****

**PREPARATION OF THE CFS PLENARY EVENT IN OCTOBER 2018 ON THE USE AND APPLICATION OF THE VGRtF**

**REQUEST FOR INPUTS FROM CFS STAKEHOLDERS THROUGH ORGANIZING EVENTS AT NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL LEVELS**

**The Committee on World Food Security**

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS)’s vision is to be the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for a broad range of committed stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner in support of country led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all human beings. The CFS will strive for a world free from hunger where countries implement the Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security[[1]](#footnote-1).

**Background**

A global thematic event is planned to be organized during the October 2018 Plenary Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) to share experiences and good practices in the use and application of the Voluntary Guidelines for the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security (VGRtF). **The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) requests stakeholders[[2]](#footnote-2) to provide inputs to inform the global thematic event through organizing events at national, regional and global levels.**

*[For information, stakeholders will be able to to share any experience related to VGRtF, without organizing an event to specifically discuss the experience with the other constituencies, through the FSN Forum in October-November 2017. For more information, please contact* *CFS@fao.org**.]*

The Voluntary Guidelines were developed and endorsed by CFS in 2004. They are one of the overarching frameworks for the work of the CFS. The implementation of the Guidelines are primarily the responsibility of States who are encouraged, with the contribution of all stakeholders, to apply them in developing their strategies, policies, programmes and legislation for achieving food security and nutrition objectives. The Guidelines take into account a wide range of important considerations and human rights principles (participation, accountability, non-discrimination, transparency, human dignity, empowerment and rule of law) to guide activities designed to improve food security, taking into account the need for emphasis on poor and vulnerable people[[3]](#footnote-3).

**Approach**

CFS has consistently encouraged stakeholders to share their experiences and good practices on a voluntary basis in using and applying CFS policy products and, in October 2016, endorsed a document that provides guidance to contribute inputs to plenary global thematic events through organizing events at national, regional and global levels[[4]](#footnote-4).

The main objectives of these events are the following:

* Foster the adoption, adaptation and scaling up of good practices and learning from experiences in implementing CFS products;
* Monitor progress (qualitatively and quantitatively) in implementing CFS products at national, regional and global levels;
* Draw lessons to improve the relevance and effectiveness of CFS work, including for the achievement of food security and nutrition national goals;
* Increase awareness and understanding of CFS and CFS products.

The recommended approach promotes country-owned and country-led events organized in collaboration and partnership with existing coordination mechanisms and initiatives, with the active participation of all groups of stakeholders concerned with food security and nutrition at national, regional and global levels, including the communities affected by the use and application of CFS policy products. National actors should be the main protagonists for organizing events at all levels, with possible support from the Rome-based Agencies (FAO, IFAD and WFP) or other stakeholders. The results are expected to be documented in reports prepared in consultation with all groups of stakeholders participating in the event.

The inputs received will contribute to the **identification,** **sharing** and **documentation** of experiences in the use and application of the VGRtF and good practices that have contributed to their success. In this context, good practices are interventions or approaches that deserve to be shared as examples in order to facilitate greater use, implementation and monitoring of the VGRtF.

Examples of experiences to share include interventions to mainstream the right to food into legal and policy frameworks; establishment of participatory mechanism for governing food policy decisions; establishment of public remedy mechanisms for violations to the right to food; training for developing capacity to use and apply VGRtF of civil society, lawyers or government officials; initiatives to monitor the right to food at local, national or regional levels.

Inputs will contribute to monitoring progress on the use and application of the VGRtF, both from a qualitative and quantitative perspective. All inputs will be compiled in a document made available for delegates at CFS 45 in October 2018.

In identifying and documenting good practices, please consider the values promoted by CFS, as applicable:

* **Inclusiveness and participation:**  all relevant actors were involved and participated in the decision-making process, including those affected by the decisions;
* **Evidence-based analysis:** the effectiveness of the practice in contributing to the lives and livelihoods of the beneficiaries was analysed on the basis of independent evidence;
* **Environmental, economic and social sustainability:** the practice contributed to achieving its objectives, without compromising the ability of addressing future needs;
* **Gender Equality:** the practice promoted equal rights and participation of women and men and addressed gender inequalities;
* **Focus on the most vulnerable and marginalized people and groups:** the practice benefitted the most vulnerable and marginalized people and groups;
* **Multi-sectoral approach:** all main relevant sectors were consulted and involved in the implementation of the VGRtF;
* **Resilience of livelihoods:** the practice contributed to building resilient livelihoods of households and communities to shocks and crises, including those related to climate change.

