
GOOD PRACTICES AND INSIGHTS DRAWN FROM AECID'S WORK WITH THE PARLIAMENTARY FRONTS AGAINST HUNGER

OUTCOMES AND NEW UNDERSTANDING
FROM AN INNOVATIVE COMMITMENT
TO THE RIGHT TO FOOD



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ACRONYMS

AECID:	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
CAC:	Central American Agricultural Council
CFS:	Committee on World Food Security
ECOWAS:	Economic Community of West African States
ESCR:	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
EU:	European Union
EUROLAT:	Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly
FAO:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FIIAPP:	International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies
FNS:	Food and Nutrition Security
FODEPAL:	Regional technical cooperation project for training in economic, agrarian and rural development policies in Latin America
FOPREL	Parliamentary Forum of Speakers of Legislative Bodies of Central America and the Caribbean Basin
HRAF	Human right to adequate food
IALCSH	Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
OECD:	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PARLACEN:	Central American Parliament
PARLASUR:	Mercosur Parliament
PARLATINO:	Latin American and Caribbean Parliament
PESA:	Special Programme for Food Security
PFH:	Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger
PFH-LAC:	Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean
IFTE:	Ibero-American Specialized Technical Training Programme
RFO:	Right to Food Observatory
RFO-LAC	Right to Food Observatory of Latin America and the Caribbean
RFO-ES:	Right to Food Observatory of Spain
MDGs:	Millennium Development Goals
SDGs:	Sustainable Development Goals
SECIPI:	Spain's State Secretariat for International Cooperation and for Ibero-America
SEGIB:	Ibero-American General Secretariat
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
WFP:	World Food Programme



Parliamentarians from Spain and Latin America and the Caribbean at the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, Madrid 2018

INTRODUCTION

The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) has been working with Parliaments for many years to combat hunger.

In 2005, the Hunger-Free Latin America and Caribbean Initiative was launched to eliminate this scourge from every country in this region. The resulting project — funded by AECID from its inception and managed by FAO — has, since then, provided technical follow-up on member countries' decisions and proposals. A significant commitment in this context has been the work performed via public policies, and an outstanding development in this regard was the constitution of the Latin American and Caribbean Parliamentary Front against Hunger (PFH-LAC) in 2009, bringing together parliamentarians from every Latin American country and from every political group. PFH-LAC provides a platform for legislators to work hand in hand in their national legislative bodies to combat hunger and to promote the right to food.

This active role by legislative authorities was a novel development within international cooperation, where most work had previously been carried out by the executive branch, by civil society and by international organizations. AECID is the first development cooperation agency to firmly support this approach, providing an international reference in the field.

Historically, the problem of hunger and malnutrition has long been one of enormous dimensions, requiring not only technical and technological solutions but also political determination. Indeed, it has been argued that hunger, to a very large extent, is a political problem and can only be eradicated from a political standpoint, through public policies.

With the joint contributions of FAO, AECID and PFH-LAC, these partners and the innovative approach espoused to combat hunger have gained a heightened presence on the international agenda. An important step in this respect was the first Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, which was held in October 2018 at the Spanish Senate in Madrid. The

event, in which the Spanish Parliament played a very significant role, was attended by more than 200 parliamentarians from 80 countries.

In 2021, to follow up this Summit, FAO organized the Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues “Food Security and Nutrition in the time of COVID-19”, an initiative that was firmly supported by AECID. The aim of these meetings was to support capacity-building activities for parliamentarians and to reinforce the processes of political dialogue that are taking place in this context throughout the world, not only in Latin America.

A very positive outcome of these developments was the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food, formed in 2018 by 197 parliamentarians, and relaunched in the Senate in March 2021. This Alliance is an excellent example of ‘two-way cooperation’, in which an initiative that was born in Latin America has been embraced and supported by Spanish Cooperation, from whose efforts Spanish society also benefits.

The present document reviews, collates and illustrates the enormous body of work performed, describing the inception of the project and the actions taken, and identifying its main stakeholders. The publication highlights lessons to be drawn from the good practices devised and implemented, making them more widely known and enabling their replication in other initiatives and contexts.

The endeavours presented below not only address Sustainable Development Goal 2, on hunger and food security, but form part of the entire 2030 Agenda and are related to the other SDGs, in particular SDG 17, on revitalizing the global partnership. The work we describe is a clear example of the type of alliance that must be forged to attain a fairer, more sustainable and more resilient world, in which none are left behind.

Antón Leis García
Director of AECID

DOCUMENT STRUCTURE

The rest of this document **is organized in five sections**, as follows. **Chapter 1** describes the **background** to the present situation, explaining the origins of the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger (PFH), itemising the problems and challenges faced, describing the experiences gained in the field and acknowledging the windows of opportunity that enabled these endeavours to be launched.

Chapter 2 details the nature of the PFH, their achievements, development and global expansion. After a brief explanation of the idea and purpose of these alliances, this chapter describes the principal events in their creation, development and international expansion. The Spanish Parliament played an active role in this process, with the constitution of the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food in 2018. In the same year, it organized the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, held in Madrid.

Chapter 3 describes the role played by AECID in promoting and developing the PFH, setting out the mechanisms used by Spanish Cooperation to support this complex process and analysing the key aspects of their complementarity (process/tools/resources/impact). Many of these mechanisms have been implemented in association with FAO.

Chapter 4, on conclusions drawn, lessons learned and opportunities for the future, summarizes the experience gained and suggests guidelines to further promote international cooperation in this and related areas.

Finally, the **Additional Material** section extends the information and reflections contained in this document, and emphasizes the basic conceptual issues involved in the right to food. This section is composed of six Appendices, with the following content:

Appendix 1 provides essential information on the development and activity of PFH-LAC, including its rules of procedure and its response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Appendix 2 describes the process by which the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food was created, including its declaration of establishment.

Appendix 3 summarizes the main features of the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, the public statement issued (the Madrid Declaration) and the participation of Spanish parliamentarians and other political authorities.

Appendix 4 presents the Right to Food Observatories, which are academic bodies closely related to the PFH, both in Spain and in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Appendix 5 focuses on the Right to Food, and is divided into four parts: 5.1 sets out the historical evolution of this human right; 5.2 provides basic definitions in the area; 5.3

highlights the international milestones in the process, and these are explained in greater detail in 5.4.

Appendix 6 consists of a strategic bibliography, enabling a deeper understanding of the issues discussed in this publication, including specific guides for the development of the Right to Food and national legislative agendas.

CHAPTER I: BACKGROUND AND PRIOR DEVELOPMENTS

All routes to success follow a path and it is important to investigate its origin to better understand the course taken and to identify the key steps towards acceptance and progress.

The Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger and Malnutrition were launched in 2009 in Latin America and the Caribbean. But what had happened before to enable this appearance? What previous steps had been taken? To what extent had AECID and Spanish Cooperation been catalysts for this event?

In the following, we examine a series of elements relating to the first decade of the 21st century that explain and clarify the emergence of the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger.

I.1 HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION: FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS TO BE ADDRESSED

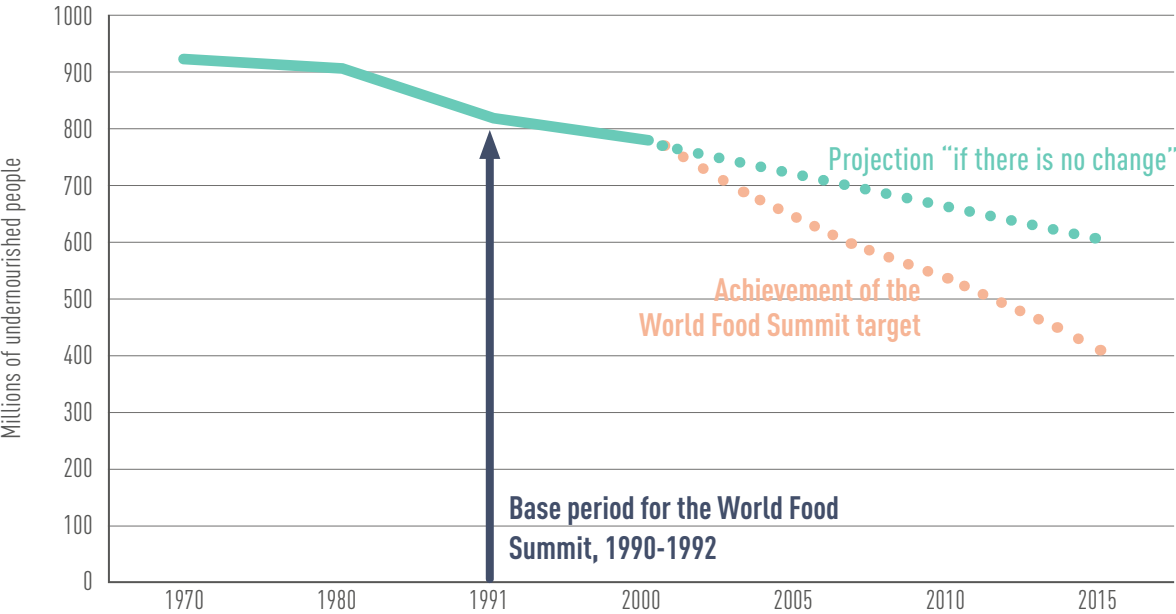
The 21st century began with reports that worldwide over 800 million people were suffering from undernourishment¹. A 2003 FAO strategic report denounced this situation, stating “It is a moral outrage that 840 million people go hungry in a world of plenty”². At the same time, other problems derived from poor nutrition, such as obesity, were growing rapidly, and thousands of people were losing their lives daily due to poor or insufficient nutrition. This was, and remains, a constant appeal to our consciences and for technical and political interventions to be made. A response was a logical necessity; this was no passing phase or questionable issue. It was a question that could not be hidden or ignored, it demanded space on the political agenda; if left unsolved, real sustainable development would be impossible.

The States attending the 1996 World Food Summit had pledged to halve the number of people suffering from chronic undernourishment by 2015. This ambition, in a slightly adapted form, would later become one of the Millennium Development Goals (2000-2015).

1. 1,826 million, according to the FAO 2000 report “State of Food Insecurity in the World”.

2. [Anti-Hunger Programme - A twin-track approach to hunger reduction: priorities for national and international action \(fao.org\)](#)

Illustration 1. FAO 2003. Number of undernourished people in developing countries: current and projected levels in relation to the World Food Summit target.³



From today’s perspective, it is apparent that, after a significant decline in the first fifteen years of the century, the problem of global undernourishment has returned and now affects around 800 million people (SOFI 2021)⁴. Moreover, this figure is expected to rise significantly due to the COVID-19 crisis. At the same time, overweight and obesity are suffered by more than two billion people worldwide. The call to action, perhaps muffled, but constant and forceful, remains.

1.2 THE CONSOLIDATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL APPROACH TO COMBAT HUNGER: THE RIGHT TO FOOD

As the 21st century began, a growing international consensus developed on the need, once and for all, to make a reality of the Right to Food (FAO, 2003), a right that was first expressly formulated in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and which had evolved and matured over the following decades.

“The **right to adequate food** is realized when every man, woman and child, alone or in community with others, have physical and economic access at all times to adequate food or means for its procurement.”

UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR). General Comment N°. 12 (1999)⁵.

3. From the chapter Hunger Reduction: A Universal Commitment in the 2003 FAO publication: “Anti-Hunger Programme - A twin-track approach to hunger reduction: priorities for national and international action” (fao.org)

4. Between 720 and 811 million, according to the SOFI 2021 data.

5. <https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/4538838c11.pdf>

Illustration 2. Timeline of key achievements in the Right to Food (1948-2007). FAO.

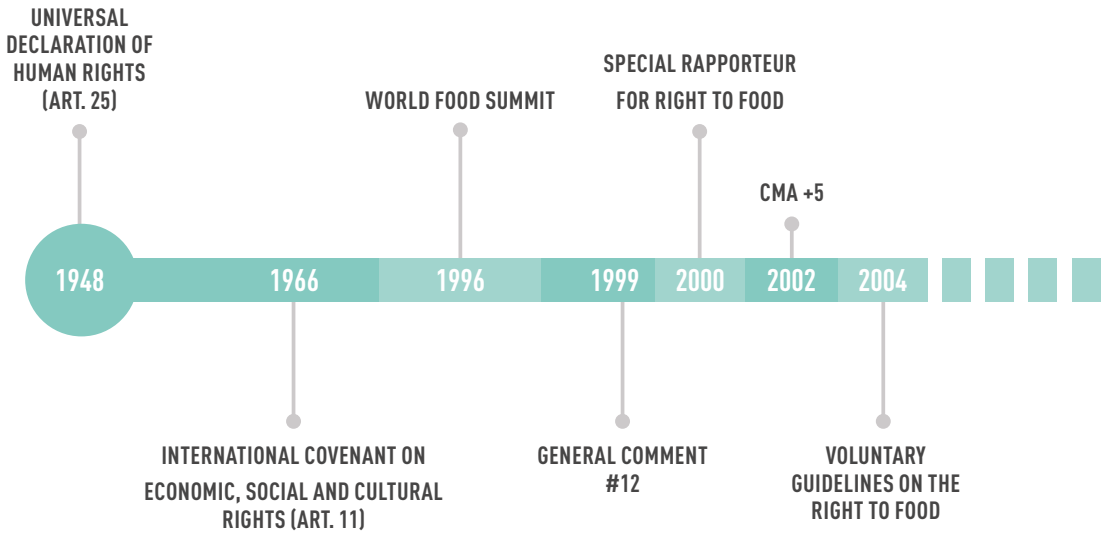


Illustration 3. Milestones in the Evolution of the Right to Food to 2007.

TIMELINE OF THE RIGHT TO FOOD: MILESTONES ⁶			
1.	Approval of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights	UN General Assembly, Paris, France	10 December 1948
2.	Approval of the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition, Rome 1974	Rome, Italy	16 November 1974
3.	Entry into force of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	UN General Assembly, USA	3 January 1976
4.	Establishment of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	Geneva, Switzerland	28 May 1985
5.	Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	17 November 1996
6.	General Comment 12: The right to adequate food.	Geneva, Switzerland	12 May 1999
7.	Establishment of the mandate for the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food	Human Rights Commission, Geneva, Switzerland	17 April 2000
8.	Millennium Development Goal 1: Eradicate poverty and hunger	UN General Assembly, USA	8 September 2000
9.	Adoption of the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later ⁷	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	10 June 2002
10.	Approval of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Right to Food	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	27 November 2004
11.	World Food Day "The Right to Food, make it possible"	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	16 October 2007

The realization of the Right to Food was defended not as a promise to be fulfilled through charity⁸, but as a human right that must be made effective through a legal framework and appropriate

6. <http://www.fao.org/right-to-food-timeline/en/>

7. <http://www.fao.org/3/a-y7937e.pdf>

8. <http://www.fao.org/right-to-food/en/>

actions by States, guaranteeing its justiciability. This right is part of the inherent dignity of the human person and essential to the enjoyment of other rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights.

The State, therefore, should be the entity responsible for determining, regulating and directing the implementation of a food system based on the specific needs and on the national culture, making the system sustainable and responsive to nutritional considerations. Moreover, the State must regulate food safety, oversee the operation of markets and develop standards for agriculture and food supply. These requirements are detailed in the “Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security”, approved by the FAO Council in its 127th session (2004).

These Guidelines take a holistic view of the problem of hunger, including the legal framework, international cooperation and national budgetary contributions. All of these areas are closely related to the work to be done by the Parliamentary Alliances.

Illustration 4. Areas addressed by the Voluntary Guidelines on the Right to Food

THE 19 VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES	
D1. Democracy, good governance, human rights and the rule of law	D11. Education and awareness raising
D2. Economic development policies	D12. National financial resources
D3. Strategies	D13. Support for vulnerable groups
D4. Market systems	D14. Safety nets
D5. Institutions	D15. International food aid
D6. Stakeholders	D16. Natural and human-made disasters
D7. Legal framework	D17. Monitoring, indicators and benchmarks
D8. Access to resources and assets (labour, land, water, genetic resources for food and agriculture, sustainability and services)	D18. National human rights institutions
D9. Food safety and consumer protection	D19. International dimension
D10. Nutrition	

1.3 PESA CENTRAL AMERICA: A COMPREHENSIVE FOOD SAFETY PROGRAMME WITH A NOVEL APPROACH CENTROAMÉRICA

The Special Programme for Food Security (PESA) has been the main FAO field programme since the World Food Summit in 1996, and has been applied in many countries. In 1999, AECID financed its implementation in Honduras, Nicaragua and Guatemala, as the variant PESA Central America (in 2006, this application was extended to El Salvador). Although the programme was originally focused on food production, it later evolved towards a broader approach to rural development and the right to food, expanding its scale and seeking to convert these concerns into municipal and national policies. The programme has progressively addressed contemporary international issues, reacting flexibly and creatively to specific national contexts. And all its actions are taken in the firm belief (which, moreover, is increasingly clearly evidenced) that “the problem of hunger is above all, one of political will. Accordingly, it is necessary to build instruments that can facilitate or promote fair and sustainable access to the livelihoods necessary to produce or acquire food” (PESA, 2014).

When the time arrived, in coordination with national governments and partner agencies involved with the programme, PESA began assisting with the development of institutional frameworks for food and nutrition security, including the formulation of specific laws in this respect. Increasingly frequent contacts were made with parliamentarians, and the process culminated in 2005 and 2009 with the adoption of Food Security and Sovereignty laws in Guatemala and Nicaragua, respectively. PESA Central America has carried out extensive exercises to systematize its experiences. These are summarized in the publication “Hambre se saber, saber de hambre. Los programas PESA de Centroamérica: quince años de cooperación para la seguridad alimentaria y nutricional. Logros y lecciones aprendidas”.

[PESA programmes in Central America: fifteen years of cooperation for food and nutrition security. Achievements made and lessons learned]. In this publication, the following chapters are especially relevant to parliamentary responsibilities and/or international cooperation: (2) Institutional Framework for Food and Nutrition Security in Central America; (3) International Cooperation in SAN public policies; and (5) Public Expenditure in Central America on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Food and Nutrition Security.

During the design and development of the PESA programme, AECID and FAO enjoyed an active relationship, generating mutual trust and increasing the number of joint interventions performed. This trust, together with the flexibility to gradually adapt the direction of the interventions in accordance with windows of political opportunity and to adjust the programme to multi-year periods, were lessons learned that were subsequently applied in support of the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger (PFH). Many



Illustration 5. Cover of the publication “Hunger for knowledge...”, the final systematization of the PESA Central America Programmes.

Spanish aid workers have participated in PESA since 1999, and subsequently contributed to the design of the Hunger-Free Latin America and Caribbean Initiative and to the development of the PFH.

I.4 THE ACKNOWLEDGED LEGITIMACY OF SPAIN-FAO COOPERATION ON FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY IN LATIN AMERICA

Many years of investment, plus constant, detailed, transparent, results-oriented work, always seeking to make its actions appropriate and in line with national strategies, had earned AECID the trust of national institutions and led to AECID-FAO interventions becoming benchmarks in Central America and elsewhere in Latin America and the Caribbean. As a result, AECID was able to work hand in hand with policymakers, within a framework of mutual responsibility, a relationship that facilitated contacts with legislative bodies. A fundamental aspect of this status was Spanish Cooperation's commitment to FSN and the Right to Food, its comprehensive involvement in national and regional political processes, the increased value of its multilateral contributions and the symbiosis achieved with FAO. These factors were of fundamental importance to ensure the viability of the complex political processes undertaken. Nevertheless, these advances might not have been possible without the Spanish Parliament's prior approval of Law 23/1998, of 7 July, on International Development Cooperation, which created an ambitious framework for the development of Spanish Cooperation, enabling the Agency to achieve a decade of expansion, during a period marked by governments of different political persuasions.

I.5 THE FOOD PRICE CRISIS OF 2007-2008

A world food price crisis broke out in 2007, with basic foods such as rice, wheat and corn doubling or tripling in price. This sudden escalation heightened international awareness of the problem, revealing it to be not a chronic difficulty, but an emergency requiring urgent attention to avoid tragedy and to which resources had to be allocated. This crisis provoked widespread public protests in many developing countries, and according to some analysts was at the origin of the convulsive process known as the Arab Spring.

At international summits held to address this situation, Spain expressed its wish to strengthen its commitment to the fight against hunger and to consolidate its medium-term contributions to the Spain-FAO Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean⁹ and to the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative, which had been launched in 2005, among other actions.

At the same time, this crisis drew the attention of many Latin American governments and parliamentarians to the twin problems of hunger and food production, both of which required technical assistance from FAO to apply immediate remedies and to propose policies and legislative frameworks for longer-term solutions.

9. See: <http://www.fao.org/in-action/programa-espana-fao/proyectos/proyectos-finalizados/en/>

I.6 THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF PARLIAMENTS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION

The basic facts of the situation and the experience gained showed that the problems of hunger and malnutrition were more political than technical and that much remained to be done in designing and applying focused, sufficient policies in this field.

If the nutritional status of the world's population was to be improved, there had to be policies, programmes and frameworks that were well grounded in law and adequately funded; and national parliaments had the tools available to make this possible, such as budget approval, government control and the preparation and approval of specific legislation. Parliamentarians, therefore, were key allies. In addition, they were able to raise awareness of the urgency of assuring FNS, facilitate dialogue among multiple stakeholders, share experiences proven successful in other countries and contribute to the generation of international commitments.

Many actors in the context of development cooperation were reluctant to engage with the legislative sphere due to the risk of partisan politicization. However, the promoters of the PFH decided to take the risk and advocate the creation of plural platforms within parliaments to fight against hunger and malnutrition. This approach, if accompanied by appropriate technical assistance, was expected to avoid the danger of partisan logic, thus enabling the long-term implementation of State policies, despite possible changes in government.

I.7 GROWING INTERACTION IN THE LEGISLATIVE FIELD

Prior to the official launch of the Parliamentary Front Against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean (PFH-LAC) in 2009, work had already taken place to promote legislative changes by national governments. Thus, the PESA programme and FAO Representations in countries such as Guatemala and Nicaragua had collaborated to foster specific legislation on food and nutrition security and/or sovereignty, in order to construct institutional frameworks enabling the creation of National Food Security Councils and agencies to monitor policies to combat hunger¹⁰.

The 2004 FNS Law in Guatemala was the first legislative development in this context. In Nicaragua, after a long process of validation and consensus seeking, the Food Security and Sovereignty Law was adopted in 2009.

In 2001, the FOME 0¹¹ Programme was launched in Brazil. This Programme was led by Graziano da Silva, who would later become FAO Director for Latin America and the Caribbean (2006-2011) and FAO Director General (2012-2019). In 2007, the Parliamentary Front for Nutritional Food Security was established in Brazil, providing a benchmark for the creation of Parliamentary Fronts at the regional level.

10. The systematization of institutional frameworks in FSN.

11. The Fome Zero (Zero Hunger) Program-The Brazilian experience: <https://www.fao.org/family-farming/detail/en/c/273447/>

I.8 CLEARLY-DEFINED POLITICAL COMMITMENT AND SUSTAINED TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT: THE HUNGER-FREE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN 2025 INITIATIVE AND THE PROJECT TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE IT

During these years, there was growing recognition among national leaders of the problem of hunger in the region and Presidential commitment to addressing this issue. These factors led to the creation of the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean 2025 Initiative, at the level of Heads of State.

The existence of a technical programme to support the process made the political commitments viable, prevented their becoming stalled and facilitated engagement with the parliamentary world.

Illustration 6. Political events marking regional commitment to fight hunger in Latin America (2005-2009)

The illustration is a vertical timeline with three main entries. Each entry consists of a year in a yellow circle, a text box with a description, and a photograph. The 2005 entry includes a placeholder box for a missing image. The 2006 entry features a group photo of leaders. The 2008 entry features a large group photo of leaders.

- 2005**
En el marco de la Cumbre Latinoamericana sobre Hambre Crónica se acordó la IALCSH 2025 como compromiso político.
iniciativa AMÉRICA LATINA Y CARIBE SIN HAMBRE
- 2006**
Los Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno presentes en la XVI Cumbre Iberoamericana, expresaron su compromiso con la IALCSH 2025 a e instaron a la Secretaría General Iberoamericana (SEGIB) a impulsar el desarrollo de la misma.
- 2008**
Mandatarios de América Latina y Europa refrendaron su compromiso para erradicar la desnutrición durante la V Cumbre América Latina y el Caribe - Unión Europea.

At first, only around 10% of the programme budget was assigned to parliamentary work, but this activity gained prominence and recognition over the years, and the budget assignation rose to 50% as policymakers realized the potential to make an effective impact on public policies. In any case, investment levels in this area have always been modest, not exceeding 500,000 euros per year, and therefore the return on investment has been very high.

Given these considerations, the a priori complex task of working directly in the parliamentary sphere began to seem feasible, and regional meetings took place to shape the proposed parliamentary instruments: the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger (FPH).

Illustration 7. Timeline of major events prior to the creation of the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger.



CHAPTER 2: THE PARLIAMENTARY FRONTS AGAINST HUNGER: DEVELOPMENT, EXPANSION AND ACHIEVEMENTS

2.1 WHAT ARE THE PARLIAMENTARY FRONTS AGAINST HUNGER?

The Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger (PFH) — also known later as the Parliamentary Alliances against Hunger and Malnutrition, or Alliances for the Right to Food, when they became globally present— are plural networks of legislators in national and regional parliaments which were created to strengthen the fight against hunger by promoting legislative actions, raising public awareness and monitoring government actions and budgetary policies.

The PFH are viewed as flexible, operational instruments of political commitment which facilitate effective measures to combat hunger and malnutrition and foster compliance with national and international goals in this respect.

Although these entities were relatively informal at first, over time and with appropriate technical support they have become well established and effective within their respective parliaments. Each alliance (national or regional) has unique characteristics, depending on the context of the parliament in question and the institutional instruments available. However, all share the following essential characteristics and objectives:

- ✓ The Front (or Alliance) is characterized by broad representation and political pluralism;
- ✓ It is participatory, promotes dialogue and consensus, and holds regular meetings;
- ✓ It has a heterogeneous outlook; members participate in different strategic committees, including International Development Cooperation, Health & Social Services, and Agriculture, Food & Environment. This broad stance is necessary to address the multisectoral nature of the challenges faced;
- ✓ When the legislative power has a bicameral format, the PFH advocates the participation of each parliamentary chamber in the Alliance;
- ✓ It promotes a gender-parity approach within its membership and in the legislation it proposes.

Lessons have been learned from the PFH experience, and the following key operational issues for success and proper functioning have been identified¹²:

- ✓ Establish a work plan and have well-defined objectives.
- ✓ Engage with other members of the Parliament, emphasising the importance of working to promote the Right to Food, nationally and internationally.
- ✓ Exchange experiences with like-minded alliances worldwide, both regional and national.
- ✓ Participate in global and regional summits, and facilitate and promote their organization, assuring a constant exchange of experiences.
- ✓ Obtain support from FAO, through its Representation in the country or region.
- ✓ Highlight the need to support other countries with technical assistance, so that their policies and programmes can reach the most vulnerable territories and population segments as effectively and efficiently as possible.
- ✓ Establish and maintain contacts and collaboration with civil society and universities.
- ✓ Enable extensive, ongoing training for parliamentarians and advisers, providing tools, advice and technical support, together with mechanisms for multisectoral coordination.
- ✓ Possess the necessary financial capacity and technical personnel.
- ✓ Promote new Alliances in other parliaments or with other key actors in this field in the domestic context.

2.2 PARLIAMENTARY FRONTS AGAINST HUNGER IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

2.2.1 PFH-LAC and its organizational progress

In 2008, two regional meetings were held, for Central America and the Caribbean and for South America, in Panama and Chile, respectively. Their purpose was to define the necessary structure and objectives for a regional Parliamentary Front against Hunger. PFH-LAC was officially launched in 2009, in Panama, at the PARLATINO headquarters.

¹². For further details, see Appendix 2.3: Challenges and strategic elements in the initial activities of a Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food.



Illustration 8. Inauguration of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean. Panama, 2009.

The process was facilitated by a Regional Executive Coordinating Committee. Today, this Committee consists of a PFH coordinator and three vice-coordinators, one each from South America, Mesoamerica and the Caribbean



Illustration 9. The PFH-LAC Coordinating Committee after being elected at the 9th Forum, in Casa América (Madrid, 2018).

To date, there have been five General Coordinators of PFH-LAC, three of whom are women:

José Carlos Cardoso (Uruguay): 2009-2012, appointed during the 1st Annual Forum (Brazil).

Guadalupe Valdez (Dominican Republic): 2012-2014, appointed during the 3rd Annual Forum (Guatemala).

María Augusta Calle (Ecuador): 2014-2016, appointed during the 5th Annual Forum (Dominican Republic).

Luisa María Calderón (México): 2016-2018, appointed during the 7th Annual Forum (Mexico).

Jairo Flores (Guatemala): 2018-2021, appointed during the 9th Annual Forum (Spain).

There is also an **Extended Coordinating Committee**, a collegiate body created to take decisions and coordinate PFH-LAC actions. This Committee consists of one representative from each regional and/or subregional parliament and another from each of the national parliamentary fronts.



Illustration 10. Three former presidents of the PFH, Guadalupe Valdez, Augusta Calle and Luisa María Calderón, during a meeting of the Extended Committee of the PFH during its 7th Forum, in Mexico City, 2016.

An important role is also played by the **Technical Secretariat**, which provides technical and logistical support to the PFH-LAC. Since 2009, this body consisted of FAO officials and consultants associated with the Project Support Team for the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative 2025 (HFLACI), financed by AECID.

Finally, since 2014 there has been an Advisory Council made up of former PFH legislators, which performs support and consultation function and whose members regularly participate in the Forums and in the annual Planning Meetings.

With assistance from the Project Support Team for HFLACI 2025 and financing from AECID, FAO has conducted annual in-person Forums to facilitate the exchange of experiences, to raise the visibility of the PFH and to foster the creation of new Fronts at the national level. To date, nine such forums have been held, in eight different countries, including Spain in 2018.



Illustration 11. Project Support Team for the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative, acting as Technical Secretariat for PFH-LAC at the FAO Regional Office in Santiago de Chile (2017).

Each of these Forums has presented novel characteristics and achieved specific advances. Thus, the 3rd Forum, in Guatemala, was the first to invite African parliamentarians; at the 5th, held in the Dominican Republic, there was a significant increase in the political weight of the Forums, and a delegation of Spanish parliamentarians participated for the first time; At the 7th, in Mexico, Spanish parliamentarians offered to organize a Global Parliamentary Summit in Madrid, a proposal that was ratified at the 8th Forum, held in Montevideo.

