



**CFS 49**

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## **How to legislate for food systems transformation: Constitutions, framework laws and sectoral interventions**

Margret Vidar, Development Law Service, FAO  
Geneviève Parent – Legal Research Chair in food diversity and  
security Université Laval

CFS Side Event 13 October

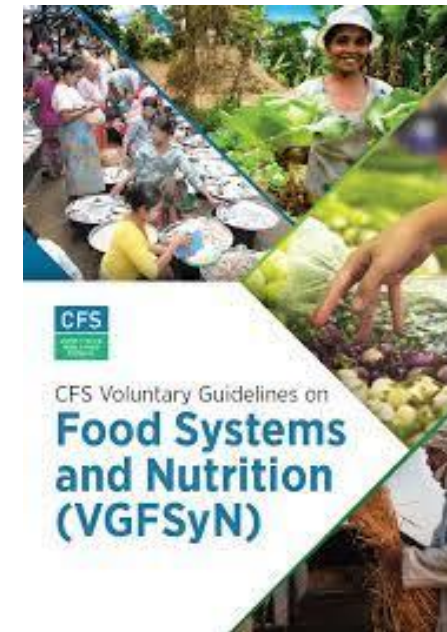


UNIVERSITÉ  
**LAVAL**

Chaire de recherche en droit sur la  
diversité et la sécurité alimentaires



# Transforming food systems is all the rage



**But legislation is not fully considered**

# Research of FAO and Université Laval



- Key roles of law in the transition towards sustainable food system.
- Highlight the nexus between human rights and sustainable food systems.
- Constitutions, framework law and sectoral legislative entry points
- Gather further inputs, insights and contributions.

[Legislative-Study-Comments@fao.org](mailto:Legislative-Study-Comments@fao.org)

