COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK (CPF) 2015 – 2018

FOR
COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN
GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE AND
UNITED NATIONS FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION (FAO)

November 2014
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COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK (2015 – 2018)

Introduction

In 2012, the UN Secretary-General launched the global Zero Hunger Challenge. This was followed in 2013 by the launch of the Asia-Pacific region’s Zero Hunger Challenge on 29 April 2013 by the UN Deputy Secretary-General and the Executive Secretary of UNESCAP with the participation of Ministers and senior officials of UN Member States in the region, including Prime Minister Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão of Timor-Leste. The National Action Plan for a Hunger and Malnutrition Free Timor-Leste (known by its Tetum acronym PAN-HAM-TIL) was launched in Dili on July 20 2014. The PAN-HAM-TIL has five pillars, i) 100 percent equitable access to adequate, nutrition and affordable food all year round; ii) Zero stunted children less than 2 years of age; iii) All food systems are sustainable; iv) 100 percent increase in smallholder productivity and income; and v) Zero loss or waste of food.

During post-launch meetings between the Director General of FAO and H.E. the President, H.E. Prime Minister and H.E. the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) it was agreed that FAO would revise the FAO-GoTL Country Programming Framework (CPF) to focus on six areas during the first 5 years of PAN-HAM-TIL (2015-2019) hereinafter called the “FAO-GoTL Agreed Deliverables”:

a) Strengthening institutions and mechanisms for coordinating the implementation of PAN-HAM-TIL
b) Strengthening the liaison and coordination role of GoTL (Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries / Chair of KONSSANTIL) as Chair of the CPLP Food and Nutrition Security Council during 2014 – 2016
c) Conduct of the first Timor-Leste Agriculture Census and strengthening agricultural information systems.
d) Enhancing the contribution of under-utilized staple food crops – such as tubers and root crops (cassava, taro, yams and potatoes) and some fruits and vegetables – to the output of farms and the diets of households
e) Sustainable development of smallholder fisheries and aquaculture.
f) Revitalization and development of the cash crops sector, particularly the coconut industry and the coffee industry.

RESULT MATRIX – OUTCOME AND OUTPUT INDICATORS

Gender equality is one the principles of implementation of this CPF. FAO is fully committed to gender equality, which is central to its mandate to eliminate poverty and achieve food and nutrition security for all.

GoTL and FAO further agreed that the revised CPF would be a short document of no more than three to five pages, outlining the Priority Areas, Outcomes and Outputs for FAO support. This would be supplemented by two Annexes containing logical frameworks that outline a) a set of indicative activities associated with the respective Outputs and Outcomes; b) the relevance of the CPF to the FAO-GoTL Agreed Deliverables, to PAN-HAM-TIL, to the Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan (SDP) 2011-2030, and to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2014 - 2019. The third annex contains the results matrix of outcome and output indicators and is followed by one that lists tentative funding sources and another that describes implementation arrangements.

CPF Priority Areas, Outcomes and Outputs

**PRIORITY AREA 1**
SUPPORT TO IMPROVEMENT OF INSTITUTIONS AND COORDINATION MECHANISMS FOR POLICIES, LAWS AND REGULATIONS, AND PROGRAMMES AND PLANS TO ENSURE 100% EQUITABLE YEAR-ROUND ACCESS TO ADEQUATE, NUTRITIOUS AND AFFORDABLE FOOD FOR ALL

Outcome 1.1 – Strengthened coordination, planning, policy, legislation and regulatory frameworks for achievement of PAN-HAM-TIL goals

- **Output 1.1.1 – Strengthened coordination role for KONSSANTIL and constituent Ministries / agencies to ensure effective implementation of PAN-HAM-TIL**

  FAO will facilitate technical assistance and work with the GoTL to put in place, in KONSSANTIL and constituent Ministries/agencies, mechanisms for implementing food security and nutrition interventions. These will include institutional, policy and legislative and regulatory frameworks, leadership structures, and advocacy and
coordination mechanisms that bring together the relevant Ministries, Secretariats and other institutions under KONSSANTIL purview for cost-effective implementation of the PAN-HAM-TIL. Enhanced analysis and decision making capacities will be supported through a Management Information System (MIS) as in Output 2.1.4.

