Evaluation of FAO’s country programme in Bolivia (2018–2022)

Why an evaluation?

The FAO Evaluation Office (OED) has carried out Country Programme Evaluations (CPEs) since 2005. CPEs provide accountability to member countries, national governments, and development partners and draw lessons and suggestions for improving cooperation programs. They are generally carried out in the last year of the Country Programming Framework (CPF) cycle to maximize the use of evaluation findings and recommendations in future planning.

What is the focus?

In this CPE, given COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and the expected use, the main aim is to provide inputs for the elaboration of the new CPF in Bolivia, taking into account the country’s development priorities, as well as FAO’s strategies and policies. Therefore, the overall objective of the evaluation is to systematize and validate the most relevant results and the factors that contribute to them for consideration in the next programming cycle.

The evaluation will seek to answer the following questions:

i. To what extent does the FAO programme align with national priorities and needs?
ii. What are the CPF main results?
iii. What actions, projects, and initiatives contributed to the results?
iv. What factors, lessons, and practices contributed to the results?
v. To what extent were gender, generational, and indigenous issues taken into account in the design and implementation of the country programme?
vi. What are the intended and unintended results regarding gender equality and indigenous people’s inclusion?
vii. What are the potential courses of action for the next programming cycle?
**EVALUATION CALENDAR**

**May – July 2022**

**Preparatory phase:**
**May – June 2021**
- Scoping interviews
- Portfolio analysis
- Team selection
- Terms of Reference

**Main phase:**
**July 2021 – May 2022**
- Desktop review
- Data collection and analysis
- Stakeholders’ workshops
- Drafting of the report
- Review and finalization of the report

**Dissemination of the results:**
**June – July 2022**
- Presentation of evaluation to key stakeholders
- Production of communication materials and dissemination

**CONTACTS**
carlos.tarazona@fao.org
adriana.jaramillocarvallo@fao.org

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**How is the evaluation conducted and who would be involved?**

The evaluation will be conducted by a team of external experts under OED staff’s management and supervision. The assessment will cover five priority areas defined in the CPF, including cross-cutting topics: i) nutritional food security with sovereignty; ii) ecological agri-food systems, community and peasant family agriculture; iii) sustainable management of forests, water and biodiversity; iv) livelihood resilience and risk management; and v) gender equality and indigenous people inclusion.

The exercise is intended to be a critical, inclusive, and participatory reflection on FAO performance in the country. Given the difficult socioeconomic and health context, the evaluation will prioritize the review and validation of self-assessed contributions to results. In order to do so, data will be collected from the most relevant groups of actors involved in the design and implementation of the country programme, and thorough reviews of secondary sources.

The team will complement the interviews and desk study with stakeholder workshops attended by relevant country and regional office personnel to discuss the evaluation approach, gather additional data on the most significant contributions, and present the preliminary findings of the exercise. Also, the evaluation team will collaborate with other agencies undertaking country-level evaluations in Bolivia (UNDP, WFP, UNFPA, UN WOMEN) to identify synergies and avoid duplications during data collection and analysis.

**Who are the users of the evaluation?**

The intended user of this evaluation is the FAO Country Office in Bolivia, as well as staff from the FAO Regional Office and FAO headquarters. Representatives from development partners, governments at different levels, international cooperation agencies, and donors are secondary users of the exercise.

The evaluation’s final report and lessons learned will be widely shared through different communication channels.