



Swiss Inputs on “Increasing awareness, ownership, use and usefulness of CFS policy outcomes”

General comments:

We would like to reiterate some of our comments on the Draft Outline, as we continue to believe that the Action Plan should incorporate these more strongly:

1. First, we welcome the proposed analysis in 2.A.1, as the development of an action plan requires an analysis of the initial status, weaknesses, strengths and lessons learnt. We suggest to have this analysis as a standalone activity in the action plan, as it should not only focus on awareness and use (Part 2) but also on usefulness and ownership (Part 1). The 2017 evaluation contains some interesting statements that are still relevant today (e.g., Conclusion 11 or Para. 82, 83, 87 and 106 – 113) and should be included in the analysis.
2. Second, a monitoring framework with indicators would make it possible to track the implementation of the action plan. We suggest to add a proper monitoring and reporting section, incl. some indicators. The references to monitoring in 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 too unspecific.
3. Third, we believe that the RBAs have a crucial role to play in strengthening the uptake of policy agreements. The various roles and activities should be emphasized more strongly.
4. Fourth, the action plan focuses too firmly only on CFS policy products. We strongly recommend to include objectives, activities and responsibilities on how other roles of the CFS in addition to policy convergence role can be utilized better and more strategically (e.g., how to better make use of the HLPE reports?).
5. Fifth, why are “CFS Policy products” replaced by «CFS policy agreements»? Same applies for policy “convergence process” and “policy agreement process”.

Comments by section:

- a. Section 1 - 1. A.1 makes reference to the HLPE preparing a compilation of key elements from CF policy agreements. In addition to this compilation, the previous approach that led to the HLPE Note on Critical, Emerging and Enduring Issues for Food Security and Nutrition should be maintained.
- b. Section 1 - 1.A.2 - the process of drafting the MYPoW in Annex B should be revised in line with the experience gained from the last drafting process.
- c. Section 1 - 1.B.1 – we agree that we should ensure that CFS policy agreements are concrete, concise, understandable, user-friendly and actionable. The question is, however, how can we ensure this? The communication activities (2.A.2) and the technical support of the RBAs (2.A.4) are also important building blocks for this and are central.
- d. Section 2 - 2.B.1: Apart from CFS and RBAs, include HLPE-FSN in the mapping exercise of existing national and regional multistakeholder platforms with its expertise on science-policy interface in Food Security and Nutrition. Add HLPE-FSN also in Annex A, Page 7.
- e. Section 3 - 3.1: A digital repository should be user-friendly and add value. The extent to which such a repository can also contribute to evaluation and monitoring is questionable, a proper monitoring and evaluation framework is necessary. It would also require additional voluntary financial resources to create and maintain such a repository. The different activities would also have to be prioritized and some would have to be considered nice-to-have.
- f. Section 3 - 3.2 highlights that the CFS will dedicate regular agenda items during CFS plenaries to discuss progress to improve the use of CFS policy products at all level. These sessions should be structured differently than the current GTE and monitoring events. One should avoid

having a series of speakers presenting their programs and initiatives but rather an innovative format where we can learn from each other.

- g. Section 3 - 3.3. – We suggest of having a simpler process than creating a new OEWG that is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the present Action Plan. We could rather use the Bureau and Advisory Group Meetings, with one informal meeting, for instance, in which all interested stakeholders can participate.
- h. Annex A: We suggest to include a budget estimate in the Table in Annex A. We consider this to be a prerequisite for a successful action plan that is implemented, especially for activities like 2.A.1 where it's foreseen that the CFS, in collaboration with the RBAs, will develop a toolkit on how different CFS stakeholders can support the integration of CFS policy production into national policies and programmes.