
Country visit of the IFAD Executive Board in 2025

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Useful references: Country visits of the IFAD Executive Board 2025–2028
([EB 2024/142/R.15](#))

Action: The Executive Board is invited to approve the change in destination of the 2025 country visit.

Technical questions:

Donal Brown
Associate-Vice President
Department for Country Operations
e-mail: d.brown@ifad.org

Claudia ten Have
Secretary of IFAD
Office of the Secretary
e-mail: c.tenhave@ifad.org

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1. The Office of the Secretary, with the assistance of the Department for Country Operations, is responsible for managing the country visit programme for the Executive Board in accordance with the recommendation contained in the Peer Review of IFAD's Office of Evaluation and Evaluation Function,¹ which was endorsed by the Executive Board at its ninety-ninth session.
2. In December 2012, the Executive Board approved the current modality for country visits, which required the Board to decide on the destination of future annual visits. Under these procedures, country visits would be open to participation by Executive Board members that were not members of the Evaluation Committee. Nine members would participate in the visits: four from List A, two from List B and three from List C. The Lists would decide on the participation, and the visits would be fully funded by IFAD. The Board also stipulated that a maximum of three additional members of the Executive Board that were not members of the Evaluation Committee could join the country visits on a self-financing basis. These new rules were applied for the annual country visits from 2014 onwards.
3. The following criteria determine the country selection: (i) an ongoing country programme is present (ideally with a mix of lending and non-lending activities); (ii) the country has been subject to a country-level evaluation or a completion report has been produced on the results-based country strategic opportunities programme (COSOP) within the previous two years; (iii) at least two of three country visits over a replenishment period should be to a least developed country or a country with a fragile situation; and (iv) adequate regional rotation must be ensured in country selection.
4. Country visits provide Executive Board members with an opportunity to:
 - (i) Experience IFAD's impact on the ground while engaging with programme participants and government officials;
 - (ii) Engage in dialogue at the state and local levels on IFAD's role;
 - (iii) Contribute insights into public policy to promote rural development;
 - (iv) Deepen their understanding of lessons and recommendations from country strategy and programme evaluations;
 - (v) Gain a clearer understanding of the country context;
 - (vi) Provide guidance to the Executive Board; and
 - (vii) Build rapport and strengthen relations with fellow Board members, similar to the Annual Informal Meeting of the Executive Board, which is typically held in conjunction with the April/May session.
5. At its 142nd session, the Executive Board approved the updated rolling plan for country visits for 2025–2028, which included a visit to the Plurinational State of Bolivia in 2025. However, for operational reasons, the destination of the 2025 visit has been changed to the Republic of Peru. This decision was primarily due to the challenging travel logistics and the extreme altitude of the planned project sites in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, which would have required significant acclimatization to mitigate potential health risks for Board members. Convenors were informed of the change at an informal meeting with the Secretariat in March 2025.
6. Peru is a biodiverse, upper-middle-income country in South America. Despite its wealth in natural resources, including copper ore and gold, it faces significant socioeconomic challenges linked to political and institutional instability and a

¹ [EB 2010/99/R.6](#).

volatile global economy. These issues were further compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic, which severely affected the country, and resulted in one of the highest death rates globally, with 6,601 deaths per million people.

7. Despite ongoing efforts to diversify its economy, Peru remains heavily reliant on natural resource exports. However, agribusiness has emerged as a rapidly growing sector. Over the past decade, agricultural exports have increased by an average of 8.4 per cent annually, reflecting the country's broader economic development. Peru's agribusiness sector is now considered one of the most dynamic globally, driven by strong collaboration between producers and exporters.
8. Over the past two decades, Peru has implemented sound macroeconomic policies, strengthened its well-regarded central bank, and developed a robust financial system. Nonetheless, the country continues to face significant socioeconomic challenges, including rural poverty – at 27.9 per cent in 2023 – and persistent inequality, with a Gini index of 40.3 in 2022. The Government faces a pressing agenda, with key priorities including improving the quality of public services (particularly in education and infrastructure), strengthening public governance, addressing political instability and mitigating the effects of climate variability. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), 7 per cent of Peru's population suffers from undernourishment, while 16.6 million people experienced moderate or severe food insecurity in 2023.
9. Despite these challenges, Peru's economic outlook remains positive, with a growth of 3.3 per cent in 2024 and a forecast increase to 4 per cent in 2025. This trajectory underscores the country's solid economic fundamentals and its progress towards rejoining the path to accession to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). As a candidate since 2022, Peru was among the first countries to engage with OECD through a country programme focused on five key areas: economic growth, governance, anticorruption, human capital and the environment.
10. Since 1980, IFAD has supported rural development in Peru through 12 investment projects – including one currently under design – with a total cumulative value of US\$458 million, of which IFAD has contributed US\$254 million. These investments have benefited more than 352,900 rural households. The current IFAD portfolio in Peru stands at US\$71.5 million.
11. The active project, Avanzar Rural,² which builds on the successful experience of the Sustainable Territorial Development Project, is reaching over 20,000 rural families and was ranked first among over 180 IFAD operations worldwide in 2024. In addition, Avanzar Rural plays a central role in Peru's implementation of the Law of Public Procurement. This initiative recently won the 2024 Rome-based Agencies Award of Excellence for promoting the inclusion of family farmers in government social programmes.
12. Peru is an active participant in the South-South and Triangular Cooperation agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean, sharing valuable best practices and lessons learned from IFAD-supported initiatives. These include the Bambuzonía project, the ACUA programme³ supporting Afrodescendant communities, the Farmers' Organizations for Latin America programme, and the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility. Currently, Peru is hosting the implementation of Innovatech 2.0, an innovative IFAD-funded programme designed to connect fintech and agritech solutions with producers' organizations and financial institutions in rural areas. The country is also engaged in AgroWeb3, a collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank that promotes the use of verifiable credentials for smallholder

² Enhancement and Extension of Public Services for Local Productive Development in the Highlands and Rainforest Regions of Peru – Five Departments Project.

³ Regional Programme for the Economic, Social and Political Empowerment with Cultural Identity of Afrodescendant Populations in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

farmers through digital wallets. Furthermore, the Peru COSOP for 2019–2024 has been extended for two years to ensure government ownership and continuity in the lead-up to the 2026 national elections.

13. For the visit to Peru, the common calendar of meetings of permanent representatives⁴ has been consulted, and the proposed dates have been identified as 8 to 15 November 2025.
14. The Executive Board is invited to approve the change in destination for the 2025 Executive Board country visit – from the Plurinational State of Bolivia to the Republic of Peru – and the proposed dates of the visit.

⁴ Maintained by FAO, IFAD and the World Food Programme.

Summary table of Evaluation Committee/Executive Board member visits

<i>Year</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Region</i>
2005	Indonesia	APR
2006	Mexico	LAC
2007	Mali	WCA
2008	Philippines	APR
2009	India	APR
2010	Mozambique	ESA
2011	Brazil	LAC
2012	Ghana	WCA
2013	Viet Nam	APR
2014	United Republic of Tanzania	ESA
2015	Morocco	NEN
2016	Brazil	LAC
2017	Bangladesh	APR
2018	Ethiopia	ESA
2019	Cameroon	WCA
2020	Cancelled	
2021	Egypt	NEN
2022	Sierra Leone	WCA
2023	Uganda	ESA
2024	Tunisia	NEN
2025	Peru	LAC
2026	India	APR
2027	Democratic Republic of the Congo	WCA
2028	Mozambique	ESA