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Plurinational State of Bolivia

Country Strategic Opportunities Programme

2021-2025

Addendum

Management's response to Member States' comments

Executive Board — 131st Session
Rome, 7-9 December 2020

For: **Information**

Comments from Switzerland	Management response
<p>Training & education. We welcome the strategic orientation of the proposed COSOP which maintains the same general orientation as that of the previous period. We particularly laud the document's approach to technical training institutions that can provide some counterweight to the lack of educational opportunities. As far as these are oriented towards improving consumers' food and nutritional patterns, this can be used to enliven internal market dynamics and improve food security.</p>	<p>The Latin America and the Caribbean Division country team would like to thank the distinguished representative of Switzerland for his comments and suggestions. Both the country strategic opportunities programme (COSOP) and the new investment project for the Plurinational State of Bolivia – Constructing a Culture of Resilience against Climate Change for Rural Families (ACCESOS RURAL) – have a strong focus on capacity development, especially at the local level. Partnerships on training and education are currently ongoing with organizations like Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture and the gastronomy movement (MIGA).</p> <p>Recently, a toolbox was developed by an IFAD-supported grant, Back to the Roots, in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile and Peru, to improve consumers' nutritional patterns and gain an understanding of the role gastronomy and smallholders can play in this process. Universities in participating countries are currently training more than 120 policymakers and technical specialists. Starting in 2021, a new IFAD-supported grant programme, Rural4YoungPeople, will focus on improving the connection between rural and urban areas and invest in capacity-building for rural youth, especially on innovative marketing and trade processes.</p>
<p>CCA. We urge IFAD as an institution certified by the Green Climate Fund to embrace the opportunity to also improve Bolivia's capacity to properly report ND commitments and generate national climate change proposals in a way that meets the required standards.</p>	<p>The process of improving the Plurinational State of Bolivia's capacity to report on nationally determined contribution (NDC) commitments and generate climate change proposals has already been initiated by IFAD, but suffered some delays due to social unrest in the country. Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation is implementing the IFAD-supported Advancing Knowledge for Agricultural Impact (AVANTI) initiative, which helps ministries to improve data gathering, planning and reporting, not only on NDC commitments but also on the Sustainable Development Goals. The IFAD-funded grant programme Knowledge Management for the Adaptation of Family Farming to Climate Change (INNOVA) focuses on generating capacities to deal with climate change. Furthermore, IFAD's new investment project in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, ACCESOS RURAL, contemplates strengthening public and private capacities in dealing with climate change.</p>
<p>Financial markets. IFAD must seek to foster positive financial market dynamics, by networking distributors, smallholder producers, associations and financial institutions. Given that the Bolivian financial system already has many norms products and tools that are not being implemented properly and fully, such an approach could also be extended to risk transfer mechanisms and insurance schemes.</p>	<p>IFAD's country team for the Plurinational State of Bolivia is currently working with the Foundation for Productive and Financial Development (PROFIN) to develop risk transfer mechanisms and insurance schemes for the camelid value chain and specific insurance products, which will be part of the ACCESOS RURAL project.</p> <p>IFAD recognizes that fostering partnerships and the development of networks between distributors, small producers' associations and financial institutions is an essential element of its country programme in the Plurinational State of Bolivia. Specific platforms are being developed with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for stakeholders from different sectors to come together and reach agreements on how to cooperate. Earlier this year, IFAD also approved a Rural Poor Stimulus Facility grant programme on e-trade and digital solutions to help rural poor people overcome increased obstacles to market access and financing due to COVID-19.</p>
<p>Innovation. Finally, with a strong and welcome emphasis on innovation, we note that INIAF (National Institute for Agriculture and Forestry Innovation) is present in some actions. Accordingly, it would be important to encourage their close coordination with IFAD-funded projects.</p>	<p>With a view to building strong public institutions, especially in the agricultural sector and in the struggle against climate change, IFAD recognizes the important role played by the National Institute for Agriculture and Forestry Innovation (INIAF) and commits to continue supporting INIAF in its new programme in the Plurinational State of Bolivia.</p>