

Document: EB 2011/103/R.4
Agenda: 4(a)(ii)
Date: 19 August 2011
Distribution: Public
Original: English

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Enabling poor rural people
to overcome poverty

Report of the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee on the progress report on the action plan for the implementation of the findings and recommendations of the Peer Review of IFAD's Office of Evaluation and Evaluation Function

Note to Executive Board representatives

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Executive Board — 103rd Session
Rome, 14-15 September 2011

For: **Review**

Report of the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee on the progress report on the action plan for the implementation of the findings and recommendations of the Peer Review of IFAD's Office of Evaluation and Evaluation Function

As decided by Evaluation Committee members, after each Evaluation Committee session a separate Chairperson report is produced to cover discussions related to the progress report on the action plan for the implementation of the findings and recommendations of the Peer Review of IFAD's Office of Evaluation and Evaluation Function. This is the third such Chairperson's report and covers deliberations during the Committee's sixty-eighth session held in July 2011.

1. The Committee considered document EC 2011/68/W.P.4, the Progress report on the action plan for the implementation of the findings and recommendations of the Peer Review of IFAD's Office of Evaluation and Evaluation Function. As decided at the Committee's sixty-fifth session on 25-26 November 2010, the progress report contained a matrix showing the implementation status of each recommendation, together with more detailed information about action taken so far, with changes tracked against the previous version (as presented in EC 2011/67/W.P.4).
2. The Committee noted the progress made and requested that deadlines be included wherever actions did have a foreseeable finalization date.
3. With regard to the item on the action plan for further development of the self-evaluation system, members noted that the nature of the action sought from the Executive Board (information or review) would be modified, if necessary, pending the outcome of discussions by Convenors and Friends.

Document: EC 2011/68/W.P. 4
Agenda: Item 5
Date: 28 June 2011
Distribution: Public
Original: English

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Enabling poor rural people
to overcome poverty

Progress report on the action plan for the implementation of the findings and recommendations of the Peer Review of IFAD's Office of Evaluation and Evaluation Function

Note to Evaluation Committee members

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Evaluation Committee — Sixty-eighth Session
Rome, 11-12 July 2011

For: **Review**

**Action plan for the implementation of the recommendations of the Peer Review of IFAD's Office of Evaluation and Evaluation
Function:
Update as of 14 June 2011**

Table 1: Major written products and key actions

Product/Action	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/degree of implementation
		Draft to consultant	Draft to Evaluation Committee	Evaluation Committee discussion	Executive Board discussion			
1. Both IOE and Management prepare formal written responses to the Peer Review for the information of the Executive Board.	IFAD Management and IOE			1 April 2010	21-22 April 2010	Completed	No longer applicable.	-
2. The Executive Board, in considering the report of the Peer Review Panel as well as the views of the Evaluation Committee, IOE and Management, weighs options and provides guidance, particularly in areas where some parties disagree, on key principles and a framework within which the Evaluation Committee, management and IOE can work together to develop detailed proposals to address the outstanding issues.	Executive Board				21-22 April 2010	Completed	No longer applicable.	At its April 2010 session, the Board decided that the Evaluation Committee would be responsible for reviewing outstanding issues and would benefit from the full support of Management and the Office of Evaluation in this regard.
3. Establish a working group ¹ to oversee revisions to the Evaluation Policy, President's Bulletin and Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Evaluation Committee	Executive Board with the advice of the Evaluation Committee				May 2010	Ongoing		As part of the delegation (see comment under point 2 above), the Evaluation Committee has been actively involved in the process of preparing these

¹ The Working Group refers to the Working Group suggested in Para 141 (iv) of the report of the Peer Review of IFAD's Evaluation System.

