

Bangladesh Country Programme Evaluation

FIELD VISIT AND NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE WORKSHOP

4-8 June 2015

CONCEPT NOTE

A. Background

1. The Independent Office of Evaluation (IOE) of IFAD conducted a Country Programme Evaluation (CPE) in Bangladesh in 2014/15. As a usual step in the evaluation process, a national roundtable workshop (NRTW) is held at the end of each CPE undertaken by IOE. The Bangladesh CPE national roundtable workshop will be co-organised by the Government of Bangladesh and IOE, in close collaboration with IFAD's Asia and the Pacific Division (APR).

2. The Bangladesh CPE NRTW will provide an opportunity to discuss in-depth, with a larger forum of stakeholders, the main findings and recommendations from the CPE. It will also provide the possibility to develop a common understanding among stakeholders on the key building blocks for the preparation of the future results-based Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (COSOP) for Bangladesh.

B. Objectives

3. The objectives of the Bangladesh **CPE national roundtable workshop** are to: (i) discuss the main issues emerging from the Bangladesh CPE; (ii) provide inputs for the preparation of the evaluation's Agreement at Completion Point (ACP) – see next paragraph; and (iii) provide an opportunity for reflecting on key issues for the next Bangladesh COSOP.

4. The ACP is a short document summarising the main CPE findings and recommendations, which the Government of Bangladesh (represented by the Economic Relations Division of the Ministry of Finance) and IFAD (represented by the Programme Management Department) agree to adopt and implement within specific timeframes. IOE's role is to facilitate the preparation and finalisation of the Agreement at Completion Point, which will be included in the final Bangladesh CPE report and attached as an annex to the new results-based COSOP for Bangladesh.

5. The workshop will entail the participation of representatives from the Government of Bangladesh, IFAD Management and staff including representatives from its Independent Office of Evaluation, NGOs and civil society organisations (national and international), directors of IFAD-funded projects and programmes, academics and research institutions, private sector and foundations, donors and selected resources persons.

6. In addition to participating in the workshop, the IFAD delegation from Rome will **visit IFAD-funded projects**, to gain an appreciation of IFAD's and Government's efforts in reducing rural poverty in Bangladesh. This will offer the IFAD delegation an opportunity to directly hold discussions on 5 June with beneficiaries and their groups, project staff, district-level government authorities and others, as well as see project activities on the ground.

7. On June 8th **courtesy calls with Ministries** concerned with IFAD programme will be organised for IFAD's delegation.

C. Bangladesh National Roundtable Workshop

8. **Place and timing.** The workshop will take place in **Dhaka on Sunday 7 June 2015**. The event will be held at the Amari Hotel¹. The provisional workshop agenda can be found in Appendix 1 of this concept note.

9. **Workshop invitations and documentation.** Invitations will be sent to all participants by the Ministry of Finance, in the joint name of the Government of Bangladesh and IFAD. The final Bangladesh CPE report will be the main background documentation for the workshop. Moreover, a PowerPoint presentation will be delivered by IOE during the workshop on three selected themes emerging from the Bangladesh CPE, which will serve to guide the discussions at the event (see next paragraph).

10. **Key themes for the workshop.** The workshop will focus on the three key themes emerging from Bangladesh CPE:

Theme 1:

Ensuring long term sustainability and scaling up of results: developing broad based institutional partnerships and further investment in knowledge management in Bangladesh

Theme2:

Opportunities for IFAD further focus and engagement in Agriculture in the face of emerging challenges in Bangladesh (demographic, spatial, environmental)

Theme 3:

Ensuring access to finance for IFAD's target group; gaps and opportunities

11. **List of participants.** The provisional list of institutions and persons to be invited to the workshop is provided in Appendix 2. This will be further developed with inputs from the Government of Bangladesh and IFAD APR.

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

13. The workshop will be chaired by Mr. Abul Basher Md. Zahurul Islam, Additional Secretary, Economic Relations Division (ERD), Ministry of Finance. During the inaugural session, introductory statements will be made by the Mr M.A Mannan, State Minister, Ministry of Finance (Chief Guest) , Mr Shyamal Kanti Ghosh, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture (Special Guest); Mr Oscar A. Garcia, Director IOE; and Mr Brian Baldwin, Senior Operations Advisor Programme Management Dept. IFAD.

14. Mr Miguel Torralba, IOE Lead Evaluation Officer and lead evaluator for the Bangladesh CPE and Mr Nurul Alam, CPE Lead Senior Consultant will make a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the main findings and recommendations from the Bangladesh CPE. This will be followed by a coffee break and a question and answer session. The morning session will conclude with an introduction to the workshop working groups. With regard to the latter, the participants will be divided into three working groups. Each group will consider only one of the three workshop themes (see paragraph 9). The facilitator for each working group will be identified prior to the workshop and the groups will nominate a rapporteur.

¹ Amari hotel 47 Road No 41 Gulshan-2 Dhaka - 1212 Bangladesh

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

16. Following the plenary session, Ms Hoonae Kim, Director IFAD-APR and Mr Hubert Boirard, IFAD Country Programme Manager for Bangladesh will share their reflections on future directions and opportunities for the future IFAD country strategy and priorities for Bangladesh.

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

D. Communication and Media Coverage

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

- IOE will prepare an *Evaluation Profile* summarizing the main findings and main recommendation from the evaluation².
- Invitation by the Government of Bangladesh to daily newspapers to the workshop to ensure media coverage for the event.
- Media advisory sheet (invitation to the media).
- Issue of a press release by IOE during the workshop.
- Bilateral interviews by the media of selected members of the IFAD delegation.
- The press release and workshop information will be posted on the IFAD corporate website, and IFAD's regional website for Aisa (i.e., IFADAsia).
- Workshop and press kits.
- Video footage of the workshop and field visits.

