



Date: 24 January 2018

Time: 09:30-12:30 – 14:00-17:00

Location: Red Room, FAO HQ (Building A, 1st Floor)

BACKGROUND DOCUMENT

Implementation of the CFS Evaluation - Recommendations 1 and 2

This document seeks to stimulate discussion on the implementation of CFS response to the Evaluation Recommendation 1, connected with Recommendation 2 in order to arrive at a strategic MyPoW. The CFS endorsed response to Recommendations 1 and 2 is provided in **Annex 1**.

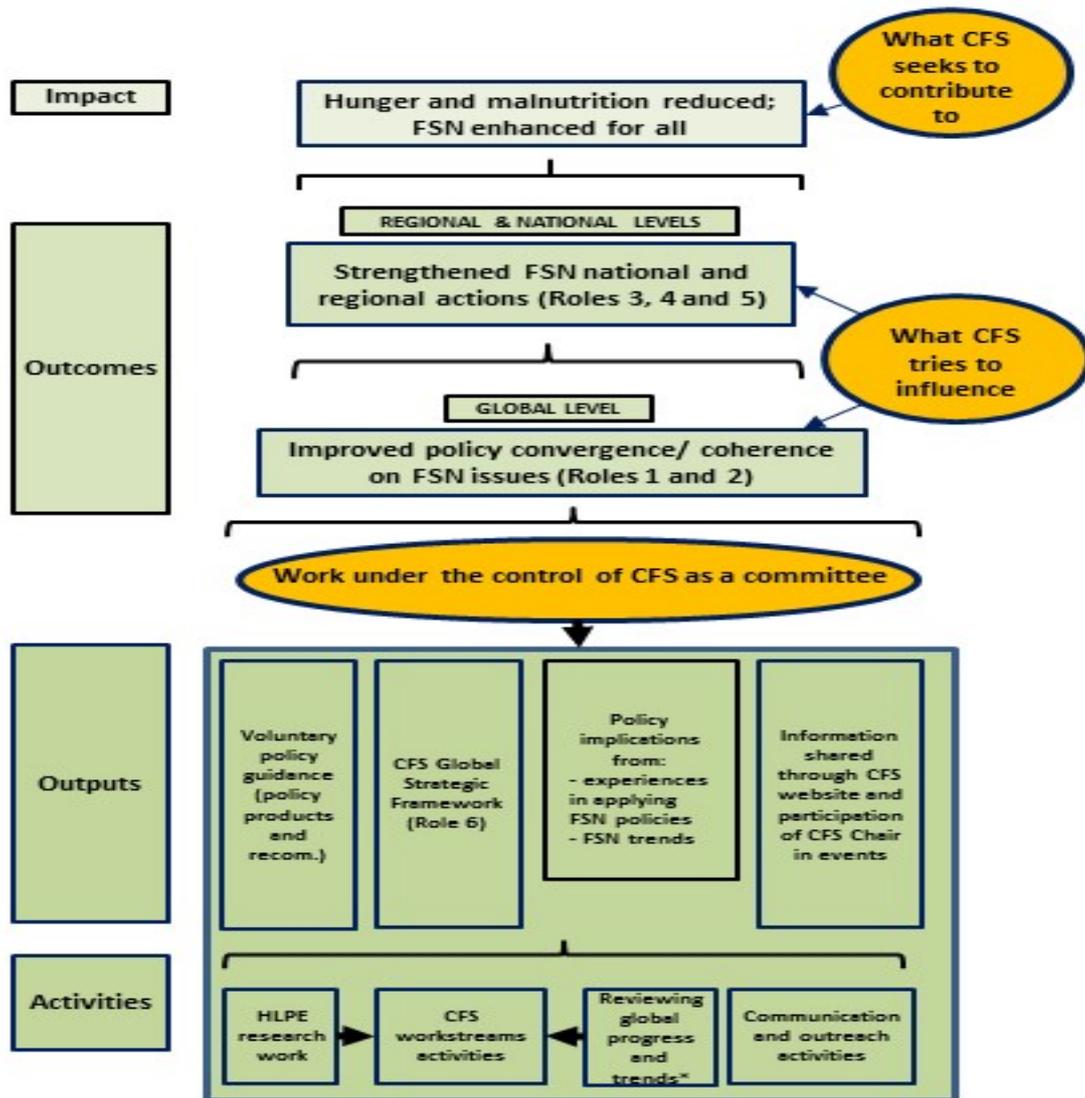
The following diagram (results chain) is meant to guide the discussion on what CFS seeks to achieve and the contribution of the CFS six roles defined in the CFS Reform Document to CFS vision and how and by whom each of these roles is expected to be performed. More details on the results chain and the six roles are provided in **Annexes 2 and 3** respectively.