Ilustración 12. Línea de tiempo con los nueve Foros del FPH-ALC celebrados





Illustration 13. Session of the 6th Forum of the PFH held in the Congress of Peru, Lima 2015.



Illustration 14. Spanish delegation at the 7th Forum of the PFH, Mexico City 2016: From left to right: Rafael Eloy Bolivar (Counsellor of the Embassy of Spain in Mexico), José Luis Ramón Torres Colomer (President of the Senate Agriculture Commission), Alberto Fabra (President of the Cooperation Commission of the Senate) and Miguel Ángel Encinas (Director of Spain's Technical Cooperation Office in Mexico).

In conjunction with the Forums, regular **Planning Meetings** were held from 2013, at which, in addition to organizing the meetings of the Extended Coordinating Committee of the FPH, sessions were held for parliamentarians and parliamentary advisors to enable capacity building and foster the exchange of experiences. The topics addressed in these Planning Meetings included FNS institutionalization, the inclusion of the Right to Food in national constitutions, the fight against food waste, the provision of school meals, the promotion of family farming and public procurement from this source, healthy food environments, food labelling, food advertising aimed at children, regulatory measures targeting sugary drinks and other unhealthy products, ensuring the equality of women's rights to land ownership and the promotion of policies to support women in the rural environment.

Since the 3rd Meeting, these Meetings have been held at the AECID Training Centres in Cartagena de Indias (Colombia) and La Antigua (Guatemala). At the 4th Meeting, relations between legislators and the academic world were formalized in an agreement between the PFH and the Right to Food Observatory of Latin America and the Caribbean (RFO-LAC), since when the two bodies have enjoyed a close, complementary relationship, facilitating the construction and monitoring of legislative advances.



Illustration 15. Fourth Planning Meeting of the PFH at the AECID Training Centre in Cartagena de Indias (Colombia). 2016.



Illustration 16. Fifth PFH Planning Meeting at the AECID Training Centre in Antigua (Guatemala). 2017.

In parallel, **Virtual Learning Centres**¹³ have provided online courses on these topics, generating a favourable context and a common language among technicians, managers and politicians. Topics addressed in these courses include: i) Food and Nutrition Security Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean (offered since 2013); ii) Communication and knowledge for decision-making in Food and Nutrition Security in Latin America (2015); iii) Online Diploma in Food and Nutrition Security Methodology (2016); iv) Promoting healthy eating (2017).

Since 2016, an annual course for PFH advisers has been provided on public policies for FNS and the right to food¹⁴. The aim of this course is to enhance the capacities of these advisers in their legislative work, regarding governance, the development and monitoring of regulations and the mobilization of budgets in the field of FNS. It has four thematic units:

- Context and conceptual frameworks for the human right to adequate food, and for food and nutrition sovereignty and security.
- Elements for legislative advances to realize the human right to adequate food; the role of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger.
- Strategic actors in the governance of food and nutrition security.
- Monitoring, evaluation and public budgets to realize the human right to adequate food.

13. <https://virtual-learning-center.fao.org>

14. <https://www.fao.org/in-action/capacitacion-politicas-publicas/cursos/ver/en/c/1104356/>



Illustration 17. Third course for legislative advisors to the PFH-LAC. AECID Training Centre in Antigua, Guatemala. 2019.

2.2.2 The constitution of Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger in various countries and the legislation approved

Following the launch of the PFH-LAC at the regional level, PFH were constituted in each of the national parliaments concerned¹⁵, and also in the corresponding Regional Parliaments (PARLACEN, PARLATINO, PARLANDINO, PARLASUR and FOPREL). Currently, there are twenty-six such PFH.

Illustration 18. Timeline of the constitution of each Parliamentary Front against Hunger



15. Except in the case of Brazil, where the PFH had been constituted earlier, in 2007.

Each national PFH has its own National Coordinating Body, elected by the local PFH members. The national PFH are formalized in accordance with the instruments determined by their own national parliaments, and they all participate in the Expanded Coordinating Committee of the PFH-LAC.

Many parliaments, following the constitution of their PFH, have approved specific legislation in this field. The following are some examples of these advances¹⁶:

Laws on the institutional framework for FNS

- [Framework Law: Right to food, security and food sovereignty \(PARLATINO\)](#).
- [Food and Nutrition Security Law, 2011 \(Honduras\)](#).
- [Law of the Nicaraguan Legal Digest on Food and Nutrition Sovereignty and Security, 2009, \(Nicaragua\)](#).
- [Law on Food and Nutrition Sovereignty and Security and the Right to Food \(Paraguay\)](#).
- [Food and Nutrition Security Law, 2015 \(Peru\)](#).
- [Law 589-16 on Food and Nutrition Sovereignty and Security for the Right to Food \(Dominican Republic\)](#).

Laws on specific issues

Family Farming/Agroecology:

- [Model Law on family farming \(PARLATINO\)](#).
- [Law 27.118: Historical restitution of family farming to reconstruct a new rural environment in Argentina, \(Argentina\)](#).
- [Family Farming Law, January 2020 \(Panamá\)](#).
- [Law to create the national system of family smallholdings \(Paraguay\)](#).
- [Law 30355 on the promotion and development of family farming, 2015 \(Peru\)](#).
- [Organic Law on rural lands and ancestral territories 2016 \(Ecuador\)](#).
- [Law to establish a National Plan for the promotion of agroecological farming \(Uruguay\)](#).

16. For further details, see the IALCSH website (ialcsh.org), which has sections on each member country, stating when the PFH was constituted, the legislation by which this took place, the parliamentarian responsible for coordination, the main legislative initiatives promoted by the PFH and related documents and news of interest.

- Law declaring family farming and artisanal fishing activities of public interest and establishing a State market reserve mechanism for food goods and services (Uruguay).



Illustration 19. Cover of the PARLATINO Model Law on Family Farming and photograph on participants in the Family Farming programme.

Combating food waste:

- Law No. 27454 on a National Plan to reduce food loss and waste (2018) (Argentina).
- Law 1990 on the prevention of food loss and waste (2019) (Colombia).
- Law No. 188 on the promotion of food donations (2019) (El Salvador).

School meals:

- Model Law on School Meals (PARLATINO).
- School Meals Law within the framework of food sovereignty and the plural economy (Bolivia).
- Law 11.497 on the National School Meals Programme, 2009 (Brazil).
- Organic Law on school meals, 2020 (Ecuador).
- Law on the School Milk Programme, 2013 (El Salvador).
- School Meals Law (Guatemala).
- School Meals Law (Honduras).
- School Meals Law (Paraguay).
- Law to promote healthy eating in schools, 2013 (Uruguay).



Illustration 20. School lunch programmes (Photos: FAO)

Healthy eating:

- [Law to promote healthy eating \(Bolivia\)](#).
- [Law No. 20.606 on the nutritional composition and advertising of foods, 2015 \(Chile\)](#).
- [Official Regulation No. 134 on the labelling of processed foods for human consumption \(Ecuador\)](#).
- [Amendment to the General Law on Health regarding overweight, obesity and the labelling of food and non-alcoholic beverages. Labelling Law, 5 November 2019 \(Mexico\)](#).
- [Law 30021 on the promotion of healthy eating for children and adolescents, 2013 \(Peru\)](#).
- [Decree No. 272/018 modifying the National Regulations on food labelling \(Uruguay\)](#).

Other areas:

- [Law establishing a National Credit Solidarity Programme for Rural Women \(CREDIMUJER\), 2015 \(Honduras\)](#).
- [Law to promote the installation of breastfeeding rooms for mothers \(Uruguay\)](#).
- [Constitutional amendment recognizing the right to food, amending Articles 4 and 27 of the Constitution, 2011 \(Mexico\)](#).

2.2.3 Political and budgetary interventions and coordination with other participants

With respect to **public budgets**, the PFH have applied three types of mechanism. In the first place, they have sought to ensure that new legislation in this field includes specific financial commitments to guarantee the fulfilment of the stated objectives. Moreover, on some occasions, decrees have been passed to complement the initial laws, defining their budget allocation. For example, the school meals laws of Ecuador, Guatemala and Honduras guarantee the necessary budget allocation for these programmes, and Bolivia approved a Decree to promote economic organizations in the community.



Illustration 21. Unanimous approval of the School Meals Law by the Parliament of Ecuador.

The second mechanism is that of political control and oversight in parliament. In Guatemala, this work has led to the reconsideration of public spending by the Ministry of Social Development.

A third, and innovative, mechanism concerns the generation of parafiscal taxes to invest in the fight against hunger. For example, in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines a fee for international calls has been established, to contribute to the financing of the national Zero Hunger programme.

The FPH are **actively mobilizing partners** to coordinate interventions, in areas such as the following:

- PARLATINO and the FPH have jointly produced an agenda for SDG 2 with the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly (EUROLAT). This commitment is set out in the Declaration of the EUROLAT Co-Presidents on “A comprehensive and bi-regional EU-LAC strategy to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic”, of 5 November 2020.
- PFH-LAC and the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) are generating initial work plans for an Ibero-American Parliamentary Alliance for SDG 2.



Illustration 22. Meeting at the SEGIB Headquarters between Spanish and Latin American parliamentarians, FAO, AECID and SEGIB, laying the foundations for an Ibero-American Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food (2019).

- On 5 October 2020, FAO Director-General Qu Dongyu met with PFH leaders to discuss ways to strengthen collaboration between FAO and parliaments in the region to combat poverty, hunger and malnutrition.
- The 33 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean represented at the 36th Regional Conference of FAO for Latin America and the Caribbean (LARC), which took place from 19-21 October 2020 in Nicaragua, presented a final declaration highlighting the role of the FPH, and recommending that FAO “continue mobilizing capacities, knowledge and will to achieve effective collaboration with the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger, civil society organizations, the private sector and the scientific and academic worlds, which are a source of extensive capabilities and knowledge in the region, in order to achieve solutions to the different problems and to enhance the results pursued by the countries in the region”.
- New Alliances are being formed between the FPH and other organizations, such as the World Rural Forum, the Right to Food Observatory of Latin America and the Caribbean (RFO-LAC) and the corresponding Observatory in Spain, among others.

All of these processes have been encouraged and assisted by the PFH-LAC Secretariat, which is financed by AECID through the project to support the Hunger-Free Latin America and Caribbean Initiative.

2.2.4 The Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger: response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Although the COVID-19 provoked logistical difficulties, PFH-LAC activity remained very significant, as parliamentarians not only generated new legislation, but also monitored and controlled the executive, interacted with national and international partners, made calls for action and issued public statements. Some examples of their interventions in these areas are given below.

2.2.4.1. Laws recently approved or under parliamentary scrutiny

In the last year, legislative activity has accelerated. Thus, in 2020, sixteen laws on food security and family farming were approved, and at least twenty-five bills related to SDG 2 are currently going through parliament.

Approved in 2020

- **Colombia:** Law establishing mechanisms to promote the participation of small local farmers and smallholdings, family and community agriculture (August 2020).
- **Costa Rica:** Law to ensure access to basic household goods in the context of the health emergency caused by Covid-19.
- **Ecuador:** Aquaculture and Fisheries Law (February 2020); Organic Law on school meals (April 2020).
- **El Salvador:** Transitional law on measures to support the agricultural sector to ensure food security during the national emergency (April 2020).
- **Honduras:** Law to assist the productive sector and protect workers against the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic (April 2020); Law on financial support for the productive sectors of Honduras (June 2020).
- **Mexico:** Federal Law on the promotion and protection of native maize (April 2020); Law amending the General Health Law on food labelling in Mexico (May 2020).
- **Panama:** Law on the development of family agriculture (January 2020); Law to establish a special moratorium for agricultural credits (July 2020).
- **Paraguay:** Law on differentiated agrarian credit (May 2020); Law to establish a special regime for food donations (September 2020).
- **PARLANDINO:** Regulatory framework to promote and strengthen smallholdings and family farming in the Andean Region (May 2020); Regulatory framework to ensure food safety in the Andean region (November 2020).

Legislation under consideration¹⁷

- **Argentina:** Food Labelling Bill.
- **Brazil:** Bill to ensure the distribution of food and medical supplies to indigenous communities during the COVID-19 situation; Bill to establish emergency measures for family farmers.
- **Colombia:** Artisanal Fishing Bill; Breastfeeding Bill; Healthy Eating Environments Bill.
- **Chile:** Bill on sanitary protocol for street markets; Bill on food loss and waste; Bill to prohibit the unilateral suspension of street markets during the pandemic.
- **Costa Rica:** Bill to promote agricultural production and fisheries during the COVID-19 national emergency; Bill to safeguard the right to food during the COVID-19 national emergency; Bill on tax relief for goods and services used in agricultural and fishing production during the COVID-19 national emergency.
- **Ecuador:** Organic Bill for the sustainable development of the agricultural sector.
- **El Salvador:** Family Farming Bill.
- **Guatemala:** Family Farming Bill; Food Loss and Waste Bill.
- **Honduras:** Family Farming Bill; Agricultural Smallholding Cooperatives Bill; Food System Reform Bill.
- **Mexico:** General Water Bill.
- **Paraguay:** Farm Insurance Bill; Poverty, Reforestation, Energy and Climate Change (PROEZA) Bill; Food Loss Bill.
- **Dominican Republic:** Food Labelling Bill.
- **PARLATINO:** Framework Bill on community water and sanitation systems; Framework Bill on climate change and food and nutrition security.

¹⁷.As at 31 January 2021.

2.2.4.2 Political interventions and coordination with other participants

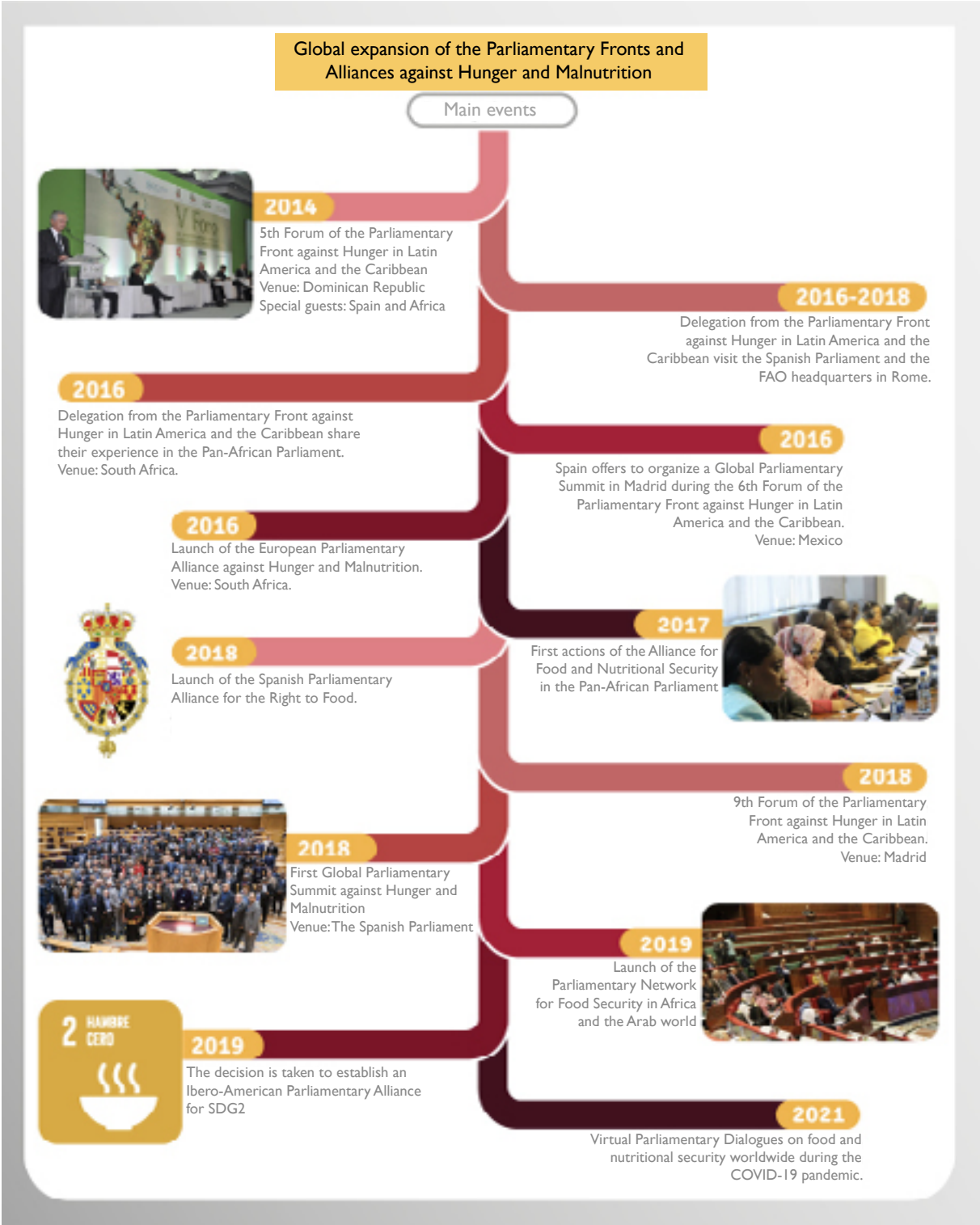
The regional parliaments, spurred by their respective PFH and by PFH-LAC, have issued various **public statements** since 2020, identifying aspects that need to be addressed in response to the current crisis.

- April 2020: Statement on the international distribution of food during the COVID-19 crisis (PARLATINO).
- May 2020: Statement on family farming in the context of COVID 19 (PARLATINO-FAO).
- August 2020: Statement on increasing responsible investment in agriculture and food systems in response to the COVID-19 crisis (PARLATINO-FAO).
- October 2020: Motivational statement for World Food Day (PARLASUR).
- April 2020: Motivational statement for food production in response to the COVID-19 crisis (PARLACEN).
- Hearings on SDG 2 and the creation of a work plan to promote the development of framework laws on food and sustainable agriculture with a gender approach (PARLASUR).

The national PFH have made specific requests to their respective governments on questions of food and agriculture, **requesting appearances by government representatives** and calling for compliance with previously approved laws and policies. For example, in Chile the PFH urged the Ministry of Agriculture, civil society (represented by street and local market associations) and FAO to enter into dialogue and knowledge exchange to support food supply chains. As a result, action was rapidly taken to implement biosafety protocols enabling the opening and operation of street markets, thus supplying much of the Chilean population with healthy food.

2.3 THE INTERNATIONAL EXPANSION OF THE PFH AND THE 2018 GLOBAL PARLIAMENTARY SUMMIT IN MADRID

Illustration 23. Timeline of the main events in the global expansion of the PFH



Advances in this field have been progressive. Since the 4th PFH-LAC Forum, held in the Dominican Republic in 2014, the level of political participation by the parliaments hosting these Forums has increased substantially, and parliamentarians began to be invited from other continents, while delegations of Spanish and African parliamentarians began to attend as observers.



Illustration 24. Latin American and African parliamentarians at the 7th Forum of the PFH-LAC, held in Mexico, 2016

With the support of FAO and AECID, PFH coordinators participated in other forums, such as the Side Event organized by the AECID and the Sahel Club during the working meeting of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA) at the OECD headquarters in Paris, in 2017.



Illustration 25. Latin American and African parliamentarians. OECD Event, Paris 2017. ©Pablo Andrés Ramírez.

Between 2016 and 2018, the PFH sent missions to the European Institutions (Brussels), to the headquarters of the FAO and the CFS (Rome), to the Spanish Parliament (Madrid) and to the headquarters of the Pan-African Parliament (Johannesburg). As discussed in the following sections, these missions made a significant contribution to the development of new Parliamentary Alliances against Hunger and to preparations for the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition in 2018.



Illustration 26. María Augusta Calle, PFH-LAC Coordinator, with Bernadette Lahai, the parliamentarian of the Pan-African Parliament, during a working meeting at the FAO headquarters in Johannesburg, 2016.



Illustration 27. Coordinating delegation of PFH-LAC during a special session of the International Cooperation Committee of the Senate of Spain. Madrid. 2016.



Illustration 28. Side event at the 2017 CFS meeting in Rome, "Commitment and contribution of Parliamentarians to SDG 2", at which the Director of AECID and representatives of the Spanish Parliament, PFH-LAC and FAO resolved to hold the 2018 Parliamentary Summit in Madrid.

The interest of parliamentarians from other continents led to the progressive formation of Parliamentary Alliances against Hunger and Malnutrition and/or for the Right to Food in various national and regional parliaments. Within its Partnership Unit, FAO created a team to promote such Alliances, and AECID also provided support for certain activities, publications and significant events.

In 2016, following these interactions and the example of the PFH-LAC, a **Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food** was formed in the European Parliament. The activities of this Alliance are described at: <http://www.fao.org/brussels/partners/european-parliament/en/>



Illustration 29. Countries which, in 2018, had a Parliamentary Alliance against Hunger. Photo taken at the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, Madrid 2018.



Illustration 30. Poster-Web celebrating World Food Day 2020, showing the main European Parliamentarians who were members of this Alliance in the current 2019-2024 legislature.

The European Commission, aware of the potential of Parliamentary Alliances, made financial and political contributions to facilitate the development of the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition.

In Africa, the **Pan African Parliament Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition (PAPA-FSN)** was launched in 2016. Subsequently, many countries have formed Parliamentary Alliances against Hunger in their national parliaments, including Benin, Djibouti, Gabon, Madagascar, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Uganda and Sao Tome and Principe.



Illustration 31. Inauguration of the African Parliamentary Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, in Cairo, 2016. ©FAO/Issam Aouri

In addition, the following regional spaces have been established:

- The **East African Parliamentary Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition (EPA-FSN)**;
- The **Parliamentary Network for Food Security in Africa and the Arab world**¹⁸;
- The **Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality and Investment in Agriculture and for Food Security in ECOWAS** (Economic Community of West African States);
- The **Central African Parliamentary Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition (RAPAC-SAN)**. This alliance forms part of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

In addition, the **Afro-Latin American Parliamentary Forum (AFROLAC)** was recently established to promote parliamentary interaction between the two continents, and to provide a space for PFH members to discuss food and nutrition issues. The Global Parliamentary Summit in Madrid was attended by parliamentarians from 29 African states.

18. This Alliance was launched in Rabat in January 2019 by 50 parliamentarians from various African countries and the Arab world, as part of the Association of Senates, Shoura and Equivalent Councils in Africa and the Arab World (ASSECAA).

Parliamentary Alliances have also been formed in **Asia**, in the Philippines and Japan, while parliamentarians from India, Myanmar, Vietnam, Nepal, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Iran, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Yemen have participated in international spaces and conferences such as the Global Parliamentary Summit in Madrid, and have ratified the commitments made at this event.

The World Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), represented by its President, also attended the Global Parliamentary Summit.

2.3.1 Two-way cooperation: The Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food

The above processes facilitated the establishment of the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food in 2018. Delegations of Spanish parliamentarians attended several PFH-LAC Forums as observers, and delegations of the latter visited the Spanish Senate on two occasions (in 2016 and 2017) to share experiences on the creation, objectives and achievements of national and regional Fronts.



Illustration 32. Special session of the Senate Cooperation Committee with a delegation from the PFH-LAC and officials from FAO, AECID and the Ministry of Agriculture. Madrid 2016.



Illustration 33. Family photo of participants in a joint work session in the Spanish Senate in 2017, with the PFH-LAC delegation, Senators and Deputies, members of FAO and AECID, exchanging experiences and planning the Global Parliamentary Summit.

In early 2018, **preparatory meetings** were held between the FAO Office in Spain and parliamentarians from different political groups and committees, in both chambers, to inform and politically engage the main national parliamentary actors in the development of the Global Parliamentary Summit Against Hunger and Malnutrition, and in the creation and strengthening of a Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food.

As part of the Summit, a conference was held on “Expanding the scale of agroecology to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Working towards the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition”¹⁹. This Conference took place on 17 April 2018 at the AECID headquarters in Madrid, and was jointly organized by FAO-Spain and AECID. Its main purpose was to publicize the achievements and challenges of agroecology and, from the experience of Spanish Cooperation in this area, to lay the foundations for specific proposals from the Spanish parliamentary sphere.

In May, the **FAO Special Representative** in Spain, Ignacio Trueba, was invited to appear before the Spanish Parliament on two occasions: first, before the Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Environment at the Congress of Deputies (9 May 2018²⁰) and then before the Committee on International Development Cooperation, at the Senate (16 May 2018²¹). The purpose of these appearances was to inform Spanish parliamentarians about the state of hunger and malnutrition

19. The Conference was attended by Alberto Fabra (PP), Manuel Betegón (PP), Rosana Pastor (Unidos Podemos), Gonzalo Palacín (PSOE) and Luis Salvador (Cs).

20. Written record http://www.congreso.es/public_oficiales/L12/CONG/DS/CO/DSCD-12-CO-518.PDF and video record: <http://www.congreso.es/wc/wc/audiovisualdetalledisponible?codSesion=24&codOrgano=308&fechaSesion=09/05/2018&mp4=mp4&idLegislaturaElegida=12>

21. Written record: http://www.senado.es/legis12/publicaciones/pdf/senado/ds/DS_C_12_280.PDF

in the world, highlighting the relevance of these problems for Spain and raising awareness of the need for Spain to have its own Alliance. These appearances took place within the framework of the organization of the first Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, to be held in Madrid in October.



Illustration 34. The Special Representative of the FAO in Spain, appearing before the Congress of Deputies Committee for Agriculture, Food and Environment, together with the President of the Committee. 2018

Parliamentarians of all political stripes showed great interest in the issues raised, both in the bilateral meetings and in the above appearances, and requested FAO and AECID to engage with the process, for which a road map was proposed.

At the recommendation of the President of the Congress, and supported by the Committees of International Cooperation for Development and of Agriculture, Food and the Environment, a meeting was held on 26 June 2018 in the Sert Room at the Congress of Deputies to form a Working Group to streamline the operational constitution of the Alliance. All the parliamentary groups present were well disposed to the project and to make the necessary commitments. Thus, the first steps of the Alliance were discussed and the necessary work plans and road map were drawn up.



Illustration 35. Driving group of the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance in a working meeting in the Congress of Deputies (26 June 2018).

The Working Group formed after this meeting was composed of the following deputies: Carmen Quintanilla (PP), Soraya Rodríguez (PSOE), Rosana Pastor (Unidos Podemos), Miguel Ángel Garaulet (Ciudadanos), Miguel Viso (PP), Pepa González (PSOE), Rita Bosaho (Unidas Podemos), Enric Bataller (Compromís), Xavier Eritja (ERC), Victoria Tundidor (PSOE), Diego Clemente (Ciudadanos) and Belén Bajo (PP). The Group decided to prepare an Alliance Declaration document setting out the four potential areas for intervention by the Alliance: i) Strengthen the fight against hunger and malnutrition worldwide; ii) Prevent undernourishment and non-compliance with the Right to Adequate Food, at the national level; iii) Address the problem of malnutrition due to overweight-obesity; iv) Strengthen food system sustainability.

Finally, on 18 September 2018, members of the Congress of Deputies and of the Senate, representing the Spanish Parliament, declared the **formation of a Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food**²². The stated aim of this Alliance was to contribute, via political and parliamentary activity, to the effective realization in Spain of the human right to adequate food, and to promote the development of this right and the elimination of hunger and malnutrition worldwide.

The members of the Alliance pledged to interact with other Alliances and Parliaments, to work to enhance Spain's international cooperation work towards its goals, and to analyze and reinforce mechanisms to eliminate food poverty and undernourishment in Spain, and the risks associated with these conditions. They also resolved to promote a set of measures to address the problem of widespread obesity, to recover the Mediterranean diet, and to reorient agricultural practices to make them more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable.

During the 10th Parliamentary Legislature, the Alliance was joined by 183 members from both chambers (Congress and Senate), representing seven Parliamentary Groups: PP (77), PSOE (49), Unidos Podemos (21), Ciudadanos (29), Compromís (3), ERC (2) and PDeCat (2). The possibility of joining the Alliance was also offered to other parliamentarians.

Since the Working Group was formed, its members have participated in various meetings and events, sharing experiences with experts on the subject and with members of other Parliamentary Alliances, strengthening its capabilities and preparing the interventions of Spanish Parliamentarians



Illustration 36. Constitution of the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food, in the Congress of Deputies (18 September 2018)

22. The full Declaration is included in Appendix 2.1.

at the Global Summit. Among these activities, the parliamentarians had a breakfast meeting with Guadalupe Valdez, FAO’s “Zero Hunger” Ambassador and former PFH-LAC Coordinator, at the Elcano Royal Institute on 21 September 2018, where she gave a talk entitled, “National parliaments and the goal of ‘Zero Hunger ‘ (SDG 2)”.²³

On 25 September 2018, the Right to Food Observatory of Spain (RFO-ES) was presented at the Congress of Deputies (Ernest Lluch Room), in an event hosted by the Alliance.²⁴



Illustration 37. Breakfast with Guadalupe Valdez at the Elcano Royal Institute. Madrid. September 2018.

On 16 October, World Food Day, the Working Group of the Alliance held a meeting with NGOs in the Food Safety sector, to commemorate the day, to officially inform these organizations of the formation of the Alliance and to obtain feedback in this respect.



Illustration 38. Presentation of the Right to Food Observatory of Spain. Congress of Deputies. September 2018.

The Spanish Parliamentary Alliance also participated in the **9th PFH-LAC Forum**, at Casa América (Madrid), on 28 October 2018. This event took place on the international stage — it was followed immediately by the Global Parliamentary Summit — and focused on the SDGs, in particular, SDG 2 on Zero Hunger²⁵. In addition to highlighting the strategic value of parliaments

23. With the participation of Soraya Rodríguez (Commentator), Alberto Fabra and Rita Bosaho.
24. With the participation of Rosana Pastor (Unidos Podemos), Carmen Quintanilla (PP), Begoña Tundidor (PSOE) and Miguel Ángel Garaulet (Cs).
25. With the participation of Alberto Fabra, Asunción Sánchez and Soraya Rodríguez.



Illustration 39. Celebration of World Food Day 2018 in the Congress of Deputies.

in the fight against hunger and malnutrition, the Forum had the following main objectives: (1) to strengthen the auditing and accountability of laws promoting the human right to adequate food in Latin America and the Caribbean; (2) to define mechanisms for implementing a joint agenda regarding the “100 Territories without Hunger or Poverty” initiative and for mobilizing resources to this end. Among other commitments, signatories of the final Declaration of the Forum resolved to promote healthy and sustainable food systems, to work in close coordination with the executive, universities, business and civil society, to strengthen South-South cooperation and to promote a Global Parliamentary Alliance.

