

COUNTRY PROGRAMME EVALUATION APPROACH PAPER



Republic of India

April 2009

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Country Programme Evaluation

Approach Paper

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Independent Office of Evaluation International Fund for Agricultural Development

Republic of India

Country Programme Evaluation

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Abbreviations and acronyms

ACP Agreement at Completion Point

AP Approach Paper

ADB Asian Development Bank

CGIAR Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research

CI Cooperating Institution CLP Core Learning Partnership

COSOP Country Strategic Opportunities Paper/Programme

CPE Country Programme Evaluation
DEA Department of Economic Affairs

DFID Department for International Development (United Kingdom)

EVEREST IFAD's Regional Strategy in Asia and the Pacific

GDP Gross Domestic Product GOI Government of India

NGO Non-Governmental Organization

OE Office of Evaluation

PI Asia and the Pacific Division TAG Technical Assistance Grant

UNDP United Nations Development Programme
UNOPS United Nations Office for Project Services

WFP World Food Programme

WB World Bank

I. Introduction

- 1. As decided by the Executive Board, the independent Office of Evaluation (OE) of IFAD will undertake a country programme evaluation (CPE) of the IFAD-Government of India co-operation in 2009. This is the first CPE undertaken by OE in India since the inception of the Fund's establishment in 1978. CPEs are normally conducted prior to the preparation of a new IFAD-Government co-operation strategy for the concerned country¹.
- 2. The India CPE will be conducted within the overall provisions contained in the IFAD Evaluation Policy² and follow OE's methodology and processes for CPEs, as stipulated in the OE evaluation manual³. The previous OE evaluations of IFAD operations in India as shown in Table 1 will provide valuable evaluative evidence for the planned CPE.

Table 1: Previous OE Evaluations Relating to IFAD Operations in India

Evaluation Type	Evaluations
	Orissa Tribal Development Project (1998/9)
	Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project (1999/2000)
Project evaluations	Andhra Pradesh Tribal Development Project (2001)
	North East Region Community Resource Management Project in Upland
	Areas (2004/5)
Corporate level	Direct Supervision Pilot Programme (2004/5)
evaluations including	IFAD's Regional strategy in Asia and the Pacific (EVEREST, 2005/6)
India	Field Presence Pilot Programme (2006/7)
Thematic evaluations	Local Knowledge and Innovations (2003/4)
which covered India	Organic Agriculture (2004/5)

II. Country Background

- 3. Located in South Asia, India has a geographical area of 3,287,263 square kilometres and a population of approximately 1.13 billion (as of 2007), making it the sub-continent's most populous nation and the second most populous country in the world. The population growth rate for the period 2000-2007 averaged 1.5 per cent per year, down from an average of 1.9 per cent in the 1990s, 2.1 per cent in the 1980s, and 2.3 per cent in the 1960s. Still, it is likely that the country will reach 1.4 billion people by 2025. In 2007, India's total fertility rate stood at 2.8 births per woman. The women to men ratio has been steadily declining, from 934 in 1981 to 927 in 1991, though there was a slight increase in 2001 to 933.
- 4. India's population is still predominantly rural, with 72 per cent of Indians living in villages with a population of less than 5 000. However, data from India's National Sample Surveys (NSS) and Censuses suggest that rate of migration from rural to urban areas is increasing⁴. The urban population constituted 28 per cent of the total in 2001, up from just over 25 per cent in the mid-1990s, and is likely to reach 36 per cent around 2025. The population is highly heterogeneous, with people being differentiated by language, religion, ethnicity, caste and class.

IFAD's country strategy document is the COSOP, the results-based country strategic opportunities programme.

² Approved by the Fund's Executive Board in April 2003, see document EB2003/78/R.17/Rev. 1. Also available from the IFAD internet site: http://www.ifad.org/evaluation/policy/index.htm

³ Available from the IFAD Internet site: http://www.ifad.org/gbdocs/eb/ec/e/informal/e/EC-2008-54-W-P-2.pdf

⁴ One estimate based on NSS data, for example, suggests an increase from 24.7 per cent in 1992/3 to 26.6 per cent in 1999/2000. See Srivastava and Sasikumar: An Overview of Migration in India.

- 5. India has a federal structure with clearly defined responsibilities delegated to State and Local Governments. The State Chief Minister and Legislature are elected as are the local *Panchayats*. Most of the areas that directly impact poverty are under the control of the State Governments rather than the Central Government. Thus the State Government is responsible for primary and secondary education; the health care system; and agriculture and rural development. The Central Government is responsible for national policy in these areas and increasingly has made use of Centrally Supported Schemes (CSS) in the form of earmarked transfers to support the implementation of national policies. In recent years, these have played an important role in helping State Governments to undertake expenditures, such as those needed for expanding access to primary education or for tackling HIV/AIDS, designed to meet the MDGs.
- 6. **The economy.** Since the early 1990s, when the most recent round of economic reforms in India took off, economic growth has been less volatile and reached a higher average rate than in the preceding decades, with real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth exceeding 8 per cent every year since 2003/04, and reaching a peak of 9.7 per cent in 2006/07. Benefiting from this sustained economic growth, India has become the world's 10th largest economy measured in nominal US dollars, but rises to fourth when measured at purchasing power parity exchange rates⁵. India is a two-tier economy, with a cutting-edge and globally competitive knowledge-driven services sector that employs the well educated middle class on the one hand, and a sprawling, largely rain-fed agricultural sector that employs the majority of the vast and poorly educated labour force on the other. GDP per capita was US\$ 450 in 2000, US\$ 740 in 2005, and US\$ 950 in 2007, establishing India as a (lower) middle income country⁶. Table 2 gives the main economic indicators of India from 2003 to 2007, and Table 3 provides a breakdown of the real GDP by sector.

Table 2: Main Economic Indicators of India 2003 – 2007

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Real GDP growth (%)a	8.4	8.3	9.2	9.7	9.0
Consumer price inflation (av; %)	3.8	3.8	4.2	6.2	6.4
Current-account balance (US\$ m)	8,773	781	-10,285	-9,529	-11,794
Exchange rate (av; Rs:US\$)	46.6	45.3	44.1	45.3	41.3
Population (m)	1,049.7	1,065.1	1,080.3	1,095.4	1,110.4
External debt (year-end; US\$ m)	112,855	124,376	123,128	135,098	149,204

a Fiscal years (April-March).

Source: Economist Intelligence Unit, CountryData.

Table 3: Real GDP by sector

(Source: EIU - fiscal years: April-March; per cent share of GDP)

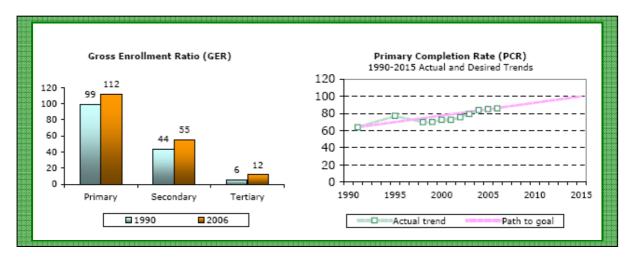
	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	
Agriculture	21.0	19.2	18.8	18.3	17.8	
Industry	26.2	28.2	28.8	29.3	29.4	
Services	52.8	52.6	52.4	52.4	52.8	

⁵ World Bank, World Development Indicators 2008

⁶ The World Bank classifies countries as a lower middle income country with GDP/capita between US\$ 905-3595. Countries with GDP/capita between US& 3 596 – US\$ 11 115 are classified as upper middle income countries.

- 7. **Poverty**. The proportion of the total population below the national poverty line went down from 36 per cent in 1993-1994 to 27.5 per cent in 2004–2005. However, the total number of poor people increased slightly. The rapid population growth in the past decades diluted the achievement in poverty alleviation. Poverty in India is predominantly a rural phenomenon. About 70 per cent of the population, and about 75 per cent of the poor, live in rural areas and most depend on agriculture. According to World Bank estimates on poverty based on 2005 data, India has 456 million people, 41.6 per cent of its population, living below the new international poverty line of US\$ 1.25 (PPP) per day. The World Bank further estimates that 33 per cent of the global poor now reside in India. Moreover, India also has 828 million people, or 75.6 per cent of the population living below US\$ 2 a day, compared to 72.2 per cent for Sub-Saharan Africa. The Government places high priority on reducing poverty through raising agricultural productivity, including through making use of the CSS to support programs for connecting rural villages to markets and expanding education in rural areas.
- 8. **Health and Education.** The health of India's people has improved significantly since independence. Life expectancy at birth increased to 66 years for men and 71 years for women in 2007, from 32 years for both men and women in 1951. Mortality rates for the under-fives have fallen sharply, from 242 per 1 000 in 1960 to 74 in 2005. But, a high proportion of the population continues to suffer and die from easily preventable diseases and child birth-related complications. In terms of education, India has made huge progress in getting more children into primary school, especially in recent years on the way of achieving the Millennium Development Goals. But the rates for girls are significantly lower than for boys. The 2001 census recorded that the male literacy rate was 75.3 per cent, compared with 53.7per cent for women. Figure 1 shows the progress made in education in India from 1990 to 2006.

