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## Summary of Project, Programme and Grant Proposals Discussed by the Executive Board

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For: Information

## Summary of Project, Programme and Grant Proposals Discussed by the Executive Board

### I. Project and programme proposals

1. The following proposals were approved at the 124<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board and are in line with the Debt Sustainability Framework (DSF).
  - A. West and Central Africa
    - Benin: Agricultural Development and Market Access Support Project (EB 2018/124/R.23 + Add.1 + Sup.1)
    2. The Executive Board unanimously approved a loan of EUR 13.32 million on highly concessional terms and a grant of EUR 13.32 million under the DSF to the Republic of Benin for the Agricultural Development and Market Access Support Project (PADAAM). The Board commended the project for its alignment with national priorities, contribution to food security and innovative elements. In approving the project, the Board representatives advised Management to: (i) strengthen collaboration with both Rome-based and bilateral agencies; (ii) carry out a preliminary infrastructure needs analysis; (iii) make every effort to help women and youth access land and integrate value chains to promote the sustainability of agricultural development in the country. In this context, additional gender- and youth-specific indicators would need to be incorporated into the project's logical framework. The country director for Benin reassured the Board that partnerships with other donor agencies are already in place and that women and youth will be IFAD's primary target groups. Written comments received prior to the session from the United States and France on PADAAM were duly addressed.
 

Chad: Strengthening Productivity and Resilience of Agropastoral Family Farms Project (EB 2018/124/R.24)
    3. The Executive Board unanimously approved a grant of EUR 27.9 million under the DSF to the Republic of Chad for the Strengthening Productivity and Resilience of Agropastoral Family Farms Project. The grant focused on climate change, food and nutrition security, and resilience of agropastoral family farms. The Executive Board commended the quality of the design, in particular the detailed note prepared in accordance with the Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures of IFAD, which highlighted key climate issues. Overall, the Board appreciated the project's relevance, which showed IFAD's commitment to working in the most fragile situations characterized by high climate risk and security issues along Chad's borders.
  - B. Asia and the Pacific
    - China: Innovative Poverty Reduction Programme: Specialized Agribusiness Development in Sichuan and Ningxia (EB 2018/124/R.25 + Add.1 + Sup.1)
    4. The Executive Board unanimously approved a loan of US\$79.5 million on ordinary terms and a grant of US\$0.5 million to the People's Republic of China for the Innovative Poverty Reduction Programme: Specialized Agribusiness Development in Sichuan and Ningxia. List C delivered a joint statement in which it praised and expressed its support for the project. Written comments and requests for clarifications had been received prior to the session, and had been duly addressed in writing.

Pakistan: Southern Punjab Poverty Alleviation Project  
(EB 2018/124/R.27)

5. The Executive Board unanimously approved an additional loan of US\$36.5 million on blend terms and a grant of US\$2.9 million to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to finance the Southern Punjab Poverty Alleviation Project. Interventions were made by the Board representatives for Canada, Kenya, Pakistan and the United Kingdom, and by China on behalf of List C, highlighting: (i) the importance of the sustainability of the social graduation process; (ii) the necessity of good coordination between the project and national funding system such as the Benazir Income Support Programme; (iii) the need to monitor and closely analyse the climate change impact of the project activities on the target groups; and (iv) the importance of ensuring long-term gender empowerment. No written comments or requests for clarifications were received prior to the meeting.

## II. Grant proposal

6. The following grant proposal was approved at the 124<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board:

Grant under the private-sector grants window to Delivery Associates for the Programme for Driving Delivery of Results in the Agriculture Sector (EB 2018/124/R.28)

7. The Executive Board unanimously approved a grant of US\$3.5 million under the private sector grants window to Delivery Associates for the Programme for Driving Delivery of Results in the Agriculture Sector. The Executive Board commended the quality of the design and appreciated its relevance to improving in-country results-based management systems, particularly given the focus on the poorest countries and countries in fragile situations. The Executive Board representative for Angola requested a clarification about the term “moving the numbers” in paragraph 11 and what exactly this meant in the context of the grant design. Management explained that the term referred to a focus on a clear and simple set of rural sector priorities to transform public resources into tangible results and deliver well and quickly to the target group. Management further clarified that the delivery units aimed to find solutions to the bureaucratic issues that hinder the delivery of results.