The Spanish Parliamentary Alliance was reactivated in 2021, after two complex years which included the premature dissolution of the 12th Parliamentary Legislature in March 2019, a short-lived 13th Legislature, the closure of the FAO Office in Spain and a complicated parliamentary situation in the current 14th Legislature due to the COVID-19 crisis. During this period, interaction between the Alliance and PFH-LAC provided essential feedback and helped sustain their joint commitment.



Illustration 40. Session of the International Cooperation Committee of the Senate, chaired by Elena Diego, with the participation of the PFH. October 2020.



Illustration 41. Session of the International Cooperation Committee of the Spanish Senate on 4 March 2021, during which the motion to reactivate the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food was approved²⁶

2.3.2 Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition (Madrid 2018)

The 1st Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition was held on 29-30 October 2018 in Madrid. It was attended by over 200 parliamentarians from 80 countries, who shared political experiences and helped form alliances to achieve a world without hunger and malnutrition.

The Madrid Summit was the outcome of two years' work by FAO, the Spanish Parliament, AECID and PFH-LAC. The European Commission and IFAD also helped promote the initiative, sending representations and facilitating travel for some of the parliamentarians attending.



Illustration 42. Family photo of the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition. Spanish Senate. October 2018.

26. The entire session can be viewed in the official Senate video, at: https://www.senado.es/web/actividadparlamentaria/actualidad/video/index.html?s=14_S011019_010_02

Parliamentarians participating in the Summit, by world region

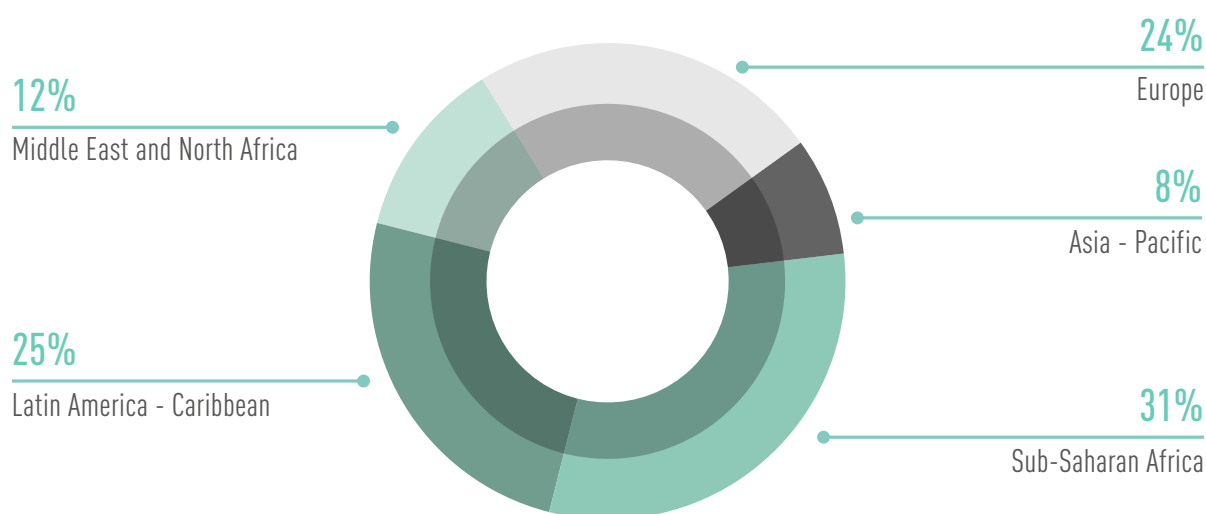


Illustration 43. Based on data from the Organizing Committee

During the two days of the Summit¹⁷, delegates considered the obstacles, challenges and priority areas of hunger and malnutrition to be addressed, and established the following goals:

- ✓ Ensure that legislative work, policy oversight and budget control are always people-centred, and strive to improve people's livelihoods;
- ✓ Promote family and sustainable agriculture, ensure the access of small farmers to productive resources such as land and water, and create decent jobs;
- ✓ Respond to the rapid global increase in overweight and obesity;
- ✓ Analyze the impact of climate change and climate-related events on our food systems;
- ✓ Share advances in achieving the right to adequate food;
- ✓ Address the problems of food loss and waste at different stages of food systems.

The President of the Senate, Pío García-Escudero, spoke at the inauguration and opening ceremony, accompanied by José Graziano da Silva, Director-General of FAO, and Pedro Sánchez, President of the Government of Spain.

27. The programme can be consulted at: http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/faoweb/2018-New/GPS-Programme/Programacion_participantes_SP.pdf

The most institutionally significant interventions are listed below, with links to the videos. The institutional position of each speaker, at the time of the Summit, is indicated. The diverse views expressed reflect the political pluralism of the Summit²⁸;

- ✓ José Graziano da Silva, **Director-General de FAO**:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94S1aZoP-c8&feature=youtu.be> (5:33)
- ✓ Pío García-Escudero Márquez, **President of the Senate of Spain**:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94S1aZoP-c8&feature=youtu.be> (0:48)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5s0ULaQxKpk&list=PLzp5Ngj2-dK6qr_zEj4Vy4LoRIjrUUVqB&index=3&t=1199s
- ✓ Pedro Sánchez Pérez-Castejón, **President of the Government of Spain**:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94S1aZoP-c8&feature=youtu.be> (24:19)
- ✓ Hilal Elver, **UN Special Rapporteur for the Right to Food**. Presentation: End hunger and its causes:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94S1aZoP-c8&feature=youtu.be> (1:17:45)
- ✓ Guido Girardi, **Senator for Chile and Coordinator of its PFH**. Presentation: “Chile, a healthier country: the Law on Food Labelling and Marketing”:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94S1aZoP-c8&feature=youtu.be> (1:48:40)
- ✓ Alberto Fabra Part, **President of the International Development Cooperation Committee of the Senate of Spain**:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5s0ULaQxKpk> (55:22)
- ✓ Marcela Villarreal, **Director of the FAO Associations and South-South Cooperation Division**:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7vxCG7aA_o (5:39:30)
- ✓ Jairo Flores, **PFH-LAC Coordinator**:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94S1aZoP-c8&t=8961s> (2:29:30)
- ✓ Hina Rabbani Khar, **Vice-President of the Summit**, Member of the National Assembly, ex-Minister of Finance and ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7vxCG7aA_o (5:45:00)
- ✓ Josep Borrell Fontelles, **Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain**:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7vxCG7aA_o (5:54:00)

28. The website for the Summit, created jointly by FAO and AECID, contains a section with parallel interviews with some of the attendees. This section is titled ‘Voices from the Summit’ and can be seen at: <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/global-parliamentary-summit/resources/voices-of-the-summit/es/>

- ✓ Ana Pastor Julián, **President of the Congress of Deputies of Spain**: Reader of the Madrid Declaration.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7vxKg7aA_o (6:01:00)

After the Summit, the Organizing Committee prepared a document summarizing the sessions, highlighting recurrent challenges and priority areas to be addressed in the fight against hunger and malnutrition, and presenting the main conclusions drawn²⁹.



Illustration 44. Senate Chamber during the Summit

The commitments made by the parliamentarians were expressed in the **Madrid Declaration**³⁰, which was adopted by consensus and acclamation. This Declaration states the will of parliamentarians to create alliances and strengthen coordination with other actors — including civil society organizations, universities, research centres, companies and cooperation agencies — to achieve Zero Hunger and to realize the right to adequate food for all. Specifically, the Declaration stresses the need to: “(...) learn from and share experiences, build on important progresses obtained, strengthen our collaboration within and across countries and regions, and redouble our efforts to enhance the contribution of parliamentarians towards ensuring Zero Hunger by 2030 and the realization of the right to adequate food.”

29. Included in Appendix 3.1.

30. Included in Appendix 3.2 and available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/CA2259ES/ca2259es.pdf>



Illustration 45. Authorities of the Spanish Government (President of the Government, Minister of Agriculture, Secretary of State for Cooperation, and Director of the AECID) at the inauguration of the Summit, together with the Director-General of the FAO.

2.3.2.1 Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food, at the Summit

Spanish parliamentarians played an active role throughout the Summit³¹. During the conference, they participated in the three scheduled thematic sessions: “Ending hunger and its causes”, “The challenge of nutrition” and “Effective action to achieve SDG 2”, which followed the Framework Presentations session, with interventions by Hilal Elver, the UN Special Rapporteur for the Right to Food and Guido Girardi, a Senator for Chile.



Illustration 46. Parliamentarians from Spain, Latin America and the Caribbean, at the Summit

31. The Summit website (<http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/global-parliamentary-summit/es/>) provides resources of great interest, regarding both days of the event. The multimedia files provide the complete recordings of the two days. Appendix 3.3 details the interventions made by the Spanish parliamentarians: Rosana Pastor, Asunción Sánchez Zaplana, Miguel Ángel Garaulet, Pepa González Bayo, Soraya Rodríguez, Alberto Fabra, among others.

The Summit provided a space for learning about other international experiences on topics of vital current interest, such as the nutritional labelling of food products, and enabled interaction with parliamentarians from around the world during which formal and informal spaces for dialogue were generated. In addition, members of the Alliance held various meetings with strategic actors (in parallel to the Summit), such as one with the Director General of FAO and another, the day after the Summit, with members of PFH-LAC, FAO and AECID in the Congress. The fundamental aim of these meetings was to assess the outcome of the Summit, to propose a scenario for mutual collaboration between PFH-LAC and the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance, and to investigate the possibility of creating an Ibero-American Parliamentary Alliance.



Illustration 47. Joint interview with the heads of the PFH, the FAO and the AECID in the “Parliament” programme on Spanish Television, from the Senate. October 2018.

2.3.2.2 Participation in the Summit by AECID and other Spanish agencies

AECID played a multidimensional role in the Summit, including preparatory work with the Organizing Committee, co-funding the event, collaborating in the development of the Summit website, participating in logistical activities, liaising with the Spanish Parliament and FAO, publicizing the event among Spanish institutions and the media, and taking part in dialogue forums before, during and after the Summit.

There was a notable presence in the Summit of Spanish NGOs, universities and heads of regional and national **public administrations** related to food safety, agriculture and nutrition. Some weeks before the Summit, the Elcano Royal Institute organized a working breakfast to raise awareness of the topic. The day before the start of the Summit, a fruitful dialogue was held at Casa América (Madrid) between personnel from Spanish Cooperation and members of PFH-LAC. The Right to Food Observatory also prepared a specific statement addressed to Spanish parliamentarians to highlight the fundamental issues that should be considered at the Summit.

2.3.2.3 The Post-Summit

Following the Summit, the continuity of the process has been maintained, both in Latin America and globally, primarily by FAO, with the support of AECID. For example, this collaborative framework has given rise to **Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues on Food Security and Nutrition in times of COVID-19** (held in March and September 2021), consisting of five subregional dialogues (Meso-South America, French-speaking African countries, Anglophone African countries, Arab countries and the Caribbean), two regional dialogues (Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia) and one Global Dialogue. These dialogues represented a follow-up to the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition and formed part of the preparatory meetings for the 2nd Global Summit, scheduled for 2022.

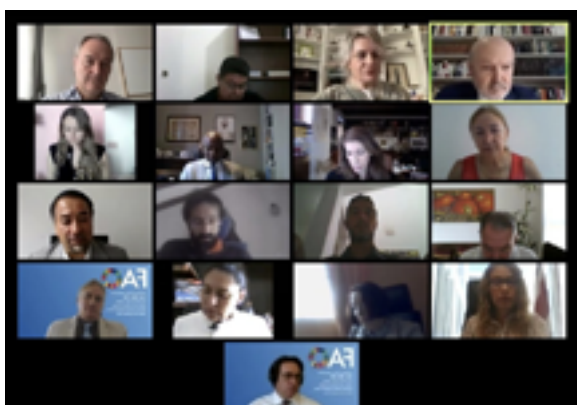


Illustration 48. Two Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues were held in March and April 2021, with the participation of the AECID, chaired by Fernando Jiménez-Ontiveros and Gonzalo Vega, respectively.

In addition, since late 2020, **Zero Hunger Parliamentary Sessions**³² have been organized in Latin America, discussing issues such as water and sanitation, family farming, the inclusion of the Right to Food in national constitutions, gender relationships and SDG 2. These Sessions took place prior to the 10th PFH-LAC Forum of 2022, at which legislators from this region and their partners will make recommendations and jointly undertake actions to facilitate sustainable food and agriculture, ensuring they are viewed as matters of strategic importance in their countries.



32. <http://parlamentarioscontraelhambre.org/sesiones-parlamentarias-hambre-cero/>

2.4 THE MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY FRONTS AGAINST HUNGER

In this section, we highlight the main achievements of the Parliamentary Fronts and the Alliances against Hunger and Malnutrition during their construction and development, according to the leading figures interviewed.

Some achievements are especially visible and demonstrable, such as the approval of legislation or the institutionalization of the Alliances, while others, no less important, have a more qualitative character and facilitate essential understandings for future transformations, with the necessary scope. These may be more difficult to identify. Both types are described below.

1. **The legislature, one of the three powers of State, has been specifically involved in the fight against hunger³³.** In general, this involvement had been absent from FNS policy; the usual understanding was that these issues should be addressed by international cooperation and/or FAO.
2. The Alliances and PFH have become **spaces for agreement** and for assessing institutional responses in moments of tension and political confrontation, facilitating the continuity of strategic policies and enhancing the viability of the legislation passed.
3. **Institutional action frameworks and policies for FNS have been strengthened** in many countries. Framework Laws have been approved in some regional parliaments, such as PARLATINO and the Pan-African Parliament. These thematic laws, adopted by supranational parliaments, have spurred the introduction of national legislation in this respect and encouraged political consensus.
4. **Numerous laws have been approved**, especially in Latin America and the Caribbean. Moreover, there are also signs of action in this direction in African countries with Parliamentary Alliances.
5. **The approach** taken to hunger and undernourishment **has evolved from the original narrow focus to a more comprehensive attitude, as legislators and agencies address the inadequate nutrition of those who are poorest and most vulnerable via a 'Right to Food' priority.** This approach has been made explicit and is now included in national constitutions and in legislation on school meals, family farming, agroecology, food labelling and the right of children not to receive misleading advertising, among other areas..
6. The PFH have made a significant **impact on the national political agenda** through their parliamentary activity, not only in the design and approval of new legislation, but also in oversight and in budget allocations to the policies favoured.

33. *Now the Parliaments are involved in the FNS Agenda (especially in Latin America); they understand it, they know it needs resources, that it is not just a question of agriculture, social protection or health*" Juan Carlos García Cebolla. **"Working with the Parliamentary branch has also been new for AECID, until now this had been done mainly with the Executive, especially with the Judiciary"**, Ana Regina Segura.

7. **The creation of regional networks of parliamentarians** from different countries has made it possible to consider solutions to problems that affect a large part of the population. Important dialogues have taken place in which experiences have been shared and legislation discussed.
8. This exchange between parliamentarians from different countries **has normalized and extended the application of national laws and measures to promote better nutrition** and which, a priori, might be confronted by opposing lobbies. Such measures include: i) The promotion and regulation of school meals; ii) The application of taxation to discourage the consumption of sugary drinks; iii) The inclusion of nutritional labelling on food products; iv) Support for family farming and public procurement; v) The real equalization of women's rights to land ownership.
9. This process, whose main promoters have been Spain and FAO, represents a **benchmark of operational multilateralism**. A highpoint in this respect was the 1st Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition in Madrid, attended by parliamentarians from nearly 100 countries, a success which shows that this kind of initiative can generate animated, purposeful and ambitious multilateral spaces. These achievements are all the more creditable as the events took place during a time of economic contraction and, indeed, a crisis of multilateralism itself.
10. The **interconnection between the parliamentary and the academic spheres** (via the RFO) has been greatly facilitated, in Latin America and the Caribbean and also in Spain. Such an interconnection is no simple matter, but it is essential to ensure that policies are followed up and that they are formulated on the basis of technical evidence. This interconnection has been achieved under the aegis and ongoing encouragement of the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative.
11. **Dialogue between parliamentarians and civil society** has been facilitated and strengthened by their interaction in forums and specific meetings and during the events marking World Food Day.
12. Significant impact has been made in the **media**³⁴, raising the visibility and enhancing understanding of the problem of hunger and malnutrition, thanks to the forums, exchange missions and summits that have been held in recent years. Parliamentary activity has been clearly associated with the resolution of this problem.
13. **Courses** have been prepared and imparted, in coordination with FAO and/or RFO-LAC and RFO-ES, for the diffusion of the Right to Food approach, among AECID staff, advisors and parliamentarians.

34. See the following examples of (Spanish-language) media coverage, both on radio and in the press, in this regard:
<https://www.efe.com/efe/espana/economia/frente-contr-el-hambre-en-latinoamerica-llama-a-no-subir-precio-de-alimentos/10003-4211137>
https://elpais.com/elpais/2017/06/22/planeta_futuro/1498149339_367180.html
<http://www.ipsnoticias.net/2015/11/parlamentarios-latinoamericanos-ariete-de-lucha-contr-el-hambre/>
<https://www.rtve.es/alacarta/audios/hora-america/america-hoy-frente-parlamentario-contr-hambre-america-latina-caribe-11-07-18/4662087/>

14. Some unforeseen benefits have been obtained from this cooperation process. For example, the work in Latin America has had positive repercussions in Spain, **via two-way cooperation in areas such as the constitution of the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food**, and the heightened awareness among Spanish parliamentarians of national problems in the field of FNS.
15. **Spain's** organisation of the **1st Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition** reflected its **leadership in the international arena** in this type of cooperation. The high level of institutional support enjoyed by the Summit was revealed by the presence of the executive and legislative powers of the State, represented by its highest authorities: the Presidents of the Government, Congress and the Senate.



Illustration 49. Pedro Sánchez, the President of the Government of Spain, at the inauguration of the Global Parliamentary Summit, accompanied by the Director-General of FAO, the President of the Senate, the Minister of Agriculture, the Director of AECID and the main speakers at the Summit.

16. Awareness of the issues of hunger and malnutrition was heightened by the Summit. Furthermore, the good relationship between PFH-LAC and FAO has made it easier to prioritize some issues in the Spanish political agenda. For example, the urgent need to undertake measures to reduce the obesity epidemic was made very clear; moreover, valuable consideration was given to the possible impact of different types of food labelling requirements or of taxation systems aimed at promoting healthier nutrition. These consequences, together with the dialogue promoted among Spanish parliamentarians, the academic world and civil society, have facilitated **the progress of legislative and budgetary measures at a national level**, in areas such as the Food Waste Law, the approval of tax increases on sugary drinks, progress in regulating nutritional labelling and the recognized importance of promoting agroecology.
17. The construction of the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance helped **moderate the considerable parliamentary tension** then being experienced in a convulsive political situation, demonstrating that spaces for dialogue and agreement can still be found and that a fluid relationship between the two Chambers of Parliament is possible.

18. With the example of the PFH and the Alliances, the possibility has opened for the creation of an **Ibero-American Alliance against Hunger and Malnutrition**, in coordination with SEGIB.
19. The contact and coordination with parliamentarians, which has become consolidated by the decade of experience gained, **has made a significant impact on the Global Agenda of FAO** and its operational capacity, influencing the design of its Strategic Framework for 2014-2021 and being reflected in two planning periods at the FAO Regional Office in Latin America.
20. **The European Union**, through the Commission and the European Parliament, has been made aware of the initiative, recognizes its value, collaborates with it and is **an invaluable partner in its international expansion**.

In view of the comprehensive nature and complementarity of the results obtained, the analysts consulted agree that the above-described experience of socio-political innovation in cooperation should be made generally known and put into wider practice.



Illustration 50. Family photo of the FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, during which the commitment to IALSCH 2025 was confirmed. Santiago de Chile, 2014.



Illustration 51 a. Leonard Mizzi, Director for Planet and Prosperity in the European Commission's Department for International Development and Cooperation (DG DEVCO) and Head of the Unit for Rural Development, Food Security and Nutrition, at the Global Parliamentary Summit in Madrid.
 Illustration 51 b. Josep Borrell, Minister of Foreign Affairs, EU and Cooperation, closed the Summit; he has been High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy since 2020.

LEY DE

ALIMENTACIÓN ESCOLAR DE ECUADOR



LEY DE ALIMENTACIÓN ESCOLAR DE ECUADOR

¿De qué se trata la Ley?



La Ley Orgánica de Alimentación Escolar de Ecuador - aprobada por unanimidad tras un trabajo de más de dos años liderado por el PPE de Ecuador - **asegura el derecho a la alimentación y nutrición de manera sostenible a más de dos millones de niñas, niños y adolescentes en edad escolar**, y promueve la sostenibilidad económica, social y ambiental en todo el territorio nacional.

¿A quién obliga?

- ✓ Entidades públicas como la Autoridad Educativa Nacional
- ✓ Autoridad Sanitaria Nacional
- ✓ Autoridad Agraria Nacional
- ✓ Gobiernos Autónomos Descentralizados
- ✓ Asociaciones de padres y madres



¿Por qué es importante la Ley?



Un Programa de Alimentación Escolar no es obligatorio, mientras que la ley da paso a la **atención integral de la alimentación de niñas y adolescentes**, y al desarrollo de la agricultura sostenible mediante la incorporación de compras públicas de alimentos a la agricultura familiar.

¿Qué consagra la Ley?



• Brindar de manera gratuita servicios de alimentación escolar.



• Creación de un sistema nacional para garantizar el derecho a la alimentación de niñas, niños y adolescentes en edad escolar dirigido por el Ministerio de Educación en coordinación con el Ministerio de Salud Pública de Ecuador y el Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería.



• Creación de un **comité de alimentación escolar local** en cada institución educativa que se encargará del buen uso, manejo y servicio de alimentación escolar.



Participación de la agricultura familiar y campesina para la obtención de hasta el 25% de productos de la comida escolar.



En el proceso de elaboración participaron organizaciones de productores y sociedad civil, academia y cooperación internacional.

Impacto internacional



La ley de alimentación escolar del Frente Parlamentario Ecuador sin Hambre ha sido socializada entre los 22 **Frentes Parlamentarios contra el Hambre de América Latina y el Caribe** a través de sesiones virtuales, cursos dirigidos a asesores e instancias de intercambio de conocimientos facilitadas por el Plan Interconecta y los Centros de Formación de la Cooperación Española.

¿Quiénes participaron en la formulación del proyecto de ley?

La propuesta de ley fue impulsada por



Frente Parlamentario Ecuador sin Hambre

Con el apoyo de:

Frente Parlamentario Juvenil Ecuador sin Hambre

FAO

Cooperación Española

Asimismo, se trata de una ley que ha tomado como referencia el trabajo de apoyo técnico de la FAO junto a las **cooperaciones de Brasil, México y España** que se ha brindado a otros parlamentos nacionales (Guatemala, Bolivia, Paraguay, etc) y **regionales (PARLATINO)** sobre la materia.



Ver la Ley en <http://ortofprrlega.fim.org/letras/le/lewa124012a.pdf>

LEY DE CRÉDITO

AGRARIO DIFERENCIADO DE PARAGUAY



¿De qué se trata la Ley?



La Ley de Crédito Agrario Diferenciado, aprobada en junio de 2020, se crea como una herramienta financiera para el fomento a las actividades agropecuarias. Está dirigida especialmente a las y los productores de la Agricultura Familiar Campesina que se verán beneficiados con una tasa de interés arbitrada por el Banco Central del Paraguay y dispondrán de los mecanismos necesarios que establezcan valores porcentuales adecuados para el sector.

¿A quién obliga?

Entidades públicas como:

- ✓ Autoridad Educativa Nacional
- ✓ Autoridad Educativa Nacional
- ✓ Autoridad Sanitaria Nacional
- ✓ Autoridad Agraria Nacional
- ✓ Gobiernos Autónomos Descentralizados
- ✓ Asociaciones de padres y madres

¿Por qué es importante la Ley?



Con la aprobación de esta Ley, impulsada por el coordinador del Frente Parlamentario contra el Hambre de Paraguay, se estima que **183.000** agricultores familiares se verán beneficiados.



¿Qué consagra la Ley?



• Creación del Crédito Agrario Diferenciado, como herramienta financiera de fomento a las actividades agropecuarias, con énfasis para los productores de la Agricultura Familiar Campesina.



• Consideración de productores de la Agricultura Familiar Campesina, a los que se hallan comprendidos dentro de los parámetros establecidos por la Ley N° 6443/19 que define, reconstruye y promueve de la agricultura familiar campesina y fueron identificados, reconocidos y acreditados como tales por el Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería.



• Una tasa de interés arbitrada por el Banco Central del Paraguay, que dispondrá los mecanismos necesarios para establecer la tasa anual en valores porcentuales no mayor a un dígito, con su correspondiente décima.



• Préstamos por un período de gracia de hasta a (dos) años, a un plazo de amortización de hasta 1 (once) años.



• Establecimiento de un fondo especial para la concesión del Crédito Agrario Diferenciado por parte de las Instituciones Financieras de naturaleza pública, reguladas y no reguladas.

¿Quiénes participaron en la formulación del proyecto de ley?

La propuesta de ley fue impulsada por:



Frente Parlamentario contra el Hambre de Paraguay

Con el apoyo de:

FAO

Cooperación Española



En el proceso de elaboración participaron organizaciones de productores y sociedad civil y la academia.



Impacto internacional

La Ley de Crédito Agrario Diferenciado del Frente Parlamentario contra el Hambre de Paraguay ha sido socializada entre los 21 Frente Parlamentarios contra el Hambre de América Latina y el Caribe a través de sesiones virtuales, cursos dirigidos a asesores e instancias de intercambio de conocimiento facilitados por el Plan Interconecta y los Centros de Formación de la Cooperación Española.



Ver la Ley en: <https://www.boem.gov.py/tema-paraguay/tema/tema-10236-del-sistema-registro-el-frente>

CHAPTER 3: THE ROLE OF AECID IN PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING THE PARLIAMENTARY FRONTS AGAINST HUNGER

Having presented the process and its achievements, the following questions arise: What role has AECID played in this process? What specific mechanisms made it possible? What can be learned for future processes of this nature?

1. In the first place, as detailed in Chapter 1, AECID played a very significant role in the cooperation interventions which, during the first decade of the 21st century, laid the foundations for working with parliamentarians to expand the Right to Food approach. In conjunction with FAO, AECID financed³⁵ and promoted the **PESA programmes in Central America** for fifteen years, with a clear focus on the Right to Food and with a progressive vocation for public policies and a commitment to Zero Hunger. Moreover, it financed the work of the Special Rapporteur for the Right to Food, and advocated strong multilateral technical assistance in FNS³⁶, which was incorporated as a priority concern in the Third Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation (2009-2012).
2. Secondly, AECID was crucially important to the launch of the **Hunger-Free Latin America and Caribbean Initiative 2025 (IALCH 2025)**, for which it has provided funding and technical support since 2009, with a total contribution of twelve million euros. This intervention consolidated an alliance between Spain and FAO in the fight against hunger and malnutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean, a partnership that remains very much in force
3. Thirdly, **various complementary AECID instruments and mechanisms** have been deployed to support the development of parliamentary alliances. Some have been implemented via AECID's alliance with FAO, providing funding for associated interventions, while others have taken the form of direct actions conducted by AECID itself.

3.1 FINANCING THE PROJECTS AND COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY FAO

- The **Spain-FAO Fund** for Latin America and the Caribbean³⁷ was deployed between 2006 and 2013. During this period, 18 projects were performed, in which Spanish Cooperation invested a total of 70 million dollars. The success of this cooperation generated a

35. Contributing 35 million dollars to PESA Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador and the regional coordination component.

36. For further details, see: Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional en la Cooperación Española: pasado, presente y futuro [Food and Nutrition Security in Spanish Cooperation: past, present and future]. AECID-2018. (p. 74).

37. Online details are available on the [Spain-FAO Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean](#), the follow-up programme to the above.

collaborative culture that had a great impact on FAO strategies for the region during subsequent programming periods.

- FODEPAL³⁸ (2001-2008), which was subsequently transformed into the Public Policy Training Centre (**2008-present**), was FAO's online training platform for Latin America. This facility enabled thousands of technicians, managers and political leaders in Latin America to acquire knowledge related to agriculture and to the Right to Food. Numerous parliamentarians and parliamentary advisers also benefited from the courses provided. AECID financed FODEPAL and the creation of the Public Policy Training Centre, which it currently supports in enabling projects and institutions to offer ad hoc courses on topics associated with the development of legislation and public policies.
- Between 2000 and 2013, AECID transferred a significant number of **Spanish APOs**³⁹ to FAO to assist with the FNS-related programmes being implemented in Latin America and the Caribbean. In some cases, these APOs contributed to the advancement of the regional parliamentary agenda and to the emergence and consolidation of Parliamentary Fronts, and at later stages they also liaised with Spanish institutions.
- From 2008 to 2021, AECID made annual contributions of over seven million dollars to the **FAO Right to Food Unit**, which conducted a wide variety of technical assistance interventions worldwide. In addition, it has published documents contributing to the global advance of Parliamentary Alliances. These activities include: i) Training materials and information on the realization of the Right to Food in terms of the parliamentary context; ii) Assistance in formulating projects to support African Parliamentary Alliances; iii) Training for parliamentarians and media networks; (iv) Technical assistance to create content for the Global Parliamentary Summit in Madrid; v) Assistance for the formation of the Alliance for FSN of the Association of Senates, Shooraa and Equivalent Councils of Africa and the Arab World (ASSECCA).
- The AECID has also reached agreements and made financial contributions to the activities of the **FAO**



Illustration 52. Document published by FAO, prepared by the Right to Food team and the IALCSH 2025 support project (both financed by AECID).

38. FODEPAL, was a FAO regional project, with AECID financing, conducted from 2001 to 2009 to provide training (mostly online) for managers in Latin America and the Caribbean.

39. APO: Associate Professional Officer; the FAO equivalent to the Junior Professional Officers employed in other UN Agencies. These personnel are normally under 33 years of age, and have been members of FAO staff for two or three years.