Figure 1: Education progress made in India 1990 – 2006 (Source: World Bank website, country profile, India)



9. **Agriculture**. The agricultural sector accounts for less than one-fifth of GDP in India (see Table 3). Nevertheless, its importance in the country's economic, social, and political fabric goes well beyond this indicator. Agriculture provides livelihoods to 60 per cent of the rural people and remains vital for the country's food security. After the Green Revolution of the 1970s, India has achieved self-sufficiency in food grains. In the post-reform period from 1992/93 to 1996/97, the agricultural sector strengthened, with average growth at 4.7 per cent, up from an average of 3.6 per cent in the 1980s⁹. Benefiting from agricultural development, India has become a fairly significant food exporter. However, since 2000, the agricultural growth has slowed down to an average of 2 per cent. Compared

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⁷ Government of India (Planning Commission), Poverty Estimates for 2004-05. The poverty line at all-India level was defined as India Rupee (INR) 356 per capita per month for rural area, and INR 538 for urban area.

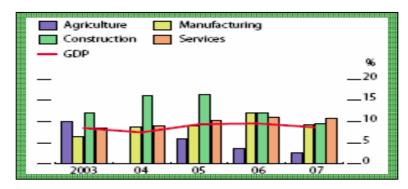
⁸ EIU, Country Profile India 2008

⁹ EIU, Country Profile India 2008

to the industrial and service sectors, agriculture growth is lagging the overall growth rate. The spike in food prices in 2008 has highlighted the need for India to invest more in the sector to assure its continued food security. In addition, unlike in East Asian countries, the shift of the labour force from agriculture to non-agriculture in India is particularly slow. The result has been stagnating levels of agricultural productivity and growing recognition that in the absence of accelerated agricultural growth, it will be very difficult to achieve significant reductions in rural poverty. Figure 2 provides a comparison of the economic growth rates of different sectors

- 10. The slow growth rates for Indian agriculture are attributed to a number of different factors many of them long term in nature. There has been limited investment in rural infrastructure over the past decades. In recent years an effort has been made to increase investment in rural roads, but power supply to rural areas remains limited in part because of the large consumer subsidies associated with it, and there has been little expansion of irrigation. While larger numbers of children are attending schools in rural areas, quality issues persist and curricula are often adapted to academic rather than vocational or agricultural needs. Rural micro-finance has expanded but productive credit needed to move from smallholder to commercial production remains limited. There are also challenges related to land tenure in parts of the country. Natural disasters have been another factor in keeping many areas of rural India in poverty. Last but not least, some aspects of the policy framework are a constraint to rapid agricultural growth, such as rigidities in labour regulation, and interventions in pricing and marketing of both outputs and inputs.
- 11. The shortage of irrigation remains one of the most important constraints on agricultural growth. Less than one-third of cropland is irrigated, making agricultural output heavily dependent on the annual monsoons. The main food grain crops (the *kharif* or autumn crop predominantly rice, harvested in September-October) and some cash crops (oilseeds, cotton, jute and sugar) depend on the south-west monsoon. This brings 80 per cent of India's rain, usually within a three-month period from June to mid-September. A second, north-east monsoon brings lighter rains to the south of the country from mid-October to December. Winter rain in north-western India from October to March waters a crop of wheat and coarse grains (the *rabi* crop, harvested in April-May).

Figure 2: GDP Growth by Economic Activities in India, 2003 - 2007 (Source: Central Statistical Organisation, www. mospi.nic.in/cso.htm, downloaded 24 March 2008)



12. **Agricultural Policies**. The evolution of agricultural policies in India can be divided into several phases: an agrarian reform phase (1950-1965) conferring the right of tenure to the tiller and abolishing intermediaries; a technology push phase (1965-1980), during which the emphasis shifted from institutional solutions to a technology-led approach; and a subsidies and incentives phase (1985-present), during which, with intensive technologies firmly in place, further growth was promoted by subsidies and incentives. In the 1990s, the minimum support price for cereals was rapidly scaled up, leading government agencies in some states to buy up to 70 per cent-80 per cent of the marketable surpluses. Although some of these policies dramatically improved agricultural production and poverty alleviation, in general, the policies adopted failed to address some of the inherent long standing problems such as imbalance in landholding pattern, which complicated land tenure relations in some

states and constrained the potential contribution of agriculture to overall economic development. A high incidence of poverty has remained an inhibiting factor in raising agricultural productivity and employment.

- 13. There are various Government policies that are of significance to the country's efforts to reduce rural poverty by promoting agriculture and rural development. Some of the most prominent policies are enshrined in the: (i) National Rural Employment Guarantee Act; (ii) Forest Rights Act; (iii) Tribal Development Policy; (iv) National Policy for Farmers, (iv) National Food Security Mission, and others. Appendix 2 provides a listing of the various Indian Government Statutes and documents that embody the agricultural and rural development policy framework. With regard to agriculture, the Government's goal is to raise the agricultural growth rate to 4 per cent per year in the 11th Five-Year Plan period (2007-2012). To achieve this, the Plan aims to (a) accelerate the expansion of irrigated area and improve water management in rainfed areas; (b) bridge the knowledge gap through effective research and extension; (c) foster diversification to higher value horticulture, fisheries, and animal husbandry; (d) increase food grain productivity for food security; (e) facilitate farmers' access to credit at affordable rates; and (f) improve farmer access to markets.
- 14. **Official Development Assistance (ODA).** India has benefited from international cooperation in poverty alleviation and development through bilateral and multilateral assistance. From 1997 to 2006, the average annual official development assistance (ODA) received by India was US\$ 1.4 billion. In the period 2004 to 2006, the average annual ODA invested in agriculture was US\$ 377.2 million, and in rural development was US\$ 63.4 million, which accounted for 30 per cent and 5 per cent respectively of the total ODA to India 10. Figure 3 shows the flow of ODA to India over a 10- year period from 1997 to 2006. IFAD's annual lending to India amounts to roughly 5 per cent of annual ODA for agriculture and rural development.

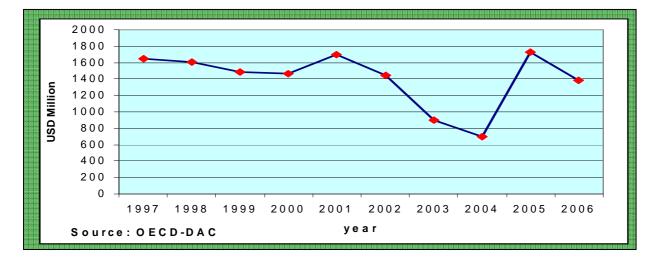


Figure 3: Official Development Assistance (ODA) to India 1997 – 2006

15. The largest donor support for Indian Agriculture and Rural Development is provided by the World Bank and DFID. The Bank defines three priority areas for its support: 1). Enhancing agricultural productivity, competitiveness, and rural growth, with important emphasis on improving water resource management and strengthening rural non-farm sector growth; 2). Improving access to assets and sustainable natural resource use including access to rural finance; 3). Strengthening institutions for the poor and promoting rural livelihoods through promoting community-based development and strengthening accountability for service delivery. In addition to its support for nationwide programs such as the National Agricultural Innovation Project of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research,

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¹⁰ OECD, International Development Statistics, 2008

recent World Bank projects have supported watershed management, community development and rural livelihoods in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. DFID's program identifies five focal states (Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar). Broad-based programs for rural livelihoods development are currently in place in Madhya Pradesh and Western Orissa. These place strong emphasis on convergence with government systems and the strengthening of local institutions and self-governance. The GTZ and WFP also provide significant development support. GTZ support is focused on two specific projects: Regional Economic Development in Uttarakhand, and the Rural Financial System Development Program. WFP's objectives for its 2008-2012 Country Programme are: to strengthen government capacity to carry out food-based safety-net programmes; to improve nutrition of women and young children; and improve livelihoods for vulnerable communities that rely on depleted natural resources. 11

Overview of IFAD's Operations and Evolution of the Country Strategy III.

- **IFAD-funded operations in India** include both loans for projects and programmes, and nonlending activities including knowledge management, policy dialogue and partnership strengthening, which are often funded through grants. Overall, since 1979 IFAD has financed 23 projects and programmes in India, approving loans for a total of approximately US\$ 635 million with a total portfolio cost of US\$ 1.8 billion¹². All loans have been provided on highly concessional lending terms¹³.
- Historically, India is the largest recipient of IFAD assistance globally. Of the 23 projects and programmes financed by the Fund, eight are ongoing, fourteen are closed and one is to be approved. IFAD-financed approximately 35 per cent of total project costs. Table 4 provides a snapshot of key data related to IFAD operations in the country, whereas Appendix 3 includes a more comprehensive list of the projects and programmes funded, together with the financial break downs by co-financiers and counterpart (Government) funding.
- IFAD operations have covered virtually all the poorer states in India¹⁴, with absence in only a handful of the relatively affluent states such as Karnataka, Kerala and Punjab. Most of the operations, especially those financed since the late 1980s, have largely focussed on tribal development, microfinance, women's advancement, raising agricultural productivity, and institution building. Some projects and programmes have centred on livelihoods development.
- The following co-financiers have participated in supporting IFAD-assisted projects and programmes in India: World Bank (US\$ 250 million), DfID (US\$ 74 million), WFP (US\$ 37 million), Government of the Netherlands (US\$ 12 million) and other donors. The following institutions were designated in the past as IFAD's co-operating institutions, responsible for project supervision and loan administration: World Bank (six projects), and UNOPS (eight projects). One project, the Jharkhand-Chattisgarh Tribal Development Project was included in IFAD's Direct Supervision Pilot Programme, and thus directly supervised by IFAD since its effectiveness in 2001. Moreover, with the introduction of IFAD's (direct) supervision and implementation support policy in December 2006, all ongoing projects in India have been brought under IFAD's direct supervision and implementation support since 1 January 2008. This is a significant change in the Fund's operating model in India, bringing the Fund

¹¹ Information drawn from the respective web-sites of the World Bank, DFID, GTZ and WFP.

