

Project Evaluation Series

Evaluation of the project “Cross-cutting: Targeted support for agricultural statistical innovation at FAO”

Project code: MTF/GLO/707/BMG

Annex 1. Terms of reference

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Abbreviations and acronyms

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FIES	Food Insecurity Experience Scale
OED	FAO Office of Evaluation
PTF	Project Task Force
TOC	theory of change
TOR	terms of reference

1. Background and project description

1.1. Background

1. These terms of reference (TORs) have been developed to guide the final evaluation of the project “Cross-cutting: targeted support for agricultural statistical innovation at FAO” (MTF/GLO/707/BMG).
2. The project, active between the end of 2016 and November 2021 with a budget of USD 10.5 million funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (the Gates Foundation), aimed at improving effective evidence-based decision-making, policy uptake and influence, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) accountability through high quality, open, accessible, inter-operable, timely and more disaggregated agriculture, food security and investment data.
3. The project was designed in 2015, when two important global initiatives were adopted: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda), with its 17 universal and global SDGs and 169 targets; and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (Addis Agenda), which to meet the 2030 Agenda, “aims to mobilize public finance, set appropriate public policies and regulatory frameworks to unlock private finance, trade opportunities and technological development, production and investment patterns”.¹
4. The project stemmed from the recognition that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda will place new demands on governments in all countries to improve coordination with global partners and with other sectors of society to deliver more effective policies and programs, cutting across sectors and responding to complex economic, social, and environmental challenges. To design and implement new programs, governments and the global community will require more data on who is affected, how they are affected, and who is being left behind; on how resources from national governments, multilateral agencies, donors, and civil society, are being allocated; and on what progress is being made to attain outcomes and impacts at the sector level and also at the farm level.²
5. The project identified a series of barriers that hamper information flows, both globally and at country level, which were grouped as follows:
 - i. development financing data in agriculture faces issues of reporting, comprehensiveness, granularity, and interoperability;
 - ii. access to international classification and their lack of interoperability hinders data comparability within and across countries;
 - iii. access to and usability of existing agricultural data, in particular microdata, are still limited in many countries;
 - iv. agricultural data are not available in many countries, and when they are available and accessible, existing agricultural data do not meet the demands of national and international decision-makers, such as data necessary to compile SDG indicators; and

¹ Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development. 2016. *Addis Ababa Action Agenda: Monitoring commitments and actions, Inaugural Report*. New York, United States of America, United Nations. https://www.un.org/esa/ffd/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Report_IATF-2016-full.pdf

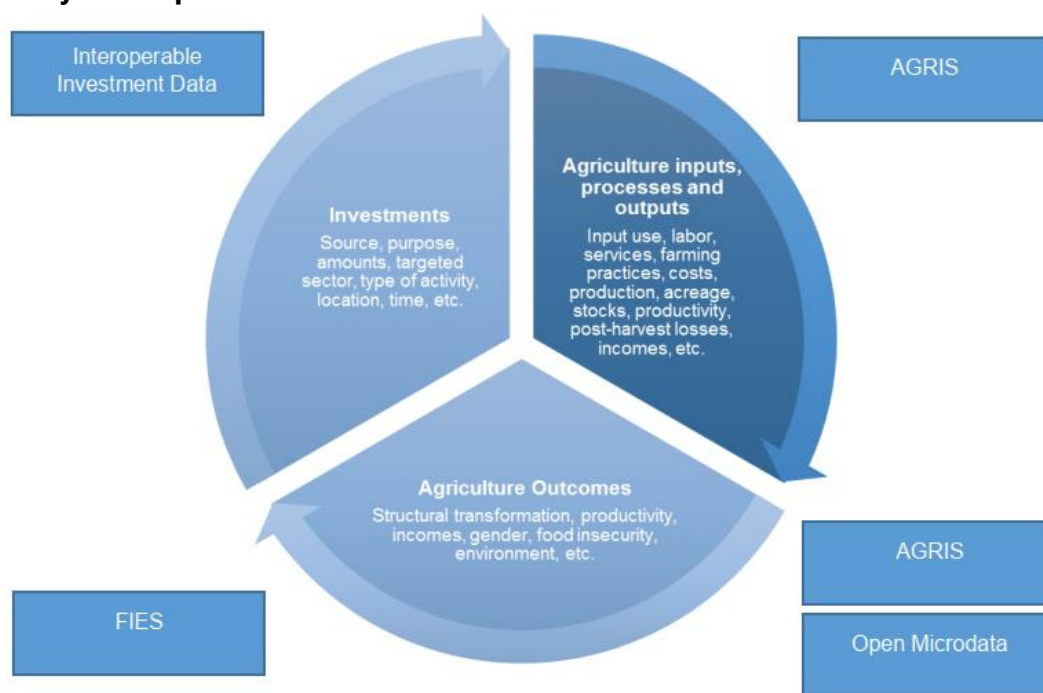
² Project proposal.

