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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE PRESIDENT

TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ON PROPOSED

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

FOR

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING

BY

NON-CGIAR-SUPPORTED INTERNATIONAL CENTRES

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

DESCO	*Centro de Estudios y Promoción del Desarrollo* (Centre for the Study and Promotion of Development)
FIDAMERICA	Internet-Based System for Information Exchange among IFAD Projects in Latin America and the Caribbean
ICBA	International Center for Biosaline Agriculture
IOCE	International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MERCOSUR	Southern Cone Common Market
NARS	National Agricultural Research Systems
PMU	Project Management Unit
PREVAL	Programme for Strengthening the Regional Capacity for Monitoring and Evaluation of Rural Poverty-Alleviation Projects in Latin America and the Caribbean
RIMS	Results and Impact Measurement System
RUTA	Regional Unit for Technical Assistance
TAG	Technical Assistance Grant

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE PRESIDENT OF IFAD TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ON PROPOSED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING BY NON-CGIAR-SUPPORTED INTERNATIONAL CENTRES

I submit the following Report and Recommendation on two proposed technical assistance grants (TAGs) for agricultural research and training to non-CGIAR-supported international centres in the amount of USD 2 200 000.

PART I – INTRODUCTION

1. This report recommends the provision of IFAD support to the research and training programmes of the following non-CGIAR-supported international centres: the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) and the Centre for the Study and Promotion of Development (DESCO).

2. The documents of the TAGs for approval by the Executive Board are contained in the annexes to this report:

I. International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA): Programme for Saving Freshwater Resources with Salt-Tolerant Forage Production in Marginal Areas of the West Asia and North Africa Region – An Opportunity to Raise the Incomes of the Rural Poor

II. Centre for the Study and Promotion of Development (DESCO): Programme for Strengthening the Regional Capacity for Monitoring and Evaluation of Rural Poverty-Alleviation Projects in Latin America and the Caribbean (PREVAL) – Phase III

3. The objectives and content of these applied research programmes are in line with the evolving strategic objectives of IFAD, and the policy and criteria of its TAG programme for agricultural research and training.

4. The strategic objectives of IFAD's support for technology development relate to: (a) IFAD's target groups and their household food security strategies, specifically in remote and marginalized agro-ecological areas; (b) technologies that build on traditional knowledge systems, are gender-responsive, and enhance and diversify the productive potential of resource-poor farming systems by improving productivity and addressing production bottlenecks; (c) access to productive assets (land and water, financial services, labour and technology, including indigenous technology) and sustainable and productive management of such resources; (d) a policy framework that provides the rural poor with an incentive to reach higher levels of productivity, thereby reducing their dependence on transfers; and (e) an institutional framework within which formal and informal, public and private-sector, local and national institutions provide services to the economically vulnerable according to their comparative advantages. Within this framework, IFAD also intends to develop commodity-based approaches to rural poverty reduction. Finally, (f) the establishment of a consolidated network for knowledge-gathering and dissemination will enhance the Fund's capacity to establish long-term strategic linkages with its development partners and to multiply the effect of its agricultural research and training programme.

5. The TAGs proposed in this document respond to the foregoing strategic objectives. The Programme for Saving Freshwater Resources with Salt-Tolerant Forage Production in Marginal Areas

of the West Asia and North Africa Region responds to the strategic objectives (a), (b) and (c) as follows: (a) By conducting the adaptive research work in farmers' fields selected from among beneficiaries from ongoing IFAD-financed investment projects in Gaza and the West Bank, Jordan, Pakistan, Syria and Tunisia, the programme will target and benefit IFAD project target groups and their household food-security strategies, specifically in remote and marginalized areas. (b) The farm fields for testing and validating biosaline technologies will be selected from among those of farmers already using brackish water; therefore, the programme will build on their traditional knowledge to improve it and make it applicable to higher-salinity irrigation water, and to enhance and diversify the productive potential of resource-poor farming systems by addressing the main bottleneck to productivity – water. (c) By focusing on the improved use of saline water in marginal lands, the programme will assist poor farmers in improving their use of and access to land and water as their main productive assets.

6. PREVAL-III responds to the strategic objective (f) as it seeks to consolidate and enlarge a network for knowledge-gathering and evaluation of project results and impact. It will apply results and impact measurement system (RIMS) indicators, collecting the necessary information while applying a fully participatory approach. In so doing, the programme will transfer to IFAD partners a technology for collecting information and transforming it into knowledge. It will also disseminate the lessons learned from IFAD-supported projects and programmes, enhancing the Fund's capacity to establish long-term strategic linkages with its development partners.