¹² The total amounts also include data related to the Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra's Distressed Districts Programme to be approved by the Executive Board in April 2009.

¹³ India is now classified as a lower middle income country. As its per capita income increases further, this is likely to affect the lending terms offered by IFAD on its loans. Consequently, this may have implications for the India and IFAD partnership, which will be explored during the CPE.

¹⁴ IFAD operations have covered a vast geographic area of the country, including the states of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

closer to the ground. In fact, the topic of supervision and implementation support will be thoroughly analysed by the CPE, especially given its importance in contributing towards enhancing the Fund's development effectiveness in the country.

- 20. India was the first country where IFAD instituted some form of structured country presence in 2000, before IFAD's Field Presence Pilot Programme was launched by the Board in 2003. During the last two years, additional responsibilities have been decentralized to the India Country Office and it has been provided with additional financial resources and staff. Today, the India country presence plays an important part in overall COSOP and country programme management, including supervision and implementation support, knowledge management, promoting co-ordination with Government, portfolio management, donor collaboration, and so on.
- 21. IFAD has provided a number of country-specific grants to India, and IFAD grants of a regional and/or sub-regional nature have also covered IFAD operations in the country. Grants have been provided for a variety of purposes, *inter-alia*, for knowledge networking, agriculture research, training and capacity building. From 2000 to 2006 IFAD provided grants to India of around US\$ 1.7 million¹⁵. This does not include regional grants which India benefits substantially from.

Table 4: A Snapshot of IFAD Operations in India¹⁶

First IFAD loan-funded project: 1978
Total loans-funded projects approved: 23

Total amount of IFAD lending: US\$ 635 m

Lending terms: Highly Concessional
Counterpart funding: US\$ 822.2 million
Co-financing amount: US\$ 392.1 million
Total portfolio cost: US\$ 1.8 billion

Focus of operations: Tribal development, women's advancement, micro-

finance, institution building and livelihoods. DfID, the Netherlands, UNDP, WFP, and World

Bank

Number of ongoing projects:

Total grant amount: US\$ 1.7 million for ongoing and approved grants,

period 2000-2006. US\$ 18.3 million for large and small regional grants, period 2000 to 2007. US\$ 600,000 for in-loan grant to Rajasthan. US\$ 1.0 million to Maharashtra programme to be

approved in April 2009.

Past cooperating institutions: World Bank and UNOPS

Country office in New Delhi: Since 2001

Responsible IFAD division for Asia and the Pacific Region

operations:

Co-financiers:

Country programme managers (CPMs)

since 1978:

Current CPM: Responsible since beginning-2006

Principle Government interlocutor: Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of

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Finance

¹⁵ A grant of about US\$ 1.0 million is to be given the Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra's Distressed Districts Programme to be approved by the Executive Board in April 2009.

¹⁶ The total amounts also include data related to the Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra's Distressed Districts Programme to be approved in April 2009.

- 22. **Evolution of the country strategy**. Over the period 1978–1983, IFAD focused on supporting the irrigation sub-sector, funding 5 projects that aimed at enhancing agriculture production and productivity. IFAD's financial support was limited as compared to Government's own resources for large scale irrigation development, and the Fund soon realised that financing such large rural infrastructure projects was not the best vehicle for directly reducing rural poverty among smallholder farmers, poor rural women, tribal people, and other disadvantaged communities. Based on lessons learned from these five projects and as the Fund started to develop a comparative advantage in grassroots development through well-targeted projects and programmes, IFAD shifted its emphasis in India towards integrated rural development programmes starting with the Orissa Tribal Development Project in 1987. The latter was implemented in remote areas by providing community infrastructure, natural resources management through low cost interventions in small scale irrigation and soil conservation, addressed land tenure issues, promoted adaptive research and extension in traditional crops, made attempts to strengthen local institutions to improve service delivery, involved NGOs and so on. This strategy has largely driven the approach until the present.
- 23. The 2001 India COSOP articulated the strategy that evolved in the late 1980s and 1990s. The main objectives of the 2001 COSOP were to: (i) increase popular participation in implementing antipoverty initiatives; empower the poor and disadvantaged sections of society; build on opportunities offered by strengthening local bodies throughout the country and, in particular, devolving authority to the *gram sabha* (village assembly); (ii) strengthen grass-roots institutions that favour marginalized groups and integrate them into local self-government institutions so as to achieve synergies among economic advancement, social/infrastructural development and empowerment; (iii) increase access of the poor to resources such as land and water (including the forest lands and common-property resources); support appropriate services (extension, research, marketing) and human resource development; (iv) improve financial services to the poor by supporting microfinance initiatives; and (v) generate significant and sustainable income for the poor from non-farm enterprises, upheld by market linkages and rural connectivity.
- 24. The most recent COSOP for India was formulated by IFAD and the Government in December 2005, which reaffirmed the key strategic elements articulated in 2001 COSOP such as promoting participation, enhancing capacity building, and diversifying economic opportunities among targeted groups. In line with IFAD's regional strategy for Asia and the Pacific (2002), the COSOP of 2005 identified three major strategic thrusts. These are:
 - **capacity-building**, comprising two elements: (i) grass-roots institution building among marginalized groups; and (ii) institutional strengthening among support agencies;
 - promoting and protecting the access of marginalized groups to resources and ensuring the
 sustainable management of such resources. These include natural resources such as forest
 lands, highly degraded land, water and fisheries resources, but also financial resources and
 intangibles such as indigenous knowledge, technical packages, market information and
 innovation; and
 - **promoting the diversification of livelihood opportunities** within the on-farm and off-farm sectors as avenues out of poverty for the poor in areas of constrained access to resources and as risk mitigation measures.
- 25. To operationalize the above strategic thrusts, the country programme was to focus on two main areas: (i) microfinance and women's empowerment, mainly through support for a grass-roots institution-building process; and (ii) expansion in livelihood opportunities among tribal populations in the poorest agro-ecological zones. It was anticipated that a lending programme of US\$ 119 million would be realized in a period of five years from 2005-2009.
- 26. In terms of partnership, the 2005 COSOP highlights the importance of engaging with the country's state and district governments, civil society and private sector. At the central level, traditionally, the main interlocutor between the Government and IFAD has been the Department of

Economic Affairs (DEA) in the Ministry of Finance¹⁷. Among other things, DEA is responsible for participating in IFAD governing body meetings, leading loan negotiations, and providing Government guarantees to the loans provided by IFAD.

- 27. In addition to the DEA, IFAD-supported activities require the participation of central technical ministries (e.g., Ministries of Agriculture, Rural Development, Tribal Affairs, Women and Child Development, Panchayati Raj Development, the Planning Commission, Environment and Forests) as well as relevant State-level Ministries and line Agencies. The roles and responsibilities of central and state authorities in IFAD-supported country strategy formulation, policy dialogue, project design and execution, and monitoring, is an area that merits attention in the CPE.
- 28. The COSOP identifies the World Bank as a long standing partner, especially for replicating and upscaling successfully tested innovations through IFAD operations. The Department for International Development (DfID) and the World Food Programme (WFP) have traditionally been important IFAD partners in the country. DfID has co-financed IFAD-supported projects in several states, and WFP has housed IFAD's country presence (known as the India Country Office, IFAD), as well as co-financing some IFAD-supported operations in India. The Asian Development Bank has only recently resumed financing the rural sector in India through its support for rural infrastructure, and there has therefore been little scope for partnering with ADB in the last 10-15 years. The COSOP also mentions the successful partnership with the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) institutions, such as ICRISAT based in Hyderabad, in the development of pro-poor technologies for resource poor farmers.
- 29. The policy dialogue agenda was to be centred on the following areas: (i) refocusing on land reform in order to improve women's access to productive resources; (ii) enhancing women's access to credit and financial services by, inter alia, linking women with investment credit for agriculture through membership in cooperatives; and (iii) promoting participation in representative institutions by actively fostering women's representation in agricultural marketing federations, milk unions and farmer associations at all levels.

IV. Evaluation Objectives, Methodology and Process

- 30. **Objectives.** The CPE will have two main objectives. These are to: (i) assess the performance and impact of IFAD operations; and (ii) generate a series of findings and recommendations that will serve as building blocks for the formulation of the forthcoming COSOP by IFAD and the Government.
- 31. **Methodology.** The objectives of the CPE will be achieved by analysing three mutually reinforcing pillars in the IFAD-Government partnership. These include assessing the performance of the: (i) project portfolio; (ii) non-lending activities (knowledge management, policy dialogue and partnership building); and (iii) COSOP itself. The performance in each of these areas will be rated on a scale of 1 to 6 (with 1 being the lowest score, and 6 the highest). While these will be viewed individually, the synergies between the components will also be looked at, for example, to what extent IFAD's knowledge management activities supported its project activities and whether taken together these reflected the approach outlined in the COSOP. Based on this assessment and the aforementioned three ratings, the CPE will generate an *overall achievement* rating for the IFAD-government partnership. The sections below provide further details of how each of the assessments will be conducted by the CPE. The proposed evaluation framework is contained in Appendix 1. The evaluation framework describes the main questions the CPE will answer, including the sources of data and information that will be tapped to generate the required responses.

