

## **Global FNS Advocacy Strategy**

### **FAQs**

#### **What is the Strategy?**

The Global FNS Advocacy Strategy is intended as a resource for CARE colleagues to support your efforts to undertake national or regional FNS advocacy and to engage in CARE's multilateral advocacy. The strategy sets priorities, among myriad FNS-related issues on which we could advocate, to account for our current capacity and enable us to target and measure our efforts & impact. At the same time, the policy goals are broad to avoid being prescriptive and provide flexibility for different national contexts. We hope that broad yet prioritized goals will enable many CARE offices to engage in advocacy that contributes to the wider CARE global advocacy effort. We already see alignment with the Southern Africa advocacy agenda (which significantly informed the global strategy).

#### **What are the goals?**

##### *Topline Goal:*

- Our main advocacy goal is to make global, regional, and national agriculture policy nutrition-sensitive, gender-transformative, and climate-resilient, in line with SuPER principles.

##### *Policy Change Goals:*

- We set two policy change goals on (1) multilateral and (2) regional/national agriculture policy: influencing it to be nutrition-sensitive, gender-transformative, and climate-resilient.
  - For the multilateral goal, we prioritized the UN climate negotiations (and the agriculture discussions within them) and the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement. The strategy provides detail on priorities (including the multilateral processes we will aim to influence and sample national or regional advocacy goals), advocacy activities, and key moments for action. The goals are also in the table below.
  - Other multilateral processes and events like the Commission on the Status of Women, the World Economic Forum, the High Level Political Forum, and/or the Committee on World Food Security may present opportunities to raise CARE's profile through engagement by other colleagues in side events or messaging through social media to disseminate our wider policy messages.
- These policy goals are complementary to our technical advocacy with practitioners and institutions like FAO and bilateral development agencies, such that efforts in one can support those in another and help multiply our impact further.

#### **How was the strategy developed?**

##### *Goals:*

The goals were drafted and shared for feedback in late 2016, based on (1) numerous pieces of analysis developed for CARE over several years for other purposes, (2) the emerging Southern Africa Impact Growth Strategy advocacy priorities, and (3) analysis/review of the global landscape on food and nutrition security policy. The group of colleagues consulted was a geographically & technically representative group including colleagues in agriculture, value chains, nutrition, climate change, North America, Latin America, South Asia, Europe, and Africa, technical, advocacy, and knowledge management. The goals were refined based on feedback and finalized/circulated in December.

##### *Multinational goal/processes:*

The multilateral priorities were discussed by phone and email, and in person, with numerous colleagues who have engaged in the major FNS advocacy processes, including particularly the Committee on World Food Security, Scaling Up Nutrition, UN Climate Negotiations (specifically related to FNS & agriculture).

The consideration of nutrition venues also took into account feedback from a wider group of colleagues in early 2016. In setting priorities for the multilateral goal, we relied on the following criteria:

- 1) relevance to the topline goal and global level goal;
- 2) the ability to link our engagement in a multilateral process to national advocacy, particularly in the southern Africa region to align with the Impact Growth Strategy;
- 3) the potential of the process (and our engagement in it) to have an impact at national levels;
- 4) the weight of the decisions the process makes (legally binding vs. voluntary),
- 5) the seriousness with which national governments engage in & view the process (including their sense of obligation to deliver on commitments made in the process); and
- 6) potential links with provision of finance.

Once the UNFCCC agriculture discussions & Scaling Up Nutrition were prioritized, a more detailed strategy was circulated among a small set of colleagues engaged in those processes and/or issues. These strategies and key activities are fluid and very flexible, and the content of the strategy is intended primarily as a guide to the kind of work we will undertake and in which we can collaborate.

#### *Regional/National goal:*

Regarding the regional and national goal, the specific policy priorities will be set at the regional or national level, given different political and policy contexts. The content of the strategy, therefore, is focused on role global colleagues will play in enabling and supporting others in CARE to undertake national and regional advocacy. This portion of the global strategy was circulated for feedback among colleagues who will be playing a part in providing that support. This is again indicative of the kinds of activities that will be undertaken and is by no means an exhaustive nor final list.