Product/Action	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/degree of implementation
		Draft to consultant	Draft to Evaluation Committee	Evaluation Committee discussion	Executive Board discussion			
								deliverables for Board approval.
4. Revised Evaluation Policy	IOE	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (for review)	19-20 April 2011 (for review)	10-12 May 2011 (for approval)	Completed	Evaluation Policy	The Committee reviewed the draft policy at its sixty-sixth session on 3 March, and the final document at its sixty-seventh session on 19-20 April. Thereafter, the document was approved by the Board at its 102 nd session (10-12 May 2011).
5. Revised President's Bulletin	IFAD Management and IOE				14-15 September 2011 (information)	Ongoing	President's Bulletin	IFAD Management will undertake this, working closely with IOE.
6. Revised Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Evaluation Committee	IFAD Management	22 March 2011		19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the Evaluation Committee	The Committee reviewed the draft document at its sixty-seventh session on 19-20 April 2011. Thereafter, the document was approved by the Board at its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011.
7. Revised Evaluation Manual	IOE	N.A.		25-26 November 2010 (information)	15-16 December 2010 (information)	Completed	Evaluation Manual, IOE's results-based work programme and budget for 2011 and	IOE has been addressing the concerns raised by the Peer Review. It is: (i) devoting greater attention to

Product/Action	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/degree of implementation
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							indicative plan for 2012-2013 (IOE WPB), Note on expanding the IOE's Evaluation Manual to include questions for assessing gender, climate change and scaling up	
8. Action Plan for Validation of Project Completion Reports and Project Performance Assessment	Office of Evaluation			8 October 2010 (information)	15-16 December 2010 (information)	Completed	IOE WPB	The Office of Evaluation has developed a dedicated methodology and process for the validation of project completion reports (PCRV) and project performance assessments (PPAs). A summary of the same is contained in an Annex of the 2011 work programme and budget document of the Office of Evaluation. The methodology was piloted in 2010 through 5 PCRVs and 1 PPA, which has produced elements for fine tuning the methods and processes before end 2010. The same

Product/Action	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/degree of implementation
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								document also includes further information about PCRV and PPAs (e.g., the number of PCRV and PPAs to be undertaken per year, the time required, etc). For 2011 ARRI, IOE and PMD have already started the process of reviewing PCRs and orienting staff.
9. A paper prepared for the consideration of the Evaluation Committee that identifies options for the necessary changes to resolve any possible legal incompatibilities between the Evaluation Policy and the Agreement Establishing IFAD in a way that fully respects the wishes of the shareholders for an independent evaluation function, as expressed under the 6 th Replenishment.	IFAD Management			25 February 2011 (information)		Completed		The paper was prepared by the General Counsel and provided to the Evaluation Committee at its 64 th session in October. On that occasion, the Committee decided that the legal opinion would be considered at the same time when the revised Evaluation Policy will be discussed in 2011. The discussion took place at the EC's 66 th session on 3 March 2011.
10. Costed-Action Plan for Further Development of the Self Evaluation System	IFAD Management	16 June 2011		12-13 July 2011 (review)	14-15 September 2011 (approval)	Ongoing	Action Plan (AP)	IFAD management has worked on a costed Action Plan, keeping also in view the central role the

Product/Action	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/degree of implementation
		Draft to consultant	Draft to Evaluation Committee	Evaluation Committee discussion	Executive Board discussion			
					September 2011 (approval)		(AP)	
11. Review of the Financial Management Systems of the Office of Evaluation	Office of Evaluation		15-16 July 2010 (information)	8 October 2010 (information)	15-16 December 2010 (information)	Completed	IOE WPB	The Office of Evaluation has undertaken a review of its financial management system and is implementing the required activities as part of an Activity Plan that was developed for this purpose. In addition to undertaking tasks to strengthen financial management within IOE, the Activity Plan also addresses other recommendations of the Peer Review related to IOE's human resources management (consultant management) and administrative systems. A summary of the Activity Plan as well as the main actions and improvements achieved have been provided in the IOE WPB, discussed with

Product/Action	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/degree of implementation
		Draft to consultant	Draft to Evaluation Committee	Evaluation Committee discussion	Executive Board discussion			
								the Evaluation Committee in its 63 rd and 64 th session, the Audit Committee and Board in their respective sessions in September 2010, the Audit Committee in November 2010, and the Board in December 2010.
12. Biannual Compliance Review of the Office of Evaluation with IFAD's Financial Management and Human Resources Policies and Practices	Evaluation Committee using resources allocated to the Committee.			Will be presented to the Evaluation Committee for information in 2012		Pending		In addition to the measures implemented in response to recommendation 11 above, the Peer Review recommended that the Office of Evaluation undertake every two years a compliance assessment, to evaluate its adherence with IFAD's financial, administrative and HR rules and policies. The first review is foreseen in 2012 to allow for mainstreaming the results from the implementation of the above-mentioned Activity Plan.
13. Develop the procedures for	Office of	21 February	3 March	19-20 April	10-12 May	Completed	Evaluation Policy	The procedures has