¹⁷ In fact, the Additional Secretary of DEA has traditionally been India's Executive Director to IFAD, whereas the Minister of Finance is the Governor to the Fund.

- 32. With regard to assessing the <u>performance of the project portfolio</u>, OE will apply its standard evaluation methodology for each project included as part of the CPE cohort (see paragraph 33). This includes using the internationally-recognised evaluation criteria of:
 - Relevance: were the project's objectives consistent with the India COSOP and the Government's main policies for agriculture and rural development, as well as the needs of the poor. Moreover, under relevance, for each project the evaluation will assess whether the correct strategy was chosen to achieve project objectives. For example, the evaluation will assess the appropriateness of covering multiple states under one project/loan, and the targeting approach used in IFAD-funded projects and its consistency with the GOI's so-called "saturation approach" aimed at covering all poor families.
 - Effectiveness: the main question will be to assess whether projects have achieved their development objectives.
 - Efficiency: the aim will be to assess how economically were inputs converted into outputs/results. For example, the evaluation will assess the costs of constructing one kilometre of road, and compare the same with average costs incurred by the government or other donors;
 - Rural poverty impact: complementing the analysis of project effectiveness, five domains on which IFAD-funded projects are likely to have an impact will be addressed: household income and assets, human and social capital and empowerment, food security and agricultural productivity, natural resources and the environment, and institutions and policies.
 - Sustainability: are the benefits of the project likely to continue after the closing date and completion of IFAD assistance? Among other issues, the CPE will assess the role IFAD has played in improving peoples organisations in promoting sustainability.
 - Innovations/replication/upscaling: did the project contain innovative features; is it replicable and, if so, what efforts have been undertaken to replicate it; can it be scaled up and if so, are there plans to do this and by whom ¹⁸.
 - Performance of partners will entail evaluating the performance of IFAD, the government, the co-operating institutions, other major donors involved in the country programme, NGOs, and private sector. Among other issues, the evaluation will assess the efforts made by the Government (and IFAD) in ensuring continuity and quality of project staff, as well as the selection process for determining the key implementing partners such as NGOs and others. Moreover, the role and cost-effectiveness of the India Country Office will be reviewed, including the opportunities and challenges for the future.
- 33. In addition to the above criteria, special attention will be devoted to assessing and reporting on the results in promoting gender equity and women's empowerment. Likewise, the CPE will evaluate ways and means to enhance performance of the delivery system for impact achievement, especially by focusing on project management and related human resource issues, monitoring and evaluation, supervision and implementation support. On another issue, security and conflict can have significant implications on the country programme, among other issues, for project design and execution. In this regard, the CPE will attempt to assess the opportunities and challenges of working in such geographic areas. The role grants have played in strengthening the country programme will be evaluated, including the synergies between grant funded and loan-financed activities.
- 34. Ratings will be provided for individual projects/programmes, and on that basis, a rating for the performance of the overall project portfolio will be derived. The performance of the portfolio will be benchmarked with the performance of IFAD operations in the Asia and Pacific region and globally, as well as with the results of other donors working in agriculture and rural development in India (subject to availability of comparable data).

¹⁸ For example, the evaluation will review the recent attempts in Rajasthan and Maharastra to innovate in project design with the objective of enhancing ownership by all project stakeholders and reducing the gap between design and implementation.

- 35. Given the resource and time available for the CPE, OE does not intend to study all 23 projects funded by IFAD in India. However, considering this is the first time that a wide ranging evaluation of strategic nature is being undertaken by IFAD in India, it is proposed that 18 out of the 23 projects funded be included in the CPE cohort of projects to be analysed. The oldest project in the cohort will be the Orissa Tribal Development Project, approved in 1987 and evaluated by OE in 1998/9. This implies that the CPE will cover more or less 20 years (1987-2007) of IFAD-Government cooperation in India. The complete list of projects to be evaluated is presented in Appendix 4. Given that some projects included in the cohort have already been evaluated by OE and some have only recently become effective or have yet to become effective, all projects will not be assessed in the same manner or in the same depth. The below paragraph provides an indication of how the 18 selected projects will be treated by the CPE:
 - (a) The three projects (Orissa Tribal Development Project, Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project, and Andhra Pradesh Tribal Development Project) previously evaluated will be rated by the CPE across all evaluation criteria used currently by OE. This will be done by an in-depth review of the extensive evaluative evidence already available at IFAD. This is necessary as these three project evaluations were conducted in the late 1990s/early 2000s, before the introduction of the standard project evaluation methodology by OE.
 - (b) Seven of the most recent projects, namely Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra's Distressed Districts Programme, Mitigating Poverty in Western Rajasthan Project, Women's Empowerment and Livelihoods Programme in the Mid-Gangetic Plains, Tejaswini Rural Women's Empowerment Programme, Post-Tsunami Sustainable Livelihoods Programme for the Coastal Communities of Tamil Nadu, Livelihoods Improvement Project in the Himalayas, and the Orissa Tribal Empowerment and Livelihoods Programme will mainly be assessed for relevance. The main purpose of this assessment is to determine the extent to which IFAD is learning from the past experiences and integrating lessons learned into new operations. However, on a case by case basis (especially for the older of these five projects), the CPE may attempt to make an assessment of other evaluation criteria as well (such as innovations/replication/upscaling, and the performance of partners).
 - (c) The remaining eight projects will be assessed comprehensively across all OE evaluation criteria. These projects are the Maharashtra Rural Credit Project, Andhra Pradesh Participatory Tribal Development Project, Mewat Area Development Project, Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project, Livelihood Security Project for Earthquake-Affected Rural Households in Gujarat, North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project for Upland Areas, Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Programme, and the National Microfinance Support Programme. The North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project for Upland Areas was evaluated by OE in 2004/5, and the corresponding evaluation report will form the main basis for the project's assessment. Two projects (the Jharkhand- Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Project and the Mewat Area Development Project) will be subject to special performance and impact assessments before the main CPE mission. The purpose of these assessments is to collect primary data from the field, in order to further strengthen the quantitative nature of the CPE.
- 36. The main CPE mission plans to travel to visit 8 to 10 States, providing an opportunity to visit 12 to 14 projects in the field since more than one project has been financed in some States.
- 37. With regard to <u>non-lending activities</u>, this will specifically entail an assessment of IFAD and Government's combined efforts in promoting policy dialogue, partnership strengthening (e.g., with Government, UN agencies, IFIs, private sector, NGOs, and civil society organisations) and knowledge management. The CPE will review the synergies between lending and non-lending activities. For

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¹⁹ The first five projects supported by IFAD were all approved in or before 1983 and completed by early 1990. They were undertaken in close association with the World Bank and two were basically World Bank projects with small amounts of IFAD co-financing. Evaluating these projects would add considerable cost and no obvious value to the current exercise.

example, it will assess knowledge management activities promoted, and whether they have provided the required basis to inform policy dialogue with the Government and others on specific operational issues. In evaluating non-lending service performance, just as in the case of the project portfolio assessment, the CPE will also review the progress made in furthering the main elements of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. A final assessment and rating for non-lending activities will be generated by the CPE team.

- 38. The assessment of the <u>performance of the COSOP</u> is central to the CPE. This will include assessing the COSOP across the relevance and effectiveness criteria in seven specific areas: (i) strategic objectives, (ii) geographic priority, (iii) sub-sector focus, (iv) main partner institutions, (v) targeting approach used, including emphasis on selected social groups, (vi) mix of instruments in the country programme (loans, grants and non-lending activities), and (vii) the provisions for country programme and COSOP management. In assessing the performance of the COSOP along the above-mentioned criteria, the CPE will analyse the priorities and experiences of other donors in India. An overall rating for the performance of the COSOP will be provided by the CPE, taking into account the assessments of relevance and effectiveness.
- 39. **Process.** The CPE entails five phases. These are: (i) preparation, discussion and completion of the Approach Paper. (ii) desk work phase; (iii) country work phase; (iv) report writing; and (v) communication activities.
- 40. The <u>desk work phase</u> includes the preparation of short desk review notes on the projects included in the CPE. Each desk review note will follow a standard format developed by OE. In addition, a separate desk review note will be prepared on non-lending activities. All desk review notes will be used to prepare a consolidated CPE desk review report, to be shared for comments first with PI and thereafter with the Government. This process will be completed before launching of the main CPE mission.
- 41. In addition, during the desk work phase, PI and the Government will be asked to prepare their respective self assessments. The self assessment would cover the questions contained in the CPE framework shown in Appendix 1. A discussion on the PI self assessment would be held at headquarters before the CPE mission. Moreover, a dedicated discussion with the government on their self assessment would take place at the outset of the CPE mission. Among other issues, the preparatory mission (see next paragraph) will provide OE with the opportunity to brief Government on the overall objectives and approach to the self assessment.
- 42. The <u>country work phase</u> entails various activities including a preparatory mission²⁰ to India to discuss the approach paper with the Government and other stakeholders²¹, undertaking of special performance and impact assessments in two IFAD-funded projects (see paragraph 33 (c))²², and the main CPE mission composed of multi-disciplinary expertise to ensure an appropriate evaluation of the IFAD-Government co-operation. The main mission will spend around one month in the country. It will hold discussions in Delhi, travel to various states for consultation with key partners, and visit selected IFAD-supported projects and programmes to see activities on the ground and hold discussions with beneficiaries. At the end of the main CPE mission, the evaluation team will prepare an aide memoire and present it to the Government, PI and other key partners in New Delhi in a wrap up meeting, which will also be attended by the IFAD Country Programme Manager for India. The aide memoire will capture the main findings from the CPE's field work.