- v. household and individual food insecurity are not monitored in a timely and harmonized way.³

1.2. Project components

- 6. The project covered four interlinked components (Figure 1), each of which aimed to address one of the challenges listed above.
 - i. interoperable agricultural investment data;
 - ii. open (micro) data component;
 - iii. the Agricultural Integrated Survey Programme (AGRIS); and
 - iv. the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES).

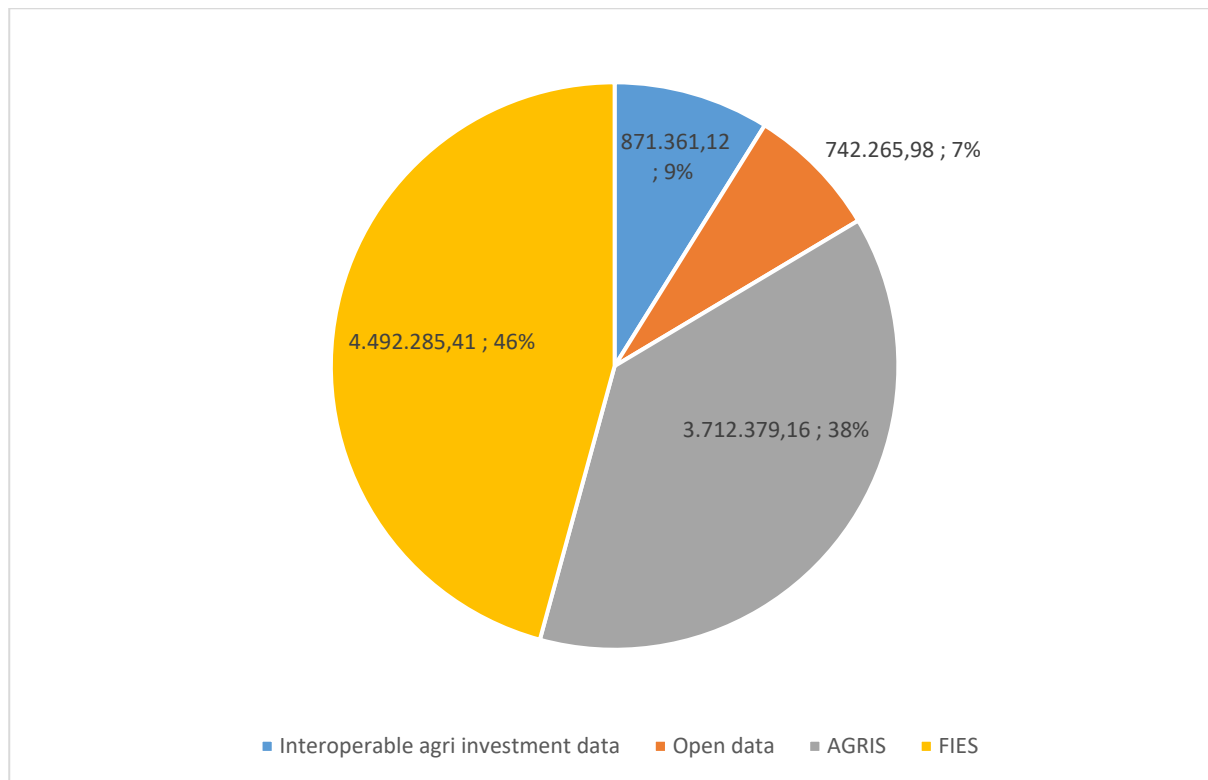
Figure 1. Project components



Source: Elaborated by the evaluation team.

- 7. In terms of expenditures, two components, FIES and AGRIS, accounted for 84 percent of the project’s expenditures.

³ Project proposal.

Figure 2. Expenditure by component

Note: Timeframe November 2016 – November 2021.

Source: Elaborated by the evaluation team.

1.2.1. Interoperable agricultural investment data

8. The interoperable agricultural investment data component consists of two complementary streams of work. One stream (Stream A) is related to the development of open and linked versions of classifications and taxonomies relevant to agriculture investment, while the other stream (Stream B) is related to the reporting of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and includes addressing gaps in OECD classifications and supporting regular reporting by FAO and other related organizations.
9. The rationale underpinning this component was that, while considerable effort is dedicated to the modernization of statistical data, the modernization of statistical classifications is lagging behind. Stream A “open linked vocabularies for agricultural investment” focussed on the content of classifications used for reporting, to ensure that they correctly reflect the needs of agriculture related activities. Activities in this stream included the creation of open and linked versions of agricultural investment vocabularies and their publication in an online platform, where all involved partners, stakeholders and users can validate the content, provide feedback or use the published data if deemed appropriate. The platform, named “Caliper”, is one of the main outputs of Stream A and the technologies implemented by Caliper include standard ways to express and manage correspondences between classifications. Collaboration took place with Eurostat, which is implementing the same technology stack adopted by Caliper, with the goal of setting up a network of classifications' users and custodians to further enhance the expected benefits, for the involved partners and for the community of statistical classifications at large. This stream also entailed the organization of a community of interest involving interested partners, present and future users, and any other individual or institutional body able to contribute to the achievement to the goal of the component.

