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Investing in rural people

## President's report on a proposed grant under the global/regional grants window to Slow Food for Empowering Indigenous Youth and their Communities to Defend and Promote their Food Heritage

### Note to Executive Board representatives

#### Focal points:

#### Technical questions:

Mattia Prayer Galletti  
Lead Technical Advisor  
Rural Development and Institutions  
Policy and Technical Advisory Division  
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2294  
e-mail: m.prayer@ifad.org

Antonella Cordone  
Senior Technical Specialist  
Indigenous Peoples and Tribal Issues  
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2065  
e-mail: a.cordone@ifad.org

#### Dispatch of documentation:

William Skinner  
Chief  
Governing Bodies  
Tel.: +39 06 5459 2974  
e-mail: gb@ifad.org

For: Approval

## Recommendation for approval

The Executive Board is invited to approve the recommendation for the proposed grant as contained in paragraph 19.

### President's report on a proposed grant under the global/regional grants window to Slow Food for Empowering Indigenous Youth and their Communities to Defend and Promote their Food Heritage

#### I. Background and compliance with IFAD Policy for Grant Financing

1. Indigenous peoples constitute about 5 per cent of the world's population, but they account for about 15 per cent of the world's poor. Figures indicate that in many countries, unemployment rates for indigenous peoples are much higher than those for their non-indigenous counterparts, particularly among indigenous youth. As a result, they face great difficulties in maintaining and developing their own well-being and are consequently disproportionately affected by poverty and exclusion.
2. Since 2009, IFAD has partnered with Slow Food to address these issues through several initiatives. The partnership has built relationships with beneficiaries from IFAD-funded projects in several countries, leading to the successful launch of innovative grass-roots projects geared towards: enhancing local economies; developing a strong indigenous peoples' network; and building reciprocal trust and joint advocacy in favour of smallholder farmers. In particular, two recent events organized by Slow Food and supported by IFAD – Indigenous Terra Madre (ITM) and Terra Madre Giovani – form the basis of this proposal.
3. In 2015 IFAD assisted Slow Food in the second ITM event in Shillong, India, and played a key role in building a global network of indigenous peoples. The network is striving for the right to food sovereignty and the defence of biocultural diversity within its broader umbrella network, Terra Madre. The event involved over 600 delegates from 140 indigenous communities in more than 60 countries.
4. Also in 2015, IFAD supported the Slow Food Youth Network (SFYN) in the first Terra Madre Giovani event under the theme "We Feed the Planet" in Milan, Italy. It brought together 2,500 young people from 120 countries. They brought innovation, creativity and talent to the exchange and development of new initiatives in redefining the future of food and agriculture.
5. Both these events showcased the importance of the indigenous food heritage and demonstrated how they are interlinked – by enhancing local economies – with cultural identities and sustainable development.
6. The grant is anchored to the four objectives of the IFAD Policy for Grant Financing as follows:
  - (a) Promote innovative, pro-poor approaches and technologies with the potential to be scaled up for greater impact. The proposal complements IFAD country programmes through innovation, using the unique and successful Presidia value chain model, knowledge-sharing, partnerships and policy engagement.
  - (b) Strengthen partners' institutional and policy capacities. The second component of this grant is dedicated to institutional strengthening of the ITM

- network in operating as a means for social empowerment and South-South and Triangular Cooperation.
- (c) Enhance advocacy and policy engagement. It is envisioned that, through its international events and platforms, the ITM network will serve as a medium for communication, advocacy and policy engagement.
  - (d) Generate and share knowledge for development impact. Project-related knowledge and communication products are created and distributed to all stakeholders. This will also be facilitated through events and workshops.
7. The proposal is also aligned with Strategic Priority Area 1 of the 2017 Strategic Guidance Note for IFAD Grant Financing: Rights and access of most-vulnerable populations to resources – focusing on actively enhancing the access to resources and rights of women, youth and indigenous peoples. The proposal demonstrates:
- (a) A robust regional/global public good dimension, with exchange of cross-region/country knowledge and sharing of benefits that can be aggregated and assessed beyond a single country operation.
  - (b) Delivery of knowledge products and events that ensure that the knowledge generated is shared within and outside IFAD and meaningfully feeds into and informs strategic planning, global and regional policy engagement, research and country programming activities.
8. Slow Food was directly selected for this grant under paragraph 15(iii) of the IFAD Policy for Grant Financing, as it brings a strong technical competence in rural development with respect to food heritage valorization and has created more than 500 Presidia to date. Moreover, the project was selected because it targets beneficiaries located in IFAD's loan projects, thus complementing IFAD's ongoing work. The project serves to build on the successful collaboration between Slow Food and IFAD that has strengthened over the past seven years.