Partnership Division, which supports the Parliamentary Alliances against Hunger and Malnutrition. This Division facilitated the development of the 2018 Global Parliamentary Summit in Madrid, and in 2021 a series of Parliamentary Dialogues of a global nature were held, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

3.2 INVOLVEMENT OF THE DIFFERENT AREAS OF AECID

Different areas within AECID regularly promote or support initiatives related to the Parliamentary Alliances:

- Devised by its Directorate for Cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean, **AECID's Plan Interconecta**⁴⁰, implemented by **AECID Training Centres in the region**, has contributed to many PFH Planning Meetings, facilitating political dialogue and the exchange of experiences. These activities have significantly benefited the legislative work of the Fronts. In 2013, a first Memorandum of Understanding was signed between AECID and the FAO IALCSH Support Project, within the framework of the Ibero-American Programme for Specialised Technical Training sponsored by AECID.
- **AECID's Area of Rural Development and Food and Nutrition Security, which is part of its Department of Sectoral Cooperation**, has actively participated in the day-to-day activities of the PFH, providing technical assistance and raising awareness of its activities among other agencies associated with Spanish Cooperation, as well as European institutions and the OECD, in order to promote its expansion worldwide, especially in Africa. For example, this Area held a Side Event during the 44th Session of the Committee on World Food Security in Rome, at which the Spanish Parliament and PFH-LAC undertook to organize the Global Parliamentary Summit, with the technical and institutional support of FAO and AECID. It has



Illustration 53. Opening ceremony of the 7th Planning Meeting of the PFH-LAC, in the presence of AECID's Head of Department for Multilateral Cooperation and the EU. Held at the AECID Training Centre in Cartagena de Indias, 2019. ©FAO/Daniela Marín

40. Plan Interconecta, otherwise known as “Knowledge Transfer, Exchange and Management Plan for the Development of Spanish Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean”.

also interacted with the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance, contributed to the participation of Spanish parliamentarians in the World Food Day celebrations, and argued for the creation of an Ibero-American Parliamentary Alliance. Finally, it has encouraged the establishment of the Right to Food Observatory of Spain and its interaction with the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance.

- The **AECID Department for Multilateral Cooperation and the EU** has followed through with the projects undertaken by FAO in this respect, adapting them to AECID's financial capacities and participating in some of these activities.
- The **AECID Communication Area** issues press releases and prepares radio programmes⁴¹ and Web content on significant issues and events related to the PFH, including the Global Parliamentary Summit in Madrid, forums held and visits made by PFH-LAC parliamentarians⁴².
- **AECID's Direction**, in its different stages and led by successive directors, has participated in many institutional events that have facilitated the process, regardless of the ideology of the governing party.

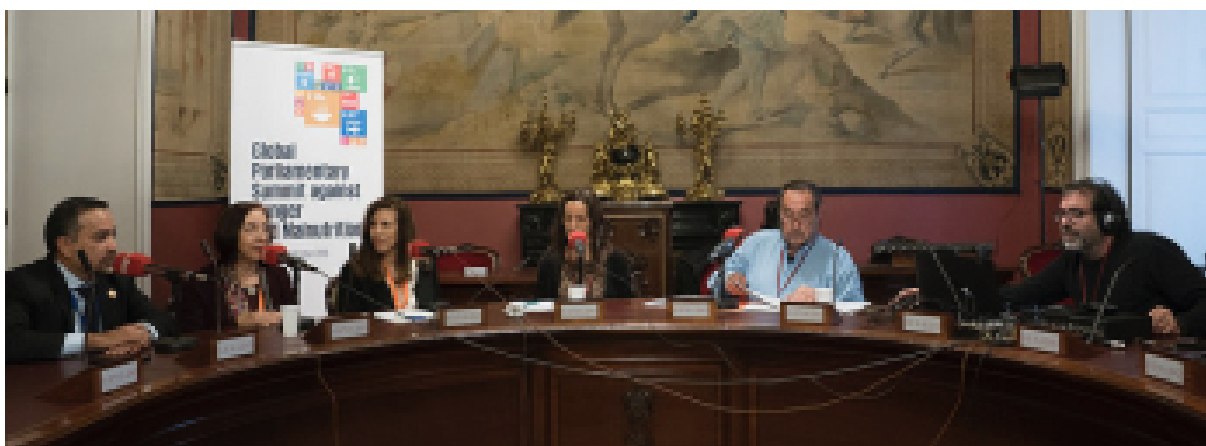


Illustration 54. Ana Regina Segura, Head of Rural Development, Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition Unit, during a programme on Radio Nacional de España together with the FAO Director of Alliances and the Coordinator of the PFH-LAC.

4. Fourthly, AECID has performed invaluable **work to advocate and support the PFH and the Alliances**, making them known to other actors in this field and encouraging their participation.

For example, relevant Spanish NGOs have been informed of the process and invited to attend DRASAN meetings⁴³ with Parliamentarians from PFH-LAC in their visits to Madrid, giving them the opportunity to exchange impressions and recommendations.

41. In 2018, the Radio Nacional de España programme "Cooperation and Development" covered the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition and interviewed the AECID Director, Aina Calvo and the "Zero Hunger" Ambassador, Guadalupe Valdés. The broadcast can be found at: <https://www.rtve.es/alacarta/audios/cooperacion-es-desarrollo/cooperacion-desarrollo-cumbre-mundial-contra-hambre-28-10-18/4811863/>

42. Some of the notes issued by AECID in its PFH follow-up activities can be seen at: https://www.aecid.es/ES/Paginas/Sala%20de%20Prensa/Noticias/2020/2020_10/REDEXPERTASD%C3%ADaMundialAlimentacion.aspx
https://www.aecid.es/ES/Paginas/Sala%20de%20Prensa/Noticias/2019/2019_07/forofao.aspx
https://www.aecid.es/ES/Paginas/Sala%20de%20Prensa/Noticias/2018/2018_10/dia-29-cumbre-mundial.aspx

Similarly, the OECD and the European Commission have been informed of these experiences from AECID's participation in related activities of international coordination. This channel of communication has spurred the Commission to contribute financially to the Global



Illustration 55a. Luis Tejada, Director of the AECID, at a CFS event in Rome (2017).



Illustration 55b. Aina Calvo, Director of the AECID, in 2018 in a preparatory meeting for the Global Parliamentary Summit, at the AECID headquarters with Guadalupe Valdez.

Parliamentary Summit and has encouraged EU Member States to create their own national alliances and to include them in their cooperation mechanisms.

Other entities, such as the Elcano Royal Institute and FIIAPP, have also been informed and have contributed to meetings and activities.

In addition, AECID is closely monitoring the reactivation of the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance and (in conjunction with SEGIB and FAO) has participated in promoting an Ibero-American Parliamentary Alliance.

Another aspect of some importance is the fact that AECID is frequently present on Radio Nacional de España programmes to inform society about these developments and about the cooperation activities in which it is engaged, and to note that in recent years parliamentarians from Spain and other countries have been invited to the activities it has organized to celebrate World Food Day.

5. Finally, AECID has made an essential contribution to the celebration of the **Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition**, held in the Spanish Parliament in 2018. In addition to contributing to its financing, AECID was deeply involved in the organization and development of this event, in close coordination with FAO and the PFH.

All of these activities by Spanish Cooperation were conducted in the difficult context of the second decade of the 21st century, marked by severe financial restrictions and a significant contraction of the economy.

43. DRASAN: (Spanish initials) Rural Development, Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Security.



Illustration 56a. DRASAN sector table with Latin American parliamentarians of the PFH.AECID headquarters. 2017.

Illustration 56b. Summit commitment monitoring meeting: PFH,AECID and FAO.AECID headquarters. 2019

3.3 MOST VALUED ASPECTS OF AECID'S WORK

When the protagonists were asked about the role played by AECID in the process, the following main ideas were offered:

- The path travelled would not have been possible without the financial support of AECID;
- Continuity in the support provided and the application of a medium-long term vision are of fundamental importance, and differentiate this process from other cooperation interventions;
- Respect for the independence of the processes and for the principle of non-interference have fostered genuine North-South cooperation, in which all concerned are protagonists;
- AECID and FAO have ventured to work in an area of cooperation that had previously been unexplored but was absolutely necessary, namely that of parliamentary involvement.

In the words of the protagonists:

Teresa Cáliz, Honduran deputy and Coordinator of PFH-Mesoamerica:

“As a deputy, I would like to thank Spanish Cooperation most sincerely, because they have always been there for us, contributing to our efforts and supporting us in different activities. I am grateful, too, to FAO, for its unfailing assistance.”

Guadalupe Valdés, Coordinator of the PFH-LAC (2012-2014) and FAO “Zero Hunger” Ambassador:

“Spanish Cooperation’s support for the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative, since 2005, has been very important in the formation of the PFH, providing necessary resources for this development. Also important was the formation of the Observatory for the Right to Food, of a more academic nature. These initiatives acknowledge and confirm that the fight against hunger cannot be carried out in isolation. This type of collaboration between our two continents is of fundamental importance and should be extended”.

“In my view, it is a strategic necessity that these alliances be strengthened in the Spanish Parliament and in the European Parliament. Thanks to their diverse composition, they offer a plural outlook on the issues considered, a feature that could be replicated on other continents. Let us not forget the severity of the present level of food insecurity in Africa. And let us remember that the IALCSH, with the support of Spanish Cooperation, is working to make these considerations more widely shared in Africa. Indeed, the first fruits are now being seen”.

Soraya Rodríguez, diputada en 2018, parte del grupo motor de la Alianza Parlamentaria Española por el Derecho a la Alimentación y actual miembro de la Alianza contra el Hambre y la Malnutrición en el Parlamento Europeo:

“I remember the experience of building the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food as one of the most satisfying of my parliamentary life in recent years. In a legislature marked by confrontation, frontism and an absence of agreement, the cooperative and constructive work with parliamentarians from different political forces was a truly rewarding aspect of our work in Congress”.



Illustration 57. Cover of the publication of the testimony of Guadalupe Valdés as a legislator against hunger.

“Moreover, the support and advice received from our friends in the Latin American and Caribbean Fronts gave me first-hand experience that cooperation is a two-way path. Everything we in Spanish Cooperation invest in development, in the construction of public policies, in the protection of human rights and in the construction of peace will be recompensed in our own development, in the protection of our own rights and in the improvement of our own institutions and public policies”

3.4 LIMITATIONS

Although the outcomes of AECID’s actions have generally been positive, making an important impact on the most vulnerable population, there is a perception that the Agency could make better use of the potential provided by the Parliamentary Fronts and Alliances in putting their cooperation into practice. There are certain spaces within Spanish Cooperation, such as the Technical Cooperation Offices, which still have very little awareness of the Alliances, and no interaction. In consequence, there remains an unexplored field of action, where much more could be done to jointly promote programmes of nationwide impact and to exploit the complementarity of funding projects in areas such as food security, rural development, agriculture and nutrition.

Another weakness observed is the lack of activity by the Spain-FAO Mixed Committees during the last decade, which means there has been little or no high-level, ambitious strategic planning. Funding cutbacks for these programmes, sometimes exceeding 75%, have prevented the development of technical assistance activities for specific legislative processes and has slowed their expansion in Africa.

Between 2015 and 2019, the FAO Office in Spain, in coordination with AECID and the FAO regional office for Latin America and the Caribbean, raised awareness in Spain of the PFH and the activity of the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance. This was a fundamental pillar, enabling us to fulfil the commitment to hold the Parliamentary Summit in Madrid. However, the closure of the FAO Office in Spain in 2020 has made it difficult to monitor and support the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance, a task that was further hampered by the complicated situation of several short-lived legislatures and the COVID-19 crisis, which froze the planned development for over a year. Finally, in March 2021, the Alliance was reactivated in the Senate.

CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSIONS, INSIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The aim of this publication is to inform and raise awareness about the development and experience of the PFH, with the hope that it may be useful to AECID and to Spanish Cooperation as a whole, as well as to other cooperation bodies that interact in political processes to which like-minded parliamentarians could contribute. This chapter summarizes the findings made, sets out the main conclusions drawn and proposes areas for future action.

4.1 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- Creating the Parliamentary Fronts and Alliances against Hunger and Malnutrition required more than a decade of sustained effort. AECID lent decisive support to this process from the outset, as reflected in its successive Master Plans and in the positions taken by the Agency's directors.
- The results obtained are certainly significant in terms of the alliances formed, the laws passed and the budgets approved, as well as the heightened awareness in public policies of approaches based on the Right to Food. The implementation of these laws and budgets in the countries concerned means that millions of children, women and vulnerable groups are now better equipped to tackle the health, social, economic and environmental crises affecting them.
- Although working in the parliamentary and legislative sphere is not easy, it is nonetheless possible if the support mechanisms are adapted to the rhythms, interests and needs of this sphere, facilitating collaboration between different stakeholders and if efforts are combined to address issues that are of interest to society as a whole.
- In this project, AECID has collaborated with a partner of great importance, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), whose institutional and technical legitimacy has facilitated the interventions made. This multilateral approach is of crucial importance to ensure that technical assistance in policy-making is provided in a manner that is both respectful and aligned with the national policies of the countries concerned.
- The ratio between the results obtained and the funding assigned to this innovative form of cooperation is very high, far outstripping the average recorded for traditional projects.
- Spanish Cooperation is highly valued by stakeholders for its approach and professionalism, generating cordial relations and gaining a positive reputation.

- AECID has employed a wide range of mechanisms during its multiyear collaboration with the Parliamentary Alliances, in association with several Ministries and Directorates, although logically not all with the same level or continuity of engagement.
- With Spanish Cooperation’s commitment and at the initiative of the FAO, the Alliances have expanded in scope, with the entry of other countries’ cooperation bodies, such as Brazilian Cooperation and Mexican Cooperation, and entering into associations with external partners, including the European Union and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Thus, a significant effort has been made to mobilize partners and generate strategic alliances to achieve SDG 2.
- Although it was not an initial objective, the cooperation between Spain and Latin America has been reciprocal. While AECID contributed to the development of PFH in Latin America, these parliamentarians played an active role in the creation of the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance and raised the profile in Spain of measures to realize the Right to Food. The measures implemented in Spain to increase taxation on sugary drinks, to improve food labelling and to impose stricter regulations on food advertising were largely enabled by exchanges of experiences with the PFH and with the Right to Food Observatories.
- Female parliamentarians have played a major role in the development of the Alliances⁴⁴, having promoted much of the legislation ultimately adopted by their respective parliaments. With the technical support of FAO and other bodies, their work has led to the gender approach being included in this legislation, and to the adoption of specific measures, such as ensuring fair access to land, in countries in Africa and Latin America. Thus, the work performed to achieve SDG 2 has also furthered progress towards SDG 5, that of achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.
- This is an innovative process with a global, medium-to-long term approach that has generated new instruments for working with parliaments to ensure the functioning of plural platforms with the capacity to mobilize this political agenda and contribute effectively to achieving SDG 17: “Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development”. The lessons learned here can be employed in working to implement the 2030 Agenda.



Illustration 58. Cover of the publication *Women Parliamentarians in the fight against Hunger in Mesoamerica*

44. This issue is explored further in the publication “Mujeres Parlamentarias en la Lucha contra el Hambre en Mesoamérica” [“Women parliamentarians in the fight against hunger in Mesoamerica”].

4.2 INSIGHTS, OPPORTUNITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.2.1 The food problem is real and more pressing than ever

The global context is complex and calls for ambitious action to meet the international commitments adopted in the 2030 Agenda. The hunger and obesity indicators for recent years are discouraging. To redress this situation, a number of important international events are being promoted within the United Nations to advance towards making food systems sustainable. These events include the Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025), the Decade of Family Farming (2018-2027), the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables (2021), the Food Systems Summit (2021) and COP26 (held in Glasgow).

An aspect that is widely acknowledged is the importance of national legislative measures and the vital role that can be played by parliamentarians. The recently approved Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (CFS, February 2021) make explicit mention of this issue⁴⁵:

Parliamentarians and their sub-national, national, and regional alliances play a key role in promoting the adoption of policies, establishing appropriate legislative and regulatory frameworks, raising awareness and promoting dialogue among relevant stakeholders, and allocating resources for the implementation of policies and programmes to achieve healthy diets through sustainable food systems.

The Guidelines also make a call for international cooperation:

Governments are strongly encouraged to mobilize adequate financial, technical and human resources, and encourage international cooperation, to increase the human and institutional capacity of countries to implement the VGFSyN and to identify priorities toward their operationalization and monitoring at the international, regional, national and local levels. Technical agencies of the UN, bilateral cooperation agencies and other development partners can assist in this regard. Meaningful participation of the most affected by hunger and malnutrition as well as the development of user-friendly and technical guides, are important to contextualizing approaches and adapting them to local contexts.

The participation of the PFH and the Alliances in these processes is important to raising awareness about their existence and about the potential of their contribution with a view to achieving much-needed transformations in the food system. AECID can facilitate this participation and share its cooperation experience.

4.2.2 The opportunities presented by the Covid-19 pandemic

Certain structural problems regarding food and nutritional security have been exacerbated by the health crisis. However, the pandemic also represents a huge opportunity for transformation,

45. [fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/Docs2021/Documents/CFS_VGs_Food_Systems_and_Nutrition_Strategy_EN.pdf](https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/Docs2021/Documents/CFS_VGs_Food_Systems_and_Nutrition_Strategy_EN.pdf)

opening up the possibility of adopting actions to construct a food system that is healthier, more inclusive, more resilient, more environmentally friendly and more beneficial to people who live in rural areas. In fact, a name has been given to this aspiration: “*Transformative rebuilding*”.

4.2.3 Long-term processes must be supported

Perhaps, in this world of immediacy, the following lesson should be set in stone: obtaining robust results, achieving endogenous empowerment, and enabling real and transformative change calls for long-term processes that take time to get off the ground, that balance phases of progress with phases of paralysis; the windows of opportunity are not always open, but it is essential to be ready and in position for when they are. The continuity of processes requires support and significant ongoing funding, such as that dedicated by Spanish Cooperation to food and nutritional security, especially during 2006-2011, and less intensely in the past decade, but always maintaining continuity and coherence. Spanish Cooperation’s commitment to FNS, especially in Latin America, has been of crucial importance in promoting the change in the FNS agenda in the region, adapting it to achieve SDG 2. Although the conditions for this type of work were relatively favourable, a partner was needed to help sustain a long-term process, to make room for all sectors and to facilitate dialogue and the conclusion of agreements, as well as their revision, adjustment, awareness raising and redimensioning. This continuity has allowed AECID to build privileged relations with key partners in the sector, on a basis of trust and good practices, earning a robust reputation and generating warm relations that should be nurtured and strengthened. In short, windows of opportunity will continue to open, but it is important to define and implement a joint strategic plan involving the different parties involved, such as FAO, AECID, PFH, the European Commission and the Pan-African Parliament.

4.2.4 Spanish Cooperation has the opportunity to reinvent itself, on a solid foundation

The Spanish Parliament is working on a new Cooperation Law to update the current one. The existing legislation, approved in 1998, obtained significant political consensus, which enabled Spanish Cooperation to engage decisively in the sphere of food and nutritional security, with governments of different ideological persuasions. It is important that the new Cooperation Act reflect these lessons learned, to stimulate and facilitate an ambitious, far-reaching process. The mandatory interaction and collaboration between Parliament, the Executive, the academic world, civil society, the private sector and cooperation actors to draft and approve this new Act represents an opportunity both to recognize the important role of Parliament in promoting FNS, in order to achieve the SDG 2 and the targets of the 2030 Agenda as a whole, and to reactivate and recognize the work of the Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food. It is important that direct references to the Right to Food be included in this legislation.

Experiences such as the support offered to the Parliamentary Fronts and to the Alliances against Hunger and Malnutrition help further a much-needed narrative in which cooperation is seen as an instrument for coordinating international policies that save lives and facilitate peace. This is a “re-politicized” cooperation, in the broadest sense of the word, backed up with sufficiently substantial funding to be credible and to make the processes undertaken viable and effective.

4.2.5 Consolidate the expansion of Parliamentary Alliances and the connections between them

Many countries now have Parliamentary Alliances, but they must be monitored and provided with technical support to ensure their effectiveness. In Africa, the process is at a more preliminary stage than in Latin America and has great potential for expansion. In this respect, the European Union could perform an important facilitating role. The organization of a Second Global Parliamentary Summit Against Hunger and Malnutrition in 2022 could consolidate these Alliances, facilitate the sharing of experiences and promote the recognition of these actors, who can make a vital contribution to the international agenda on food, to achieving SDG 2 and to fulfilling the 2030 Agenda. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the challenge lies in strengthening technical assistance in the areas where new legislative needs are being identified, and where the focus should be on transformative rebuilding and on intensifying the oversight of public policies and their corresponding budget allocations. Finally, it is essential to prioritize the empowerment of women and to decisively apply a gender approach to the issues addressed.

4.2.6 Two-way cooperation

At a time when certain parties are questioning not only the rationale behind cooperation but also the influence it may have on the countries concerned, it is important to recognize and raise awareness of the fact that inter-parliamentary cooperation also facilitates legislative advances in the countries that initiate the cooperation process. Indeed, this circumstance should not be regarded as anything out of the ordinary, in the present interrelated state of the world. It is important to break with paternalist North-South logic and to facilitate the sharing of experiences among countries tackling problems that are sometimes very similar, and thus make a comprehensive contribution to achieving SDG 17: “Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development”.

Spanish society and institutions can learn a lot from processes of this nature. The creation of an Ibero-American Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food would be a fundamental step towards consolidating this manner of understanding two-way cooperation, highlighting the fact that this problem is one that affects the entire global community.

APPENDICES: REFERENCE AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

This section presents additional materials that are highly relevant to this report. They are included as Appendices to complement the main body of the document and to facilitate its reading.

These Appendices are structured as follows:

- Appendix 1: Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- Appendix 2: The Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food;
- Appendix 3: The Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition;
- Appendix 4: Right to Food Observatories;
- Appendix 5: Right to Food: definitions and international political and legislative developments;
- Appendix 6: Strategic bibliography (publications issued by the FAO, AECID and other particularly significant technical organizations in this context).

APPENDIX I: PARLIAMENTARY FRONT AGAINST HUNGER IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Appendix I.1: Rules of procedure of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean (2016)

<http://parlamentarioscontraelhambre.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/Reglamento-EN.pdf>

TITLE I - GENERAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER ONE - OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Art. 1. The objective of the following Rules of Procedure is to regulate the organization and undertakings of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean (hereinafter PFH LAC).

Art. 2. The scope of the Rules of Procedure encompasses strengthening legislative and institutional processes in each of the sub-regional and national Parliaments in Latin America and the Caribbean, respectively, by promoting legislation aimed at developing public policy with adequate budgets, focusing on the fulfilment of the right to food.

CHAPTER 2 - NAME AND SYMBOLS

Art. 3. The official and sole name, including all corresponding translations, shall be PARLIAMENTARY FRONT AGAINST HUNGER IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (PFH-LAC) and its use by members shall be mandatory in all forms of communication, publications, and print and visual media.

Art. 4. The PFH-LAC logo is a green circle surrounded by smaller circles over a white background. The Technical Secretariat will be responsible for safeguarding the original image, its distribution and reproduction in its exact form or version.

TITLE II - GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Art. 5. The PFH-LAC shall be guided by the following principles:

Non-discrimination. The criteria established in these Rules of Procedure shall apply to all parliamentarians on the basis of equal treatment and non-discrimination.

Transparency. All procedures, requirements and any other circumstance of general interest shall be reported to all parliamentarians involved prior to any decision being made on the matter.

Publicity. Decisions made by the PFH-LAC shall be communicated to all members through previously agreed channels.

Participation. All parliamentarians who are members of the PFH-LAC have the right to take part in the Front's overall decision-making process. In addition, mechanisms to ensure the greatest participation possible in joint activities shall be assured.

Pluralism. Acknowledging that the fight against hunger and malnutrition is a complex matter that society as a whole must deal with, the PFH-LAC defines itself as a pluralistic network of parliamentarians whose Fronts must incorporate the visions and parties represented in their parliaments.

Gender equity. All PFH-LAC activities shall be governed at all times by the principle of gender equity endeavouring to achieve increasing parity in representation.

Interculturality. The worldviews and practices of the indigenous and Afro-descendent peoples shall be respected.

TITLE III - GOALS

Art. 6. Promote legislative support for developing effective laws, regulations and policy for the respect, protection and realization of the right to food in Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Art. 7. Promote legislative action that contributes to ensuring the realization of the right to adequate food, including, among other aspects: (i) safeguarding and guaranteeing healthy nutrition, promoting healthy eating habits, responsible consumption, as well as consumer information on the nutritional qualities of products; (ii) fighting malnutrition, focusing particularly on overweight and obesity; (iii) reducing food waste and losses; (iv) the development of school meals programs, and (v) the application of a gender- based approach in every action and activity; (vi) with the objective of strengthening households and the community.

Art. 8. Foster legislative frameworks that promote: (i) family farming in its broader sense (crops, livestock, forests, fishery and aquaculture) as a source of healthy, nutritious food that is properly processed and can be consumed fresh, with the resulting impact on the eating habits of the population; (ii) respect of the traditional eating practices of indigenous and Afro-descendant communities; (iii) mitigation and greater resilience to the impact of climate change, and (iv) rural development as a strategic sector for achieving food and nutrition sovereignty and security and fight hunger.

Art. 9. Share experiences in developing legislation and regulations linked to the application and realization of the right to food among countries in the region and in other regions, supporting the establishment of a global alliance to fight hunger and malnutrition.

TITLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

CHAPTER I - MEMBERS

Art. 10. The PFH-LAC is a broad network of parliamentarians in the region who belong to different political parties and legislative committees, permanently and formally established in each parliament that aims to place at the top of the government agenda the human right to adequate food nationally, regionally and internationally in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

Art. 11. PFH-LAC members include national, supranational and subnational or district parliamentarians from countries in Latin America and the Caribbean who share the common goal of ensuring that the fight against food insecurity and malnutrition is at the highest level of their country's government agenda.

Art. 12. Any Congress or Parliament in Latin America and the Caribbean can become a member of the PFH-LAC provided they abide by the guiding principles contained in these Rules of Procedure and submit a letter from their president addressed to the Executive Coordinating Committee expressing their explicit desire and institutional commitment to join.

CHAPTER II - STATES PARTIES

ART.13. States parties to the PFH-LAC are countries in the region that comply with the Rules of Procedure herein contained. Efforts shall be made to ensure all countries in the region join the PFH LAC, focusing on countries that have yet to establish their own national CHAPTER of the PFH or are in the process of creating one.

CHAPTER III - JURISDICTION

Art 14. PFH-LAC jurisdiction shall be limited only to countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. It shall establish strategic partnerships for the purpose of coordinating actions and, if warranted, share experiences with Parliaments in other regions, institutions or organizations of a different nature that, whether or not they are from the region, are committed to defending human rights, particularly the right to adequate food.

TITLE V - ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

CHAPTER I - EXECUTIVE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Art. 15. The Executive Coordinating Committee (ECC) is the governing body responsible for coordinating the actions of the PFH LAC, bringing parliamentarians and representatives of national and supranational parliaments together and linking them to the academic community and civil society to support the institutional structures that are heading the fight against hunger and malnutrition in the region by promoting legislative frameworks that guarantee the right to adequate food and/or promoting public policy and ensuring funding for actions aimed at overcoming hunger and malnutrition.

The ECC shall be elected every two years by majority vote of Extended Coordinating Committee (Extended CC) members. Each country shall have one vote, regardless of the number of members of their delegation. To ensure the validity of the vote, at least 50% of the national fronts that are members of the PFH-LAC must be present.

Pursuant to the principle of non-discrimination that governs these Rules of Procedure, any member of the PFH is eligible for election to the ECC by expressing their availability and commitment to the position.

Art. 16. The ECC of the PFH-LAC is composed of four parliamentarians: a) One regional coordinator representing the entire region of Latin America and the Caribbean. b) One deputy coordinator representing South America. c) One deputy coordinator representing Mesoamerica. d) One deputy coordinator representing the Caribbean.

Art. 17. National Parliamentary Fronts can change their representative on the Extended CC. This must be communicated to the regional Coordinator of the PFH for it to take effect in the Committee.

Art. 18. Functions of the regional coordinator: a) Speak on behalf of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean. b) Chair Coordinating Committee meetings and PHF Forums. c) Promote the realization of the “zero hunger” goal through PFH legislators d) Call special meetings. e) Report on ECC activities at the PFH Forum on a yearly basis. f) Represent PFHs in LAC at regional and international political bodies. g) Propose amendments to core documents of the Fronts. h) Convene special Advisory Council meetings. i) Propose Advisory Council tasks. j) Propose matters for analysis and discussion by the national PFH. k) Head the resource mobilization process through the ECC for the development of PFH-LAC and

national PFH activities. l) Identify and make arrangements for the establishment of partnerships, and build alliances among national PFHs and other institutions and/or bodies as determined by the ECC and Extended CC. m) Approve the topics and concept notes of activities carried out by the PFHs LAC for analysis and discussion by national PFHs. n) Draft and monitor the Work Plan of the regional PFH. o) Monitor the continuity and transition processes of national PFHs. p) Ensure compliance of the agreements of the Extended CC, without prejudice to the functions the Rules of Procedure entrusts other PFH members with. q) Ensure compliance of commitments made in Forum declarations. r) Maintain relations with regional and international parliamentary bodies.

Art. 19. Functions of sub-regional coordinators: a) Provide ongoing assistance to the regional coordinator. b) Support and monitor the establishment and functioning of existing Parliamentary Fronts or of those in the process of being formed in their sub-region. c) Propose amendments to core documents. d) Propose matters of interest to each sub-region for analysis and discussion by national PFHs. e) Support the resource mobilization process through the ECC for the development of PFH-LAC and national PFH activities. f) Approve topics and concept notes for activities carried out by PFHs LAC for analysis and discussion by national PFHs. g) Propose to the ECC meeting dates for special Advisory Council meetings. h) Propose Advisory Council tasks. i) Draft and monitor the regional PFH's Work Plan j) Identify and make arrangements for the establishment of partnerships, and build alliances among national PFHs and other institutions and/or bodies as determined by the ECC and Extended CC. k) Monitor the continuity and transition processes of national PFHs in their sub-region. l) Ensure compliance of commitments made in Forum declarations. m) Take the place of the coordinator in case of illness, leave, absence or if temporarily unable to exercise his/her functions, with full privileges in this case as Chairperson. n) Maintain relations with sub-regional parliamentary bodies.

Art. 20. The Executive Coordinating Committee of the Front shall meet: a) On a monthly basis on-site or online. b) If unable to attend, ECC members may designate a non-voting alternate for the meetings. c) To the extent circumstances allow, it will hold an on-site meeting at least once a year. d) Should core documents need to be reviewed or amended, the ECC will act as ruling committee. The ECC's decision shall be delivered to the Extended CC for discussion and approval, as the case may be.

Art. 21. Notice of upcoming sessions may be sent by any ECC member or by the Technical Secretariat (TS) no later than one week prior to the meeting. ECC members may add any matter they consider relevant no later than 24 hours after notice has been received.