Please use the attached template for sharing your experience and **attach the report of the event.**

**Submissions should be sent to the CFS Secretariat (****cfs@fao.org****) by 28 March 2018. Submissions can be made in any of the UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish). Submissions should be strictly limited to 1,000 Words.**

**Template for submission of experience and good practices in the use and application of the VGRtF (maximum 1000 Words)**

**First part: information on the event held at national, regional or global level to discuss the experience documented in the second part of the template**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date of the event** |  |
| **Location of the event** |  |
| **Which groups of stakeholders participated in the event?**  |  Government UN organization Civil Society / NGO Private Sector Academia Donor Other ………………………………………………………………… |
| **Who organized the event?** |  Government UN organization Civil Society / NGO Private Sector Academia Donor Other ………………………………………………………………… |
| Any comment on the achievement of the objectives of the event and compliance of the event with the “*Terms of Reference to share experiences and good practices in applying CFS decisions and recommendations through organising events at national, regional and global levels*”? **………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..** |

**Second part: information on the experience in the use and application of VGRtF that was discussed during the event**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title\***  |  |
| **Geographical coverage** | *(e.g. national or regional if several countries of the same region or global if several countries in more than one region)* |
| **Country(ies)/ Region(s) covered by the experience** |  *(e.g. Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi)*  |
| **Contact person (with email address)** | Name: ……Email address: ……. |
| **Affiliation (indicate your affiliation)** |  Government UN organization Civil Society / NGO Private Sector Academia Donor Other ………………………………………………………… |
| **How have the VGRtF been used in your context? Which specific guidelines of the VGRtF was most relevant to your experience?** | *(e.g. VGRtF have been used to develop legislative framework on Right to Food, with specific reference to Guideline 7)* |
| **Brief description of the experience**  |  |
| **Who was involved in the experience?**  |  Government UN organization Civil Society / NGO Private Sector Academia Donor Other ………………………………………………………… |
| **How were those most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition involved?** | *(e.g. participation of CSOs representing food insecure and malnourished segments of the population in all training)*  |
| **Main activities** | *(e.g. Training of CSOs, lawyers, parliamentarians, government)* |
| **Timeframe** | *(e.g. started in February 2014 and on-going or started in July 2010 and completed in March 2017)* |
| **Results obtained/expected** in the short term and in the medium-to-long term, with quantitative aspects where feasible- (estimate of the number of people that have been or will be affected) | Results in the short term (qualitative and quantitative)*(Please indicate the number of people that have been directly involved in activities, e.g. 6 training involving 250 people)*  |
| Results in the medium to long term (qualitative and quantitative)*(Please indicate the number of people that have been or are expected to be indirectly affected by activities, e.g. training leading to drafting legislative framework that was adopted by parliament and has potential impact on entire population of about 5 million people)* |
| Most significant changes to capture*(Please indicate any significant change that resulted from the activities, e.g. change in the behavior of local authorities regarding the inclusion of civil society stakeholders in decision making, or the participation of vulnerable groups in the implementation of some programs, or a national ombudsperson/human rights institutions that started to include the Right to Food in their reporting, or changes in access to justice, conflict resolution or administrative processes)* |
| **What are Key catalysts that influenced the results?** |  |
| **What are the major constraints and challenges for achieving the Right to Food?**  |  |
| **What mechanisms have been developed to monitor the right to food?**  |  |
| **What good practices would you recommend for successful results?** |  |
| **Link to additional information** |  |

**\*Please choose a title for your experience**

1. More information on the committee on the [CFS website](http://www.fao.org/cfs/home/en/). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. CFS stakeholders includes CFS member countries, participants (UN agencies and bodies, civil society and non-governmental organizations and networks, international agricultural research systems, international and regional financial institutions and private sector associations and philanthropic foundations) and observers. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Voluntary Guidelines for the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-y7937e.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. “*Terms of Reference to share experiences and good practices in applying CFS decisions and recommendations through organising events at national, regional and global levels*”, CFS 2016/43/7, <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mr182e.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)