



Overview of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

Briefing to newly appointed Permanent Representatives and members of the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group

26 January 2026
Online



Overview of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

This exercise aims to provide an **overview** of the CFS — its origins, vision, governance and ways of working, as well as the key milestones ahead in particular towards CFS 54 Plenary Session in October 2026. It is an informative guide, and it is not an exhaustive explanation; many aspects are covered in greater detail in the [Rules of Procedure of the CFS](#) and the document of the [Reform of the CFS](#), both integral parts of FAO Basic Texts.

The **CFS Secretariat remains fully available** to support you with any follow-up questions or clarifications after this introductory meeting.

With that, we will recall how the CFS was established and how it was reshaped through the 2009 reform.

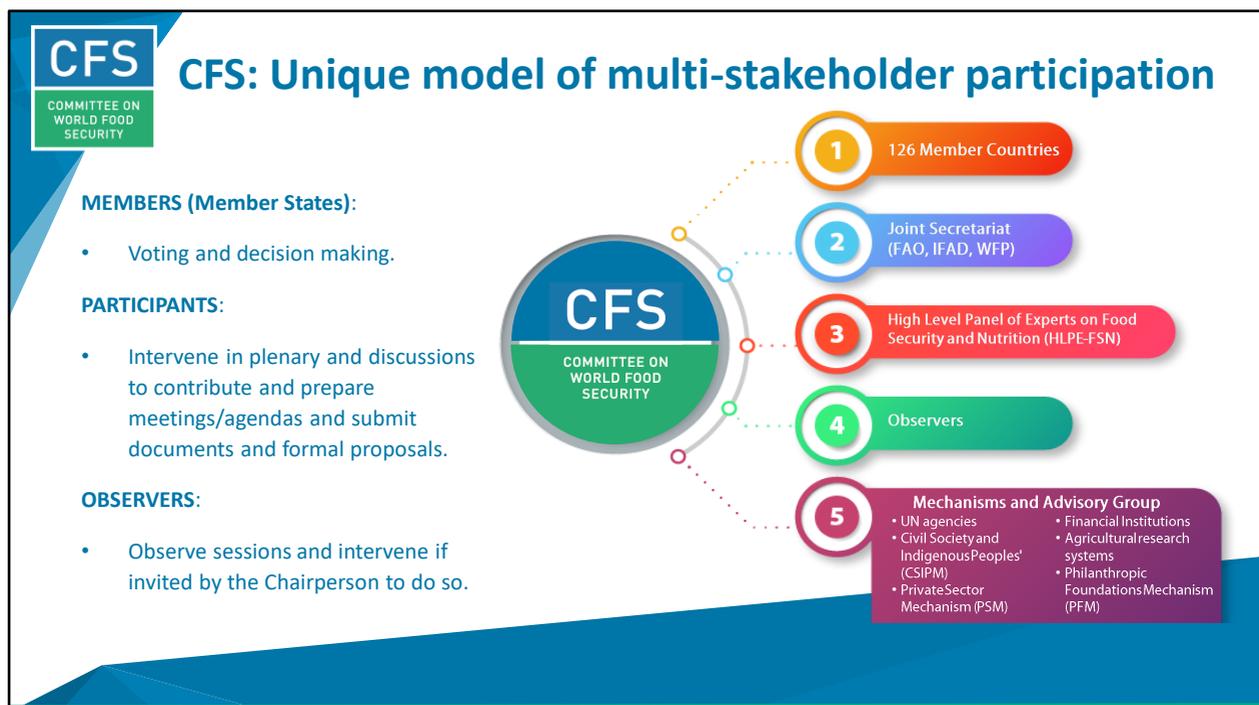


CFS is the foremost **inclusive international and intergovernmental platform** for all stakeholders to work together to **ensure food security and nutrition for all.**

The Committee on World Food Security was established in **1974**, as an intergovernmental Committee within FAO to strengthen international coordination against hunger.

The **2007–2008 food price crisis**, followed by the financial and economic crisis in 2009, revealed insufficient global governance and a fragmented response to food insecurity. In response, Member States concluded a **comprehensive reform in 2009**, transforming the CFS into a more **inclusive, evidence-based and participatory platform**, with a **unique multistakeholder governance model** that gives particular attention to those most affected by food insecurity.

The reform strengthened the role of CFS as **evidence-based platform** through the creation of the **High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN)** as the science–policy interface; clarified participation modalities between **Members, Participants and Observers**; established **formal mechanisms** for Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples, the Private Sector and later Philanthropic Foundations, and reinforced cooperation with the **Rome-based Agencies and other UN organizations** as technical supporters and core participants.



CFS: Unique model of multi-stakeholder participation

Participation in the CFS is organized through a **clear and structured composition**, designed to enable **meaningful and balanced engagement** by a wide range of multi-stakeholders. CFS is composed of **Members, Participants and Observers** and its structure seeks to achieve a balance between inclusiveness and effectiveness. Its composition ensures that the voices of all relevant stakeholders — particularly those most affected by food insecurity — are heard.

