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## PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

### Hundred and Twenty-second Session

Rome, 6-10 November 2017

**Follow-up report to the Evaluation of FAO's contribution to climate change  
adaption and mitigation (cf. PC 118/3; PC118/3 Sup.1)**

#### Guidance sought by the Programme Committee

The Programme Committee may wish to note progress in implementation of the recommendations accepted by the Management.

*Queries on the substantive content of this document may be addressed to:*

**Ms. Maria Helena Semedo**  
**Deputy Director-General (Climate and Natural Resources)**  
**Tel. +3906570-52060**

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1. Management welcomes the opportunity to provide information on the progress made in implementing the actions agreed in the Management Response to the *Evaluation of FAO's contribution to climate change adaptation and mitigation (CCAM)*.<sup>1</sup> The Evaluation, presented to the Programme Committee at its 118<sup>th</sup> session in November 2015, appreciated and welcomed FAO's role in CCAM. Among other recommendations, it highlighted the need for stronger FAO's engagement at country level and greater clarity in defining FAO's objectives towards integrating climate change adaptation and mitigation as a cross-cutting priority in the work of the Organization.

2. In line with FAO's policy on evaluations, this report provides an update on the implementation of the actions set out in the Management Response during 2016-17. Upon request by the Office of Evaluation (OED), it contains a Management Action Record Scoring (MAR Score) on a six-point scale, in which FAO Management self-assessed the level of adoption and implementation of the recommendations.

*Overall progress in the implementation of all accepted recommendations*

3. The recently launched [FAO Strategy on Climate Change](#),<sup>2</sup> which is the first and foremost recommendation of the Evaluation, embraces several others recommendations of the Evaluation. The Strategy was developed through a participatory process, including consultation with the Programme Committee, and has a focus on country level action.

4. Significant progress was achieved in supporting countries' engagement in national processes to ensure a better integration of food and agriculture into climate change policies and plans. FAO has also further clarified its position on climate-smart agriculture (CSA), communicated more effectively the CSA concept to a wide range of stakeholders, and continued its involvement in global and regional alliances related to CSA. The Organization has strengthened its presence and visibility in relevant global fora on climate change, especially at COP21 and COP22 of the UNFCCC.<sup>3</sup> Leveraging new and existing partnerships with various actors in order to scale-up climate action in the agricultural sectors was also pursued at all levels of the Organization.

5. Mainstreaming climate change into the FAO Project Cycle, further integrating gender and capacity development and gender perspectives into climate change work and reinforcing the capacity of decentralized offices (DOs), in particular to facilitate inter-institutional and inter-sectoral coordination on CCAM, is ongoing. These elements are core priorities for the implementation of the Strategy and will be further pursued in the biennium 2018-19.

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<sup>1</sup> PC 118/3 Sup.1

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7175e.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

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<p><b>Recommendation 1</b> Develop a clear and consolidated strategy for FAO's work on climate change (CC) and climate-related DRR and enhance the staff capacity on CC.</p>	<p>Strategy: Develop a Corporate Climate Change Strategy and action plan cutting across all Strategic Objectives (SOs) and integrating regional/country priorities.</p>	<p>The FAO Strategy on Climate Change was approved by the Council at its 156<sup>th</sup> session in April 2017 and launched at the 40<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference in July 2017.</p> <p>The Strategy Plan of Action is integrated with the Strategic Framework, the Medium Term Plan 2018-21 and Programme of Work and Budget 2018-19.</p>	4	<p>The participatory and inclusive process for its development ensured broad ownership of the Strategy across FAO and FAO member countries.</p> <p>Having the Strategy in place started to trigger additional collaboration and efforts on climate action in the agricultural and food sectors at international, regional and national levels.</p>
	<p>Climate Assessment Guidelines: Develop specific climate assessment guidelines and a checklist of climate related issues to be considered during project preparation as part of FAO's Environmental and Social Assessment Guidelines.</p>	<p>Climate change impacts are included in the FAO Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS), which are applied to all FAO projects with a budget exceeding USD 100,000.</p> <p>Specific guidance on the management of identified climate related risks will be integrated into the ESS system as they are developed.</p>	4	<p>Climate considerations are addressed in all FAO projects from a risk management perspective.</p>
	<p>Capacity Development (CD): Conduct a FAO-wide CC capacity</p>	<p>The Technical Network on Climate Change (TNCC) conducted short stocktaking exercises with the regional focal points on climate</p>	3	<p>Delivery of TNCC activities were geared towards the key areas/capacity needs identified.</p>

