CONSOLIDATED FAO INPUTS

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

Guiding Questions

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

Desired outcomes

- A comprehensive, evidence-based understanding of the current situation (what is working and not working), circumstances, opportunities and challenges impacting the ‘awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy outcomes’ as the starting point for the in-depth debate and foundation for the Action Plan.
- Increased awareness among stakeholders, most importantly Member States and international organizations, of the importance and usefulness of CFS policy products;
- Enhanced efforts by State authorities to implement CFS policy products at national level;
- Stronger collaborations among various CFS stakeholders and with other actors which are less or not at all present within the CFS;
- Increased understanding on how CFS products and recommendations are mainstreamed in the work of the RBAs and other UN bodies and stakeholders, including issues related to forest food and nutrition.
- Enhanced impact of CFS policy outputs on addressing global food security challenges. In this regard, the work of the CFS should reflect and strengthen other sustainable development priorities of the UN development system, which share interlinkages with food security and sustainable agriculture.
- CFS products leveraged in other global governance streams, e.g. the follow up to the UN Food Systems Summit and its Coalitions, and the work of other UN agencies.
- Strengthened understanding of interlinkages between food security and the sustainable management of natural resources, including biodiversity. The timing would be opportune considering the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) that includes 23 targets related to agrifood sectors grouped on three main groups on conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use and access and tools for implementation.

The process underpinning the workstream should be inclusive and ensure all perspectives are heard and represented throughout, ensuring the outcomes are accepted by all stakeholders. The vision, scope, format and outcomes of the in-depth debate should be clearly defined for all stakeholders at the very outset of the process.

Areas of work

Review and analysis of the awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of specific policy products (e.g. CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition, which strongly lack visibility) among different CFS constituencies, as a useful practical focal point around which to anchor the in-depth debate.
Analyze the reasons why uptake and impact of specific CFS policy product have been limited, in order to address them accordingly (e.g. is it due to the process through which they are developed, to a lack of awareness, or other reasons);

Mapping exercise by sending a questionnaire to all CFS Members. The results can then be discussed at an intersessional event.

As a way of demonstrating relevance and advertising uptake of the policy documents, CFS could analyze documents in the FAOLEX database, for instance with the assistance of AI.

Review of CFS longer-term vision and funding;

Systematization and dissemination of relevant approaches and tools;

Facilitate convening – at regular intervals - of multiple stakeholders to assess progress on the uptake and mobilize commitment, and to share and discuss uptake lessons learnt (e.g. only one plenary session on VGGT in 10 years).

Rethinking ways of communication and “popularize” science messages in short and comprehensive outputs tailored to policy makers, and prepare more engaging stories where there have been changes and beneficial use of CFS products. This can inspire countries and thus give much more visibility to the people and actors on the ground.

CFS could engage more actively in several processes where the uptake of its policy outcomes and products would be essential. These include: a) the preparation of the Voluntary National Reviews; b) preparation for the UNFSS+4 (+6) Stocktaking moments

CFS could look for opportunities to present relevant policy guidance at various forums relevant to its mandate, such as the various COPs. An example of such engagement is the UNCCD and the Tenure Guidelines, or the UN Decade of Family Farming National Action Plans.

It is important to stress that CFS does not have a mandate for supporting individual countries in the consolidation and implementation of strategies/programmes, but rather to promote exchange and collecting as well as disseminating experiences, lessons learned and good practices.

CFS could consider tailoring CFS policy products and recommendations specifically to the audience of members of parliament and parliamentary advisors. Their role could help in putting in higher position the issues related to food security and nutrition, their key functions in adopting public budget and overseeing public policies could facilitate the use and application of CFS policy guidelines and recommendations at country level, combining both the high degree of legitimacy and authoritativeness derived from the inclusiveness and the evidence base underlying CFS processes, with FAO’s specialist knowledge and outreach capacity.

2024 commemorates the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security. At any global thematic event it could be important to explain and highlight the coherence between the different policy products including those that specifically mention national legal frameworks and how they all have their roots in the Right to Food Guidelines. Furthermore, CFS should look for opportunities to present relevant policy guidance at various forums relevant to its mandate, such as the various COPs. An example of such engagement is the UNCCD and the Tenure Guidelines. Another interesting way of
Rome, 12 January 2024

demonstrating relevance and advertising uptake of the policy documents is to analyze documents in the FAO’s Data base on national legislation on food and agriculture and natural resources – FAOLEX - for instance with the assistance of AI.

