



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

Kick-off meeting – 18 December 2023 (14.00-17.00)

INFORMATION NOTE

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) was established in 1974 and significantly reformed in 2009 as an inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for all stakeholders to work together to ensure food security and nutrition for all.

The CFS is made up of Members, Participants and Observers. As of October 2023, CFS is composed of 140 Member States while Participants include representatives of UN agencies and bodies, civil society and non-governmental organizations and their networks, international agricultural research systems, international and regional financial institutions and representatives of private sector associations and private philanthropic foundations.

Using a multistakeholder and inclusive approach, CFS develops and endorses policy recommendations and guidance on a wide range of food security and nutrition topics. These policy tools are intended to offer guidance to governments, UN agencies and other stakeholders for the development of policies and interventions that address food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms.

One of the three strategic functions of the Committee is dedicated to the implementation of actions to foster the uptake, follow-up and review as well as to share experiences and best practices on the use and application of CFS policy outcomes at country level. In line with this function, the CFS Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPoW) 2024-2027 – endorsed at CFS 51 in October 2023 – includes a workstream that focuses on the promotion of actions to increase awareness, ownership and use of CFS policy outcomes.

The workstream is 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.

Through an open and participatory process, this workstream is expected to lead to the preparation of an Action Plan that will be presented for consideration and endorsement by the Committee at its 52nd Plenary Session in October 2024. The Action Plan will identify areas of work where improvements are required, recommend relevant follow-up actions and outline roles and responsibilities of the different CFS stakeholders.

This process is based on the recognition that, while CFS Members have a primary responsibility in promoting the use of CFS policy outcomes, support is needed from all CFS stakeholders as part of a collective effort.



The first open meeting is scheduled for Monday 18 December 2023 from 14.00 to 17.00 (Rome time), with the objective of analyzing the expected outcomes of this exercise, sharing expectations, identifying areas that should be addressed, and having an initial discussion on roles and responsibilities of different CFS stakeholders.

The first part of the meeting will be dedicated to presentations by actors that have been concretely involved in the promotion of the use of specific CFS policy agreements at country level. These are intended to set the stage by providing an overview of the different type of use that can be made of CFS policy outcomes, impact and successes of these activities, challenges encountered, what did not work well and areas for improvement as well as possible and alternative ideas for the future.

Following these presentations, an open discussion is expected to take place involving CFS stakeholders who can use the following guiding questions to structure their interventions:

1. Could you share your expectations in terms of desired outcomes and areas of work of this CFS workstream?
2. Could you indicate the main elements, examples and lessons learned that emerged from the presentations delivered at the opening of the meeting that would be important to include in the Action Plan?
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?

In line with the proposed workplan, the outcomes of this meeting will feed the preparation of the Outline of the Action Plan that is expected to be circulated by the end of January 2024. In addition to this meeting, CFS stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide written feedback and inputs on objectives and potential areas of work to be addressed in the action plan to the CFS Secretariat by 15 January 2024.