitioners actually facing challenges of the nexus water-food-energy nexus in their day life will have highly valuable contributions to make. Therefore it will be necessary to identify ways of collecting their views and to make sure that there are enough representatives of agricultural and other food producers groups engaged with in the process.

The meeting should invite, and work with development partners and research organizations (including local representatives from FAO, IFAD, UNDP and UNICEF, Development Banks, any bilateral interested cooperation agency, ICRAF, CGIAR, ...) and with water-related networks, such as CapNet and others.

GWPO has shared these guidelines with some global networks and has proposed them to inform their country representatives to contact the national organizers.

4.3 Organizing the consultation workshop

The consultation should be modelled on the draft agenda given below although each country/region should adjust this to suit their own situation. A consultation would comprise about 30 people and could include breakout groups to cover different topics. A meeting of **one day** is proposed, but if countries/regions wish and have adequate resources they can extend this to two days:

Morning: Relevance of the HLPE report:

- Introduction to the purpose of the meeting based on a short presentation of the HLPE report.
- Discussion of the HLPE recommendations versus the situation of the country for helping to meet food and water security priorities of the country from a national perspective perhaps using breakout groups to discuss different aspects to highlight local concerns and benefits.

- Discussion of the most useful approaches or aspects of the report from a country/regional perspective.
- Concluding debate to agree feedback from the meeting regarding:
 - the HLPE recommendations: their importance for different aspects of water and food, their suitability and their viability. Suggestions for any modifications
 - the priorities at country level for better food security regarding water.

IMPORTANT NOTE: It is not required that the meeting discusses the precise wording and language of the report as that is the role of the government representatives when negotiating the final agreement. The aim here is to determine the overall focus, the priority water and food issues that should be covered and the importance of the different recommendations being proposed. Trying to agree exact wording would be impossible and a waste of time. Any issue not covered by the draft recommendations should be pointed out.

Afternoon: implications of the proposed recommendations and priorities:

- Meeting any agreed recommendations will require actions from countries and will thus have implications, in particular for capacities, monitoring & reporting, funding, institutions and infrastructure.
- Discussion should be held on these implications to provide an overview of what actions would be needed over a 15 year period in order to meet the recommendations.
- Discussion on the viability of implementing the recommendations including measurement of progress, indicators, and the issue of monitoring and data availability.
- Conclusions and wrap up on recommendations and implications.

A good dedicated rapporteur should be appointed to capture the key points succinctly and prepare a draft report of about 7-10 pages within a week following the meeting. This report should be reviewed and finalized by a sub-group of participants and the GWP organizer.

4.4 *Output – Country/Regional Consultation Report:*

The consultation output will be a country/regional report setting out succinctly the views of the participants on the key issues for the future food and water security agenda. It will be centered on water resources management and its relationship with food security. A draft table of contents is given below. The aim will be to produce a Consultation Report consisting of 7-10 pages that gives an overview of opinions on the proposed recommendations and their implications. An Annex giving the names and organizations of all participants should be compiled to demonstrate the wide stakeholder involvement.

Draft Table of Contents for the National/Regional Report:

Chapter 1 Comments on HLPE recommendations:

- Discussion of the recommendations in relation to local development aims.
- Consideration of the most useful approaches or aspects of the report from a country/regional perspective.
- Sub-sections discussing specific recommendations in more detail.
- List of identified priorities at country level, picked from the recommendations or not.

Chapter 2 Key implications and means of implementation identified for achieving the recommendations over the period 2015-30.

- Sub-section on each implication: capacity, costs, institutions, infrastructure, monitoring and any others identified by the meeting. This should highlight the viability of having recommendations in terms of the resources available to meet them in the specified timeframe.
- Any other issues arising from the meeting related to the HLPE report and the food and water security agenda.

Chapter 3 Concluding comments specific to the country/region.

Annex 1: List of participants and any other supporting information

5 Use of outputs

The outputs from the national/regional consultations will be consolidated into a Global Consultation Report which will be widely circulated.

Each country/region should circulate the Consultation Report to relevant government officials, including the national/regional representative involved in the CFS negotiations. The country/region reports will be an important way to build awareness of the proposed CFS resolutions.

In addition to being a key input to the CFS negotiations the Consultation Reports will also form the basis of a series of national/regional actions plans to address key food and water security issues. These actions plans will focus on addressing the implementation challenges identified through the national/regional consultations, and will be developed within the broader context of the CFS resolutions and the post-2015 development agenda. It is expected that these actions plans will be rolled out from 2016.

For each consultation a financial report is to be prepared following standard GWP practices as shown in Annex 3. This should detail the funding allocated and expenditures. This should be prepared and submitted to GWPO within 30 days of completing the consultation.

6 Timetable

In order to ensure timely input to the CFS process the work must follow the time line given below:

By 31 March 2015	All countries reconfirm their participation and give proposed meeting dates to GWPO
April 2015	Preparatory process: dates and location of meetings and preparatory papers prepared for the consultations. Participants invited.
1st May to 15 th June	All national consultations carried out and completed.
By 15 th June 2015	All country reports submitted to GWPO and to local officials
By 30 July:	Consolidated synthesis report completed by GWPO and disseminated
Throughout 2015:	Country representatives should follow-up to advocate for the outcomes of the meeting in particular to persuade those national senior officials closely involved in the CFS processes of the importance of the interconnection between food and water security. Where possible the country report should be communicated on a personal basis.

7 Financial resources

The consultation will be remunerated on a lump-sum basis. It is anticipated that approximately 6 working days is needed for one local expert to prepare and complete this assignment. A further 4 days is needed for support for event organisation and for a 'rapporteur'. This gives a total 10 days input. In addition costs will cover meeting logistics. A total budget of Euro 7,000 is allocated through the GWP regional water partnership for each country.

Annex 3 gives details of the financial arrangements and all matters regarding funding should be coordinated through the Network Officers and GWPO Finance Department.

8 Coordination

The national consultations process will be coordinated by Manuel Fulchiron, GWP Thematic Focal Point for Food Security, on behalf of the Executive Secretary. He will be supported by Noubissi Tenku, Global Projects Assistant based in Stockholm Secretariat and by the Network Officers for each region. All communications should include all three names to ensure good coordination at the central level.

The Regional Water Partnerships will be responsible for supervising and supporting the country water partnership (where relevant) and any persons contracted to organize the consultations. The country and regional coordinators should copy all emails to the Network Officer.