I. GOOD PRACTICES FOR TARGETING IN COSOPs

A. Target group categorization

1. The example below shows how the categorization of the target group can be anchored in national definitions comprising different categories of the poor, including the poorest. Women and youth are singled out as special groups.

Box 1
Target group definition in the COSOP for the Dominican Republic (2017-2022)

> **Poverty analysis:** The 2017 COSOP for the Dominican Republic uses data from the Dominican Institute of Agricultural and Forestry Research (IDIAF) and the index of living conditions. Estimates based on the National Labour Force Survey also indicate that poverty is primarily associated with a lack of income diversification and with dependence on agriculture. Thus, IFAD's investments will focus on 220,000 vulnerable poor rural families, including:
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> (i)   **Agricultural producers' families engaged in agricultural production for marketing or self-consumption**. While many of these families have more diversified livelihoods, agriculture is the only income source for 40 per cent of them. Families that are wholly dependent on agricultural production are as poor as agricultural labourers' families and are the most vulnerable to economic crises.
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> (ii) **Wage-worker families without access to agricultural land**. These families' livelihoods are less diversified and depend on employment in sectors such as agriculture, tourism and construction. Agricultural labour is also the main occupation for young Haitian immigrants, especially in the rural western part of the country.
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> Within these categories, women and youth are singled out as special groups:
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> (iii) **Women**: Rural women have less access to education, receive lower wages and have less access to productive assets than men. Women-headed households are subject to higher levels of monetary poverty and, as a result of high rates of female out-migration, young women assume caregiving roles at an early age.
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> (iv) **Youth:** The rural population is predominantly young. The labour force participation rate for youth (15-24 years) is 60 per cent. This figure is likely to be lower in rural areas, where youth involvement in illegal activities and teenage pregnancies are widespread.

B. Defining the COSOP targeting strategy

2. Box 2 illustrates the key elements of IFAD's COSOP targeting strategy. The COSOP for the Dominican Republic describes the criteria for geographic targeting. In the case of the COSOP for Pakistan, criteria and processes for identifying the poorest are based on the national poverty scorecard system.

Box 2
Examples of the COSOP targeting strategy

> **The targeting strategy used in the COSOP for Pakistan (2016-2021)**, in line with IFAD's policy on targeting and based on exchanges with provincial and federal governments, focuses on:
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> (i)   Four priority regions (the provinces of Balochistan and of Azad Jammu and Kashir and the territories of Gilgit-Baltistan and Punjab);
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> (ii) The poorest villages in these regions;
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> (iii) The poorest households, pre-identified through the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) – a cash transfer programme - and validated by communities and social mobilization partners.
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> People in band 0-34 will remain the IFAD target group, with a particular focus on extremely poor (band 0-11), chronically poor (band 12-18) and transitorily poor people (band 19-23).
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> **The COSOP for the Dominican Republic identifies clear criteria for geographic targeting**. These include:
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> (iv) Government priorities and complementarities with other interventions;
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> (v)   Poverty levels;
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> (vi) Exposure to climate risks;
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> (vii) Presence and capacity of producer organizations;
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> (viii) Risks and opportunities for productive inclusion.

C. Criteria for geographic targeting

3. Table 1 illustrates the criteria for geographic targeting in order of priority. These criteria have to be balanced with government priorities and potential complementarities with ongoing programmes.

Table 1
Criteria for geographic targeting

Priority level and dimension of poverty and exclusion	Criteria	Source/tool	Explanation/justification
Highest priority Vertical inequalities	Incidence and intensity of poverty	• Multidimensional poverty • Income poverty • Human Development Index • Poverty maps • NGO studies • National priorities for poverty reduction.	• If yes, specify at which level (regions, departments, districts, communities) • If poverty and food and nutrition insecurity are not considered to be priorities in selecting the target area, a clear justification should be provided
High priority Vertical inequalities	Food and nutrition insecurity	• WFP food insecurity assessment • UNICEF study on child malnutrition	
Medium priority Cross-cutting theme	Climate vulnerability	• Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) • Climate vulnerability maps • Earth observation and GIS	
Medium priority Cross-cutting theme	Presence of indigenous peoples and/or ethnic minorities	• Population census	If yes, specify who they are and where they are concentrated
Medium priority Cross-cutting theme	Number of young people	• Population census and demographic projections	Areas with a high incidence of poverty but high rates of youth out-migration may not provide investment opportunities
Medium priority Cross-cutting theme	Presence and number of marginalized or fragile groups (refugees, people with disabilities, pastoralists, etc.)	• Studies prepared by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees • Population census	This also applies to conflict-affected and post-conflict countries
Medium to low priority	Productive and agroecological potential	• Ministry of Agriculture investment plans • FAO and WFP resilience analyses • Studies undertaken by other development agencies	This needs to be balanced with poverty considerations