



Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises: Leaving No One Behind

Summary of CFS Outreach Workshop, Nairobi, Kenya 19 September 2016

On 19 September 2016, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) hosted a one day outreach workshop titled “Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises: Leaving No One Behind”, in collaboration with the Rome-based agencies (RBAs), FAO, IFAD and WFP. The event was the first of its kind to be organized by CFS on the Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (CFS-FFA).

The objective of the event was to raise awareness of the CFS-FFA in countries affected by protracted crises and to promote operationalization and contextualization at field level, capitalizing on existing national efforts.

The 50 participants represented governments, civil society, private sector and UN agencies from: 1) Chad; 2) Democratic Republic of Congo; 3) Ethiopia; 4) Kenya; 5) Somalia; 6) South Sudan; and 7) Sudan. Participants were identified with the support of the CFS Civil Society Mechanism, the CFS Private Sector Mechanism and the RBAs. They had very diverse backgrounds and expertise within food security and nutrition, ensuring a wide range of perspectives and ideas for CFS-FFA operationalization.

The workshop led to eleven technical recommendations for CFS-FFA operationalization (see page 4).

Opening remarks

Ambassador Josephine Gaita from Kenya, National Coordinator of the Office of the Great Lakes Region, and former Chair of the CFS-FFA Open Ended Working Group, gave the opening remarks. Ambassador Gaita explained the special multistakeholder nature of CFS and why it developed the CFS-FFA. She highlighted the global political legitimacy of the CFS-FFA, underlining its sound technical foundation and comprehensive development process, including a row of consultations and two rounds of multistakeholder negotiations. She underlined that the goal of the workshop was to ensure that the global CFS-FFA consensus translated into concrete action on the ground and stressed that CFS wanted to capitalize on participants’ vast knowledge, expertise and ideas.

CFS-FFA Presentation

Paul Howe, Chief of Emergencies and Transitions Unit, WFP and core member of the CFS-FFA task team, presented the CFS-FFA. He noted that the CFS-FFA aims to improve the food security and nutrition of populations affected by or at risk of protracted crises and outlined the key elements of the 11 principles. Howe stressed that the document reflects global consensus and provides a comprehensive, internationally endorsed frame to guide food security and nutrition actions.

Jose Lopez, FAO Resilience Coordinator for Eastern Africa and Mohamed Abdelgadir, IFAD Sudan Country Programme Manager provided CFS-FFA perspectives and examples of steps taken to use the CFS-FFA including the FAO guidance notes on the specific principles currently being finalized.



Country Team and Plenary Discussions

To focus discussions on concrete operationalization efforts in the seven countries, participants were divided into country teams. In these teams they identified: 1) General challenges in operationalizing the CFS-FFA as a political document; and 2) Challenges in operationalizing specific principles in their country.

Following presentations by the respective teams, the challenges were clustered into emerging themes and then discussed in plenary. The clustering was done as the presentations clearly outlined trends in the challenges identified by countries. The country teams identified solutions to the challenges, and discussed concrete actions. Finally, participants were asked to rank solutions by importance, to identify those which were considered most relevant or pertinent to address.

The starting point for the discussions was that many food security and nutrition interventions on the ground already address key elements of the CFS-FFA principles.

Operationalization Challenges and Solutions

Table I summarizes the comprehensive discussions on identified general challenges and solutions for operationalizing the CFS-FFA (below in order of relevance).