10. Stream B of this component focussed on the content of classifications used for reporting aid activities, to ensure that they correctly reflect the needs of agriculture-related activities. The activities under Stream B include addressing the classification and methodological gaps in the existing systems for reporting global agricultural and development activities in light of SDG 2. Work carried out under this stream included identifying and addressing gaps in the Creditor Reporting System (CRS), the de-facto classification code list used for reporting aid activities to the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and IATI. Guidelines, use cases and statistical methodologies were also developed to assist and guide agencies in reporting agricultural development activities to OECD-DAC and IATI.

1.2.2. Open (micro) data

11. The objective of this component was to address the specific issues associated with the sharing of micro-data and to provide targeted technical assistance on the various aspects of microdata dissemination programs to ensure it is organized in compliance with international standards and best practices.
12. The project sought to achieve this objective by providing technical assistance to seven countries (Armenia, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Georgia, Mozambique, Nepal and Uruguay) on agricultural open data and also by the development of global outputs such as the Food and Agricultural Microdata (FAM) Catalogue, an online microdata library, which has been deployed to catalogue and make accessible microdata files generated through surveys, census, or administrative data collection and containing information related to agriculture, food security, and nutrition. As of January 2021, the FAM Catalogue, officially launched in July 2019, contained over 900 studies. These studies include licensed microdata files, metadata and relevant documentation from agricultural surveys and censuses conducted by different institutions, including national governments and FAO technical units.
13. Activities in this component included:
 - i. online rural and agricultural survey and census microdata global catalogue created and maintained;
 - ii. open data promoted with countries and global and regional agricultural and rural data agencies (including the organization of a global workshop on open data and transparency in agriculture⁴);
 - iii. technical assistance provided to selected countries on agricultural open data; and
 - iv. technical assistance provided to selected countries on "data clinics".

1.2.3. Agricultural Integrated Survey Programme

14. Over recent years, with support from the Gates Foundation, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the European Union and others, two major initiatives have sought to address the systemic issues that have historically affected agricultural statistics – the Global Strategy to Improve Rural & Agricultural Statistics (hosted by FAO and implemented by a consortium of global and regional partners) and the World Bank's Living Standards Measurement Study – Integrated Surveys on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA). These efforts have focussed on: i) generating essential global public

⁴ The [Eighth International Conference on Agricultural Statistics](#) (ICAS VIII) that took place on 18-21 November 2020 in New Delhi, India, where FAO organized three sessions and one side-event.

goods (in the form of new or improved measurement standards and guidelines); ii) strengthening national human capacities in agriculture statistics; integrating “agriculture” in national strategies for the development of statistics; and iii) filling key gaps in our understanding of welfare and poverty outcomes in smallholder settings.

15. In spite of these efforts, the project document identified three major challenges that persist:
 - i. empowering governments to meet SDG and other monitoring requirements in relation to agriculture;
 - ii. standardizing data collection within and across countries; and
 - iii. improving the thematic coverage, reliability, granularity, timeliness and cost-effectiveness of national farm level survey systems to better support local, national and global decision-makers.
16. In response to these challenges, FAO developed and tested the AGRIS methodology in the context of the Global Strategy to improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics. The AGRIS methodology is based on an innovative survey toolkit that assists countries in developing an integrated and cost-efficient approach to generate data for the agricultural sector. The toolkit envisages a farm-based modular survey system that is synchronized with the national census of agriculture and operates over a ten-year cycle. While the AGRIS’s core annual module focuses on agricultural production, its rotating modules, collected with less frequency, take into account the social, economic and environmental characteristics of agricultural holdings. The aim of the AGRIS methodology is to empower countries to generate a regular flow of official agricultural statistics and agricultural indicators, in response to SDG reporting requirements and in response to their expressed national needs and priorities.
17. Resultantly, two FAO projects were designed to support countries in the implementation of the AGRIS methodology: the project “Implementation of AGRIS in four pilot countries – phase I (2016–2021)”, funded by USAID and the project “Targeted support for agricultural statistical innovation at FAO (2016–2020)”, funded by the Gates Foundation, which is the project currently being evaluated. These two grants supported the actual implementation of the AGRIS methodology at country level – i.e., the so-called AGRISurvey programme.