1. Clarification of what CFS seeks to achieve, how and by whom

Guiding questions for the discussion:

- Does the results chain reflect the results expected from CFS (outputs and outcomes)?
- In the results chain, each of the six CFS roles has been associated with the expected result when the role is performed:
 - How and by whom should these roles be performed, in particular roles 3, 4 and 5?
 - What are the responsibilities of members and RBAs in implementing roles 3, 4 and 5?
 - How is CFS as a Committee expected to contribute to these roles? What are budget implications?

Results Chain for CFS



*based on UN reporting

Each CFS role is associated with the results expected when the role is performed

2. Proposed strategic objectives for CFS as a Committee for the next MYPoW

Strategic objectives will help channel CFS energy and resources of the 4/6 years MYPoW to activities that will contribute to greatest impact in terms of reducing hunger and malnutrition

CFS will support country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, in particular SDG2 on ending hunger and SDG17 on revitalizing global partnerships for implementation through:

- **SO1 PLATFORM:** Use CFS' inclusive, evidence-based and solution-oriented platform for exchange to identify policy implications arising from controversial, critical, urgent and emerging issues on FSN;
- **SO2 POLICY:** Prioritize critical, emerging and urgent FSN issues for policy work, considering the needs and potential impact on people most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition (demand-driven approach), taking into account RBAs work;

- **SO3 UPTAKE:** Raise awareness and strengthen political commitment to use and apply CFS products at country and regional levels (adopting a cost effective approach) within RBAs' collaboration under the UN Reform.

Guiding question for the discussion:

- Are the proposed strategic objectives adequate to guide CFS work as a Committee including prioritizing CFS activities, in the next MYPoW?

3. MYPoW

Guiding questions for the discussion:

- Do you agree with the proposed MYPoW structure in **Annex 4**?
- What changes would you suggest to the criteria endorsed at CFS 42 (CFS 2015/42/12) for selecting MYPoW activities (see **Annex 5**)?

Annex 1: CFS-endorsed response to Recommendations 1 and 2

Recommendation 1:

“CFS is the only multi-stakeholder platform within the UN system for global coordination on food security and nutrition. CFS agrees that there is a need for more strategic direction to guide CFS work but as a platform does not require a standalone strategic framework. CFS will strengthen the strategic content of MYPoW and expand MYPoW to cover at least two biennia with regular updating of activities. CFS will develop strategic objectives and expected results/ outcomes to be included in the longer-term MYPoW to provide direction towards achieving CFS’ vision, clarifying the contribution of the 6 roles of CFS set out in the Reform Document to achieving CFS vision and the modalities for carrying out these roles (including how and by whom they should be implemented), based on experience since the CFS reform. The strategic content of MYPoW will cross-reference global priorities (2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development), issues raised in HLPE Critical and Emerging Issues Note and RBAs strategic objectives.”

Actions to be taken	Implementing body	Timeframe	Further funding required (Y or N)
A1.1. Develop the strategic content of a medium to long term MYPoW; and clarify the contribution of the six roles set out in the Reform Document to achieving CFS vision, and how and by whom they should be implemented, based on experience gained since the CFS reform	Bureau, after consultation with the Advisory Group	By March 2018, to be endorsed by CFS 45	N

Recommendation 2:

“CFS will revise the MYPoW structure and process. The new MYPoW, starting in 2020 and covering at least 2 biennia, will include a “standing” section with the medium-to-long term strategic content, referring to global priorities (Agenda 2030), and informed by the HLPE Critical and Emerging Issues Note and RBAs strategic objectives, and a rolling section with activities that will be updated on a regular basis, taking into account resource availability. Priority will be given to critical, emerging and urgent FSN issues, considering their impact on people most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition. Plenary will be invited to propose, discuss and give guidance on issues to be considered, taking into account:

- Information provided by the HLPE and global developments, considering their relevance to the work at country level of stakeholders including RBAs;*
- Potential duplication with other bodies;*
- Expected added value taking into account CFS roles and vision; and*
- Potential synergy across issues.*

The preparation of MYPoW will include a comprehensive planning phase led by stakeholders to identify priority areas of work and will comprise for each activity a strong rationale for CFS engagement, objectives and outcomes, explicit CFS added value, roles and responsibilities post endorsement, monitoring activities and budget. The process will lead to a decision on whether to adopt or not the activity. The decision to include new activities in MYPoW will be conditional on resource availability, taking into account other factors, such as workload.”