Table I: General Challenges and Solutions

General Challenges	Solutions
How to integrate the CFS-FFA into existing frameworks/ processes/ initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Integrate the CFS-FFA into new or existing national policies, frameworks, and strategies for food security, nutrition, the environment, and other relevant issues ➤ Anchor the CFS-FFA, where possible, in the constitution and existing human rights frameworks ➤ Use/establish multi-stakeholder platforms for food security and nutrition to champion the approach and develop strategies for taking the CFS-FFA forward
Lack of buy-in and accountability, primarily due to the voluntary nature of the document	<p>Buy-in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure that the political consensus reached on the CFS-FFA in Rome is clearly communicated to national governments ➤ Promote funding for CFS-FFA operationalization by donors <p>Accountability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use a 'top-down' approach by inserting or integrating the CFS-FFA and its principles into relevant policies ➤ Use a 'bottom-up' approach by empowering civil society organizations to influence the government and to publish reports on the issue
Lack of capacity (institutional, delivery, technical, financial etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provide capacity development and support at all levels for CFS-FFA implementation ➤ Integrate relevant aspects of the CFS-FFA approach into national education curricula
Lack of stakeholder coordination, especially among humanitarian and development actors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify new national entities to lead efforts to implement the CFS-FFA ➤ Identify a CFS-FFA focal point/entity within existing government structures to lead coordination of ministries, sectors, states and stakeholders and subsequently implementation, dissemination, information sharing and monitoring efforts ➤ Conduct an exercise to identify all relevant stakeholders
Competing political priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Intensify advocacy efforts at different levels (e.g. national, regional, local) and through different channels (e.g. religious institutions, media, regional bodies) ➤ Develop a communication strategy for advocacy using careful, tailored messaging

The country teams also discussed and identified CFS-FFA principle specific challenges and solutions. Also in this regard, clear trends were detected (below in order of relevance).

Table II: Principle Specific Challenges and Solutions

Principle Specific Challenges	Solutions
Access to affected populations due to lack of infrastructure, permit restrictions, political fragmentation, insecure militia areas etc. (Pr. 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase support to address infrastructure issues, including through development of comprehensive action plans ➤ Intensify efforts to negotiate access ➤ Increase advocacy for access ➤ Employ protection forces
Lack of financial investment and funding constraints due to donor fatigue and sanctions (Pr. 8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strengthen the role of the private sector in improving food and nutrition security through increased food production and marketing ➤ Consolidate domestic and external financing ➤ Advocate for lifting of sanctions and other obstacles ➤ Increase donor funding
Limited accountability and de-connection between policy makers and technicians (Pr. 7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ As per the sections “Lack of buy-in and accountability” and “Lack of stakeholder coordination” in Table I
Lack of (access to) data/ information and early warning systems (Pr. 6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Establish national information management systems with periodic data collection ➤ Establish and/or further develop early warning systems to enable early response
Gender equality and equity obstacles (Pr. 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Gender mainstreaming in programming ➤ Increase advocacy for gender equality and equity

The importance of having a realistic approach to the principles was raised in plenary, with specific reference to addressing challenges such as corruption and human rights. Principle 1, more specifically aligning humanitarian and development policies/actions and enhance resilience, was further highlighted as a fundamental, overall challenge.



Recommendations for Moving Forward: “The Nairobi Consensus”

Dissemination

1. CFS should organize similar CFS-FFA outreach events in other regions, including West Africa, Near East and West Asia. Events should also be organized at country and at sub-national level.
2. Participants should bring the event outcomes to national and subnational level and advocate for incorporation of principles into domestic policies and actions, and should play an active role in disseminating the CFS-FFA at all levels.
3. CFS should send official communications to top government officials and heads of agencies to ensure political support and should disseminate the CFS-FFA to other UN agencies and to the UN General Assembly to mainstream content within the UN system.
4. The CFS-FFA should be made more accessible to grass-root organizations and local communities, including by simplifying language and translation into local languages.
5. CFS should ensure that the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities such as the Inter-Government Authority for Development (IGAD) and the East African Community (EAC) are aware and engaged in promoting the operationalisation of the CFS-FFA.

Use

6. Multistakeholder country task-teams should be established in the seven countries participating to lead dissemination, use and learning efforts, under the leadership of governments.
7. CFS should prepare a format for action plans for CFS-FFA implementation, outlining next steps, roles and responsibilities, which can be used and further developed by country task-teams.
8. Stakeholders should draw on the set of solutions identified at this workshop in developing their action plans for implementing the CFS-FFA.
9. A mechanism should be established which can support countries in operationalizing the CFS-FFA.
10. A mechanism should be established to monitor CFS-FFA operationalization and compliance at the country level.

Learning

11. CFS should look for and disseminate lessons learned from countries where CFS-FFA principles have been implemented/followed.



