
Statement of Intent
Partnership on Cooperation of Evaluation Capacity Development
Ministry of Finance, China
and
Independent Office of Evaluation, IFAD
2013/2015

1. **Background.** During the meetings held between the Ministry of Finance, China (MOF) and the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE) in Beijing, China, on 20-24 May 2013, it was agreed to establish a bilateral partnership between MOF and IOE for evaluation capacity development in China.
2. **Objective of the Partnership.** To contribute to China's development of evaluation capacities of agriculture and rural poverty alleviation interventions.
3. **Activities, responsibilities and timeframe.** The proposed activities, responsibilities of partners, and timeframe below reflect the discussion and agreement of the bilateral meetings. On the MOF side, some of the activities would be undertaken in collaboration with the Asia-Pacific Finance and Development Centre (AFDC), which is financed by and affiliated with MOF, and based in Shanghai, China.
4. The activities will be carried out in the period of 2013 - 2015. A joint review of the bilateral cooperation would be conducted jointly by MOF and IOE in early 2016, to assess the cooperation results and direct future cooperation strategy.
5. **Focal points.** For the evaluation capacity development cooperation , MOF appoints Ms Tingting Mu, International Department, MOF, as MOF focal point; and IOE has appointed Mr Jicheng Zhang as IOE focal point, under the supervision of Mr Ashwani Muthoo, Deputy Director and Acting Director, IOE. IOE will ensure communication with MOF is copied to the office of IFAD Executive Director of China (in Rome).
6. This Statement of Intent, including the table on Evaluation Capacity Development cooperation activities that follows, is (to be) signed by the MOF and IOE.

Table on Evaluation Capacity Development cooperation activities 2013-2015

Proposed activities	Responsibilities of partners	Timeframe
A. Capacity building		
1. Jointly organize one workshop on Evaluation of Agricultural and Rural Poverty Alleviation interventions	MOF: to provide venue and cover local costs. IOE: In cooperation with MOF, IOE would design and conduct a 1 day training workshop on the evaluation of agricultural and rural development operations, aimed at Government officials and policy makers. IOE will cover the costs of any experts required and travel of its staff to China	November 2013 in Beijing
2. Increase the opportunities for involvement of Chinese consultants in IOE evaluations	MOF: to provide IOE with names and contacts of qualified consultants / specialists to be considered by IOE for evaluation consultancy tasks in China and other countries IOE: to encourage its evaluation officers to work with national consultants when possible, and make systematic efforts to identify qualified Chinese consultants for IOE evaluations in China and other countries	2013-2015
3. Share agricultural and rural development evaluation theories, methodologies, and cases in SHIPDET and other AFDC programmes	MOF/AFDC: regularly inform IOE on the upcoming programmes organised by MOF/AFDC and opportunities to involve IOE's contribution. IOE: to prepare training materials and case studies based on IFAD evaluation methodology and experience, and participate in knowledge sharing workshops/training sessions of SHIPDET	2014-2015
B. Knowledge sharing		
4. Translation of 2nd edition of IFAD Evaluation Manual and other evaluation materials into Chinese	MOF/AFDC: to provide translators IOE: to review the translation for quality assurance. IOE will cover the costs of translation	2015
5. Contribute to AFDC library with IOE publications	MOF/AFDC: to display IOE publications in library for training, research, and communication purposes IOE: to regularly update AFDC of IOE new publications, provide electronic versions, and send paper copy of new publications to MOF and AFDC	2013-2015
6. Collaboration with the office of IFAD Executive Director of China (based in Rome)	IOE: to invite the Executive Director and his/her staff to key learning events organized by IOE at IFAD HQs and in the field. The costs of any travel will be covered by the Government of China	2013-2015
C. Evaluation practice		
7. Joint evaluation on China's IFAD funded projects and China-IFAD country programme	MOF: to participate in an evaluation of China's IFAD funded projects IOE: to lead the organization and evaluation work of China country programme evaluation and project evaluations; consult with MOF during the evaluation process; organize a mission wrap up meeting and a learning roundtable workshop in China	2013-2014

Proposed activities	Responsibilities of partners	Timeframe
8. Organization of a conference in China	<p>It would be an Asian Conference on Evaluation of Rural Poverty Alleviation Interventions. The purpose is to share evaluation knowledge, particularly good practices for rural poverty alleviation interventions across countries. The target audience would be evaluators and rural development experts from China and other Asian countries. Thus, it will promote South-South cooperation in evaluation, under MOF's leadership.</p> <p>MOF: to provide venue and identifies Chinese experts and external evaluation teams that worked with local governments that undertook performance management Reforms</p> <p>IOE: to provide resource persons, international experts, and orientations</p>	2015
D. Personnel training		
9. Secondment of staff from MOF and Provincial Finance Department/Bureau to IOE	<p>MOF: to identify staff that can be seconded to IOE for a defined period of time; also to explore opportunities to assign an Associate Professional Office to IOE, funded by the Government of China.</p> <p>IOE: to hire interns from China, in line with IFAD human resources rules</p>	2013-2015
10. Other training activities	IOE: to enable the participation (for learning purposes) of MOF and other staff from Government of China in IOE-related evaluation workshops and related activities (in other countries and at IFAD HQs)	2013-2015
E. Regional partnership for ECD		
11. Explore the possibility of a partnership for evaluation capacity development and evaluation knowledge sharing on rural poverty alleviation, including South-South cooperation, with countries to which China is providing aid. This initiative could eventually include support through an IFAD regional grant	IOE: to prepare a draft proposal for discussion with MOF	2015

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Date: <i>Sep. 9, 2013</i>	Date: <i>20 Sept. 2013</i>