The Technical Secretariat may suggest matters for the agenda and take minutes of the meeting, which shall be approved by the regional Coordinator of the PFH and ECC members, and later sent to the rest of the members of the Parliamentary Front.

Art. 22. Members are entitled to sit on the ECC for a period of two years. The period will begin immediately following appointment to the respective Forum. Should the legislative term of an elected official of a member country come to an end, he/she will immediately cease to be a

member of the ECC. In the absence of an ECC member for the abovementioned reason, a new deputy Coordinator or Coordinator may be elected at the Forum for remainder of the term.

CHAPTER 2. EXTENDED COORDINATING COMMITTEE (Extended CC)

Art. 23. The Extended CC shall be comprised of the National Front Coordinators.

Each national Parliamentary Front (NPF) will designate a national coordinator in accordance with their respective internal parliamentary assembly rules of procedure. NPFs shall be ratified as per the mechanism each national parliament has autonomously determined.

NPFs shall inform the ECC of the names of the parliamentarians that are members of their respective fronts, and name of the coordinator, copied to their parliamentary authorities.

Members of the NPF may resign in writing, with notice to the ECC. NPF coordinators will report all changes and/or resignations to the regional coordinator and the ECC, copied to the TS and parliamentary authorities, for their knowledge.

National PFH coordinators shall submit their Annual Work Plan to the ECC and may suggest amendments to the Rules of Procedure, copied to the TS.

Art. 24. Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger established in supranational parliaments, such as PARLATINO, PARLANDINO, PARLACEN and FOPREL will have voice and vote within the CC. (Approved by the CEC during its meeting within the framework of the IX Forum of the FPH, in Madrid - 2018).

Art. 25. The Extended CC is composed of the respective PFH coordinators of standing national Chapters and must submit a report on the main activities and achievements during the year.

Art. 26. The Extended CC will perform the following tasks: a) Approve documents and amendments to the core documents of the Fronts. b) Ensure compliance of the agreements of the Extended CC, without prejudice to the functions the Rules of Procedure entrusted to other PFH members. c) Convene special Advisory Council meetings. d) Propose Advisory Council tasks. e) Ensure compliance of commitments made in Forum declarations. f) Elect ECC members every two years.

Art. 27. Meetings

Paragraph 1. Regular: The Extended CC shall hold regular meetings twice a year: at the Planning Meeting during the first quarter of the year, and at the Forum of the PFH during the last quarter. Paragraph 2. Special: When determined by the ECC and can be held in the context of an activity that has already been scheduled.

CHAPTER 3 - TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

Art. 28. FAO, through the Technical Secretariat (TS), will provide support for activities carried out by the Extended CC and Executive CC.

Art. 29. The TS shall perform the following tasks: a) Organize Executive CC and Extended CC meetings, the PFH Planning Meeting, the annual Forum of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger, and other regional or international gatherings. b) Suggest items for discussion on the agenda or propose activities to the ECC and Extended CC after consulting the Regional PFH-LAC Coordinator. c) Assist the Regional Coordinator in coordinating and communications with existing national PFs and those in the process of being formed, and with supranational parliaments that are members of the Front, promoting coordination among them and the participation of organizations, members and representatives of civil society. d) Receive and submit to the ECC the requirements, progress reports and information provided by the national chapters of existing PFHs and of those in formation. Its mandate shall be to verify the accuracy of the documents received, reviewed and approved at preparatory meetings, as well as make public information of the ECC, Extended CC and PFH available to the general population. e) Support the systematization and knowledge management processes developed by PFHs. f) Gather and disseminate information regarding regulations, policy, field experiences in matters regarding food security and sovereignty and the right to food in countries in the continent. g) Provide support in drafting and monitoring the Work Plan for the Regional PFH. h) Provide support in identifying new partners and building alliances among NPFHs and other institutions and/or organizations, as determined by the Executive CC and Extended CC.

CHAPTER 4 - ADVISORY COUNCIL (AC)

Art. 30. The Advisory Council (AC) draws on the capacities and experience of former parliamentarians who have been members of the PFH-LAC and have expressed an ongoing commitment to its causes and objectives. The AC shall contribute with its knowledge and dedication in the tasks entrusted by the Extended CC, primarily in an advisory capacity.

Art. 31. The Mission of the Advisory Council is to provide assistance and collaborate in matters defined specifically by the Executive CC and Extended CC as determined in an action plan, with clearly defined targets, objectives and timeframes, and with the necessary resources for the effective fulfilment of the tasks the AC is requested to perform and is willing to carry out.

Art. 32. The functions of the AC shall be considered expert input in aspects defined by the Executive CC and Extended CC, in an advisory capacity, and not simply an honorary appointment.

Art. 33. The Advisory Council of the Regional PFH shall have a maximum of 5 (five) members whose nomination is based on criteria of relevance to the Extended CC with respect to experience, knowledge and commitment to defending the Right to Adequate Food, Food and Nutrition Security and Food Sovereignty, the development and empowerment of the regional PFH and national PFHs, and support to relevant international initiatives. Key qualifications for members of the AC are as follows: a) Extensive experience in human rights and their defence,

in particular the human right to adequate food. b) Experience in the area of food security and sovereignty. c) If possible, experience working with civil society and social movements.

Art. 34. Advisory Council nominations shall be presented and approved by the Extended Coordinating Committee by majority vote. The Council will renew two members each year, ensuring regional and gender parity is maintained.

Art. 35. AC Members shall stand on the council for a period of one year, renewable for an additional year from the date of their appointment and commencement of duties.

These appointments shall be reported to all members of the PFH within 15 days. Regional food sovereignty and security specialists may exceptionally be invited to stand on the AC upon request of the Executive CC with the endorsement of the Extended CC.

Art. 36. The powers and duties of the AC of the PFH are as follows: a) Advise the Executive CC and Extended CC on all issues submitted for their knowledge. b) Carry out actions as required by the Extended CC under the provisions of the Rules of Procedure herein. c) Collaborate in the systematization of processes developed by the Fronts based on the specific requirements established by the Extended CC. d) Attend regular and special meetings of the PFH upon request of the Extended CC. e) Participate in national and international fora in the context of PFH activities upon request of the Executive CC or Extended CC. f) In the performance of their duties, act in accordance with the agreements adopted in the foundational statements of the PFH in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as those derived from regional Fora declarations. g) Support the establishment of new fronts and the organization of their members upon requested of the Extended CC.

The Technical Secretariat will be available to provide support in carrying out these duties and technically monitor these requirements.

Art. 37. The Advisory Council shall draft a proposal for the Executive CC on ways to address the Extended CC's requirements, identifying which council member will be responsible for what, irrespective of whether other Council members are involved. The requirements approved by the Extended CC shall be limited in its objectives to the time and resources available for its development.

Art. 38. The Executive CC shall ensure the objectives and time and resource requirements are monitored. Work plans shall be drafted drawing on these elements to guide the delivery of the outputs requested to the AC.

Art. 39. Council outputs shall be submitted to the Executive CC, which will pass them on together with any observations to PFH coordinators for their knowledge.

TITLE VI – COMMON PROVISIONS

CHAPTER I - REPORTING

Art. 40. The ECC of the PFH-LAC shall submit a report containing the main achievements, challenges and progress attained during the current year, particularly those relevant to the declaration of the Forum held the previous year. These shall be presented annually at the Forum of the PFH. A declaration of commitments will be drafted at the end of the Forum that will be binding on all.

CHAPTER II - OBSERVERS AND GUESTS

Art. 41 – The PFH-LAC may invite observers to their regional meetings and other activities if deemed necessary, provided a request for accreditation is submitted and formally accepted by the ECC, which will establish the terms and conditions of their participation.

Art. 42. The ECC may establish inter-institutional and inter-parliamentary agreements aimed at ensuring the participation of strategic guests and partners of the PFH in its activities, such as international organizations, academic institutions, civil society, and members of national, sub-regional and international Parliaments, upon request and in accordance with the interests of the PFH.

CHAPTER III - LANGUAGES

Art. 43. The official languages of the PFH-LAC are Spanish, Portuguese and English.

CHAPTER IV - AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Art. 44. The Executive CC may propose amendments to the Rules of Procedure herein and submit them to the Extended CC. The Extended CC shall seek approval of these amendments by consensus. Should consensus not be reached, the amendment proposal will require a two thirds majority vote of the members present at the Extended CC meeting.

TRANSITIONAL CHAPTER

Art. 45. These Rules of Procedure shall enter into force the day following their adoption.

Appendix I.2: Open Letter to Latin America and the Caribbean: Hunger and malnutrition, the other side of the coronavirus

(31-3-2020) While the coronavirus pandemic is gradually being contained in China, Latin America and the Caribbean it is spreading rapidly and has now reached all its countries.

As members of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger, we appeal to decision-makers and to always consider among emergency measures: the protection of the right to food of the Latin American and Caribbean population.

We cannot open the door to scarcity. We must all ensure that the chain of production, processing and food supply remains active.

At this point, we turn to consumers to avoid hoarding, and private companies to keep their distribution systems accessible to the entire population, and promote conscious purchasing and no food waste.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, not everyone has the means to adequately feed themselves in a state of quarantine.

Therefore, it is also crucial that countries address food emergency measures aimed at the most vulnerable sectors. We refer, in particular, to children, senior citizens and those with lower incomes.

Just to give an example, some 85 million children in our region are fed in schools, and even more alarming is that for about 10 million, this benefit is the only source of safe food they receive on a daily basis.

According to FAO, eating enough food, diverse and nutritious, strengthens our immune system and increases our ability to cope with illness.

We must not forget that there are already 42.5 million people in Latin American and Caribbean countries that lack the necessary nutrients for a healthy and active life.

We must do everything in our power so that this number does not increase and thus avoid health, economic and food crises.

We must not also forget that our countries coexist with a high prevalence of overweight and obesity. The stress of confinement and social distancing can lead to worsening habits and accentuate the consumption of less healthy foods.

We must protect family farms and provide alternatives to small farmers so that they can, considering all health safeguards, get fresh and nutritious food to our population.

There is no doubt that right now, more than ever, we are obliged to rethink the social role of our food systems, strengthen them for moments of crisis and transform them into more sustainable and healthy systems.

We must seek opportunities for collaboration, not only to face the current scenario but to mitigate future impacts on food and nutrition security of millions of families.

Undoubtedly, one of these opportunities is to prioritize a closer proximity of universities and the scientific world to public food policy. This is possible and can achieve important results. A clear example is the political and academic work of the Observatory of the Right to Food in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In economic news, our message is: there is no reason for increases in food prices, outside the normal seasonal cycles for each country.

On the other hand, it is important to pay attention to the possible options in trade and tax policy measures that can be taken and their impact, and, in turn, work together to create a favourable environment for food trade.

This virus does not respect borders and every individual attempt to combat it will fail. Right now, our greatest antidote is international cooperation and solidarity among countries.

We appreciate the efforts of FAO, the Latin American Parliament and the Caribbean (PARLATINO) and the cooperation agencies of Spain and Mexico that, despite the current situation we are facing as humanity, have maintained their great support.

We are about 500 legislators from over 20 countries in the region, which have been fighting for the eradication of hunger and malnutrition for 10 years, and today we make ourselves available for national, regional and international efforts to address this global disease.

We have long been working with the cooperation of PARLATINO and sub-regional parliaments, and multiple actors outside the region, including the Parliament of Spain, the European Parliament, the Pan-African Parliament and the International Organization of Parliaments (IPU); experience which allows us to exchange knowledge and join forces.

Being the natural bridge between people and governments we are accountable, as parliamentarians, for creating conditions and demanding results.

Our tasks include the positioning of the issues on the public agenda, making laws, approving budgets and the oversight of policies.

Finally, we invite everyone to act with responsibility and solidarity, and strictly follow the instructions of national and international health authorities.

A Latin America and the Caribbean free from hunger, malnutrition and coronavirus is possible.

Working together we will get ahead!

Appendix I.3: Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues: Food Security and Nutrition in the time of Covid-19. Report on the first meeting: Mesoamerica and South America (3-3-2021)

The aim of the Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues is to facilitate capacity-building activities for parliamentarians and to support the related political dialogues that are taking place in each region, focusing on initiatives to address and alleviate the impact of COVID-19. This approach seeks to place food security, nutrition and inclusion at the top of the political agenda, to ensure the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are achieved.

These meetings are organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), with the collaboration of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) and in alliance with the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean (PFH LAC), in compliance with the commitments made at the first Global Parliamentary Summit Against Hunger and Malnutrition, held in Madrid in 2018.⁴⁶

The first meeting of this cycle of Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues took place on Wednesday, March 3, 2021. The agenda and the concept note can be consulted online.⁴⁷

Summary of speeches

First Session– Welcoming remarks and presentation of participants::

Family farmers have the potential to transform and to help achieve the SDGs

Marcela Villarreal, d, Director of FAO's Partnerships and UN Collaboration Division, highlighted the link between family farming (FF), sustainable food systems and the realization of the human right to adequate food (HRAF), and underlined the role played by parliamentarians in the framework of the UN Decade of Family Farming.⁴⁸ Four countries in the region have approved National Action Plans and another seven are working to do so. The process is also underway to develop a Sub-regional Plan for Family Farming, in conjunction with the Central American Agricultural Council (CAC). These plans will enable countries to overcome the crisis and, with the contributions of FF, promote the economic recovery of rural areas.

The PFH are a primary point of reference in two-way cooperation

Fernando Jiménez-Ontiveros, AECID's director for Multilateral, Horizontal and Financial Cooperation, observed that the first Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition was a milestone in the ongoing collaboration between Spain and the region. He went on to note that the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger operate via the exchange of experiences that have inspired parliamentarians in Spain and worldwide. For this reason, the Fronts are an excellent model of "two-way cooperation."

46. For more information, see <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/global-parliamentary-summit/en/>

47. For more information, see <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/virtual-parliamentary-dialogues/en/>

48. For more information, see <http://www.fao.org/americas/daf/en/>

Among Spain's priorities for this year are the UN Food Systems Summit and the Voluntary Guidelines on food systems and nutrition.

The role played by parliamentarians is of crucial importance to achieving SDGs 2, 5 and 16

Senator **Elena Diego**, president of the International Development Cooperation Commission of the Spanish Senate, announced that the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance to Promote the Right to Food will be launched on March 4, 2021. The agenda of the Spanish legislators will be implemented in conjunction with the Latin American Fronts, with whom they have been collaborating for many years, and SDG 5 will be a horizontal priority in their programmes. The Senator emphasised the importance of effective coordination among parliamentarians to ensure that SDG 16 can be achieved.

The response by the PFH to overcome the crisis is non-partisan and innovative

Deputy **Jairo Flores**, coordinator of PFH-Guatemala and general coordinator of the PFH-ALC, recognized the legislative achievements of the Fronts in the last year, thanks to broad-based alliances and forward-looking negotiations, with respect to school feeding programmes and in innovative practices such as the online approval of legislation. Parliamentarians play a key role in these processes by supervising, controlling and accompanying the legislative procedure and by monitoring its full implementation.

Second Session - Discussion on food security and nutrition and the role of parliamentarians in developing a constructive political environment during the COVID-19 pandemic

A healthy and accessible diet for all

Luiz Beduschi, policy officer at the FAO Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, explained that the region has structural problems of food and nutrition security (FNS), which have worsened with the pandemic. In 2019, almost 48 million people suffered from hunger. Furthermore, the region is the most expensive in which to purchase nutritious food; here, 104 million people cannot afford a healthy diet. The other aspect of malnutrition is overweight and obesity, which mainly affect populations in rural areas, women, indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants. In this respect, one in five territories in the region suffers major problems of growth retardation or overweight in children under 5 years of age.

The main challenges to be faced are those of guaranteeing access to healthy food, and coping with widespread overweight and obesity.

Policies are needed to promote job creation and economic opportunities; to increase people's income through nutrition-sensitive social protection instruments; and to improve the efficiency and resilience of food chains, via innovation and technology.

Transforming and remaking the food chain

Luis Lobo, technical officer of the SPAIN-FAO Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean, informed participants that the PFH, in the Parliamentary Sessions on Zero Hunger, had resolved to strengthen the right to adequate food in national constitutions and legal frameworks, to put into practice effective programmes for public purchases from family farmers, and to make nutrition a central component of the response to COVID-19.

The pandemic represents an opportunity to build a more inclusive, resilient and healthy food system, one that is respectful of the environment and of rural populations. However, the budgets set out in the recovery plans do not properly reflect this need, and so it is urgently necessary to discuss this issue in national parliaments.

Third Session - Sub-regional Round Table on challenges and opportunities of political processes for food and nutrition security and the right to food

Parliamentary Front against Hunger - Mexico

Promoting healthy diets in a context of generalised overweight and obesity

PFH-Mexico was represented by its coordinator in the Mexican Senate, Senator **Ana Lilia Rivera**.

Mexico ranks second in the world for the prevalence of obesity and overweight among adults, a factor that aggravates the impact of COVID-19.

PFH-Mexico seeks to generate changes in production models, whilst recognizing the interdependence of economic, social and cultural rights.

The achievements of 2020 include the presentation of the General Water Law Project, the approval of the 2020 Federal Law for the Promotion and Protection of Native Corn and the presentation of the proposed General Law of the Right to Adequate Food.

Parliamentary Front against Hunger - Honduras

Authority in the field of natural disasters

PFH-Honduras was represented by its coordinator, deputy **Teresa Cáliz**, who is also the deputy coordinator of PFH-Mesoamerica.

In response to the pandemic and natural disasters that have hit the country, FPH-Honduras has promoted the following legal measures: the Law on the Financial Response to COVID-19, the Law on Economic Acceleration and Social Protection and the Law on Assistance to the Productive Sector. Legislation has also been passed with respect to funding for risk management, disasters and calamities; funding for rural area producers; reforming the Debt Readjustment Law; and subsidies for electronic payments. In addition, the following draft laws are currently being debated: the Law on Family Farming, the Law on Associative Farmworker Companies, and amendments to the System and Compendium of Food Security Laws..

Parliamentary Front against Hunger - El Salvador

Raising the profile of family agriculture

Deputy **Mauricio Linares** spoke on behalf of PFH-El Salvador.

Family farming is a major priority for El Salvador, representing 87% of total agricultural activity in the country. In this respect, the main legislative advance reported is the Family Farming Bill, which is characterized by an inclusive, gender-parity approach.

In response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Transitory Law on measures to support the agricultural sector was approved. This Law guarantees food security against a national emergency, granting small producers a six-month grace period to resolve financial difficulties and reducing their loan interest rates to 5%. Another law, focused on the livestock sector, determines the State budget allotted to food purchases by public institutions from domestic producers.

Parliamentary Front against Hunger - Chile

Bringing scientists, academics, civil society and other sectors together to find solutions

PFH-Chile was represented by its coordinator in the Upper House, Senator **Guido Girardi**.

Food systems currently generate high costs to public health and the environment. Accordingly, science-based regulation is essential, and one response in this area is the Food Labelling Law, which is currently under debate. FPH-Chile supports the work of other Fronts in the regulation of advertising and the control of consumption.

The senator called for civil society, scientists, academics, parliamentarians and the private sector, among others, to join forces and discuss how to best address the consequences of COVID-19.

Parliamentary Front against Hunger - Colombia

A lasting peace with food security and inclusion

FPH-Colombia was represented by its coordinator, Senator **Faber Muñoz**.

To ensure that legislation is properly applied, all levels of government – national, regional and local – must participate and implement the specific actions required.

For further progress in food and nutrition security in Colombia, there must be peace, which in turn depends on international collaboration.

The main legislative achievements during 2020 include the Food Loss and Waste Prevention Law; the Artisanal Fishing Bill; and Law 2046 on local public purchases, which creates mechanisms to promote the participation of small farmers, local agricultural producers and family and community farms in public food purchase markets.

In 2021, PFH-Colombia will continue to promote the Breastfeeding Bill, as a fundamental right for babies and mothers.

Latin American and Caribbean Parliament (PARLATINO)

Parliamentarians seek greater participation in the 2021 Food Systems Summit.

The Argentine senator **Silvia Giacoppo**, Alternate Committee Secretary and liaison between PARLATINO and FAO, spoke on behalf of PARLATINO.

PARLATINO and the Parliamentary Fronts are working to strengthen their alliances with partners from other regions and to mobilize international cooperation resources.

In February 2021, PARLATINO presented the Model Law on Community Water and Sanitation Systems; in addition, work continued on updating the PARLATINO Model Law on Climate Change, with special focus on food and nutritional security.

In 2021, PARLATINO will prepare a Model Law on Food Loss and Waste, and present (at the regional level) its Practical Guide for Parliamentarians and Advisers on Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems.

Other items in its agenda include supporting the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables, collaborating with the Food Systems Summit, raising awareness about agroecology, and promoting the alliance with the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly (EUROLAT).

Parliamentary Front against Hunger - Costa Rica

Food systems must be inclusive and ensure access to healthy diets

Deputy **Paola Valladares**, the coordinator of PFH-Costa Rica, spoke on its behalf.

During 2020, PFH-Costa Rica worked to approve the Law ensuring access to basic necessities, in the context of the COVID-19 public health emergency, in coordination with academics. Furthermore, the Constitution was amended to recognize access to water as a human right.

During 2021, the Draft Framework Law for Food Security and Malnutrition, the Draft Law for the Commercialization and Control of the Seed Trade in Costa Rica, and the Draft Law for the Promotion of Sustainable Fishing will be debated.

PFH-Costa Rica is committed to making agriculture resilient to climate change. For this purpose, it has initiated a discussion on green funds and bonds, and will present a project to enhance agrochemicals and molecules.

PFH-Costa Rica is also working to reduce food loss and waste, to promote family farming projects, and to raise the awareness and skills of parliamentarians in the field of SDGs and post-COVID recovery.

Parliamentary Front against Hunger - Guatemala

The inspection and control of financial support is essential

Deputy **Jairo Flores**, the coordinator of PFH-Guatemala, spoke on its behalf.

During 2020, PFH-Guatemala presented several initiatives to reduce the economic impact of COVID-19, such as the income-differentiated payment of basic products and the delivery of food parcels to vulnerable families. Employment aids and incentives were also approved, through loans and funds for small businesses, and employment-suspension bonds. In addition, the Family Farming Technical Board was reactivated and family farming was supported, in order to maintain good supplies. All of these measures were subject to financial inspection.

Fourth Session - Plenary discussion with the trigger question: What support do parliaments need to address and mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on achieving SDG 2, both in the containment and in the recovery phases?

Budget spending must be proportional to the impact caused by the crisis

The Spanish senator **Alberto Fabra**, former Chair of the Commission for International Cooperation for Development, called for greater efforts to combat rising levels of hunger and poverty. In the present context, in which governments will have to adjust their budget plans, parliamentarians must not only legislate, but also control budget items. In this respect, aid to the most vulnerable members of society cannot be reduced. Countries can benefit from the specific COVID-19 programmes being implemented by international cooperation agencies.

Ensure transparency and re-establish the supervisory role of Parliament

Senator **Silvia Giacoppo** said parliaments must regain their financial control capability, to ensure the transparency and effectiveness of reconstruction programmes. She requested support from the FAO for parliamentarians to participate in the UN Summit on food systems

and proposed working with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) to learn about the work performed in this area in different countries.

Closing remarks: Conclusions, recommendations and proposals

- In response to the effects of COVID-19, the Fronts have demonstrated their commitment to the SDGs, especially SDG 2.
- Numerous advances have been made in different areas, including water management, reducing food loss and waste, and addressing climate change.
- In the context of the pandemic, emergency legislation has been passed to ensure access to food; to facilitate the functioning of food chains; and to ensure that all actors, including family farmers and artisanal fishermen, have access to credit, productive inputs and markets. In addition, initiatives to enhance care and nutrition have been formulated.
- It is important to adopt a rights-based approach, recognizing the existence of inequalities, vulnerabilities and gender discrimination.
- It is essential to allocate a sufficient budget to policies, laws and programmes aimed at achieving SDG 2, particularly during the post-COVID reconstruction.
- It is more necessary than ever to strengthen the oversight function of parliaments.
- Proposals for future action:
 - i. Organize a meeting between parliamentarians, scientists, academics and other relevant figures.
 - ii. Participate in the National Dialogues of the Food Systems Summit.
 - iii. Identify and follow up countries' efforts in response to the crisis.

APPENDIX 2: THE SPANISH PARLIAMENTARY ALLIANCE FOR THE RIGHT TO FOOD.

Appendix 2.1: Declaration of the constitution of the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food

Today, September 18, 2018, the members of the Congress and the Senate, representing the Spanish Parliament, declare the constitution of a Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food so that their political and parliamentary activity may contribute to the effective realization in Spain of the Human Right to Adequate Food, and promote the development of this right and the elimination of hunger and malnutrition throughout the world.

THE TIMELINESS OF THE SPANISH PARLIAMENTARY ALLIANCE FOR THE RIGHT TO FOOD: CONSIDERATIONS AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Of a global nature:

The Right to Food is a universal human right, meaning that all men and women have the right to be free from hunger and the right to physical or economic access at all times to food that is adequate in quantity and quality.

In 2004, the “Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security” were adopted by the FAO Council. These Guidelines address budgetary and legislative aspects, and call for institutional strengthening and the participatory construction of public policies.

In December 2008, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights entered into force, in which special emphasis was placed on the Right to Food. This Protocol is effective for Spain.

During the meeting of parliamentarians prior to the 2009 World Summit on Food Security in Rome, it was resolved that “as members of parliament, we play a key role in finding solutions to the problem of hunger (...) and there are many things that we parliamentarians can do, such as adopt legal frameworks and laws to protect the right to food.”

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, signed by all UN Member States, includes as its Goal 2: “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture”.

We are currently in the United Nations Decade of Action for Nutrition (2016-2025).

The UN Decade of Family Farming (2019-2028) will soon begin and within this framework it is important to recognize that family farming contributes 70% of the food currently consumed in the world and generates 70% of jobs in the rural environment.

According to the latest UN report on the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World, more than 800 million people are suffering from hunger worldwide, and if the current trend continues we will be far from achieving the goal of Zero Hunger by 2030.

The United Nations Special Rapporteur for the Right to Food has stated that climate change poses serious threats to food security and could plunge another 600 million people into undernourishment in the next 60 years.

The 2030 Agenda recognizes the co-responsibility of all countries to fulfil the Agenda and to assume the goals of food, sustainability and socioeconomic development.

The world currently has the productive capacity and technical knowledge to feed its population, but we are incapable of guaranteeing that population's access to adequate food.

Worldwide, over 600 million adults suffer from obesity and nearly two billion are overweight.

One third of all food produced is lost or wasted and does not reach people's mouths.

Food producing systems are extremely reliant on fossil fuels and are responsible for almost a third of the greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.

The Parliamentary Alliances have worked as intended, producing tangible results in Latin America and the Caribbean and creating the opportunity to strengthen these processes in Africa.

Spanish institutions have promoted these initiatives in the last 20 years, achieving significant international practical experience in this area.

The Spanish Parliament, at the initiative of the Senate, has convened, in conjunction with the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, the FAO and the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, to be held in Madrid on October 29 and 30, 2018.

THE TIMELINESS OF A PARLIAMENTARY ALLIANCE FOR THE RIGHT TO FOOD IN SPAIN: CONSIDERATIONS AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

With specific reference to Spain:

Spain, like all other countries in the world, needs to review its food systems to reduce negative outcomes such as obesity, the generation of waste, pollution and soil degradation, and the restricted access to food suffered by some population groups which can lead to them abandoning the rural environment.

The eradication of malnutrition is an urgent goal, one that demands the committed effort of all actors in society.

In the last decade, although the financial crisis has been overcome in Spain, important sectors of society still have difficulty accessing a balanced and healthy diet. Therefore, new mechanisms must be created to ensure this right is universally achieved. In this respect, Spain invests more than 90 million euros per year in food aid programmes, reaching more than 1.5 million people.

With changing lifestyles, the evolution of the food system over the years and the effective loss of the Mediterranean diet, the prevalence of overweight and obesity in Spain has increased significantly.

According to the FAO report “The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World”, in Spain, the prevalence of adult obesity increased from 25% to 27.1% between 2012 and 2016. In consequence, over ten million adults in Spain are now considered obese.

This condition is associated with the growing impact of non-infectious diseases such as diabetes and hypertension, and also with psychological disorders and problems of employability. With respect to obesity, these nationwide statistics show it has ceased to be an individual problem, instead becoming one requiring social responsibility and political measures, as have previously been taken in the case of tobacco.

The current food system is neither sustainable nor does it meet people’s needs. It generates very high rates of loss and waste in different links of the food chain. Inadequate production methods prejudice the soil, water resources and biodiversity, and the systematic abuse of chemical products, antibiotics and additives poses a major risk to health.

The transition to a sustainable, inclusive food system, one that does not result in the depopulation of rural areas, one that is resistant to the effects of climate change and which is open to approaches such as agroecology, requires collective action and changes in behaviour, at all levels of society, as established in international agreements on environmental issues.

The present context is favourable for a decisive advance in these matters, due to factors such as the level of awareness and interaction among the Parliamentary Fronts of Latin America and the Caribbean, Spain’s organization of the Global Parliamentary Summit in Madrid, the strong interest and commitment to the subject among Spanish deputies and senators, and the support provided by the FAO and its Office in Spain.

For all these reasons:

As Parliamentarians, we resolve to:

Constitute and develop a Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food;

Interact with other Alliances and Parliamentarians to incorporate this issue into the World Agenda;

Work for greater Spanish international cooperation in achieving these goals;

Analyze and extend mechanisms to eliminate food poverty and undernourishment, and their associated risks, in Spain;

Address the problem of obesity by promoting appropriate policies for this purpose and by re-popularizing the Mediterranean diet;

Take decisive measures to redirect agricultural methods towards more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable approaches;

Expand the understanding of these challenges among the political groups and in the parliamentary committees to which we belong;

Promote legislation in the above areas enabling compliance with the Alliance's commitments;

Play an active role in the next Global Parliamentary Summit, to be held in Madrid, and contribute to the formation of a Global Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food;

Promote awareness and coordination with Spanish regional parliaments, highlighting the importance of seeking the full incorporation of the Right to Food into current legislation, in order to establish it definitively as part of the institutional framework; and

Reaffirm the fundamental role of civil society in the design, execution and evaluation of strategies to combat malnutrition. In this regard, we call upon organizations, academic bodies, the private sector and the general public to express their views and to participate in the national forums created, in order to reinforce the national and international dialogue among all parties involved in promoting the Right to Food.

In short, we seek to put an end to poverty and hunger, in accordance with the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, indivisibly and universally, such that the generation of material means of subsistence, the management of natural resources and the inclusive nature of development may all be addressed holistically.