Highlight the strategic contribution of Non-State Actors, in particular CSOs, to the majority of the CFS products, and work to ensure the uptake of CFS policy products going beyond the CSOs link to the CSIPM.

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

The Action Plan should identify areas where improvement is needed, defining roles and responsibilities between different actors and sectors (including the forest sector). The following elements may be considered for inclusion:

Assessment of the CFS Members’ awareness, ownership and degree of implementation of the various CFS Products by its Members at the country level (so engagement from capitals will be essential); in what way they have been used highlighting successes and challenges, and the lessons learnt for each CFS policy product.

➢ Identification of factors, determinants and challenges related to the uptake of CFS policy products by different constituencies (e.g. for different typologies of CFS products)

➢ Identification of CFS policy products in need of additional support to boost their uptake and specification of the type of support needed (e.g. awareness raising and multistakeholder dialogue facilitation or development of technical guidance notes to further detail recommendations)

➢ Review of the current status of awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy products for fisheries, forestry, livestock.

➢ Based on the evidence generated, engagement in related resource mobilization efforts and implementation of targeted awareness raising or technical support activities to foster the dissemination, ownership, use and uptake of specific CFS products.

Developing strategy for monitoring and evaluation of the uptake of CFS policy products, e.g. through better linking it to States’ reporting under the international human rights system, and use of this information to support the structure and functioning of the CFS policy process.

➢ CFS could consider inviting reporting mechanisms existing at country level (e.g. cross-sectoral platforms for FSN, SDG coordination bodies, Food Systems Dialogues Leads) to share results, experiences and challenges they are facing

➢ CFS could facilitate creation of ‘friends of the CFS product’ working groups, as multi actors, acting as ambassadors of the CFS products

Discussion on the level of accountability that CFS Members should be aiming at to increase the uptake of the products. Are voluntary products too “voluntary”?

Developing guidance on the expectations of how RBAs, who host the CFS, and other UN agencies should use the CFS policy products, including a clear process with accountability behind
CFS could consider investing more in advocacy; awareness raising and capacity development among national institutional mechanisms responsible for the implementation of the SDGs, National Convenors and bodies tasked with the implementation of the National Food Systems Pathways; science–policy–society interfaces; and developing monitoring and accountability frameworks/tools.

➢ Member States representatives could connect with competent agencies that have led Food Systems National Dialogues, and engage in identification of pertinent CFS products for the implementation of the Agreed National Pathways.
➢ Linking dissemination and use with ongoing work and debate on specific food and agriculture topics at country level
➢ Systematization and dissemination of approaches and tools for implementation;
➢ Outreach to other UN entities to show interlinkages between food security and other development challenges, such as climate change, gender, biodiversity, social protection/labour, etc.
➢ The multi-stakeholder character of the CFS could provide an opportunity to systematize the representation of constituencies related to agrifood systems work and currently being involved in various intergovernmental platforms.
➢ Develop strategies to: a) mobilize resources for the implementation of CFS policy products; b) improve monitoring; c) collect and disseminate good practices in the implementation of CFS policy products.

Facilitate cross-sectoral and multilevel collaboration, to strengthen interlinkages and coherence between different policy areas (in particular, gender equality and women’s empowerment and food security and nutrition) and advance CFS stakeholders’ engagement in uptake and implementation of the VGs.

➢ Increased emphasis on preserving biodiversity/natural resources, and the interdependence between healthy landscapes and improved food security and nutrition. Specific elements to note would be promoting/supporting actions on (1) restoring biodiversity in landscapes and food systems through land restoration/agro-forestry; (2) optimizing use of biodiversity in agriculture through improved data and knowledge on forest/native foods and associated systems; (3) strengthening agriculture-forestry linkages;
➢ With water high on the global political agenda, there is a unique window of opportunity to roll out the Global Dialogue on Water Tenure on fertile ground, to make sure that the process will fulfil the COAG mandate to identify principles for the responsible governance of water tenure for food and water security, social inclusion, and climate resilience. As a follow up of the CFS endorsed VGGT, this process could be included in the Action Plan of this CFS workstream to provide opportunity for comments and guidance.