Members — the Membership is open to all Members of the United Nations. Members intervene in plenary and breakout discussions, approve meeting documents and agendas, submit and present documents and formal proposals, and are represented by the Bureau during the inter-sessional period. **Voting and decision making is the exclusive prerogative of Members, including on the final report of CFS Plenary Sessions.**

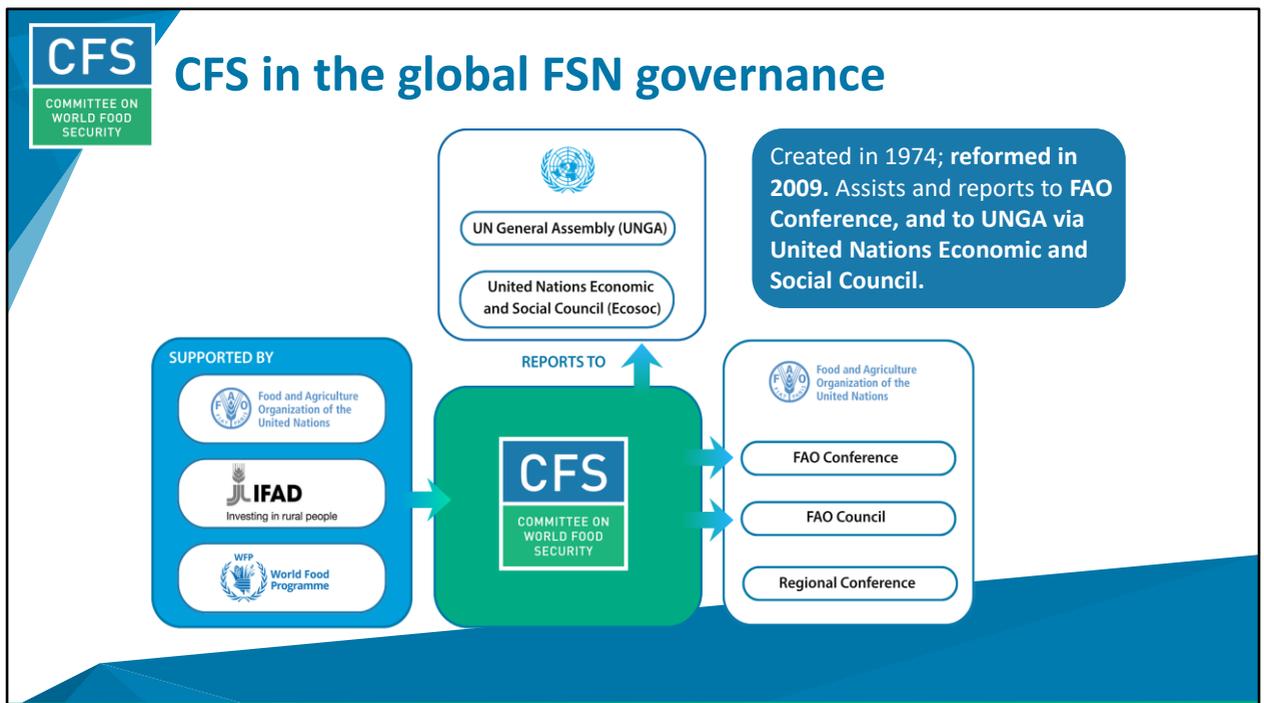
Participants – include representatives of UN agencies and bodies with a specific mandate in the field of food security and nutrition (RBAs and other UN relevant organizations whose overall work is related to attaining food security, nutrition, and the right to food, including the Special Rapporteur of the Right to Food), the Civil

Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism (CSIPM), International agricultural research systems (including CGIAR), International and regional Financial Institutions (World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Regional Development Banks, World Trade Organization) and representatives of the Private Sector Mechanism (PSM) and Philanthropic Foundations Mechanism (PFM).

Participants also intervene in Plenary Sessions and breakout discussions to contribute to the preparation of meeting documents and agendas, submit and present documents and formal proposals. They commit to contribute regularly to intersessional activities of the Committee and interact with the Bureau during the intersessional period through the **Advisory Group**.

Observers – include interested organizations relevant to the work of the CFS and may be invited by the Committee or the Bureau to observe entire sessions or on specific agenda items. Such organizations or bodies may also apply to the Committee for **Observer status** to participate regularly, periodically or exceptionally, on specific issues, subject to the decision of the Committee or its Bureau. Such organizations could include: i) regional associations of countries and regional intergovernmental development institutions; ii) local, national, regional and global CSOs/NGOs, other than those attending as participants, which are active in areas related to food security, nutrition, and the right to food, particularly organizations which are linked to a regional or global network; iii) other networks or associative organizations including local authorities, foundations and research or technical institutions. Observers at Committee sessions may be invited by the Chairperson to intervene during discussions.

This composition brings together **governments, UN entities, civil society and Indigenous Peoples, the private sector, philanthropic foundations, research institutions and financial institutions** in a **coordinated and transparent way**, preserving the intergovernmental nature of the Committee while ensuring broad and inclusive participation across the CFS processes.



