The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) is the only intergovernmental and multistakeholder platform within the UN system dedicated to food security and nutrition. The Committee supports country led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for everyone. It provides a platform for global coordination on food security and nutrition, promotes policy convergence, shares lessons and experiences and reviews global progress towards achieving world food security.

Its unique features are its inclusive participation and science-policy interface. The CFS processes ensure that the voices of all relevant stakeholders are heard, particularly those most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition.

The work of CFS supports countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its role is recognized in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

“We are also determined to end hunger and to achieve food security as a matter of priority and to end all forms of malnutrition. In this regard, we reaffirm the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security...

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, paragraph 24.”

CFS is also called on to play an active role in the Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025) declared by the UN General Assembly in 2016.
Food security exists when all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life.

The Committee reports to the UN General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and to the Conference of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. The multi-stakeholder nature of CFS is often cited as a model for the future of modern global governance.

WHO IS PART OF CFS?

CFS is made up of countries that are Members of the United Nations, UN agencies and bodies with a mandate on food security and nutrition, civil society, private sector associations and philanthropic foundations, international and regional financial institutions and international agriculture research systems.

The Committee is jointly supported by the three Rome Based agencies – the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP). These three agencies provide CFS with core funding, technical expertise and make up the joint CFS Secretariat. Funding for the activities of CFS also relies on voluntary contributions.

CFS has established a High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) which provides the Committee with independent science and evidence based analysis to inform policy.
The work of CFS is informed by evidence and scientific analysis provided by food security and nutrition experts and academics from all over the world. The wide range of stakeholders involved in CFS ensures a robust exchange of views and experiences, and ultimately leads to global consensus on cross sectoral policy recommendations and guidance to achieve food security and nutrition. Because of its multistakeholder nature and attention to the voices of the food insecure, CFS policy guidance has wide legitimacy.

The annual global meeting of CFS is usually held in October, at FAO Headquarters in Rome. It attracts over a thousand delegates and provides an opportunity for food security and nutrition stakeholders from all over the world to network, review global progress, share experiences and agree on policy guidance.
CFS has developed the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF) which contains all the policy guidelines and recommendations produced by the Committee, the overarching frameworks guiding its work and information on the root causes of hunger.

Visit the Online GSF

VISIT
the About Us section of the CFS website to find out more about how the Committee works.

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