



Joint evaluation on collaboration among the United Nations Rome-based agencies

110th Session of the Evaluation Committee
2 September 2020

Independent Office
of Evaluation

 **IFAD**
Investing in rural people

Background

- Governing Bodies' repeated calls to strengthen collaboration among the UN Rome-Based Agencies
- Corporate level evaluation approved in respective programmes of work for 2020-2021 by **IFAD, FAO and WFP** World Food Programme (**WFP**) as an **independent, joint evaluation on collaboration among the Rome-based UN agencies (RBAs)**

Rationale:

- Collaboration among the RBAs has evolved over the past decade and occurring at the global, regional and country levels
- Need credible evidence of the contribution of the RBA's collaborative efforts towards the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals

Objectives

1. Assess whether and to what extent RBA collaboration is contributing to achieving **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, particularly at the country level
2. Assess the approach to collaboration as per the **2016 Collaboration Paper and more recently in the 2018 MoU**
3. Generate credible evidence on the **enablers and constraints** to effective RBA collaboration
4. Identify lessons and good practices in **tripartite and bipartite collaboration** to enhance the **effectiveness and efficiency** of RBA collaboration
5. Make recommendations on the **future strategic direction** of RBA collaboration.

UN RBA collaboration past

**RBA
collaboration
2009-2015**

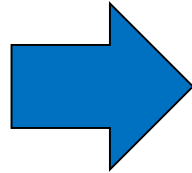


Joint document “**Directions for Collaboration of the Rome-Based Food Agencies**” (2009):

- Partnerships integral to RBA mandates
- Partnerships as a means for **greater synergy, effectiveness and efficiency**
- **Learning from experiences** in partnerships
- Collaboration in the context of **United Nations System-wide coherence**; and
- Collaboration driven by **country-level processes**

UN RBA collaboration to present

**RBA
collaboration
2016 to the
present**



Paper on “Collaboration among United Nations Rome-based Agencies: Delivering on the 2030 Agenda” (2016) defining four pillars:

- Working together at the **country and regional level**
- Cooperating at the **global level**
- Collaborating on **knowledge and themes**
- Joint **corporate services**

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) (2018), including two main principles of collaboration:

- Reciprocal **exchange of expertise**
- **Mutual engagement**

Evaluation Scope

- Period from November 2016 (RBA Collaboration paper) to present
- Tripartite and bipartite collaborations
- Pillars of collaboration under 2018 MoU at global, regional and country levels:
 - Programmatic activities (strategic/policy, operations/programmes, advocacy/communications)
 - Joint Corporate Services/Administrative activities (logistics, procurement, HR/IT/administration, oversight and evaluative functions)

Initial mapping of joint initiatives

Mapping of joint initiatives sample (2017-2019)

Subject of Collaboration	Level				Agencies		
	Global/ HQ	Regional	Country	Tripartite	FAO- WFP	FAO-IFAD	IFAD- WFP
Strategic/Policy	10	6	6	12	4	1	0
Operations/Programmes	1	4	65	24	34	5	10
Advocacy/Communications	22	3	4	21	2	1	0
Corporate Services/Administrative	17	0	0	11	3	2	1
ALL	50	13	74	67	43	9	11

Overarching questions

1. How relevant is RBA collaboration in contributing to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?
2. What are the positive, negative, intended and unintended results of RBA collaboration to date?
3. What factors have enabled or hindered the effectiveness of RBA collaboration?
4. What is the added value of RBA collaboration (as opposed to single Agency processes and results) across the different aspects and levels?

Methodology

**COVID-19
sensitive**

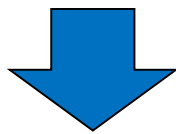
Theory-based approach



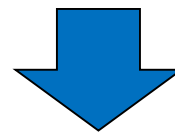
Criteria used: relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability



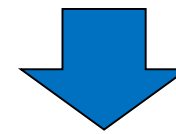
**Desk reviews/
Electronic surveys**



**Key informant
interviews/ Focus
group discussions**



**Deep Dive
analysis on
specific initiatives**



**Country studies
(12 to 18)**

Independent evaluation firm forms evaluation team supervised by the Evaluation Management Group consisting of senior evaluation officers from the RBAs.

Timeline

Preparatory Phase	TOR Finalized and submitted to governing bodies	Mar-Jun 2020
	Contracting the evaluation firm	Jul 2020
Inception Phase	Evaluation Team briefing	Aug-Sept 2020
	Desk reviews, data collection, field work	Sept 2020 – Mar 2021
	Draft Inception Report submitted for comments	Dec-2020/Jan-2021
	Final Inception Report for RBA Stakeholders	Feb-2021
Reporting Phases	Draft Evaluation Report submitted for comments	Apr-Aug 2021
	Final Evaluation Report submitted to governing bodies	Sept 2021
Dissemination Phase	Discussion with IFAD Evaluation Committee	Oct 2021
	Final Evaluation Report discussed with governing bodies	Nov-Dec 2021

Thank you

