

Introductory List A statement – IFAD10: second session

We thank Management for the documents and the continuing dialogue on the challenges and opportunities that IFAD faces over the coming years. We look forward to discussion that allows the Replenishment Consultation to work together with IFAD in providing strategic guidance and direction, focussing on priority areas to enhance institutional efficiency and achieve maximum results in supporting the rural poor.

As discussed at the first session in February, we support the emphasis on consolidation and mainstreaming for IFAD10. We welcome the commitment to strengthening the focus on adaptation to climate change, nutrition, gender, resilience, scaling-up, and partnership, including with the private sector.

We encourage IFAD to further refine its strategic vision. We underline the importance of clearly articulating IFAD's comparative advantage, as well as its place in the international aid architecture, setting out a strong case for investing through IFAD. Beyond reaffirming the relevance of IFAD's mandate and, as more organisations turn to supporting smallholder agriculture, how and why is IFAD better equipped than others? How will IFAD create more opportunities for rural poor people, achieve sustainable results that contribute to transforming economies, and ensure IFAD successes are scaled up by others, including IFIs?

In this light, developing a stronger linkage between the 10 year strategy at the macro level and the policy and operational proposals under this replenishment would be useful. We would also appreciate a stronger theory of change that provides a tighter narrative between the strategic vision and the proposed programme of work, and how that feeds into expected results.

We encourage IFAD to tighten its overall strategic focus to enhance synergies and efficiency within programmes, support better M&E, and deliver maximum impact with resources available. How will IFAD introduce ever smarter ways of working, maintaining its participatory approach – at headquarters and country level – and strengthen partnerships, including in country planning processes? How will it respond to drivers of change identified and address challenges, including those highlighted through evaluations, such as country and thematic selectivity, working with the private sector, and implementing more differentiated approaches?

On the latter, we appreciate the annexes of the business model document, and would like to see more on differentiated approaches for different contexts, ranging from MICs to fragile states, particularly in terms of instruments. We would also appreciate more information on how IFAD plans to adapt its business model and workforce to strengthen the technical expertise and policy support it provides, an area that has been underlined by evaluations. We note the need for the Replenishment Consultation to agree on concrete commitments in substantive policy areas including: updating the MICs strategy, particularly with regard to both knowledge and cost sharing; developing a strategy for fragile states; and reviewing the PBAS.

We welcome the continued focus on Sub Saharan Africa in the proposed programme of work. We also welcome the focus on results and encourage IFAD to improve its management and communication of documented impact as part of a strengthened results culture. We note the IFAD10 programme of work link between the size of the replenishment and the number of people lifted out of poverty (between 70 - 90 million people depending on an IFAD10 target of US\$ 2.8, US\$3.0 or US\$3.2 billion). Could management elaborate on how this link can be substantiated and measured?

As mentioned, we support the emphasis on consolidation, building upon reforms underway. At the same time, and in the context of additional resources needed for IFAD9, we recognise the importance of discussions on innovative financing. This is a major issue for IFAD's future that needs to be given due strategic consideration, taking into account all possible implications and ensuring IFAD's financial sustainability. We thank management for the useful seminars yesterday on the IFAD10 financial framework and scenarios, and financing options for IFAD beyond 2015, and we note that the Replenishment Consultation will need to increase its focus on these areas to provide clear guidance on the way forward.

List A looks forward to continuing dialogue with all IFAD Members, strengthening ownership of the replenishment process in shaping IFAD's overall strategic direction and ensuring that all members can contribute in a meaningful way.