PART II – RECOMMENDATION

7. I recommend that the Executive Board approve the proposed technical assistance grants in terms of the following resolutions:

> RESOLVED: that the Fund, in order to finance, in part, the Programme for Saving Freshwater Resources with Salt-Tolerant Forage Production in Marginal Areas of the West Asia and North Africa Region – An Opportunity to Raise the Incomes of the Rural Poor, shall make a grant not exceeding one million three hundred and fifty thousand United States dollars (USD 1 350 000) to the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented to the Executive Board in this Report and Recommendation of the President.
>
> FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Fund, in order to finance, in part, the Programme for Strengthening the Regional Capacity for Monitoring and Evaluation of Rural Poverty-Alleviation Projects in Latin America and the Caribbean – Phase III, shall make a grant not exceeding eight hundred and fifty thousand United States dollars (USD 850 000) to the Centre for the Study and Promotion of Development (DESCO) upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented to the Executive Board in this Report and Recommendation of the President.

Lennart Båge
President

ANNEX I

INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR BIOSALINE AGRICULTURE (ICBA): PROGRAMME FOR SAVING FRESHWATER RESOURCES WITH SALT-TOLERANT FORAGE IN MARGINAL AREAS OF THE WEST ASIA AND NORTH AFRICA REGION – AN OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE THE INCOMES OF THE RURAL POOR

I. BACKGROUND

1. The West Asia and North Africa region is among the most water-scarce in the world. Countries in the region face a daunting challenge in meeting the increasing demands for water, both in terms of quality and quantity. High temperatures, low precipitation and scarce surface water result in desertification as underlying aquifers and groundwater become more saline due to over-exploitation and the intrusion of seawater. In many areas, salinity in inland aquifers is more than 16 grams per litre (g/l) (20 deciSiemens per metre (dS/m)) and in sub-coastal areas, up to 20 g/l (25 dS/m). With these constraints to agricultural production, using saline water and saline, marginal and waste land to grow forages can contribute to additional security of income among poorer sections of rural populations dependent on livestock and its related food chain. A 2003 IFAD-funded assessment, conducted by ICBA, of brackish and saline underground water resources in seven West African and North African countries demonstrated the availability of sufficient brackish and saline water to irrigate and cultivate 332 000 hectares (ha) with salt-tolerant crops.

2. Livestock, mainly sheep and goats, link many farming systems in the region, from extensive pastoralism to intensive feedlots. Forage production is insufficient to meet current livestock demands and hinders intensification. Farm production on prime agricultural lands maximizes the return from scarce fresh water resources by focusing on cash crops. Growing flocks of livestock overgraze rangelands causing severe land degradation, desertification and loss of biodiversity. Resource-poor farmers and pastoralists, and mainly rural women, make up a high proportion of poor households.

3. The proposed first-phase programme focuses on effectively incorporating saline water and marginal lands into sustainable forage production systems in Gaza and the West Bank, Jordan, Oman, Pakistan, Syria and Tunisia, where the potential for introducing biosaline agriculture is high and governments have expressed their strong commitment to invest in introducing salt-tolerant forage production systems. The programme will link directly to ongoing IFAD projects in these countries – for example, the Rehabilitation and Development Project in Gaza and the West Bank; the Barani Village Development Project in Pakistan; the Badia Rangelands Development Project in Syria; the Agropastoral Development and Local Initiatives Promotion Programme for the South-East in Tunisia.

II. RATIONALE/RELEVANCE TO IFAD

4. Recent research at ICBA has generated a number of important findings and results relating to the use of saline and brackish water in different environments. Several salt-tolerant species of fodder crops and halophytes, together with cost-effective production and management practices, are ready for testing in farmers' fields. Low-cost irrigation and drainage management systems are also available for validation, prior to transfer to farmers.

5. ICBA's gene bank of salt-tolerant and halophyte plants includes 200 different species, 91% of which are forage crops. Hunderds of lines of germplasms from the main fodder species have been characterized and evaluated for production under saline conditions, providing a strong basis to supplement different farming systems. As part of this research, (a) 280 barley genotypes, 42 pearl millet genotypes, 160 genotypes of *Cenchrus ciliaris* grass have been evaluated, and their tolerance to

moderately high salinity water (8 g/l or 10 dS/m) has been demonstrated; (b) halophyte grasses *Sporobolus virginicus* and *Distichlis spicata* and *Atriplex* as a halophyte shrub demonstrated successful adaptation to intensive irrigation using high salinity water (16 g/l or 20 dS/m).

