



Evaluation Brief

November 2016

# Evaluation of FAO's Contribution in the Arab Republic of Egypt

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## Why an evaluation of FAO's contribution in the Arab Republic of Egypt?

The Arab Republic of Egypt became a Member Country of FAO in 1945 and FAO opened a representation office in the country in 1978. During the past decades, the country has benefited from FAO's technical assistance to agricultural development through identification, preparation and appraisal of investment projects, financed from both regular and field programmes funding and which covered food security, rural and agricultural development, policy advice, strategy planning and capacity development. FAO activities in Egypt have generally been demand-driven, attempting to respond to the continuously shifting national priorities.

The decision to conduct this evaluation emerges from interest by FAO to assess achievements in the implementation of the FAO-Egypt Country Programming Framework (CPF) in order to strengthen the relevance and effectiveness of FAO's interventions in the country and provide accountability to national stakeholders. The current CPF covers the period 2012-2017 and was designed to align with the country's Sustainable Agricultural Development Strategy Towards 2030, the Five-year Action Plan (2012-2017) and the UN Development Assistance Framework (2013-2017)\*.

## What will this evaluation cover?

This evaluation will cover FAO's cooperation in Egypt from 2012 to 2017, including interventions funded through extra-budgetary resources and FAO-accessed contributions from member nations such as the regional initiatives backstopped by FAO headquarters, the Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa and the country office.

It will assess FAO's strategic relevance in the country, particularly in responding to national priorities and challenges within the Organization's mandate and comparative advantage. The evaluation will analyse the strategic positioning of FAO in terms of programme coherence, synergies with other development actors, partnerships, and pursuit of the UN norms and standards including gender equality and poverty reduction. It will assess FAO's contributions to national priorities especially in food security and rural agricultural development. Focus will be on the four priority areas of the CPF:

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## Tentative evaluation calendar

(November 2016 – June 2017)

Preparation: *November–December 2016*

1. Desk review
2. Inception mission, including preliminary data collection and establishment of a consultative group
3. Drafting of terms of reference

Main evaluation phase: *January–March 2017*

1. Evaluative studies
2. Main mission
3. Preliminary debriefing

Report writing and dissemination:

*April–June 2017*

1. Report drafting
2. Stakeholder workshop
3. Report finalization
4. Management response to evaluation report
5. Report dissemination

1. Agricultural information generation, sharing and dissemination.
2. Improving productivity and efficiency of the agricultural sector: land use and management; irrigation modernization; increased crop production; and improved production of livestock, poultry and fisheries.
3. Sustaining rural community development: sustaining livelihoods of rural populations including gender equity through institutional transformation, enhancing marketing of agricultural products, capacity development and institutional transformation.
4. Conserving natural resources and adapting to the impact of climate change.

## What will be the process and who will be involved?

The evaluation will adopt an inclusive approach that will engage all relevant stakeholders including government officials, FAO staff, partners, communities, and non-governmental and civil society organizations. It will be conducted from November 2016 to June 2017, with FAO staff, partners and programme stakeholders participating in meetings and workshops organized by the evaluation team.

Following the inception mission in December 2016, a series of activities are planned, including an evaluative study and the main evaluation mission, which will take place during the period January to March 2017.

A preliminary debriefing will be held towards the end of the evaluation's main mission to present the initial findings, and the evaluation will be discussed at a stakeholders workshop in Cairo in June 2017.

The FAO Representative in Egypt and the country office will ensure dissemination of the evaluation report and will be responsible for leading and coordinating the preparation of the FAO management response to the evaluation.

FAO Office of Evaluation will ensure wider dissemination of the report.

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Reports and management responses of all FAO evaluations are public documents and are available online at:

<http://www.fao.org/evaluation/>

\* UNDAF, completed in 2013, but only officially launched in 2014 to 2018.

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