<sup>4</sup> Management Action Record Scoring (MAR Score)

1 – **None**: no action was taken to implement the recommendation; 2 – **Poor**: plan and actions for implementation of the recommendation are at a very preliminary stage; 3 – **Inadequate**: implementation of the recommendation is uneven and partial; 4 – **Adequate**: implementation of the recommendation has progressed; there is no evidence yet of its results on the intended target; 5 – **Good**: the recommendation has been fully implemented and there is some initial evidence of its impact on the intended target; 6 – **Excellent**: there is solid evidence that the recommendation has had a positive impact on its intended target

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	development needs assessment and develop a staff CD plan accordingly.	change on key areas and capacity needs in 2015 and 2016. A corporate CC CD plan will be pursued through the CC Strategy (Outcome 3).		For some regional offices such as RAP, the results of the capacity needs assessment informed the development of the regional programme framework and initiative on CC.
	Strengthen knowledge exchange platforms and coordination mechanisms (Inter-departmental Working Group on Climate Change; Technical network on climate Change; Climate Change Study Circle and others, also taking into account the findings of the capacity assessment.	FAO's CC Study Circle (CCSC) was integrated into the TNCC and annual work programmes for the TNCC were clearly elaborated and implemented.	5	Enhanced information and knowledge sharing, as well as cross-departmental coordination.
<b>Recommendation 2</b> Strengthen FAO's country-level engagement on CC, and position it as a facilitator of inter-institutional and inter-sectoral harmonization on CCAM, climate-related DRR and emergency response to natural disasters.	Strengthen CC capacity in decentralized offices, in particular country offices, and promote and facilitate active DOs involvement in the existing FAO knowledge platforms and coordination mechanisms on CC.	Additional Climate Change Officers have been recruited in regional and subregional offices so that all now have one or more specialist officer in place. Some regional initiatives were established to enhance capacity on climate change.  The increased membership and level of activity of the TNCC has significantly raised awareness and knowledge among staff in decentralized offices.	5	Significantly higher awareness among technical and policy staff in DOs.  Improved networking between technical staff at headquarters, regional, subregional and country offices that facilitates improved exchange of experience and information.

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	<p>Support DOs engagement in national climate change related dialogue/policy processes to ensure integration of agriculture, food security and sustainable management of natural resources aspects into climate change policies and plans (e.g National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions in Agriculture (NAMAs), DRR and national communications etc.)</p>	<p><b><u>NAPs</u></b></p> <p>1. The FAO-UNDP programme <i>Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans</i> (NAP-Ag) was launched in 2015 (2015-2018) in 8 countries. National staff were hired in each FAO representation. All partner countries pursue four overarching outcomes, shaped by national priorities</p> <p>Training and awareness raising events were delivered by HQ and DO staff on key topics in all countries, for the benefit of national stakeholders.</p> <p>Additional resources were mobilized for the NAP-Ag programme in 2016, allowing the inclusion of 3 new project countries with activities to begin in 2017.</p> <p><b><u>MICCA</u></b></p> <p>The MICCA programme carried out more than 15 country-specific and 5 regional training workshops on NAMA, National GHG Inventory (NGHGI) for National Communication (NC) and Biennial Update Report (BUR) and Measure, Report and Verify (MRV) process. FAO country and regional offices are continuously involved in the processes from the designing to the back-stopping phase. This allows them to strengthen their knowledge of FAO headquarters activities and tools and to reinforce their capacity.</p>	6	<p><b><u>NAPs</u></b></p> <p>Advanced the development of climate change adaptation planning strategies and frameworks in the agriculture sectors; enhanced capacities of agriculture sectors' decision-makers to appraise adaptation options; initiated the leveraging of climate finance; boosted capacity for gender mainstreaming; and catalysed global attention to the integration of agriculture into NAPs.</p> <p><b><u>MICCA</u></b></p> <p>Enhanced institutional and technical capacity of developing countries on UNFCCC reporting requirements; increased knowledge on instruments and climate finance opportunities towards NDCs implementation; strengthened knowledge of decentralized offices on FAO tools and lessons learned on mitigation options and reporting.</p>