6. With regards to management techniques to be applied to areas of high salinity in order to maintain an adequate balance of salts in the rootzone, ICBA has developed improved irrigation systems and natural and artificial drainage (which includes elevated planting beds and ditches as well as subsurface drainage techniques) to enable the cost-effective use of saline water. The different systems include: (a) low-cost pressurized irrigation systems; (b) improved traditional irrigation systems; and (c) hybrid systems of drip and furrow.

7. The selection of appropriate plant species is the main component of the development of a sustainable and economical production system. Depending on the degree of water salinity, ICBA applies the following three strategies:

For moderate-high salinity (up to 10 dS/m or 8 g/l):
- improve conventional crops
- adapt crop and water management to target environment

For high salinity (up to 20 dS/m or 16 g/l):
- combine conventional with non-conventional crops

For very high salinity (up to 25 dS/m or 20 g/l):
- combine non-conventional and halophyte crops
- introduce highly salt-tolerant shrubs and grasses

8. The programme addresses the *Strategic Framework for IFAD 2002-2006* as regards improving the equitable access to productive natural resources and technologies, and strengthening the capacity of the rural poor. Farmers will be empowered through their participation in the development and improvement of forage production systems that use saline water and salt-affected land. The on-farm approach will build on local knowledge and ensure farmers' access to new knowledge, while promoting learning among partners of national agricultural research systems (NARS). In addition, the programme is responsive to the Fund's regional strategy for the Near East and North Africa, which identifies water as the single most binding resource constraint on the rural poor.

III. THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME

Goal

9. The programme's goal is improved livelihoods and higher incomes for resource-poor rural men and women in degraded and marginal lands in West Asia and North Africa. This overall goal will be met by focusing on the following objectives: (a) increase feed availability for livestock through the sustainable use of underutilized saline water resources; (b) integrate the use of saline water into an overall strategy of sustainable semi-arid and arid farm system management; and (c) enhance the capacity of NARS.

Key Programme Activities and Outputs

10. **Identification of salinity-tolerant forage species and accessions**. Species and accessions that are productive and fit the farming systems of the rural poor and socio-economic situations of target regions will be identified through testing for salinity tolerance in controlled conditions, and field-testing under saline water irrigation in target areas, with the participation of poor farmers. The

expected outputs will be: (a) a database of salinity tolerance and productivity of forage grasses, legumes and shrubs in the West Africa and North Africa region; (b) recommendations on suitable forage species and accessions for targeted beneficiaries; and (c) reports and publications on the economic performance of forage species under saline irrigation.

11. **Identification of sustainable saline water irrigation and drainage systems for poor farmers.** Information on saline water resources, soil, topography and socio-economic characteristics of target areas will be collected. This will form the basis for modelling irrigation and drainage systems for different crops and regions. The results of the modelling will be verified and refined through field-testing in the target countries. The expected outputs will be: (a) recommendations on irrigation and drainage systems for target regions, enabling poorer sections of society to conserve scarce freshwater and use saline water more productively; and (b) reports and on-field-verified results of modelling of saline irrigation and drainage systems.

12. **Development of optimized systems for saline irrigated forage production and demonstration to poor farmers.** The candidate forage crops and saline water and drainage systems will be tested in field trials with other agronomic management options to optimize productivity on marginal lands. Economic and soil and water information will be collected on the trials to verify that candidate technologies are economically viable and environmentally sustainable. Demonstration plots of successful production systems will be established with full farmer participation. The expected outputs will be: (a) demonstration plots of successful production systems established in participating countries in participation with poor farmers; (b) policy recommendations on saline irrigated forage production systems; and (c) reports on economic viability and environmental sustainability of saline irrigated forage production systems, indicating the potential for increased incomes of rural poor populations.