- **Output 1.1.2 – KONSSANTIL President / Minister of MAF functioning effectively as Chair of the Food and Nutrition Security Council of CPLP for 2014 - 2106**
  
  FAO will facilitate technical assistance to enhance the capacity of the KONSSANTIL leadership, particularly the Minister of Agriculture and Forests and the Minister of Health, to establish effective linkages with the CPLP Food Security Secretariat and provide support to Zero Hunger Challenge plans and initiatives of CPLP member countries.

- **Output 1.1.3 – Enhanced capacity to analyse, formulate and implement gender-equitable policies, laws, regulation and other instruments to address food and nutrition insecurity**
  
  FAO will work with GoTL to strengthen the capacity of KONSSANTIL and its constituent Ministries/agencies to conduct analysis of policies and legal and regulatory requirements for the modernization and diversification of the agriculture and food sector, and for the assurance of the Right to Food to all citizens of Timor-Leste.

- **Output 1.1.4 – Enhanced agriculture and food planning and programming capacities at national level (KONSSANTIL and Ministries/central agencies) and District and lower levels**
  
  FAO will work with GoTL to improve capacity at national and district levels for planning and co-ordination of public development programmes and private investments and initiatives for the agricultural and food sector covering crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry. This will include assistance to MAF to establish a donor coordination unit and support in the implementation of better coordination among all players.

- **Output 1.1.5 -- Functional and interconnected management information systems (MIS) for KONSSANTIL / Ministries developed**
  
  A Management Information System (MIS) will be developed for use by KONSNSANTIL and its constituent Ministries/agencies for improved analysis and decision-making.

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**PRIORITY AREA 2**

**SUPPORT TO FIRST TIMOR-LESTE AGRICULTURE CENSUS AND ENHANCED CAPACITY FOR STATISTICS, INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS FOR AGRICULTURE SECTOR AND FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY**

Outcomes 2.1 – Increased quantity and quality of data, statistics and information for management of agriculture (crops, livestock and fisheries) sector and achievement of PAN-HAM-TIL goals

- **Output 2.1.1 Satisfactorily completed National Agriculture Census for Timor-Leste**
  
  FAO will work with GoTL and other development partners to facilitate the conduct of a national agriculture census. Working with KONSSANTIL, MAF, the National Statistics Secretariat and others, an agriculture census task force and recruitment of census experts will be set-up to start designs for the census within 2014 - 2016.

- **Output 2.1.2 – Regularly updated and published data and statistics on agriculture and food and related sectors in Timor-Leste**
  
  FAO will assist the GoTL to assess data and statistics needs and make improvements in identification, access to and use of existing data. Capacity will be built to enable the undertaking of large-scale statistics activities. A system of surveys to report the current statistics on agriculture, food and nutrition will be established and made functional, including preparation of estimates for National Income Accounting.

- **Output 2.1.3 -- Functional weather monitoring and food security early warning system**
  
  FAO will assist the Government rehabilitate and build up capacity in KONSSANTIL and MAF for systematic collection, compilation and use of hydrological, meteorological, and other data for food security early warning.
GoTL has determined to give high priority to the improvement of crop and food diversification through more intensive and extensive production and consumption of under-utilized crops, including roots and tubers, vegetables and fruits, and indigenous foods. The increased production of these crops can raise farmers’ income, reduce imports, and enhance availability of and access to affordable and varied nutritious diets for the poor. Such initiatives also need to be underpinned by strong natural and agricultural resource conservation measures.

Outcome 3.1 – Enhanced management of natural resources to support crop management practices for intensification and diversification of smallholder farming systems, with special attention to under-utilised crops

- **Outcome 3.1.1 – Improved conservation and management of natural resources through the adoption of sustainable agriculture, including improved management of water resources**
  FAO will support GoTL in creating improved awareness and knowledge of the consequences of land degradation and soil erosion and supporting adoption by farm families and rural communities of measures to mitigate soil erosion, conserve soil fertility, protect bio-diversity and improve management of water resources.

- **Outcome 3.1.2 – Increased resilience of farming communities through climate-smart agriculture**
  FAO will provide support to GoTL’s programmes on climate-smart agriculture, including research and development and up-scaling of improved and sustainable agricultural climate change technologies and practices for impoverished and degraded areas of the country and for under-utilised crops.