Convening one plenary session to assess progress, collect best practices and create a network of ‘champions’ on each of its products every 3 years.

➢ The progress assessment could also be based on country reporting on SDG indicators, Rio Conventions, FAO global report and sharing of good practices.
➢ Taking stock of existing related initiatives and materials, to build on, as well as a network analysis of key partners and their potential role in fostering uptake, e.g. the Aquatic/Blue Foods Coalition and the Global Network on Food From the Oceans and Inland Waters in the case of fisheries.
Rome, 12 January 2024

➢ Presentation of the findings at CFS, technical FAO Committees and other relevant events to support uptake and increased coherence of FAO/CFS products and initiatives, to improve impact and change/ transformation on the ground and hence overall relevance and legitimacy of these products.

Following the example of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition and the Guide on Legislating on the Right to Food, the action plan should include the promotion of legislation to achieve the progressive enjoyment of the right to adequate food, such as the explicit recognition of this right in constitutions, and the enactment of framework laws on the right to adequate food through sustainable and inclusive agrifood systems.

➢ Highlighting the role of legislation in transforming agrifood systems could be an important activity, and would link with national pathways for such transformations.

➢ The Action Plan for workstream on Uptake of CFS policy products could depart to some degree from the approach and inclusive but generic or obscure language of the CFS Framework for action for food security and nutrition in protracted crises, especially its references to “policies and actions” by being more explicit in terms of its recommended actions on the need for national legislation.

2024 is the 10th anniversary of the SSF Guidelines, which are directly linked to many CFS instruments. A related event at CFS 2024 could be organized on the relevance of CFS instruments for small-scale fisheries, followed by a similar one in the following years for Forestry, livestock.

Increased participation of Parliamentarians and Parliamentary networks in CFS work in order to shape national legislation and monitor public policies ensuring alignment with CFS products.

There is a general need for better data and knowledge on the contributions of fisheries to global food security – some relevant efforts have been made or are under way, that should be captured in through this work stream and disseminated and up scaled. Examples include the nutrition chapter in the FAO, Duke University and WorldFish report Illuminating Hidden Harvests: the contributions of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development, as well as country briefs on The contribution of small-scale fisheries to healthy food systems and sustainable livelihoods in Uganda and The contribution of women in small-scale fisheries to healthy food systems and sustainable livelihoods in Ghana as well as Empowering women in small-scale fisheries for sustainable food systems.

Developing the comparative analysis of the CFS Policy Products and the UN Decade on Family Farming Global Action Plan (GAP) to identify the relevant options for implementation of the UNDFF GAP that can contribute to the implementation of the CFS policy products.

Where possible and relevant, there could be stronger interaction between CFS and FAO technical committees that provide policy guidance on issues relating to agrifood systems transformation. For example, the Committee on Agriculture (COAG), Committee on Fisheries (COFI), Committee on Forestry (COFO), and Committee on Commodity Problems (CCP).
Question 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?

- **Integrated Land Use Planning to support the implementation and uptake of various CFS policy products**

In 1993, FAO published the Guidelines for Land Use Planning (1993 Guidelines) as the first key source of knowledge to implement a step-by-step approach to land use planning. A follow-up documents were published in 1999 by FAO and UNEP and on 2017 by FAO. Increasing concerns about food security and environmental sustainability have led to a greater emphasis on conservation and sustainable land use practices. Integrated Land use planning is an integral part of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the FAO’s Strategic Framework for 2022-2031 as part of its broader objectives for sustainable agriculture, food security and natural resource management. Given these, and other emerging issues, FAO launched a process to update the 1993 Guidelines through a wide consultation process with various stakeholders. The updated Guidelines will underline integrated and participatory land use planning; Integrating international commitments (SDG) and RIO conventions into the national planning process; People-centred planning process, realizing the key role of “land users” and communities affected by planning; Addressing the emerging issues in land use planning: Climate change, Restoration of degraded land, Land Degradation Neutrality and biodiversity maintenance, Water, Peri-urban and urban agriculture, Tenure and land rights of women and indigenous peoples, Mainstreaming, upscaling and outscaling land use planning results. The updated guidelines will be presented to the Committee on Agriculture for comments and guidance.