<i>Actions to be taken</i>	<i>Implementing body</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Further funding required (Y or N)</i>
<i>A2.1. Develop a proposal for a new MYPoW structure and process which is linked to Agenda 2030, with a standing section with the strategic content (see A1.1) and a rolling section with activities linked to resource availability.</i>	<i>Bureau, after consultation with the Advisory Group</i>	<i>By June 2018, to be endorsed at CFS 45</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>A2.2. Develop and apply clearer criteria for selecting CFS activities.</i>	<i>Bureau, after consultation with the Advisory Group</i>	<i>By June 2018</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>A.2.3. Give Plenary the opportunity to propose, discuss and give guidance on critical, emerging and urgent FSN issues to inform the preparation of MYPoW.</i>	<i>Bureau, after consultation with the Advisory Group</i>	<i>By February each year for plenary in October</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>A2.4. Define a comprehensive planning phase for MYPoW to identify activities, taking into account resource availability.</i>	<i>Bureau, after consultation with the Advisory Group</i>	<i>By June 2018</i>	<i>N</i>

Annex 2: Results chain

A results chain for CFS has been developed to tentatively reflect what CFS is currently doing, based on the Indicative Programme Logic presented by the Evaluation. It links CFS activities to CFS expected outcomes and impact. The proposed results chain shows the following:

- (i) CFS aims at reducing hunger and malnutrition through improved policy convergence/coherence, which leads to strengthened actions at national and regional levels*
- (ii) Voluntary policy guidance (policy products and recommendations) is often considered as the only CFS output. The results chain attracts attention on other CFS outputs, including outputs resulting from the analysis of policy implications from FSN trends and experiences in applying FSN policies, which has scope for more work to be done. The results chain presents the following outputs:*
 - Voluntary policy guidance (policy products and recommendations)*
 - CFS Global Strategic Framework*
 - Identification of policy implications from reviewing global progress and trends in FSN and experiences in applying FSN policies*
 - Communication on CFS and CFS outputs through CFS website and participation of CFS Chair in events*
- (iii) HLPE research work is indicated as an input to CFS thematic activities whereas it currently tends to lead to independent outputs (HLPE reports and Note on Critical and Emerging issues).*
- (iv) In the results chain, each of the six CFS roles has been associated with the main expected result when the role is performed. The results chain shows that all roles contribute to achieving CFS vision.*

The Evaluation noted that the Committee has not been effective in executing Roles 3, 4 and 5, which were expected to result in strengthening FSN national and regional actions and recommended to clarify the expected contribution of the roles to CFS vision and how and by whom they should be implemented, in particular roles 3, 4 and 5.

The Evaluation indicated that the Committee has little control over the extent to which its policy products and recommendations are used and applied¹.

Annex 3: Performance of the CFS on its six roles, according to the Evaluation (Evaluation Report, para. ES11).

Role 1: Coordination at global level for coordinated action	CFS convened annual plenaries, serving as a forum for coordination on FSN issues. The increase in the number of delegates and other attendees suggests that there is value in attending.
Role 2: Policy convergence	CFS performed its policy convergence role through development and endorsement of policy convergence products and policy recommendations. There is an uptake of main policy convergence products (VGGT), but it is too early as yet to assess the impact.
Role 3: Support and advice to countries	CFS did not facilitate support and advice to countries and regions, as none requested such advice. There is a lack of clarity about this role and the details of how CFS should facilitate support and advice were not worked out.
Role 4: Coordination at national and regional levels (Phase II role)	CFS has tried to build some linkages with these levels at the plenary, but outreach to these levels were limited to the Chairperson’s engagements at FAO Regional Conferences and other regional events. The details of this role have not been elaborated by CFS.
Role 5: Promote accountability and share best practices at all levels (Phase II role)	CFS provided platforms for sharing best practices at the global level through special events at the CFS Plenary. It has not developed frameworks that can assist countries and regions in monitoring progress towards achieving their FSN objectives.
Role 6: Develop a Global Strategic Framework for food security and nutrition (Phase II role)	The GSF was developed and endorsed by the CFS Plenary (2012). The level of awareness about the GSF is low, and the extent of usage is unknown. CFS is reviewing the GSF to improve it.