- **Outcome 3.1.3 Enhanced capacity of government and private sector support services to transfer new and improved production and post-harvest technologies and practices reflecting agricultural climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, etc.**
  FAO will support GoTL in training of District and field-level agricultural extension workers to disseminate appropriate technologies and build individual and community skills based on male and female farmers’ differentiated needs.

Outcome 3.2 – Increased and more efficient cultivation and consumption of under-utilized food crops in order to improve availability, access to and utilization of a wider variety of food over time

- **Outcome 3.2.1 – Stocktaking, inventorying and assessment of edible plants/crops that are part of or have the potential to be part of the Timorese food basket – classified by region/location**
  MAF will be assisted by FAO to undertake a survey/stocktaking exercise in which a categorized and geographically specific inventory of edible plants in Timor Leste will be compiled, indicating current levels and patterns of cultivation, as well as the different uses and users of the plants.

- **Outcome 3.2.2 – Increased cultivation, output and productivity of under-utilized staple crops**
  The national crops research programme will be augmented to include under-utilized crops like cassava, taro, sweet potatoes and yam, as well as some vegetables and fruits, and will include analysis of the nutritional characteristics of these crops. Extension programmes will be broadened to promote cultivation of under-utilized food crops.

- **Outcome 3.2.3 – Increased consumption by households of under-utilized staple food crops**
  Extension programmes will be enhanced with inclusion of messages on the production and utilization of under-utilised crops. Households will be informed about better preparation, processing and storage, with increased collaboration between agricultural extension, home economics and public health workers in the field with the aim of promoting good nutrition.

- **Outcome 3.2.4 – Reduced post-harvest losses in horticultural chains**
  To combat high levels of post-harvest losses and food, technical capacity and awareness of good post-harvest handling management will be built. There will be a focus on training of trainers as well as practitioners; implementation of pilot activities; and introduction of practical, and appropriate post-harvest technologies for enhanced quality maintenance and shelf-life of fresh produce, to improve safety, reduce post-harvest losses and to add value.
Priorit y Area 4
Support to smallholder fishing and aquaculture households to become more resilient in the face of climate change and to sustainably improve their livelihoods and free themselves from hunger and malnutrition

Timor-Leste has important marine resources as well as potential for aquaculture development. Both are constrained by, among other issues, low productivity, adverse climate change impacts, weak polices, illegal unreported threats to maritime resources and fish stocks, underdeveloped markets and consumption patterns. Fish are rarely eaten in the non-coastal areas because of unavailability or high prices. GoTL intends to reverse these sector trends and tendencies in the fish sector by embarking on a number of national fisheries and aquaculture programmes.

Outcome 4.1 – Improved livelihoods, living conditions and welfare of smallholder fisherfolk through more efficient, climatically sensitive fisheries and aquaculture operations

- Output 4.1.1 – Strengthened coastal, inland fishery and aquaculture institutions, communities and fisherfolk with improved understanding of and access to climate change adaptation practices and technology
  Capacities of institutions and communities will be developed with training, and use of enhanced data and management information systems for planning, monitoring and evaluation and decision-making. Efforts will be made to ensure inclusive and equitable participation of different community members, women, men and youth.

- Output 4.1.2 – More climate resilient and less disaster-prone fisheries and aquaculture community livelihoods
  Assessments will be undertaken of climate change vulnerability in Districts (especially climate sensitive areas), critical adaptation technologies and practices will be development, and recommendation of relevant policies and strategies will be made.

- Output 4.1.3 – Increase in capacity of smallholder fisherfolk and aquaculturists to achieve higher productivity, diversity, competitiveness and economic returns on their fish and fish products and to improve their living conditions
  Knowledge of fishing areas and suitable areas for fish farm location will be promoted, as will safety and conservation of resources, including stocks. The national fisheries and aquaculture programmes will provide with technical support and financial services with the aim of developing small- and medium-sized fishing and aquaculture businesses alongside existing agriculture farms.

Priorit y Area 5
Support to renewal, realignment and development of Timor-Leste’s cash crop economy, particularly the coconut industry and the coffee industry

Coconut and coffee are the two main commercial cash crops of Timor-Leste. Their development is important for the diversification of the agricultural sector, and also for increasing value-addition, income and employment in the rural areas. Coconut is a popular cash crop in Timor-Leste, being grown by some 40 percent of Timorese households. Timor-Leste has developed a small but profitable coffee sector which is the main generator of non-petroleum export earnings in the country. There is considerable potential for further development of these cash crops.