## II. The proposed project

9. The proposed project initiative fits within a broader scope of activities organized and implemented by Slow Food. The ITM network, for example, connects more than 370 communities from more than 60 countries – with a diverse range of indigenous communities and organizations around the world – to exchange vital local and regional knowledge. Since 2004, Slow Food's indigenous and youth networks have been successfully and rapidly expanding. IFAD's contribution has assisted in furthering this outreach to include more communities falling within the Fund's constituencies. IFAD's contribution to Slow Food and Terra Madre events is cofinanced by many institutions and private partners.<sup>1</sup>
10. The project aims to build on the success of the last IFAD-funded grant to Slow Food and will focus on the valorization of food heritage products. Through the Presidia value chain model, it will create economic opportunities for targeted indigenous youth and communities. The project will work to strengthen the existing ITM network by providing institutional support, as well as building on the capacity of indigenous youth to become agents in scaling up the Presidia model and actively participating in the global debate on indigenous food systems.
11. Beneficiaries of this proposal are divided in two primary direct target groups:
- (a) Indigenous youth. Some 300 indigenous rural youth, aged 15-34, living in communities within IFAD-funded projects and within the broader ITM network.

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<sup>1</sup> Institutions: European Union; Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari e forestali (MIPAAF), Italy; Regione Piemonte; City of Turin; and private donors: Banca Intesa Sanpaolo; the Christensen Fund; the Lighthouse Foundation; and Lavazza.

- (b) Indigenous peoples' communities. Indigenous peoples' communities involving 500 poor rural indigenous producers, where potential for development of Slow Food Presidia projects is high.
12. The project aims to significantly contribute to its scaling up strategy through spillover benefits to the broader ITM network and IFAD projects. Consequently, the indirect target will include: (i) an estimated 5,000 beneficiaries from ongoing IFAD investment projects in at least 5 countries; and (ii) an estimated 10,000 indigenous youth through outreach to at least 20 countries via the ITM network.
  13. Project components for the 36-month duration are: (i) valorization of food heritage products through the Presidia model; (ii) institutional support and capacity-building for the ITM network; and (iii) knowledge management.

### III. Expected outcomes/outputs

14. The overall goal of the project is to empower indigenous communities and youth and improve the livelihoods of beneficiaries by protecting and promoting their food heritage and upholding the sustainability and resilience of their practice.
15. The main outcomes and their related outputs are:

Outcome 1. Increased economic value of food heritage products (target: 20 per cent average increase in annual incomes).

- Output 1.1: At least five new indigenous Presidia products are launched and at least five are reinforced.
- Output 1.2: Two pilot projects testing participatory certification/labelling for indigenous products are launched.

Outcome 2. The ITM network is strengthened and demonstrates an increase in the number of members contributing to policy dialogue (target: at least 100 ITM network communities are connected and contribute to policy and advocacy, in addition to existing ITM network communities).

- Output 2.1: The ITM network is institutionally strengthened, formalized and led by an established governing body.
- Output 2.2: Leadership and capacity are developed for at least 300 indigenous youth through regional/international events and training/workshops/exchanges.

Outcome 3. Evidence-based knowledge produced and widely disseminated on how valorization of a food heritage contributes to improving marginalized rural communities' livelihoods.

- Output 3.1: Internal/external communications on project progress and achievements are constantly assimilated and disseminated.
- Output 3.2: Short policy briefs and knowledge products for scaling up are prepared and accessible.
- Output 3.3: Meetings and conferences targeting institutions and citizens in their capacity as consumers are organized during regional/international events.