Box 1. Core objectives of AGRISurvey programme

- Build the capacities of beneficiary countries to produce agricultural statistics, promote cost-effective surveys and produce a regular flow of high-quality, disaggregated data and indicators on the technical, economic, environmental and social dimensions of agricultural holdings.
- Propose new survey methodologies and innovative techniques to collect, compile, process and disseminate agricultural data.
- Increase access to agricultural statistics and improve the dissemination practices for greater readability, usability and findability of data, including microdata.
- Promote a wider use of farm-level data in various institutions, including government agencies and research- and policy-oriented entities.
- Provide support to countries in their effort to monitor SDGs indicators, specifically indicators 2.3.1; 2.3.2; 2.4.1; and 5.a.1.

18. The AGRISurvey activities related to this project were conducted in seven countries: Armenia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Nepal and Uruguay. Activities were also expected to take place in Ghana, but these were put on hold pending the ongoing discussions with the World Bank concerning alignment with the 50x2030 initiative whereas in Kazakhstan, activities were not

completed due to COVID-19. In general, the USAID funded "Implementation of AGRIS in four pilot countries – phase I (2016–2021)", focussed on full implementation which entailed technical assistance and survey implementation meanwhile the "Targeted support for agricultural statistical innovation at FAO (2016–2020)", funded by the Gates Foundation funded a wide range of activities, such as design of survey methodologies, design of survey instruments and pilot surveys. The ultimate objective of these activities was to develop a robust methodology for the national agricultural survey programmes. The two FAO projects worked in synergy as they both promoted the AGRIS methodology.

1.2.4. Food Insecurity Experience Scale

19. The Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) was developed, tested and validated on a global scale by FAO through the DFID-funded "Voices of the Hungry" project in an effort to address some of the shortcomings of the "Prevalence of Undernourishment" indicator. FIES offers an experience-based measurement of the severity of food insecurity that relies on people's direct responses to a series of questions regarding their access to adequate food. It represents a significant change in approach to food insecurity measurement compared to traditional ways of assessing it indirectly, either through the determinants (such as food availability) or the consequences (such as stunted growth and other signs of malnutrition).
20. Consisting of a set of eight questions, FIES is intended to be reliable, cost-effective and generate disaggregated information to help identify population groups most affected by food insecurity in a given country or geographic area. The questions were designed in order to be easily integrated into various types of population surveys.

Box 2. The questions of the FIES survey module

During the last 12 months, there was a time when, due to a lack of money or other resources:

1. You were worried you would not have enough food to eat?
2. You were unable to eat healthy and nutritious food?
3. You ate only a few kinds of foods?
4. You had to skip a meal?
5. You ate less than you thought you should?
6. Your household ran out of food?
7. You were hungry but did not eat?
8. You went without eating for a whole day?

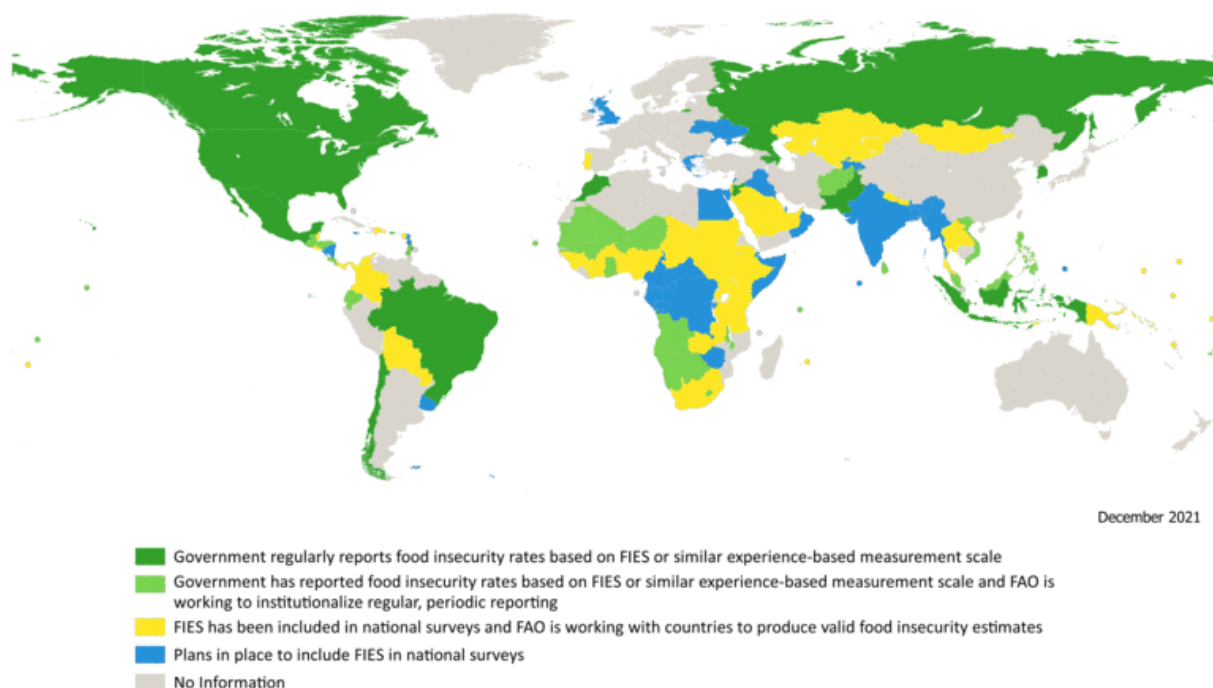
21. In 2014, FAO began collecting FIES data by leveraging on the Gallup® World Poll (GWP), a branch of Gallup, Inc. that surveys nationally representative samples of the adult population annually in nearly 150 countries, covering 90 percent of the world's population. This has enabled FAO to collect information from individual respondents at a relatively low cost and to compute country-level estimates of the prevalence of food insecurity at different levels of severity that are valid, reliable and comparable across countries.
22. In 2018, an evaluation of the project "Voices of the Hungry" found FIES to be a robust and cost-effective tool to measure economic access to food.⁵ In July 2017, both the "Prevalence of Undernourishment" indicator and FIES were endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly as official indicators to measure SDG 2, target 2.1.
23. Work under this component sought to contribute towards the establishment of FIES as a global standard of reference for the measurement of households' or individuals' ability to access food by refining the FIES methodology, completing a five-year programme of worldwide FIES data

