CFS Workstream on "In-depth debate on enhanced efforts to increase awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy outcomes at all levels"

Preparation of the Outline of the Action Plan

Written inputs from Belgium

1. Could you share your expectations in terms of desired outcomes and areas of work of this CFS workstream?

- The Independent Evaluation of the CFS undertaken in 2016-2017 devoted space to this issue and noted this as a weakness of the CFS.
- This workstream should result into a roadmap, and a methodology able to assist different actors to incorporate CFS policy outcomes in their operations, at all levels.
- The Action Plan which is the intended outcome of this workstream should ensure that the visibility of the CFS is strengthened.
- We also expect that importance is given to meaningful, inclusive and effective social participation at all levels (where meaningful social participation has been ensured, CFS outcomes have resulted in a more successful implementation), and that the CFS is taken as an example to ensure social participation to develop food policies at regional and national levels.

2. Could you indicate the main elements that would be important to include in the Action Plan?

- The Action Plan should include a mapping of the relevant spaces and processes where the CFS needs to be present and disseminate its outcomes.
- Increase the visibility of CFS products through awareness-raising events at national level by governments and other actors. Develop context-specific action plans for dissemination and implementation of CFS policy products on national and regional levels.
- Establish follow-up and monitoring mechanisms, and internal and external evaluations of the impact of policy recommendations.
- Support to Member State for use and application of CFS policy outcomes.

3. Could you present concrete examples of uptake activities carried out by your constituency, including indications on their impact, challenges encountered as well as areas for improvement?

The Belgian CSIPM participating organizations have worked on the uptake and application of CFS policy outcomes that are particularly relevant for CSO and IPOs, where discussions and policy processes are strongly connected to the transformation of food systems based on a Human Rights framework, and to peoples' experiences in the territories such as the VGGTs, Connecting Smallholders to Markets, Framework for Action in Protracted Crises, Gender Guidelines.