Product/Action	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/degree of implementation
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appointing, dismissing and performance appraisal of the Director of the Evaluation Office	Evaluation	2011	2011 (review)	2011 (review)	2011 (approval)		and President's Bulletin	been captured in the approved Evaluation Policy and will be reflected accordingly in the revised President's Bulletin.
14. Revise the Conflict of Interest Guidelines Covering both the Staff and Consultants of the Office of Evaluation	Office of Evaluation			25-26 November 2010 (information)		Completed	Guidelines to avoid conflict of interest related to IOE evaluation officers	The Office of Evaluation, as acknowledged by the Peer Review, already has comprehensive conflict of interest provisions for the hiring of consultants. However, the Office of Evaluation has: (i) acted upon the recommendation of the Peer Review by streamlining the conflict of interest provisions for consultants, to ensure that IOE's capacity is not limited to hiring consultants from a restricted pool of persons available; and (ii) completed the preparation of the conflict of interest provisions for staff members. These have been shared for information with the Committee before the end of 2010.
15. A proposal prepared for the	Office of		15-16 July	8 October	15-16	Completed	IOE WPB	The Office of

Product/Action	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/degree of implementation
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Evaluation Committee identifying how the detailed data available in IFAD's financial systems could best be analysed in the context of a results-based budget to strengthen its financial oversight of OE.								

Table 2: Major actions to be taken on recommendations of the Peer Review

Recommendations and Actions	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/Degree of implementation
		Draft to consultant	Draft to EC	EC discussion	EB discussion			
<p>1. The Executive Board reaffirms its commitment to the principles of IFAD's independent evaluation function and asks the General Counsel to prepare a paper for its consideration that identifies options for the necessary changes to resolve any possible legal incompatibilities between the Evaluation Policy and the Agreement Establishing IFAD in a way that fully respects the wishes of the shareholders for an independent evaluation function, as expressed under the 6th Replenishment.</p>	Executive Board					Completed		<p>EB has broadly endorsed the Peer Review recommendations reaffirming its commitment to the principles of IFAD's independent evaluation function.</p> <p>A paper entitled 'Legal Issues Raised in the Report of the Peer Review of IFAD's Office of Evaluation and Evaluation Function' has been submitted for the consideration of the Evaluation Committee during the meeting being held on 8 October 2010. The EC however decided to consider this paper when reviewing the revised Evaluation Policy. The discussion took place in the EC at its 66th session on 3 March 2011. The revised Evaluation Policy was approved by the Board at its 102nd session on 10-12 May, confirming the Board's commitment to the principles of IFAD's independent evaluation function.</p>
<p>a. The institutional and behavioural independence of Office of Evaluation (OE) must be safeguarded by the Executive Board and not compromised.</p>	Executive Board	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (for review)	19-20 April 2011 (for review)	10-12 May 2011 (for approval)	Completed	Evaluation Policy (EP) and President's Bulletin (PB)	<p>This is captured in the revised Evaluation Policy which was approved by the Board in its 102nd session on 10-12 May 2011, and corresponding President's Bulletin (see recommendation 5 in table 1 for dates of delivery of the PB).</p>
<p>b. The Executive Board must ensure that management does not create a perception of undermining OE's independence by raising questions about the legal interpretation of certain</p>	Executive Board	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, PB	<p>This is captured in the revised Evaluation Policy which was approved by the Board in its 102nd session on 10-12 May 2011, and corresponding President's Bulletin (see recommendation 5 in table 1 for dates of delivery of the PB).</p>

