

### **List A statement on IFAD9 Mid-term Review**

We thank IFAD for this document, which highlights the progress IFAD has made in the last few years. Changes such as country presence, direct supervision and implementation have improved IFAD's business model and strengthened the impact of IFAD's work. We welcome the fact that IFAD9 is reported as being on track; while recognising the significant challenges that remain if IFAD is to deliver planned, sustainable results.

### **IFAD9 Programme of Work (PoW)**

In line with expectations, the Fund delivered a programme of loans and grant of almost US\$ 900 million in 2013, the first year of IFAD 9. However, as reported, the overall 3-year programme is now forecast to be lower than the US\$ 7.5 billion indicative target agreed in the IFAD9 Consultation. We request IFAD to clearly identify and present the reasons behind this revision, distinguishing between availability of internal resources, international and domestic co-financing. We encourage IFAD to mobilise greater levels of co-financing, especially in MICs where we question whether current thresholds for co-financing are sufficient. We would also like more information on efforts to encourage emerging donors to increase their participation in IFAD's financing. Finally on IFAD9 financing, given the likely reduced PoW, what are the implications for the IFAD9 target of lifting 80 million people out of poverty?

### **ASAP / Climate**

The Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP) was a significant new programme launched at the time of the Ninth Replenishment. We applaud the progress made and growing global recognition. We encourage IFAD to play a leading role in the area of climate smart agriculture including by making all efforts to mobilise additional resources for ASAP. This is a unique opportunity for IFAD to access climate finance and extend its comparative advantage in this extremely relevant area. We look forward to discussing ASAP in IFAD10, working towards a fully mainstreamed approach.

### **Gender**

Gender is core to IFAD's business. We recognise progress, including in mainstreaming gender in project design, staff training and monitoring gender-related indicators, reaching more women beneficiaries. We encourage work towards greater focus on gender equality results, and look forward to IFAD's further progress on gender budgeting to improve its ability to comprehensively capture gender related data. What gets measured gets done!

### **Private Sector**

We support IFAD's work with the private sector to target investment, facilitate smallholder entrepreneurship, and influence business models in favour of smallholders and rural development. IFAD should build on these partnerships, engaging the local private sector more in project implementation, developing understanding of good practices to guide future collaboration and increase IFAD's contribution to inclusive growth for the transformation of economies.

### **Fragile States**

We urge IFAD to prioritise its commitment to improving performance in fragile states, recognising that this is challenging and will require long-term engagement, high risk tolerance and solid local partnerships. We welcome the capacity building programme with FAO, and look forward to the results of the IOE evaluation on fragile states, noting that it would be useful to have a preview document before the second session of the replenishment.

## **Nutrition**

Nutrition is central to IFAD's mandate and a pre-condition for sustainable economic growth. We welcome IFAD's development of a nutrition framework for action in 2014, and look forward to increased focus on mainstreaming nutrition throughout IFAD's portfolio to become fully nutrition-sensitive.

## **Cooperation**

Partnerships for an integrated approach to development are key and IFAD should strengthen its important brokerage role, bringing together different actors in the field (cooperatives, private sector, local government, other UN agencies and IFIs). We underline the importance of cooperation with Rome-based Agencies (RBAs), UN-agencies (One-UN), IFIs and other stakeholders.

The MTR assessment of the IFAD9 commitment on RBA cooperation seems rather positive. Yet while there may be progress in administrative matters and advocacy, more needs to be done at country level. We encourage IFAD's contribution to the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and would welcome more information on how IFAD mainstreams CFS outcomes, particularly with regard to Responsible Agriculture Investment (RAI) and the Voluntary Guidelines.

## **Knowledge Management**

We underline the importance of knowledge management, including for improving policy dialogue and scaling up. We regret that the report does not provide an assessment of progress in knowledge management and note the results of the Brookings Institution country studies on scarce scaling up of IFAD's projects. We request IFAD to elaborate on the reasons for this, and welcome the launch of a support programme for scaling up.

## **M&E - Impact**

We welcome progress in monitoring and evaluation capacity building and in undertaking baseline surveys. We note the challenge of reinforcing national M&E systems, and that this is one of the two commitments not on track. While IFAD is not alone in facing challenges related to M&E, project efficiency and sustainability, progress in these areas is essential to achieving IFAD's results.

We commend IFAD's commitment to undertaking rigorous impact evaluations to measure more effectively the goal of lifting 80 million people out of poverty. We note progress on impact assessment methodology, but would like further information on implementation.

## **Efficiency**

We appreciate progress in HR management and cost efficiency and encourage IFAD to maintain focus in these areas. As evaluations highlight, there is much work to be done to improve efficiency, both institutionally and operationally, and we underline the importance of timely implementation of IFAD's Action Plan to improve efficiency.

## **Forward-look**

In responding to today's evolving challenges, resource mobilisation efforts and new, more strategic partnerships, including with the private sector, become all the more critical.

We encourage IFAD to continue strengthening its financial and budget functions, ensuring financial stability and sound risk management, particularly as IFAD considers managing alternative financing instruments. As mentioned, we are open to discussions within the context of the Tenth Replenishment on possible innovative financing mechanisms, based on a systematic and comprehensive analysis of all the related implications.

But this also speaks to the need for IFAD to find the right mix between ambition and pragmatism: we must ensure a focus on the quality, sustainability and replicability of IFAD's work, rather than an ever-expanding financial target, and should reflect a strong understanding of IFAD's expertise and value-added when working with all partners, including in fragile states and middle-income countries. Indeed the IFAD10 replenishment is an opportunity to consolidate IFAD9's ambitious reform agenda and this focus on quality will ensure that IFAD continues to be a partner of choice for all stakeholders. We look forward to discussing these and other issues in the Consultation on IFAD's Tenth Replenishment.