### IV. Implementation arrangements

16. The project will be implemented by Slow Food in collaboration with local networks in target countries over a three-year period. Coordination and networking will be promoted with other local, regional and national entities in these countries, as community and stakeholder mobilization is crucial to support the project's strategy and sustainability beyond the end of the project. Attention will also be paid to coordination with key institutions in each country to ensure the necessary

institutional buy-in, as well as adherence to the respective country laws and regulations. Slow Food, as the grant recipient, will be responsible for overall coordination of the project and its financial and technical implementation, including coordination of monitoring, evaluation and accounting activities.

17. Slow Food will follow IFAD grant guidelines, including financial reporting and external audit requirements. Slow Food headquarters will be in charge of administrative management and monitoring of cofinanciers' requirements. It will prepare annual workplans and budgets for approval by IFAD. Disbursement requests will be based on the former and on an agreed schedule of payments. A financial reporting manager is identified for each project managed by Slow Food and will work closely with the project director, providing advice, support and monitoring. Slow Food headquarters is responsible for overall economic planning of the organization, fulfilment of legal rules and procedures, overall management of payments, credit collection, and the preparation of financial reports in accordance with IFAD required formats. The grant will be directly supervised annually by IFAD's Policy and Technical Advisory Division (PTA), in coordination with the relevant regional divisions. Costs will be covered by the PTA divisional budget.

## V. Indicative project costs and financing

18. Current estimated cofinancing of this project, made available by Slow Food, Fondazione Terra Madre and the Christensen Fund, is approximately 20 per cent of IFAD funding (US\$261,900), bringing the total project budget to US\$1,161,900. Cofinancing consists of cash (funds from donors) and in-kind contributions provided by Slow Food (i.e. costs related to personnel, offices and other premises in Italy and abroad), and of partial costs of the organization of international events, including those related to communications, general services, logistics and organization of the overall project.

Table 1  
**Costs by component and financier**

<i>Components</i>	<i>IFAD</i>	<i>Cofinancing</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Valorization of food heritage products through the Presidia model	550 800	75 500	626 300
2. Institutional support and capacity-building for the ITM network	172 400	144 600	317 000
3. Knowledge management	134 300	41 800	176 100
4. Overhead	42 500	-	42 500
<b>Total</b>	<b>900 000</b>	<b>261 900</b>	<b>1 161 900</b>

Table 2  
**Costs by expenditure category and financier**

<i>Expenditure category</i>	<i>IFAD</i>	<i>Cofinancing</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Salaries and allowances	302 000	30 000	332 000
2. Operating costs	70 300	25 800	96 100
3. Consultancies	64 000	40 000	104 000
4. Travel allowances (incl. hotels)	92 200	62 600	154 800
5. Equipment and materials	90 000	0	90 000
6. Workshops	114 000	59 500	173 500
7. Training	125 000	44 000	169 000
8. Overhead	42 500	0	42 500
<b>Total</b>	<b>900 000</b>	<b>261 900</b>	<b>1 161 900</b>

## VI. Recommendation

19. 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 "Empowering Indigenous Youth and their Communities to Defend and Promote their Food Heritage", shall provide a grant of nine hundred thousand United States dollars (US\$900,000) to Slow Food for a three-year period upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented to the Executive Board herein.