Recommendations and Actions	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/Degree of implementation
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clauses in the Evaluation Policy concerning the delegation of powers to Director OE to make all personnel decisions related to OE staff.								
c. The Executive Board must ensure that OE recognises that independence requires the transparent and responsible application of the IFAD's internal control framework.	Executive Board	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP	This is captured in the revised Evaluation Policy which was approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011. IOE has transparently provided a large amount of financial data in its work programme and budget document. IOE is also committed to undertaking the proposed biannual compliance review of IOE – in accordance with the Peer Review recommendation (see recommendation 12 in table 1).
2. The Executive Board, through the Evaluation Committee, strengthens the oversight and accountability of the Office of Evaluation and its independence from management.	Executive Board, Evaluation Committee	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, Evaluation Committee's Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure (EC TOR)	This is captured in the revised Evaluation Policy, and the revised terms of reference of the Committee which were both approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011.
a. The Executive Board, actively supported by the Evaluation Committee, is responsible for all procedures related to appointing, dismissing and supervising Director OE. Management is consulted but has no decision making authority.	Executive Board, Evaluation Committee	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, PB, EC TOR	This is captured in the revised Evaluation Policy as well as the Committee's TORs which were both approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011, and the corresponding President's Bulletin, (see recommendations 5 in table 1 for timelines for the delivery of PB).
b. Strengthening the Evaluation Committee and its role in the governance and oversight of OE, including	Executive Board, Evaluation Committee	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, EC TOR	This is captured in the revised Evaluation Policy and the revised EC TOR which were both approved by the Board in its 102 nd session

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having only Executive Board members and alternates as formal members of the Committee.								
c. More active Evaluation Committee scrutiny of OE's budget request and financial management.	Evaluation Committee		15-16 July 2010 (review)	8 October 2010 (review)		Completed	EP, EC TOR	As per the request of the EC, IOE has provided a significant amount of additional financial data in its work programme and budget document in 2010. The Committee has expressed its satisfaction in this regard, since this has allowed the Committee to exercise more effectively its scrutiny of IOE's budget request and financial management.
d. Requiring consultation with the Evaluation Committee for any proposed special audit of OE and empowering it, in consultation with the chair of the Audit Committee, to agree to the audit proposal, prescribe an external audit or veto the proposed audit.	Evaluation Committee, Audit Committee	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, PB, EC TOR	This is captured in the revised Evaluation Policy and in the revised EC TOR which were both approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011.
e. Harmonising OE and IFAD practices regarding staff recruitment, appointment and promotion, approval of waivers for consultant fees and procurement, while retaining the delegation of the President's powers to Director OE in these areas and ensuring that any changes do not impinge adversely on OE's independence.	Office of Evaluation	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, PB	This is captured in the revised Evaluation Policy which was approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011, and in the corresponding President's Bulletin which will be presented as per timelines indicated under recommendation 5 in table 1.
3. OE harmonises its approach to evaluation with that of Evaluation						Completed		This has been accomplished by transforming its project evaluation methodology and process, which

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Cooperation Group good practice by basing OE's portfolio and project assessments more heavily on evidence drawn from validated Project Completion Reports.								process, which will form the basis of the ARRI in 2011 onwards. See point 3a for details.
a. The transition to validating Project Completion Reports (PCRs) should begin immediately with a target date to base the portfolio analysis in the 2011 Annual Report on Results and Impact of IFAD Operations on both validated PCRs and OE's project evaluations.	Office of Evaluation		15-16 July 2010 (review)	8 October 2010 (review)	15-16 December 2010 (approval)	Completed	IOE's results-based work programme and budget for 2011 and indicative plan for 2012-2013 (IOE WPB)	The Office of Evaluation has developed a dedicated methodology and process for the validation of project completion reports (PCRv) and project performance assessments (PPAs). A summary of the same is contained in an Annex of the 2011 work programme and budget document of the Office of Evaluation. The methodology was piloted in 2010 through 5 PCRvs and 1 PPA, which produced elements for fine tuning the methods and processes before end 2010. The same document also includes further information about PCRvs and PPAs (e.g., the number of PCRvs and PPAs to be undertaken per year, the time required, etc). As stated, review for 2011 has already begun.
b. Consistent with the ECG approach, management would take the lead for the Agreement at Completion Point process with strong input from OE.	IFAD management, Office of Evaluation			25-26 November 2010 (information)		Completed	Note on Revised Process and Template for the Agreement at Completion Point (ACP)	IOE and management have finalised a new template and process which will also bring changes in the consultation and drafting process, giving a more enhanced role to the management. This note has been shared with the Evaluation Committee for information. In the July 2011 EC session, for the final time, IOE will

