



Evaluation of FAO's country programme in the Dominican Republic (2018–2021)

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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?

The Dominican Republic CPE objective is to analyze the strategic positioning of FAO in the country, assess the results in each of the priority areas, and identify challenges, opportunities, and the lessons learned through collaborative work between FAO and the Government of the Dominican Republic. The aim is to provide relevant inputs to the Government and FAO staff to formulate the new CPF, which will be carried out jointly with the new United Nations Cooperation Framework for Sustainable Development.

The evaluation will seek to answer the following questions:

- i. Has FAO's work been relevant in addressing the country's needs and priorities in food security, rural development, and sustainable agriculture?
- ii. What role has FAO played compared to other development actors in the incidence and contribution to food security, rural development, and sustainable and resilient agriculture?
- iii. What are the main intended and non-intended results in each priority area?
- iv. How appropriate have FAO's activities been to achieve the expected outcomes?
- v. How adequate has FAO's work been for the sustainability of the interventions?

EVALUATION CALENDAR

January – November 2022

Preparatory phase:

January – May 2022

- Portfolio analysis
- Terms of Reference
- Scoping interviews
- Inception Report
- Team selection

Main phase:

June – October 2022

- Research Plan (fieldwork design, agenda integration, data collection tools, etc.)
- Desktop review
- Data collection and analysis
- Stakeholders' workshops
- Drafting of the report
- Review and finalization of the report

Dissemination of the results:

November 2022

- Presentation of evaluation to key stakeholders
- Production of communication materials and dissemination

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www.fao.org/evaluation

- vi. What are the opportunities, risks, and challenges of future work and collaboration of FAO in the country?
- vii. To what extent did the CPF consider and integrate cross-cutting issues, gender equality, and social inclusion into its design and implementation?
- viii. To what extent has climate action been mainstreamed in the CPF?

How is the evaluation conducted and who would be involved?

The evaluation will be conducted by a team of external experts under the OED staff's management and supervision. The assessment will assess FAO's work in the period 2018–2021. The evaluation will cover the three priority areas defined in the CPF, including cross-cutting topics: i) supporting the institutionalization of food security with a right-based approach; ii) promotion of inclusive and sustainable development in rural territories; iii) natural resources & risks management for a sustainable and resilient agricultural sector; iv) gender equality and social inclusion; and v) climate action mainstreaming.

The exercise will be conducted in a highly participatory manner. It will be implemented in close collaboration with the country office and the participation of the FAO regional and subregional offices. The evaluation will ensure the involvement of national government partners, with the definition of focal points in the ministries involved in the design and implementation of the CPF. The objective is to encourage the participation and results appropriation by national actors and promote the evaluation results' use.

The evaluation will use a retrospective approach to assess the results achieved through the CPF and a prospective approach to identify challenges and opportunities for the definition of strategic courses of action to support the following CFP. The evaluation team will use different methods for data collection, including: i) desktop review; ii) context analysis; iii) stakeholder analysis; iv) interviews with key stakeholders; v) surveys; vi) focus groups; vii) field visits; viii) workshops for results feedback and validation; and ix) potential case studies.

Who are the users of the evaluation?

The intended user of this evaluation is the FAO Country Office in the Dominican Republic and national government partners and staff from the FAO regional and subregional offices and FAO headquarters. Representatives from implementing partners, development partners in the UN system, and donors are secondary users of the exercise.

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



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