13. **Capacity development of national research staff.** Annual training courses will be carried out on aspects of saline irrigated forage production and related technologies. In addition, staff exchanges between participating institutions will be facilitated for capacity-building and technology exchange. The expected outputs will be: (a) trained national scientists (100) in aspects of saline irrigated forage production; (b) technical on-the-job training of national staff (30) in exchange programmes; and (c) salt-tolerant forage plant nurseries established in NARS.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

14. ICBA will be responsible for overall programme coordination and management, including technical and financial reporting. The budget provides for programme coordination to oversee programme activities in participating countries. ICBA will provide backstopping for controlled evaluation and assessment, facilitate exchange visits to provide specific expertise, arrange specialized analyses, and provide gene bank storage facilities for germplasm. The programme will be carried out in partnership with the NARS of participating countries. National coordinators for each country will be designated by the director of agricultural research in the Ministry of Agriculture of each participating country. The national coordinator will be responsible for the management of NARS activities, logistic and administrative support, and monitoring and reporting of the progress of programme activities.

15. A programme steering committee will be formed comprising the programme coordinator in ICBA, representatives of IFAD and other donors, and representatives from each of the participating NARS. It will review, amend and approve annual workplans and budgets, and monitor and evaluate progress. National teams assigned to implement the programme will meet regularly for consultation and evaluation. A major mid-term review will be held at the end of the second year, halfway through the programme.

V. INDICATIVE PROGRAMME COSTS AND FINANCING

16. The total cost of this three-year programme is estimated at USD 3.72 million. The proposed IFAD contribution is roughly USD 1.35 million. The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) is expected to contribute USD 1.00 million. The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund already approved a contribution of USD 200 000 in 2003. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is expected to contribute USD 200 000. The Comprehensive Water Assessment Competitive Grant scheme administered by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) has already approved a contribution of USD 75 000. ICBA's in-kind contribution is estimated at about USD 600 000. The in-kind contribution of the participating NARS is estimated at USD 290 000.

PROGRAMME COSTS
(USD '000)

Cost Category	Programme Financing							
	IFAD	**AFESD**	**OPEC Fund**	**IAEA**	**IWMI**	**ICBA** In-kind	**NARS** In-kind	**Total Financing**
Research personnel	50	20	–	–	55	180	140	445
Field Research	350	150	60	–	–	150	100	810
Consultants/Technical Assistance	200	130	35	–	–	55	–	420
International travel	80	–	45	60	6	–	–	191
Equipment and supplies	100	108	32	40	2	40	–	322
Training, workshops etc	180	372	–	80	8	77	50	767
Publications/information dissemination	15	10	–	–	4	51	–	80
Programme coordination	225	80	–	–	–	–	–	305
Total direct costs	**1 200**	**870**	**172**	**180**	**75**	**553**	**290**	**3 340**
ICBA grant administration	150	130	28	20	–	47	–	375
Total programme costs	**1 350**	**1 000**	**200**	**200**	**75**	**600**	**290**	**3 715**

ANNEX II

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY AND PROMOTION OF DEVELOPMENT: PROGRAMME FOR STRENGTHENING THE REGIONAL CAPACITY FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF RURAL POVERTY-ALLEVIATION PROJECTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (PREVAL) – PHASE III

I. BACKGROUND

1. In April 1995, IFAD made a grant to the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture for the implementation of PREVAL-I. The purpose was to "strengthen capabilities in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) to evaluate projects for rural poverty alleviation."

2. The main results of PREVAL-I are contained in the interim evaluation.[1] Some highlights include: (a) creating a network of professionals and institutions specialized in monitoring and evaluation (M&E) (b) disseminating knowledge and sound practices; (c) strengthening IFAD project capacities for M&E; and (d) narrowing the gap between supply and demand for M&E services throughout the region.

3. In May 2000, through an agreement between IFAD and the Peruvian non-governmental organization DESCO (TAG 468-DESCO), PREVAL-II commenced operations for an additional four-year period. PREVAL-II was approved by IFAD's Executive Board in December 1999.

4. PREVAL-II had a more focused goal than PREVAL-I: *"to contribute to the* impact *and* sustainability *of IFAD-funded projects in LAC by strengthening their capabilities for impact M&E and institutional learning"*. Pursuant to this objective, the programme's main audience consisted of IFAD-funded projects in the region.

5. As foreseen, PREVAL-II carried out a number of initiatives in synergy with other regional programmes, in particular, the Internet-based system for information exchange among IFAD projects in Latin America and the Caribbean (FIDAMERICA) and the Regional Unit for Technical Assistance (RUTA). Together with FIDAMERICA, it: (a) formulated a methodological guide for the systematization of experiences, which has been institutionalized by IFAD projects in LAC; and (b) carried out activities aimed at strengthening capacities for systematization. These activities laid the foundations for the launching of the *Encuentros sobre la Innovación y el Conocimiento para Eliminar la Pobreza Rural.*[2] RUTA acted as the main partner of PREVAL-II in developing training activities in Central America.