- **Forestry**

Policy recommendations on [Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition (CFS 44)](https://www.fao.org/3/ca7227en/ca7227en.pdf) have been mainstreamed in the work of FAO’s Forestry Division, including guidance on [Strengthening the forest-health-nutritious nexus](https://www.fao.org/3/ca7227en/ca7227en.pdf) and [Assessing the risks and opportunities of trade in wild plant ingredients](https://www.fao.org/3/ca7227en/ca7227en.pdf), as well as promoting the sustainable use of wildlife through the EC-funded [Sustainable Wildlife Management Programme](https://www.fao.org/3/ca7227en/ca7227en.pdf) and through [Action Against Desertification](https://www.fao.org/3/ca7227en/ca7227en.pdf) (e.g. [Restoring Food Systems with Nutritious Native Plants: Experiences from the African Drylands - Moctar Sacande, Giulia Muir, 2023](https://www.sagepub.com)). Further work will be required to improve indicators aiming to monitor impact of that work stream, taking into account the [Status of, and Trends in, the Global Cores Set of Forest-related Indicators (GCS)](https://www.fao.org/3/ca7227en/ca7227en.pdf). GCS indicator 14 addresses the food-nutrition nexus by assessing the “Contribution of forests to food security and nutrition”. FAO will pursue efforts to further strengthen the contribution and monitoring of the contribution of forests as well as tree- and plant-based forest products to food security and nutrition through the development and implementation of its “FAO Forestry Roadmap – from Vision to Action towards 2031” that is under development.

- **Fisheries**

FAO prepared [Briefs on the linkages between CFS products and small-scale fisheries](https://www.fao.org/3/ca7227en/ca7227en.pdf), as well as a [shared publication](https://www.fao.org/3/ca7227en/ca7227en.pdf) on the Right to Food and small-scale fisheries. These have been promoted and disseminated at CFS- as well as fisheries related events, including a number of CFS side events on small-scale fisheries.

This has increased the awareness and understanding of the contributions of small-scale fisheries to healthy food systems and certainly contributed to paving the way for the inclusion of fisheries and
aquaculture under the CFS MYPOW 2024-2027 - Strategic Function 2 – Policy: Develop voluntary global policy guidance for policy convergence and coherence to achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote the progressive realization of the right to adequate food. - A.2.5 Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition. This workstream is closely related to the one on 'In-depth debate on enhanced efforts to increase awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy outcomes at all levels'.

FAO also worked with UN Nutrition on the discussion paper “The Role of Aquatic Foods in Sustainable Healthy Diets”, to build consensus on the role of aquatic foods in sustainable healthy diets and encourage the adoption and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (FAO, 2018d) and the CFS Recommendations on Fisheries and Aquaculture (CFS, 2014) to improve governance of aquatic resources for food security and nutrition. UN Nutrition is currently undertaking a study of the impact/reach of this discussion paper.

FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper on Small Fish for Food Security and Nutrition aimed to align with the CFS Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security (or “Right to Food” Guidelines), and the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition, and utilized the sustainable food systems framework as developed by the CFS HLPE 2017 and 2020.

- Water resources

While water resources were considered for inclusion in the VGGT in the early stages of their development, water tenure was not included in the endorsed VGGT document.

FAO and its partners have spearheaded initiatives which show that a water tenure approach offers a unique perspective to understand the complexity of water rights and allocation systems and identify actionable and context-specific avenues to improve the governance of water tenure, as well as increase equity and security for water users, and thus contribute to increasing food security and nutrition. During the 28th Session of FAO’s Committee on Agriculture (COAG), COAG recommended FAO undertake an assessment of existing water tenure arrangements and their components, building on FAO’s existing work to date, as well as in close collaboration with relevant UN agencies, initiate a “Global Dialogue on Water Tenure”. The Global dialogue on Water Tenure was launched during the UN 2023 Water Conference in New York in March 2023 and was included by FAO as a commitment in the Water Action Agenda. FAO will start work toward the water tenure assessment in two countries (Colombia and Thailand) and initiate the water tenure dialogue at regional level in Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia.