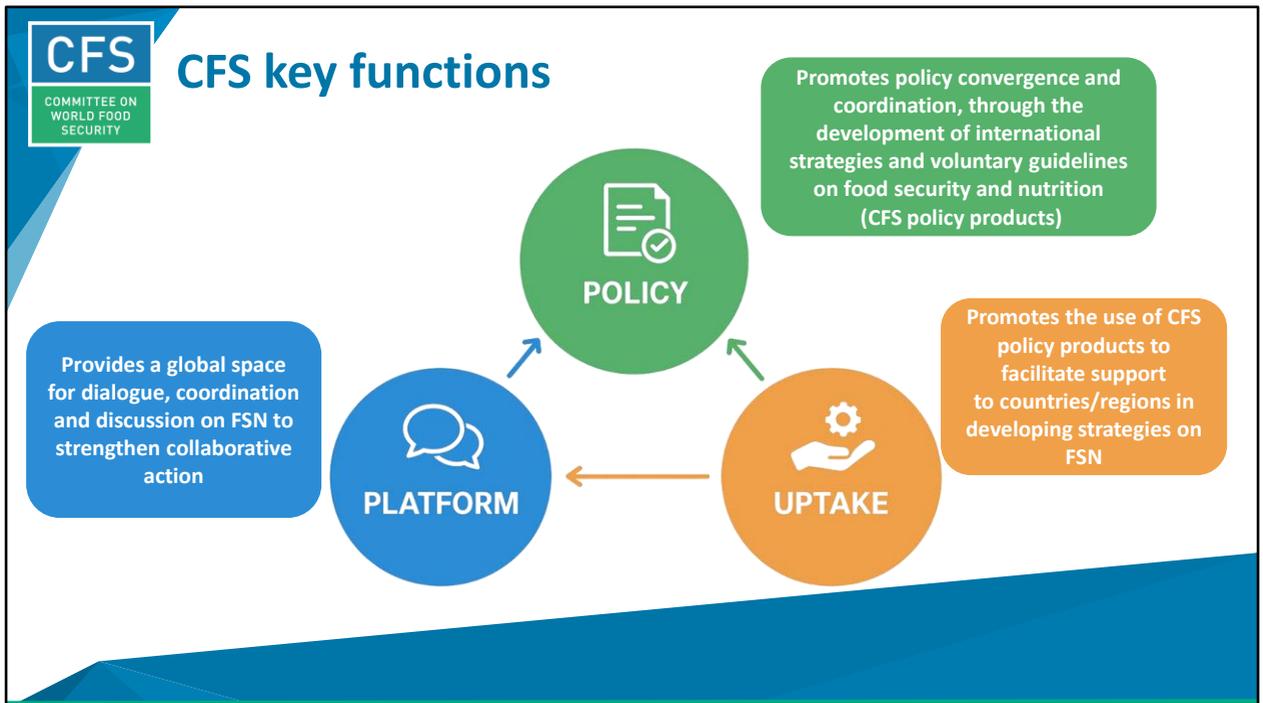
CFS in the global FSN governance

The CFS is an **intergovernmental Committee in FAO**, but it is **not a governing body of FAO**. It assists and reports to the **FAO Conference**, and it reports to the **United Nations General Assembly through the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**.

Established in **1974**, the CFS predates many of today's global platforms and initiatives on food security and nutrition. Its relevance has been reaffirmed and strengthened through the **2009 Reform**.

The slide is intentionally simplified: the CFS operates **alongside** other global platforms and processes. Its **distinct added value** lies in being the **only global intergovernmental space that combines inclusive multistakeholder participation** to work together in a coordinated manner and in support of **country-led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all human beings**.

In doing so, the CFS contributes to **policy coherence, coordination and as a platform of dialogue** across global, regional and national levels, anchoring food security and nutrition in **inclusive multilateral governance**.



CFS key functions

This slide summarises the **three mutually reinforcing core functions through which the CFS effectively carries out the functions assigned to it.**

First, the **Policy function**, through which the Committee promotes policy convergence and coordination, including through the development of international strategies and voluntary guidelines on food security and nutrition (CFS policy products) on the basis of best practices, lessons learned from local experience, inputs received from the national and regional levels, and expert advice and opinions from different stakeholders.

Second, the **Uptake function**, which focuses on strengthening the use of CFS policy outcomes to facilitate support and/or advice in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national and regional plans of action for the elimination of hunger, achievement of food security and application of the Voluntary Guidelines for the Realization of the Right to Adequate Food.

Third, the **Platform function**, which provides an **inclusive global space for dialogue, coordination and discussion** on food security and nutrition to strengthen collaborative action among all stakeholders.

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CFS governance at a glance

- **Plenary:** Decision-making, debate, coordination and lesson-learning and convergence by all stakeholders at global level on issues pertaining to FSN.
- **Bureau:** represents the membership of the Committee between sessions and facilitates coordination and preparation of the agenda.
- **Advisory Group:** assists the Bureau, sharing expertise and knowledge and contributes to the intersessional activities.
- **Chairperson:** Represents the Committee and presides its meetings.
- **HLPE-FSN:** Independent scientific advice to the CFS.
- **CFS and HLPE-FSN Secretariats:** assist the work of the Committee and HLPE-FSN.



CFS governance at a glance

The **Plenary** is the central body for decision-making, debate, coordination, lesson-learning and convergence by all stakeholders at global level on issues pertaining to food security and nutrition and on the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security (Reform of the CFS, paragraph 20).