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		<p><b><u>(I)NDCs</u></b></p> <p>In 2016, FAO has conducted and published an analysis report of the INDCs/NDCs which provides an overview on how the agricultural sectors have been included in the INDCs/NDCs, as well as a paper on priority areas for international support to the agricultural sectors in NDCs.</p> <p><b><u>DRR</u></b></p> <p>Support for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in agriculture sectors and development and implementation of Agriculture Disaster Risk Management Plans (ADR/MPs) was provided to more than 10 countries. The work on DRR and resilience is being undertaken through 4 work streams. Status of mainstreaming DRR into agriculture sectoral policies, plans and investment programmes are analysed for over 30 countries.</p>		<p><b><u>(I)NDCs</u></b></p> <p>Raised awareness on the importance of the agricultural sectors in the NDCs and priority areas for intervention at international level.</p> <p><b><u>DRR</u></b></p> <p>Sustained institutional arrangements for DRR/M within the agriculture sector; enhanced integration of DRR/M priorities and good practices into agriculture and food security policies; improved horizontal and vertical coordination of institutions for delivery of DRR/M interventions.</p>
	Reinforce capacity of FAORs to facilitate interinstitutional and intersectoral coordination on CCAM and DRR.	<p>Country capacity on CCAM was strengthened as indicated above, in regard to NAPs.</p> <p>Country capacity on DRR was strengthened through regional workshops on resilience and DRR. In addition, national capacity of the emergency coordinators was strengthened on damage and loss assessment and cost benefit analysis.</p>	6	<p>See reporting above on NAPs and DRR.</p> <p>The methodology on damage and loss is accepted by the countries for monitoring and reporting of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction indicator C2 on direct agricultural loss attributed to disasters.</p>

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		<p>Guidelines and methodology on damage and loss assessment and cost benefit analysis was prepared and applied at the country level in Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean (about 5 countries received training during the biennium).</p> <p>Guidance has been provided to FAORs on incorporating climate change into Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs).</p>		Updated CPFs reflect climate change issues.
<p><b>Recommendation 3</b> Communicate FAO's position on Climate-Smart Agriculture more clearly, regularly and widely to all stakeholders.</p>	<p>Strengthen communication materials, ensuring clear presentation of FAO's definition of and position on CSA, and improve both internal and external communication of the concepts and examples of implementation. Further strengthen the evidence base underpinning CSA and feed this into relevant fora and mechanisms.</p>	<p>In 2016, FAO created a dedicated Web site (<a href="http://www.fao.org/climate-smart-agriculture/overview/en/">http://www.fao.org/climate-smart-agriculture/overview/en/</a>) which presents FAO's position on CSA and provides definitions, background information, FAQs, examples and links to relevant publications.</p> <p>A revision of the CSA Sourcebook is in advanced development and will be launched at COP23.</p> <p>CSA was the subject of, and presented in, several workshops and events, internal to FAO (e.g. TNCC workshop), as well as public.</p> <p>In collaboration with several institutions and organizations and FAO experts, several technical documents (such as practice briefs, policy briefs and compendia) and Webinars on CSA were developed/organized and shared/advertised through the communication channels of GACSA.</p>	4	<p>CSA has become a well understood and widely used approach introduced by FAO. It has gained growing support at international and national levels for adoption. In their INDCs, more than 30 countries, most prominently in sub-Saharan Africa, specifically referred to CSA.</p>

