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Investing in rural people

President's report on a proposed grant under  
the global/regional grants window to the  
World Rural Forum for  
Beyond IYFF 2014: Support to National  
Committees for Family Farming

Note to Executive Board representatives

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For: Approval

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## Abbreviations and acronyms

AMARC	World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters
CLAEH	Latin American Center of Human Economy
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IYFF	International Year of Family Farming
NCCF	National Committee for Family Farming
WRF	World Rural Forum

## Recommendation for approval

The Executive Board is invited to approve the recommendation for a proposed grant under the global/regional grants window to the World Rural Forum for Beyond IYFF 2014: Support to National Committees for Family Farming, as contained in paragraph 5.

# President's report on a proposed grant under the global/regional grants window to the World Rural Forum for Beyond IYFF 2014: Support to National Committees for Family Farming

## Part I – Introduction

1. This report recommends the provision of an IFAD grant in the amount of US\$1 million under the global/regional grants window to the World Rural Forum (WRF) for the project Beyond IYFF 2014: Support to National Committees for Family Farming (NCFFs). The grant proposal document is contained in the annex to this report.
2. The goal of IFAD grants is to significantly broaden and add value to the support provided to smallholder farming and rural transformation, thereby contributing to rural poverty eradication, sustainable agricultural development, and global food security and nutrition. In order to achieve this goal, IFAD grants should adhere to three basic principles: (i) make a significant contribution to a global, regional or national public good related to IFAD's mandate; (ii) focus on interventions where grant financing has clear added value and a comparative advantage over regular loans; and (iii) not be used as a substitute for resources from IFAD's administrative budget.
3. The objectives of IFAD grant financing are to: (i) promote innovative, pro-poor approaches and technologies with the potential to be scaled up for greater impact; (ii) strengthen partners' institutional and policy capacities; (iii) enhance advocacy and policy engagement; and (iv) generate and share knowledge for development impact. Rural poor people and their organizations should be squarely positioned at the centre of each grant submission to fulfil IFAD's mandate to enable poor rural people to improve their food security and nutrition, raise their incomes and strengthen their resilience.
4. The proposed project is in line with the goal and objectives of IFAD grant financing, as stated in the IFAD grant policy. The project supports priority line of action<sup>1</sup> 3 for 2015 – empowerment of farmers' and indigenous peoples' organizations.

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<sup>1</sup> As per the Policy for Grant Financing: Implementing Procedures (EB/114/INF.5), an annual guidance note – aligned with the corporate strategic direction for grants – is prepared by Management, setting forth the priority lines of action for the year in question.

## Part II – Recommendation

5. I recommend that the Executive Board approve the proposed grant in terms of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Fund, in order to finance, in part, the project Beyond IYFF 2014: Support to National Committees for Family Farming, shall provide a grant not exceeding one million United States dollars (US\$1.0 million) to the World Rural Forum for a period of 42 months, and upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented to the Executive Board herein.

Kanayo F. Nwanze  
President

# Beyond IYFF 2014: Support to National Committees for Family Farming

## I. Background

1. The United Nations declared 2014 the International Year of Family Farming (IYFF 2014) to recognize the importance of family farming in reducing poverty and improving global food security. The goals of the IYFF 2014 were to support the development of policies conducive to sustainable family farming, increase awareness of its importance, gain a better understanding of the needs of family farmers and create synergy among partners. IFAD played an important role in IYFF 2014, as a member of the IYFF's International Steering Committee (ISC), by providing financial support to the creation of national committees and to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to support its global coordination role. IFAD also engaged directly at the country level. At the end of 2014, national and institutional members of the ISC adopted the document Legacy of IYFF 2014 and the way forward, which states that "The National Committees for the IYFF 2014 are encouraged to continue their work beyond the year 2014. Building on their experience, Governments and other relevant actors are encouraged to establish permanent multi-stakeholder platforms for policy dialogue at national and regional levels on Family Farming." The document also states that "UN Rome-based agencies ... should consider and maintain Family Farming as an integral element of their agenda."
2. In line with this statement, the proposed project builds on achievements of IYFF 2014 at the country level and, in particular, on the creation of National Committees for Family Farming (NCFFs) to support policy improvements for smallholder and family farmers. This proposal also responds to the Farmers Forum request at the IFAD Governing Council session in February 2014: "Facilitating smallholder producer organizations' policy dialogue with governments is the top priority at country level."
3. NCFFs gather hundreds of national institutions, in particular producer organizations and NGOs, but also academic and government institutions. They have been established in more than 50 countries including 35 IFAD borrowing countries. Their purpose is to promote the role of family farming in the national economy and to improve the policy framework. Specific policy objectives and related advocacy campaigns and actions are decided by each NCFF according to the national context, but are typically related to access to local and regional markets, credit, appropriate technology and natural resources, and to strengthening of family farmers' organizations and the role of women and youth. All NCFFs established during 2014 decided to continue their work for a decade of family farming (IYFF+10), and new NCFFs have been created during the first months of 2015 (Benin, Ghana, Guinea Bissau and Madagascar).

