



CFS OEWG-Monitoring #3

Date: 18 May 2017

Time: 14:00-17:00

Location: Philippines Room, FAO (Building C, 2nd Floor)

CFS previous decisions related to monitoring CFS decisions and recommendations

During the meeting of the OEWG on Monitoring on 6 April, some participants asked to clarify whether monitoring the implementation of CFS products was limited to the organization of Global Thematic Events (GTEs). Previous plenary decisions related to the CFS monitoring framework and activities are provided below.

CFS 43 in October 2016¹

The Committee:

- a) Endorsed the document (CFS 2016/43/7) that provides guidance to food security and nutrition stakeholders on sharing their experiences and good practices in implementing CFS decisions and recommendations, as a contribution to the incremental development of an innovative monitoring mechanism. The document also serves as a framework for food security and nutrition stakeholders to contribute to global thematic events that are planned to be organized on a regular basis, subject to available resources, within CFS Plenary Sessions for taking stock of the use and application of CFS decisions and recommendations, starting with CFS major, strategic and catalytic products. The document was prepared in accordance with the CFS decision at CFS 42 (CFS 2015/42 Final Report);
- b) As endorsed at CFS 41, CFS encouraged stakeholders to continue to share their experiences and best practices on a voluntary basis through organizing events at global, regional and national levels, applying the recommended approach in document CFS 2016/43/07, subject to available resources;
- c) Recommended that the OEWG on Monitoring continues its work in 2017 to agree on how to continue monitoring the implementation of CFS products on a regular basis, drawing lessons from the Global Thematic Event at CFS 43.

CFS 42 in October 2015²:

The Committee:

- e) Recalled the decisions on CFS monitoring taken at CFS 41 to continue developing an innovative mechanism built on existing structures as recommended in paragraph 43 b (v) of the CFS 41 Final Report and, subject to available resources, invited volunteer member countries to pilot the implementation of voluntary in-depth country level assessments of CFS effectiveness, with support from the CFS Secretariat, and to discuss the results with the OEWG on Monitoring. These pilots would test the methodological approach outlined

¹ CFS 2016/43 Final Report.

² CFS 2015/42 Final Report.

in the document CFS 2014/41/11 in collaboration with those countries and stakeholders that express their interest to volunteer, and learn lessons before applying the model more broadly;

- f) As endorsed at CFS 41, encouraged CFS stakeholders to continue to share their experiences and best practices and requested the CFS Secretariat, in collaboration with the OEWG on Monitoring for the monitoring aspects, to explore and promote ways to achieve this, including within CFS sessions and through organizing events at global, regional and national levels, subject to available resources;
- g) Agreed that the OEWG on Monitoring should, as part of its work, take into consideration the implementation of the CFS work streams as outlined in CFS MYPoWs in order to develop best practices for future monitoring activities;
- h) Moreover, the Committee agreed, with respect to the events mentioned in paragraph f), that the OEWG shall develop basic terms of reference in 2016, to be approved by the Bureau and adopted by the CFS Plenary, to ensure participation, inclusiveness and regional representation in these events. In this sense, the Committee also agreed to hold a global thematic event during the CFS 43 Plenary to share experiences and take stock of the use and application of the VGGT.

CFS 41 in October 2014³:

The Committee:

- b) acknowledged document CFS 2014/41/11 “Towards a framework for monitoring CFS decisions and recommendations”. In particular, the Committee:
 - i) endorsed the Methodological Proposal in Annex 1 recognizing that it represented a first step towards the development of a framework for monitoring CFS decisions and recommendations, including the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems, as well as taking into account previous work of the Committee;
 - ii) requested that the CFS Secretariat, in collaboration with the Open-Ended Working Group on Monitoring, conduct a baseline assessment of CFS effectiveness beginning with the implementation of an opinion survey of CFS stakeholders, as indicated in the Methodological Proposal in Annex 1, and provide an update including a report of the baseline survey results to CFS 42;
 - iii) requested the CFS Secretariat, in collaboration with the Open-Ended Working Group on Monitoring, to complement the opinion survey of CFS stakeholders with the implementation of in-depth country level assessments on a voluntary basis, as described in the Methodological Proposal in Annex 1, subject to available resources;
 - iv) encouraged CFS stakeholders to continue to share their experiences and best practices, and requested the Secretariat to explore and promote ways to organize events as indicated in paragraph 5 of the document (CFS 2014/41/11), subject to available resources; and
 - v) recommended that the OEWG continue its work building on the outcome of the baseline assessments, towards helping countries and regions, as appropriate, address the questions of whether objectives are being achieved and how food insecurity and malnutrition can be reduced more quickly and effectively. This would entail developing an innovative mechanism, including the definition of common indicators, to monitor progress towards these agreed upon objectives and actions taking into account lessons learned from previous CFS and other monitoring attempts. Comments by all CFS stakeholders would have to be taken into account and new

³ CFS 2014/41 Final Report.

mechanisms would need to build on existing structures (CFS: 2009/2 Rev.2, paragraph 6 ii).

CFS 40 in October 2013⁴

The Committee:

- e) endorsed the proposal for a plan of action to disseminate the CFS decisions in the context of the CFS Communication Strategy;
- f) endorsed the proposal to focus the CFS monitoring on the Committee's major, strategic and catalytic products;
- g) endorsed the conduct of periodic assessments of the CFS effectiveness in improving policy frameworks especially at country level and in promoting participation of and coherence among stakeholders on food security and nutrition. Specifically, it recommended carrying out a baseline survey to assess the current situation as the base of assessing progress;
- h) highlighted the need that CFS monitoring mechanisms should build on existing mechanisms at global, regional and national level;
- i) requested/recommended that the OEWG on Monitoring continue its work in 2014 and report back to CFS at its 41st Session, subject to available resources;
- j) underlined the need to use monitoring and evaluation to improve the work of CFS and the formulation of future CFS recommendations bearing in mind that they should be simple, precise, concise, actionable, and time-bound.

CFS 39 in October 2012⁵

The Committee:

- a) acknowledged document CFS 2012/39/8;
- b) endorsed the findings and recommendations contained in CFS 2012/39/9 related to the further development and clarification of CFS monitoring work, especially:
 - that CFS recommendations be actionable and targeted at specific stakeholders;
 - the need for CFS to respond to the CFS reform document's call for an "innovative mechanism" to help countries and regions, as appropriate, to address the question of whether food security and nutrition objectives are being achieved;
 - that the OEWG on Monitoring continue its work in 2013 as outlined in Para. 9 and report back to CFS at its 40th Session in October 2013.

⁴ CFS 2013/40 Final Report.

⁵ CFS 2012/39 Final Report.