

Independent Office of Evaluation



124<sup>th</sup> Evaluation Committee

# Thematic Evaluation of IFAD's support to nutrition

Presentation of the approach paper



# **Evaluation rationale**

The thematic evaluation of IFAD's support to nutrition was approved at the 137<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board, held in December 2022.

Why this evaluation now?

- Response to a demand from the organization
- Maturity of IFAD's nutrition sensitive investments
- Forthcoming of IFAD new Strategic Framework and nutrition action plan





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# **Evaluation objectives**





Assess the relevance, coherence and institutional capacity of IFAD as well as the effectiveness of practices and approaches adopted and the results thus far



Provide lessons and recommendations that help refine IFAD's comparative advantage, improve project quality and feed into preparing the new nutrition action plan and IFAD Strategic Framework

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### **Evaluation scope**

### **Broad areas covered**

- IFAD's corporate policies and commitments on nutrition
- Design and implementation support, partnerships, knowledge management and policy engagement
- Interconnection of nutrition with other IFAD's cross-cutting thematic areas
- Adequacy of the reporting system
- Extent to which IFAD is equipped to deliver on its nutrition targets
- IFAD's comparative advantage in nutrition

### **Time coverage**

2016 - 2023

Focus on NS-projects operational over this period

Explore complementarities and synergies with non-NS projects





IFAD9 2013 - 2015	IFAD10 2016 - 2018	IFAD11 2019 - 2021	IFAD12 2022 - 2024	
<ul> <li>Concrete commitments on nutrition</li> <li>Canada funds for nutrition mainstreaming</li> <li>German funds for research on NS Value Chaines</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>First Nutrition Action Plan</li> <li>Nutrition rating incorporated in IFAD guidance</li> <li>Nutrition core indicators incorporated in RIMS system</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Nutrition included in IFAD's Strategic Framework (2016- 2025)</li> <li>Second Nutrition Action Plan</li> <li>Criteria for mainstreaming nutrition</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>First Nutrition Stocktaking Exercise</li> <li>First Independent Evaluation</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Nutrition included in SECAP guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul><li>defined</li><li>Nutrition indicators in COI guidelines</li></ul>		
		<ul> <li>NORAD funds for nutrition mainstreaming</li> </ul>		

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# **Overarching evaluation questions**

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To what extent are **IFAD's current nutrition priorities and approaches** relevant and sufficiently tailored to national priorities and IFAD's target group needs, the global context and IFAD's corporate commitments and priorities? [relevance]



To what extent are IFAD's nutrition efforts maximizing its unique **comparative advantage** and how have **partnerships**, **policy engagement and knowledge management** been instrumental in achieving nutrition results? [coherence]



Are IFAD's nutrition-sensitive interventions (operations and COSOPs) and, in particular, **nutrition pathways and approaches** effective for delivering against nutrition objectives and what progress has been made in achieving and contributing to **nutrition results**? [effectiveness]



To what extent has IFAD put in place an appropriate and effective **enabling environment** for the delivery of nutrition objectives? [effectiveness, efficiency]

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# Methodology

Block 1 – Document review and key informant interviews	Block 2 – Internal consultations	Block 3 – Global and regional focus group discussions
<ul> <li>Selection of country case studies</li> <li>Global internal and external key informant interviews</li> <li>Mapping of evidence from secondary data</li> </ul>	Design and self-assessment workshop	<ul> <li>Analysis of preliminary findings from documentation review and interviews</li> <li>Identification of priorities for country case studies</li> </ul>
Block 4 – Thematic and Country case studies	Block 5 – Virtual round tables	
Country case studies: 3 remote and 5 mission-based Thematic study on partnerships	<ul> <li>Discussion on emerging findings</li> <li>Inputs on IFAD nutrition priorities moving forward</li> </ul>	Draft and final reporting

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# **Evaluation Timeline**



Desk review and online key informant interviews	On-going	
Approach Paper presented at the EC	March	
Design and self-assessment workshop	April	
Data collection	April – September	
Emerging findings workshop	October	
Report finalised	First quarter of 2025	

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