Recommendations and Actions	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/Degree of implementation
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								provide members an update on the production of evaluation ACPs using the new process and template.
4. IFAD further strengthens the use of evaluation findings, learning and the feedback loop.						Ongoing		IOE is increasingly devoting greater attention to learning, knowledge management and evaluation feedback. In fact, in 2011, IOE undertook a thorough self-assessment of its communication and knowledge management work, to find ways and means to strengthen the independent evaluation feedback loop, with the aim of enhancing IFAD's development effectiveness. See below comments for details.
a. The Executive Board develops a strategy to use evaluation results better to support accountability and learning.	Executive Board	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, EC TOR	This is captured in the revised Evaluation Policy and in the revised EC TOR which were both approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011.
b. Management develops incentives for IFAD to become a learning organisation, so that staff use evaluation findings to improve future operations and IFAD's development effectiveness.	IFAD Management	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, PB	This recommendation is captured in the Evaluation Policy which was approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011, and corresponding President's Bulletin (see recommendation 5 in table 1 for the timelines for the production of the President's Bulletin). In recent years Management has put significant emphasis on learning from self and independent evaluation. A rigorous follow-up of the evaluation recommendations through PRISMA, participation of IOE in critical business processes, and significant increase in knowledge sharing events are some of the means used.

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								Management also recognises the need for further enhancing the capture and sharing of knowledge generated from evaluation systems. The costed Action plan mentioned above will present broad strategies to achieve this goal.
c. OE contributes more actively to IFAD knowledge management work.	Office of Evaluation	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, PB	This recommendation is captured in the Evaluation Policy which was approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011, and corresponding President's Bulletin (see recommendation 5 in table 1 for the timelines for the production of the President's Bulletin). Starting from 2011, IOE will not only participate in selected OSCs as in the past but also in key platforms that will enable it to share lessons and good practices based on evaluation. Efforts have already been deployed in 2010 towards this end, for example, by participating in in-house seminars (e.g., on scaling up, middle income countries, etc).
d. OE places more emphasis on knowledge management.	Office of Evaluation	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, PB	This recommendation is captured in the Evaluation Policy which was approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011, and corresponding President's Bulletin (see recommendation 5 in table 1 for the timelines for the production of the President's Bulletin). In addition to what is mentioned in the preceding point, IOE will also participate – inter-alia - in external platforms such as UNEG, ECG, IDEAS and NONIE in order to

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								exchange knowledge and lessons learned and remain engaged in the international debate on evaluation.
e. Greater OE engagement in existing IFAD mechanisms.	Office of Evaluation	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, PB	This recommendation is captured in the Evaluation Policy which was approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011, and corresponding President's Bulletin (see recommendation 5 in table 1 for the timelines for the production of the President's Bulletin). IOE is represented in the in-house policy reference groups to prepare the Fund's corporate policies, respectively, on gender and private sector development. The aim of IOE's participation in the policy reference groups is to clarify further the lessons and recommendations from the corresponding evaluations completed recently by IOE.
f. OE produces more evaluation syntheses.	Office of Evaluation			7 October 2011 (review)		Ongoing	EP	Two evaluation syntheses have been included as a new product of IOE starting from 2011. They are on: (i) Different IFAD groups, different development strategies: A review of IOE's lessons in light of the new strategic framework's (2011-15) emphasis on farming as a business; (ii) Direct supervision and implementation support of IFAD-financed projects. The preparation of the synthesis is ongoing. A synthesis on gender will be prepared in 2012 in the context of IOE's participation in the Evaluation Cooperation Group of the MDBs.
g. Management extracts	IFAD Management	16 June 2011		12-13 July	14-15	Ongoing	AP	This forms part of the costed

