

Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism (CSM)
Plenary Statement @CFS47 | 9 February 2021
Global Thematic Event: Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted
Crises
Mariam Aljaajaa – APN, on behalf of the CSM Protracted Crises Working Group

Thank you chair,

As mentioned by several speakers many policy platforms have recognized the necessity of interlinking relief, development and peacebuilding after the endorsement of the FFA. But these policy platforms remain very ambiguous in their interpretation of this interlinkage into policies and actions, and their treatment of human rights and root causes of crises. Endorsing such concepts without clear interpretation, particularly of the concept of peace, can be dangerous and could re-enforce the status quo through preserving underlying causes.

It is extremely necessary for the CFS to coordinate and engage with other platforms to utilize the FFA. The FFA is a product of 3 years of intense consultations and negotiations with involvement of all actors. It is much more advanced in its guiding principles. The CFS could invite other policy platforms to develop collectively an implementation plan that includes coordination, collaboration and monitoring structures for different contexts. CFS as the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform on food security should provide space to discuss actors' distribution of roles. This is what we have said five years ago after the endorsement of the FFA. And we would like to repeat it today. Let us not wait for another five years to realize this crucial step and fail the many affected communities that were involved in preparing the FFA.

The implementation plan should address the issue of mandates: will collaboration among the usual actors be sufficient? Do we need to expand our mandates or involve new actors?

Funding should be directed at developing comprehensive approaches and identifying best practices.

We have observed that funding for peace and addressing root causes is still negligible in comparison to humanitarian and development aid. In fact, we have observed that humanitarian and development aid is undermined greatly by funding for obstructions to peace, such as militarization which systemically targets food systems.

The message we collectively got after the high-level expert forum in 2012 is that sustaining conflicts around the world incurs enormous costs upon affected peoples' lives. But they also have huge economic and security costs on everyone. We need to mobilize political will to move again in the right direction. As individuals in our posts, as organizations, and governments. We can all have an impact.

We as CSOs have put great effort in dissemination and use of the FFA at the national and regional level, but found ourselves restrained when we tried to build momentum with other actors. We call on CFS members and participants to have greater role on the national and regional level, always in partnership with CSO and affected communities. We urge governments to provide multi-actor platforms on food security that can facilitate such discussions. The current humanitarian clusters and development forums, often coordinated by governments or the UN, frequently exclude local CSOs. We are very happy that FAO is using the FFA but

urge FAO to ensure meaningful civil society involvement on the national, regional and international level. We can do much more together.

We have put down in our report strategic recommendations on dissemination, implementation and monitoring (in 4 UN languages). We are ready to assist in taking them forward.

CSM Monitoring Report on FFA

(English): http://www.csm4cfs.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/EN-FFE_REPORT-2021.pdf

(Français): http://www.csm4cfs.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/FR-FFE_REPORT-2021.pdf

(Arabic): http://www.csm4cfs.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/AR-FFE_REPORT-2021.pdf

La version española será disponible a partir de la segunda mitad de Febrero