

CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT LAW ORGANIZATION  
TO THE CFS ACTION PLAN ON  
“Increasing awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy outcomes”

Rome, 19 January 2024

These contributions aim to support the CFS workstream *In-depth debate on enhanced efforts to increase awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy outcomes at all levels*, intended to foster an in-depth debate on enhanced efforts by CFS stakeholders on how to increase its impact, promote the dissemination, ownership, use and uptake of all CFS policy agreements, leading to increased awareness, policy coherence and coordination at all levels.

1. IDLO expectations of desired outcomes and areas of work of this CFS workstream

- CFS policy outcomes are based on multistakeholder and evidence-based development approaches. Still, the awareness, adoption and implementation of these key recommendations and actions at the country level remain limited.
- In addition, outside of sectors and actors directly involved in food security, there is insufficient knowledge of these outcomes among stakeholders operating in the legal sphere, including in the justice sector.
- Achieving food security and nutrition for all requires addressing root causes, including by tackling injustices. A people-centered justice approach will enable excluded and marginalized people and communities to claim for their right to adequate food. It includes redressing grievances and resolving disputes through formal and informal pathways to justice.
- As an Observer to the CFS, the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) stands ready to support CFS members and other stakeholders in raising awareness and enhancing the impact of implementing CFS policy outcomes. Achieving this goal necessitates collaborative efforts in organizing dissemination activities and identifying relevant actors at both the country and international levels, extending beyond traditional boundaries associated with food security.
- As the only global intergovernmental organization exclusively devoted to promoting the rule of law to advance peace and sustainable development, IDLO envisions a world where every person lives with dignity and equality under the rule of law. The organization champions people-centered justice as a means to build more peaceful, inclusive and resilient societies. Recognizing that justice is fundamental for social development, IDLO’s expertise remains relevant to the application of key CFS policy outcomes.

2. Elements that would be important to include in the Action Plan

- Cross-sectoral cooperation and the incorporation of a legal perspective into the activities and dialogues of this workstream, require a whole-of-system and whole-of-society approaches.

## IDLO CONTRIBUTIONS

“Awareness, use, usefulness and impact of CFS policy outcomes”

IDLO is positioned to contribute by incorporating the legal lens and engaging related actors, including the justice systems (both formal and informal) in discussions on awareness, use, usefulness, and impact.

- Broadening the scope of awareness-raising to include institutions and actors from the legal sphere may include capacity development initiatives addressed to the judiciary, legal departments of different ministries and other actors involved in law development, enforcement and application, as well as oversight institutions.
- Drawing upon extensive experience in working with the justice sector, IDLO has a proven track of strengthening the enforcement and application of laws in line with international human rights standards and rule of law principles.
- To facilitate cross-sectoral discussions, coordination with RBAs and other CFS stakeholders can be established to support members in this regard.
- IDLO also promotes the adoption of mechanisms to enhance effective and representative participation in the decision-making process. In this context, bringing legal literacy and empowerment to key stakeholders is critical for enhancing the agency through their representative participation in discussions on the awareness, use, usefulness and impact of all CFS policy outcomes.

### 3. Examples of uptake activities carried out by IDLO, including indications on their impact, challenges encountered as well as areas for improvement.

- In 2016 and 2018, IDLO collaborated with FAO to implement capacity development activities in Central America, aiming to support countries in the implementation of the Principles on Responsible Investments in Agriculture (RAI-Principles). Through multi-stakeholder and multisectoral dialogues, legal and policy capacity needs to advance the use and implementation of the CFS-RAI Principles, were identified. The assessments focused on (i) the institutional framework and coordination; (ii) policies, laws, strategies and incentives; (iii) institutional capacity and services; and (iv) individual capacities. The outcomes of these dialogues informed the preparation of a capacity development plan designed to enhance the use of CFS-RAI Principles in two countries, addressing the identified legal gaps.
- Based on its extensive field experience and established relations with local institutions in the realms of justice and related rule of law matters, IDLO remains ready to support the development of the Action Plan as well as the identification of specific rule of law-based activities for governments, international organizations, and other stakeholders to raise awareness, enhance use and amplify the impact of CFS policy outcomes.

For further information contact: [foodsecurity@idlo.int](mailto:foodsecurity@idlo.int)

[www.idlo.int](http://www.idlo.int)

Creating a Culture of Justice:

[IDLO on: Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#)