



# Evaluation of CFS Reform

## Civil Society Mechanism Focus Group Discussion scheduled for 14 October 2016

### Introduction

The evaluation is an independent evaluation commissioned by CFS to determine the extent to which the reforms implemented since 2009 are working. All structures of CFS will be covered by the evaluation. The Evaluation Team will also interview a broad range of stakeholders and conduct field visits to a small sample of countries. The evaluation uses the OECD-DAC criteria of relevance, efficiency and effectiveness, and impartiality & independence, credibility and usefulness.

The Evaluation Team will explore a small number of questions in the two-hour timeslot. Participants are encouraged to submit any additional information or responses by email following the focus group discussion. Responses may be addressed to the Evaluation Team:

- Angela Bester, Evaluation Manager: [angela@communicationworks.co.za](mailto:angela@communicationworks.co.za)
- Patricia Biermayr-Jenzano, Evaluation Team Leader: [pbiermayr@gmail.com](mailto:pbiermayr@gmail.com)
- Ronald Gordon, Thematic Expert (Public Policy): [rmg251@yahoo.com](mailto:rmg251@yahoo.com)
- Meena Fernandes, Thematic Expert (Nutrition): [meenaf@gmail.com](mailto:meenaf@gmail.com)

### Discussion questions

#### *Perspectives on reformed CFS*

- Q1. To what extent has the reformed CFS addressed relevant food security & nutrition priorities? Are there any priorities that CFS is not addressing currently and why is this the case? Are there issues that CFS could address differently?
- Q2. What differences do you perceive in the manner in which the CFS addresses food security and nutrition since the introduction of the 2009 reform? Please illustrate with one or two examples.
- Q3. Which roles or functions has CFS performed effectively? Provide examples to illustrate. In what areas has CFS been deficient? Why do think this is the case?
- Q4. To what extent has CFS been effective in its outreach communication? Why do you say so? In what ways could CFS improve its outreach communication?

- Q5. How effectively has CFS incorporated the following in its agenda: Gender equality and empowerment of women; Youth; Indigenous peoples and marginalised groups? Provide examples to illustrate.
- Q6. How can CFS mechanisms facilitate engagement and collaboration between the CSM, the PSM and other stakeholders to achieve proposed food security nutrition goals and priorities?

### *Perspectives on CSM*

- Q7. How effective is the CSM participation in the work of CFS – in the CFS Advisory Group, Open Ended Working Groups, CFS Plenary Sessions and Other CFS mechanisms?
- Q8. The CSM seeks to influence food security and nutrition policies and actions at national, regional and global levels through its participation in the work of CFS. Please illustrate how the CSM influenced policies and actions at each of these levels.
- Q9. The CSM has a large, diverse constituency. How effectively has CSM organized itself to serve its 11 constituencies and 17 sub-regions, and provide the space for divergent views to be expressed and debated?
- Q10. In what ways and in which areas could the effectiveness of the CMS be improved?
- Q11. What differentiates the CSM from other international mechanisms established to facilitate civil society participation in global level policy-making?

### *Lessons learned*

- Q12. If the CFS multi-stakeholder model is to be replicated (with some adaptation), what are the key lessons learned from the existing CFS model?
- Q13. What changes in the CFS multi-stakeholder model may be necessary to improve its effectiveness?