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Enabling poor rural people  
to overcome poverty

## **Report of the Consultation on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources**

Consultation on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's  
Resources — Fifth Session  
Rome, 18-19 December 2008

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For: **Approval**



## **Report of the Consultation on the Eighth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources**

The Consultation is hereby requested to consider the revised paragraph 36 shown herebelow for inclusion in the report.

36. **Combating natural resource degradation and the effects of climate change.** In much of the developing world, natural resource degradation leads directly to lower crop yields and, ultimately, the loss of arable land. Developing countries are also confronted by the effects of climate change, which in many cases exacerbate the deterioration of the natural resource base. It is the rural poor – especially women, and in some regions indigenous peoples – who suffer most from the consequences. IFAD will therefore consistently promote sustainable natural resource management. To ensure that IFAD-financed projects systematically incorporate principles of environmental sustainability it has recently developed and issued to staff new operational safeguard procedures with respect to environmental impact, and it will present these to the Executive Board for review in April 2009.<sup>11</sup> In addition, the Annual Report on Results and Impact of projects evaluated in 2008, to be presented to the Executive Board in December 2009, will review IFAD's engagement in natural resources and the environment. The consultation requested an environment and natural resources policy, which could incorporate the climate change strategy referred to in paragraph 69. The Executive Board would consider the content of this policy, based on its review of the safeguard procedures and the results of the 2009 ARRI. IFAD will also give particular emphasis to assisting poor rural people to adapt to the effects of climate change (see paragraphs 67-69). In addition, and without compromising food crop production, IFAD will explore the potential role of biofuels to offer rural communities local energy sources and alternative income-generation options in an environmentally sustainable manner.

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<sup>11</sup> "IFAD Procedures for Environmental Management and Sustainable Development" build on the evolving approaches of the international community to these issues, and they aim to ensure that IFAD country programmes and IFAD-supported projects systematically incorporate principles of environmental sustainability. They include provisions for: (i) improving the environmental quality of IFAD operations; (ii) promoting the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources, with specific references to biological diversity and protected area management, fisheries, and range, forest, wetlands and water resources; (iii) environmental categorization of projects entering the pipeline; and (iv) environmental impact assessments for all projects classified as Category A.