

Progress on Partnerships

1. Senior Management approved in January 2011 the “ad interim” Organization wide Strategy on Partnership, recommending that the Strategy be further reviewed after one year of implementation. This serves as a basis for developing and implementing specific sector strategies on partnerships, including:
 - the strategy on enhancing FAO’s collaboration within the UN system;
 - the strategy on furthering FAO’s collaboration with the other Rome-based agencies;
 - A renewed strategy for FAO’s partnerships with non-governmental and civil society organizations; and
 - The strategy for FAO’s partnerships with the private sector.
2. Information material on the guiding principles set out in the “ad interim” Organization-wide Strategy on Partnerships is being disseminated to staff at Headquarters and in the decentralized offices during the first quarter of 2011.
3. The *FAO partnerships website* is being launched. This corporate website will be enhanced on an ongoing basis so as to serve as a relevant information source for FAO staff and external audiences alike.
4. *Staff development initiatives on corporate partnerships* (including workshops, e-learning courses etc.) are under development and will be piloted during 2011. The focus will be on increasing the understanding and awareness of staff about the importance of partnerships as a means to effectively deliver their work and to increase staff members’ ability to select, design, prioritise, review and operationalise partnerships.
5. The *assessment of collaboration among the Rome-based agencies* has been carried out successfully in 2010 and will continue during 2011. New areas for collaboration, including building on the experience of the pilot action plans, are being developed.
6. Taking into account the evolving challenges of the changing global environment and implications for the UN system, the development of the FAO Strategy on Collaboration within the UN system commenced in the latter part of 2010 and will be finalized in 2011. This strategy reflects the need for tighter and more coherent collaboration among UN entities, including through UN reform processes, experience from the “Delivering as One” pilots, and in the UN system’s follow-up to the MDGs Summit 2010. The strategy will include an agenda for action for implementation at all levels of the Organization.
7. The renewed strategy for partnerships with civil society, including a three-year work plan for implementation was drafted including substantive inputs from technical departments and decentralized offices.
8. At regional level work plans with three regional offices were prepared and will be implemented with extra-budgetary resources.
9. At global level, the inception meeting of the global mechanism for civil society participation in CFS reform process was held in October 2010. Funds were mobilized to allow the participation of some civil society organizations. Preliminary discussions on ways to

enable long-term sustainability of civil society's contribution to FAO's governing bodies were held.

10. The stocktaking of civil society collaboration is being extended to the regional level.
11. The *Strategy for Partnership with the Private Sector* was drafted. The current draft of the Strategy for Partnership with the Private Sector is based on a reference document presented for review to the technical departments and selected decentralized offices. The preparation of Principles and Guidelines for partnering with the private sector is also underway.
12. In the meantime, FAO has consolidated institutional arrangements and developed due diligence and risk management tools.
13. In January 2011 the Director-General approved the modus operandi of the Sub-Committee for review of financial and other agreements (SubCom-RFA) to support the Partnerships Committee chaired by the Director-General, which replaced the previous Private Sector Partnership Advisory Committee (PSPAC).
14. Tools for the objective screening of potential partners as well as their monitoring, management and evaluation, and assessment of such partnerships will be finalized during 2011. This includes the establishment of a corporate database in the Field Programme Management Information System (FPMIS).
15. The drafts of the *Strategy for Partnerships with Civil Society and the Strategy for Partnership with the Private Sector* were presented at the FAO Partnership Committee Meeting held on 7 February 2011. Based on the discussions, the Committee provided additional guidance.