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	<p>Continue FAO's involvement in global and regional alliances related to CSA and ensure active participation of FAO staff, including Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA).</p> <p>Continue proactive efforts to create opportunities for dialogue and clarification on the concept of Climate Smart Agriculture and FAO's approach in this respect, making room for genuine dialogue and exchange and providing spaces for non-state actors to present and discuss their proposals and concerns.</p>	<p>FAO is a partner in GACSA. It was heavily involved in creating the alliance, and now hosts the Facilitation Unit (Secretariat). Regular GACSA events, in particular the Annual Forum, are organized with substantial support by FAO and offer opportunities for dialogue across stakeholder groups, including non-state actors.</p> <p>FAO is involved so far in four regional alliances related to CSA. FAO is also supporting the development of three regional networks related to CSA.</p> <p>In 2017 FAO has been developing several knowledge products on CSA, including a book, an e-learning course and a training manual for extension agents.</p>		
<p><b>Recommendation 4</b> Position FAO in the most relevant global CC forums as a lead voice on food security and agriculture in CCAM, and enhance knowledge provision for the UNFCCC process.</p>	<p>Ensure FAO's presence and visibility at key fora/meetings/institutions related to Climate Change to reinforce its lead voice on food security and agriculture in CCAM. Strengthen countries' technical capacities in the area of CC and its linkages</p>	<p>FAO presence and visibility during UNFCCC COP21 and COP22, as well as intersessional meetings was ensured through strong engagement in the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, UN system side events, and other high-profile events, where FAO emphasized the role of food security and agriculture in CCAM. In addition, FAO co-facilitated the establishment of a Thematic Working Group on Agriculture, Food Security</p>	5	<p>Food security concerns are reflected in the preamble to the Paris Agreement. Under Article 2, Parties agreed to adapt to climate change and foster development in a manner that does not threaten food production.</p>

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	<p>to food security/ agriculture/ natural resources management and provide relevant information to facilitate their participation in UNFCCC processes.</p> <p>Strengthen FAO's technical support as neutral knowledge provider to UNFCCC as well as other fora of importance related to agriculture and CC and provide clear messages through all communication channels. Identify new funding opportunity in the area to scale up investments in CCAM.</p>	<p>and Land Use under the NDC Partnership.</p> <p>FAO supported countries in their participation in the UNFCCC processes, in particular the negotiations on issues related to agriculture under the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA).</p> <p>Upon the request by the UNFCCC Secretariat and other bodies of the UNFCCC observer organizations, FAO has submitted technical submissions on various areas.</p> <p>Two new resources were launched in 2017 to support countries with their National Adaptation Plans.</p> <p>In 2016, FAO was accredited to the Green Climate Fund (GCF). FAO has been actively engaged with countries on capacity</p>		<p>There is now wide consensus on the importance of the agricultural sectors in the context of climate change, as evidenced in countries' NDCs and on the need to recognize the specificities of the agricultural subsectors.</p> <p>Agricultural sector stakeholders have a seat at the table in decision-making processes they have often traditionally been excluded from.</p>

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		development for the GCF, and in project formulation in all regions.		
<p><b>Recommendation 5</b> Integrate capacity development and a gender focus into FAO's CCAM projects; Improve conceptual guidance on CCA, and mainstream CCAM into its development and natural-resource management work.</p>	<p>Gender: Take stock of the existing FAO climate change guidance materials and screen on the inclusion of gender aspects. Continue and improve current screening of projects on gender related issues.</p>	<p>Mainstreaming gender equality into climate-related planning processes is embedded in the FAO Strategy on Climate Change.</p> <p>Gender has been incorporated into CCAM-related projects and programmes, including Climate Smart Agriculture (e.g. CSA Sourcebook / Toolkit), National Adaptation Planning (NAPs) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) work with countries. FAO also contributes to gender-related work under global institutions, such as the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the UNFCCC through submissions and contributions to the formulation of gender policies.</p>	4	<p>Gender guidance note developed by NAP-Ag programme and 5 national trainings implemented.</p> <p>Ensuring wider use of approaches and tools for gender mainstreaming by projects is ongoing within the constraints of available resources.</p> <p>Guidance on the integration of CC into CPFs has been prepared, and CPFs, where relevant, include a climate element.</p>
	<p>Capacity Development: Ensure the inclusion of appropriate capacity development approaches</p>	<p>FAO Strategy on Climate Change and FAO's corporate strategy on capacity development (CD) were strategically aligned.</p> <p>CD has also been incorporated into CCAM-</p>	4	<p>Initial increase of FAO strategic positioning in its comparative advantage to facilitate capacity development processes in addition to</p>