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information from the PCRs and the self-evaluation system.				2011 (review)	September 2011 (approval)			Action Plan that has been developed and scheduled to be discussed in the July 2011 Evaluation Committee.. This recommendation is already being implemented. In fact, RIDE draws heavily from the PCRs in reporting outcomes/impact. More emphasis has been put in using PCRs for sharing knowledge, however, in the Costed Action Plan.
h. OE broadens the forums used to disseminate evaluation findings.	Office of Evaluation	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, IOE WPB	This is captured in the new Evaluation Policy which was approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011, as well as in the annual IOE work programme and budget document. IOE will continue to participate actively in internal and external learning events (including international conferences on evaluation, meetings of evaluation societies, etc) to disseminate evaluation findings. A number of external websites are also used for widening dissemination of evaluation lessons.
5. OE identifies ways to improve further the quality through use of a broader range of evaluation approaches and methodologies.						Nearly completed		A number of actions have been taken, which are documented in the below comments.
a. Change product mix to devote more resources to higher-order evaluations, including those covering aspects of operational corporate management and institutional support for	Office of Evaluation	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, IOE WPB	This is captured in the new Evaluation Policy which was approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011, as well as in the annual IOE work programme and budget document. IOE has for years shifted its

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corporate management.								
b. Avoid an overly standardised evaluation approach.	Office of Evaluation					Ongoing		IOE continues to invest greater efforts and resources to the preparation of the evaluation Approach Paper, which is the place where the evaluation methodology and approach can be customized taking into account the specific context and requirements of the evaluation. This is an ongoing practice.
c. Place greater reliance on validated information generated by the self-evaluation system.	Office of Evaluation	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP, AP	This is captured in the new Evaluation Policy which was approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011, as well as in the costed action plan by the IFAD Management which will be discussed in the EC at its 68 th session on 12-13 July 2011 prior to submission to the Board. The 2011 ARRI will also be based also on data from the validation of PCRs. Management has already started supporting this process. The 2011 ARRI, as per standing practice, will be reviewed by the Committee and the Board.
d. Address issues related to ratings and measuring impact.	Office of Evaluation			25-26 November 2010 (information)		Completed	Note on new impact indicators to assess gender, scaling up, and climate change	IOE has made adjustments to the evaluation methodology to make evaluations rigorous and evidence based, and also address the emerging issues and priorities. In particular, IOE pays attention to reducing inter-evaluator variability by rigorous internal peer reviews and other methods. It is increasingly making use of control groups for impact assessment. Finally, IOE developed indicators for assessing gender, scaling up,

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								and climate change, which has been shared with the Committee.
e. Continue efforts to address better the <u>why</u> question.	Office of Evaluation					Ongoing		Further efforts and resources will continue to be invested in understanding the proximate causes of performance. The 2010 ARRI clearly demonstrates IOE efforts in this regard by summarizing at the end of each section the underlying proximate causes of good or less good performance. Individual evaluation reports also treat the why question in more detail. This will continue to be a standing practice.
f. Strengthen OE's human resources in the areas of both evaluation expertise and operational experience through recruitment when vacancies arise, including encouraging the transfer of operational staff to OE, and through training and professional development of OE staff.	Office of Evaluation	21 February 2011	3 March 2011 (review)	19-20 April 2011 (review)	10-12 May 2011 (approval)	Completed	EP	IOE has been sending its staff to established evaluation training courses and will continue to do so in the future. Efforts are being made to encourage staff with background in operations to apply for vacancies in IOE. This is captured in the revised Evaluation Policy, which was approved by the Board in its 102 nd session on 10-12 May 2011
g. More effective management and use of consultants.	Office of Evaluation					Ongoing		IOE has a dedicated internal working group devoted to finding ways and means to further improve consultants' managements. The group has contributed, inter-alia, to developing customised system for consultants' appraisals, determining the level of effort for team leaders and mission members, as well as developed a clearer definition on the division of labour and responsibilities between IOE staff and consultants in

Recommendations and Actions	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/Degree of implementation
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								undertaking evaluations in order to eliminate possible duplications. The group is continuing its work in 2011.
h. Address various methodological issues.	Office of Evaluation					Ongoing		See comments under recommendation 7 in table 1.
6. Management prepares a costed action plan (CAP) covering the next five years, which establishes priorities and makes the case for additional funding and more staff time within a feasible resource envelope to strengthen the self-evaluation system, so that is it increasingly used to help achieve development results.	IFAD Management	16 June 2011		12-13 July 2011 (review)	14-15 September 2011 (review)			IFAD management has worked on a costed Action Plan (see timelines for its delivery in this row), keeping also in view of the central role the project completion reports will play in future and the high learning potential of the PCRs. The costed Action Plan will be discussed in the EC at its 68 th session on 12-13 July 2011, prior to submission to the EB.
a. Identify ways to extract knowledge systematically to make the self-evaluation system more useful in supporting new policies, country strategies and projects.	IFAD Management					Ongoing	AP	F orms part of the costed Action Plan that has been prepared to enhance the self evaluation system.
b. Continuing to take measures to improve the quality and use of PCRs.	IFAD Management					Ongoing	AP	Management has been monitoring the quality of PCRs since 2006. The Costed Action Plan has proposed the most optimum way to support the government and IFAD staff to enhance the quality further.
c. Harmonise the Results and Impact Management System with the self-evaluation and independent evaluation systems.	IFAD Management and Office of Evaluation	9 February 2011		3 March 2011 (information)		Partly completed	AP, Harmonization agreement	The harmonisation agreement between IOE and PMD has been completed and agreed to by Director IOE and Associate Vice President PMD. It has been shared with the EC for information. 2. A