## II. Rationale and relevance to IFAD

4. This proposal contributes to two objectives of the new grant policy: strengthen partners' institutional and policy capacities, and enhance advocacy and policy engagement. It will also contribute to generating and sharing knowledge for development impact and is in line with the commitment of the Consultation on the Tenth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (IFAD10) to increase country-level policy engagement.
5. The project supports priority line of action 3 for 2015 – empowerment of farmers' and indigenous peoples' organizations – by ensuring continued support to NCFFs that are now engaged in IYFF+10. These activities build on the successful achievement of IYFF 2014 and will finance a competitive challenge fund to support

the policy dialogue and advocacy initiatives of existing and new NCCFs in developing countries with related knowledge management activities.

6. Among the international institutions, IFAD has been the main supporter of the celebration of IYFF 2014 at the country level and, in particular, of the national committees. As a member of the ISC, it endorsed the Legacy document. Grant financing is the only instrument available to the Fund for channelling resources to NCCFs through a global competitive challenge fund.

### III. Proposed project

7. The overall goal of the project is to improve national policy and institutional frameworks for development of smallholder and family farming in selected IFAD borrowing countries. The project's objectives are to:
  - Strengthen the capacity of existing or new NCCFs to achieve their policy and institutional change objectives on the basis of specific proposals selected through international competition;
  - Establish permanent inclusive national policy dialogue platforms for family farming;
  - Promote south-south and international exchanges of knowledge on policies that work for family farmers, including through the Family Farming Knowledge Platform for family farming established by FAO and IFAD in 2014.
8. The direct target group of the project is the organizational members of the NCCFs. The indirect target groups are the millions of men and women smallholder family farmers, including youth, in those developing countries where an NCCF exists that will benefit from the policy changes initiated or achieved with the support of the project. Specific criteria regarding gender equality and rural youth issues are included in the selection criteria of the NCCF initiatives to be supported.
9. The duration of the project will be 42 months and will comprise two components:
  - i. Support to NCCF initiatives (challenge fund) (80 per cent of project cost). Grants will support selected NCCF subprojects submitted to the challenge fund (4 to 5 grants per year). NCCFs will be expected to contribute at least 20 per cent of the cost of their proposals.
  - ii. Implementation support, learning and knowledge-sharing (12 per cent of project cost). This will include technical advice, facilitation and networking provided by the manager of the project (including in-country missions for about half the selected subprojects), monitoring and stocktaking, documentation and dissemination of successful cases.

### IV. Expected outputs

10. Main outputs of the project at the national level will be new or improved policy, regulation, budget allocation and national programmes in support of family farming development. Given the nature of the project as a competitive challenge fund, specific outputs will depend on the proposals submitted by NCCFs and selected on the basis of predefined criteria (which will include a contribution to the scaling up of successful IFAD investment projects). The project will also contribute to the creation of new NCCFs and the institutionalization of permanent policy dialogue mechanisms. At the international level it will contribute to the dynamism of the global IYFF+10 campaign, to global knowledge on family farming and to keeping family farming high on the policy agenda.

