

CFS FORUM ON WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Break-out group # 1 (Austria Room)

1. How are CFS policy outcomes promoting women's empowerment, women's rights and gender equality as a pre-requisite for FSN?

Main points:

- Change discourse where food security and nutrition is understood as other than productionist framework. Getting out of the paradigm of women's empowerment = greater economic efficiency. Recognition of the centrality of women's right as a political issue rather than a technical obstacle to overcome with increasing productivity. FSN is often submitted to discourses of increased productivity.
- Rather than promotion, need to focus on protection, fulfilment and recognition of women's rights.
- Implementation main problem and shortcoming of CFS policy outcomes.
- Women's rights were only incorporated in CFS policy recommendations in 2016 despite being central in international agendas. Need for a stronger focus on women's rights and incorporate this language in policy outcomes.
- Violence against women needs to be included in the discussion in order to insure effectiveness of policy frameworks.
- Recognition of gender inequality and women's rights in each CFS policy outcome. (As in HLPE documents that always include a gender aspect). Proposal for a concrete action to be taken so that no policy outcome can be adopted unless it has a gender sensitive lens in it.
- Women waged farm workers – support creation of spaces for women to self-organize.
- In the informal sector women don't have recognition as workers. Need to recognize women as workers, even when they operate in the informal sector, when they are seasonal workers,
- Promoting policy cohesion and recognize the need for a structural change
- Making sure in each task team there is a gender expert
- Experts should come from women who work at the grass-root level. Supporting women's grassroots organizations will result in women's empowerment and increased capacity to help themselves.
- Budget allocation is key to insure implementation. Proper and gender sensitive monitoring.
- Empowerment understood as strengthening women's organizations will increase their participation to decision making processes which will result in increased accountability and greater ability in supporting implementation of CFS policy outcomes at the grassroots level.

2) Taking into account its mandate, what concrete steps can CFS take further advance women's empowerment, women's rights and gender equality in its work to produce a tangible swift towards gender equality and enhance the implementation of the UN General Recommendation 34 of the CEDAW on the rights of rural women?

Main points:

- Absence of political will and incoherence between governments' positions in international fora and their behavior and policy at the national level.
 - Stronger focus on implementation and monitoring

- Supporting Agroecology as a concrete step. Looking at the root causes of problems such as nutrition issues rather than promoting short-term solutions that result in corporate concentration. The way we produce food is related to nutrition and forms part of the problem. Change the way we produce food is key, and agroecology is a concrete solution.
- Corporate control on 'false solutions' – E.g. micronutrients proposed as a solution to nutrition issues. Micronutrients are controlled in the hands of few corporations who control technology. Concentration of the market results in control of the market by a few and is detrimental for the environment, community cohesion and nutrition/health.
- Support holistic framework and self-reliance of local communities
- Privatization and SAPs result in the dismantling of public services that support women's workers. E.g. Child care, sanitary services. The absence of these services result in increased dependency of women to their men counterparts and more vulnerability (increased violence, less bargaining power)
- The report on 'agroecology and biotechnology' that will be produced (still to be approved by CFS plenary) by the HLPE should have a strong focus on women's rights.
 - Scientific frameworks are embedded in a patriarchal system. Great attention should be given to knowledge-based qualitative approaches, data and traditional knowledge coming from women on the ground (versus using only economic/scientific approaches)

3) What actions are required and by whom in order to strengthen the content and implementation of national and international normative frameworks for women's empowerment?

Main points:

- Governments and other relevant actors are responsible to ensure structural change in implementing and realizing the right to food and food sovereignty (who gets to decide how food systems are organized and resource allocation) and women's grassroots organizations are key in the participation in the decision-making processes and in the implementation and monitoring of policy outcomes. Even though all actors are needed to achieve change, the voice of the rights holders and the most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition should be given special attention in the policy making process (as stated in the CFS reform).
- Support multi-actor systems at the national level. Special attention to be given to the inclusion of dissenting voices
- End criminalization of human rights activists and women human rights activists

Break-out group #2 (India Room)

1. How are CFS outcomes promoting women's empowerment, women's and girls' rights and gender equality as pre-requisites for food security and nutrition?
2. Taking into account its mandate, what concrete steps can CFS take further advance women's empowerment, women's rights and gender equality in its work to produce a tangible swift towards gender equality and enhance the implementation of the UN General Recommendation 34 of the CEDAW on the rights of rural women?
3. What actions are required and by whom in order to strengthen the content and implementation of national and international normative frameworks for women's empowerment?