⁵ FAO. 2018. *Evaluation of the Project "Voices of the Hungry"*. Rome. <https://www.fao.org/3/I9282EN/i9282en.pdf>

collection to make the data available in a timely fashion, and providing the needed technical support to countries and to international and national organizations with a stake in food security measurement, so that sufficient analytic capacity exists to know what to do with the data.

24. In particular, the funding associated with this component was expected to:
- i. Secure two additional years of FIES data collection at global level through the Gallup World Poll in order to allow FAO to thoroughly evaluate the extent of scale stability across countries and languages over time, and to refine the definition of the FIES global standard.
 - ii. Permit the production and dissemination of estimates of the prevalence of food insecurity at national, regional and global levels for 2017 and 2018, in the context of the global monitoring of target 2.1 of the SDGs.
 - iii. Advocate for the inclusion of the FIES survey module in as many national large-scale population surveys as possible. This will contribute directly towards the diffusion of FIES adoption, while providing FAO with the basis to assess the extent of the effect of sampling design and size on the precision of the estimates.
 - iv. Provide support to national and international institutions responsible for food security monitoring in the form of training and technical support on the analysis of FIES data.

Figure 3. The number of countries using the Food Insecurity Experience Scale continues to grow



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

Source: Map elaborated based on UN Geospatial. 2022. *Map of the World*. <https://www.un.org/geospatial/content/map-world>

1.3. Project beneficiaries and target countries

Table 1. Project beneficiaries

Project component	Beneficiaries
Interoperable agricultural investment data	FAO Member nations, development agencies, civil society organizations, policy makers and anyone who has a need to report their expenditures on development assistance/aid, an interest in monitoring and analyzing aid flows to agriculture, food and nutrition security or SDG 2.
Open data	Reporters of development finance (governments, civil society organizations, multilateral agencies) and data users (e.g., policymakers, civil society, universities, media and the international community). Data compiling agencies who will strengthen their technical capacities and be in a better position to respond to growing data needs, in an ever more competing data market.
AGRIS	Producers and users (e.g., policymakers, civil society, universities, media and the international community) of agricultural statistics in the countries supported, and at regional and global levels, including national agencies responsible for compiling many of the agriculture-related SDG indicators.
FIES	FAO Member nations, development agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and anyone who has an interest and the need to monitor food security at local, national, regional and global level, including agencies responsible for compiling and reporting SDG indicator 2.1.2 (prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population).

Source: FAO. 2016. *CROSS-CUTTING: Targeted support for agricultural statistical innovation at FAO. Project Document*. Rome.

25. Target countries: The original project proposal planned to provide assistance to fifteen countries. The number has since been revised downwards to nine, notably: Uruguay, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Nepal, Kazakhstan,⁶ Armenia, Georgia and Ghana.

1.4. Previous evaluations

26. While a mid-term review of the project was not conducted, there are several recent FAO Office of Evaluation (OED)-led evaluations that are relevant to one or more of the project components. The evaluation team will consider the results of these evaluations and the extent to which the recommendations (in areas of immediate relevance to the project) were implemented. These evaluations are indicated in Table 2 below, others may be identified during the inception phase.

Table 2. Relevant evaluations

Evaluation	Year
Mid-term and final evaluation of the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics	2016 and 2019
Evaluation of Strategic Objective 1: Contribute to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition	2017
Evaluation of the project "Voices of the Hungry" (for the FIES component)	2018
Evaluation of FAO's statistical work	2020

Source. Elaborated by the evaluation team.