# Functions of law and levels of intervention

## Functions of The Law

**Function 1:** *The law* should set out the fundamental principles and rights on which SFS should be built.

**Function 2:** Providing strong legal guidance, clearly setting the objective of SFS, along with policies.

**Function 3:** Operationalize SFS through appropriate sectoral and cross-sectoral legislations.

## Levels of Intervention

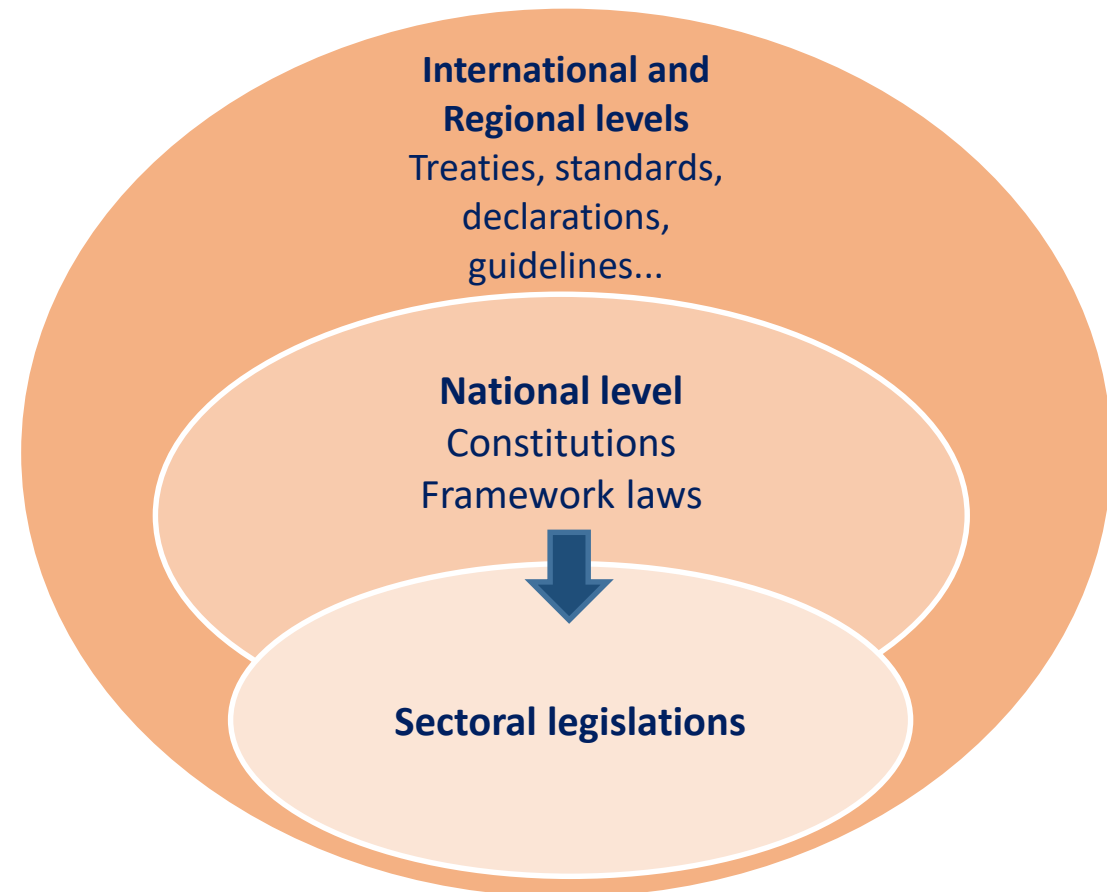
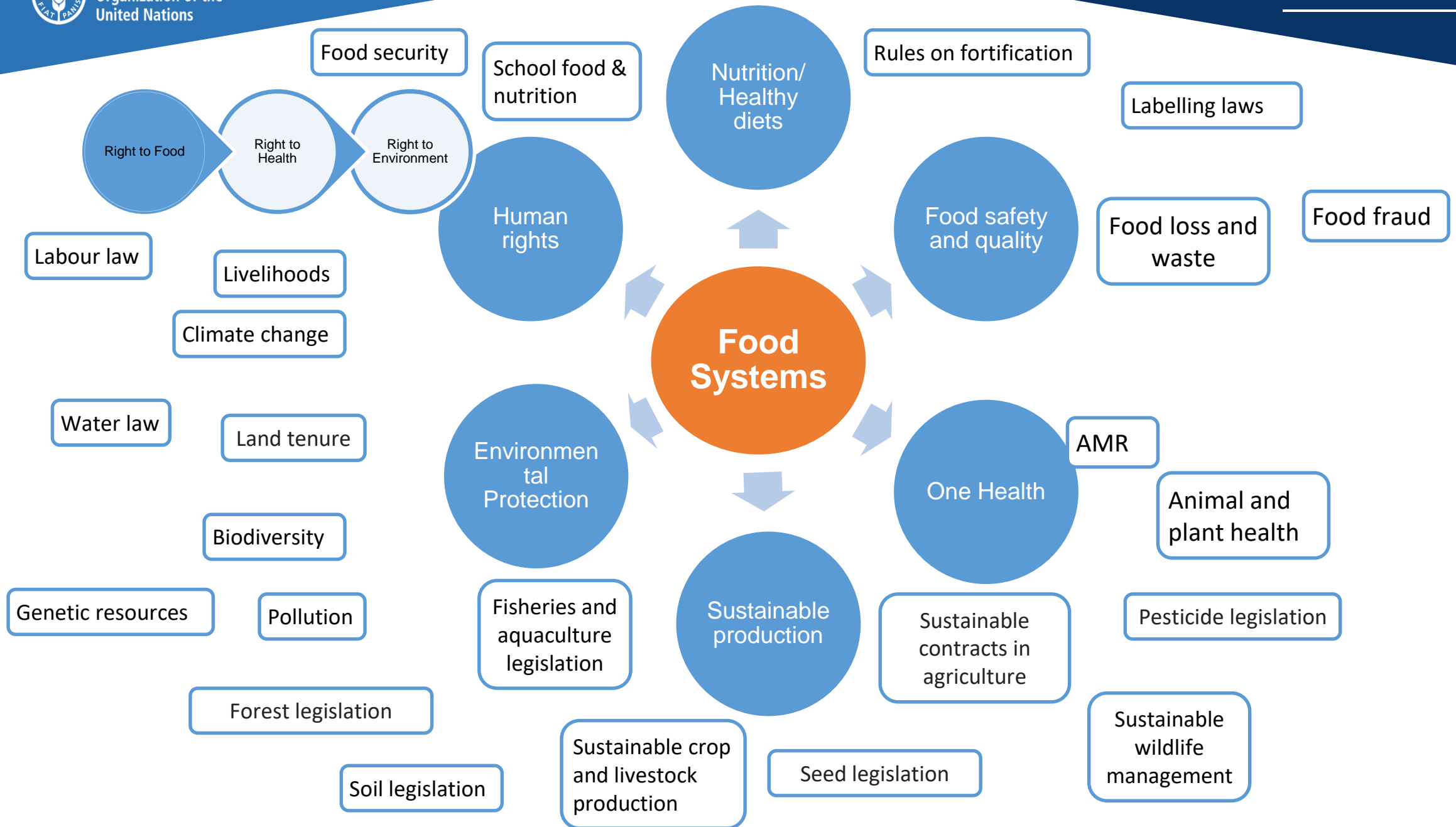