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	in CCAM projects, methods and tools.	related projects and programmes, including the Climate Smart agriculture (e.g. CSA Sourcebook / Toolkit), National Adaptation Planning (NAPs), and the in-country Global Environmental Facility (GEF).  FAO contributed to UNFCCC's Paris Committee on Capacity Building and capacity development portal, through events and submissions.		its technical expertise.  Initial strengthening of the quality and sustainability of FAO's CCAM portfolio through selected integration of the methodology into programmes.
	Mainstream and integrate climate change as a cross-cutting theme and Objective 6 Outcome in the MTP 2014-17 (reviewed) and PWB 2016-17.	Climate change under Objective 6.6 was adopted as a cross-cutting theme of FAO's Strategic Framework in 2015 and consequently integrated, under Objective 6 Outcome in the reviewed MTP 2014-17 and the MTP 2018-21 as well as in the PWBs 2016-17 and 2018-19. The MTR 2016 included reporting under Objective 6.6 Climate Change through Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and results highlights.	4	Climate change has gained priority attention throughout the Organization. Accountability on Climate Change is reinforced through reporting on Outcome 6.6 to governing bodies.
	Prepare practical guidance and screening/ implementation mechanisms building on FAO's and other agencies' experience on mainstreaming cross-cutting issues, including climate change.	No action taken yet in lieu of the Strategy on Climate Change being developed and incorporating mainstreaming perspectives.  A mechanism to review CC mainstreaming in projects will be established with the review of the project cycle.	2	A mechanism to review CC mainstreaming in projects will be established with the review of the Project Cycle. Consideration of additional guidance will be considered after review of implementation of the Climate Change Strategy.  Some preparatory work has been done.

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<p><b>Recommendation 6</b> Increase partnerships with NGOs, other knowledge organizations, multilateral investment institutions and the private sector.</p>	<p>Identify priority organizations with whom FAO should partner based upon respective strengths and complementarities to achieve SOs and priorities determined in the CC strategy and action plan (taking into account different types of partnerships/modalities). Strengthen selected partnerships, especially on aspects related to CCAM, learning from partners about their advances in the field with a view to collecting, systematizing and disseminating knowledge, solutions and good practices stemming from the grassroots for replication and scaling-up.</p>	<p>Leveraging and enhancing strategic partnerships is a core component of the implementation of the Strategy and is embedded in all 3 Outcomes.</p> <p>Strategic regional partnerships with actors on climate change were built, in addition to the ones established at FAO headquarters listed below.</p> <p><b><u>Academia and Research Institutions</u></b></p> <p>In 2016-17, managing climate change was included in several MoU agreements. Main activities focused on training and knowledge sharing, research and data analysis, organization of international seminars and provision of technical expertise to regional projects.</p> <p><b><u>Civil Society Organizations</u></b></p> <p>FAO has strengthened partnerships to implement several initiatives that address climate change and support the implementation of the FAO Principles of Sustainable Food and Agriculture.</p> <p><b><u>Private Sector</u></b></p> <p>Ongoing and newly developed partnerships with the private sector have activities that contribute to climate change mitigation efforts, strengthen resilience and the adaptive capacity of local communities, as well as contribute to</p>	4	<p>Best practices and methodologies exchanged; awareness raised on climate change and its impact on agriculture; new approaches developed to scale-up climate action in the agricultural sector.</p>

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		the efficiency and effectiveness of agricultural practices. <b><u>UN and Intergovernmental Agencies</u></b> FAO has signed MoUs with the following partnering organizations: UNEP, UNFCCC, IMO and UNV.		