#### **How can I engage?**

1. *Tell us what you're up to:* We want to enable others to engage in these efforts, so if you are interested in engaging further, please let me ([tonya.rawe@care.org](mailto:tonya.rawe@care.org)) know! If you're undertaking national advocacy on food and nutrition security issues, share your experience, learning and materials through the network. We'd love to add to the global library of resources and make sure your successes and learning are shared far and wide and captured in our MEL effort!
2. *Share the challenges you see:* CARE prioritizes evidence-based advocacy – including evidence from our own programs as well as evidence we witness of policy barriers that small-scale food producers and women face. If you have evidence you want to share related to the strategy priorities or emerging policy issues, share that with this community and the FNS Advocacy Network listserv. Your experience will strengthen our efforts, and we hope our collaboration will strengthen yours.
3. *Join in the multilateral efforts:* If you are engaging in advocacy with your national government regarding the UNFCCC or SUN and are interested in linking up with others doing so, let me (UNFCCC, agriculture-specific issues\*\*) or Theresa (SUN) know! As we begin to implement the strategy, we'll pull together policy positions and materials for key events like the UN climate negotiations (regarding agriculture) and the SUN Global Gathering. We welcome others' engagement in those efforts and with your national governments. Our multilateral advocacy is stronger as our reach is wider.  
\*\*Sven Harmeling remains our primary point of contact for our engagement in the UNFCCC. If you are interested in engaging with your national government around agriculture and its like with climate change and the UNFCCC, please contact Tonya Rawe ([tonya.rawe@care.org](mailto:tonya.rawe@care.org)).
4. *Ask questions:* Have questions about the strategy, our policy positions, or how to undertake advocacy? Let us know! We'll do our best to provide support or match you up with someone who can help answer your questions.

Whatever you're up to in FNS advocacy (undoubtedly great things!), we want to make sure we take your work into account and collaborate to maximize impact.

### **Do I have to engage? Is the strategy set in stone?**

While we hope as many parts of CARE will engage with the strategy and contribute to these broad goals, it is not intended as a directive. National circumstances and priorities will differ, as will resources available. At the same time, we encourage CARE members and country offices to use the strategy to inform or guide your advocacy agenda setting, so that we can capture the widest array of CARE's advocacy in our monitoring, evaluation, and learning efforts. This will increase our contribution to achieving the outcome area goals in the Programme Strategy.

The policy goals are very deliberately broad (e.g. agriculture policy, writ large, rather than specifically land tenure or extension services or seed certification – all of which would fall under “agriculture policy”), while setting some priorities (e.g. the focus on agriculture policy for long term food and nutrition security). This focus – and the focus on gender-transformative, nutrition-sensitive, and climate-resilient agriculture policy -- reflects CARE's value add to and niche in policy dialogues as well as numerous pieces of analysis developed for CARE over several years for other purposes and analysis/review of the global landscape on food and nutrition security policy.

While we have set our strategy for 2017-2020, we also recognize that advocacy must be flexible to account for changing internal and external circumstances. If our resources change significantly, we will reassess the strategy. If major changes happen externally, we will revisit the goals to ensure that CARE is directing its resources where we can have the greatest positive impact on the lives of the people – and particularly the women and girls – with whom we work.

### **What resources are available?**

1. *Materials:* You'll find numerous resources (including the strategy and policy positions) on [The Village](#) and [Minerva](#), as well as directly linked in [this document linked here](#). Many of these documents have been translated into French and Spanish. We hope to get them translated into more languages!
2. *FNS Network:* The network is intended as a way to share experience and learning, to disseminate resources, and to ask questions about others' experience in FNS advocacy. Not on the listserv yet? Email Tonya Rawe ([tonya.rawe@care.org](mailto:tonya.rawe@care.org)) or Rasha Natour ([rasha.natour@care.org](mailto:rasha.natour@care.org)) to be added.
3. *Webinars:* We'll hold roughly quarterly webinars as part of the FNS Advocacy Network to enable colleagues around CARE to share their successes and learning from national or regional FNS advocacy. Have some successes you want to share? Let us know!

### **What happens next?**

1. *Sharing!* In addition to emailing resources, look for an invite to a webinar (likely two times offered for time zones).
2. *Implementing!* We've begun implementing parts of the strategy at the multilateral level, and many of you are already implementing national and regional advocacy on FNS. In the coming months, we'll look to engage more of you to learn about your efforts, to identify areas where support is needed, and to continue to identify ways we can work together better and for more impact.
3. *Fundraising!* The strategy is largely reflective of current resources, though we know that with more resources we could do more – working more deeply or more broadly. We look forward to collaborating with you to increase our resources for FNS advocacy, whether through stand-alone initiatives or by integrating advocacy into proposals.