Gilbert F. Hougbo  
President

# Results-based logical framework

	Objectives Hierarchy	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/Risks
<b>Goal</b>	To <b>empower</b> indigenous communities and youth and improve the <b>livelihoods</b> of beneficiaries by protecting and promoting their food heritage and upholding the sustainability and resilience of their practice.	Annual average income of beneficiaries is increased [Target: 20% average increase] ITM network is engaged in policy dialogue in at least 5 formal IP international/national policy platforms Presidia model developed is sustainable and is replicated among different stakeholders	Interim and Final Reports Survey Reports	No country-specific socio-economic shocks (A)
<b>Outcomes</b>	1. Increased economic value of food heritage. 2. ITM network is strengthened and demonstrates an increase in number of members who contribute to policy dialogue 3. Knowledge and evidence-based learning on how the valorization of food heritage contributes to improve marginalized rural communities' livelihoods produced and widely disseminated	At least 500 beneficiaries report increase in economic status (20% average increase in annual incomes. Baseline values will be available at grant design stage.) At least 100 ITM network communities are connected and contribute to policy and advocacy in addition to existing ITM network communities Recommendations and lessons learned are shared and adopted by various stakeholders	Project monitoring system (MEAL) Quantitative and qualitative evaluations of deliverables ITM network database	All stakeholders are interested and committed (A) Suitable territories are identified during project start-up phase (A) Timely availability of financial resources to grant recipient (A)
<b>Outputs</b>	<b>COMPONENT 1</b> - Valorization of food heritage products through the Presidia model			
	<b>Output 1.1.</b> At least 5 new IP Presidia products are launched and at least 5 are reinforced <b>Output 1.2.</b> Two pilot projects testing participatory certification/labeling for IP products are launched	At least 500 producers are identified, trained and receive technical support and 10 action plans are implemented 2 case studies are produced from pilot projects demonstrating potential for scalability	Project monitoring system (MEAL) Trainings/Workshop/Progress reports Presidia protocol documents Presidium monitoring system Strategy paper on ITM network ITM network database Delegation list of participants to events Website portal and Google analytics tools ITM and youth-related publications and multimedia material (Almanac, newsletters, knowledge products etc.) Programme of regional events and international events (TM 2018)	Communities and products meet the selection criteria for 10-12 Presidia (A) IFAD CPMS, IFAD local counterparts, indigenous peoples' organizations and project beneficiaries are interested in the application of Slow Food methodology (A) Potential conflict between ITM members during facilitation process (R) Active participation of target groups (A) Local and national institutions are non-obstructive and supportive to the processes involved (A) The dimension of Salone del Gusto/Terra Madre 2018 remains similar in terms of

			media outreach, visitors and programme as in previous editions.
	<b>COMPONENT 2 - Institutional support and capacity building for ITM Network</b>		
	<b>Output 2.1.</b> ITM network is institutionally strengthened, formalized and led by an established governing body <b>Output 2.2.</b> Leadership and capacity is developed for at least 300 IP youth through regional/international events and trainings/workshops/exchanges	An ITM governing body is set up and functions together with key stakeholders (facilitators/partners) At least 100 communities formally adhere to the ITM network At least 300 IP youth receive training and actively contribute to ITM network activities At least 3 regional events and 1 international event (Terra Madre 2018) are organized	
	<b>COMPONENT 3 - Knowledge Management</b>		
	<b>Output 3.1.</b> Internal/external communications on project progress and achievements is constantly assimilated and disseminated <b>Output 3.2.</b> Short policy briefs and knowledge products for scaling up are prepared and accessible <b>Output 3.3.</b> Meetings and conferences targeting institutions and citizens/consumers are organized during regional/international events (TM 2018)	Easy access to information by relevant stakeholders Publications (4 case studies and policy briefs) Constant communication through online and offline media At least 1 conference in each regional/international event (TM 2018) Meetings with IFAD staff and CPMs at the end of each project year	
<b>Key Activities</b>	<b>Component 1</b> Provide technical assistance for at least 10 Presidia Pilot the valorization of 2 projects by testing participatory models of certification/labeling of indigenous products <b>Component 2</b> Identify 10-20 facilitators to develop an ITM governance structure Organize at least 3 regional events and 1 international event where workshops/trainings/exchanges are delivered to build capacity and leadership skills for 300 IP youth <b>Component 3</b> Develop and disseminate knowledge/communication products based on findings and learnings through various electronic and non-electronic platforms, targeting institutional stakeholders, CSOs and the general public (communication products will be differentiated by targets)	<b>Component 1</b> 1 scoping study is shared among stakeholders 5 new Presidia protocols are developed and 5 existing Presidia find new market channels Publication on 2 tested pilot participatory certification/labeling models <b>Component 2</b> ITM governance structures are designed by facilitators Trainings/workshops/exchanges are documented <b>Component 3</b> Publications on knowledge/communication products Project findings are given dedicated space in the Terra Madre programme	