



IFAD
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
Consultation on the Sixth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources – First Session

Rome, 21 February 2002

**EXTERNAL REVIEW OF THE RESULTS AND IMPACT
OF IFAD OPERATIONS**

Background and Rationale of the External Review

1. At the meeting of the convenors of the three lists held on 15 January 2002, it was proposed that the results and impact of IFAD operations be reviewed by a team of external experts, as an input into the Sixth IFAD Replenishment. The convenors underlined that this external review should not impinge on the scheduled date of completion of the replenishment in 2002. For this purpose it was decided that the review's report be discussed early in the replenishment process, i.e. during its third session in July.
2. Assessing the impact and results of the Fund's operations has been a priority in IFAD for quite some time. However, IFAD has only recently put in place a comprehensive system for this purpose. In 2000/2001 a number of measures were introduced: (i) a new format for project completion reports and a revamped process for progress reports regarding the project portfolio, (ii) a new methodology for impact evaluation for better, more consistent and consolidated impact assessment in future evaluations, and (iii) a practical guide for monitoring and evaluation at the project level.
3. The present document illustrates how the organization and implementation of the external review will be approached.

The Review's Objective

4. The objective of the external review will be to report on: (i) the results and impact achieved by IFAD-supported operations and (ii) the recently established methodologies and processes for assessing the results and impact of IFAD-funded projects.



Scope of the External Review

5. Bearing in mind the tight schedule, it is expected that the external review will undertake a limited selection of desk studies of relevant documents, as well as field visits. The documents analyse and illustrate the results and impact of IFAD-funded operations reported during the period January 2000 to January 2002, roughly corresponding to the end of the Fifth and the beginning of the Sixth Replenishment negotiations. The desk review will be supported by a regionally balanced selection of field visits to IFAD-supported projects and will include discussions with partner agencies on IFAD's operations and performance. The review should also examine the methodologies and processes in place at IFAD for assessing results and impact.

Composition and Terms of Reference of the External Review Team

6. The External Review Team will be composed of six people from evaluation departments of development agencies, IFAD Evaluation Committee members representing the three lists, a World Bank representative, and three consultants.

7. The team will determine the review's overall approach, key questions and issues to be addressed, the final selection of documents, field visits and visits to partner agencies. It will also set forth the terms of reference and programme of work for the consultants that will conduct the actual analysis and prepare the preliminary report. The team will work independently and will have unrestricted access to all IFAD staff and documents.

Timing

8. The work of the team should be completed in time to submit its report for review at the Third Session of the Consultation on the Sixth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources in July 2002.