



Informal Consultation for Europe and Central Asia Budapest, 18-19 May 2015

Status of Preparation of Country Programming Frameworks (CPF)

1. This document provides information on Country Programming Frameworks (CPF) and the role they play in focusing FAO's work on achieving results at country level. It also outlines the status of CPF preparation in the region and their current status.

Introduction

2. The CPF is a tool used by FAO to define the medium-term response to the assistance needs of member countries in pursuit of national development objectives, contributing to regional priorities and FAO's Strategic Objectives. The CPF takes a results-based approach that builds on FAO's comparative strengths and partnerships at national and international levels, with the aim of increasing the impact and effectiveness of FAO support and enhancing resource mobilization opportunities.

3. The CPF serves countries to: i) increase the visibility of FAO's impact at country level and the role of agricultural development and food security in the country; ii) enhance the national ownership of FAO country-level activities; iii) provide additional opportunities for country-level contacts for resource mobilization and new partnerships; iv) set up a framework for policy dialogue, and analysis of capacity development in agriculture and rural development.

4. The CPF is also vital for FAO to: i) identify areas where FAO's capacity development efforts can be more effective, based on its strengths vis-à-vis country priorities; ii) provide a medium-term roadmap for FAO interventions; iii) reduce fragmentation of interventions by aligning their contribution to regional priorities and FAO's Strategic Objectives; iv) strengthen collaboration within FAO among different units at all levels in a coherent, country-based framework.

5. The five FAO Strategic Objectives represent those areas of work on which the Organization focuses its efforts in support and collaboration with its members. Priorities for FAO's activities in the regions were considered by the Regional Conferences. CPFs informed the identification of regional priorities and constituted an important and dynamic pillar of the Organization's delivery mechanisms at country level ([PC 115/2-FC 154/9](#)).

6. The 2014 Regional Conferences welcomed the strategic use of the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) in line with the CPFs and urged the completion of CPFs for all countries that receive FAO's support ([PC 115/2-FC 154/9](#)).

7. FAO Representatives act as Delivery Managers at country level within the context of CPFs, which encompass *inter alia* country-specific work elements of Regional Initiatives, corporate technical activities and other areas of work ([C 2015/3](#)).

8. The importance of CPFs is also reflected in the corporate Resource Mobilization and Management Strategy (RMMS), since resource mobilization is linked to CPFs and regional initiatives, to enable effective resource mobilization and management at the decentralized level.

9. Project cycle management assures the strategic focus and quality of FAO's projects, building on the principles that (i) all national projects must support priorities retained in the CPF; and (ii) project monitoring must measure its contributions to the agreed CPF outputs.

CPF preparation process in the Europe and Central Asia region

10. The 29th Regional Conference for Europe called on FAO to concentrate on the identified priority countries¹ and ensure the efficient use of resources by working together with other actors, civil society organizations, and building public-private partnerships.

11. Therefore, priority in developing CPFs has been given to these priority countries, although this does not exclude engaging in a CPF formulation process in any of the other countries if their governments request technical assistance and wish to programme FAO's assistance.

12. In line with the Medium Term Plan 2014-17 and its focus on the demand-driven approach at country level, the first step in the programming cycle is the development and approval of the CPFs. The CPFs are developed under the leadership of the FAO Country Representative. Given the lack of an FAO Representative in the majority of the focus countries in the Europe and Central Asia region, the role of developing the CPFs rests with the Subregional Office in Ankara and the Regional Office in Budapest. Programme and Policy Officers from these offices have been tasked with working closely with member countries and in consultation with FAO's technical officers and Strategic Objective focal points to develop the CPFs.

13. The CPF contributes to the UN common programming process at the country level through: i) a situation analysis and review of relevant national policies, thereby contributing to UN-led needs assessments and analytical activities, such as the Common Country Assessment (CCA), which focuses on agriculture, rural development, food security and other FAO-mandated areas; ii) CPF Priority Areas, which guide FAO's involvement with partners and contribute to defining the scope of UNDAF priorities; iii) the CPF Results Matrix, harmonized with the UNDAF Results Matrix; and iv) the identification and development of Joint Programmes.

14. The mapping of planned results from 16 CPFs (11 signed plus 5 drafts) presented in the chart shows that over half of the planned CPF results contribute to SO2, pointing to the importance of sustainable production to countries in the region.

¹ Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, FYR of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, plus Kosovo (references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 [1999]) and in addition Belarus and Turkmenistan.

15. CPFs are aligned to the Strategic Objectives by linking the CPF results to the SO Outcomes. The SO results framework (Outputs and Outputs with indicators and targets) measures the progress in delivering the results that FAO has committed to achieve. Since most results are delivered at country level, the CPFs facilitated reporting on the country-level results during preparation for the 2014 mid-term review.

16. CPFs are prepared through a consultative process at country level. FAO inputs are coordinated by the FAO Representative with quality assurance by the Regional Office. CPFs are agreed by the Government and the FAO Representative. The status of CPF preparations (detailed timeframe in table 1) as at end of April 2015, is as follows:

- 11 CPFs have been signed (Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, FYR Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Turkey and Uzbekistan); five of these (underlined) are ending in 2015, so will start the revision for the next cycle during 2015
- 6 CPFs are under finalization in 2015 (Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo², Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Ukraine)
- 1 CPF is pending to start the formulation in 2015 (Serbia)

Table 1

Status of CPFs in the Region	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Albania				signed				
Armenia	signed				new cycle			
Azerbaijan	NMTPF			finalization				
Belarus			signed					
Bosnia and Herzegovina				finalization				
FYR Macedonia		signed			new cycle			
Georgia		signed			new cycle			
Kazakhstan				signed				
Kosovo ²				finalization				
Kyrgyzstan	signed			signed revision				
Moldova			signed		new cycle			
Montenegro				signed				
Serbia					first cycle starting			
Tajikistan				finalization				
Turkey	approved				new cycle			
Turkmenistan				finalization				
Ukraine				finalization				
Uzbekistan			signed					

² References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 [1999]