FAO Agency Update
11th SPIAC-B meeting, Geneva 5th February 2019

FAO’s contribution to USP2030
- Member of the interim steering committee and organizers of the High Level Meeting
- FAO chaired session 1, on Making the case for Universal Coverage
- FAO’s contribution to the agenda is two-fold: (i) building the investment and economic case for scaling-up social protection systems. FAO continues to work with partners to develop solid evidence on the economic and productive impacts of social assistance and the multiplier effects it creates. This evidence has been widely used to support and enhance policy at country level, while addressing myths surrounding social assistance. FAO supports the promotive function of social protection, and its role in promoting economic and productive inclusion. Examples of this evidence has been include in the USP2030 country case studies compendium; (ii) enhancing the visibility of those living in rural areas and the need to adjust the design of SP programmes to better address these multiple vulnerabilities. FAO support USP2030- in terms of universal coverage and adequate coverage.
- FAO partnered with ILO in the context of the Social Security Academy of the ITC/ILO, where these areas of work were shared with participants, enhancing their knowledge and capacity on the role of SP in food security, nutrition, economic inclusion and resilience building.

CSW and gender
FAO has been an active member of the Gender working group and contributed to the statement to CSW
FAO will be actively represented in CSW:
1. FAO side event: How can Social Protection Enhance Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Rural Women and Girls? (13 March, 6.30pm-7.45 pm, CR 11)
2. Side event (WFP, IFAD, and UN Women) on the UN Joint Programme on Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment: Women’s empowerment for food security and nutrition for all: evidence from joint UN work”; (14 March, 6.30pm to 7.30 pm, CR11)
3. Inter-agency network on women and gender equality (IANWGE) side event: “Ensuring Women and Girls’ Access to Quality and Affordable Social Protection Services. Which Innovative Approaches to achieve Empowerment and Equity?” (13 March, 4.45 – 6pm CR12)
4. Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board (SPIAC-B), side event: How strengthening social protection systems can support gender equality and women and girls’ empowerment (provisional title) (Date/time tbc)

Other side events under discussion

Dev/Hum/Peace nexus
- FAO is an active member of the discussions and programmatic work in the context of the Dev/Hum/Peace nexus, promoting the development of risk and shock responsive social protection systems. FAO contributes to the integration of livelihood lens in the work, the linkage between early warning (climate and food security) information and social protection information systems and the role of social protection in forced displacement and extreme fragility context. FAO is currently developing internal guidance notes on how to operationalize risk informed and shock espo
- In 2016, the European Commissioners for International Cooperation and Development and for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, the Director-General of FAO and the Executive
Director of WFP launched the Global Network against Food Crises at the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS). The Global Network is holding a High Level event in Brussels in April, where social protection will be featured as one key element. Session is chaired by IFPRI, in collaboration with FAO, EU and WFP.

- FAO is currently finalizing a position paper and guidance note on the role of social protection and climate related risks in rural areas, in collaboration with the Climate Center

**ISPA tools**

- FAO continues to lead the working group on the FSN ISPA tool, in close collaboration with GIZ, Save the Children, World Bank, WFP and others. The tool has been piloted in 3 countries that helped to make the tool more practical and responsive to country specific needs.
- We hope the tool will be finally approved in the coming weeks
- FAO promotes the ISPA tools in all of it capacity development activities