The **Bureau, chaired by the Chairperson**, represents the membership of the Committee between sessions, facilitates coordination among all Members and participants and, in general, ensures preparations for the sessions of the Committee including the preparation of the agenda for CFS plenary sessions. The Bureau shall exercise such functions as may be delegated to it by the Committee, including the preparation of documents and other tasks related to the operations of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition. The Bureau will facilitate coordination among relevant actors and levels to advance intersessional tasks entrusted to it. (Rules of Procedure of the CFS, Rule III and Reform of the CFS, paragraph 29).

The **Advisory Group** assists the Bureau by sharing with it the expertise and knowledge of the broad range of organizations it represents and its outreach to constituencies. It shall regularly contribute with substantive work to the intersessional activities of the Committee, and its members may propose issues to the Bureau for consideration. It is expected that members of the Advisory Group should be able to contribute to the substantive work and provide advice to the CFS Bureau. (Rules of Procedure of the CFS, Rule IV and Reform of the CFS, paragraph 32).

The **Chairperson**, or in their absence the Vice-Chairperson, shall preside at meetings of the Committee or of the Bureau and exercise such other functions as may be required to facilitate its work (Rules of Procedure of the CFS, Rule II.6).

Annex III.F to the [Implementation of the Response to the CFS Evaluation](#), endorsed at CFS 45 in 2018, includes the description of the role of the CFS Chairperson.

The **HLPE-FSN** serves as the independent science–policy interface. The HLPE-FSN performs the following functions: i) Assess and analyze the current state of food security and nutrition and its underlying causes; ii) Provide scientific and knowledge-based analysis and advice on specific policy-relevant issues, utilizing existing high quality research, data and technical studies, and iii) Identify emerging issues, and help members prioritize future actions and attentions on key focal areas (Reform of the CFS, paragraph 37).

The CFS **Secretariat**, with staff from FAO, IFAD and WFP, assists the Plenary, the Bureau and Advisory Group (Reform of the CFS, paragraph 33), and the HLPE-FSN Secretariat supports the High Level Panel of Experts in their work.



CFS Bureau: Composition and responsibilities

Composition:

- Integrated by the Chairperson, twelve Bureau Members and twelve Alternates, serving a two-year term, with balanced regional representation.

Main roles and responsibilities:

- **Represents the membership** of the Committee between sessions;
- **Facilitates coordination** among Members and participants;
- Ensures **preparation of Committee Sessions**, including the agenda;
- **Advances intersessional tasks** through coordination with relevant actors and levels; and
- **Elects the Vice-Chairperson.**



Bureau: roles and mandate

This slide focuses on the **Bureau**, which plays a central role in representing the membership of the Committee between Plenary Sessions and guiding the work of the CFS.

The Bureau is elected by the Plenary. It is composed of the **Chairperson, twelve Bureau Members and twelve Alternates**, serving a **two-year term**, with balanced regional representation (Rules of Procedure of the CFS, Rule II.1). **The Bureau also elects the Vice-Chairperson** (Rules of Procedure of the CFS, Rule II.5).

The **Bureau**, chaired by the Chairperson, **facilitates coordination among Members and participants, ensures preparation of Committee Sessions, including the agenda.**

A core responsibility of the Bureau is to work closely with the Advisory Group and the stakeholders Mechanisms and maintain regular dialogue with constituencies across regions and levels. Bureau members play a key role in **maintaining continuity** in the CFS work, and in ensuring that the Committee remains accountable to the decisions adopted by the Plenary.

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CFS Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson 2025-2027



Prof. Anas A. Al-Nabulsi
CFS Chairperson



H.E. Jhenifer María Mojica Flórez
CFS Vice-Chairperson

CFS Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Annex III.F to the [Implementation of the Response to the CFS Evaluation](#), endorsed at CFS 45 in 2018, includes the description of the role of the CFS Chairperson.

- Play a key political and strategic role in a neutral and independent manner in support of CFS activities towards the achievement of its vision and objectives, dealing with all the relevant actors involved in the process, facilitating discussions on relevant issues, in consultation and in agreement with the Bureau;
- Represent CFS and promote its inclusive model and agreed outcomes in appropriate political fora, including the governing bodies of the Rome-based Agencies (RBAs) contributing to keep food security and nutrition high in the global political agenda;
- Advocate for the consideration of CFS policy outcomes by decision and policymakers and collaborate with Member Countries, RBAs and other relevant stakeholders to find opportunities to raise awareness and disseminate the outcomes of the work carried out by the Committee, including in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals;
- Support outreach activities, taking into account available resources and the guiding principle that raising awareness about CFS and its products is the

responsibility of all CFS Members and Participants, supported by the communication function in the CFS Secretariat;

- Play a leadership role in intersessional work in an independent way towards facilitating dialogue and reaching consensus among CFS stakeholders, and perform the tasks established by the CFS Plenary;
- Preside over Plenary, the Bureau, the joint meetings with the Advisory Group, and other relevant meetings of the Committee;
- Supported by the CFS Secretariat and in consultation with the Bureau, follow the technical work carried out by the CFS Secretariat, for the successful implementation of the activities agreed upon in the Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW);
- Report to the Plenary and the Bureau on the implementation of the decisions taken by the CFS Plenary and Bureau;
- Meet with the principals of the three Rome-based Agencies to provide updates on the work of the Committee;
- Actively engage in finding ways to expand the CFS funding base from membership of all regional groups and other stakeholders, mainly through advocacy and raising political support, in light of the development and implementation of the resource mobilization strategy for the Committee.
- Provide inputs on the Secretary's performance to the RBAs for their joint assessment.

