

**Proposal 8: FAO/Italy Facility for Sustainable Development and Policy  
Implementation Assistance – Pilot Phase (GCP/INT/938/ITA)**

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Government and Implementing Agency | Government of Italy, FAO  |
| Countries of Implementation        | Global including Bolivia, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Guinea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nile Basin, Eritrea, Syria, Vietnam, Pacific Region |
| Agro-ecological context            | Various   |
| Duration and Total Budget          | 1 year; US\$ 300,000  |

Major Groups (MGs) concerned

- Farmers
- Business and Industry
- NGOs
- Local Authorities
- Scientific and Technological Community

**Success indicators:**

- Improved sustainability and contribution to SARD of at least 7 FAO-Italy projects including the adoption of appropriate tools and methods
- No. and relevance of the good practices identified

Partners engaged:

Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; FAO including Special Programme for Food Security; CERFE; selected FAO projects funded by Italy.

**Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**

Establishment of a facility to capitalize on the experiences and innovations related to SARD and food security that can improve the effectiveness, capacity for innovation and sustainability of ongoing and future FAO projects; strengthened sustainability of 10 FAO projects financed by Italy in the pilot phase. Impact on MDGs 1, 7 and 8.

**Proposed Objectives and Approaches**

- Take stock of and systematize existing implementation and monitoring methodologies and prepare a dossier on SARD project design, management and monitoring tools.
- Identify, analyze and prepare a repertory of good SARD practices.
- Provide technical assistance, through field and distance support, to 10 Italian-funded FAO projects.
- Produce a newsletter on project activities to assist projects and disseminate good practices.
- Systematization of existing tools; generation and dissemination of lessons from projects on factors that undermine sustainability and impact on target groups; identification of innovative approaches and good practices; provision of a framework for replication and up-scaling to promote sustainable project outcomes; and capacity building of selected project managers for improved SARD outcomes.

**Building upon Experience**

The project implementation has been subcontracted through a Letter of Agreement to CERFE, an Italian non-profit research and training institute, under the technical supervision of FAO, Rural Institutions and Participation Service. CERFE has general consultative status with the United Nations ECOSOC and has been working with the United Nation system since 1983, implementing projects on poverty, social exclusion, rural development, the environment, civil society, governance, capacity building, training and M&E.

**Partner Inputs**

The Government of Italy has provided financial support to improve the sustainability of impact of a selection of FAO/Italy projects through this Facility. FAO has the overall responsibility for implementation and, with the SARD Initiative partners, provide technical assistance on SARD and M&E. CERFE provides a team of experts in rural development, including for project monitoring, backstopping and evaluation.