CFS Framework for Action for Food Insecurity in Protracted Crisis (CFS-FFA)

Introduction

The CFS Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in protracted crises (CFS-FFA, the Framework) was endorsed by the CFS at its Forty-Second Session on 13 October 2015 (CFS 2015/42/4), following a three-year preparation and negotiation process with CFS actors including member States, UN Agencies, CSOs (via the Civil Society Mechanism of the CFS - ‘CSM’), private sector, and academia and research.

With the range of recurrent and ongoing crises which perpetuate and exacerbate food insecurity and malnutrition, the CFS agreed that protracted crisis situations require special attention, and that appropriate responses for these contexts differ from those required in short-term crisis or in non-crisis development contexts.

Countries and areas in protracted crisis are “environments in which a significant proportion of the population is acutely vulnerable to death, disease and disruption of livelihoods over a prolonged period of time.”¹ Protracted crises undermine food security and nutrition in multiple ways, affecting the availability, access and utilization of food.

The CFS-FFA represents the first global consensus on how to mitigate the threat to food security and nutrition, and support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food during protracted crises. The Framework is comprised of 11 principles that recognize the need for coherent and integrated humanitarian and development efforts, in the context of international human rights obligations. The principles address both the immediate and the long-term food security and nutrition needs of people living through extended crises, which disrupt livelihoods and food systems, resulting in higher illness and mortality rates and increase displacement, hunger and undernutrition².

Objective and Purpose

The CFS-FFA provides a broad framework that can be used by all actors who may have a role in improving or impacting food security and nutrition in protracted crises. The objective of the Framework is to improve the food security and nutrition of populations affected by, or at risk of, protracted crises by addressing critical manifestations and building resilience; adapting to specific challenges; and contributing to addressing underlying causes.

To achieve this objective, the CFS_FFA seeks to mobilize political commitment and promote coordinated participatory processes, including the review of progress and sharing of lessons learned, to inform policies and actions aimed at preventing, mitigating, responding to and promoting early recovery from food insecurity and malnutrition in protracted crises.

Framework outlines the Principles and actions that can assist actors— in particular governments, UN agencies and development actors, in improving food security and nutrition in protracted crises. This document should be interpreted and applied consistently with existing obligations under national and international law, including human rights, with due regard to commitments under regional and international instruments.

Implementation of the CFS-FFA will require the translation of political commitment to action on the ground. States are encouraged, with the contribution of other actors, to apply the Framework in developing and assessing their strategies, policies, programs and legislation addressing hunger and malnutrition in situations of protracted crises, as well as emerging crises.

**Monitoring in the CFS**

At its 47th Session in October 2020, CFS will hold a Global Thematic Event (GTE) for monitoring the use and application of the CFS-FFA. The GTE will enable a multi-actor dialogue based on the experiences and good practices documented by CFS participants, reports and outcomes from national, regional and international monitoring events, and will contribute to monitoring progress in implementing the CFS-FFA at all levels.