



THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY (CFS)

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) was established in 1974 and reformed in 2009 to become 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, for the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security.

CFS promotes policy convergence and coherence on global food security and nutrition issues. Its processes ensure that the voices of all relevant stakeholders are heard, particularly those most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition.

The Committee supports country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a special focus on Sustainable Development Goal 2: Ending Hunger, and its linkages with other goals, targets, and indicators relevant to food security and nutrition.

CFS is an integral component of global governance on food security and reports to the UN General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

CFS is made up of countries that are members of the United Nations; UN agencies and bodies with a mandate on food security and nutrition; other relevant UN System bodies whose overall work is related to attaining food security; civil society and non-governmental organisations and their networks; international agricultural research systems; international and regional Financial Institutions; and relevant private sector associations and private philanthropic foundations.

CFS is jointly supported by the three Rome-based Agencies: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the World Food Programme (WFP), which provide CFS with core funding, technical expertise and make up the joint CFS Secretariat hosted by FAO. CFS activities also rely upon voluntary contributions.

“ We are also determined to end hunger and to achieve food security as a matter of priority and to end all forms of malnutrition. In this regard, we reaffirm the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security...”

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

THE WORLD TODAY: WHY IS CFS IMPORTANT?

World hunger has been on the rise since 2015. According to *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2019* (SOFI) report, more than 820 million people – almost 11 percent of the world's population – are hungry. Climate change, environmental degradation, pests and diseases, conflicts, economic downturns unhealthy diets, and other health crises like COVID-19 pandemic are compounding the problem.

WHAT DOES CFS DO?

- Promotes policy convergence and coherent application of policy recommendations to ensure long term food security and nutrition in a sustainable way.
- Provides a platform for global coordination on food security and nutrition and for sharing lessons and experiences.
- Reviews global progress towards achieving world food security.

WHAT MAKES CFS UNIQUE?

The CFS policy recommendations have an unrivalled level of international legitimacy and authority as they:

- Are negotiated and agreed by Member Nations with the inclusive participation of all key actors concerned with food security and nutrition.

- Are informed by evidence and scientific analysis provided by the CFS High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE).
- Draw from the technical capacity of the three Rome-based Agencies FAO, IFAD, and WFP and other recognized experts and institutions from around the world.

SELECTED ACHIEVEMENTS

CFS led the development of globally-adopted policy convergence products on global food security and nutrition that include:

- ***Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (CFS-VGGT)***
- ***Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI)***
- ***Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (CFS-FFA)***

In 2017, CSFS also developed the *Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition* (GSF) which contains all the policy guidelines and recommendations produced by the Committee to that point.

Visit www.fao.org/cfs/home/products/onlinegsf/1

CFS PRIORITIES: 2020-2023 PROGRAMME OF WORK

The Committee adopted an ambitious strategic programme of work for 2020–2023 aligned with the recommendations of the 2017 Independent Evaluation of CFS.



In 2020, CFS is focusing on two policy convergence processes of the Food Systems Summit and other events like the Nutrition for Growth Summit:



Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition: Providing guidance on cross-sectoral action needed to address the key causes of malnutrition in all its forms.



Policy Recommendations on Agroecological and other Innovative Approaches: Guiding the development of effective policies for sustainable agriculture and food systems.

Starting in 2021, CFS will focus on the development of:



Voluntary Guidelines on **Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment for Food Security and Nutrition**, intended to address all forms of discrimination against women (to be endorsed in 2022)



Policy recommendations on **Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems**, proposing action for engaging, recruiting and retaining youth in agriculture (2022)



Policy recommendations on **Data Collection and Analysis** which will strengthen capacity of countries to collect, analyze, and use quality data to improve decision-making (2023)



Policy recommendations on **Reducing Inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition**, with a focus on inequalities within agri-food systems (2024)

CFS HIGH LEVEL PANEL OF EXPERTS ON FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION (HLPE)

CFS has established a High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) which provides the Committee with independent science and evidence based analysis to inform policy.

ANNUAL GLOBAL MEETING

The annual global meeting of CFS (CFS Plenary) is normally held every October at FAO Headquarters in Rome. The plenary is a unique global platform where food security and nutrition stakeholders from all over the world agree on policy guidance, review global progress, network, and share experiences.



FIND OUT MORE

VISIT



Website: www.fao.org/cfs



Follow CFS on **Twitter:**
[@UN_CFS](https://twitter.com/UN_CFS)



CFS on **Facebook:**
[UN_CFS](https://www.facebook.com/UN_CFS)



Email: cfs@fao.org

CFS Secretariat is supported by:



FAO
Food and Agriculture
Organization



IFAD
International Fund For
Agricultural Development



WFP
World Food
Programme

With generous voluntary contributions from:



European
Commission



France



Germany



Switzerland



United Arab
Emirates