



**Strategy and Knowledge Department (SKD)**  
**IFAD Corporate Induction Seminar**  
**Josefina Stubbs AVP/SKD**  
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# RURAL TRANSFORMATION

Rural areas in many developing countries are experiencing a process of rapid transformation, driven by both global and country-specific developments.

In several countries structural and rural transformations have been associated with:

- rapid economic growth
  - leading to significant reductions in overall and rural poverty
    - and generating better and more diversified livelihoods for the rural poor.



However, there are also many countries where economic growth, transformation and poverty reduction are lagging, or where growth and transformation have not been accompanied by commensurate reduction in poverty, and where many people are left behind, particularly in rural areas.



# IFAD MANDATE & RURAL TRANSFORMATION

IFAD's mandate is focused on reducing rural poverty and investing in rural people.

In the context of the rapid global transformation, ***fostering an inclusive and sustainable rural transformation*** has become the overarching priority for the institution.



# SKD CONTRIBUTION

Making IFAD -- -- and positioning it internationally -- as an effective development institution that can:

- Achieve measurable positive change and impact on inclusive and sustainable rural transformation;
- Demonstrate and communicate its development impact and effectiveness;
- Lead and undertake high quality research, closely connected to our experience on the ground, and a critical reference point for those working in our fields of expertise;
- Cross- fertilize innovative local and national development solutions and knowledge to enhance impact of development interventions;
- Contribute to bringing about enabling policies for inclusive and sustainable rural transformation, with rural poor women and men at the center;
- Lead and produce evidence-based knowledge that will inform policy decisions and contribute to better operational results, through the use of state of the art methodologies and rigorous impact assessment tools.



## THEMATIC PRIORITIES:

Are linked to IFAD10 priority themes, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the 2016-2025 corporate Strategic Framework, and themes of major international development policy processes and events

- Productive, nutrition-sensitive, and sustainable smallholder agriculture and food systems: trends, challenges, and successful policy and programme approaches
- Rural poverty and inclusive economic growth: trends, challenges, and successful policy solutions
- Rural investment, inclusive rural markets and value chains, and rural enterprise development: trends, challenges, and successful policy and programme approaches
- Promoting resilience and inclusive and sustainable rural transformation in situations of fragility and protracted crises
- The global governance of development: institutions, financing, and the development effectiveness agenda.

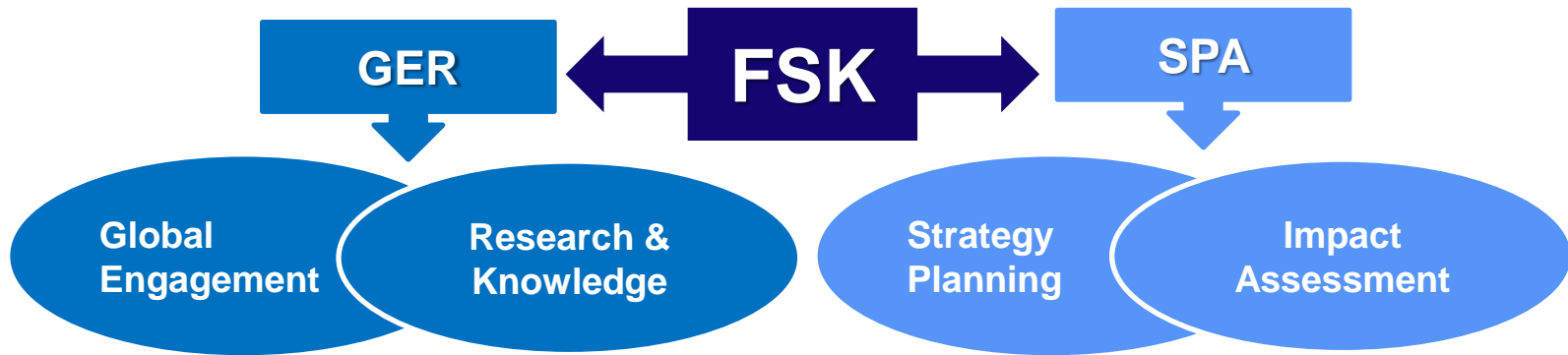
Complemented by the following two critical ***cross-cutting issues***:

- Environmental sustainability and addressing climate change
- Social inclusion and empowerment (gender equality and women's empowerment, youth empowerment, ethnicity, and support to poor rural people's institutions).