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²⁰ A pre-preparatory mission to India was undertaken by OE in August 2008, to discuss the broad objectives and scope of the CPE, as well as to hear the views and priorities of the Government for the evaluation.

This will also provide an opportunity to brief the government on the Evaluation Policy, OE's CPE methodology, and the requirements for the self assessment.

²² This task will be undertaken by the Schumacher Centre based in New Delhi.

- 43. The <u>CPE report writing phase</u> will follow the country work phase. During this phase, the CPE team will prepare their independent evaluation report, based on the data collected throughout the evaluation process. The report will be exposed to a rigorous internal peer review within OE²³. Thereafter, it will be shared with PI for comments. Following the incorporation of PI's comments, the report will be sent to the Government and other partners (e.g., DfID and WFP) for their feedback. A dedicated mission will be organised by OE to India to discuss with the Government their comments. In addition to the aforementioned, OE will hire Mr Hans Binswanger as Senior Independent Adviser for the India CPE. He will be responsible for reviewing the draft approach paper and final report and comment on the overall quality of the evaluation.
- 44. The final phase of the evaluation, <u>communication</u>, will entail a range of activities to ensure timely and effectively outreach of the findings, lessons learned and recommendations from the CPE see section VIII for more details.

V. The Core Learning Partnership

- 45. The core learning partnership (CLP) consists of the main users of the evaluation, and as per the Evaluation Policy, it is mandated to provide guidance to OE at critical stages in the evaluation process. Furthermore, by ensuring that the evaluation asks relevant questions, and by becoming involved in it from an early stage in the process, the CLP also plays a role in developing ownership of the evaluation and in facilitating the utilization of evaluation recommendations and learning. The LP will be involved, in particular, in:
 - (a) reviewing and commenting on the draft Approach Paper;
 - (b) reviewing and commenting on the draft CPE report;
 - (c) reviewing and commenting on the draft Issues Paper to be discussed at the India CPE National Round Table Workshop (see section VIII); and
 - (d) participating in the above-mentioned workshop, which will provide an opportunity to discuss the main findings, conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation.
- 46. The following persons are proposed as part of the CLP for the India CPE. The composition of the CLP will be finalised following the CPE preparatory mission in early 2009.

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²³ This will include the Director of OE and two other evaluation officers.

- (a) Professor M.S. Swaminathan, Member Parliament, India
- (b) Secretary, Planning Commission of India
- (c) Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi
- (d) Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi
- (e) Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance
- (f) Minister (Agriculture), Embassy of India, Rome
- (g) Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance
- (h) Director, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance
- (i) Mr Al Fernandez, Myrada (non-governmental organisation)
- (i) Ms Ranjani Murthy, Civil society representative
- (i) Mr Luciano Lavizzari, Director OE
- (k) Mr Thomas Elhaut, Director of PI
- (1) Mr Mattia Prayer Galletti, CPM India
- (m) Directors of all IFAD-funded ongoing projects
- (n) Representatives of DfID, WFP, and World Bank
- (o) Mr Ashwani Muthoo, Senior Evaluation Officer, OE

VI. The Agreement at Completion Point

47. As per the IFAD Evaluation Policy, each OE evaluation is concluded with an Agreement at Completion Point (ACP). The latter is a short document which captures the main findings and recommendations contained in the CPE report that IFAD and the Government agree to adopt and implement within specific timeframes. The ACP will be prepared at the end of the CPE process, and benefit from the comments of the participants of the CPE national roundtable workshop (see section VIII). Once finalised, the ACP will be signed by the Government of India (represented by the Additional Secretary of the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance) and IFAD (represented by the Assistant President of the Programme Management Department). The ACP will be included as an integral part of the final published version of the CPE report.

VII. Evaluation Team

48. The Director of OE (Mr Luciano Lavizzari) will have the overall responsibility for the India CPE. He has designated Mr Ashwani Muthoo, Senior Evaluation Officer in OE as the lead evaluator for the purpose. Mr Muthoo will be supported by other OE staff, including Mr Mark Keating, Evaluation Officer²⁴, Mr Jicheng Zhang, Evaluation Research Analyst, Ms Laura Gagliardone, Evaluation Research Analyst, and Ms Kendra White, Evaluation Assistant. The CPE consultants' team will be led by Mr. Basil Kavalsky (South Africa), economist. He will supported by specialists in the following fields: (i) Mr. D.K. Giri (India), tribal affairs, institutional framework and decentralization; (ii) Mr Michael Macklin (United Kingdom), agriculture and natural resources management; (iii) Mr Sarath Mananwatte (Sri Lanka), project management, supervision and implementation support, country presence, and M&E; (iv) Ms Meera Mitra (India), community development, social and gender issues and (v) Mr Kotaiah Pamidh (India), micro-finance.

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²⁴ Mr Keating will only provide inputs during the design phase.

VIII. Communication and Dissemination

- 49. A CPE national roundtable workshop will be organised in New Delhi by OE in close collaboration with the Government of India and PI towards the end of the evaluation process. This workshop, which will focus on learning, will allow multiple stakeholders to exchange views on key evaluation issues and provide inputs for the preparation of the evaluation's ACP. The Assistant President of IFAD's Programme Management Department, Directors OE and PI, and other IFAD staff are expected to take part in the workshop.
- 50. The published final CPE report will thereafter be widely distributed in hard copies and posted on IFAD's website. An evaluation Profile and Insight²⁵ will be prepared on the India CPE, and distributed together with the final evaluation report. The CPE report, Profile and Insight will also be disseminated through selected electronic networks such as the United Nations Evaluation Network (UNEVAL). The main text of the CPE report should not exceed 50 pages, written in English.
- 51. It is important to note that written comments of the GOI and PI on key CPE deliverables will be treated with utmost consideration by OE, in line with the provisions contained in the IFAD Evaluation Policy. This requires OE to: (i) rectify any factual inaccuracies that may be present in the CPE report; and (ii) carefully assess the comments of partners on substantive issues, and decide whether or not they should be included in the report. Comments of a substantive nature that, according to OE, would not lead to changes in the evaluation's overall findings may be flagged in the main CPE report as dissenting views in the form of footnote(s), clearly indicating the issue at hand and source of comment. Finally, OE will prepare and share an "audit trail" of how it has treated the comments of the GOI and PI in finalising the CPE report.

²⁵ The Profile is a 800 word brochure capturing the main findings and recommendations from the CPE. The Insight will focus on one key learning issue emerging from the CPE, with the intention of raising further attention

and debate around the topic among development practitioners.

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IX. Evaluation Roadmap

52. The <u>provisional</u> timetable for the CPE is given below. It is utmost important the PI and the Government carefully review the various activities and proposed timeframes, given that their inputs and participation will be essential at key steps to ensure the success of the CPE.

	Date	Activity
2008	Dec 15	Share draft approach paper with PI
2009	Jan 9 Jan 12 Jan 30	Comments from PI on draft approach paper Share draft approach paper with GOI Comments of the GOI on the draft approach paper
	Jan 19 – Apr 13	CPE desk review phase: preparation of desk review notes, consolidation of the CPE desk review report, dedicated impact and performance assessment of two projects
	Feb 9 - 14 Feb 13	Preparatory CPE mission to India CPE inception workshop in New Delhi
	Feb 27	Finalize approach paper
	Feb 16 - Apr 13	Self assessments by PI and GOI
	Apr 13 - May 15	CPE main mission
	May 11 - 16	CPE wrap-up meeting with OE and PI to discuss aide memoire with GOI and other partners in New Delhi
	Jun 13	Draft CPE report to OE
	Jun 15 - Jul 3	OE internal peer review process
	Jul 10	Draft report to PI
	Jul 31	PI comments to OE on draft CPE
	Aug 7	OE to share revised draft report with GOI for comments, with copy to PI (together with audit trail to PI)
	Sep 4	GOI to provide comments to OE
	Sep 14 - 19	OE to undertake mission to India to discuss GOI comments and make preparatory arrangements for CPE national roundtable workshop
	Sep 26	Finalise evaluation report and share with all partners (prepare and share with GOI audit trail on their comments)
	Oct 26 - 31	CPE national roundtable workshop*
	Nov	Finalise CPE agreement at completion point and publish report, profile and insight

^{*} The dates of the workshop still have to be agreed with the Government of India

Appendix 1: India CPE (Evaluation) Framework²⁶ (Page 1 of 9)