- Data

Following the recent adoption of the CFS Policy Recommendations on Strengthening Collection and Use of Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Data and related analysis tools to improve decision-making in support of the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of National Food Security, FAO has already taken actions to create a new data domain for food security and nutrition statistics under the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) and initiate the development of guidelines on the minimum set of FSN data to be produced/used by countries starting from March 2024. Following FAO’s leadership, WHO and UNICEF have agreed to support this work as well. The main challenge will be to
receive support. To this end, FAO is planning a side event in the margin of the Commission at the end of February to gain support and commitments from UNSC members (Heads of National Statistical Offices) for the creation of the new data domains and for developing the guidelines.

- **Food security and nutrition**

With the support of the FAO country office in the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and the FAO Food and Nutrition Division at headquarters, the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (VGFSyN) have been used to advance the national agenda on transforming food systems as a follow up to the UN Food Systems Summit. The Department of Planning and Cooperation (DOPC) /the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry plays a pivotal role in working alongside FAO and other UN agencies to develop the National Plan of Actions on Sustainable Food System in Laos, whereby the VGFSyN have been used as a guide in this journey. To facilitate this critical process, DOPC/MAF, with the support of FAO and funding received from the FAO Food Coalition, has conducted a series of consultations across the country to identify key priorities and gather valuable recommendations that will serve as a crucial contribution to the development of the National Plan of Actions on Sustainable Food Systems in Laos. The VGFSyN was perceived a useful resource to support the development of this national plan. Having used the VGFSyN, Laos could take a comprehensive approach to food systems transformation that considers various factors and prioritize actions that are tailored to its unique context and needs. The VGFSyN encouraged multi-stakeholder engagement and collaboration, including with local communities, farmers, consumers, and civil organizations.

The new FAO Evidence Platform for Agrifood Systems and Nutrition provides countries with an “evidence toolbox” to monitor uptake of the recommendations of the Voluntary Guidelines on Food systems and Nutrition. Similar platforms could be put in place to document experiences and initiatives across countries in implementing the CFS Voluntary Guidelines and other products and monitoring their uptake.

- **Right to Food**

At the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the Right to Food Guidelines, the FAO Right to Food Team has launched a Call for Submissions on the realization of the right to food which helped to raise awareness on the importance of the Right to Food Guidelines. The Team is also developing an e-learning on the right to food which includes a lesson on the Right to Food Guidelines.

FAO Development Law Service (LEGN) provides technical legal assistance to States legislating and implementing legislation to achieve the progressive enjoyment of the right to adequate food and related objectives. When doing this, LEGN highlights and incorporates the contents of relevant CFS policy documents, including the Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security, the Voluntary Guidelines on the sustainable governance of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security, the CFS Principles on responsible investment in agriculture and food systems, and the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition. In addition, LEGN issues publications to support legislative actions to implement the various guidelines. CFS could collect technical documents from the three Rome-based agencies to strengthen the linkages between CFS and the agencies on different topics related to the right to adequate food, highlighting the importance of sustainable and inclusive agrifood systems as well.

- **Gender equality and women and girls empowerment**
Rome, 12 January 2024

The VG-GEWGE were recently adopted and therefore the process of dissemination and uptake has not yet started. FAO is in the process of defining the work plan to play a key role in supporting the process of adoption and implementation, including exploring opportunities for resource mobilization.

- **Youth Employment**

FAO has been referencing and promoting the CFS Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition (CFS 50, 2022). The Policy recommendations already align with the work of the Organization on the topic and no specific challenges were identified. However, FAO noticed very limited awareness and ownership at country level of the Recommendations. Dedicated efforts would be needed to support their use and uptake by facilitating multistakeholder processes of dialogue and guaranteeing the provision of technical support in specific areas covered by the Recommendations (e.g. gender responsive inheritance frameworks, youth’s connection and access to markets, etc.).

- **Land tenure**

VGGTs have been very influential as a progressive land tenure standard that influenced policy making in more than 20 countries (examples of uptake: awareness raising and capacity development on the VGGT in 78 countries; technical support for the development of VGGT based land policies and programs provided in 34 countries; land laws and policies based on the VGGT enacted in 9 countries).

VGGT were instrumental to raise the importance of the governance of tenure and the recognition of the centrality of women’s tenure rights and customary rights, including Indigenous Peoples territorial rights.