⁶ Kazakhstan withdrew from the project due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Evaluation purpose

27. The main purpose of this evaluation is to assess the quality and relevance of the project design and the extent and effectiveness with which the project has achieved its intended results in terms of both its outputs and their use, in order to: i) provide accountability to FAO, its members, donors and other stakeholders; and ii) to generate knowledge by identifying design and implementation issues that can inform similar projects in future.

3. Evaluation scope

28. The evaluation will cover FAO's work planned and delivered from November 2016 to February 2022 and will include all four project components. The geographical scope will include the nine countries mentioned in Section 1, as well as global/headquarters level activities within the project. Due to the importance of the capacity development components, selected national counterparts will be consulted through a set of country case studies.

4. Evaluation objective and evaluation questions

29. In keeping with the evaluation purpose and scope, the two main evaluation objectives are:
i) assess the design, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the project interventions; and
ii) identify opportunities and challenges to inform the implementation of future similar projects. In this way, the evaluation will examine the project’s relevance, effectiveness and sustainability, as well as cross-cutting issues.
30. The main evaluation questions and sub-questions are outlined below. Given the different nature of the four project components, during the inception phase, the evaluation team in consultation with the project team will develop further sub-questions in order to apply the evaluation questions to each of the four components. The final evaluation report will be structured around the evaluation questions.
31. An evaluation matrix will be prepared by the evaluation team during the inception phase. This will include the information needs under each evaluation question, as well as data collection methods.

Table 3. Key evaluation questions

Focus area	Evaluation questions
Design	How adequate was the project design in supporting the activities and expected results?
Results	<p>To what extent have the planned outputs and outcomes for each of the components been achieved and what design elements and other factors have positively or negatively affected performance? What, if any, have been the major achievements in the four components? <i>Sub-questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Interoperable Agricultural Investment Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent was the project successful in developing standardized vocabularies, taxonomies, ontologies and concordances related to agriculture investment data? • To what extent has the project contributed to improving FAO’s reporting to IATI, OECD and other related organizations; and to addressing gaps in the OECD classifications? ii. Open data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent has the project contributed to the availability and promotion of open (micro) data within target countries and at regional and global levels and to improving microdata sharing practices and standards within target countries? • To what extent is the Food and Agricultural Microdata (FAM) Catalogue fulfilling its intent to becoming a key global source for finding microdata on agriculture, food security, and nutrition? iii. AGRIS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How and to what extent has the project contributed to improving the methodologies and the scope of the national agricultural survey programmes? • To what extent has the project increased the capacities of target countries to compute and monitor SDGs? iv. FIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How successful was the project in promoting the inclusion of the FIES survey module national large-scale population surveys? • To what extent has the project improved the capacities of national and international institutions responsible for food security monitoring in the context of the analysis of FIES data? <p>To what extent have the project activities reached the intended users and uses? What change did the project bring to participating countries in terms of methodological development and adoption?</p>

Focus area	Evaluation questions
	Has the project and its components demonstrated adaptive capacity?
Project management and partnerships arrangements	To what extent were the project management and partnership arrangements appropriate?
Sustainability	To what extent have country-level stakeholders been actively and effectively involved in the formulation of project activities? How sustainable are the project and component results, what are the risks and what is their potential for scaling-up?
Lessons learned	What lessons can be learned from the design and implementation of the project which could inform similar projects in the future?

Source: Elaborated by the evaluation team.

5. Methodology

32. The key evaluation questions will guide the overall assessment. The evaluation team will develop sub-questions and specific methodological approaches during the inception phase.
33. The evaluation team will conduct a documentary analysis. As well as informing the overall study approach, this exercise will contribute to case studies of project agreement countries in the main report. A workshop will be organized with the project team during the inception phase in order to reconstruct and elaborate the theory of change (TOC) of the project and its components. The TOC may be further developed by the evaluation team during the course of the evaluation.
34. For each component, a stakeholder mapping exercise will be carried out with the support of the Project Task Force (PTF) to cover key informants at global and country levels: project managers, donors, national project counterparts and other main stakeholders. This analysis will examine stakeholder relationship with the activities, outputs and use of the project components and will be used to identify the data and perspective that each stakeholder group could provide for each evaluation question. It could also identify any omitted stakeholder groups.
35. The questions to be asked of each stakeholder group will be defined by their relationship to each project component and by the information – data and perspective – that they can provide for each evaluation question. Protocols for interviews will be developed by the evaluation team prior to the evaluation data collection phase.
36. The evaluation team will prepare an inception report to complement the TORs and guide the evaluation. The inception report will provide parties involved in the evaluation with a mutual understanding of the organization of the work. It will encompass a draft TOC, a stakeholder analysis, detailed information on the evaluation approach and methodology, the evaluation matrix, and an update of the limitations, timeline and deliverables of the evaluation.
37. The evaluation will adopt a consultative and participatory approach with internal and external stakeholders throughout the process. Triangulation of evidence will underpin its validation and analysis and will support conclusions and recommendations.
38. The interview programme scope and methods will ensure coverage of all components and evaluation questions. A two-stage process is suggested for the data collection phase in order to provide some coverage of all project agreement countries, while focusing resources. In this process, all project agreement countries will be covered by written interviews. A smaller group of interviewees from some project agreement countries will then be selected for their potential to add further data and perspectives. Semi-structured video/phone interviews will be held with this group.

