

## CHINA COUNTRY PROGRAMME EVALUATION

### Concept Note on the National Round-table Workshop

Beijing, China, 17 July 2014

#### A. CONTEXT

1. The Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE) conducted the first country programme evaluation (CPE) in China in 2013/14. As a usual step in the evaluation process, a national round-table workshop is held at the end of each CPE. The China CPE national round-table workshop will be co-organized by the Government of China and IOE.

#### B. OBJECTIVES

2. The objectives of the China CPE national round-table workshop are to: (i) discuss the main issues emerging from the China CPE; (ii) provide inputs for the preparation of the evaluation's Agreement at Completion Point (ACP); and (iii) discuss the opportunities and challenges of the IFAD-Government of China partnership in the future, taking into account the evolution in the country context of China and IFAD's policies and priorities in middle-income countries (MICs).

3. The ACP is a short document summarizing the main CPE findings and recommendations, which the Government of China (represented by the Ministry of Finance) and IFAD (represented by the Programme Management Department) agree to adopt and implement within specific timeframes. IOE's role is to facilitate the preparation and finalization of the ACP, which will be included in the final China CPE report.

#### C. CHINA CPE NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE WORKSHOP

4. **Place and timing.** The one full day workshop is scheduled to take place in **Beijing on 17 July 2014** at Tangla Hotel.<sup>1</sup> The workshop venue was determined in consultation with the Government of China during the workshop preparatory mission in the week of 17 March 2014.

5. **Workshop invitations and documentation.** Invitations have been sent to participants by IOE and the Ministry of Finance. The profile and insights of the China CPE will be shared in advance with all participants as part of the background document for the workshop. In addition, a PowerPoint presentation will be delivered during the workshop on the key findings and lessons from the China CPE, which will serve to guide the discussions at the event. The Final CPE report will be posted on the IFAD website, inclusive of the ACP once signed.

6. **Key themes for the workshop.** The workshop will focus on the following three main themes from the China CPE:

**Theme 1: IFAD's future priorities and operations in China, in light of its middle-income country status.**

**Theme 2: The role of non-lending activities (knowledge management, policy dialogue and partnership-building) for promoting pro-poor innovation and scaling up for wider impact on rural poverty.**

**Theme 3: IFAD-China partnership in South-South and triangular cooperation for poverty reduction: Opportunities, approaches and IFAD's role.**

<sup>1</sup>No. 19, Fuxingmenwai Street, Chang'an Avenue West, Xicheng District. Beijing 100045.

7. **List of participants.** The workshop will entail the participation of representatives from the Government of China, IFAD Management and staff, multilateral and bilateral aid organizations, project management offices (PMOs) of IFAD-funded projects and programmes covered by the CPE, academics and research institutions, private sector and foundations, non-governmental organizations, and selected resource persons. The provisional list of participants and/or institutions is contained in appendix 2 of this concept note.

8. **Workshop process.** The workshop's provisional agenda (appendix 1) has been developed in such a way to allow for ample opportunity to exchange views and perspectives among participants and panel members throughout the event.

9. The morning session of the workshop will be chaired by Mr Liang Ziqian, Deputy Director General of International Department of the Ministry of Finance of China, while the afternoon session will be chaired by Mr Kees Tuinenburg, Officer-in-Charge, Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD. Mr John McIntire, Associate Vice President, Programme Management Department, IFAD and Mr Agus P. Saptono, Chairman of the Evaluation Committee of IFAD's Executive Board, Embassy of Indonesia, Rome, will make statements at the outset of the deliberations. Mr Liang Ziqian, Deputy Director General of International Department of the Ministry of Finance of China will deliver a keynote address to workshop participants. A coffee break will be provided.

10. Subsequently, Mr Ashwani Muthoo, Deputy Director, IOE will make a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the main findings and recommendations from the China CPE which will be followed by a question and answer session. The morning session will conclude with an introduction to the workshop working groups. With regard to the latter, the participants will be divided into three working groups. Each group will consider only one of the three workshop themes (see paragraph 6). The facilitator for each working group will be identified prior to the workshop and the groups will nominate a rapporteur.

11. After lunch, the working groups will convene, and start their discussions. Thereafter, the plenary will re-convene to hear the feedback from each of the three working groups. In this regard, each working group will prepare a short PowerPoint presentation for delivery to the plenary. This will be followed by an open discussion, to be facilitated by the workshop chairperson.

12. Following the plenary session, Ms Hoonae Kim, Director IFAD-APR and Mr Matteo Marchisio, IFAD Country Programme Manager for China will share their reflections on the future directions and timelines for preparing the new China country strategy.

13. The workshop's salient conclusions will be set forth in a closing statement to be delivered by a senior government official, covering the key points arising from both the plenary and working group discussions.

