

European Food Security Group (EFSG)

Nom

European Food Security Group (EFSG)

Main topic

Food Security

Themes of the topic

1. Food Security as core-issue for Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development (overall concepts and strategies)
2. The place of Food Security as a priority area of the European Development Policy
3. The role of NGOs, quality and impact of their field programs, their partnership with Southern Organisations
4. Programming and execution of the EC Food Aid & Food Security Program
5. Coherence between European policies, Monitoring of European and international commitments

Mandate

The EFSG is one of the Thematic Working-Groups of CONCORD, led by EuronAid. It aims in particular at feeding policy advocacy with practices. The EFSG offers a representative forum of European NGOs involved in Food Security-related issues, and acts as a reference group in promoting a structured and regular dialogue between NGOs and the European Commission. The EFSG intends to demonstrate the impact of NGO programs and expertise, in particular vis-à-vis the most vulnerable groups. The EFSG also aims at providing up-dated Food Security-related information to be integrated, whereas relevant, in common CONCORD policy and lobbying activities.

Strategy

The EFSG enhances coordination among NGOs and promotes their interests as strategic partners in designing and implementing the European Food Security and Development policies. The EFSG advocates in favour of adequate policy support and sufficient resources for Food Security, in particular for programs implemented by NGOs. The EFSG prepares NGO positions to be discussed in order to influence the political debate and policy formulation on Food Security-related issues and issues that are important to NGOs. It also promotes the evidence of NGO results to the policy level.

Work plan (summary)

- Dialogue with the European Commission, regularly invited to the meetings, on relevant agenda-points and topics according to decision-making procedures;
- Monitoring of the Budget-lines, programming and execution of the European Food Aid & Food Security Program;
- Follow-up of on-going changes and reforms (deconcentration, rationalisation, etc.)
- Monitoring of the European commitments towards Food Security and the positioning of European institutions in international negotiations;
- Follow-up of the relevant instruments: European Commission's Communications, reporting, evaluation, guidelines, Call for proposals and other framework documents affecting Food Security and NGOs, and all related procedures;
- Information sharing on processes, proposals, rules, etc.

Frequency of the meetings

About 4 meetings a year (minimum 1 day)