6. Roles and responsibilities

39. OED, in particular the Evaluation Manager develops the first draft TOR with inputs from the PTF. The Evaluation Manager is responsible for the finalization of the TOR and for the selection of the evaluation team members. OED has the responsibility of following up with the budget holder for the timely preparation of the management response and the Follow-up report to the management response.
40. The PTF, which includes the FAO Budget Holder, the Lead Technical Officer (LTO) and the team of the project to be evaluated, are responsible for initiating the evaluation process, providing inputs to the first version of the TORs, especially the description of the background and context chapter, and supporting the evaluation team during its work. They also assist the Evaluation Manager in drafting the TORs, in the identification of potential consultants and in the organization of the missions. They are required to participate in meetings with the evaluation team, as necessary, make available information and documentation, and comment on the TORs and report. Involvement of different members of the PTF will depend on respective roles and participation in the project. The Budget Holder is also responsible for leading and coordinating the preparation of the FAO Management response and the follow-up report to the evaluation, fully supported in this task by the LTO and others members of the PTF.
41. The evaluation team is responsible for further developing and applying the evaluation methodology, for conducting the evaluation, and for producing the evaluation report. All team members, including the evaluation team leader, will participate in briefing and debriefing meetings, discussions, field visits, and will contribute to the evaluation with written inputs for the final draft and final report. The evaluation team will agree on the outline of the report early in the evaluation process, based on the template provided by OED. The evaluation team will also be free to expand the scope, criteria, questions and issues listed above, as well as develop its own evaluation tools and framework, within time and resources available and based on discussions with the Evaluation Manager, consults the Budget Holder and PTF where necessary. The evaluation team is fully responsible for its report which may not reflect the views of the government or of FAO. An evaluation report is not subject to technical clearance by FAO although OED is responsible for quality assurance of all evaluation reports.

7. Evaluation team composition and profile

42. The evaluation team will consist of one team leader and two team members. The team will work under the guidance and with participation of the OED Evaluation Manager.
43. The international consultants will have experience and expertise in the following areas: agricultural statistics (including the design of agricultural surveys and capacity building in national statistical offices), agricultural information systems for food and nutrition security, agricultural policy and administrative management, information and communications technology and data management, and monitoring and evaluation.

8. Evaluation products (deliverables)

44. This section describes the key evaluation products the evaluation team will be accountable for producing. These will include:
- i. Inception report: the evaluation team will prepare an inception report which will include an evaluation matrix showing how each evaluation question will be answered through indicators, methods, sources of data and data collection procedures. The inception report will also include a stakeholder's analysis, a proposed schedule of tasks, activities and deliverables, a stakeholder analysis and the final evaluation matrix.
 - ii. Draft evaluation report: the evaluation team will produce a clear and concise draft evaluation report which should illustrate the evidence found that responds to the evaluation questions listed in the TORs. The draft report will be peer reviewed by OED and will then be reviewed by the project team and key to ensure that the evaluation meets the required quality criteria.
 - iii. Final evaluation report: following the incorporation of the comments received on the draft report, a final report will be prepared in English and with numbered paragraphs, following the OED template. The final report will be submitted by OED to all the stakeholders and will be revised by an editor and graphic designer, before publication on OED website. The final report will include an executive summary and supporting data and analysis will be annexed to the report when considered important to complement the main report.

9. Evaluation timeframe

45. An indicative timeline for the evaluation is indicated in the table below.

Task	Dates	Responsibility
TOR finalization	Feb 2022	Evaluation Manager with inputs from PTF
Team identification and recruitment	Feb 2022	Evaluation Manager
Reading background documentation provided by PTF	Feb 2022	Evaluation team
Briefing meetings	March 2022	Evaluation Manager
Inception report	March 2022	Team leader and Evaluation Manager
Data collection and analysis	March-Mid-Apr 2022	Evaluation Manager
Evaluation report first draft for circulation	Mid-May 2022	Evaluation team and Evaluation Manager
Evaluation report final draft for circulation	Mid-June 2022	Evaluation team and Evaluation Manager
Final Report	June 2022	Evaluation team and Evaluation Manager
Management response	1 month after the final report is issued	Budget Holder
Follow-up report	1 year after the MR is issued	Budget Holder

