Evaluation brief February 2023

## Evaluation of FAO's country programme in Rwanda

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#### Why an evaluation?

This evaluation is part of a series of country programme evaluations (CPEs) conducted by the Office of Evaluation (OED) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The main purpose of the CPE is to strengthen the relevance and coherence of FAO's country programme in Rwanda and enhance its contributions toward national development priorities. Rwanda has been a member state of FAO since 1963, and the organization strengthened its presence in the country through the establishment of a fully-fledged representation in 1985. Since then, FAO has been an active development partner of the National Government of Rwanda and the state governments in implementing a portfolio of programmes and projects to improve food security and management of natural resources and reduce poverty.

At the national level, a Country Programming Framework (CPF) provides the basis for collaboration between the government and FAO defining where FAO should focus its support over a period of two to four years. Jointly developed with the Federal Government of Rwanda and other partners, the current CPF for Rwanda covers the period from 2019 to 2023 and focuses on: crop, livestock and aquaculture production systems; food security, nutrition, and climate shocks; value chains; enhancing environment and responsive institutions. A CPE for Rwanda will be undertaken in 2023, to take stock of the results achieved so far under the current CPF, strengthen the relevance and effectiveness of FAO's work in the country, inform the next Joint United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), and contribute to the formulation of the next CPF.

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#### What will this evaluation cover?

The evaluation will cover the totality of FAO's cooperation with the Government of Rwanda over the period of the current CPF 2019-2023, which also take into account activities backstopped by headquarters,

# TENTATIVE EVALUATION CALENDAR

Preparation: March 2023 - May 2023

- Desk review
- Drafting of Terms of Reference
- Establishment of a Consultative Group
- Recruitment of evaluation team members

Main evaluation phase: May 2023 – July 2023

- In-depth studies
- Main data collection mission, including project sites visits
- Preliminary debriefing

#### Report writing and

dissemination: July 2023 - October 2023

- Data analysis and drafting of report
- Stakeholder reviews of and workshop on draft report
- Final report
- Report dissemination and management response

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the Regional Office for Africa and the Subregional Office for Eastern Africa. FAO's strategic relevance in the country will be assessed in terms of its response to national needs and challenges within the areas of FAO's mandate and comparative advantage. In addition, the CPE will evaluate the strategic positioning of FAO in terms of partnerships, programme coherence, synergies with other development actors, and pursuit of UN norms and standards including gender equality, human rights and climate change.

evaluation FAO's The will assess contributions towards national priorities, with a focus on the five country priority areas identified by the 2019-2023 CPF, namely: i) innovative approaches promote sustainable and integrated crop, livestock and aquaculture production systems promoted; ii) food security, nutrition and climate and other shocks resilient agriculture through sustainable and diversified improved production systems; iii) inclusiveness of agricultural market systems as well as value addition and competitiveness of diversified agricultural commodities in domestic, regional, and international markets promoted; and iv) enhanced enabling environment and responsive institutions for effective and efficient delivery of services. The evaluation will also cover FAO's contributions to its own strategic objectives/and to the Sustainable Development Goals.

#### What will be the process and who will be involved?

The evaluation will adopt an inclusive and participatory approach. It will engage key relevant stakeholders including government officials, FAO personnel and representatives of bilateral and multilateral development partners, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, communities and other partners. Field visits will be organized to meet those benefiting from FAO the decentralized local authorities and other relevant stakeholders. The evaluation will promote the participation of national partners, in particular the government, in order to ensure ownership of the evaluation process and results by the relevant national institutions and to promote their use by the various actors involved. The preliminary evaluation findings will be shared with the FAO country team and the government for consultations. Once the report is validated, the FAO Representation in Rwanda will be responsible for preparing the FAO Management response to the recommendations of the evaluation. OED will finally ensure wide dissemination of the report, with the support of the FAO representative in Rwanda, FAO Country Team stakeholders.

