
**Summary report of the first informal consultation
between representatives of farmers' organizations,
Indigenous Peoples and youth, and IFAD
Management regarding IFAD13**

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I. Background

1. This summary report on the first informal consultation between representatives of farmers' organizations, Indigenous Peoples and youth, and IFAD Management on the Thirteenth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (IFAD13) is being submitted to the IFAD13 Consultation for information. The first informal consultation took place on 1 February, after the IFAD13 Directions paper had been published, and has informed the proposals included in the Business Model and Financial Framework paper. A second informal consultation is scheduled for 12 June, following publication of the IFAD13 business model paper. The outcomes of the second informal consultation will be shared orally during the second session of the IFAD13 Consultation.

II. Introduction

2. Representatives of farmers' organizations, Indigenous Peoples and youth, and IFAD Management convened on 1 February 2023, for the first informal consultation on IFAD13. The discussions focused on two main agenda items: (i) proposed engagement process during IFAD13; and (ii) feedback on the IFAD13 Directions paper.

A. Agenda item 1. Engagement during IFAD13

3. As a first objective, the informal consultation sought feedback and endorsement from representatives of the three constituencies on the proposed IFAD13 engagement process (see figure 1 below).

Figure 1

Roadmap for engagement with farmers' organizations, Indigenous Peoples and youth



4. The engagement process was designed building on lessons from the informal consultation with the three constituencies during the IFAD12 period, which indicated the need for a more structured and continuous engagement process throughout 2023 and early 2024. The engagement process aims to:
 - (i) Enhance the understanding of the IFAD replenishment process among key strategic partners;
 - (ii) Increase the participation, voice and representation of the perspectives of IFAD's key partners in the replenishment process; and

- (iii) Identify opportunities for strengthening IFAD's engagement with farmers' organizations, Indigenous Peoples and youth during the IFAD13 period.
5. As part of the engagement, a representative from each of the constituencies made a statement at the opening of the first session of the IFAD13 Consultation held on 16 February. Ahead of the second session of the Consultation to be held in June, IFAD will organize a roundtable discussion between representatives from the three constituencies, IFAD Management and Member States. A summary of the roundtable discussion will be prepared together with representatives from the constituencies and shared with members of the IFAD13 Consultation. Representatives of the constituencies will also have an opportunity in October 2023 to comment on the draft replenishment report before it is finalized.
 6. Following a presentation by IFAD, representatives expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the informal consultations on IFAD13, and for being involved in the process from the beginning, as well as for the opportunity to reflect on the next steps of the engagement. Some representatives highlighted the importance of holding preparatory meetings within the constituencies ahead of each meeting with IFAD, and between all three constituencies and IFAD to address possible questions and receive further information on the materials provided. The proposed engagement process was endorsed by all representatives.

B. Agenda Item 2: Feedback on IFAD13 Directions

7. IFAD Management provided an overview of the IFAD13 Directions paper, which had been prepared as an initial set of proposals on priorities and directions for the IFAD13 period (2025-2027) for discussion with Member States at the first session of the IFAD13 Consultation. Management highlighted that the proposed overarching priority for IFAD13 is to build sustainable, inclusive and resilient local food systems and transform rural livelihoods. Specific priority will be placed on: (i) addressing drivers and impacts of fragility; (ii) boosting climate and biodiversity financing; and (iii) strengthening engagement with the private sector. IFAD will also remain committed to gender, youth and social inclusion, as well as nutrition. Management further highlighted that IFAD13 comes at a time when the world is faced with an unprecedented food crisis and financial pressure.
8. The representatives from all constituencies expressed appreciation for the opportunity to comment on the IFAD13 Directions paper and highlighted the challenges that the people they represent are facing due to conflict, climate change and increased food insecurity. All representatives emphasized the need for predictable and increased support from IFAD, including increasing participation in project design and implementation, and in decision-making processes relevant to their members. Each of the three constituencies also expressed their own specific priorities for engagement with IFAD during IFAD13, as summarized below:
 - (i) **Farmers' organizations.** Representatives highlighted that the multiple challenges in agriculture, such as food security, biodiversity, climate and nutrition, are highly interconnected, and raised the importance for IFAD to balance short-term concerns with a long-term focus on transforming food systems to becoming more sustainable and resilient. They also made the following main points:
 - (a) Representatives recognized opportunities for stronger IFAD engagement with the private sector but highlighted that it should be built on IFAD's people-centred and producer-centred approach, which delivers solutions for strengthening farmer livelihoods and creates fairer value chains. When providing access to instruments such as the Private Sector Financing Programme (PSFP), IFAD should recognize the heterogeneous nature of the private sector, the diversity of entities that make up the private sector, and varying levels of maturity and development among those entities.

