

CFS Follow-up process on effective multi-stakeholder partnerships

WHO/NHD contribution to the guiding questions

Q1. What would you propose for the follow-up process on effective multistakeholder partnerships to contribute to knowledge and lesson sharing, and to mainstreaming the concept of MSP in the work of CFS?

WHO/NHD is in support of an event with focus on knowledge and lesson-sharing on effective multistakeholder partnerships (MSPs). We would like to suggest that such an event could be relevant by putting particular focus on selected key elements for effective MSPs as developed in the HLPE report and outlined in its recommendations.

On mainstreaming, depending on the definitions that are applied, one could argue that given the multistakeholder nature of CFS, CFS already incorporates the concept of MSPs in its workstreams. Therefore, there seems to be no further need for additional actions for mainstreaming in CFS's work.

Q2. What would be the expected results of your proposal?

Expected outcomes of such an event could be:

- a. Learning and gaining increased awareness among CFS members about MSPs and their particularities, with a focus on both global level and country level experience. The realities and challenges to deal with might be different at global and country level, therefore examples should cover both.
- b. A concrete communication product at the end of the event (or the process). Such a product could for example highlight the key elements for effective MSPs, or more specifically highlight CFS particular nature as a multistakeholder body and how this enables CFS to effectively address food security and nutrition. In this way the outcome could include one particular communication product and/or a more technical note type of product related to essential elements of effective MSPs (as opposed to adopted policy recommendations on the topic, which seems not applicable in this case).

Q3. What would be the specific objectives of such an event?

The specific objectives could include:

- Better understanding of selected specific elements for MSPs to be effective. One such element that seems cutting across several of the recommendations in the HLPE report refers to **transparency and accountability**, including the following aspects: possible tensions among partners/speakers; power asymmetries; conflicts of interest. Transparency and accountability could be one important area for learning and lessons sharing.
- Increased awareness on the need for managing Conflicts of Interest and examples on practical tools to do so could be one focus.
- The discussion should allow for a reflection how these elements relate to the CFS and how CFS deals with them (this could feed into the concrete communication product mentioned above).

Q4. Do you have any suggestions on the format of the event: duration, involvement of panelists, moderator and keynote speakers?

The event should be a High-level event, could be ½ day or full day. It should best be framed under the 2030 Agenda and as such also be related to the SDG17 in particular.

In this context, we would like to suggest as key note speaker: Amina J. Mohammed, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations. Part of her role is to support the Secretary-General in ensuring inter-sectoral and inter-institutional coherence of activities and programmes.

Q5. Should the event be organized in plenary or during the intersessional period?

Both options have their advantages: Plenary might give higher political attention to it, on the other side might have more time limitations. An intersessional event like in form of a workshop would allow for more depths and more time for interaction. This could be of advantage when discussing some of the focus areas.

Q6. Could you contribute actively to such an event and present an example of an effective multi-stakeholder partnership?

WHO could actively contribute to the event.

- A WHO speaker could participate as panelist to share WHO experience on Safeguarding against possible Conflict of Interest in nutrition programmes. Also expected contributions from the private sector e.g. food manufacturers in selected areas related to food security and nutrition could be addressed. The speaker would depend on the composition of the panel. For more information on the WHO's work on conflict of interest, please refer to the Report by the Director General to the World Health Assembly, WHA paper A71/23 from 2018, available at this link and to the WHO website:
http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA71/A71_23-en.pdf
<https://www.who.int/nutrition/consultation-doi/comments/en/>
- Furthermore, a representative from WHO member state could share valuable country experience on management of possible conflict of interest in nutrition programmes. With this regard we are currently planning an event to take place in Geneva in February, and we would be happy to share some of these learnings further.
- WHO could also share valuable experience of an example of an effective MSP, such as the Every Woman Every Child multistakeholder movement, or other global multistakeholder movement like the SUN Movement and focus could be on their accountability model which includes regular mandatory reporting on commitments made.