

“Collaborative governance for coordinated policy responses to emerging global food crises towards sustainable agriculture and food system transformation”

Summary Report of the Kick-off meeting on 30th May 2024

The CFS workstream on “Collaborative governance for coordinated policy responses to emerging global food crises towards sustainable agriculture and food system transformation” foresees regular biannual meetings to discuss the evolving food and nutrition security situation, share experiences, data and information on existing initiatives, as well as to exchange on key issues towards enhanced policy coordination and collaborative governance, giving particular attention to the voices of the most affected countries and constituencies.

On 30th of May 2024, a kick-off meeting and first biannual meeting of the 2023 – 2024 intersessional period under this workstream took place. During the meeting, panelists from the CFS High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN), the Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), CSIPM, PSM as well as the Vice Minister of External Relations and International Cooperation of Honduras, the Ambassador of Mali, and the UN Special Rapporteur for the right to food provided a comprehensive overview of critical trends and challenges in food security and nutrition.

The multitude and nature of root causes for current crises was elaborated on, particularly with regard to their impacts on those countries and constituencies most affected. Country-specific experiences with food security and nutrition challenges were shared, and the potential institutional strength of the CFS as well as of its policy products, if fully utilized, was underscored.

During the open discussion, various speakers highlighted topics for future meetings, focusing on drivers of food security and nutrition crises such as climate change, conflict, economic issues, and international trade. The presentations and discussion underlined the importance of fostering collaboration between stakeholders at all levels (global, regional, national and local) to advance alignment on food security and nutrition policies.

Furthermore, the importance of learning from past crises and responses to them for current and future food security and nutrition crises within the workstream was pointed out. Another key aspect identified as relevant for future meetings was to equally focus on resilience and long-term solutions to address the structural drivers of crises.