

Dialogue on Strengthening the uptake of CFS policy products

13 June 2025

Summary report

At its 52nd Plenary session in October 2024, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) adopted an [Action Plan to Strengthen the Uptake of CFS Policy Products](#). The Action Plan is intended to present a roadmap with actions for different CFS stakeholders to promote the uptake of CFS policy products. As part of the Action Plan's implementation, the CFS hosted a *Dialogue on Strengthening the uptake of CFS policy products*¹ on 13 June 2025, which provided a space for CFS stakeholders to present the outcomes of their uptake activities, share progress and challenges encountered as well as discuss ways to improve the use of CFS policy products.

The Uptake Dialogue brought together a number of diverse CFS stakeholders, including CFS Members, civil society, the private sector as well as different technical units from UN agencies and global initiatives focused on food security and nutrition. The presentations and discussion highlighted the crucial role of the Action Plan in fostering the uptake of CFS policy products and the necessity to increase joint efforts for its implementation.

The following specific points were highlighted in the presentations and discussions:

- **Uptake of CFS policy products at country level is already happening** across many regions and has in some cases led to tangible impacts such as the development of national laws, for example in Lebanon, where a draft law on the right to food was developed based on the Right to Food Guidelines, or guidance on creating enabling environments for policy implementation.
- **Uptake of CFS policy products in some cases faces challenges from external factors** such as competing political priorities, shocks or crises, which can limit the financial resources and capacities for their implementation.
- **CFS policy products may need to be “translated”** into local contexts and adapted to needs of relevant stakeholders at regional, national and local levels. The

¹ Find more information about the Uptake Dialogue, including its agenda and list of speakers here: <https://www.fao.org/cfs/workstreams/uptake-of-cfs-policy-products/dialogue-strengthening-cfs-policy-products/en/>

Guidelines on Promoting Responsible Investment in Food, Agriculture and Forestry (ASEAN RAI) represent a notable and successful example of this practice, where a CFS policy product has inspired a regional framework that provides guidance to policymakers at national level.

- **Parliamentarians can act as key catalysts for uptake efforts at national and regional level**, by creating and sustaining political momentum as illustrated by the examples from ASEAN and Lebanon.
- **Low knowledge of CFS policy products at country level remains a barrier**, which is addressed in the Uptake Action Plan through improved awareness raising and communications activities carried out by different stakeholders. As such, concerted efforts for the implementation of these actions are essential.
- **Participatory processes**, mirroring those of the CFS in developing its policy products, are essential for uptake activities at country-level to ensure that the needs of all relevant stakeholders, including vulnerable populations, are taken into account, as illustrated by the examples from Mali and Brazil, where farmers' organizations played a key role in policy and programme development
- **Collaboration between stakeholders, institutions and with other global initiatives is key**, as highlighted by all presentations, for a successful and sustainable uptake of CFS policy products. Specific successful examples included the work undertaken by UN Nutrition in promoting the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition, and the establishment of the FAO Programme to support the dissemination and uptake of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment.
- **Alignment between CFS uptake efforts and other initiatives** aimed at improving food security and nutrition such as FAO's SCOPE, the National Pathways for food systems transformation supported by the UNFSS Coordination Hub and the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty can be a key catalyst for uptake as well as the impact of relevant initiatives.
- **Mobilization of sufficient financial resources** is needed to finance uptake activities and should be done in a collaborative manner that ensures coherence across the implementation of different uptake activities and projects, as pointed out by Germany, a key donor for CFS uptake activities.

- **Progress on uptake needs to be systematically monitored and evaluated** to ensure learning from best practices. The Action Plan proposes some steps to address this challenge, through the identification of ways to link the CFS monitoring mechanism with existing initiatives.

The fruitful discussions during the Uptake Dialogue and key outcomes will inform and feed into the plenary session dedicated to uptake in October 2025. As underlined during the Dialogue, the adoption of the Action Plan represents an initial step, which needs to be followed up by regular Uptake Dialogue sessions, awareness raising activities and resource mobilization efforts undertaken and supported in a collaborative manner by all stakeholders.