Annex 4: Proposed MYPoW Structure

Standing sections

Sections to be updated every MYPoW (4 or 6 years)

Rolling sections to be updated every year or biennium

¹ “The Committee ultimately has little control over the extent to which its policy products and recommendations are used and applied, although it can proactively seek to influence the use and application of these. The effective use and application of CFS policy products and recommendations require that countries be supported with strategies and tools, as well as practical guidance to adapt CFS products to the country context. The development and deployment of these, however, fall outside the mandate of the Committee, and it is up to the Rome-Based Agencies, and other development partners, as well as the CSM and PSM to develop strategies and tools for the use and application of CFS policy products and recommendations. The VGGT was a good example of strategies and tools developed to aid the use and application of a policy product. However, this was not the case with other products and recommendations.” (Evaluation Report, para. ES38)

A. CFS vision and global objectives

A.1. CFS Vision: As per the Reform Document endorsed in 2009, the Committee on World Food Security “constitutes the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for a broad range of committed stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner and in support of country-led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all human beings. CFS strives for a world free from hunger where countries implement the voluntary guidelines for the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security”.

A.2. CFS global objective

CFS aims at strengthening actions at national and regional levels to reduce hunger and malnutrition through improved policy convergence/ coherence.

B. MYPoW 2019-2023 (or 2019-25)

B.1. Main trends and challenges in the field of food security and nutrition - This section will provide an overview of ongoing and foreseen FSN trends and challenges, with specific attention to areas relevant to the vision, objectives and results of the Committee. The section will cross-reference global priorities (2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development), issues raised in HLPE note on critical and emerging issues, considering their relevance to stakeholders’ work at country level and RBAs strategic objectives.

B.2. Results for 2020-2023 (or 2020-2025?)

CFS will support country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, in particular SDG2 on ending hunger and SDG17 on revitalizing global partnerships for implementation of the SDGs, through the following strategic objectives:

SO1:

Output 1.1:

Indicators:

Output 1.2:

Indicators:

...

SO2:

Output 2.1:

Indicators:

Output 2.2:

Output 3.1:

Indicators:

SO3:

C. Activities to be carried out (updated every biennium or every year? although with new emerging and urgent issues?)

Output 1.1:

- Activities

Output 1.2:

- Activities...

Output 2.1:

- Activities

Output 3.1:

- Activities

Annex 5: Criteria for selecting MYPoW activities (CFS 2015/42/12)

All proposals for potential future CFS activities as well as deliberations and decisions must meet the following **minimum criteria**.

- a) **CFS MANDATE and VALUE ADDED:** the CFS is the best placed to carry out the proposed activity, taking into consideration its mandate and added value;
- b) **CONTRIBUTION TO CFS OVERALL OBJECTIVE:** the proposed activity contributes to the achievement of the CFS overall objective through one or several of its three outcomes; and
- c) **NO DUPLICATION:** the same proposed activity has not been carried out in the past or is not carried out at the same time by other actors with comparable mandates. Convergence with other existing frameworks is ensured and duplication avoided.

Once there is a list of topics that meet the basic requirements outlined by these criteria, these should be assessed against the following qualitative **selection criteria** that would assist CFS stakeholders in ranking the most appropriate and high impact topics for CFS to address.

- d) **RELEVANCE:** given the importance for CFS to anticipate and be responsive to key and urgent global issues on the international agenda that are relevant to food security and nutrition, the selected topics should be timely and relevant to the international agenda.
- e) **GLOBAL IMPACT:** the potential global impact of addressing specific problems of the selected activity should be taken in due account.
- f) **KNOWLEDGE AND EVIDENCE:** there is a strong evidence base to draw on to underpin discussion.
- g) **ROME-BASED AGENCIES SUPPORT:** the Rome-based agencies are well placed to provide technical support to the topic.
- h) **AVAILABLE RESOURCES:** there is enough time, resources and background knowledge to carry out the proposed activity. This criterion is fundamental to prioritize among the different activities, implement the selected ones in a thorough and encompassing manner and with the view to carefully managing CFS limited resources and not overloading its agenda.

The following criterion is an overarching one and should be the rule at every step of the process:

- i) **CONSENSUS:** there is a consensus among CFS members to address the issue within the CFS framework, and to select the proposed activity and include it in the CFS MYPoW.