Outcome 5.1 – Expanded opportunities to those who are interested in taking up coconut cultivation and related industries

Significant opportunities exist to develop coconut cultivation, with strong potential for exports of processed coconut products, generating employment in the domestic economy, and enhancing the food and nutrition security of poor rural people.

- Output 5.1.2 Improved productivity of small-holder coconut cultivation in selected producing areas, as well as expansion of cultivation in lands with the potential for coconut growing
  FAO will assist MOA to review and conduct a feasibility of the coconut sector with the aim to identifying the key current coconut growing areas and coconut production systems, new coconut multiplications areas for future expansion, and coconut based industries.
• **5.1.2 Improved productivity of coconut cultivation in selected producing areas, as well as expansion of cultivation in lands with the potential for coconut growing**
A major product from the review will be a Timor-Leste Coconut Development Programme. The Programme will contain proposal for identifying and transferring know-how related to existing and potential coconut cultivation communities.

• **5.1.3 Expansion of quantities of and revenue from high value-added coconut products (such as coconut oil, coconut water, and coir) being sold in regional and global markets**
Expansion of marketing opportunities for coconut, emphasizing high-value coconut-based products (oil, water and coir), employment generation, and the role of coconuts in the nascent Timor-Leste tourism industry will be emphasized.

**Outcome 5.2 – Smallholder-led resurgence and increased global recognition of the Timor-Leste coffee sector**
There is considerable potential for growth in the Timor coffee industry through *inter alia*, increasing yields, expanding the amount of land under coffee cultivation, a more systematic propagation of the “Timor Brand”, increasing the number of beneficiaries of and the type of benefits emanating from the more resurgent sector.

• **Output 5.2.1 – Master Plan for Timor-Leste Coffee**
A Master Plan for the Timor-Leste Coffee sector, including targeting scenarios of intensification and expansion of production, investment and marketing will be prepared.

• **Output 5.2.2 – Functional Timor-Leste Coffee Herbarium and Research Centre**
A Coffee Herbarium and Research Centre (sometime referred to Timor-Leste Coffee Garden) will be established to provide a basis for further development of the “Timor-Leste Brand”. Such an undertaking will entail the repatriation to the Island of Timor-Leste’s unique coffee germplasm, the training of Timorese scientists, and the establishment and nurturing of collaborative relationships with other coffee research centres around the world.

• **Output 5.2.3 – Greater number of smallholder coffee growers, tending greater acreage and a greater number of higher yielding coffee trees**
The intensification and expansion of coffee cultivation will require some radical re-alignment of policies in areas such as land titling, provision of infrastructural support, and provision of subsidies for pruning and inputs and implements.

• **Output 5.2.4 – Increased number of and monetary returns from value-adding coffee activities, both on-farm and off-farm**
Increased valued addition in coffee will require things like investment in coffee processing centres and smaller processing machines for some farmers, establishment of enhanced quality control regimes, and more systematic usage of by-products from the various coffee cultivation and processing operations.

• **Output 5.2.5 – Improved markets for and marketing of Timor-Leste coffee**
Markets can be improved through support to warehousing and processing facilities as well as provision of quality control and other services. Also, Timor-Leste may be reaching a time when it needs to explore means to diversify its market in terms of buyers and consumers of its coffee.

**Implementation Arrangements**

CPF implementation will require close collaboration among relevant agencies at national and decentralised levels, interacting with MAF and FAO for a coordinated operational framework. A set of principles has been developed to guide implementation, including alignment to national priorities, mutual accountability and joint partnership and centrality of capacity building. A High Level Policy and Oversight Committee chaired by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries will provide overall policy guidance and oversee overall progress. Oversight over implementation activities will entrusted to a CPF Implementation Committee. Monitoring will be at two levels: projects and activities level on an on-going basis and according to project stipulations; outputs and indicators level on 6-monthly and annual basis, and mid-term and end of CPF reviews. The 2015 – 2018 CPF will become operational upon endorsement by GoTL and FAO. Annex 5 contains more detailed proposals for implementation arrangements. This includes the 2015 short-term implementation plan which focuses on prioritizing activities, identifying gaps, and mobilizing resources.