Key messages

- There is lack of monitoring – difficult to assess the impact of the CFS products on GE
- GE and women's rights as part of the mandate of the CFS and issues of empowerment as accompanied them
- Need to mainstream GE,WR and WE in all CFS Work
- In general, there is need to take into account available resources but GE, WR and WE should not depend on resources to be fully mainstreamed in CFS products
- CFS needs to look at the CEDAW implementation, especially GR34
- The feminist perspective needs to be included at an early stage of all CFS process, including for instance gender disaggregated data by sex and age
- Root causes of gender inequality and women's disempowerment and how they impact on food security and nutrition outcomes need to be addressed
- Need to enhance collaboration between the CFS and the RBAs, promoting the use of CFS product
- Need of real political will from Governments for the overall achievement of GE, WR and WE as well as FSN outcomes

Break-out Group #3 (Red Room)

Los resultados de políticas del CSA, ¿promueven adecuadamente el empoderamiento de la mujer, los derechos de las mujeres y la igualdad de género como un prerrequisito para la seguridad alimentaria y la nutrición?

- Los resultados son débiles. La falta por parte del CSA de una atención orgánica, transversal y permanente hacia la perspectiva de género y a los derechos de las mujeres hace difícil poder analizar como el CSA promueve estos aspectos. Hay mucho camino por hacer. Las mujeres son sujetos de derechos y no solo proveedoras de alimentos para los demás.
- Se reafirma la importancia del rol del monitoreo, rendición de cuenta y acompañamiento que el CSA debe tener al adoptar una decisión sobre políticas.
- Un ejemplo de buena practica es el manual popular redactado por las organizaciones campesinas que no se limitaron a traducir el idioma pero a traducir también el lenguaje.
- El CSA tiene que reconocer el rol protagónico de las organizaciones de mujeres que son las que tienen el conocimiento y los saberes para la implementación y la soberanía alimentaria.
- Se necesitan directrices para desarrollar el rol y liderazgo de las mujeres en las industrias y la equidad de genero en el sector privado.
- Importancia de los ODS y de la independencia económica. Pero también reafirmar que los ODS son una herramienta, mientras el marco de referencia sigue siendo el de los derechos humanos.
- Importancia del respeto de las mujeres indígenas.
- El CSA es un espacio participativo y su naturaleza ayuda a la divulgación de los resultados de sus deliberaciones. La participación e inclusividad es una manera de promover su propio conocimiento.
- Debates jurídicos no bastan, se ha legislado suficientemente sobre los derechos de las mujeres pero no se aplican porque las violaciones siguen. Se necesita un cambio cultural que pase por la educación y concienciación.
- Compromiso político de los gobiernos
- El CSA debería hacer un trabajo sobre los y las trabajadoras/es asalariados y los diferentes elementos relacionados a los derechos de los/as trabajadores/as.

Teniendo en cuenta su mandato, ¿qué pasos concretos puede dar el CSA para promover más el empoderamiento de la mujer, los derechos de las mujeres y la igualdad de género en su trabajo para producir un cambio tangible hacia la igualdad de género y mejorar la aplicación de la Recomendación general 34 de la CEDAW (2016) de las Naciones Unidas sobre los derechos de las mujeres rurales?

- Queda claro que el CSA no tiene un papel normativo, pero tiene un desempeño en la convergencia de políticas.
- El mandato del CSA articula claramente el derecho a la alimentación y nutrición adecuada. Y por lo tanto queda clara la invisibilidad del concepto de derechos humanos y la necesidad de un enfoque integrado.
- Esto no quiere decir aumentar o extender el mandato del CSA, pero simplemente cumplir con sus funciones de convergencia, coherencia y coordinación utilizando las convenciones y declaraciones existentes y firmadas por la mayoría de los países.

- El CSA tiene que reconocer la importancia de las mujeres en el sector de la alimentación. Rol de las mujeres campesinas como guardianas del ambiente y soberanía alimentaria.
- De cara al futuro se expresa el deseo que en el próximo informe del CSA sobre agroecología se les dedique a las mujeres mucha atención.
- Enfoque coordinado. Involucración de la Recomendación General 34. Como ha pasado para las Directrices voluntarias y el uso del consentimiento libre previo informado. Invisibilidad de los derechos. Todo tiene que estar integrado.

¿Que acciones se requieren y quien son los principales actores para fortalecer los contenidos y la implementación de los marcos normativos nacionales e internacionales para el empoderamiento de la mujer?

- De cara al futuro cualquier decisión del CSA tiene que ser muy específico sobre los temas de mujeres y de géneros. Los 8 puntos identificados en el documento de antecedentes es muy importante, acceso a los recursos, servicios, mercados, trabajo.
- En todo producto del CSA haya un párrafo específico sobre los derechos de las mujeres para que el CSA cumpla con su mandato.
- Reforzar el rol y trabajo de las organizaciones con sede en Roma para el uso, aplicación y diseminación a nivel local, nacional y regional de las decisiones del CSA.
- Voluntad política de los gobiernos. Compromiso del CSA a nivel mundial. El CSA no tiene que promover pero reconocer los derechos de las mujeres.
- Trabajar el tema de las mujeres trabajadoras agrícolas y visibilizar y reconocer su trabajo.