	(Page 1 of 9)	Main gaurage of data and
	Key Questions	Main sources of data and
		information
Portfolio Performance	 Project Relevance Are project objectives realistic and consistent with India's national agriculture and rural development strategies and policies, the COSOP and relevant IFAD sector and sub sector policies, as well as the needs of the rural poor? Was the project design (including synergies among activities and services, financial allocations, project management and execution, supervision and implementation support, and monitoring and evaluation arrangements) appropriate for achieving the project's core objectives? How coherent was the project in terms of its fit with the policies, programmes and projects undertaken by the Government and other development partners in India? Was the project design participatory in the sense that it took into consideration the inputs and needs of key stakeholders, including the Government, executing agencies, co-financiers and the expected beneficiaries and their grassroots organizations? Did the project benefit from available knowledge (for example, the experience of other similar projects in the area or in the country) during its design and implementation? Did project objectives remain relevant over the period of time required for implementation? In the event of significant changes in the project context or in IFAD policies, has design been retrofitted? What are the main factors that contributed to a positive or less positive assessment of relevance? 	Government of India Plans; IFAD policy statements and India COSOPS. Interviews with IFAD managers, GOI and project officials.
	• To what extent have the objectives of the project and its components been attained both in quantitative and in qualitative terms? • If the project is not yet complete, is it likely that so far unattained objectives may be accomplished in full/in part before its closure? • What factors in project design and implementation account for the estimated results in terms of effectiveness? • In particular, what changes in the overall context (e.g., policy framework, political situation, institutional set-up, economic shocks, civil unrest, etc.) have affected or are likely to affect project implementation and overall results? Project Efficiency • What are the costs of investments to develop specific project outputs (e.g., what is the cost of constructing one kilometre of rural road)? The quality of works/supplies needs to be fully (and explicitly) recognized for such input/output comparisons. • Is the cost ratio of inputs to outputs comparable to local, national or regional benchmarks? • What are the loan costs per beneficiary (both at the time of appraisal and at the time of evaluation) and how do they compare to other IFAD-funded operations (or those of other donors) in the same country and/or other countries?	Evaluations of completed projects, Project Completion Reports, Mid-term reviews and supervision reports. Surveys of project beneficiaries. Evaluations of completed projects, Project Completion Reports, Mid-term reviews and supervision reports. Surveys of project beneficiaries. Interviews with project managers.

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²⁶ The questions in the Appendix are essentially a generic list developed for all IFAD CPEs. While they are not all equally relevant in the India case they provide a useful ex ante check-list and have therefore been included. In addition a number of specific issues that are of concern in the India context have been added to the framework.

Appendix 1: India CPE (Evaluation) Framework (Page 2 of 9)

	Key Questions	Main sources of data and
1		information
Portfolio Performance	 How does the economic rate of return at evaluation compare with project design? What are the administrative costs per beneficiary and how do they compare to other IFAD-funded operations (or those of other donors) in India of other countries, especially in South Asian Countries? A number of IFAD projects have had substantial delays in effectiveness? What has been the cause of these delays and how costly have these delays been? By how much was the original closing date extended, and what were the additional administrative costs that were incurred during the extension period? What factors helped account for project efficiency performance? 	
	Rural Poverty Impact I. Household income and assets	Evaluations of completed projects, Project Completion
	 Did the composition and level of household incomes change (more income sources, more diversification, higher income)? What changes are apparent in intra-household incomes and assets? 	Reports, Mid-term reviews and supervision reports. Surveys of
	 Did farm households' physical assets change (farmland, water, livestock, trees, equipment, etc.)? Did other household assets change (houses/pucca houses, bicycles, radios, television sets, telephones, etc.)? Did households' financial assets change (savings, debt, borrowing, insurance)? 	project beneficiaries. Interviews with beneficiaries and project
	Were the rural poor able to access financial markets more easily?Did the rural poor have better access to input and output markets?	managers.
	• Do the better health and education promoted by the programme allow the rural poor to obtain higher incomes and more assets?	
	II. Human and social capital and empowermentDid rural people's organizations and grassroots institutions (such as SHGs, water user groups) change?	
	• Were the SHGs established under the project effective in empowering women in the community and promoting gender equity?	
	 Are changes in the social cohesion and local self-help capacities of rural communities visible? To what extent did the project empower the rural poor vis-à-vis development actors and local and national public authorities? Do they play more effective roles in decision-making? Did the devolution process facilitated by the project? Were the rural poor empowered to gain better access to the information needed for their livelihoods? Did the rural poor gain access to better health and education facilities? 	
	• Two important social areas - youth and migration – have not figured prominently in IFAD's programme in India. Should there have been a greater effort to integrate these issues into the programme?	
	 III. Food security and agricultural productivity Did cropping intensity change? Was there an improvement in land productivity and, if so, to what extent? Did the returns to labour change? How many tribal households have transferred from subsistent shifting cultivation to economic agricultural activities? 	
	• Did children's nutritional status change (e.g. stunting, wasting, underweight)?	
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Appendix 1: India CPE (Evaluation) Framework (Page 3 of 9)

	Key Questions	Main sources of data and information
Portfolio Performance	 Did household food security change? To what extent did the rural poor improve their access to input and output markets that could help them enhance their productivity and access to food? 	
	 IV. Natural resources and the environment Did the status of the natural resources base change (land, water, forest, pasture, fish stocks, etc.)? In tribal development, how many shifting cultivation land were treated with sound conservation measures? Did local communities' access to natural resources change (in general and specifically for the poor)? Has the degree of environmental vulnerability changed (e.g., exposure to pollutants, climate change effects, volatility in resources, potential natural disasters)? Have the projects facilitated the implementation of policies and legislation such as those relating to the access of the poor to natural resources, adaptation to climate change, and the protection of biodiversity? 	
	 V. Institutions and policies Were there any changes in rural financial institutions (e.g., in facilitating access for the rural poor)? How did public institutions and service delivery for the rural poor change? What improvements were discernable in local governance, including the capacity and role of government departments, NGOs, the private sector, and elected bodies and officials? Were there any changes in national/sectoral policies affecting the rural poor? Did the regulatory framework change insofar as its impact on the rural poor? Did market structures and other institutional factors affecting poor producers' access to markets change? Note: For each domain, the evaluation should describe the impact achieved and also the underlying reasons (i.e., the "why" factor) behind the observed or expected changes. 	
	 Project Sustainability Was a specific <i>exit strategy</i> or approach prepared and agreed upon by key partners to ensure post project sustainability? What are the chances that benefits generated by the project will continue after project closure, and what factors militate in favour of or against maintaining benefits? What is the likely resilience of economic activities to shocks or progressive exposure to competition and reduction of subsidies? How robust are the institutions that have been established under IFAD projects, and are they likely to be able to ensure the continuation of benefits to the rural poor? Is there a clear indication of government commitment after the loan closing date, for example, in terms of provision of funds for selected activities, human resources availability, continuity of pro-poor policies and participatory development approaches, and institutional support? Did the IFAD project design anticipate that such support would be needed after loan closure? 	Visits to sites of completed projects and interviews with beneficiaries and project managers. In selected cases consideration will be given to commissioning new surveys.

Appendix 1: India CPE (Evaluation) Framework (Page 4 of 9)

	Key Questions	Main source of data and
	Tity Questions	information
Portfolio Performance	 Do project activities benefit from the engagement, participation and ownership of local communities, grassroots organizations, and the rural poor? Did the NGOs involved continue their support to village organizations after project closure? Are adopted approaches technically viable? Do project users have access to adequate training for maintenance and to spare parts and repairs? Are the ecosystem and environmental resources (e.g. fresh water availability, soil fertility, vegetative cover) likely to contribute to project benefits or is there a depletion process taking place? IFAD is one of the few agencies that has operated in conflict situations in India. Are there lessons from IFAD's involvement in such situations? 	
	 Innovations, Replication and Scaling up What are the characteristics of innovation(s) promoted by the project or programme? Are the innovations consistent with the IFAD definition of this concept? How did the innovation originate (e.g., through the beneficiaries, Government of India, IFAD, NGOs, research institution, etc) and was it adapted in any particular way during project/programme design? Are the actions in question truly innovative or are they well-established elsewhere but new to the country or project area? Were successfully promoted innovations documented and shared? Were other specific activities (e.g., workshops, exchange visits, etc.) undertaken to disseminate the innovative experiences? Have these innovations been replicated and scaled up and, if so, by whom? If not, what are the realistic prospects that they can and will be replicated and scaled up by the Government, other donors and/or the private sector? 	Interviews with GOI and State and Local Governments. In depth reviews of project documents. Discussions with IFAD managers.
	Performance of Partners	
	 Did IFAD mobilize adequate technical expertise in the project design? Was the design process participatory (with national and local agencies, grassroots organizations) and did it promote ownership by the borrower? Were specific efforts made to incorporate the lessons and recommendations from previous independent evaluations in project design and implementation? Did IFAD adequately integrate comments made by its quality enhancement and quality assurance processes? Did IFAD (and the Government) take the initiative to suitably modify project design (if required) during implementation in response to any major changes in the context, especially during the MTR? What was the performance of IFAD in projects that are under direct supervision and implementation support? In the case of the supervision of a cooperating institution, how effective was IFAD in working with the institution to carry out the mandated task? In both cases, has IFAD exercised its developmental and fiduciary responsibilities, including compliance with loan and grant agreements? 	Interviews with partner agencies, NGOs and IFAD managers.