Table 1: Main human rights underlying each of the seven focus areas of the VGFSyN

	Transparent democratic and accountable governance of food systems	Sustainable food supply chains to achieve healthy diets	Equal and equitable access to healthy diets through sustainable food systems	Food safety across sustainable food systems	People-centered nutrition knowledge education and information	Gender equality and women's empowerment across food systems	Resilient food systems in humanitarian contexts
Right to equality and non-discrimination	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Right to development	✓					✓	
Right to participation	✓					✓	
Freedoms of expression and information	✓				✓	✓	
Freedoms of assembly and association	✓	✓				✓	
Right to an adequate standard of living			✓				
Right to adequate food	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Right to be free from hunger			✓			✓	✓
Right to property		✓				✓	
Right to land and other natural resources		✓				✓	
Right to seeds		✓				✓	
Right to the means of production		✓				✓	
Environmental rights		✓				✓	
Right to decent work		✓				✓	
Right to adequate training		✓				✓	
Right to social security			✓			✓	
Right to housing			✓			✓	
Right to health	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Right to water and sanitation		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Right to life			✓	✓		✓	✓
Right to education					✓	✓	
Cultural rights					✓	✓	





# Constitutions



Right to adequate food



Right to health (consumers, workers)



Right to safe and healthy environment



Labour rights



Non-discrimination – leave no one behind

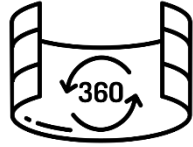


Process rights: participation, inclusion,

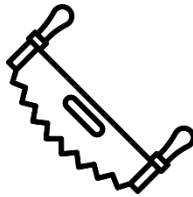




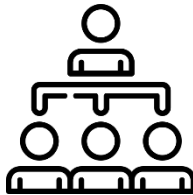
# Framework Laws



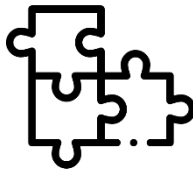
Integrate a transformative food systems perspective across different regulatory areas



Mandates cross-cutting principles and elements



Sets up a mechanism for institutional coordination



Should not enter into technical content **to prevent fragmentation**



Implementation/ enforceability through (among others) sectoral laws





## Constitutions and framework laws



**Sectoral and cross-sectoral  
legislation**  
**Operational and enforceable**

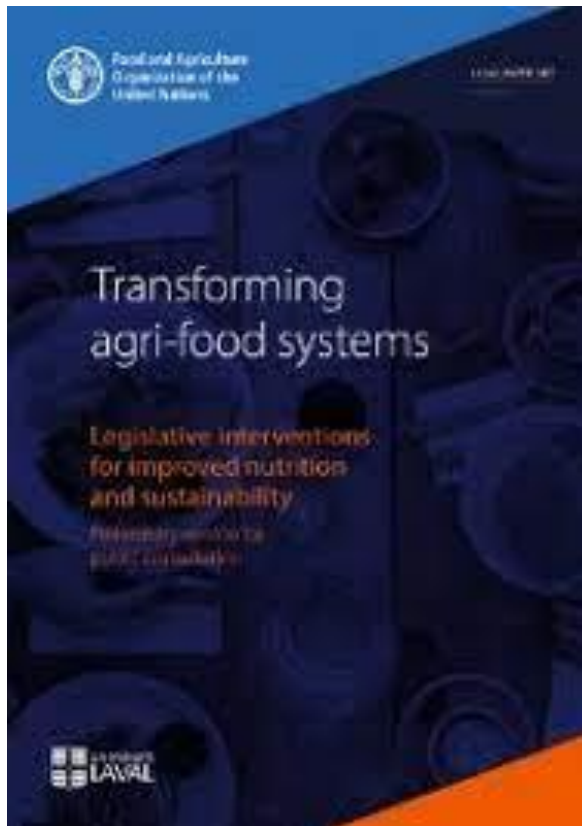
- Food production
- Food supply chains
- Food environment
- Consumer behavior



## Towards sustainability and healthy diets



# Research of FAO and Université Laval



- First step in understanding legislative entry points
- Rapidly changing knowledge
- Preliminary version for public comments
- Please send comments to [LegislativeStudyComments@fao.org](mailto:LegislativeStudyComments@fao.org)