Appendix 2.2: Members of the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food, in the 12th Legislative Session.

As at February 19, 2019

Total number of members = 188.

By parties: PP (78) + PSOE (49) + Unidos Podemos (25) + Ciudadanos (29) + Compromís (3) + Esquerra Republicana (2) + PDeCat (2)

Partido Popular (78)

Congress

1. María del Carmen Hernández Bento
2. Beatriz Marta Escudero Berzal
3. Raquel Alonso Hernández
4. Silvia Valmaña Ochaíta
5. Elena María Bastidas Bono
6. José Ignacio Llorens Torres
7. Miguel Ángel Viso Diéguez
8. María Luz Bajo Prieto
9. María del Carmen Quintanilla Barba
10. José María Chiquillo Barber
11. Rubén Moreno Palanques
12. Celia Alberto Pérez
13. Manuel Blasco Marqués
14. María Ángeles Esteller Ruedas
15. Óscar Gamazo Micó
16. Ángel Luis González Muñoz
17. Teófilo de Luis Rodríguez
18. Ramón Moreno Bustos
19. Pilar Rojo Noguera
20. Rosa María Romero Sánchez
21. José Ignacio Echániz Salgado
22. María del Carmen Navarro Cruz
23. María Ascensión Carreño Fernández
24. Joaquín María García Díez
25. Javier Calvente Gallego
26. Carmelo Romero Hernández
27. Ernesto Aguiar Rodríguez
28. Miguel Barrachina Ros
29. Loreto Cascales Martínez
30. Emilio Del Río Sanz
31. María Teresa de Lara Carbó
32. Diego Movellán Lombilla
33. Juan Vicente Pérez Aras
34. Ana Isabel Alós López
35. Carolina España Reina
36. Silvia Heredia Martín
37. María Dolores Marcos Moyano
38. Ana María Zurita Expósito
39. Ana María Pastor Julián
40. Pablo Casado Blanco

41. Dolors Montserrat Montserrat
42. Pedro Acedo Penco
43. Ernesto Aguiar Rodríguez
44. Ramon Aguirre Rodríguez
45. María Dolores Alba Mullor
46. Joaquín Albaladejo Martínez
47. José Jaime Alonso Diaz-Guerra
48. María Teresa Angulo Romero
49. José Luis Ayllón Manso
50. María Fátima Báñez García
51. Leopoldo Barreda de los Ríos
52. José María Barrios Tejero
53. José Antonio Bermúdez de Castro Fernández
54. María Mar Blanco Garrido
55. María Dolores Bolarín Sánchez
56. María Jesús Bonilla Domínguez
57. Isabel María Borrego Cortés
58. Juan Bravo Baena

Senado

59. Alberto Fabra Prat
60. Rosa Santos Fernández
61. Gonzalo Robles Orozco
62. José Cruz Pérez Lapazarán
63. Manuel Marmolejo Setién
64. Pedro María Sanz Alonso
65. Jesús Ferosel Díaz
66. Jaime González Taboada
67. Carmen Leyte Coello
68. José Antonio Rubio Mielgo
69. Marta Valdenebro Rodríguez
70. Diego Sánchez Duque
71. Jesús Ramón Aguirre Muñoz
72. Manuel Betegón Baeza
73. María Isabel García Luis
74. Gabino Puche Rodríguez-Acosta
75. Carlos Manuel Cotillas López
76. Juan Carlos Álvarez Cabrero
77. Asunción Sánchez Zaplana
78. Pío García-Escudero Márquez

Partido Socialista Obrero Español (49)

Congress

79. Miriam Alconchel Gonzaga
80. Carmen Baños Ruiz
81. Gregorio Cámara Villar
82. Pilar Cancela Rodríguez
83. Ricardo Cortés Lastra
84. Carmen Cuello Pérez
85. Salvador de la Encina Ortega
86. Jesús María Fernández Díaz
87. Sonia Ferrer Tesoro
88. Dolores Galovart Carrera
89. Josefa Inmaculada González Bayo
90. Miguel Ángel Heredia Díaz
91. Juan Jiménez Tortosa
92. Adriana Lastra Fernández
93. César Luena López
94. Guillermo Meijón Couselo
95. Carlota Merchán Mesón
96. Micaela Navarro Garzón
97. Ester Peña Camarero
98. Margarita Pérez Herraiz
99. Alicia Piquer Sancho
100. Toni Quintana Martínez
101. Elvira Ramón Utrabo
102. María Tamara Raya Rodríguez
103. Isabel Rodríguez García

Unidos Podemos (25)

Congress

128. Rosana Pastor Muñoz
129. Rita Bosaho Gori
130. Antón Gómez Reino
131. Mae de la Concha García-Mauriño
132. Pablo Iglesias Turrión
133. Carolina Bescansa Hernández
134. Txema Guijarro García
135. Pedro Arrojo Agudo
136. Juantxo López de Uralde
137. Yolanda Díaz Pérez
138. Ángela Ballester Muñoz
139. Noelia Vera Ruiz-Herrera
140. Ana Terron Berbel

104. Soraya Rodríguez Ramos
105. Amalia Rodríguez Hernández
106. Mar Rominguera Salazar
107. María Jesús Serrano Jiménez
108. Victoria Begoña Tundidor Moreno
109. Soledad Amanda Velasco Baidés

Senate

110. Emilio Álvarez Villazán
111. María Perla Borao Aguirre
112. Antonio Casimiro Gavira
113. María José Fernández Muñoz
114. Andrés Gil García
115. Manuel Guerra González
116. María del Carmen Iglesias Parra
117. Juan Francisco Martínez–Aldama Sáenz
118. Francisco Menacho Villalba
119. Miguel Ángel Nacarino Muriel
120. Begoña Nasarre Oliva
121. Juan Carlos Pérez Navas
122. Antonio Julián Rodríguez Esquerdo
123. Juan José Rubio Ruiz
124. Riansares Serrano Morales
125. Matilde Valentín Navarro
126. Pío Zelaya Castro
127. Jesús Manuel Alonso Jiménez

141. Jorge Luis Bail
142. Sara Carreño Valero
143. Eduardo Santos Itoiz
144. Rosa Martínez Rodríguez
145. José David Carracedo Verde
146. Joan Miquel Mena Arca

Senate

147. Concepción Palencia García
148. Joan Comorera Estarellas
149. Sara Vilà Galán
150. María Pilar Lima Gozávez
151. María Freixanet Mateo
152. Ignacio Bernal Lumbreras

Ciudadanos (29)

Congress

- 153. Miguel Ángel Gutiérrez Vivas
- 154. Marta Martín Llaguno
- 155. Saúl Ramírez Freire
- 156. José Cano Fuster
- 157. Sergio Del Campo Estáun
- 158. María Sandra Julià Julià
- 159. Vicente Ten Oliver
- 160. Melisa Rodríguez Hernández
- 161. Luis Miguel Salvador García
- 162. Marcial Gómez Balsera
- 163. Marta Rivera De La Cruz
- 164. Fernando Navarro Fernández-Rodríguez
- 165. Irene Rivera Andrés
- 166. Juan Carlos Girauta Vidal
- 167. José Manuel Villegas Pérez

- 168. José Luis Martínez González
- 169. Antonio Cantó García del Moral
- 170. José Ignacio Prendes Prendes
- 171. Francisco Javier Cano Leal
- 172. María Virginia Millán Salmerón
- 173. Rodrigo Gómez García
- 174. Patricia Reyes Rivera
- 175. Diego Clemente Giménez
- 176. Miguel Ángel Garaulet Rodríguez
- 177. Félix Álvarez Palleiro

Senate

- 178. Francisco Xavier Alegre Buxeda
- 179. Lorena Roldan Suárez
- 180. Tomas Marcos Arias
- 181. Luis Crisol Lafront

Compromís (3)

Congress

- 182. Enric Bataller i Ruiz

Senate

- 183. Carles Mulet García
- 184. Jordi Navarrete Pla

Esquerra Republicana (2)

Congress

- 185. Francesc Xavier Eritja Ciuró

Senate

- 186. Anna Azamar Capdevila

PDeCat (2)

Congress

- 187. Antoni Postius i Terrado
- 188. Jordi Xuclà i Costa

Appendix 2.3: Challenges and strategic elements in the initial activities of a Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food

Based on the experience gained from various Parliamentary Alliances, the FAO Office in Spain has prepared this series of strategic and operational elements to facilitate meeting the objectives of a Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food, especially in the early stages of the process, when the Alliance is becoming consolidated.

A. Institutional considerations

At the institutional level, there are several challenges to be addressed:

i. Definition of coordination and representation

It is essential to define how the coordination and representation of the Alliance should be managed. For this purpose, there are various possibilities, including a rotating presidency or a model in which this role is shared by several members. It is important to reach a consensus in this regard in order to facilitate the practical implementation of the Alliance and its effective interaction with other agencies.

ii. Position of the Alliance within the institutional context of the legislative chambers

A fundamental step in the constitution and start-up of a Parliamentary Alliance is its formal recognition by the legislative chambers and, to the extent possible, the provision of operational funding.

B. Operational considerations

At the operational level, the success of the Alliance's work will largely depend on certain key aspects:

i. Technical secretary

There must be a Technical Secretary to take the minutes of the meetings held, to recall the commitments made, to carry out necessary tasks and to facilitate interaction with other bodies.

ii. Periodic meetings

Regular working meetings and broader strategic planning sessions must be held in order to achieve coordinated progress and maintain the necessary harmony among active Alliance members.

Other fundamental needs include the shared wish to achieve mutual understanding and flexibility in scheduling working meetings. In addition, these meetings should combine representativeness (with the participation of deputies and/or senators from the different political groups) with effectiveness in the processes undertaken.

C. Definition of priorities and the procedure for interventions

In real terms, the most important requirement of the Alliance is that it produce results. In other words, it must facilitate or bring about changes in budgets, perform rigorous, proactive oversight of government action and promote legislation.

To achieve these goals, it is important to define the priorities and ambitions of the Alliance regarding the areas in which it is to work each year, enabling it to generate visible, satisfactory results.

On this basis, **diagnoses** can be made, **investigations** undertaken and dialogue spaces created to address the proposals formulated and to support their viability.

The above considerations should all be reflected in the annual Work Plan.

D. Education and training

The experience of Parliamentary Alliances in Latin America has shown that it is vitally important to provide appropriate instruction and training for the promoters of these Alliances, focused both on parliamentarians and on their advisors.

Online instruments and courses are available, in areas such as the Right to Food, Nutrition, Family Farming, School Meals and Public Procurement, oriented towards the design, monitoring and evaluation of public policies. Some of these courses have been developed by FAO through its elearning Academy, the outcome of an initiative by Spanish Cooperation and the former FODEPAL programme.

Ad-hoc training courses, long or short-term, either of a general nature or focused on a specific area, can be provided for the members of the Alliances.

E. Communication strategy (internal and external)

One of the main aims of these Alliances is to raise awareness within society and the political sphere about problems related to hunger and malnutrition.

Accordingly, it is very important that the Alliance and its Working Group be able to transmit the key messages about how reality is changing and the importance of making an appropriate response, to all members of the Alliance, to other parliamentarians and throughout their respective political parties. To do so, an effective internal communication strategy must be devised.

As far as the society in general is concerned, it is not always easy to convey messages related to the Right to Food in a clear and constructive way. Therefore, it is important to create a media-focused communication strategy.

In this respect, defining an Alliance identifier, or logo, may also help.

F. Interaction with other parties (international-national)

The philosophy of these Alliances is that they should be participatory and that the initiatives proposed should be based on support from and dialogue with society, at all levels.

For this reason, it is essential that the Alliances be open to dialogue with other interested parties, including those of an academic nature (such as the Right to Food Observatories), relevant elements of civil society and international organizations.

These dialogues must not only be sustained but expanded, and include the public institutions themselves, at local, regional and national levels.

A motivating and enriching element in this context is that of participation in the International Networks to promote the Right to Food, which may give rise to the future constitution of a World Parliamentary Alliance, further Global Summits, Regional Forums, etc.

APPENDIX 3: THE GLOBAL PARLIAMENTARY SUMMIT AGAINST HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION – SPANISH PARTICIPATION

Appendix 3.1: Official Summary of the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition



Summary of the sessions

The first session was inaugurated by the Chair of the International Development Cooperation Committee of the Spanish Senate, Senator Alberto Fabra. This was followed by speeches from the Director-General of FAO, José Graziano da Silva and from the President of the Government of Spain, Pedro Sánchez Pérez-Castejón. The introductory speeches were concluded by the President of the Senate of Spain, Pío García-Escudero Márquez.

Subsequently, speakers discussed the role of parliamentarians and the regional experiences acquired over the years. These speeches were given by the President of the Interparliamentary Union, Gabriela Cuevas Barrón; the Vice-President of the Pan-African Parliament, Stephen Julius Masele; the General Coordinator of the Parliamentary Fronts of Latin America and the Caribbean, Hugo Richer; and the Coordinator of the European Parliamentary Alliance “Fight against Hunger”, Paolo De Castro.

Among the issues addressed were the critical challenges related to food insecurity and malnutrition, the role of parliamentarians in overcoming these obstacles, and the means by which Zero Hunger may be achieved. While all the key elements mentioned by the high-level speakers (detailed below) were discussed in depth during the following sessions, particular attention was paid to the impact of hunger and malnutrition on women and children. It was emphasized that coordinated efforts and increased collaboration are needed among parliamentarians, technical staff and resource partners to reverse the recent worrying increase in the number of persons presenting hunger, overweight or obesity. Speakers also highlighted the fact that a third of all food produced was currently lost or wasted.

After the opening session, a panel discussion on the right to food was led by the UN Special Rapporteur, Hilal Elver, and the Chilean senator, Guido Girardi. Elver referred to the factors that contribute to hunger, such as climate change, civil conflicts and wars, together with other nutritional challenges. Girardi explained the Food Labelling Law currently in force in Chile and which is being studied by several other countries, and criticized the role played by large food companies in selling products prejudicial to people’s diet and health, particularly in the case of children. Both topics aroused lively debate during the two days of the Summit, giving rise to 16 interventions by the parliamentarians in attendance. The issue of food labelling, especially, generated much discussion on how to combat overweight and obesity.

The thematic sessions addressed the following subjects:

- End hunger and its causes.
- The challenge of healthy nutrition for all.
- The means to achieve SDG 2.

Each session was chaired by a parliamentarian from one region, and a commentator from another presented the key elements of the issue considered. Over these three thematic sessions, 80 speeches were made, each lasting three to five minutes. Specifically, there were 30 interventions during the first thematic session, 27 in the second and 23 in the third. Although other delegations wished to speak too, their request had to be denied due to lack of time.

On the second day of the Summit, a discussion panel on how to complement the work carried out by parliamentarians was held, with representatives from FAO, IFAD, WFP and the European Commission. Technical and resource partners described their work in a variety of areas, giving specific examples. Their interventions were followed by seven speeches by delegates, which in turn generated discussions on specific aspects of the joint and individual work of the above partners. The panellists emphasized the importance of coordinating their efforts, of evidence-based action and of learning from recent experiences to strengthen their work and enhance cooperation with parliamentarians.

The closing session included speeches by Josep Borrell, the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation; Ana Pastor, the President of the Spanish Congress of Deputies; and Marcela Villarreal, the Director of the FAO Division of Partnerships and South-South Cooperation. These interventions summarized the points raised during the two days of discussions on global challenges, and emphasized that achieving Zero Hunger and realizing the universal right to adequate food, with particular attention to the most vulnerable, should be primary concerns in the decisions taken by state institutions, government agencies and technical and resource partners.

Subsequently, the Vice-President of the Summit, Hina Rabbani Khar, a member of the National Assembly of Pakistan, recapped the meeting, urging that the Summit be a starting point to promote further joint work to achieve the SDGs. To conclude, Ana Pastor, the President of the Spanish Congress of Deputies, read out the Madrid Declaration, which was acclaimed and adopted by general consensus.

Shortly before the Summit, parliamentary alliances were established in several countries, including the Congo, Haiti, Spain, Sierra Leone and Uganda. In addition to the numerous discussions held during sessions within the Chamber, with more than 100 interventions, the Summit provided an excellent opportunity for participants to engage in official bilateral meetings, a large number of which took place both between parliamentarians from different regions and also between parliamentarians and technical and resource partners. In addition, an even larger number of informal discussions were held and networking opportunities

enjoyed. These formal and informal meetings paved the way for further collaboration and cooperation at global, regional and national levels.

To this end, Senator Alberto Fabra called on the participating parliamentarians and resource partners to facilitate the organization of a second Global Parliamentary Summit. Numerous speakers reiterated this appeal, indicating that with twelve years to go until 2030, at least three such global summits could be organized: one in Latin America, another in Africa and a third in Asia.

Finally, the Summit was also very successful in terms of communication: more than 150 media appearances were monitored worldwide, four press releases were produced and six opinion columns were signed and published during the week of the Summit, together with other initiatives that helped publicize the main messages of the event.

Persistent Challenges

During the two days of the Summit, many obstacles, challenges and priority areas of hunger and malnutrition were discussed. Among these, the following were identified as requiring most urgent attention.

- Ensuring that legislative procedures, policy oversight and budget control are always focused on benefiting the people and improving their livelihoods. In all the meetings held, speakers emphasized that parliamentarians should make a positive, active contribution to people's right to feed themselves with dignity. This is especially so for vulnerable groups such as children, women and indigenous peoples.
- Promoting sustainable family farming, ensuring smallholders' access to productive resources such as land and water, and creating decent jobs. All of these goals are essential to achieving zero hunger by 2030. Smallholders produce more than half of all the food consumed in the world, and for many of the SDGs to be achieved, local production and access to local markets must necessarily be promoted.

General concern was also expressed about the rapid spread and extent of overweight and obesity worldwide. In the 21st century, no region is immune to this epidemic, which in some countries, paradoxically coexists with hunger and malnutrition, with deeply prejudicial consequences both for those affected and for national resources, on which it places a heavy burden.

The impact of climate change and climate-related events on our food systems and on accomplishing universal access to adequate food was mentioned on numerous occasions. This was described as a critical challenge that affects us all in different ways and to varying degrees, but the overarching message transmitted was that climate change exacerbates the structural problems that impact on the most vulnerable members of society.

Finally, the fact that some people are starving while almost a third of the world's food production is lost or wasted was denounced by many parliamentarians. Food loss and waste at different

stages of food systems, although differing from one region to another, is a global problem. Speakers emphasized that with this we are misusing valuable resources that are sorely needed.

Main conclusions of the Summit

This section presents the principal conclusions drawn from the Summit. The main commitments undertaken by the parliamentarians attending are expressed in the Madrid Declaration and in a comprehensive Summit report to be published in the coming months.

The first general conclusion of the Summit is that, although each country has specific context priorities and particular components of malnutrition that are more prominent, we all have common problems and obstacles to overcome. Therefore, it is vital that parliamentarians collaborate with each other and learn from each other's experiences, positive or otherwise, in all countries and regions.

Another general conclusion relates to structural challenges, such as inequalities and injustices, which may be aggravated by some of the key issues mentioned above. Given the fundamental role of parliamentarians in addressing and acting on these issues, it is imperative to ensure that food and nutrition security is positioned at the highest level of the political agenda, while at the same time fostering the necessary political will to overcome these challenges.

The prevention of overweight and obesity, which are assuming epidemic proportions in the 21st century, is of urgent importance, and must be addressed by promoting healthy diets, emphasizing nutritional education and, in many contexts, paying special attention to food labelling and the marketing practices of the private sector. Achieving these objectives will require evidence-based actions and the creation of broad-based social coalitions among civil society, consumer associations and academics.

Addressing climate change will require effective laws, policies and programmes, focusing both on mitigation and on resilience. In this respect, special attention should be paid to the impact of climate change on food systems and on how the right to food can be assured for all members of society, particularly the most vulnerable.

Another conclusion drawn from the Summit is the need to broaden the dialogue to involve all key partners through participatory processes, thus obtaining better and more sustainable results. The benefits of inclusive governance, based on coordination and cooperation among State agencies, are evident. It was also recommended that parliamentarians should strengthen their collaboration with partners such as academics and Observatories on the right to adequate food. This approach has already been adopted in several countries, where different bodies cooperate to acquire greater knowledge of the underlying causes of malnutrition and hunger, of ways to address these ills and of how to better transmit information to the population.

Ignoring the reality of hunger and malnutrition and accepting the current situation cannot be an option. Complacency in this regard will only perpetuate and may exacerbate the problem. To this end, policymakers are urged to take advantage of the momentum created by the Summit, in which more than 200 parliamentarians from nearly 80 countries participated in debates and

made over 100 interventions. Participants also called for a global parliamentary alliance from which to address the main challenges and common efforts needed to make a reality of the right to adequate food and to achieve the SDGs, especially that of Zero Hunger.

The overall and most illuminating conclusion of the Summit was that the time to act is now, decisively and together, to ensure that by 2030, hunger is only a horrible, distant memory.

Rome/Madrid, 16 November 2018

Appendix 3.2: Final declaration adopted by consensus and acclamation



Call to action to achieve Zero Hunger and realize the right to adequate food for all

We, the parliamentarians gathered in Madrid on October 29-30, 2018 for the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, declare:

Emphasizing our commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals as the way to achieve a better future for all, placing special importance on achieving Goal 2 – Zero Hunger by 2030;

Recalling the many international and regional instruments that underpin our collective efforts to eradicate malnutrition in all its forms and to ensure the realization of the right to adequate food for all;

Concerned because, despite the repeated commitments and efforts made to eradicate hunger, within the framework of the 2030 Agenda, we are moving away from achieving SDG 2 instead of advancing towards it. Troubled because, despite the considerable progress made by 2015, in recent years hunger and malnutrition have increased again in the world, and currently almost 821 million people suffer from chronic food deprivation;

Dismayed that more than 150 million children under the age of five suffer from delayed growth, 99 million are underweight and 50 million are in a life-threatening situation due to acute malnutrition, while overweight affects more than 38 million children;

Alarmed by the prevalence of obesity among adults, which tripled between 1975 and 2016, and which has increased at an accelerated rate in the last decade and now affects 672 million adults. This means that more than one in eight adults is obese, while over 1.9 billion are overweight;

Insisting that poor access to healthy food contributes to malnutrition, overweight and obesity, while malnutrition in all its forms is a problem that no country escapes and which it is imperative to eliminate;

Highlighting the existence of persistent obstacles to ensuring access to and ownership of land and other productive resources, especially for groups such as indigenous peoples and women. These obstacles significantly hinder livelihoods and the enjoyment of the right to adequate food. And also underlining the need to strengthen the governance of natural resources and create an enabling environment for responsible investments in the food system;

Stressing that, given the interconnectedness between our food systems and the environment, additional efforts are required of the State, private agencies and civil society to achieve the SDGs;

Calling out the need for a sustainable transformation of food systems - including a reduction in food loss and waste – via the application of improved management and techniques in agriculture, livestock farming, fishing and forestry;

Underlining our vital role as parliamentarians in achieving Zero Hunger and in realizing people's right to adequate food for all, by means of legislation and the oversight of policy and budget allocations, as well as by raising awareness of these issues and their causes in our constituencies;

Recalling the importance of fostering parliamentary dialogue at the national, regional and global levels, to discuss experiences, good practices and the challenges facing us, and to foster broader collaboration and strengthen cooperation with strategic allies such as cooperation agencies, civil society organizations, universities, research centres and companies, to achieve Zero Hunger and make a reality of the right to adequate food;

And acknowledging the valuable progress achieved regionally and nationally by the Parliamentary Alliances in stimulating a wide range of legislative and political measures aimed at achieving Zero Hunger and at realizing the right to adequate food;

We reaffirm that everybody has the right to adequate, safe, sufficient, healthy, nutritious food, and to not go hungry. We recognize the need for specific legislative and political measures to guarantee the enjoyment of these rights and achieve Zero Hunger by the year 2030, taking into account especially vulnerable groups such as women, children, indigenous peoples and marginalized communities with limited or no access to social services. Therefore:

We urge the parliamentary community, as the custodian of political commitments, to promote and strengthen the political will necessary to reverse the current course and to guarantee Zero Hunger by the year 2030, so that that everyone may feed themselves with dignity.

We resolve to share and learn from experiences, to build on the significant progress made, to strengthen our collaboration within and between countries and regions, and to redouble our efforts to enhance the contribution of parliamentarians to ensure Zero Hunger by 2030 and to realize the right to adequate food.

We invite Parliaments where as yet there is no Parliamentary Alliance against Hunger and Malnutrition to create and strengthen one as a form of political commitment and a contribution to achieving a world free from hunger by 2030.

We will strive to adopt legislation, policies and programmes to improve and ensure sustainable access to a healthy diet, especially through support for family farming and sustainable food production, as well as gender-sensitive measures and actions to reduce poverty, foster decent employment and enable social protection to empower the most vulnerable, as a means of achieving Zero Hunger and assuring the right to adequate food.

We reaffirm the need for decisive action to eradicate discrimination in all its forms, especially gender-based discrimination, and to remove barriers that prevent people from enjoying their right to adequate food, in particular vulnerable groups such as indigenous peoples, and that hinder our common efforts to ensure the world is free from hunger and malnutrition by 2030.

We will endeavour to be more effective in our legislation, policy oversight and budget allocation, by reinforcing skills, building alliances and strengthening coordination with civil society organizations, universities, research centres, companies and cooperation agencies, thus consolidating a wide range of complementary abilities and resources, in order to make the right to adequate food a reality and to achieve Zero Hunger by the year 2030.

We call on legislators to support the production and consumption of healthy foods, and to foster the provision of education and information on food and nutrition, in order to reduce obesity, which provokes non-communicable diseases and represents a huge burden on health systems and public resources.

We recommend that special attention be paid to the provision of adequate, predictable and sustained budget allocations to achieve Zero Hunger and to realize the right to adequate food for all, given the key role of these factors in achieving the SDGs.

We request parliaments, parliamentarians and governments to support and promote the work of the international agencies of the United Nations, such as FAO, IFAD, WHO and WFP, which are committed, with all the world's countries, to the SDGs, and in particular to reaching the goal of Zero Hunger by 2030.

We promise to advance the aforementioned ideas at the global, regional, national and subnational levels, seeking broad and active participation to achieve Zero Hunger in a sustainable way.

Madrid, Tuesday 30 October 2018

Appendix 3.3: Speeches by the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food at the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition in Madrid 2018

The participations by members of the working group of the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food are presented below, by order of their interventions:



- **Rosana Pastor Muñoz**
38:50-45:26
https://www.senbox.senado.es/app#folder/vxMJ/Sala%20de%20Inform%C3%A1tica/29102018_FAO_15-52_17-11_HORAS.mp4?a=7JpHyikZhoY
- **Asunción Sánchez Zaplana**
1:08:42-1:10:27
https://www.senbox.senado.es/app#folder/vxMJ/Sala%20de%20Inform%C3%A1tica/29102018_FAO_15-52_17-11_HORAS.mp4?a=7JpHyikZhoY
- **Miguel Ángel Garaulet Rodríguez**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7vxGg7aA_o
20:20 a 25:30
- **Pepa González Bayo**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7vxGg7aA_o
52:50 a 55:20
- **Soraya Rodríguez Ramos**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7vxGg7aA_o
3:54:32 a 4:03:55
- **Alberto Fabra Part:**

Inauguration
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5s0ULaQxKpk>
55:22 - 59:37

Roundtable: “Effective action to achieve SDG 2”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7vxGg7aA_o
4:00:56 - 4:09:31

Closing remarks

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7vxKg7aA_o

5:38:08 - 5:39:29

- **Ana Pastor Julián**, President of the Congress of Deputies of Spain:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7vxKg7aA_o
6:01:00
- **Pío García-Escudero Márquez**, President of the Senate of Spain:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94S1aZoP-c8&feature=youtu.be>
0:00:48
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5s0ULaQxKpk&list=PLzp5NgJ2-dK6qr_zEj4Vy4LoRIjrUUVqB&index=3&t=1199s



Closing session⁴⁹

49. Alberto Fabra and Ana Pastor, President of the Congress of Deputies, participated in the closing ceremony of the Summit and read out the Summit Declaration at a closing-session Round Table, together with Josep Borrell (Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Marcela Villarreal (Director of the FAO Division of Partnerships and South-South Cooperation) and Hina Rabbani Khar (Member of the National Assembly, former Minister of Finance and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan), Ana Pastor (President of the Congress of Deputies) and Alberto Fabra (President of the Senate Cooperation Committee).

APPENDIX 4: HUMAN RIGHT TO FOOD OBSERVATORIES

The Right to Food observatories are spaces for expression by the academic world on this subject. Both in Spain and in Latin America and the Caribbean they work in coordination with the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger. This Appendix presents basic information on the origin, functions and operation of these Observatories, which since their inception have received technical support from FAO through the Support Project for the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative, financed by AECID.

Appendix 4.1: Right to Food Observatory of Latin America and the Caribbean

In parallel to the construction of the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger, the [Right to Food Observatory of Latin America and the Caribbean \(RFO-LAC\)](#), was created in 2011 as a regional network composed of multiple information, research and data transmission centres charged with promoting the exchange and management of knowledge regarding food and nutrition security.

In 2021, the RFO-LAC has over 70 partner universities from 17 countries in the region, promoting the active participation of the academic world in the construction of public policies aimed at guaranteeing the Human Right to Adequate Food.

Specifically, the Observatory promotes the generation of studies, indicators and recommendations to assist the development, implementation and supervision of legislation and/or public policies applied at a local, national or regional level.

Among its main functions, the RFO-LAC makes an annual call for research grant applications concerning the Human Right to Food, and holds an annual regional meeting in which delegates from the member universities share their knowledge in this field and coordinate actions to effectively eradicate hunger and malnutrition.



Illustration 59. Cover of the Report of the VII RFO-LAC regional meeting held in Cartagena de Indias in 2017

The Observatory has a Technical Secretariat to represent its members and coordinate its main activities, both regional and international. Its governing body is composed of seven academics, elected annually, who receive technical and administrative support from the **FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean**.

The aim of the RFO-LAC is to contribute to the eradication of global hunger and malnutrition, working in conjunction with governments, parliaments, universities, civil society organizations, United Nations agencies and other international cooperation programmes committed to the human right to food and sustainable development. RFO-LAC has formed important alliances with the following organizations: the Right to Food Observatory of Spain (RFO-ES); the Special Group “Food and Nutrition Security: innovation in public policies” (FAO-CLACSO); the Inter-university Council for Food and Nutrition Sovereignty and Security of Nicaragua (CIUSSAN); PARLATINO; FPH-LAC; the FPH of Guatemala and Costa Rica; the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; and the Working Group of the San Salvador Protocol.

