

---

**Kingdom of Cambodia**

**Country strategy and programme evaluation**

**Response of the Independent Office of Evaluation of  
IFAD to Member States' comments**

---

Document: EB 2022/136/R.19/Add.1

Agenda: 11(b)(i)

Date: 28 September 2022

Distribution: Public

Original: English

**FOR: INFORMATION**

---

<b>Comments from Switzerland</b>	<b>Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE) response</b>
<p>While Switzerland welcomes the evaluation, it took place in 2017 and is therefore outdated. We should be cautious to use it as a basis for the COSOP 2022-27 as substantial issues have changed since then. Just to name a few: The Government has representatives by only one party. Massive water challenges (droughts and floods) stressed agricultural systems in the past years. The COVID-19 pandemic had massive effects while fuel and fertilizer prices recently challenged the system. What is the reason the evaluation is just now presented to the board?</p>	<p>The CSPE Cambodia was conducted in 2017 and finalized in 2018. The COSOP was then expected to be valid until 2018. The CSPE was discussed with the Evaluation Committee in its 100<sup>th</sup> session in March 2018. The decision to extend the COSOP was taken by Management in consultation with the Government. Per standard practice, a CSPE and a new COSOP for the same country are to be presented to the same Executive Board session. As indicated in its comments on the new Cambodia COSOP, IOE notes that the evaluation findings have largely been taken on board in the post-CSPE Cambodia country programme and in the new COSOP. The CSPE findings relate to longer-term structural issues in rural development in the country. The CSPE still serves as a valid reference document and the IOE comments are still pertinent.</p>