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CFS Advisory Group



Composition:

- Rome-based Agencies (FAO, WFP, IFAD), UN bodies, The Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism (CSIPM), Private Sector Mechanism (PSM), the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) /research institutions, International Financial Institutions (IFI), Philanthropic Foundation Mechanism (PFM) and other ad hoc participants, as needed.

Main roles and responsibilities:

- Supports the Bureau with **expertise and knowledge**;
- Contribute to **dissemination and uptake** of CFS outcomes (shared responsibility);
- Contributes regularly to intersessional work providing **expertise and knowledge** (i.e. Technical Task Teams (TTTs); and
- **Submits an Annual report** to the Bureau on contributions and constituency engagement.

CFS Advisory Group

The Advisory Group brings together representatives of **UN entities, the Rome-based Agencies, Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples, the private sector, philanthropic foundations, international financial institutions and research organizations** (CFS Rules of procedure, Rule IV, paragraph 1 and Reform of the CFS, paragraphs 11 and 32).

The Advisory Group shall assist the Bureau by sharing with it the expertise and knowledge of the broad range of organizations it represents and its outreach to constituencies. It shall contribute regularly with substantive work to the intersessional activities of the Committee, and its members may propose issues to the Bureau for consideration (CFS Rules of Procedure, Rule IV, paragraph 2).

The Advisory Group contributes regularly to **intersessional work**, including Technical Task Teams (TTTs) and policy processes, and shares responsibility for **supporting the dissemination and uptake** of CFS policy outcomes (CFS Rules of Procedure, Rule IV, paragraph 3).

Each Advisory Group member prepares an **annual report** to the Bureau on contributions and constituency engagement (CFS Rules of Procedure, Rule IV, paragraph 4).

In addition, the **Chairperson may appoint ad hoc participants** for specific topics, with the right to intervene on assigned issues (CFS Rules of Procedure, Rule IV, paragraph 5).

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HLPE-FSN: the science–policy interface and its functions

1. Assesses and analyzes the **current state of food security** and nutrition and its underlying causes.
2. Provides scientific and knowledge-based analysis and advice on specific policy-relevant issues, utilizing **existing high-quality research** through a scientific, transparent and inclusive process. The publication cycle is crafted to guarantee the scientific **inclusiveness** and the **independence** of the HLPE-FSN.
3. Identifies **emerging issues** and helps members prioritize future actions and attention on **key focal areas**.

HLPE-FSN: the science–policy interface and its functions

The HLPE-FSN provides independent scientific analysis. Its three key functions are:

- (i) Assess and analyze the current state of food security and nutrition and its underlying causes.
- (ii) Provide scientific and knowledge-based analysis and advice on specific policy-relevant issues, utilizing existing high quality research, data and technical studies.
- (iii) Identify emerging issues, and help members prioritize future actions and attentions on key focal areas.

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Key attributes of the HLPE-FSN

Created, appointed, mandated by the CFS but working **independently**

The HLPE-FSN addresses the **multidisciplinary complexity of food security**: (i) many possible related topics, and (ii) none of each can be addressed within a single discipline.

Demand-driven, tight agenda, current status of knowledge.

Inclusive: works in a transparent and open way, in particular openness to various forms of knowledge. It takes into account different perspectives and contexts of various categories in CFS.

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Structure of the HLPE-FSN 2026-2027



Prof. Sayed Azam-Ali
Chairperson



Prof. Madhura Swaminathan
Vice-Chairperson

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Structure of the HLPE-FSN

A **Steering Committee** composed of 15 internationally recognized experts in a variety of food security and nutrition related fields.



- **Project Teams** acting on a project specific basis, selected by the Steering Committee.
- **Secretariat:** organization, coordination and technical support to the whole process. Liaison with CFS. Support to Steering Committee and drafting teams.

The HLPE-FSN provides independent scientific analysis.



CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) 2024–2027

- Four-year strategic workplan of the CFS.
- Endorsed at CFS 51 (Oct 2023) and revised through a Mid-term review at CFS 53 (Oct 2025).
- Structured around the CFS three strategic functions: policy, uptake and platform.
- Process to discuss MYPoW 2028-2032 will start in CFS 54 (Oct 2026).

CFS activities are supported through direct contributions from the RBAs and voluntary extra-budgetary contributions from Members and other resource partners to implement the MYPoW.

CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) 2024–2027

The Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) is the strategic four-year workplan that guides the work of the CFS.

The preparatory process starts with the HLPE-FSN note on critical, emerging and enduring issues, which helps members prioritize future actions and attentions on key focal areas. Then the Committee in Plenary Session recommends that the CFS Bureau, in collaboration with the Advisory Group, and with the support and participation of interested CFS stakeholders, prepare a draft to be submitted for consideration and endorsement at the next Plenary Session.

The Bureau, with **Secretariat support**, leads the process through successive drafts, with **consultations and negotiations involving the Advisory Group and stakeholders**, and iterative revisions. Throughout this process, feasibility is reviewed with the Secretariat and the HLPE-FSN, taking into account workload, timing and available resources.