Recommendations and Actions	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/Degree of implementation
		Draft to consultant	Draft to EC	EC discussion	EB discussion			
								review of RIMS by PMD is on-going.
d. Develop practical ways to improve project level monitoring and evaluation, recognising that this will be a long-term endeavour, including considering whether it is feasible and necessary to undertake three surveys for every project as is envisioned in the design of the Results and Impact Management System.	IFAD Management					Ongoing	AP	More grant resources will be invested in strengthening further the project level financial management and monitoring systems. The requirement for the RIMS mid-term survey is conditional now. It will be made fully optional henceforth.
e. Identify the priorities and sequencing to request OE to evaluate systematically the various components of the self-evaluation system, using focused real-time evaluations	IFAD Management					Ongoing	AP	Management will work closely with IOE in undertaking such evaluations. IOE will do a CLE on supervision in 2012, and within the context of the CLE on efficiency in 2011 review selected components of the self evaluation system (e.g., quality assurance system).
7. OE improves its efficiency by using more cost efficient approaches, while enhancing quality and effectiveness, in carrying out its programme of work and more efficient ways of undertaking its work	Office of Evaluation					Ongoing		Efforts have been made through the implementation of a dedicated Activity Plan to enhance the IOE's efficiency as well as enhancing the quality and effectiveness in carrying out its work programmes. See below comments for more details.
a. Efficiency gains for the most part will come from doing things differently to achieve similar outcomes (e.g., validating PCRs; shifting support for the Evaluation Committee and for Executive Board field visits to the Secretary's Office; shifting	Office of Evaluation		15-16 July 2010 (review)	8 October 2010 (review)	15-16 December 2010 (approval)	Completed	IOE WPB	Efficiency gains have been achieved through the transformation of IOE's project evaluation approach to PCR validations and PPAs, organizing simpler and less costly workshops with government taking the lead, and more systematic use of the evaluation manual. Savings come

Recommendations and Actions	Accountable for delivery/action	Deadlines				Status	In which document?	Comment regarding status/Degree of implementation
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responsibility for the Agreement at Completion Point process to Program Management Department).								with government taking the lead, and more systematic use of the evaluation manual. Savings come from the elimination of financial allocation for the annual country visit of the Evaluation from IOE budget, and transferring of main responsibilities for organizing EC sessions to the IFAD Management.
b. Other measures include changes in the use of the hybrid model, using lighter evaluations when possible, streamlining evaluation processes and strengthening OE's internal management and administrative processes.	Office of Evaluation					Completed	EP, IOE WPB	IOE has established a clearer division of labour between the consultants' team leader and the lead evaluation officer to eliminate possible duplication of tasks. IOE has also changed its approach to project evaluation to undertaking PCR validations and project performance assessments, which are less costly and can be undertaken more quickly. IOE has allocated fifty per cent time of one existing professional staff position to financial and administrative function. An activity plan to enhance IOE's financial systems, human resource management and administrative processes has been developed and is being implemented.
c. Some of these savings should be redeployed to other forms of evaluation activities (e.g., strengthening the feedback and learning loop, validating PCRs, preparing evaluation syntheses, and undertaking a greater number of lighter evaluations of a variety of policy issues and project assessments).	Office of Evaluation		15-16 July 2010 (review)	8 October 2010 (review)	15-16 December 2010 (approval)	Completed	EP, IOE WPB	See the work programme and budget for 2011 of IOE.