Appendix 1. Simplified logical framework of the project

Overall project outcome: Effective evidence-based decision-making, policy uptake and influence, and SDG accountability (driving system-wide productivity change, income growth, and improved gender and nutrition outcomes for smallholder farmers) improved through high quality, open, accessible, interoperable, timely and more disaggregated (including gender-disaggregated) agriculture, food security and investment data.	
Output	Activity
Output 1: A systems-based approach to planning national survey data collection efforts based on AGRIS, that can efficiently yield a high-quality, standardized, integrated and gender-disaggregated core evidence base on agriculture, using the latest technological and methodological advances, is promoted and applied widely by governments and funding/technical partners.	Activity 1.1: Governance set-up for the GRAInS Partnership and GRAInS Secretariat designed and implemented; and GRAInS outreach and advocacy strategy implemented at global, regional and country levels.
	Activity 1.2: National AGRIS data collection and data use action plans designed (with costing).
	Activity 1.3: National AGRIS data collection and data use action plans funded and implemented.
Output 2: Global standards for methodologies and data ontologies, taxonomies and vocabularies on farm social, technical, economic and environmental dimensions are developed/updated, proven and promoted widely by governments and funding/technical partners, as a consequence of AGRIS.	Activity 2.1: The AGRIS methodological toolkit developed and tested (guidelines on data collection, sampling, use of technology and cost efficiency).
	Activity 2.2: Specific technical assistance provided to AGRIS implementing agencies.
	Activity 2.3: Outreach to key data users implemented and SDG reporting facilitated.
Output 3: Global standards for methodologies and data ontologies, taxonomies and vocabularies on agriculture investment data are developed and updated, and adopted by reporting agencies and governments, leading to greater detail and consistency in the global and national reporting and analysis of agriculture investment flows to SDG targets.	Activity 3.1: Stakeholders/partners identified, an open community of interest (open COI) established and consultations completed to expand and disseminate standards, guidelines, taxonomies and vocabularies on agricultural investment classifications.
	Activity 3.2: Classification and methodological gaps and solutions identified, and proposal presented to the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) to expand/improve the Creditor Reporting System (CRS) in light of SDG 2.
	Activity 3.3: Open data and user-friendly formats, vocabularies, taxonomies, classifications and concordances developed to help organizations report development expenditures and improve investment data interoperability.
	Activity 3.4: Guidelines, use-cases and statistical methodologies feasibility tested and published to guide agencies in reporting development expenditures, in the framework of SDG 2, to OECD-DAC and IATI.
	Activity 3.5: Platform identified and launched; use, evaluation and feedback provided by IATI-reporters, especially civil society organizations; and technical trainers identified.
Output 4: Open data policies are developed and implemented in target countries, leading to a greater use of agriculture data (and	Activity 4.1: Online rural and agricultural survey and census microdata global catalogue created and maintained.

Appendix 1. Simplified logical framework of the project

<p>microdata) for more disaggregated and diversified analysis and improved agricultural sector monitoring, Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) monitoring and SDG monitoring.</p>	<p>Activity 4.2: Open data promoted with countries and global and regional agricultural and rural data agencies.</p> <p>Activity 4.3: Technical assistance provided to selected countries on agricultural and rural open data.</p> <p>Activity 4.4: Technical assistance provided to selected countries on "data clinics".</p>
<p>Output 5: Food security is monitored by FAO in a timely manner in more than 145 countries by compiling and reporting SDG global indicator 2.1.2 on access to food, at national level, disaggregated by gender and by urban/rural location, in a highly cost-efficient manner; at least 20 countries will be routinely using FIES in their national food security monitoring systems.</p>	<p>Activity 5.1: Updated series of SDG global indicator 2.1.2 on the "Prevalence of moderate and severe food insecurity" at country, regional and global levels are released annually by FAO and published in the flagship publication on the State of Food Insecurity in the World.</p> <p>Activity 5.2: Micro dataset including FIES data collected through the Gallup® World Poll (GWP) are reported to FAO, analysed for adherence to IRT standards, processed to compute cross-country comparable measures of food insecurity, and disseminated through a dedicated open access, web-based platform.</p> <p>Activity 5.3: A set of tools for statistical capacity development in the area of food security measurement is produced and made available free of cost, including an FIES "User guide", an e-learning course on the use of FIES to measure household and individual food insecurity, as well as periodic technical bulletins reporting methodological developments on the global FIES reference scale.</p> <p>Activity 5.4: Technical assistance is provided to country governments on the inclusion of the FIES survey module into large-scale national household or individual surveys, training of enumerators, analysis of FIES data and compilation of indicators of the prevalence of food insecurity at different levels of severity, calibrated against the global FIES reference scale.</p> <p>Activity 5.5: Technical assistance is provided to selected international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academic units and others on the analysis of FIES data and reporting of results according to established FIES standards.</p> <p>Activity 5.6: Greater awareness and use of the FIES worldwide is promoted through advocacy, communication, partnership initiatives.</p>

Note: Logical framework developed at the inception of the project.

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