The next cycle to prepare the MYPoW 2028-2032 will start at **CFS 54 in October 2026**, with the presentation of the **HLPE-FSN Note on Critical, Emerging and**

Enduring Issues. Then the Secretariat and the Bureau should engage in preparing, consulting and agree on a draft of the MYPoW that will be submitted to the next Plenary for endorsement, followed by implementation and a Mid-term review.

[Annex B of the CFS Implementation Report of the New MYPoW Structure and Process](#) guides the preparation of this strategic plan. The MYPoW should present CFS thematic workstreams and supportive activities for the quadrennium. For each thematic workstream, the section includes the rationale for inclusion in the Programme of Work, objectives, outcomes, contribution to the CFS overall objective and to the MYPoW Strategic Objectives.

CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work 2024-2027

	2024	2025	2026	2027
HLPE-FSN Reports	Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems	Building resilient food systems	Promoting indigenous peoples' food and knowledge systems and traditional practices	Sustainable Fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition
Policy	Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition	Strengthening urban and peri-urban food systems	Building resilient food systems	Indigenous Peoples' food and knowledge systems and traditional practices
	Collaborative governance for coordinated policy responses to emerging global food crises towards sustainable agriculture and food system transformation – Biannual meetings			
Platform	Decent work in agriculture and food systems	High Level Forum on Climate, Biodiversity and the right to food	High Level Forum on strengthening responsible investment and financing for FSN	High Level Forum on Advancing equitable land governance for FSN
Uptake	OEWG Increasing awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy outcomes	Increasing awareness, ownership and use of CFS policy outcomes at all levels – Implementation of agreed Action Plan		
	GTE Right to Food Forum – uptake GEWE guidelines	GTE Conflicts and food security	GTE Empowering family farmers	GTE on Strengthening the impact of CFS Policy Products
Supporting activities	Communications, outreach and resource mobilization, CFS Engagement in the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development, Linkages with other relevant global processes/institutions, annual updates of the MYPoW rolling section, mid-term review of the MYPoW strategic section		HLPE note on critical, emerging and enduring issues for FSN	Preparation of 2028-2031 MYPoW

The Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) is the strategic four-year workplan that guides the work of the CFS, available at [CFS: Programme of Work](#) .



Current work HLPE-FSN 2026

Reports

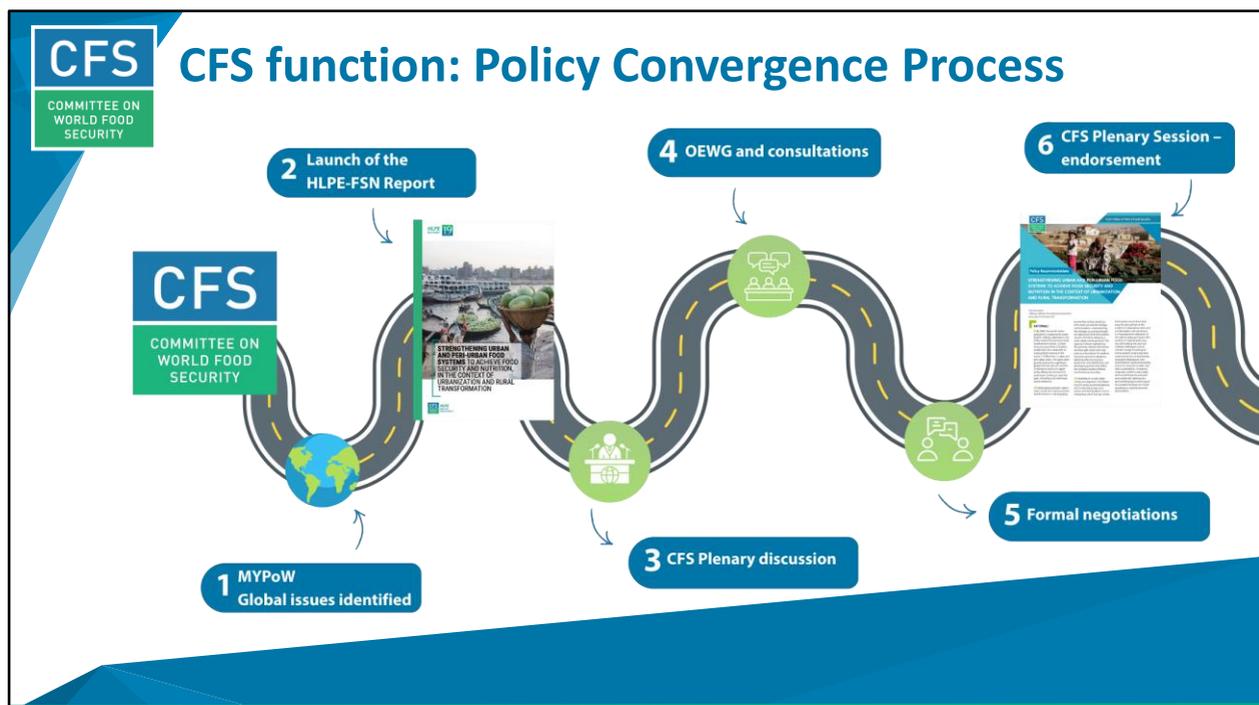
- Preserving, strengthening and promoting Indigenous Peoples' food and knowledge systems and traditional practices for sustainable food systems to achieve FSN.
- Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition.