## V. Implementation arrangements

11. Following a competitive call for proposals and selection of the grantee – and taking into account the successful completion of a previous grant – the project will be implemented by the executive secretariat of the World Rural Forum (WRF), in consort with the Latin American Center of Human Economy (CLAEH), the African Institute for Economic and Social Development (INADES) Formation International and the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC International). WRF will lead the project and will act as formal grant recipient on behalf of the consortium.
12. WRF is an international network that works in favour of family farming and sustainable rural development, composed of farmers' federations, rural organizations and agricultural research centres from Africa, America, Asia, Europe and Oceania. The consortium is based on the idea that WRF will continue coordinating international support to the national committees. IFAD-MERCOSUR CLAEH<sup>2</sup> has been engaged since the very beginning in the campaign for the IYFF 2014, and was a key stakeholder in its promotion in Latin America. INADES Formation International is an experienced supporter of farmers' initiatives, with offices in 10 African countries. It will add value by facilitating long-term consolidation of the African NCCFs. AMARC is an international NGO serving the community radio movement, with almost 4,000 members and associates. WRF signed a collaboration agreement with AMARC to promote networking between NCCFs and community radio. Raising awareness among family farmers is one of the priority objectives of NCCFs, and community radio is a very effective tool in reaching family farmers at the local level.
13. WRF will be accountable to IFAD for managing and coordinating the project and for administrating the grant funds. It will coordinate and lead consortium partners and will be responsible for: global management and coordination of the project; managing the challenge fund and subgrantees of the selected initiatives; coordinating implementation support to NCCFs, knowledge-sharing and networking; preparing annual withdrawal requests to IFAD; ensuring regular monitoring of activities; and preparing technical and financial reports. Implementation agreements will be signed between WRF and each consortium partner. A project coordination committee will meet monthly (via teleconferencing) to coordinate activities. The committee will assess progress of the project, evaluate implementation strategies and plan activities for the next period. In addition, memorandums of understanding will be signed between WRF and subgrant recipients (NCCFs) for implementation of the selected NCCF initiatives.
14. Government involvement and accountability to its commitments are central to the grant proposal, and the feasibility of proposals will be taken into consideration during the selection process. The presence of an IFAD observer to the selection committee will ensure that linkages with IFAD country programmes are effectively taken into account in the selection process. The IFAD observer will consult the country project managers (CPMs) and IFAD country offices (ICOs) concerned before the selection of subgrantees and will advise the selection committee accordingly. The observer will also ensure that IFAD CPMs and ICOs are rapidly informed of the decisions of the selection committee.
15. WRF will submit six-monthly unaudited statements of expenditure (SOEs) to IFAD and will ensure that the entire project implementation period is covered by audit, through the submission of separate audit opinion letters on SOEs submitted to IFAD, duly completed by independent auditors. SOEs and audit reports will cover the entire project and consolidate expenditures incurred by the recipient and

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<sup>2</sup> In 2012 IFAD approved a new grant for continuity of the IFAD programme in support of the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR). This was a new mandate, and although it is complementary to the existing mandate, it is independent of it. In this case, the financing is no longer to MERCOSUR but to CLAEH.

implementing partners, if any. However, the recipient will be solely and ultimately responsible for grant funds management and financial reporting to IFAD. In addition, the recipient will have its institutional accounts audited annually by independent auditors in accordance with international audit standards, and will deliver a copy of its audited financial statements to IFAD, inclusive of a reference to the IFAD grant, within six months of the end of each fiscal year.

## VI. Indicative project costs and financing

16. Total cost of the project is estimated at US\$2,050,000, funded by an IFAD grant of US\$1.0 million (49 per cent of total cost), US\$750,000 by partners and cofinanciers, including WRF, the Basque Agency for Development Cooperation (BAC), International Land Coalition and CLAEH (the latter contributing US\$100,000 to the challenge fund from another IFAD grant to IFAD-MERCOSUR), and US\$300,000 in contributions by the winning NCCFs (14 per cent of the total cost). Contributions by the subgrantee NCCFs are not included in the budget breakdown and financing plan below as the NCCFs are not yet selected, and their counterpart funding will not be managed by WRF.
17. The overall budget of the project is planned to be used over 42 months. Component 1 represents 80 per cent of the total project cost, while Component 2 is estimated at 12 per cent of total cost. The remaining 8 per cent will be allocated to administrative and overhead costs.

Table 1  
**Project costs by component and financier**

<i>Components</i>	<i>IFAD</i>	<i>WRF</i>	<i>BAC and others</i>	<i>CLAEH *</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>Component 1.</b>					
Support to NCCF initiatives	864 000	48 000	500 000	100 000	1 512 000
<b>Component 2.</b>					
Implementation support, learning and knowledge-sharing	136 000	102 000	0	0	238 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 000 000</b>	<b>150 000</b>	<b>500 000</b>	<b>100 000</b>	<b>1 750 000</b>

\* Contribution from CLAEH is itself funded by another IFAD grant to IFAD-MERCOSUR.

Table 2  
**Project costs by expenditure category and financier**

<i>Expenditure category</i>	<i>IFAD</i>	<i>WRF</i>	<i>BAC and others</i>	<i>CLAEH</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Grants to NCCFs	800 000	0	500 000	100 000	1 400 000
2. Travel/daily subsistence allowance	49 500	25 000	0	0	74 500
3. Consultants/technical assistance	70 500	30 000	0	0	100 500
4. Publication/translation	0	35 000	0	0	35 000
5. Overhead/management fees	80 000	60 000	0	0	140 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 000 000</b>	<b>150 000</b>	<b>500 000</b>	<b>100 000</b>	<b>1 750 000</b>