Appendix 1: India CPE (Evaluation) Framework (Page 5 of 9)

	Key Questions	Main sources of data
	Tiej Questions	and information
Portfolio Performance	•Was prompt action taken to ensure the timely implementation of recommendations stemming from the supervision and implementation support missions, including the MTR? •Did IFAD undertake the necessary follow-up to resolve any implementation bottlenecks? •Where applicable, what is the role and performance of IFAD's country presence team in India (including proxy country presence arrangements)? Did IFAD headquarters provide the necessary support to its country presence team, for example, in terms of resources, follow-up and guidance, adequate delegation of authority, and so on? •Has IFAD made proactive efforts to be engaged in policy dialogue activities at different levels in order to ensure, inter alia, the replication and scaling up of pro-poor innovations? •Has IFAD been active in creating an effective partnership and maintaining coordination among key partners to ensure the achievement of project objectives, including the replication and scaling up of pro-poor innovations? •Has IFAD, together with the Government, contributed to planning an exit strategy? Government of India •Has the Government assumed ownership and responsibility for the project? Judging by its actions and policies, has the Government, including national, state and local governments, been fully supportive of project goals? •Has adequate staffing and project management been assured? Have appropriate levels of counterpart funding been provided on time? •Has project management discharged its functions adequately, and has the Government provided policy guidance to project management staff when required? •Did the Government ensure suitable coordination of the various departments involved in execution? •Has auditing been undertaken in a timely manner and have reports been submitted as required? •Did the Government (and IFAD) take the initiative to suitably modify the project design (if required) during implementation in response to any major changes in the context? •Was prompt action taken to ensure the timely implementation of recommen	Interviews with GOI officials and IFAD managers.

Appendix 1: India CPE (Evaluation) Framework (Page 6 of 9)

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	Key Questions	Main sources of data		
		and information		
Portfolio	Cooperating Institution	Interviews with representatives		
Performance	 Should there have been greater involvement of partners such as the UN agencies and other development agencies in the design, financing and implementation of the programme? Has the supervision and implementation support programme been properly managed (frequency, composition, continuity)? Has the cooperating institution complied with loan covenants? Has the cooperating institution been effective in financial management? Has the cooperating institution sought to monitor project impacts and IFAD concerns (e.g., targeting, participation, empowerment of the poor and gender aspects)? Have implementation problems been highlighted and appropriate remedies suggested? Have the suggestions and related actions been followed in the next supervisions? Has the cooperating institution promoted or encouraged self-assessment and learning processes? Has the supervision process enhanced implementation and poverty impacts? Has the cooperating institution been responsive to requests and advice from IFAD when carrying out its supervision and project implementation responsibilities? Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and NGOs How effectively have NGOs fulfilled their contractual service agreements? Have NGOs/CBOs acted to strengthen the capacities of rural poor organizations? Did NGOs/CBOs contribute to the sustainability of project activities? 	of cooperating institutions. Project Completion Reports, Mid-term Reviews and evaluations of completed projects.		
Non-lending activities	• Are policy dialogue, partnership-building, and knowledge management objectives clearly outlined in the COSOP? Are they in line with the needs of the poor and are they consistent with the strategic objectives of the COSOP and lending operations, as well as with the Government's priorities? • Do the selected non-lending activities provide sufficient support for country programme objectives as per COSOP, as well as the loan portfolio in the country? • Were resources earmarked for non-lending activities and explicitly outlined in the COSOP (e.g., in the form of grants and/or the IFAD administrative budget)? • Was the selected mix of policy dialogue, partnership-building and knowledge management appropriate and relevant? • Were the advisory services delivered by other partners taken into account in selecting the focus of non-lending work?	Review of IFAD documentation on non-lending activites. Discussions with counterparts responsible for implementing these activities.		

Appendix 1: India CPE (Evaluation) Framework (Page 7 of 9)

	Key Questions	Main sources of data and information
Non-lending activities	• Describe the extent to which non-lending activities achieved their objectives if they were explicitly articulated. • How did non-lending activities contribute to the replication and scaling up of innovation promoted by IFAD? • Has IFAD systematically engaged in and contributed to the deliberations of donor working groups related to agriculture, food issues and rural development? • How much progress has been made as a result of non-lending activities in furthering the application of the provisions contained in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness in terms of ownership, alignment, donor coordination and harmonization, managing for results and mutual accountability? • With regard to knowledge management, was the COSOP's strategic objectives and project design and implementation properly informed by IFAD experiences in India and elsewhere? • Were the most appropriate approaches deployed to achieve the desired results? • What have been the roles of the IFAD country representative, where applicable, and of the main government institutions in making non-lending services effective? • Could alternative instruments and activities be implemented to reduce costs in non-lending activities? • What were the costs of the different types of non-lending activities and how do they compare to IFAD benchmarks (where available)? • Was the administrative burden on country officials minimized?	

Appendix 1: India CPE (Evaluation) Framework (Page 8 of 9)

	Key Questions	Main sources of data				
	Ticy Questions	and information				
COCOD	n i	and information				
COSOP	Relevance	Davison of COSOD				
Performance	Assessment of the alignment of strategic objectives • Were the objectives set out in the COSOP consistent with the overarching objectives of the prevailing IFAD strategic framework	Review of COSOP. Interviews with GOI and				
	and relevant corporate policies?	IFAD managers.				
	• Were the strategic objectives identified in the COSOP consistent with the Government's strategies and policies, such as the PRSP	If AD managers.				
	and agricultural sector framework, for agriculture and rural development as well as economic and social development?					
	• Were the strategic objectives clearly defined and suitable for achieving sustainable rural poverty reduction? Was the basic					
	approach adopted by IFAD, focused on support for women and socially excluded groups, too narrowly defined in terms of a broad					
	strategy for rural poverty reduction? Should there have been an attempt to encompass issues such as youth, migration and					
	addressing conflict in the rural areas?					
	• Did the poverty analysis (economic and sector work) provide an adequate basis for the development of overall strategy, including					
	the selection of the main elements of the COSOP (refer to Evaluation Manual)?					
	• Are the strategic objectives aligned with the priorities of other bilateral and multilateral donors working in agriculture and rural					
	development in the same country? If other donors pursued other priorities, should they have been convinced to align with IFAD?					
	Evaluating the coherence of the main elements of the COSOP					
	• Did the strategy succinctly articulate IFAD's comparative advantage and competencies in the country (i.e., country positioning)?					
	• Were the target groups clearly identified in terms of the nature of the assistance that IFAD would provide?					
	• Did IFAD select the most appropriate subsectors for investments?					
	• Were the geographic priorities defined in the strategy consistent with the definition of the target groups?					
	• Were the main partner institutions (e.g., for project execution, supervision and implementation support, community mobilization,					
	co-financing) the correct ones for meeting the country strategy objectives?					
	• Were specific objectives defined and resources allocated for non-lending activities, including policy dialogue, partnership-building					
	and knowledge management?					
	• Were appropriate synergies foreseen within and among investment activities and between lending and non-lending activities? That					
	is, did IFAD's overall assistance constitute a coherent country programme? For example, in terms of supervision and implementation					
	support, the roles of the country programme management team and country presence arrangements. Country positioning is a measure of how well the organization responded to (or even anticipated) the evolving development challenges and priorities of the					
	Government, built on the organization's comparative advantages, and designed its country strategies and programmes in a manner					
	that took into consideration the support available from other development partners.					
	• Did IFAD assess the extent to which the global policy environment (trade, migration, etc.) and exogenous factors (e.g., climate					
	change, exposure to natural disasters) should guide the choice of lending and non-lending instruments and the priorities for IFAD					
	engagement through lending and non-lending services?					
L	engagement anough foliating and non-foliating services.					

Appendix 1: India CPE (Evaluation) Framework (Page 9 of 9)

	Key Questions	Main sources of data
	ricy Questions	and information
COSOP	Country programme management and COSOP management	
Performance	• Did the Fund and Government of India select appropriate supervision and implementation support arrangements?	
	• How did country presence support the COSOP strategic objectives? Was the most suitable country presence arrangement established in the country?	
	• Were lessons learned and recommendations set forth in independent evaluations properly reflected in the country strategy?	
	• Were sufficient administrative and human resources made available for the implementation of the country strategy by both IFAD and the Government?	
	• Did the CPM and country presence officer have appropriate skills and competencies to promote the policy dialogue and partnership-building objectives identified in the COSOP?	
	• What is the quality of the COSOP results management framework, project status reports, and aggregated RIMS reports and country programme sheets? Were Management actions in connection with this information system appropriate?	
	• Was the COSOP monitoring and evaluation performed properly? Were annual country programme reviews undertaken in a timely manner and were the corresponding recommendations implemented within the required time frames?	
	• As the COSOP is dynamic, was it modified to reflect changes at the country level?	
	• Did the CPMT concept function appropriately and make the required contribution to country programme management?	
	<u>Effectiveness</u>	
	• To what extent were the main strategic objectives included in the COSOP achieved?	
	• If a new COSOP is not yet foreseen, is it likely that so far unattained objectives may be achieved in full or in part?	
	• What changes in the context have influenced or are likely to influence the fulfilment of the strategic objectives? Was the	
	COSOP properly adapted mid-course to reflect changes in the context?	
	• Did the Fund devote sufficient attention and resources to promoting effectiveness?	