- (b) Representatives discussed the need for innovation, including around information and communication technology, to be inclusive and adapted to the needs of farmers, and to make use of ancestral knowledge and practices.
 - (c) Representatives would welcome direct access to financing from the enhanced Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP+) to invest in increasing resilience of family farming and small-scale farming. Representatives welcomed the decentralized approach to the Farmers' Forum process but noted that there is a need to ensure that a mechanism for learning across regions is in place.
 - (d) Representatives suggested that IFAD make a clear reference to the United Nations Decade of Family Farming in the IFAD13 papers, recognize the role of family farmers in agriculture, and use terminology such as "climate-resilient" rather than "climate-proof" or "climate-smart".
- (ii) **Indigenous Peoples.** Indigenous Peoples' representatives shared their reflections and comments on the directions for IFAD13, highlighting the importance of implementing the revised Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples during IFAD13. They emphasized the importance of respecting their rights and ensuring that traditional institutions of Indigenous Peoples are properly engaged in policy dialogue and project design. The following priorities for IFAD13 were raised:
- (a) Emphasizing the importance of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD (IPFI) and committing to allocate predictable resources for the process;
 - (b) Agreeing on modalities for observer status in IFAD's Executive Board, including on sharing project documents and elaborating clear guidelines for the process;
 - (c) Increasing investments that prioritize Indigenous Peoples, in line with the policy target of reaching 11 million Indigenous People by 2032, and in this regard also ensuring participation of Indigenous experts in project design and supervision, and locally led consultation processes;
 - (d) Defining and operationalizing direct financing to Indigenous Peoples' organizations from ASAP+;
 - (e) Nominating a representative of IPFI to the PSFP advisory committee once it is operational;
 - (f) Leveraging the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility for greater impact and replenishing it regularly with IFAD's own resources, as well as funds that could be mobilized from other donors; and
 - (g) Supporting people-centred land governance for sustainable food production.
- (iii) **Youth.** The youth representatives highlighted the role and potential of young people in rural areas in combating poverty and hunger, and put forward the following priorities for IFAD13:
- (a) Representatives emphasized the importance of enabling active participation of youth in decision-making processes at the local, country and global level, considering their ideas in policy processes and supporting initiatives that young people are implementing and engaged in.
 - (b) They emphasized the importance of involving young people in the planning and implementation of investment programmes, led by national

governments in partnership with IFAD, as well as in the development of country strategies.

- (c) Representatives expressed the need for resources to support the above activities, including by providing capacity-building and training, and financially supporting their participation in decision-making and policy processes.

III. Conclusion

9. All representatives expressed support for the proposed priority areas for IFAD13 of addressing drivers and impacts of fragility, boosting climate and biodiversity financing, and strengthening engagement with the private sector.
10. A common priority for IFAD13 for the three constituencies is the need for predictable and increased support from IFAD that focuses on increasing their participation in policy and decision-making processes related to them, and in project design and implementation, and ensuring that support is provided to enable them to do this.
11. These discussions will be taken into consideration by IFAD Management in developing the detailed proposals for IFAD13 to be included in the IFAD13 Business Model and Financial Framework paper to be presented to Member States at the second session of the IFAD13 Consultation to be held in June.