

CSM WG on monitoring

Speaking points for the OEWG session on January 26, 2017

Drawing lessons from the Global Thematic Event on VGGT during CFS 43 – CSM proposal on a multi-year agenda of CFS monitoring – CSM proposal on how to prepare global thematic events

Drawing lessons from the Global Thematic Event on VGGT during CFS 43

- The preparatory process was unsatisfactory. It did not consistently follow the multi-actor approach of the ToR. For instance, the format requesting evidence was designed solely by the CFS Secretariat. The report of the event reflects the shortcomings of preparatory works when it states that “the voluntary contributions received for the event are unlikely to show the full coverage of the use and application of the VGGT and do not provide a true baseline for future monitoring.” This indicates that there is need to think the entire preparatory process in a careful way. Furthermore, the conclusions of the event were not prepared in a participatory manner.
- The plenary session was very rich and lively. Substantial contributions were presented. It showed that that the CFS (at least for the VGGT) makes a real difference (being used and applied in many countries and directly affecting 2 million people) and therefore is being recognized as a relevant political forum.
- Lack of discussion about critical and controversial issues. Need to develop a methodology to constructively be able to address controversial issues in these events.
- The CSM report was acknowledged for its high quality and important contribution to the discussions. It is of utmost importance to maintain the ability of CSO to present their own independent report.
- Substantive topics such as violence against human rights defenders in the context of governance of land, fisheries and forests and the need to qualify multi-actor platforms and policy dialogue spaces for TG were identified and ought to be properly followed up.
- The Global Thematic Event and the pilot national events in France and Germany provided positive and encouraging experiences in terms of developing a mechanism which is able to meet CSO expectations in terms of monitoring CFS policies.
- Lack of clarity about how to follow up on the conclusions of the event.

How to continue monitoring the implementation of CFS policies on a regular basis, drawing lessons from the Global Thematic Event (GTE) at CFS 43

Issues that need to be discussed and agreed on in the OEWG for 2017:

- Multiyear agenda of CFS monitoring
In order to be able to properly prepare GTE according to the proposal made below, GTE should take adopt an approach of preparing GTE in a two years cycle so that there is possibility of holding national and regional events *before* GTE. Reports from national and regional events could be fed into the GTE.
We propose the following multi-year agenda:
Next GTE in 2018 on the Right to Food Guidelines/GSF
2019: FfA
2020: CFS-RAI
2021: VGGT
- Preparatory process of GTEs
Countries will be encouraged to organize a national event on the selected CFS policy as a preparatory step for the Global Thematic Event. Outcomes of national events will be fed into the GTE.

The OEWG will appoint a technical task team with the participation of the CSM or alternatively a team of independent experts – including a CSO expert and eventually HPLE members - to prepare a list of questions and identify relevant UN agencies and experts (e.g. OHCHR, ILO, WHO, World Bank, Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, etc) that can provide inputs on the topic to be monitored and request them to do so. Inputs also will be requested from countries willing to report, the CSM and PSM. FAO, IFAD and WFP will prepare their own report of activities on the selected CFS policy.

The task team or the independent experts will review all submissions received and draft a set of lessons learned and of recommendations regarding how the impact of CFS policy guidance in the area under review might be enhanced.

Countries which held national events should get priority to present their experiences in plenary.

The CFS will organize in plenary a panel discussion on the recommendations. In this way, the CFS will create a space of convergence and dialogue of different and existing monitoring mechanisms.

- Guidance on how to promote national monitoring events
Develop a note of the CFS encouraging member states to hold national monitoring events along the Terms of Reference agreed.

Implications for the OEWG work plan 2017

- Include in the work plan and as an explicit expected outcome 1) to discuss and agree about the preparatory process towards the next GTE; 2) to discuss and agree about how to monitor CFS policy recommendations.