The following website of **RFO-LAC** (oda-alc.org) publishes updated information and its agenda, together with its internal regulations: http://www.oda-alc.org/documentos/institucionales/Reglamento_ODA_DIC_2012.pdf

Appendix 4.2: The Right to Food Observatory of Spain (RFO-ES)

In late 2016, a network was formed of persons working in the academic field in Spain, as the foundation for a **Right to Food Observatory in Spain (RFO-ES)**, following the experience of the Right to Food Observatory of Latin America and the Caribbean (RFO-LAC) and with technical support from FAO.

The RFO-ES, initially promoted by the University of Barcelona, the University of Oviedo and the Polytechnic University of Madrid, was created in 2021, and comprises over thirty academic institutions, including university faculties, schools, departments, institutes, chairs and observatories. In addition, various social entities collaborate with its activities.

The objectives of the RFO-ES are to promote multidisciplinary research initiatives - such as diagnoses of the situation regarding the right to food in Spain - that may influence public policies and assure the practical implementation of the right to adequate food, in addition to related topics. In addition, RFO-ES will promote the exchange of experiences and foster dialogue among academic institutions, parliaments, civil society and international organizations, to ensure the availability of healthy food for everyone, provided fairly and sustainably.

The RFO-ES is active in the following main **areas of work**: a) political-institutional/social; b) legal; c) health and malnutrition; d) sustainable food systems (production, climate change, territorial issues, etc.).

The RFO-ES was initially developed by a **Steering Group** formed by representatives from seven Spanish universities: University of Barcelona, University of Oviedo, Polytechnic University of Madrid, Loyola Andalusia University, Polytechnic University of Valencia, University of Seville

and Carlos III University of Madrid. This group will later be replaced by a Coordination Team, in accordance with the Observatory's **internal regulations** and the principles of its **Code of Ethics**.

The RFO-ES organizes annual meetings that are open to all its members, and participates in discussion forums on the right to food, held in Spain, Europe and Latin America.

During the first semester of 2018, the RFO-ES met with various parliamentary groups to offer its collaboration with the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food, which was then being formed.

At the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition (Madrid, October 29 and 30, 2018), the RFO-ES presented a proposal document based on the main elements currently being discussed within the Observatory. In September 2018, after almost two years of preparation, the Right to Food Observatory of Spain (RFO-ES) was presented in public.

The **RFO-ES** has a **content-rich, active website** (derechoalimentacion.org). The NGDO Enraiza Derechos (Reinforcing Rights) ensures this website is continuously updated.



Illustration 60. Initial page of the RFO-ES website: www.derechoalimentacion.org

APPENDIX 5: RIGHT TO FOOD: DEFINITIONS AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

Appendix 5.1: Establishing the Right to Food

Since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, both the concept of the Right to Food and its practical application have evolved considerably, and major initiatives have been implemented to further its development and ensure compliance.

The **Right to Food** is usually addressed from a legal standpoint, via a direct link with the legal framework and its justiciability. It is a universal human right, meaning that all people have the right to be free from hunger and the right to physical and economic access at all times to food that is adequate in quantity and quality. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights gave the following definition in 1999:

“The **right to adequate food** is realized when every man, woman and child, alone or in community with others, has physical and economic access at all times to adequate food or means for its procurement”

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. General Comment No. 12⁵⁰.

Therefore, the realization of the right to adequate food is not merely a promise to be fulfilled through charity⁵¹. It is **a human right that must be made effective through appropriate actions by States**. Moreover, it is inseparably linked to the inherent dignity of the human person and is indispensable for the enjoyment of other human rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights.

The State is responsible for legislating, regulating and directing the implementation of the food system, according to its specific needs and culture, making it sustainable and responsiveness to nutritional considerations. The system must also address the regulation of food safety, the functioning of markets and the development of standards for agriculture and food products. These requirements are detailed in the “*Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security*”, approved by the FAO Council in its 127th session (2004).

These Guidelines insist that States are ultimately responsible for guaranteeing this right, and specifically that they are obliged to **respect, protect and satisfy** the right to food, as agreed in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and to take appropriate measures to progressively achieve its full realization. Thus, States should.

50. https://conf-dts1.unog.ch/1%20spa/tradutek/derechos_hum_base/cescr/00_1_obs_grales_cte%20dchos%20ec%20soc%20cult.html#GEN12

51. <https://www.fao.org/right-to-food/en/>

- **Respect** existing access to adequate food by refraining from adopting measures of any kind that might impede such access.
- **Protect** everyone’s right to adequate food by taking measures to ensure that neither companies nor individuals deprive people of their access to adequate food.
- **Promote** policies contributing to the progressive realization of the right to adequate food, by actively participating in activities aimed at strengthening people’s access to the resources and means necessary to guarantee their subsistence, including food security, and supporting the use of these resources and means. To the extent that resources allow, States should establish and maintain safety nets or other assistance mechanisms to protect those who are unable to support themselves.

States have complete responsibility for the above duties, and if they lack sufficient means to fulfil these requirements, the support of international cooperation should be sought.

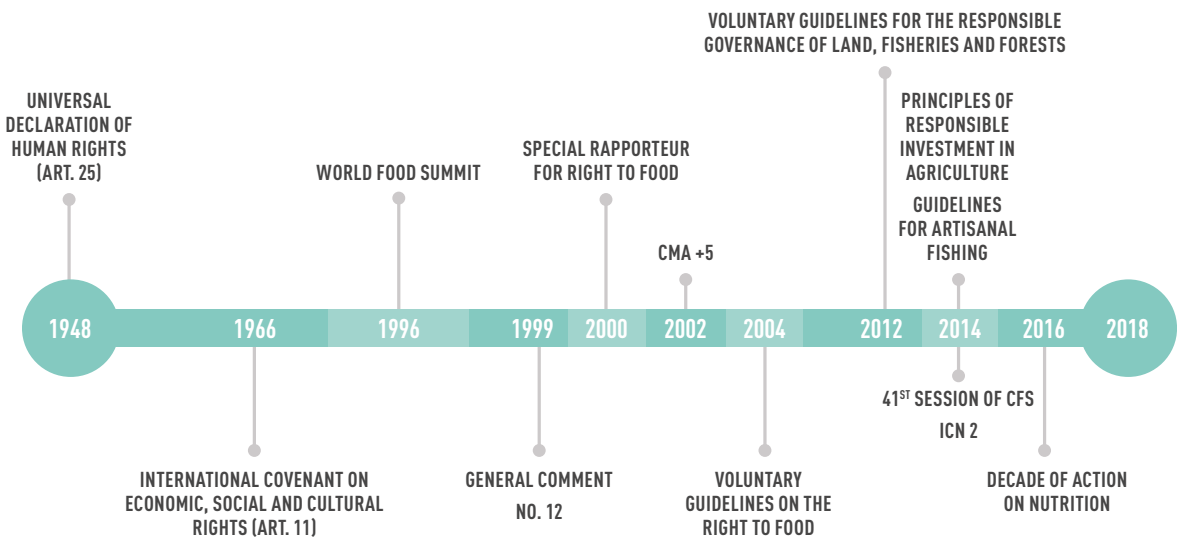
The following areas are addressed in the 19 Voluntary Guidelines approved in 2004.

THE 19 VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES	
D1. Democracy, good governance, human rights and the rule of law	D11. Education and awareness raising
D2. Economic development policies	D12. National financial resources
D3. Strategies	D13. Support for vulnerable groups
D4. Market systems	D14. Safety nets
D5. Institutions	D15. International food aid
D6. Stakeholders	D16. Natural and human-made disasters
D7. Legal framework	D17. Monitoring, indicators and benchmarks
D8. Access to resources and assets (labour, land, water, genetic resources for food and agriculture, sustainability and services)	D18. National human rights institutions
D9. Food safety and consumer protection	D19. International dimension
D10. Nutrition	

In international law, the right to adequate food has been a legally binding human right for over 35 years. Moreover, additional legal guarantees have been granted to specific groups, such as women, children and people with disabilities. To date, the constitutions of 30 countries explicitly recognize the right to adequate food.

In the multilateral sphere of the **United Nations**, initiatives have been promoted to develop the human right to food (as illustrated in the timeline below). Appendix 4.2 presents a table with the international milestones achieved, which are described in detail in Appendix 4.3.

The **Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2)**⁵² – held in November 2014 – was a high-level intergovernmental meeting that focused global attention on the fight against malnutrition in all its forms. The governments participating in the Conference approved two main documents, the **Rome Declaration on Nutrition**⁵³ and the **Framework for Action**⁵⁴, which commit world leaders to establish national policies aimed at eradicating malnutrition and transforming food systems to make nutritious diets available to all.



The launch of the **UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025)** provides a framework for a wide range of stakeholders, including national governments, international and regional organisations, civil society, the private sector and academia, to work together to address topical issues related to nutrition⁵⁵.

FAO has a **Right to Food Team**, working to promote the human right to adequate food, which provides support to member countries. This team also develops methods and instruments to assist stakeholders in their implementation of the right to food; it informs and educates stakeholders, civil society and the general public to increase awareness and understanding about the right to food, and supports countries’ initial implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the right to food.

Among the many FAO publications issued, some of which can be consulted in the Appendices, are the Workbooks on the Right to Food, which address the following issues: i) The right to food in the international framework of human rights and in national constitutions; ii) The development of specific laws on the right to food; iii) A review of the compatibility of sectoral laws with the right to food; iv) General questions and procedures for monitoring and evaluating the right to food; and v) Budget considerations in promoting the Right to Food.

52. <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/icn2/en/>
 53. <https://www.fao.org/3/ml542e/ml542e.pdf>
 54. <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mm215e.pdf>
 55. <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/409073/icode/>

There is evident coherence between the recommendations and commitments made in this respect and the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**⁵⁶, signed in 2015, which set 2030 as the deadline for meeting the 17 SDGs. The 2030 Agenda recognizes the co-responsibility of all countries to fulfil the objectives for food, sustainability and socioeconomic development. The call to eradicate malnutrition is present in at least 12 of the 17 SDGs, especially SDG 2 “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture”. Moreover, in order to ensure that this right is extended to future generations, it is essential that the Right to Food be linked to the generation of sustainable systems.

Appendix 5.2: Key definitions

Malnutrition⁵⁷: The term malnutrition refers to inadequate nutrition, a condition that can have many causes, such as eating too little, eating too much, eating inappropriate combinations of food, eating food with little or no nutritional value, or eating contaminated food. More specifically, it is an abnormal physiological condition caused by the insufficient, unbalanced or excessive consumption of macronutrients (i.e., carbohydrates, proteins and fats, which provide dietary energy) and micronutrients (vitamins and minerals). These nutrients, consumed appropriately, are essential for physical and cognitive development. Malnutrition can take many forms, including *undernourishment* and *undernutrition* (a food intake that is insufficient for dietary energy requirements), *micronutrient deficiency* (regarding one or more essential vitamins and minerals) and *overnutrition* and *obesity* (the abnormal accumulation of fat). These three manifestations of the condition can coexist in a country, a region, a household or even an individual, a circumstance that has been termed the triple burden of malnutrition. In Spain, the phenomenon of malnutrition is especially worrying as regards overweight and obesity.

Food and nutrition security

“**Food security** exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life”⁵⁸.

Food and nutrition security is defined as the assurance that individuals, families and the community as a whole have access at all times to sufficient, safe and nutritious food, which is mainly produced in their own country, under conditions of competitiveness, sustainability and fairness. Hence, the consumption and biological use of this food provides the population with optimal nutrition and a healthy and socially productive life, with respect for cultural diversity and consumer preferences. Food security has **four components**⁵⁹:

- **Availability:** In sufficient quantity and quality, obtained by domestic production or from imports (including food aid).

56. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda>

57. <https://www.fao.org/3/a-as603e.pdf>

58. <https://www.fao.org/3/y4671e/y4671e06.htm>

59. fao.org/fileadmin/templates/righttofood/documents/project_m/doc/Ley_Marco_DA_Parlartino.pdf

- **Accessibility:** Universal right of access to adequate resources with which to acquire appropriate, nutritious food. This right refers to all groups of products over which a person may exert control by virtue of legal, political, economic and social agreements of the community (including traditional rights, such as access to collective resources).
- **Utilization:** The biological utilization of food obtained via adequate nutrition, together with clean drinking water, sanitation and medical care, sufficient to achieve a state of nutritional well-being in which all physiological needs are met.
- **Stability:** To enjoy food security, populations, households and individuals must have access to adequate food at all times. They should not be at risk of losing access to food due to crises or cyclical events. The concept of stability, therefore, refers both to the sensation of food availability and to its real accessibility.

The **human rights-based approach to food security** emphasizes the universality, interdependence and indivisibility of human rights, the obligations of States and the roles of stakeholders. Furthermore, it affirms that food security may only be achieved as the realization of inherent rights.⁶⁰

Food system

A food system is the combined presence of elements (environment, persons, physical inputs, processes, infrastructures, institutions, etc.) and activities related to the production, processing, distribution, preparation and consumption of food, together with the products of these activities and the socioeconomic and environmental results produced. The High Level Panel of Experts on food and nutrition security has consistently stated that this security is not only an outcome but also a necessary condition for sustainability⁶¹. Building **sustainable food systems** is, therefore, a necessary condition for the progressive realization of the **human right to food**⁶². The relationship is two-way: food systems influence consumer choices and diets, thereby affecting nutrition and health; at the same time, an appropriate choice of food by consumers could enable a more sustainable food system⁶³.

Sustainable food system

A sustainable food system is one that ensures food and nutrition security for all is achieved in such a way that the economic, social and environmental foundations for providing it to future generations are not jeopardized. This concept is complex and requires further explanation, which is beyond the scope of this document.

60. HLPE (2017) p.23

61. HLPE (2017) p.23

62. HLPE (2017) p.23

63. HLPE (2017) p.23

Human right to food⁶⁴

“The **right to adequate food** is realized when every man, woman and child, alone or in community with others, have physical and economic access at all times to adequate food or means for its procurement”. This definition is given by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) in its General Comment No. 12. The realization of the right to adequate food is not, therefore, a mere promise to be fulfilled through charity. It is a human right that must be realized through appropriate actions by governments and non-State agencies. Moreover, this right is inseparably associated with the inherent dignity of the human person and is indispensable for the enjoyment of other human rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights. Globally, the right to adequate food has been **legally binding in international law** for over 35 years, and additional legal guarantees have been granted to specific groups such as women, children and people with disabilities. To date, the constitutions of 30 countries have explicitly recognized the right to adequate food.

64. <https://www.fao.org/right-to-food/en/>

Appendix 5.3: Timeline of international milestones in the progressive achievement of the Right to Food (1948 – 2018)

TIMELINE OF THE RIGHT TO FOOD: MILESTONES ⁶⁵			
1.	Approval of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights	UN General Assembly, Paris, France	10 December 1948
2.	Approval of the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition, Rome 1974	Rome, Italy	16 November 1974
3.	Entry into force of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	UN General Assembly, USA	3 January 1976
4.	Entry into force of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women	UN General Assembly, USA	3 September 1981
5.	Establishment of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	Geneva, Switzerland	28 May 1985
6.	Entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of the Child	UN General Assembly, USA	2 September 1990
7.	Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	17 November 1996
8.	General Comment 12: The right to adequate food.	Geneva, Switzerland	12 May 1999
9.	Establishment of the mandate for the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food	Human Rights Commission, Geneva, Switzerland	17 April 2000
10.	Millennium Development Goal 1: Eradicate poverty and hunger	UN General Assembly, USA	8 September 2000
11.	Adoption of the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	10 June 2002
12.	Approval of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Right to Food	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	27 November 2004
13.	World Food Day "The Right to Food, make it possible"	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	16 October 2007
14.	Entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	UN General Assembly, USA	3 May 2008
15.	First meeting of the UN High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis	New York, USA	12 May 2008
16.	Forum on the Right to Food	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	1 October 2008
17.	Reform of the Committee on World Food Security,	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	17 October 2009
18.	Approval of the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	18 November 2009
19.	Adoption of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT)	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	11 May 2012

65. <http://www.fao.org/right-to-food-timeline/en>

66. <http://www.fao.org/3/a-y7937e.pdf>

20.	Approval of the document "The future we want"	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	22 June 2012
21.	Approval of the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	20 October 2012
22.	Entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	UN General Assembly, USA	5 May 2013
23.	Approval of the Vienna+20 CSO Declaration	Vienna, Austria	26 June 2013
24.	Approval of the Voluntary Guidelines to achieve the sustainability of small-scale fisheries in the context of food security and poverty eradication	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	10 June 2014
25.	10th anniversary of the Right to Food Guidelines	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	14 October 2014
26.	Approval of the Principles for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	15 October 2014
27.	ICN2 Second International Conference on Nutrition	FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	21 November 2014
28.	Adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	UN General Assembly, USA	25 September 2015

Appendix 5.4: The right to food in international law⁶⁷

The right to food (or specific aspects of this right) is incorporated within various human rights instruments, binding or otherwise, applicable in international and regional contexts. In the following, we describe some major international instruments that call for the progressive realization of everyone's right to an adequate standard of living, including adequate food. **Appendix 4.3** presents a timeline of all the international instruments that include the right to food.

The **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**⁶⁸ (UDHR) was the first international instrument to formally recognize the human right to food within the framework of the right to an adequate standard of living⁶⁹. Article 25.1 of this Declaration states: "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including foods".

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and Optional Protocols (1976)^{70, 71}. This is the most comprehensive of all instruments that address the human right to food. It codifies the previous agreement included in the UDHR and entered into force in 1976, ten years after it was ratified. By July 2018, 168 States had ratified the Covenant and were legally bound to comply with its provisions⁷².

67. <https://www.fao.org/right-to-food-timeline/en#2>

68. <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

69. <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i0815e.pdf>

70. <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/cescr.pdf>

71. <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/ccpr-one.htm>

72. <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/es/c/7265911d-26d5-5927-8365-fd47bde36c8e>

Spain signed it on September 28, 1976, and ratified it on April 27, 1977, thus undertaking, like all States Parties to the ICESCR, to respect, promote and protect the right to adequate food, and to take appropriate measures to progressively achieve its full realization⁷³.

Other international instruments applicable to the right to food include certain human rights treaties (for example, regarding children, women, refugees and people with disabilities) and those addressing specific situations, like armed conflicts. The **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women**^{74,75}, includes several provisions relevant to the realization of women's right to adequate food, namely Article 12 (States Parties "shall ensure to women [...] adequate nutrition during pregnancy and lactation") and Article 14 ("... eliminate discrimination against women in rural areas"). The **Convention on the Rights of the Child** (1990)⁷⁶ includes specific provisions on the right to adequate food during childhood and the responsibility of States Parties to give effect to this right. The Convention has achieved near-universal ratification, with 196 States Parties as at March 2016.

In addition to the above, various international declarations and UN resolutions address the right to food.

In the **Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition** (1974)⁷⁷, signed at the conclusion of the World Food Conference, the States Parties acknowledge the common objective of all nations to eliminate hunger and malnutrition. The Conference proclaimed "Every man, woman and child has the inalienable right to be free from hunger and malnutrition in order to develop fully and maintain their physical and mental faculties." (Art. I).

World Declaration on Nutrition, approved at the International Conference on Nutrition in 1992.

Following the World Food Summit (which took place in Rome in November 1996), the leaders of 185 countries and of the European Community signed the **Rome Declaration on World Food Security**⁷⁸ and the **World Food Summit Plan of Action**. These instruments laid the foundations for various trajectories towards a common goal, namely food security for individuals and households, at national, regional and global levels.

The **Declaration of the World Food Summit: 5 years later**⁷⁹, which was adopted unanimously, called on the international community to fulfil its previous commitment to reduce the number of undernourished people to around 400 million by the year 2015. It also created an Intergovernmental Working Group to draft the **FAO Voluntary Guidelines in support of the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security**.

73. Voluntary Guidelines, FAO 2005, p.7.

74. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-elimination-all-forms-discrimination-against-women>

75. <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/es/c/7265911d-26d5-5927-8365-fd47bde36c8e>

76. [ohchr.org/SP/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx](https://www.ohchr.org/SP/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx)

77. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/universal-declaration-eradication-hunger-and-malnutrition#:~:text=Every%20man%2C%20woman%20and%20child,competence%20to%20achieve%20this%20objective>

78. <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/195568?ln=en>

79. <https://www.fao.org/3/Y7106E/Y7106E09.htm>

The **Voluntary Guidelines** (2005)⁸⁰ provide practical guidance to States on achieving the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security. The guidelines include budgetary and legislative information, together with advice on institutional strengthening and on the construction of participatory policies. **Guideline 7.1** invites States “to consider, in accordance with their domestic legal and policy frameworks, whether to include provisions in their domestic law, possibly including constitutional or legislative review that facilitates the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security”.

The **Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security**⁸¹ (2009) was signed in Rome, in November 2009, by 60 Heads of State and Government, and by 192 ministers from 182 countries, together with leaders from the European Community. Within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals, and with a view to achieving MDG 1 before 2015, the States agreed “to undertake all necessary actions [...] to halt immediately the increase in - and to significantly reduce - the number of people suffering from hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity”. The Declaration includes four **Strategic Objectives**, the fulfilment of which is to be guided by five principles, termed the Rome **Principles for Sustainable World Food Security**⁸². These are:

- Principle 1: Invest in country-owned plans, aimed at channelling resources to well-designed and results-based programmes and partnerships.
- Principle 2: Foster strategic coordination at national, regional and global level to improve governance, promote better allocation of resources, avoid duplication of efforts and identify response-gaps.
- Principle 3: Strive for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security that consists of: 1) direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and 2) medium- and long-term sustainable agricultural, food security, nutrition and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, including through the progressive realization of the right to adequate food.
- Principle 4: Ensure a strong role for the multilateral system by sustained improvements in efficiency, responsiveness, coordination and effectiveness of multilateral institutions.
- Principle 5: Ensure sustained and substantial commitment by all partners to investment in agriculture and food security and nutrition, with provision of necessary resources in a timely and reliable fashion, aimed at multi-year plans and programmes.

80. <https://www.fao.org/policy-support/tools-and-publications/resources-details/en/c/420886/>

81. <https://www.fao.org/wfs/cumbre-mundial/en>

82. <https://www.fao.org/3/w3613e/w3613e00.htm>

Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) (Rome, 2014).

ICN2⁸³, held in November 2014, was a high-level intergovernmental meeting to focus global attention on combating malnutrition in all its forms. It was attended by over 2,200 participants, including delegates from 170 governments, 150 representatives of civil society and nearly 100 members of the business community. The governments participating approved the two main documents resulting from the Conference, the **Rome Declaration on Nutrition**⁸⁴ and the **Framework for Action**⁸⁵. The Declaration commits signatories to eradicate hunger and prevent all forms of malnutrition in the world – especially child malnutrition and anaemia in women and children, among other micronutrient deficiencies – and to reverse the upward trend of obesity. The framework has **60 policy recommendations** to strengthen sustainable food systems, for example by investing in pro-poor agriculture and smallholder farming, by improving diets and nutrition levels, and by promoting nutritional education and information. These two documents represent, on the one hand, a political commitment, and on the other, a flexible regulatory framework, issued as a response to major nutritional challenges, seeking to identify priorities and thus to improve international cooperation on nutrition. Among the specific commitments made, signatories pledged to:

- Completely eradicate hunger, unlike previous agreements, which had sought a 50% reduction, and put an end to all forms of malnutrition.
- Raise the profile of nutrition in public policies.
- Reverse the upward trend of overweight and obesity and reduce the burden of diet-related noncommunicable diseases.
- Develop policies to promote healthy diets.
- Promote sustainable food systems.

83. <https://www.fao.org/about/meetings/icn2/en/>

84. www.fao.org/3/a-m1542e.pdf

85. www.fao.org/3/a-mm215e.pdf

APPENDIX 6: STRATEGIC BIBLIOGRAPHY



Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger and legislative initiatives for the right to adequate food and nutrition. The experience of Latin America and the Caribbean 2009-2016.

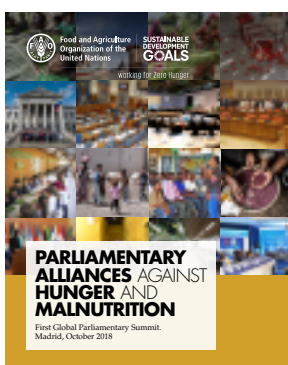
FAO, 2017

In its introduction, the study provides background on the context and process that led to the establishment of the FPHs, and presents an overview of the state of the parliamentary fronts in 2016. It then summarizes the legislative areas in which the Fronts have worked, which include constitutional amendments to explicitly recognize the right to adequate food, framework laws on food security and nutrition, school meals and healthy foods, and family farming. Finally, the last chapter of the report establishes a series of lessons learned. In the annex, 15 tables provide information on a selection of laws that have been passed with the support of the PFH at the national or regional level. The objective of the study is to contribute to an exchange of experiences and at the same time highlight the value of South-South interregional cooperation. FAO, 2017

In its Introduction, the study provides background on the context and processes that led to the establishment of the PFHs, and presents an overview of their status in 2016. It then summarizes the legislative areas in which the Fronts have worked, activities which include constitutional amendments to explicitly recognize the right to adequate food and framework laws on food security and nutrition, on school meals and healthy foods, and on family farming. The last chapter of the report reviews the lessons learned from these experiences. In the Appendix, 15 tables provide information on various laws (national or regional) that have been passed with the support of the PFH. The main aim of this study is to contribute to an exchange of experiences and to highlight the value of South-South interregional cooperation.

The study is the outcome of a joint endeavour by the Right to Food team of the Social Policies and Rural Institutions Division, the regional offices for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Subregional Office for Mesoamerica, the Legal Office, the Partnerships, Institutional Promotion and Capacity Development Division and the FAO Strategic Programme for the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition (PE1). The study received financial support from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID).

Link: <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ee0cf6e0-db90-4759-8170-47926bcb3473/>



Parliamentary Alliances against Hunger and Malnutrition. First World Parliamentary Summit, Madrid, October 2018.

FAO, 2018

This publication describes the structural causes of hunger and malnutrition and presents the framework proposed by FAO to reinforce the political will and design lasting measures to achieve SDG2. Examples are given of countries' legislative successes, including constitutional amendments, school meals laws and family farming programmes. The publication also highlights the key role played by parliamentary alliances in realizing the right to adequate food.

Link: <http://www.fao.org/3/CA1681EN/ca1681en.pdf>



Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition: Background, key messages and objectives

FAO-AECID, 2018

Link: <https://www.fao.org/about/meetings/global-parliamentary-summit/about/en/>



International Cooperation and Public Policies on Food and Nutrition Security. The experience of the Spain-FAO Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean)

(International Cooperation and Public Policies on Food and Nutrition Security. The experience of the Spain-FAO Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean)
FAO-AECID, 2014

This book describes public policy approaches to food and nutrition security.

Link: <http://www.fao.org/3/i3529s/i3529s.pdf>



Contra el Hambre, por la tierra y por el agua. Testimonio de una legisladora.

(Against hunger, by land and by water. Testimony of a legislator.)
Guadalupe Valdez, 2016

Link: http://parlamentarioscontraelhambre.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/Doc_-CONTRA-EL-HAMBRE-POR-LA-TIERRA-Y-POR-EL-AGUA.pdf



10 Contribuciones de los parlamentarios y parlamentarias al Objetivo "Hambre Cero"

(10 contributions by parliamentarians to the goal of Zero Hunger)
FAO. 2018

Link: <http://www.fao.org/3/CA2183ES/ca2183es.pdf>



Mujeres Parlamentarias en la Lucha contra el Hambre en Mesoamérica

(Parliamentary women in the fight against hunger in Mesoamerica)
FAO, 2016

Link: <http://www.fao.org/3/i6216s/i6216s.pdf>



7 Notas de Orientación Jurídica para Parlamentarios en América Latina y el Caribe. (Legal briefs for parliamentarians in Latin America and the Caribbean) FAO, 2020

The Development Law Service of FAO, together with the “Project to Support Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean 2025 Initiative” of the Spanish Cooperation-FAO alliance, has developed a set of seven Legal Briefs for Parliamentarians in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Covering seven different areas of development law that directly impact upon the realization of the right to adequate food, the Briefs provide useful and succinct information on the relevant international legal framework as well as examples of regulatory best practices within the region. Each Brief also includes an action checklist for Parliamentarians to strengthen national regulatory frameworks in the seven areas of law.

The Briefs also highlight the strategic role that the Parliamentary Front Against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean has played in the region and invite interested Parliamentarians to join these alliances to support the fight against hunger and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 2.

The topics addressed are:

1. The right to adequate food in constitutions
2. Framework laws on the right to adequate food
3. Legislating for adequate food and nutrition in schools
4. Enabling legal environment for the responsible governance of tenure
5. Enabling legal environment for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems
6. Legislative approaches to improve nutrition
7. Legal measures to eradicate rural poverty

The Briefs are available in both Spanish and English and were produced with financial assistance from AECID.

Link: <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb0448en>



Notas de Orientación Jurídica para Parlamentarios en África. (Legal brief for parliamentarians in Africa No. 1) FAO, 2019

The right to adequate food in constitutions - Legal Brief for Parliamentarians in Africa - No. 1

Countries in Africa have made renewed commitments to end hunger, such as in the Malabo Declaration of 2014, the SDGs of 2016 and other international and regional declarations. If these are supported by effective legislation, including constitutional protection, the future economic, social and cultural benefit to the continent is evident.

Link: <http://www.fao.org/3/ca3518en/CA3518EN.pdf>



Framework Laws on the Right to Adequate Food – Legal Brief for Parliamentarians in Africa No. 2

With the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG2) of 2015, countries pledged to end hunger everywhere by 2030 through decisive national action and international and regional cooperation. If this global goal is to be achieved, affirmative and creative actions are needed on the part of all countries. Building on the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights (Banjul Charter) and other regional human rights instruments, African countries committed to ensure food security for all people with the Malabo Declaration of 2014.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
LEGAL BRIEF FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS IN AFRICA
No. 3

Legislating for adequate food and nutrition in schools

Investing in children is not only a human rights issue but also a profitable endeavor for every country: an investment in the next generation of all global public goods – our present and future humanity.

BACKGROUND
 School feeding programmes are widely recognized as key instruments to achieve children's rights to adequate food and nutrition. They can contribute to preventing hunger and malnutrition, address micronutrient deficiencies and encourage healthy eating habits, depending on their aims.

There is increased recognition of the social importance of school feeding programmes. However, there is also growing concern that school feeding programmes are often implemented as short-term initiatives that do not take into account the broader context of food and nutrition security, and the need for a holistic approach to addressing the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition.

