

Bringing findings of “CSA science” to policy makers

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Finding of CSA science

I have been asked today to present on *“Bringing findings of “CSA science” to policy makers”*.

This is an extremely important question.

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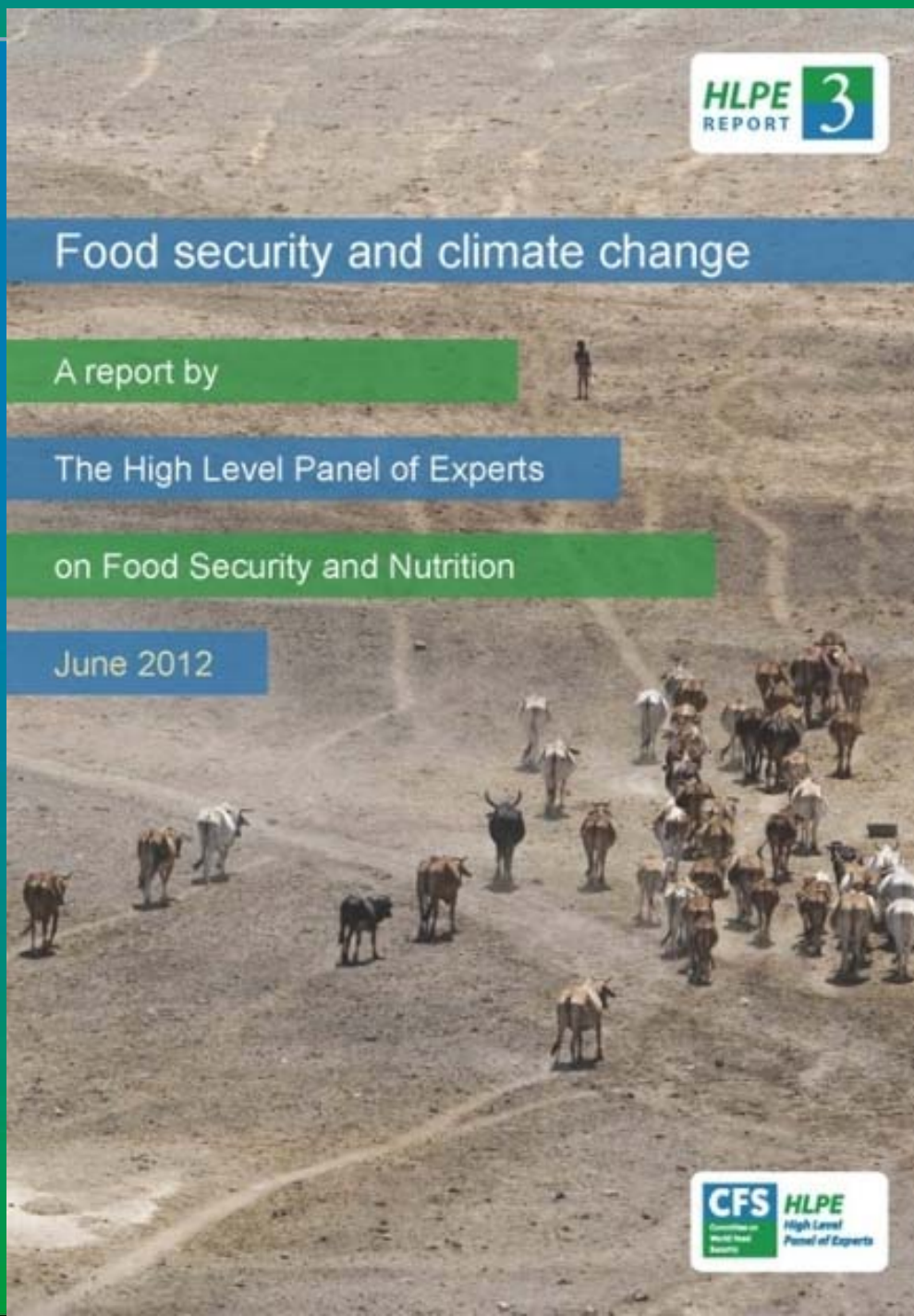
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But the very question “Bringing findings of “CSA science” to policy makers”, raises first three other questions.

- What is “CSA science”?
- What to bring to policy makers?
- How to best do it?

What is “CSA science”

So what is CSA science?

This is science that contributes to advancing the knowledge on the three objectives of CSA: food security, adaptation, mitigation. This set of objectives is complex.

We look for science capable of addressing these objectives either altogether, or if focusing mainly on one of them, but in a way that can dialogue with the other dimensions.

Tools like the Observatoire du Sahel

CSA science to fill which knowledge gaps?

CSA science should address two different, specific categories of knowledge gaps:

- those gaps “in-between” the disciplines and main areas, that are studied by no-one, but that needs to be studied,
- and gaps of “understanding” between disciplines.

Refocusing research

So, as the HLPE has recommended in 2012, as a consequence, there is a need to refocus research to address a more complex set of objectives:

The HLPE has identified the need to:

- (i) Collect more biophysical data
- (ii) Monitor existing practices and performance.
- (iii) Improve information about vulnerable communities/populations and regions
- (iv) Improve models that facilitate understanding of climate change effects on agriculture
- (v) Organize regional sharing of experience and knowledge
- (vi) Refocusing research to address a more complex set of objectives

What to bring to policy makers?

from what policy makers want... to **what stakeholders needs.**

CSA is food security-oriented. What does it mean in terms of messages to policy-makers?

1. Means to a better understanding of the issues, multiple objectives in relation to food security,
2. take into account the they are many stakeholders involved. And they are some groups that are more vulnerable than others.
3. CSA science is relevant to policy makers. But it is also relevant to action. But “how to bring findings of CSA science to **decision makers**”. Knowing that there are a lot of decision makers altogether, and that farmers, on their farms, in the field, are the first decision makers.

CSA Science integration

“How CSA science” is to be used for action.

There is a need for practical options, guides on priorities for action. The target groups for CSA science are here: farmers, small farmers, but vulnerable, poor and malnourished population in the first place. And, as everything is connected, more generally, everyone as food consumer, towards sustainable food systems.

How best to do it

CSA science should help bridge/reduce the gap between what stakeholders needs and the priorities of policy making.

There is a need to create innovative mechanisms for science/policy dialogue. The HLPE and CFS is an example.

There is a need to increase presence, in UNFCCC, of expertise and evidence.

There is a need to have such processes at regional and national levels

Farmer-centered approach

The joint threats of food insecurity and climate change justify a reappraisal of how national and international public funded research can work best with the private sector.

New public sector research should emphasize those crops, animals, and systems that are important for food security but receive less private sector attention.

It is essential that public sector research and extension efforts associate the private sector and civil society.

Farmer-centered approach

Particular attention must be paid to how the needs of the world's poorest and most disadvantaged food producers can be addressed through research and knowledge creation.

This will require meaningful engagement with the intended beneficiaries, in a farmer-centered perspective, and a genuine dialogue to understand their requirements, taking into account the difficulties that can exist in obtaining the views of women and disadvantaged groups.

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