



Evaluation of FAO's Country Programme in Ethiopia

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Why an evaluation of the FAO Programme in Ethiopia?

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has been a member state of FAO since 1948, and the organization strengthened its presence in the country through the establishment of a fully-fledged Representation in 1981. Since then, FAO has been an active development partner of the Government of Ethiopia in implementing a portfolio of programmes and projects to improve food security and nutrition, and the management of natural resources.

At the national level, FAO's main delivery mechanism is the Country Programming Framework (CPF), an agreement between the Government and FAO defining where the organization should focus its support over a period of two to four years. Jointly developed with the Government of Ethiopia and other partners, the CPF for Ethiopia covers the period from 2016 to 2020 and focuses on raising crop, livestock and fisheries production and commercialization, sustainable natural resource management and improved livelihood resilience to threats and disaster.

The FAO Office of Evaluation (OED), through its Country Programme Evaluation (CPE) series, reviews the contribution made by FAO to the achievement of agreed CPF objectives, as well as FAO's strategic relevance to the needs and priorities of each country.

A CPE will be undertaken in Ethiopia in 2019, as a way to take stock of the results achieved so far, strengthen the relevance and effectiveness of FAO's interventions in the country, and contribute to the formulation of the next CPF.

The Ethiopia CPE will be conducted in coordination with the 2019 Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation of the El Niño Response in Ethiopia.

What will this evaluation cover?

The evaluation will cover the totality of FAO's cooperation with Government of Ethiopia over the period 2014-2019, including activities funded through Trust Funds and FAO's own resources and backstopped by HQ and the Regional Office for Africa.

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Tentative evaluation calendar

February – November 2019

(this timeframe is subject to confirmation from stakeholders)

Preparation phase

February-April 2019

- Desk review
- Drafting of Terms of Reference
- Planning Mission, including establishment of a Consultative Group
- Recruitment of evaluation team members

Main evaluation phase

May-July 2019

- In-depth studies
- Main mission to Addis Ababa and project sites
- Preliminary debriefing

Report writing and dissemination

August-November 2019

- Data analysis and drafting of report
- Stakeholder reviews of and workshop on draft report
- Final report
- Report dissemination and management response

FAO's strategic relevance in the country will be assessed in terms of response to national needs and challenges within the areas of FAO's mandate and comparative advantage. In addition, it will evaluate the strategic positioning of FAO in terms of partnerships, programme coherence, synergies with other development actors, and pursuit of UN norms and standards including gender equality and poverty reduction.

The evaluation will assess contributions made by FAO to capacities and national priorities in the areas of rural and agricultural development, with a focus on the three Country Outcomes of the 2016 -2020 CPF, namely:

1. Crop production, productivity and commercialization improved;
2. Livestock and fisheries production, productivity and commercialization improved;
3. Sustainable natural resource management and improved livelihood resilience to threats and disaster.

The evaluation will also cover FAO's contribution to results for the organization's Strategic Objectives (SO) and Regional Initiatives. Ethiopia is a focus country for two FAO Regional Initiatives: (i) Africa's Commitment to End Hunger by 2025, and; (ii) Building Resilience in Africa's Drylands.

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 and representatives of bilateral and multilateral development partners, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, communities and other partners.

It will take place from February – November 2019. Following the inception mission in February 2019, the Terms of Reference will be drafted and shared for comments with the Government and FAO Ethiopia. The main evaluation mission is scheduled for June/July 2019 and will involve, in addition to FAO OED team members, a group of independent evaluators and subject matter specialists who will help generate robust evaluative evidence for the report. Extensive consultations will be held with a variety of stakeholders during the period to document their feedback and perceptions.

At the end of the mission in July 2019, a preliminary debriefing meeting will be held with stakeholders to present the initial findings. The final evaluation results will be discussed at a stakeholders' workshop to be held in Addis Ababa by November 2019.

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

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