LEGAL OBJECTIVE VALUE THIS BRIEF
 To assist in the development of legislation that ensures the right to adequate food and nutrition for all children, and to address the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition.

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
LEGAL BRIEF FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS IN AFRICA
No. 4

Enabling legal environment for the responsible governance of tenure

States should strive to ensure responsible governance of tenure because land, fisheries and forests are central for the realization of human rights, food security, poverty eradication, sustainable livelihoods, social stability, housing security, rural development, and social and economic growth.

BACKGROUND
 Secure tenure rights are important for subsistence, semi-commercial and commercial food production, and therefore for food availability generally and physical, social and economic accessibility for those involved. Food security implies that people need to be able to access the means of producing or procuring food and that development must be sustainable to guarantee it for all, now and in the future. The responsible governance of tenure is a key element of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 1 to end poverty in all its forms everywhere and SDG 2 to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.

LEGAL OBJECTIVE VALUE THIS BRIEF
 To assist in the development of legislation that ensures the right to adequate food and nutrition for all, and to address the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition.

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
LEGAL BRIEF FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS IN AFRICA
No. 5

Enabling legal environment for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems

Responsible investments in agriculture, including those that promote food security, are central for the realization of human rights, food security, poverty eradication, sustainable livelihoods, social stability, housing security, rural development, and social and economic growth.

BACKGROUND
 Increasing responsible investments in agriculture and food systems is widely recognized today as vital for securing adequate food and nutrition, poverty reduction and sustainable development. Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 1 to end poverty in all its forms everywhere and SDG 2 to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030 will not be possible without greater, more accountable, ethical, informed and sustainable investment in the areas of most need.

LEGAL OBJECTIVE VALUE THIS BRIEF
 To assist in the development of legislation that ensures the right to adequate food and nutrition for all, and to address the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition.

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
LEGAL BRIEF FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS IN AFRICA
No. 6

Legislative approaches to improve nutrition

The current situation in terms of hunger and malnutrition in Africa is hardly incompatible with the vision of the African Union and the aspirations for the continent of Africa. It is indeed an irony of the fact that Africa is presently facing the highest levels of malnutrition in the world as it is a continent with exceptional natural resources and experiencing rapid economic growth.

BACKGROUND
 In sub-Saharan Africa, close to 50 percent of children under five suffer from vitamin A deficiency, 33 percent are stunted, 7 percent are wasted and 5 percent are overweight. Anaemia affects 39 percent of women of reproductive age (15-49), while 20 percent of adult men and 40 percent of adult women in the region are overweight or obese (FAO, 2017). These are all forms of malnutrition. The co-existence of overweight, vitamin deficiency and stunting is common in most countries, and often occur in the same household. This is referred to as the double burden of malnutrition.

LEGAL OBJECTIVE VALUE THIS BRIEF
 To assist in the development of legislation that ensures the right to adequate food and nutrition for all, and to address the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition.

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Legislating for adequate food and nutrition in schools - Legal brief for parliamentarians in Africa No. 3

Multi-component school feeding programmes are widely recognized as key instruments to achieve children's right to adequate food, education and health. They can contribute to preventing hunger and malnutrition, address micronutrient deficiencies and encourage healthy eating habits, depending on their aims.

Enabling legal framework for the responsible governance of tenure - Legal brief for parliamentarians in Africa No. 4

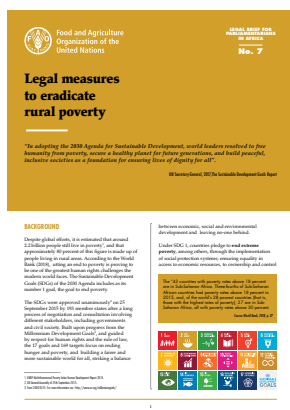
Secure tenure rights are important for subsistence, semi-commercial and commercial food production, and therefore for food availability generally and physical, social and economic accessibility for those involved. Food security implies that people need to be able to access the means of producing or procuring food and that development must be sustainable to guarantee it for all, now and in the future. The responsible governance of tenure is of fundamental importance for ensuring food and nutrition security, contributing to more sustainable and equitable livelihoods, social stability, rural development, environmental protection and the long-term eradication of hunger and poverty.

Enabling legal environment for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems - Legal brief for parliamentarians in Africa No. 5

Increasing responsible investments in agriculture and food systems is widely recognized today as vital for securing adequate food and nutrition, poverty reduction and sustainable development. Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 1 to end poverty in all its forms everywhere and SDG 2, to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030 will not be possible without greater, more accountable, ethical, informed and sustainable investment in the areas of most need.

Legislative approaches to improve nutrition - Legal brief for parliamentarians in Africa No. 6

In sub-Saharan Africa, close to 50 percent of children under five suffer from vitamin A deficiency, 33 percent are stunted, 7 percent are wasted and 5 percent are overweight. Anaemia affects 39 percent of women of reproductive age (15-49), while 20 percent of adult men and 40 percent of adult women in the region are overweight or obese (FAO, 2017). These are all forms of malnutrition. The co-existence of overweight, vitamin deficiency and stunting is common in most countries, and often occur in the same household. This is referred to as the double burden of malnutrition.



Legal measures to eradicate rural poverty - Legal brief for parliamentarians in Africa No. 7

Despite global efforts, it is estimated that around 2.2 billion people still live in poverty, and that approximately 80 percent of this figure is made up of people living in rural areas. According to the World Bank (2018), putting an end to poverty is proving to be one of the greatest human rights challenges the modern world faces. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda includes as its number 1 goal, the goal to end poverty.



Hambre de saber, saber de hambre: Los programas PESA de Centroamérica: quince años de cooperación para la seguridad alimentaria y nutricional. Logros y lecciones aprendidas (fao.org)
 (Hunger for knowledge, knowledge about hunger: PESA programmes in Central America: fifteen years of cooperation for food and nutrition security. Achievements and lessons learned (fao.org) FAO, 2014)

Link: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4323s.pdf>



Estudio sobre el concepto de la Soberanía Alimentaria en los países de Centroamérica, México, República Dominicana y Suramérica desde el Frente Parlamentario contra el Hambre de América Latina y el Caribe.
 (Study on the concept of food sovereignty in the countries of Central America, Mexico, the Dominican Republic and South America, conducted by the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean.)

Consejo Consultivo del FPH de América Latina y el Caribe, 2016
 (Consultative Council of the PFH of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2016)

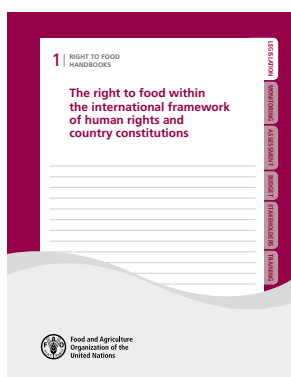
Link: <http://parlamentarioscontraelhambre.org/file/estudio-soberania-alimentaria.pdf>



Ley modelo de Agricultura Familiar del PARLATINO. Bases para la formulación de Leyes y Políticas Públicas en América Latina y el Caribe.
 (PARLATINO Model Law on Family Farming. Guidelines for the formulation of laws and public policies in Latin America and the Caribbean.)
 FAO-PARLATINO, 2017

Link: https://parlatino.org/pdf/leyes_marcos/leyes/ley-agricultura-familiar-eng.pdf

Cuadernos de trabajo sobre el derecho a la alimentación 1-10 (Right to Food Handbooks 1-10) FAO, 2013



Handbook 1

[The right to food within the international framework of human rights and country constitutions](#)

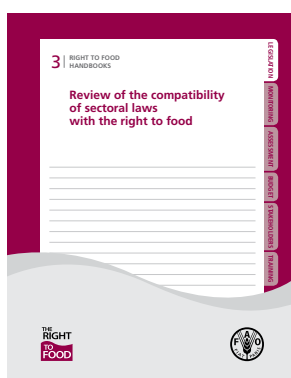
This first handbook of the group devoted to legislation presents the right to food within the international framework of human rights, especially the ICESCR and other relevant international instruments, as well as the different forms of constitutional recognition at country level. The content of this handbook is based on the FAO's "**Guide on Legislating for the Right to Food**". It includes the characterization of this right in the main international human rights instruments, especially its core content and the State obligations. At the country level, it presents the different forms of constitutional recognition: explicit, implied and as a guiding principle of State policy.



Handbook 2

[Development of specific right to food legislation](#)

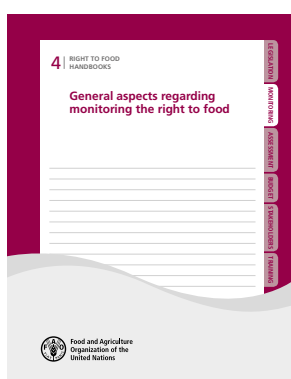
The purpose of this handbook is to provide practical information and guidelines for national legislators and individual parties or groups interested in order to improve the process of developing a framework law for the right to food. The content of this handbook is based on the FAO's "**Guide on Legislating for the Right to Food**". The handbook presents some preliminary issues, describes how the process should be and what the provisions should be in terms of general provisions, substantive provisions and provisions for the implementation of the law.



Handbook 3

[Review of the compatibility of sectoral laws with the right to food](#)

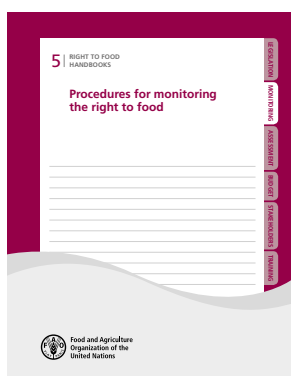
This handbook presents the process to be followed for the revision of sectoral legislation, since it may affect various aspects of the right to food. The purpose of this revision is to ensure that the legal framework of the country is favourable for the progressive realization of the right to food. The content of this handbook is based on the FAO's "**Guide on Legislating for the Right to Food**". It provides an explanation of the process to be followed for reviewing the compatibility of sectoral laws with the right to food as well as some guidelines and methodological tools for its realization. Furthermore, there are some examples of sectoral provisions that may affect the right to food in very important areas, such as land, water, fishing, etc.



Handbook 4

[General aspects regarding monitoring the right to food](#)

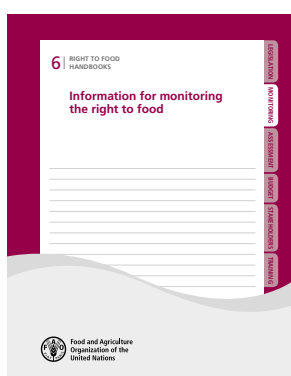
This handbook, introductory to the group of those which are devoted to the process of monitoring the right to food, presents the conceptual basis for monitoring centred and based on a human rights approach. It also provides a description of the methodological and analytical agenda for monitoring. The content of this handbook is based on the FAO's "**Methods to monitor the human right to adequate food**" (**Volume I and Volume II**). It provides a description of the methods for monitoring based on a human rights approach, which entails following up the introduction of human rights principles in the formulation, financing and implementation of relevant policies, programmes, projects and activities as well as their impact on the realization of rights. It is also important to verify that the monitoring process itself has been inspired by and is consistent with the principles of human rights.



Handbook 5

General aspects regarding monitoring the right to food

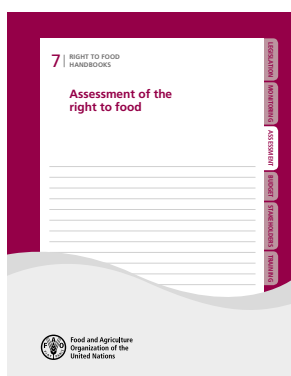
This handbook presents the basic process to be followed for monitoring policies, programmes and projects aimed at the right to food, starting from the components that distinguish it from a conventional monitoring framework: the basic content of the right to food, the State obligations and the principles of human rights. The content of this handbook is based on the FAO's **"Methods to monitor the human right to adequate food" (Volume I and Volume II)**. Besides presenting the framework for monitoring the right to food, it provides a deep insight on the indicators -structural, process and outcome indicators- as well as on the monitoring of policies and programmes.



Handbook 6

Information for monitoring the right to food

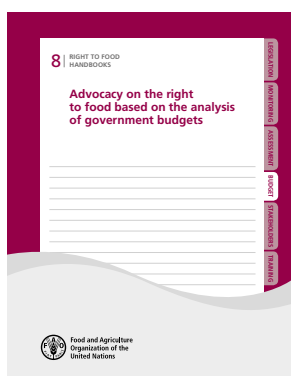
This third handbook on monitoring the right to food provides detail on the information needed for monitoring, information gathering methods, information systems and databases for monitoring as well as on dissemination of information. The content of this handbook is based on the FAO's **"Methods to monitor the human right to adequate food" (Volume I and Volume II)**. Access to timely, relevant and valid information should contribute to enhancing the capacity of duty-bearers to fulfil their obligations regarding the right to food and should likewise aid rights-holders in defending, claiming and enforcing them.



Handbook 7

Assessment of the right to food

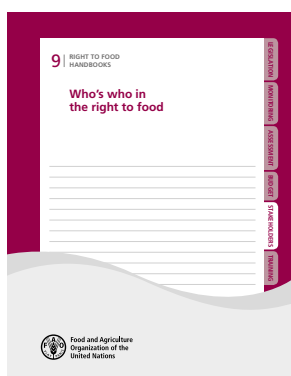
This handbook provides practical information and tools for conducting a right to food assessment as a first step in a strategy to ensure this right and to take the appropriate measures accordingly with the obligation of progressive realization of this right. The content of this handbook is based on the FAO's **"Guide to Conducting a Right to Food Assessment"**. An assessment of the right to food should include an analysis of the causes of food and nutritional insecurity and should answer the following questions: who suffers food insecurity and vulnerability? Where are they located? What are the causes for their food insecurity or vulnerability? The assessment should also consider the legal, political, and institutional frameworks, civil society participation and budget analysis.



Handbook 8

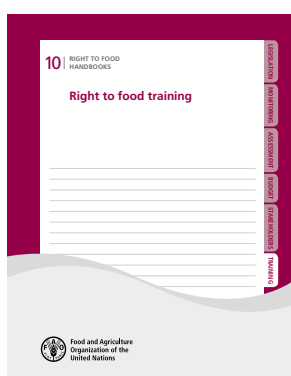
Advocacy on the right to food based on the analysis of government budgets

This handbook provides information on some of the aspects in which the public budget plays an important role for the realization of the right to food. It also addresses the implementation of advocacy actions based on an analysis of government budgets. The content of this handbook is based on the FAO's guide **"Budget Work to Advance the Right to Food"**. The budget is a concrete and objective way to measure a government's commitment with the realization of the right to food. Its analysis can thus be a very useful tool for civil society organizations, legislators and human rights commissions involved in the realization of the right to food.



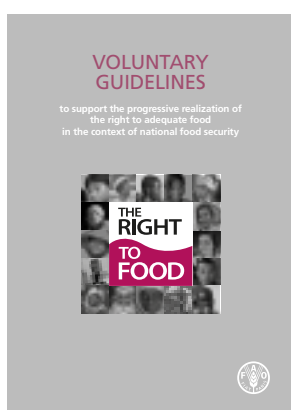
Handbook 9 Who's who in the right to food

This handbook provides an overview of who is who and what his/her role is in the realization of the human right to food. This information enhances the possibilities of coordination and collaboration between the different actors as well as accountability. The content of this handbook is based on the FAO's guide **"Right to Food Curriculum Outline"**. Based on the distinction between rights holders, duty bearers and responsibilities with regard to the right to food, it presents the main functions and tasks that each one carries out in the realization of the human right to food.



Handbook 10 Right to food training

The purpose of this handbook devoted to training is to offer guidance on the appropriate way to implement training processes on the right to food by adapting them to the different groups. The content of this handbook is based on the FAO's guide **"Right to Food Curriculum Outline"**. The previous handbook provided the distinction between rights holders, duty bearers and holders of responsibilities with regard to the right to food, as well as the functions and tasks that each one carries out. This information provides the basis for identifying the appropriate and critical training contents for all participants and some guidelines for adapting the training sessions for each specific group.



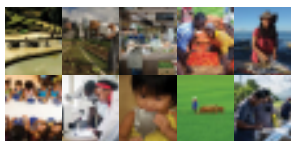
Voluntary guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security FAO, 2005

Link: <https://www.fao.org/3/y7937e/y7937e.pdf>



The Nutrition Challenge. Food System Solutions FAO, WHO, 2018

Link: <https://www.fao.org/3/ca2024en/CA2024EN.pdf>



Food Systems and Nutrition

Handbook for Parliamentarians N° 22

Food Systems and Nutrition. Handbook for Parliamentarians

FAO-UIP, 2020

The document identifies starting points for parliamentary interventions and recommends actions using existing case studies, covering four areas: representation, legislation, budget and oversight.

Link: <http://www.fao.org/3/cb2005en/cb2005en.pdf>



The State of Food and Agriculture

FAO, Annual Publication

Migration, agriculture and rural development

2018

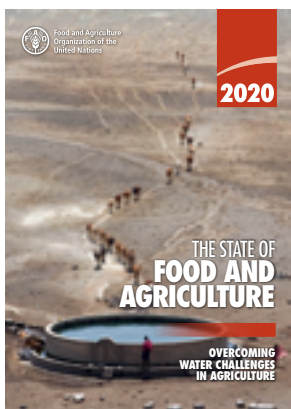
Link: [fao.org/3/i9549en/i9549en.pdf](http://www.fao.org/3/i9549en/i9549en.pdf)



Moving forward on food loss and waste reduction

2019

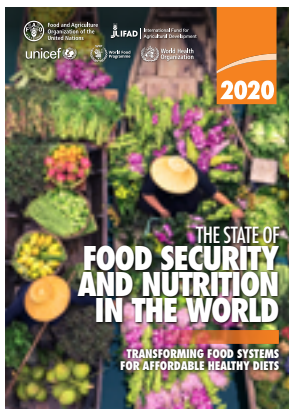
Link: <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca6030en>



Overcoming water challenges in agriculture

2020

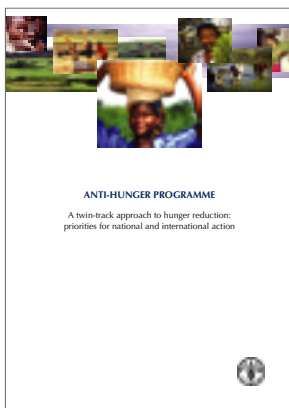
Link: <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/CB1447EN>



The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2020. Transforming food systems for affordable healthy diets

FAO, WHO, WCO, FIDA, UNICEF, 2020 (Annual Publication)

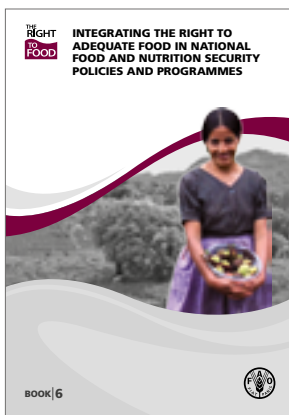
Link: <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/es/c/CA9692EN>



Anti-Hunger Programme. A twin-track approach to hunger reduction: priorities for national and international action

FAO, 2003

Link: <https://www.fao.org/3/j0563e/j0563e00.pdf>



Integrating the Right to Adequate Food in National Food and Nutrition Security Policies and Programmes

FAO, 2013

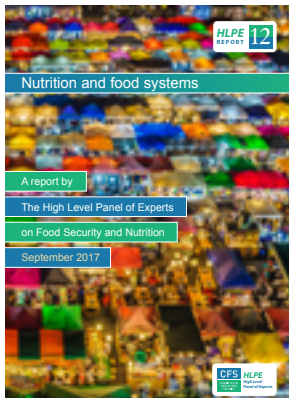
Link: <https://www.fao.org/3/a-i4258e.pdf>



Guide on legislating for the right to food

FAO, 2010

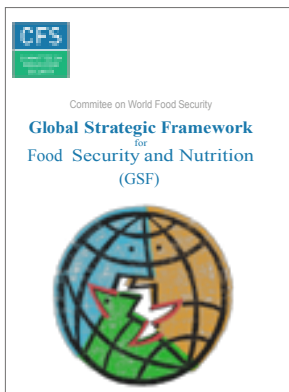
Link: <https://www.fao.org/3/i0815e/i0815e00.pdf>



Nutrition and food systems.
A report by The High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition. 2017

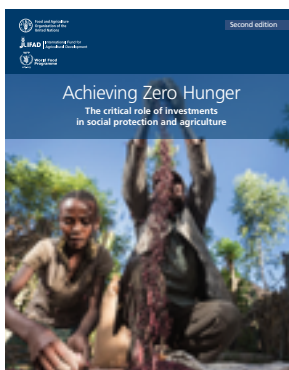
Link: <https://knowledge-uclga.org/IMG/pdf/hlpe-report-5530.pdf>

All HLPE reports: <https://www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe/publications/en>



Global Strategic Framework for Food Security & Nutrition
Committee on World Food Security (CFS), 2017

Link: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mt648e.pdf>



Achieving Zero Hunger: The critical role of investments in social protection and agriculture
FAO, FIDA, WCO, 2016

Link: <http://www.fao.org/3/i4951e/i4951e.pdf>



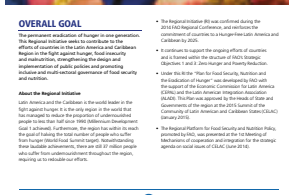
Policy Guidance Series
FAO, EU

Link: <https://www.fao.org/3/a-i7214e.pdf>



Proyecto "Apoyo a la Iniciativa América Latina y Caribe" sin Hambre. Resultados 2020.
(Support to the Hunger-Free Latin America and Caribbean Initiative)
FAO, 2021

Link: <https://www.fao.org/3/au837e/au837e.pdf>



OVERALL GOAL

The government eradication of hunger is one of the most important and immediate goals for the Latin American and Caribbean Region in the fight against hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition. The design and implementation of a comprehensive public policies and programming, inclusive and multi-sectoral government of food security and nutrition.

About the Regional Initiative

Latin America and the Caribbean is the world leader in the fight against hunger in the early 1990s. It was not until the 2000s that the region began to show signs of improvement. However, the pace of progress has slowed down in recent years. The region needs to reach the goal of halving the total number of people who suffer from chronic hunger, from 200 to 100 million people, and to reduce the number of undernourished people from 100 million to 50 million people.

The Regional Initiative (RI) was confirmed during the 2013 Regional Conference and reinforced the commitment of Latin America and the Caribbean to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, specifically to the target of halving the number of people who suffer from chronic hunger, from 200 to 100 million people, and to reduce the number of undernourished people from 100 million to 50 million people.

The RI is a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people in the region. It is based on the principles of inclusivity, sustainability, and multi-sectoral collaboration.

The RI is supported by the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Food Security, Nutrition and the Role of Agriculture, the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Social Protection and the Role of Agriculture, and the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on the Role of Agriculture in the Fight Against Hunger, Food Insecurity and Malnutrition.

The RI is also supported by the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on the Role of Agriculture in the Fight Against Hunger, Food Insecurity and Malnutrition, the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Social Protection and the Role of Agriculture, and the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on the Role of Agriculture in the Fight Against Hunger, Food Insecurity and Malnutrition.



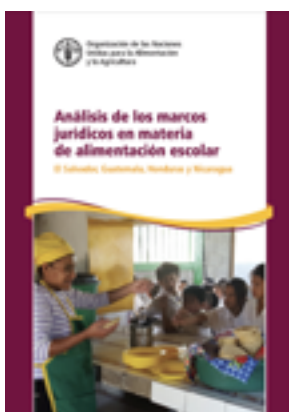
Análisis de la legislación en materia de seguridad alimentaria y nutricional. El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras y Nicaragua

(Analysis of legislation on food and nutrition security. El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua)
FAO, 2015

The countries of Latin America have been at the forefront of the regulatory development of the right to food, and Central America is one of the regions that has advanced most in the adoption of laws on Food and Nutrition Security (FNS).

With the aim of contributing to the strengthening of legal frameworks in the region, and taking the human rights approach as a reference, this study presents a comparative analysis of FSN legislation in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua (which comprise the CA-4 group of countries). The document analyzes the constitutional provisions and the FSN content of laws in these countries. At a regional level, it considers the institutional framework and the competences of Central American integration organizations and parliamentary forums. The conclusions and recommendations presented in this report are based on the obligations derived from international human rights laws and identify certain advances and challenges in national legislations.

Link: <https://www.fao.org/right-to-food/resources/resources-detail/es/c/395893/>



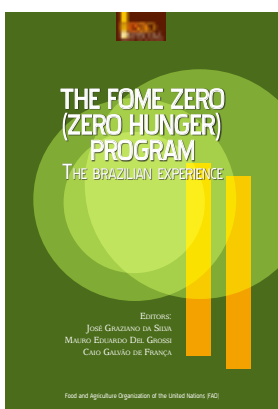
Análisis de los marcos jurídicos en materia de alimentación escolar El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras y Nicaragua

(Analysis of the legal frameworks regarding school feeding in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua)
FAO, 2016

Based on the assumption that school feeding is addressed by multiple regulatory areas and that it does not necessarily need to be regulated in a single legal instrument, this publication identifies a series of regulatory objectives whose regulations are considered essential to obtaining a complete legal framework that will ensure the proper implementation of school feeding programmes. The study sets out a method for the analysis of legal frameworks in this context and presents an overview of the current state of legislation in the CA-4 countries (El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua).

The document was prepared in response to requests from the CA-4 countries and various regional bodies as part of the legal component of the Project to Support the Hunger-Free Latin America and Caribbean Initiative (Project GCP/RLA/160/SPA). This component is termed "Strengthening legal frameworks to achieve food and nutrition security". It is financed by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) and is implemented by the Legal Office of FAO in collaboration with the Right to Food Team and the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Link: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5948s.pdf>



Fome Zero (Programa Hambre Cero): la experiencia Brasileña

(The FOME ZERO (Zero Hunger) Programme: the Brazilian experience)
FAO, 2012

Link: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i3023e.pdf>



V Plan Director de la Cooperación Española, 2018-2021

(Fifth Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation, 2018-2021)

Link:

http://www.cooperacionespanola.es/sites/default/files/v_plan_director_de_la_cooperacion_espanola_2018-2021_0.pdf



Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutrición en la Cooperación Española: pasado, presente y futuro

(Food Security and Nutrition in Spanish Cooperation: past, present and future)

AECID, 2018.

Link:

http://www.aecid.es/Centro-Documentacion/Documentos/Publicaciones%20AECID/180626_publicacion_SAN_DEF.PDF



Marco institucional español en el ámbito de la nutrición y su vínculo con los compromisos adoptados en la CIN2

(Spanish institutional framework concerning nutrition and its relation with the commitments adopted at CIN2)

FAO Office in Spain, 2017

In 2017, the FAO Office in Spain prepared its **first mapping of the Spanish institutional framework in the field of nutrition**.

This document presents the main actions taken by Spain during the period 2000-2018 in the context of the right to food. These actions are classified according to the recommendations given in the ICN2 Framework for Action. These 60 recommendations are grouped into six pillars, in accordance with the Work Programme launched on occasion of the Decade of Action on Nutrition. Each of the elements that make up the Institutional Framework, namely the **legislative framework, the administrative bodies involved, the strategies and plans developed, and the programmes** designed and implemented, is described.

Link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1z455UIQvUuy3HFyLOGfwbZP35i4M3j3p/view?usp=sharing>



Haciendo realidad el derecho a la alimentación en España

(Making the right to food a reality in Spain)

Right to Food Observatory in Spain (ODA-E), 2018

This publication is the first outcome of the collaboration with the Right to Food Observatory in Spain. It is an eminently interdisciplinary book; the authors come from various scientific disciplines, not only from the field of Law, the latter being an essential requirement to address this complex, multidimensional right. The book also focuses on applied research, presenting knowledge applicable to the reality of Spain. This is the common theme followed throughout the work, in each of the contributions made, calling for the full realization of this right.

Link:

https://www.derechoalimentacion.org/sites/default/files/pdf-materiales/Haciendo_realidad_derecho_alimentaci%C3%B3n_Espa%C3%B1a.pdf



El derecho a la alimentación en España. Desafíos y propuestas

(The right to food in Spain. Challenges and proposals)
Right to Food Observatory in Spain (ODA-E), 2018

ODA-E and ODA-ALC document presented to the Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition. The universities, social organizations and researchers that make up these Observatories contribute their reflections on the occasion of the Global Parliamentary Summit in Madrid 2018.

Link: www.derechoalimentacion.org/sites/default/files/pdf-materiales/Derecho_alimentacion_desafios_propuestas_COMPLETO.pdf

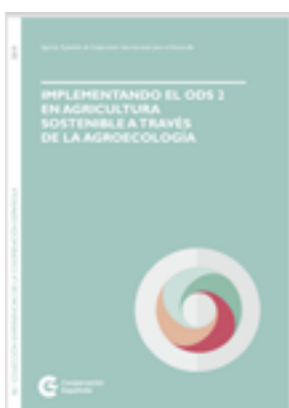


Recomendaciones ante la crisis del COVID 19

(Recommendations for the COVID 19 crisis)
Right to Food Observatory in Spain (ODA-E), 2020

In response to the COVID 19 crisis, the Right to Food Observatory of Spain has presented a set of recommendations to the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food.

Link: www.derechoalimentacion.org/materiales/recomendaciones-ante-la-crisis-del-covid-19



Implementando el ODS 2 en Agricultura Sostenible a través de la Agroecología

(Implementing SDG 2 in sustainable agriculture through agroecology)
AECID, 2019

Link: https://bibliotecadigital.aecid.es/bibliodig/es/catalogo_imagenes/grupo.do?path=1026365



Lecciones aprendidas sobre agricultura resiliente y cambio climático para contribuir a la seguridad alimentaria y al derecho a la alimentación en América Latina y el Caribe

(Experiences learned on climate change resilient agriculture on food security and the right to food in Latin America and the Caribbean)
AECID, 2018

Link: https://bibliotecadigital.aecid.es/bibliodig/es/catalogo_imagenes/grupo.do?path=1016549



Diez contribuciones que los parlamentarios pueden hacer para lograr un mundo #HambreCero
(Ten contributions parliamentarians can make to achieve a #ZeroHunger world)

Link: <https://www.fao.org/3/CA2183ES/ca2183es.pdf>



Mujeres Parlamentarias en la lucha contra el Hambre en Mesoamérica
(Women parliamentarians in the fight against hunger in Mesoamerica)

Link: <https://www.fao.org/in-action/mesoamerica-sin-hambre/recursos/detail/en/c/1504689/>



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