Note on Critical, Emerging and Enduring Issues

Background notes for intersessional events

- Harnessing artificial intelligence, digitalization and data governance for food security and nutrition.
- Empowering family farmers to strengthen sustainable food systems and to achieve food security and nutrition.
- Advancing equitable land governance for food security and nutrition: a global progress review on agrarian reform and tenure rights.

The HLPE-FSN provides independent scientific analysis.



CFS function: Policy Convergence Process

CFS is a unique global intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder platform where food security and nutrition issues are discussed through **inclusive and evidence-based policy debates** that aim to reach **negotiated policy agreements**. This function, the policy convergence, with concrete and tangible outcomes, is a core contribution of the CFS to global food security and nutrition, as it provides a space for formal negotiation and convergence around voluntary policy recommendations and guidelines at global level.

This process promotes greater policy convergence and coordination, including through the development of international strategies and voluntary guidelines on food security and nutrition on the basis of best practices, lessons learned from local experience, inputs received from the national and regional levels, and expert advice and opinions from different stakeholders (Reform of the CFS, paragraph 5.ii)

Policy convergence follows a structured process. Based on the MYPoW and the decisions adopted at the Plenary, the HLPE-FSN launches a report on the specific topic to provide evidence-based information and recommendations to guide the policy convergence process. Open-Ended Working Groups (OEWG) and formal

consultations follow to prepare the draft for formal negotiations. Then the final draft should be endorsed by the Committee at Plenary Session.

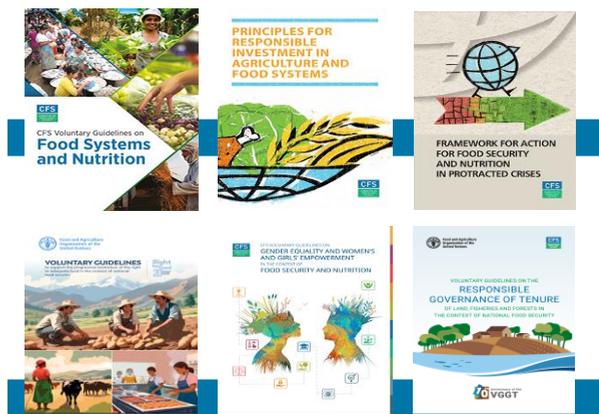
The process combines **HLPE-FSN evidence, inputs from Members and stakeholders, and iterative negotiations** involving the Bureau, the Advisory Group and all participants, leading to **consensus-based outcomes**. This approach ensures that CFS policy products are **technically sound, reflects members' and participants' priorities to promote ownership, while remaining voluntary and supportive of country-led implementation**.

CFS policy products derive their influence from being **negotiated and endorsed by governments together with all relevant stakeholders**, making them powerful tools for guiding national policies and international cooperation and collaboration.

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CFS function: Uptake of Policy Products

- CFS endorses voluntary policy guidelines and policy recommendations on food security and nutrition matters.
- These instruments are used by governments, UN agencies, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Indigenous Peoples, and the private sector and other stakeholders with the aim to promote policies tackling food insecurity and malnutrition.
- Their use and application is a shared responsibility and a collective exercise of all CFS stakeholders included in the Uptake Action Plan.
- The uptake of CFS policy products is supported through monitoring and follow-up activities, Global Thematic Events and other CFS spaces for dialogue, exchange and learning.



CFS function: Uptake of Policy Products

CFS policy convergence processes lead to the development and endorsement of action-oriented [CFS policy products](#). They represent a concrete tool that can inform and support the work of relevant stakeholders – such as government representatives and policy makers, UN agencies, civil society and private sector, philanthropic foundations, financial and agricultural research institutions – in the implementation of actions in the field of food security and nutrition.

In order to strengthen its impact, it is essential to increase awareness, ownership and the use of CFS policy products at local, national, regional and global levels. The objective is to use and apply CFS policy products in national strategies, legislation, policies and programmes, adapting their implementation to national priorities and realities, targeting activities to relevant groups and stakeholders, and developing inclusive decision-making processes, with engagement of relevant stakeholders, while prioritizing the voices of the most affected by food insecurity.

This exercise should be the result of a collective responsibility that requires joint efforts as well as close collaboration between relevant stakeholders. While Member States have the primary responsibility for promoting the CFS and the use and

application of its policy products, this needs to be the result of a collaboration with and strong engagement and participation by the different CFS stakeholders.

The **use and application of CFS policy products are supported over time** through **monitoring and follow-up activities, Global Thematic Events**, and other CFS spaces for dialogue, exchange and learning, which help keep the guidance visible, relevant and connected to emerging policy challenges.

This learning-oriented approach helps the CFS in **assessing relevance, identifying gaps and good practices**, and continuously strengthening future policy work. [Global Thematic Events \(GTE\)](#), including with call for inputs, are organized within the CFS Plenary Sessions to monitor progress on the use and application of the policy products.