Lessons learnt: It requires political engagement from multiple stakeholders for a long period of time; substantial funding and time to go through many phases (awareness raising, capacity development, multi-stakeholders’ policy dialogues, policy & law changes, policy implementation, monitoring & evaluation). Some of these phases (such as awareness raising and capacity development) are a permanent challenge due to changes in stakeholders’ leadership.

There is a key risk of losing momentum when funding and commitment decline after initial awareness raising and capacity development. This is exactly the turning point where continued investment will enable substantial changes that can have impact on the ground.

To address these challenges, FAO continues to support countries in implementing the VGGT programme (awareness raising, capacity development, multi-stakeholders’ policy dialogues, policy & law changes, policy implementation, monitoring & evaluation), alongside with support to modernization of land administration and mainstreaming VGGT principles in the Rio conventions (e.g recent work with UNCCD); convening a global observatory on land tenure and producing global report on land tenure and land governance (first report to be launched in 2024/25 and then published every 3 years).

- **Responsible agricultural investments**

FAO developed and launched in several regions of the world the Responsible Investments in Agriculture and Food Systems (RAI) – A practical handbook for parliamentarians and parliamentary advisors, and delivered targeted capacity building activities in this regard. The handbook was developed to assist in incorporating the CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems into national policies and legislation. As of today, the Handbook has been used in capacity development...
courses which benefited around 390 individuals, between members of the parliament, advisors and technical parliamentary staff in the Republic of Congo, the Gabonese Republic, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and Zambia, in addition to capacity development activities held in collaboration with a variety regional of parliamentary networks.

Another example is the uptake of RAI principles in the ASEAN context (i.e. ASEAN RAI), which was supported by the multi-stakeholders - with the private sector, CSO and UN (FAO) and others. The multistakeholder approach to the implementation of the CFS policy products is somehow underestimated, but has a good potential for long-lasting impact of the products.

This body of work, including additional development of technical guides, E-learning courses, training workshops, webinars, and policy dialogue sessions aimed at raising awareness and developing knowledge and capacities in relation to CFS-RAI among members of parliaments worldwide may be replicated to promote implementation at country level of other key CFS Policy products, based on donors’ interest and on the First Global Parliamentary Pact focused on building agrifood systems that are sustainable, inclusive, equitable, resilient and conducive to the realization of the right to adequate food of all people.

- **Family Farming**

The UN Decade on Family Farming (UNDFF) has been successfully promoting policy change through the development and use of comprehensive policy plans and tools in more than 76 countries, with 12 National Action Plans and 3 Regional Action Plans approved. It mobilized 2,625 actors in various dialogue processes and committees, including 1,853 family farmers’ organizations and federations. Since the launch of the Decade, 260 policies, laws and regulations were developed and approved supporting family farming and the transformation towards sustainable agrifood systems.

The development of UNDFF National Action Plans worldwide gives an excellent opportunity to contextualize the CFS products and the CFS Global Strategic Framework (as an overarching framework and reference point for food security and nutrition strategies, policies) according the regional and national priorities, providing an opportunity to have coherent and coordinated actions at global, regional, and national levels. In August 2021, the 76th session of the UN General Assembly recognized that “The Decade has been very successful with regard to engagement with a wide range of stakeholders to identify specific policies and measures in support of family farming. Its success makes it a suitable mechanism to support the effective contextualization of international tools and guidelines in support of family farmers, such as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas, and many global policy instruments, including those of the Committee on World Food Security”[par 13 A/76/233]

In 2022, COAG28 recognized “The catalyzer role of the Decade at international level [...] in mobilizing a wide range of stakeholders to identify concrete policies and measures in support of family farming. It proved to be a suitable mechanism to support the effective contextualization of international tools and guidelines in support of family farmers and their organizations, such as [...] many global policy instruments of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), such as the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security” [Par. 18 COAG/2022/11] and, among the Synergies among the Decade and the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-
Rome, 12 January 2024

31, indicated how VGGT are catalysed by the UNDFF implementation through the National Action Plans (Par. 26a).

- Parliamentary networks

With support from FAO, Parliamentarians gathered for the Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition (June 2023), through the First Global Parliamentary Pact against Hunger and Malnutrition. The Pact calls upon the Committee on World Food Security to establish a mechanism for the representation of parliamentarians fighting hunger and malnutrition.