



Evaluation of FAO's Country Programme in Morocco

INSIDE THIS BRIEF

- Why an evaluation?
- What is the focus of the evaluation?
- How will it be conducted? / What's the process?
- Who is / will be involved?

Why an evaluation?

The cooperation between FAO and Morocco dates back to 1958. In 1982, FAO strengthened its presence through the establishment of a fully-fledged Representation in Rabat, providing support over the years to over 200 national and 65 regional projects.

The decision to conduct a country programme evaluation (CPE) in Morocco emerges from interest within and outside FAO to assess the progress achieved so far in the implementation of the FAO-Morocco Country Programme Framework (CPF), with the aim of strengthening the relevance and effectiveness of FAO's interventions in the country. Moreover, the evaluation is deemed particularly timely given that the Country Office will simultaneously work on the development of the new programming cycle of the United Nations System in Morocco for the period 2022 - 2026, and that of the upcoming CPF.

What is the focus of the evaluation?

The evaluation will cover the totality of FAO's cooperation with the Government of Morocco over the period 2017-2020 and aim to provide a substantiated analysis of facts concerning:

- **FAO's strategic positioning in Morocco** - verify the extent to which the FAO's programme responds to the country's priorities and needs, focuses strategically on the comparative advantages of the organization, particularly with regards to the areas of intervention of other development actors in Morocco;
- **FAO's contributions to the outcomes identified in the CPF for priority areas** - covering immediate outcomes and, in a long-term perspective, FAO's actual or potential impact in relation to its strategic objectives and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The results of this evaluation are therefore mainly addressed to FAO staff of the Country Office and to the Government of Morocco. Other important users of the evaluation will be the Sub-Regional Office for North Africa (SNE), the Regional Office for North Africa and the Middle East (RNE), FAO divisions at Headquarters involved in country program implementation, as well as FAO partners in the country.

For further information please contact:

Aurelie Larmoyer

Aurelie.Larmoyer@fao.org

Sarah Faber

Sarah.Faber@fao.org

Tentative Evaluation calendar

June 2020 - January 2021

Preparatory phase:

June 2020 - September 2020

- Desk review
- Establishment of a consultative group
- Drafting of Terms of Reference

Main evaluation phase

September - November 2020

- Main data collection mission
- In-person interviews
- Preliminary debriefing

Report writing and dissemination

December 2020 - January 2021

- Data analysis and drafting of report
- Finalization of the report and management response
- Stakeholder workshop
- Report dissemination

How will it be conducted? / What's the process?

The evaluation will cover the period from 2017 to 2020 and will take place from June 2020 to January 2021. Due to the uncertain evolution of the global health situation linked to COVID-19 and consequently international travel, the preparatory phase will mostly consist of virtual consultations and interviews through which evaluation stakeholders will have the opportunity to contribute to the scope and the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the evaluation.

The main data collection mission is scheduled for early autumn 2020, during which the evaluation team will consult partners and stakeholders, the ToR will be finalized and there will be visits to selected project sites. The evolution of the COVID-19 will determine the extent to which the mission will rely on presential or virtual interactions with international team members. The evaluation team will consolidate the findings obtained during the main mission, share them with the consultative group and the main stakeholders, seek to validate them through cross-examination and identify adjustments, if necessary.

Once the report is finalized, the Country Office will be responsible for coordinating the preparation of the management response to the evaluation and the FAO Office of Evaluation (OED) will ensure the dissemination of the report.

Who is / will be involved?

The evaluation will be managed and led by an evaluation officer from the OED and 2-3 independent consultants with relevant experience in the fields of the evaluation, and will benefit from the support of an OED evaluation analyst.

The evaluation will adopt a consultative and participatory approach, soliciting the opinions of stakeholders and sharing them at different stages throughout the process. A consultative group will be set up to serve as an advisory panel to the evaluation, with members coming from the Government of Morocco, resource partners and sister UN agencies and who will review and advise on key steps in the evaluation process.

All FAO evaluations and management responses are public documents and can be found at:

www.fao.org/evaluation/oed-home/en/