Promoting the use of CFS policy products

- Endorsement of the **Action Plan to Strengthen the Uptake of CFS Policy Products (CFS 52, 2024)**:
 - **Development of uptake strategies** and provision of **technical support**;
 - **Promotion of enabling environments** at national level;
 - **Mainstreaming CFS policy products and strengthening linkages** with international initiatives; and
 - **Key role of Member States and RBAs in supporting the uptake function.**

CFS uptake of policy products

The promotion of the use of CFS policy products is a matter that is receiving increased attention from CFS stakeholders. In this context, the Committee at its 52nd Plenary Session in October 2024 endorsed [a Plan of Action to Strengthen the Uptake of CFS policy products](#).

The Plan of Action presents a roadmap with actions for different CFS stakeholders that are responsible and accountable for promoting the uptake of CFS policy products at all levels towards the progressive realization of the right to adequate food.

The Action Plan is structured around three main sections that include actions to be addressed by different CFS stakeholders, with proposed activities to be undertaken to strengthen the usefulness and ownership of CFS policy products, promote awareness and their use among intended users, and to advance crosscutting areas that refer to the ability to raise resources, monitor and evaluate activities and provide a platform for discussions for interested stakeholders.

Within the voluntary nature of CFS guidance, the uptake function seeks to strengthen **accountability to shared objectives** by increasing transparency, building evidence of use, and fostering **peer learning and reflection** on implementation experiences.

Member Countries have the primary responsibility to convert CFS policy products into concrete actions at country level, other actors such as the Rome-based Agencies play a key role in supporting their use, on a demand-driven basis, providing technical, capacity building and institutional support activities to governments and national authorities, as well as regional institutions, to promote the integration and adaptation of CFS policy products into national and regional legislations, technical programmes and policy frameworks.



CFS function: Platform

- Chairperson’s participation in global fora, i.e. G20, G7, UN Food Systems Summit Stocktake (UNFSS+4.)
- Connecting the CFS Agenda with New York (HLPF) and Geneva.
- Collaborative Governance: 2 annual intersessional meetings.
- High-level events.

2025

- High-Level Forum: Tackling climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation through the right to food.
- High-Level Forum on Responsible Investment and Financing for FSN.

2026

- High-Level Forum on Artificial Intelligence, Digitalization and Data Governance.



CFS function: Platform

Through this function, the CFS provides a platform for discussion and coordination to strengthen collaborative action among governments, regional organizations, international organizations and agencies, NGOs, CSOs, food producers’ organizations, private sector organizations, philanthropic organizations, and other relevant stakeholders, in a manner that is in alignment with each country’s specific context and needs (Reform of the CFS, paragraph 5.i).

This includes **Plenary Sessions, High-Level Forums, Intersessional events**, and two annual **Collaborative Governance meetings**, as well as the Chairperson’s engagement in relevant global policy spaces.

These dialogues allow Members and stakeholders to **discuss emerging issues, share experiences, and connect CFS policy guidance to broader international processes**, including discussions related to the 2030 Agenda and other global frameworks.

Importantly, the platform function also **supports uptake**, by creating the spaces where **learning, reflection and peer exchange** can take place, and where experiences from implementation can inform future policy work.

Looking ahead to CFS 54 Plenary Session and beyond

- Intersessional events including two collaborative governance annual meetings in May (affordability of healthy diets) and July (data gaps).
- Bureau and Advisory Group's (BAG) retreat 2026: from horizon scanning to strategic direction for the future CFS (May 2026).
- HLF on AI, Digitalization and Data Governance (July 2026).

CFS 54 (October 2026)

- Presentation and discussion of the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) 2026 / Regional Panel.
- Policy convergence process on Building Resilient Food Systems.
- HLPE-FSN report: Indigenous Peoples' Food and Knowledge Systems and Traditional Practices for Sustainable Food Systems.
- HLPE-FSN note on critical, emerging and enduring issues and MYPoW 2028-2032.
- Global Thematic Event (GTE) on Empowering Family Farming.
- Session on Uptake of CFS policy products.



Looking ahead to CFS 54 Plenary Session and beyond

The CFS work will be informed by new HLPE-FSN outputs, including the Note on Critical, Emerging and Enduring Issues and the Report on Indigenous Peoples' Food and Knowledge Systems and Traditional Practices for Sustainable Food Systems, which will be presented to the Plenary at CFS 54.

Global Thematic Events and other intersessional dialogues will continue to support exchange, learning and coordination among Members and stakeholders throughout the year. In 2026, the CFS Global Thematic Event is focused on "Empowering Family Farmers to Strengthen Sustainable Food Systems and to Achieve Food Security and Nutrition". This call for inputs is open until 15 April 2026.

Two dialogues on Collaborative Governance are considered: the first one in May on the affordability of healthy diets in Geneva and the second, in July, to discuss data gaps for FSN.

A High-Level Forum on Artificial Intelligence, Digitalization and Data Governance (July 2026) will bring the different views of CFS stakeholders together to discuss these relevant topics and assess their impact on food security and nutrition.

This work reflects the CFS's role as a trusted, inclusive and evidence-based platform, supporting countries and stakeholders in addressing food security and nutrition challenges in a changing global context.

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please feel free to contact the CFS Secretariat at cfs@fao.org.