#### **D. Communication**

14. In order to highlight some of the strategic issues raised by the CPE and discussed during the workshop, appropriate communication will be organized. This will include the following activities:

- IOE will prepare the profile<sup>2</sup> and insight<sup>3</sup> papers containing information on key issues emerging from the evaluation.
- Issue of a press release by IOE during the workshop.
- The press release and workshop information will be posted on the IFAD corporate website, IFAD regional website (IFADAsia).

<sup>2</sup> Evaluation Profiles are two-page summaries of the main conclusions and recommendations arising from each IFAD evaluation. They provide a sampling of evaluation results and an incentive for readers to delve deeper and follow up on interesting issues in the full report.

<sup>3</sup> Evaluation Insights focus on one learning issue emerging from corporate, thematic or country programme evaluations. The hypothesis presented in the Insights will form the basis for debate and discussion among development professionals and policymakers within IFAD and outside the institution.

- Invitation to the workshop by IOE to daily newspapers, radio and TV.
- Bilateral interviews by selected members of IFAD's delegation with the Chinese press.
- Simultaneous interpretation to/from English/Chinese will be provided during the workshop. Selected workshop documentation will also be provided in the two languages.

15. The IOE knowledge management and communication officer, Ms Melba Alvarez-Pagella, will be the focal point for communication and media coverage, who will closely collaborate with the IFAD Communication Division, the IFAD Country Office in China, and the designated officer in the Ministry of Finance.

#### **E. FIELD VISIT**

16. In addition to participating in the workshop, the IFAD delegation from Rome will undertake a field visit from 14-16 July 2014 to observe activities supported by Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Rural Advancement Programme. A detailed program of the field visit has been developed in close collaboration with the Government, APR and project authorities (see appendix 3). This visit will offer the IFAD delegation an opportunity to directly hold discussions with beneficiaries and their groups, project staff, provincial and county-level government authorities and others, as well as to see project activities on the ground.

**Provisional Agenda**  
**China Country Programme Evaluation (CPE)**  
**National Round-table Workshop, 17 July 2014**  
**Hotel Tangla, Beijing**

**Workshop Chair**

**Morning Session:** Mr Liang Ziqian, Deputy Director General of International Department of the Ministry of Finance

**Afternoon Session:** Mr Kees Tuinenburg, Officer-in-Charge of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD

09:00 *Registration for participants*

09:30 Workshop opening remarks by Mr Kees Tuinenburg, Officer-in-Charge, Independent Office of Evaluation (IOE)

09:40 Statement by Mr John McIntire, Associate Vice President, Programme Management Department, IFAD

09:50 Statement by Mr Agus P. Saptono, Chairman Evaluation Committee of IFAD's Executive Board, Embassy of Indonesia, Rome

10:00 Keynote address by Mr Liang Ziqian, Deputy Director General, International Department, Ministry of Finance of China

10:15 *Coffee break*

10:30 PowerPoint presentation on the findings and recommendations of the China CPE by Mr Ashwani Muthoo, Deputy Director, IOE

10:50 Plenary discussion: Questions and answers

12:15 Overview on the organization of the three working groups Mr Ashwani Muthoo, Deputy Director, IOE

12:30 *Lunch for all participants*

14:00 Break out into three working groups. Each working group to consider one of the workshop themes

15:15 *Coffee break*

15:30 Plenary reconvened: feedback from working groups and discussions facilitated by workshop chairperson

17:00 Reflections on the future directions and timelines for the preparation of the forthcoming China country strategy by Ms Hoonae Kim, Director (APR) and Mr Matteo Marchisio, IFAD Country Programme Manager for China

17:15 Closing statement to be delivered by Mr Zhang Zhengwei, IFAD Executive Board Director of China

**Appendix 2****Participants<sup>1</sup>****I. Government of China****A. Ministries/government institutions**

1. Ministry of Finance
2. National Development and Reform Commission
3. Ministry of Agriculture
4. The State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development
5. Development Research Centre of the State Council (DRC)
6. Ministry of Science and Technology
7. State Forestry Administration
8. China Banking Regulatory Commission

**B. Provincial governments/directors of IFAD-financed projects covered by China Country Programme Evaluation**

9. Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region  
*Environment Conservation and Poverty-Reduction Programme in Ningxia and Shanxi*
10. Shanxi Province  
*Environment Conservation and Poverty-Reduction Programme in Ningxia and Shanxi*
11. Shaanxi Province  
*Qinling Mountain Area Poverty-Alleviation Project*
12. Sichuan Province  
*Sichuan Post-Earthquake Agriculture Rehabilitation Project*
13. Gansu Province  
*South Gansu Poverty-Reduction Programme*
14. Guangxi Province  
*West Guangxi Poverty Alleviation Project*
15. Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region  
*Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region Modular Rural Development Programme*

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<sup>1</sup> The list of participants is provisional and subject to changes as appropriate.

16. Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region  
*Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Rural Advancement Programme*
17. Henan Province  
*Dabieshan Area Poverty Reduction Programme*
18. Hunan Province  
*Hunan Agricultural and Rural Infrastructure Improvement Project*
19. Yunnan Province  
*Yunnan Agricultural and Rural Infrastructure Improvement Project*
20. Hubei Province  
*Shiyan Smallholder Agribusiness Development Project*
21. Jiangxi Province  
*Jiangxi Mountainous Area Agribusiness Promotion Project*
22. Qinghai Province
23. Chongqing Municipality

**II. Heads of office/country director/country representative/heads of rural development units of bi-lateral and multilateral organizations in Beijing**

24. Asian Development Bank (ADB)
25. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
26. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
27. United Nations Economics and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
28. International Trade Centre (ITC)
29. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

**III. Research and academic institutions**

30. China Agricultural University
31. Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences
32. Chinese Academy of Sciences
33. Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
34. International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

**IV. National financial institutions, private sector and NGOs**

35. China-Africa Development Fund
36. All China Women's Federation

**V. IFAD****A. Governing bodies representative**

- 37. Mr Zhang Zhengwei, IFAD Executive Board Director of China, Permanent Representation of China to the United Nations Agencies in Rome
- 38. Mr Agus P. Saptono, Chairman Evaluation Committee of IFAD's Executive Board, Embassy of Indonesia, Rome

**B. IFAD staff (headquarters)**

- 39. Mr John McIntire, Associate Vice President, PMD
- 40. Mr Kees Tuinenburg, Officer-in-Charge, IOE
- 41. Ms Hoonae Kim, Director, APR
- 42. Mr Ashwani Muthoo, Deputy Director, IOE
- 43. Mr Jinkang Wu, Chief, Asia Region and Special Advisor to the President
- 44. Mr Sana Jatta, Former China Country Programme Manager, APR
- 45. Mr Matteo Marchisio, China Country Programme Manager, APR
- 46. Ms Melba Alvarez, Evaluation Communication and Knowledge Management Officer, IOE
- 47. Ms Xiaozhe Zhang, Evaluation Research Analyst, IOE
- 48. Ms Linda Danielsson, Assistant to the Deputy Director, IOE

**C. IFAD China Country Office**

- 49. Mr Sun Yinhong, Country Programme Officer
- 50. Ms Han Lei, Associate Country Programme Officer
- 51. Mr Liu Ke, Associate Country Programme Officer

**D. China CPE consultants**

- 52. Mr Shuai Chuanmin, CPE Consultant (based in China)
- 53. Mr Sarath Mananwatte, CPE Consultant

**Appendix 3****Provisional Field Visit Programme:****14–16 July 2014****Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Rural Advancement Programme***(details coordinated and developed by the Government, APR and project authorities)*

<b>Monday 14 July 2014</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
16:10	Arrival in Hohhot Airport, received by local officials and proceed to hotel (Hohhot Hotel)
17:30	Meeting with Vice Governor of Inner Mongolia, followed by official dinner
<b>Tuesday 15 July 2014</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
08:30	Departure from hotel to Project area in Wulanchabu Prefecture
09:30	Received by local officials at exit of highway
10:00	Visit Greenhouses for vegetable production in Sandaoyin village of Zuozi County
11:30	Visit Village Livestock Service Station in Xishanding
12:30	Buffet lunch in Zuozi county
13:30	Travel to Chayouzhongqi County
15:00	Visit Women Micro-Credit Group IGA activities (sheep fattening)
16:20	Visit crop production with rural financial services provided by Rural Credit Cooperatives
17:30	Dinner at Chayouzhongqi County
19:30	Departure for Hohhot
21:30	Arrival in Hotel
<b>Wednesday 16 July 2014</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
09:00	Departure hotel for Airport
10:45	Flight back to Beijing



**List of Local Officials joining field visit:**

**Ministry of Finance:**

1. Mr. Li Rui, Director, Division II, International Department
2. Ms Wang Rui, Second Secretary, Chinese Permanent Representation to United Nations Food and Agriculture Organizations, Rome

**DOF Inner Mongolia:**

3. Mr. Liu Yisheng, Deputy DG, DOF
4. Mr. Zhang Yuewu, Director of Division, DOF
5. Ms. Liu Xiaoli, Deputy Director of Division, DOF
6. Ms. Li Wenjuan, Program Officer, DOF

**Wulanchabu Prefecture Government:**

7. Mr Zhao Jin, Vice Mayor
8. Mr Kong Qingying, Vice Secretary General
9. Mr Li Shangrong, Director of Finance Bureau
10. Mr Chi Tao, Director of Agricultural Bureau
11. Mr Zhao Yuping, Deputy Director of project
12. Other staff

**Weather.** The temperature in Inner Mongolia may vary from 16°C to 30°C.