## Results-based logical framework

	Objectives-hierarchy	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
Goal	To improve the national policy and institutional frameworks for the development of smallholder and family farming in selected IFAD borrowing countries	Nb of new or improved policy, regulation, budget allocation, institutional reforms, consultation processes and national programs for family farming	Official documents	
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthening the capacity of existing or new NCFE to achieve their policy and institutional change objectives on the basis of specific proposals selected through international competition</li> <li>- Establishment of permanent inclusive national policy dialogue platforms of family farming</li> <li>- South-south and international exchange of knowledge on policy that work for family farmers, including through the global knowledge platform on family farming established by FAO and IFAD on 2014</li> </ul>	<p>Nb of policy demands drawn up</p> <p>Nb of FO's policy demands taken into consideration in national policy processes.</p> <p>Nb of new Programmes, laws and regulations in favour of FF.</p> <p>Nb of NCFEs working as permanent inclusive platforms that promote dialogue between key stakeholders (FOs, CSOs, NGOs, academia, government institutions, and development agencies) to promote public policy improvements in favour of family farming.</p> <p>Nb of institutionalized NCFEs</p> <p>Nb of NCFE's engaged in a knowledge management Network</p> <p>Nb of contents shared with the Knowledge Platform on Family Farming</p> <p>Nb or rural population aware of policy processes in favour of family farming taking place in the benefitting countries</p>	<p>Declarations or policy demand documents</p> <p>Official documents</p> <p>Narrative and financial reports of the supported initiatives</p> <p>List of members of NCFEs</p> <p>Minutes of NCFEs meetings</p> <p>NCFEs' activity reports</p> <p>Official documents</p> <p>List of NCFEs' communication focal points</p> <p>KPFF web portal</p> <p>Radio listeners ratings</p>	<p>Family farming continues on top of the international agendas, through a strong IYFF+10 campaign.</p> <p>Political will of government institutions to dialogue with civil society</p> <p>Producers' organizations and other relevant stakeholders committed to build consensus and join efforts in favor of family farming</p>
Outputs	<p><u>Component 1</u>: Support to NCFE initiatives</p> <p><u>Component 2</u>: Implementation support, learning and knowledge sharing</p>	<p>Establishment of a Challenge Fund with 3 annual calls for proposals open to the NCFEs in IFAD borrowing countries</p> <p>Nb of new NCFEs supported</p> <p>Nb of existing NCFEs supported</p> <p>Additional funding achieved to support NCFEs initiatives</p> <p>Nb of new NCFEs created</p> <p>IO, public institutions, academia and CSOs engaged in the support to NCFE</p>	<p>Calls for proposals</p> <p>Decision of the ad-hoc selection panel</p> <p>MoUs signed with NCFEs</p> <p>Cofinancing agreements</p> <p>List of members of NCFE</p> <p>Partnership agreements</p> <p>Official declarations</p> <p>NCFE guidelines</p>	<p>International Organisations, Research Centers, Consumers associations and other stakeholders maintain their commitment in favour of Family Farming.</p> <p>Donors and funding agencies contributing to the IYFF-2014 still engaged in the process in the next 3 years.</p>

	Objectives-hierarchy	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
		initiatives Nb of official declarations recognizing NCFs NCFs' coordination tools implemented	MoU Collaborative web platform Common materials NCF data base NCFs encounters	
Key Activities	<u>Component 1:</u> 1.1 Design of the Challenge Fund's Guidelines 1.2 Launch of annual Calls for Proposals 1.3 Analysis of proposals 1.4 Constitution of an ad-hoc Selection Committee 1.5 Signature of MOUs <u>Component 2:</u> 2.1 Technical advice, facilitation and networking (Plan to promote the recognition of NCFs by governments and the institutionalization of NCFs, making the database simpler and more efficient and others, as detailed in page 9 of Appendix B) 2.2 NCFs' knowledge management network 2.3 Collaboration with The Family Farming Knowledge Platform (FFKP) and IFAD Farmers Forum website 2.4 Community radio programs 2.5 Publication of writing and audiovisual materials	The Challenge Fund is managed on the basis of transparency, open competition and clear rules 3 annual Calls for Proposals are launched 3 ad hoc selection Committee meetings 4-5 proposals selected in each Call NCFs' coordination tools In country missions to all selected projects Stock taking, monitoring and report system Nb of NCF with communication focal points Nb of contents posted by NCFs in the web <a href="http://www.familyfarmingcampaign.net">www.familyfarmingcampaign.net</a> At least 1 NCFs' supported initiative is monthly disseminated via the WRF's webpage, newsletter and social network accounts. At least 1 article posted in the FFKP every 3 months At least 1 article posted in the Farmers Forum website per year Two community radio programs in each benefiting country 1 Video on NCFs' initiatives At least 3 NCFs' common materials Final Publication on successful cases	Document on the Challenge Fund Guidelines Calls for proposals Decision of the ad-hoc selection panel MoUs signed with NCFs NCF guidelines MoUs Collaborative web platform Common materials NCF data base NCFs encounters Meetings with relevant stakeholders Mission reports Collected data, narrative and financial reports List of NCF focal points Website Website visits, number of followers and friends. Newsletter FFKP webpage Farmers Forum website Radio programs Video Materials Publication Mailing Websites, social network	