Appendix 2: Bibliography and References (Page 1 of 4)

Government of India policies and strategies

Eleventh Five Year Plan 2007-12, Planning Commission, 2008

National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP) (Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana – RKVY), Ministry of Agriculture, 2007

National Food Security Mission, Ministry of Agriculture, 2007

National Policy for Farmers, Ministry of Agriculture, 2007

Rural Roads Development Plan - Vision 2025, Ministry of Rural Development, 2007

Bharat Nirman: A time-bound plan for rural infrastructure by the Government of India in partnership with State Governments and Panchayat Raj Institutions 2005-2009, Ministry of Rural Development, 2005

National Rural Employment Guarantee Act-2005, Ministry of Rural Development, 2005

National Common Minimum Programme of the Government of India, Prime Minister's Office, 2004

National Water Policy, Ministry of Water Resources, 2002

The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, Ministry of Law and Justice, 1989

National Forest Policy, Ministry of Environment and Forests, 1988

IFAD documents

Evaluations

Field Presence Pilot Programme, 2007 IFAD's Regional Strategy for Asia and the Pacific, 2006 Direct Supervision Pilot Programme, 2005 Organic Agriculture, 2005 Local Knowledge and Innovations, 2004

North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project for Upland Areas, 2005 Andhra Pradesh Tribal Development Project, 2001 Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project, 2000 Orissa Tribal Development Project, 1999

IFAD Strategy/Policy

Strategic Framework, 2007-2010 Land policy, 2008

Appendix 2: Bibliography and References (Page 2 of 4)

Innovation strategy – 2007
Knowledge management strategy - 2007
Rural finance policy – 2000 and 2009 update
COSOPs – 2005 and 2001
Anti-corruption policy - 2005
Rural enterprise policy - 2004
Evaluation policy - 2003
Strategy for Poverty Reduction in Asia and the Pacific - 2002

Project documentation

A comprehensive list of project documents for the CPE team to review will be developed by OE

Documents of other institutions

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Canadian International Development Agency (2005), Evaluation of India-Canada Development Cooperation, Gatineau (Quebec).

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World Bank (2007), World Development Report 2008: Agriculture for Development, The World Bank, Washington DC.

Appendix 3: List of IFAD Loans to India, 1979 – 2009 (Page 1 of 2)										
Project Name	Project Type	Total Project Cost USD million	IFAD Approved Financing USD million*	Cofinancier Amount USD million	Counterpart Amount USD million	Board Approval	Loan Effectiveness	Project Completion Date	Cooperating Institution	Project Status **
Bhima Command Area Development	IDDIG	100	5 0		50	10.0 50	14.5 50	21.0 . 04	W 115 1	GD.
Project Rajasthan Command Area Development and Settlement Project	IRRIG RURAL	110.6	50 55		55.6	18 Sep 79	14 Dec 79 03 Mar 80	31 Oct 84 30 Jun 88	World Bank World Bank	CD
3. Sundarban Development Project	RURAL	37.8	17.5		20.3	03 Dec 80	04 Feb 81	31 Dec 88	World Bank	CD
4. Madhya Pradesh Medium Irrigation Project	IRRIG	232.1	25	140 (WB)	67.1	17 Dec 81	17 Sep 82	30 Sep 87	World Bank	CD
 Second Uttar Pradesh Public Tubewells Project 	IRRIG	182.2	35.3	91 (WB)	55.9	21 Apr 83	06 Oct 83	31 Mar 90	World Bank	CD
6. Orissa Tribal Development Project	RURAL	24.4	12.2	1.4 (WFP)	10.8	03 Dec 87	27 May 88	30 Jun 97	UNOPS	CD
Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project	CREDI	30.6	17		13.6	26 Apr 89	26 Jan 90	30 Jun 98	UNOPS	CD
8. Andhra Pradesh Tribal Development Project	RURAL	46.5	19.9	6.8 (Netherlands) 0.5 (UNFPA)	19.2	04 Apr 91	27 Aug 91	30 Sep 98	UNOPS	CD
9. Maharashtra Rural Credit Project	CREDI	48.3	29.1	2 (UNDP) 0.5 (WIF)	16.6	06 Apr 93	06 Jan 94	31 Mar 02	UNOPS	CD
10. Andhra Pradesh Participatory Tribal Development Project	AGRIC	50.3	26.7	5.3 (Netherlands)	18.2	19 Apr 94	18 Aug 94	30 Sep 02	UNOPS	CD
11. Mewat Area Development Project	RURAL	22.3	14.9		7.3	12 Apr 95	07 Jul 95	31 Dec 04	UNOPS	CD
12. Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project	RURAL	53.8	19.2	19.4 (WB)	14.8	05 Dec 96	19 May 99	30 Jun 05	World Bank	CD
 North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project for Upland Areas 	AGRIC	33.2	22.9		10.3	29 Apr 97	23 Feb 99	31 Mar 08	Direct by IFAD	CD
14. Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Programme	RURAL	41.7	23	10.5 (UK: DFID)	8.1	29 Apr 99	21 Jun 01	30 Jun 09	IFAD	OG
15. National Microfinance Support Programme	CREDI	134	21.9	23.5 (UK: DFID)	88.5	04 May 00	01 Apr 02	30 Jun 09	Direct by IFAD	OG

Appendix 3: List of IFAD Loans to India, 1979 – 2009										
(Page 2 of 2)										
16. Livelihood Security Project for Earthquake-Affected Rural Households in Gujarat	AGRIC	24	14.9	4.9 (WFP)	4	12 Sep 01	04 Nov 02	09 Oct 06	UNOPS	CD
Orissa Tribal Empowerment and Livelihoods Programme	AGRIC	91.2	19.9	40 (UK: DFID) 12.3 (WFP)	18.8	23 Apr 02	15 Jul 03	31 Mar 13	Direct by IFAD	OG
18. Livelihoods Improvement Project in the Himalayas	CREDI	84.2	39.9		44.3	18 Dec 03	01 Oct 04	31 Dec 12	Direct by IFAD	OG
 Post-Tsunami Sustainable Livelihoods Programme for the Coastal Communities of Tamil Nadu 	CREDI	68.5	29.9		38.6	19 Apr 05	09 Jul 07	30 Sep 15	Direct by IFAD	OG
20. Tejaswini Rural Women's Empowerment Programme	CREDI	208.7	39.4	0.26 (to be determined)	168.9	13 Dec 05	23 Jul 07	30 Sep 15	Direct by IFAD	OG
Women's Empowerment and Livelihoods Programme in the Mid- Gangetic Plains	CREDI	52.4	30.1		22.3	14 Dec 06			Direct by IFAD	OG
22. Mitigating Poverty in Western Rajasthan Project	RURAL	62.3	30.9		31.3	24 Apr 08 Expected to	11 Dec 08	31 Dec 14	Direct by IFAD	OG
23. Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra's Distressed Districts Programme	AGRIC	118.6	40.1	16.0 (Sir Ratan Tata Trust) 14.5 (Commercial banks) 5.8 (Private sector)	37.6	be approved by the Executive Board in April 2009			Directed by IFAD	NS
23 projects in all										

All IFAD loans are provided on highly concessional terms. CD= Closed projects, OG= Ongoing projects, NS= Not signed **

Appendix 4: List of Projects to Be Evaluated Under the India CPE

- 1) Orissa Tribal Development Project
- 2) Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project
- 3) Andhra Pradesh Tribal Development Project
- 4) Maharashtra Rural Credit Project
- 5) Andhra Pradesh Participatory Tribal Development Project
- 6) Mewat Area Development Project
- 7) Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project
- 8) North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project for Upland Areas
- 9) Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Programme
- 10) National Microfinance Support Programme
- 11) Livelihood Security Project for Earthquake-Affected Rural Households in Gujarat
- 12) Orissa Tribal Empowerment and Livelihoods Programme
- 13) Livelihoods Improvement Project in the Himalayas
- 14) Post-Tsunami Sustainable Livelihoods Programme for the Coastal Communities of Tamil Nadu
- 15) Tejaswini Rural Women's Empowerment Programme
- 16) Women's Empowerment and Livelihoods Programme in the Mid-Gangetic Plains
- 17) Mitigating Poverty in Western Rajasthan Project
- 18) Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra's Distressed Districts Programme

Appendix 5: List of Country Programme/ Portfolio Evaluations Undertaken by OE

Bangladesh Country Programme Evaluation 2006, 1994

Benin Country Portfolio Evaluation 2005

Bolivia Country Portfolio Evaluation 2005

Brazil Country Programme Evaluation 2008

Egypt Country Programme Evaluation 2005

Ghana Country Portfolio Evaluation 1996

Honduras Country Portfolio Evaluation 1996

Indonesia Country Programme Evaluation 2004

Mauritania Evaluation du Portefeuille de Projets du FIDA 1998

Mali Country Programme Evaluation 2007

Mexico Country Programme Evaluation 2006

Morocco Country Programme Evaluation 2006-2007

Mozambique Country Programme Evaluation 2009

Nigeria Country Programme Evaluation 2008

Pakistan Country Programme Evaluation 2008, Country Portfolio Evaluation 1995

Papua New Guinea Country Programme Evaluation 2002

Rwanda Country Programme Evaluation 2006

Tanzania, United Republic Of Country Programme Evaluation 2003

Tunisia Country Programme Evaluation 2003

Sri Lanka Country Programme Evaluation 2002

Sudan Country Portfolio Evaluation 1994

Syria Country Programme Evaluation 2001

Viet Nam Country Programme Review and Evaluation 2001

Yemen Country Portfolio Evaluation 1992