# SKD STRUCTURE:

As of January 2015 the Strategy and Knowledge Department (SKD) was reconfigured to include a Front Office (FSK) and two Divisions – Global Engagement and Research (GER) and Strategic Planning and impact Assessment (SPA) -- each comprised of two functional clusters.

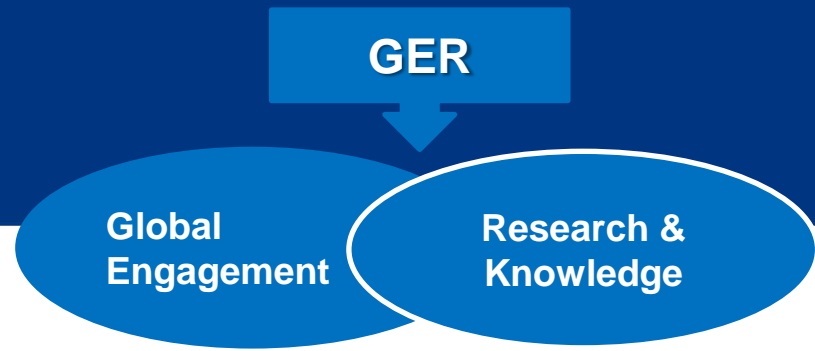


The new structure places an emphasis on the development and delivery of world-class products in several broad areas including research and knowledge management, global engagement and advocacy, corporate strategic planning, and development effectiveness measurement.



# SKD – GER DIVISION

## Global Engagement and Research



The GER Division will combine enhanced research and analysis with informed, evidence-based global engagement to support IFAD in pursuing its inclusive and sustainable rural transformation agenda.

The Rural Development Report 2016:  
Fostering Inclusive Rural Transformation

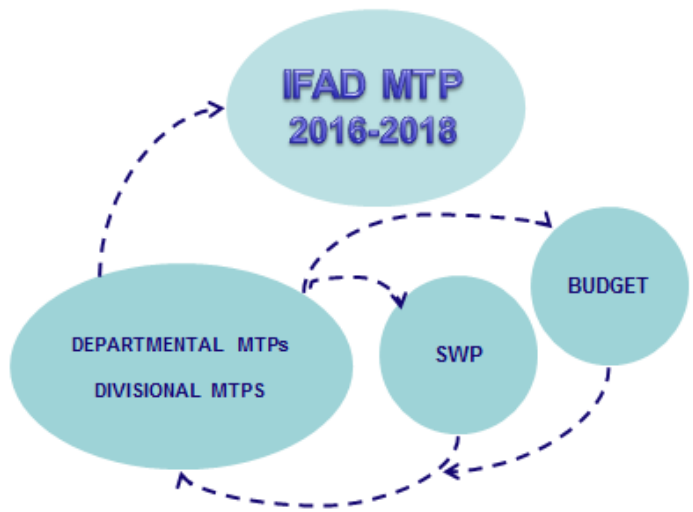


Post 2015



# SKD – SPA DIVISION

## Strategic Planning and impact Assessment



SPA contributes to the Department's goal manages IFAD's corporate planning and performance monitoring and reporting activities, with a view to enhancing the Fund's strategic orientation and the delivery, measurement, and communication of the results achieved by the Fund;

Supports the elaboration of better measurement standards and enhanced data quality, to institutionalise impact assessments and ensure they are embedded at project design stage and to improve M&E systems of IFAD-supported projects.

In relation to this, it seeks to produce rigorous evidence in the form of methodological and applied research arising from the IFAD9 impact assessments, with a view to informing global policy dialogue and improving the effectiveness of IFAD's operations.





# THANKS!