Participants

1. Ambassador Josephine Gaita, National Coordinator of the Office of the Great Lakes Region, Kenya
2. Bitangui Ousmane Raoul, Assistant du Secretaire Permanent Du CONACILSS, Ministry of Agriculture, Chad
3. Claude Mota, Coordinator of the Food Security and Early Warning Group, DRC
4. Hailu Antisio Natche, Productive Safety Net Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Expert, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Ethiopia
5. Desalegne Birkeneh, Director of Policy, Plan & Programme, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Ethiopia
6. Omar Mohamed Elhaj, Director of the International Cooperation, Ministry of Finance, Sudan
7. Ibrahim Ahmed Hamid, North Darfur Humanitarian Aid Commissioner, Sudan
8. Malcolm McLean, Humanitarian Global Food Coordinator, European Commission, Kenya
9. Judith Munyao, European Commission, Kenya
10. Caroline Kirungu, IGAD Centre for Pastoral and Livestock Development (ICPALD)
11. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Coordinator, Association des Femmes Peuples Autochtones du Tchad, Chad
12. Aaron Kalala Karumba, Coordinator, Association paysanne pour l'autosuffisance alimentaire, DRC
13. Nur Abdi Mohammed, Executive Director, The Pastoralist Welfare Organization, Ethiopia
14. Abdullahi Anshur, Director, Social-life and Agricultural Development Organization, Somalia/Kenya
15. Andrew Lanyon, World Vision, Somalia
16. Abdelaati Magiet, Director, HAWA Organization, Sudan
17. Hellen Andrew Wiew Riak, Chairperson, Business Women Economics AS, South Sudan
18. Kuria Gathuru, Mazingira Institute Nairobi, Kenya
19. Leonida Odongo, Programme Officer, FAHAMU Africa, Kenya
20. Davinder Lamba, Mazingira Institute, Kenya
21. Gertrude Kenyangi, Support for Women in Agriculture and Environment, Uganda
22. Mariam Al Jaajaa, CSM Working Group on Food Security in Protracted Crises, Lebanon
23. Daniel Gad, Managing Director, Omega Farms, Ethiopia
24. Mohamed El Mardi El Tegani, Executive Chairman, Saturn Investment Co, Sudan
25. Rose Mutuku, Smart Logistics Solution Ltd, Kenya
26. Abdoul Ibrahim, Food Security Analyst, FAO Chad
27. Mohamed Salih, Deputy Representative, FAO Ethiopia
28. Woldelessie Abbute Deboch, Food Security and Livelihoods IASC Coordinator, FAO Sudan
29. Rudi Van Aaken, Head of Programme, FAO Somalia
30. Erminio Sacco, Chief Technical Advisor, FAO South Sudan
31. Jose Lopez, Resilience Coordinator for Eastern, FAO Regional Office, Kenya
32. Emmanuella Olesambu, FAO HQ
33. Abdelgadir Mohamed, IFAD Country Programme Manager, IFAD HQ
34. Frew Behabtu, Country Programme Officer, IFAD Ethiopia
35. Wanessa Marques, Consultant, UN RBA Partnerships, IFAD HQ
36. Atsuvi Gamli , Programme/VAM Officer and Co-Lead of Food Security Cluster, WFP Chad
37. Sib Olllo, Head of VAM and M&E, WFP DRC
38. Bakri Osman Abduel Majeid, Vulnerability Analysis & Mapping Officer, WFP Sudan
39. Nozomi Hashimoto, Government Partnership Officer, WFP South Sudan
40. Almudena Serrano, Head of VAM and M&E, WFP Somalia
41. Elliot Vhurumuku, VAM Regional Coordinator, WFP Regional Office Kenya
42. Jo Jacobsen, Regional Nutrition and HIV Officer, WFP Regional Office Kenya
43. Francis Opiyo, Programme Policy Officer, WFP Regional Office Kenya
44. Ann Defraye, Regional Humanitarian Advisor, WFP Regional Office Kenya
45. Charles Songok, Programme Policy Officer, WFP Kenya
46. Paul Howe, Chief of Emergencies and Transitions Unit, WFP HQ
47. Siva Jamal Aziz, Partnership Officer, WFP HQ/CFS Secretariat
48. Kiganzi Nyakato, Humanitarian Affairs Reporting Officer, OCHA Kenya
49. Nasser Mohmanna, Senior Regional Food Security Nutritionist Advisor, UNHCR Kenya
50. Dr Edith Kareko-Munene, Kenya (moderator)