

# ***Impact Evaluation of Agricultural Support Project in Georgia***

## **TECHNICAL WORKSHOP**

**6 December 2017**

### **DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE**

#### **A. Background**

1. In 2017, the Independent Office of Evaluation (IOE) conducted an Impact Evaluation of the IFAD-funded Agricultural Support Project. In the same year, it also conducted a Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation (CSPE) in Georgia. A technical workshop is being organised as a platform to discuss the methodologies employed by IOE in conducting its Impact Evaluations, using the case of the Agricultural Support Project, and its CSPEs.

#### **B. Objectives**

2. The specific objectives of the technical workshop are to: (i) present the methodology employed for measuring attributable evidence from IOE's impact evaluations; and (ii) share with participants the methodology in conducting a more broad level evaluation such as a CSPE.

3. The workshop will give a unique opportunity to IOE for both sharing with a wider group the approaches it uses in its evaluations and for attaining valuable feedback from the participants, including some thematic issues related to poverty and inequality, and counterfactuals in impact evaluations.

4. The workshop will entail the participation of representatives from IOE, non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations (national and international), implementers, IFAD-funded projects and programmes as well as representatives from academics and research institutions, private sector and foundations and international development partners.

#### **C. Details of the workshop**

5. **Place and timing.** The technical workshop will take place on Wednesday, 6 December 2017 at the Marriot Courtyard Hotel in Tbilisi. The provisional agenda can be found in Annex 1 of this concept note.

6. **Workshop invitations and documentation.** Invitations will be sent to participants by the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD. The final Georgia CSPE report and the Impact evaluation report will be the main background documentation for the workshop.

7. **Workshop agenda and process.** The workshop format includes presentations followed by group discussions. The agenda has built-in opportunities for exchange views and perspectives among participants and panel members (Annex 1).

8. Ms. Johanna Pennarz, IOE Lead Evaluation Officer and lead evaluator for the Georgia CSPE will present the methodology and approach used for the CSPE in Georgia as well as some pertinent observations, followed by a questions and answers session.

9. This will be followed by presentations by Mr Hansdeep Khaira, lead evaluator for the impact evaluation, and Mr Dustin Gilbreath from the Caucasus Research Resource Solutions (CRRC), the agency that undertook data collection and analysis. After a coffee break, a "Methods Lab" session will be undertaken wherein participants will divide into two groups or labs. A facilitator for each group will be identified prior to the workshop and rapporteurs will be nominated by the respective groups during working session.

10. The results from the Methods Lab will be presented at the plenary session, facilitated by Ms. Pennarz.

11. **Topics for Methods Lab.** The focus will be on two key themes:

- (i) Need for a stronger data-based approach for poverty and inequality mapping, diagnosis and targeting strategies in Georgia, and
- (ii) Potential methods for counterfactual selection and matching and use of geo-spatial analysis

12. **List of participants.** The provisional list of participants will be prepared by IFAD IOE.

## Annex 1

# Impact Evaluation of the Agricultural Support Project

Courtyard Marriot, 4 Freedom Square, Tbilisi

6 December 2017

## Proposed Agenda

- 09:00 Registration of participants  
Welcome coffee
- 10:00 Presentation of IOE country strategy and programme evaluation methodology and observations by Ms. Johanna Pennarz, IOE Lead Evaluation Officer
- 10.30 Questions and answers
- 11.00 Presentation of IOE impact evaluation by Mr. Hansdeep Khaira, IOE Evaluation Officer, and Mr. Dustin Gilbreath, representative of the Caucasus Research Resource Center (CRRC)
- 11.30 Questions and answers
- 12.00 Coffee
- 12.30 Methods Lab  
Lab 1: Need for a stronger data-based approach for poverty and inequality mapping, diagnosis and targeting strategies in Georgia  
*Short presentation by Mariam Kobaladze, CRRC, followed by group discussion*  
Lab 2: Potential methods for counterfactual selection and matching and use of geo-spatial analysis  
*Short presentation by Hansdeep Khaira, IOE, and Dustin Gilbreath, CRRC, followed by group discussion*  
Feedback to plenary
- 14.00 Lunch