6. PREVAL-II has yielded results that place it as: (a) a main contributor to developing and positioning the M&E theme in the region; and (b) a regional programme capable of bringing together a significant number of organizations and professionals in a Latin American network.[3] PREVAL's network allowed LAC to be represented in planning and creating the International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE).[4]

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1 IFAD Office of Evaluation, Report 991, September 1999.

2 Workshops on innovation and knowledge acquisition to eradicate rural poverty, held in Managua, Nicaragua, in 2001, and in Lima, Peru, in 2003.

3 An electronic network bringing together 450 Spanish-speaking professionals and organizations: preval@rimisp.cl.

4 www.ioce.org.

7. The main achievements of PREVAL-II in 2000-2004 include:

(a) twelve IFAD projects in the region with participatory and impact-oriented M&E systems;

(b) capacity-building through integral training programmes with involvement of 90% of IFAD projects in the region;

(c) innovative training methods developed and tested, including (i) the *Programa Intensivo de Seguimiento y Evaluación*, an intensive M&E programme that combines courses, field replications and on-line consultation; and (ii) modular courses with field applications;

(d) methodologies developed for participatory evaluations and systematization;

(e) methodologies, case studies, local experiences and relevant literature on M&E published and disseminated;

(f) IFAD *Guide for Project M&E: Managing for Impact in Rural Development* distributed among IFAD projects; and

(g) an institutional network of evaluators established in LAC.

8. An external evaluation of the technical assistance component of PREVAL-II was carried out in 2002. It found that projects in LAC: (a) recognize the programme's contribution to strengthening their M&E capacities and are satisfied with the quality of the services rendered; (b) appreciate PREVAL products and their utility; and (c) expect to continue receiving PREVAL services.

9. The experience of PREVAL-II has demonstrated that to sustain and improve on the results achieved so far, it is necessary to: (a) continue reinforcing project and other stakeholders' capacities for effective M&E; and (b) initiate a strategy for M&E capacity-building in key governmental institutions in LAC.

II. RATIONALE/RELEVANCE TO IFAD

10. During its third and final phase, PREVAL needs to *consolidate, institutionalize and sustain* its efforts in building capacities for impact-oriented M&E and institutional learning systems. Its strategy will be to expand beyond IFAD projects as immediate beneficiaries to include all stakeholders involved in designing and implementing M&E systems so as to create a common approach to M&E for poverty reduction.

11. Therefore, on its way towards institutionalization and *sustainability*, PREVAL-III will enlarge its target group to include *key governmental M&E entities* that report on the performance of pro-poor rural development initiatives at national, regional and local levels in pre-selected countries of the region.[5]

12. At present, the service provision capacities of (semi)public entities (specialized agencies, universities) and *consultants* do not meet the ever-growing demand for technical assistance and training in pro-poor M&E and consequently will have to be strengthened.

13. To sustain *the knowledge system* set up earlier by PREVAL, partnerships and exchange mechanisms will have to be institutionalized with other M&E networks and third-tier associations (e.g. IOCE and others).

[5] Brazil, El Salvador, Honduras, Peru and Uruguay.

14. PREVAL-III will contribute significantly to empowering the poor so that they can overcome their poverty. It will achieve this by consolidating and institutionalizing earlier programme results with participatory and transparent M&E mechanisms that give voice to the needs of the rural poor in order to ensure that they are taken into consideration by project management units (PMUs) and governments. In this sense, PREVAL-III will sustain social accountability mechanisms.

15. PREVAL-III enhances the performance of IFAD programmes and projects in the LAC region by supporting regional capacities to deliver services, knowledge and tools for measuring the impact of its operations in rural poverty reduction, and by strengthening mechanisms for the feedback of field results to the design and implementation of new and ongoing projects.

16. Therefore, it will pay special attention to: (a) ensuring beneficiary participation as a way of increasing the effectiveness of M&E systems; (b) familiarizing stakeholders and beneficiaries with the IFAD project M&E guide and RIMS requirements; and (c) consolidating innovative, participatory and cost-effective methods for monitoring and impact assessment (networking and knowledge management).

III. THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME

17. PREVAL-III will have the following **main objective**: Major programme stakeholders will apply improved capacities to design, implement and document impact and results-oriented pro-poor M&E systems for rural poverty reduction programmes and policies.

18. To reach this objective, PREVAL-III will focus on achieving the following **outputs**:

(a) PMUs are strengthened to design, implement and document participatory and impact-oriented M&E systems in accordance with the IFAD project M&E guide and to provide information for RIMS.

(b) Key governmental M&E entities on central, regional and local levels have built up and/or streamlined impact-oriented M&E systems for their rural development programmes and policies.

(c) Public and private service providers are strengthened and qualified to offer M&E assistance and training in accordance with the IFAD project M&E guide.

(d) Partnerships and exchange mechanisms with other M&E networks and third-tier associations are institutionalized for M&E and for documentation of lessons learned, best practices and innovations.

19. PREVAL-III will cooperate with the following stakeholders: (a) IFAD projects with their PMUs and M&E units; (b) government agencies on national, regional and local levels in five selected countries (see footnote 5); (c) public and private service providers for technical assistance, training and consultancy in M&E; and (d) project and programme partners such as cooperating institutions, cofunding agencies and other international donors.

IV. EXPECTED OUTPUTS/EXPECTED BENEFITS

20. Core activities of PREVAL-III will be:

Outputs 1 and 2:

- tailor and customize the IFAD project M&E guide to the specific context of PMUs and governmental entities in LAC (workshops, brainstorming sessions and network exchanges);
- provide training-cum-technical assistance at the demand of stakeholders;
- operationalize the RIMS concept; and
- provide platforms for horizontal learning and exchange of experience (PMUs) with training programmes, courses and seminars within the region and with IFAD projects and programmes outside the region.

Output 3:

- establish, maintain and update the consultants' network in PREVAL (roster); and
- implement training-cum-qualification programmes for public and private service providers.

Output 4:

- disseminate information and manage a knowledge base about M&E;
- consolidate existing strategic alliances and networking with RUTA, FIDAMERICA and the IFAD-funded Institutional and Policy Support Programme to Reduce Rural Poverty in the MERCOSUR [Southern Cone Common Market] Area;
- strengthen the Latin American Network for Monitoring, Evaluation and Systematization (through IOCE); and
- document experiences with the application of the IFAD project M&E guide.

21. Complementary activities will be defined in the respective annual workplans, which will be submitted to the programme's Technical Advisory Committee and approved by IFAD.

V. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

22. PREVAL-III will be implemented through an agreement between IFAD and DESCO, a Peruvian non-governmental organization. The **programme coordination unit** established under PREVAL-II will continue to function. A coordinator, a technical assistant and an administrative assistant will be responsible for coordinating the programme's main activities. PREVAL-III will contract qualified short-term consultants who will carry out its components.

23. The **Technical Advisory Committee,** created in 2003, will assist PREVAL-III in reviewing its strategies and results. It will consist of representatives of the Inter-American Development Bank, IOCE, the United Nations Children's Fund, FIDAMERICA and the MERCOSUR programme.

24. **Supervision** will be the responsibility of IFAD's LAC Division which will approve PREVAL's annual workplan and budget.

25. Increased ownership of and responsibility for M&E functions by projects/programmes and relevant partners reflects the shift towards higher levels of cofunding for M&E services. Furthermore, this phase is characterized by PREVAL's shift towards a broker function of M&E services, establishing 'initial' market conditions for bilateral exchange between client-users and providers.

26. The Technical Advisory Committee will be responsible for the quality assurance of M&E services. At programme end, it is foreseen that this function will be carried out through peer reviews or entrusted to entities such as IOCE.

VI. INDICATIVE PROGRAMME COSTS AND FINANCING

TOTAL COST AND FINANCING SCHEDULE 2004-2007
(USD)

Category	IFAD	DESCO	IFAD Projects and Programmes	International or Regional Organizations	Total
1. Training	180 000	–	60 000		240 000
2. Technical assistance for design and implementation of M&E systems	200 000	–	120 000		320 000
3. Knowledge creation and dissemination	100 000	–	20 000	50 000	170 000
4. Strategic alliances and networking	40 000	–	–	20 000	60 000
5. Personnel	200 000	40 000			240 000
6. Operating costs	130 000	20 000			150 000
Total	**850 000**	**60 000**	**200 000**	**70 000**	**1 180 000**