19. The IOE knowledge management and communication officer, Ms Melba Alvarez-Pagella, will be the focal point for communication and media coverage, and will closely collaborate with the Government of Bangladesh, the IFAD Communication Division, and the IFAD Country Office in Bangladesh.

E. Field Visit

20. In addition to participating in the workshop, the IFAD delegation from Rome will undertake a field visit on 5 June 2015 to observe activities of one IFAD-supported project. A detailed program of the field visit has been developed in close collaboration with Government, APR and project authorities. This visit will offer the IFAD delegation an opportunity to directly hold discussions with beneficiaries and their groups, project staff, district and county-level government authorities and others, as well as to see project activities on the ground. (see appendix 3)

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

Provisional Agenda

Bangladesh Country Programme Evaluation (CPE) National Round- table Workshop, 07 June 2015 Hotel Amari , Dhaka

Workshop Chair: Mr. Abul Basher Md. Zahurul Islam, Additional Secretary (Coordination and Nordic), Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance

09:00 Registration of participants

Opening Session

09:30 Welcome remarks by the Chairman

09:40 Statement by Mr Oscar Garcia, Director, of Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD

09:50 Statement by Mr Brian Baldwin, Senior Operations Advisor Programme Management Dept. IFAD

10:00 Statement by Mr Shyamal Kanti Ghosh, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Bangladesh (Special Guest)

10:10 Statement by Honourable Mr M.A Mannan, State Minister, Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh (Chief Guest)

10:20 PowerPoint presentation on the findings and recommendations of the Bangladesh CPE, and the three workshop themes by Mr Miguel Torralba, Lead Evaluator for the Bangladesh CPE and Mr Nurul Alam, Lead Senior Consultant for the CPE

10:40 Group Photo

10:50 Coffee Break and press conference

11:10 Plenary Discussion, Questions and Answers

12:00 Overview on the organisation of the three working groups by Mr Miguel Torralba Senior Evaluation Officer, IOE.

12:30 Lunch for all participants

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

15:20 End of working group discussion – *Coffee break*

15:40 Plenary reconvened: Feedback from working groups and discussions facilitated by workshop chairperson

16:10 Reflections on the future directions by Ms Hoonae Kim, Director of IFAD's Asia and the Pacific Regional Division, and Mr Hubert Boirard, IFAD, Country Programme Manager for Bangladesh

17:15 Closing statement to be delivered by the Chairman.

List of Participants³

I. Bangladesh

A. Ministries

1. Ministry for Agriculture
2. Ministry of Finance.-Economic Relations Division (ERD)
3. Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR)
4. Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MoFL)
5. Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)
6. Ministry of Land (MoL)
7. Ministry Environment and Forest (MoEF)
8. Ministry Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives (MoLGRD&C)

B. Divisions

9. Local Government Division (MoLGRD&C)
10. Banking and Financial Institution Division (MoF)
11. Finance Division (MoF)
12. Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division
13. Physical Infrastructure Division
14. Socio-Economic Infrastructure Division
15. Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Institution Division
16. Programming Division
17. Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation

C. Director Generals and Chief Engineers

18. Local Government Engineering Department (LGED)
19. Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE)
20. Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD)
21. Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE)
22. Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB)
23. Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
24. Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI)

D. Projects and programme

25. Microfinance and Technical Support Project (MFTSP)
26. Microfinance for Marginal and Small Farmers Project (MFMSFP)
27. Market Infrastructure Development Project in Charland Regions (MIDPCR)
28. Sunamganj Community-Based Resource Management Project (SCBRMP)
29. Finance for Enterprise Development and Employment Creation Project (FEDEC)
30. National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP)
31. Participatory Small-scale Water Resources Sector Project (PSSWRSP)
32. Char Development and Settlement Project IV (CDSP IV):PCD, DAE, BWDB, FD, DPHE.
MoL
33. Haor Infrastructure and Livelihood Improvement Project (HILIP/CALIP)
34. Coastal Climate Resilient Infrastructure Project Smallholder Productivity(CCRIP)

³ The list of participants is provisional and subject to changes as appropriate

35. Promoting Agricultural Commercialization and Enterprises (PACE)

E. Heads of Office/Country Director/Country Representative/Heads of Rural Development Units of bi-lateral and multilateral organizations in Bangladesh

36. World Bank(WB)
37. Asian Development Bank (ADB)
38. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
39. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
40. World Food Programme (WFP)
41. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
42. Embassy of Spain
43. Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
44. Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)
45. United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
46. German Credit Institution for Reconstruction (KfW)
47. Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)
48. Department for International Development (DFID)
49. Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
50. European Union (EU)

F. Research and academic institutions, civil society organizations, foundations, private sector, NGOs and beneficiaries

51. World Fish Center (WFC)
52. International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
53. Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC)
54. Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)
55. International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

II. IFAD

G. IFAD Staff (headquarters)

56. Mr Oscar A. Garcia, Director, IOE
57. Ms Hoonae Kim, Director of IFAD's Asia and the Pacific Regional Division
58. Mr Brian Baldwin, Senior Operations Advisor Programme Management Dept.
59. Mr Hubert Boirard, IFAD, Country Programme Manager for Bangladesh
60. Mr Miguel Torralba, Senior Evaluation Officer
61. Ms Melba Alvarez-Pagella, Evaluation Communication and Knowledge Management Officer
62. Ms Jaqueline Souza, Workshop facilitator and communication researcher

H. IFAD Bangladesh Country Office

63. Mr Nicolas Syed. Country Programme Officer
64. Ms Shameem Ara Sheuli, Knowledge Management Officer

I. Bangladesh CPE Consultants

65. Mr Mr Nurul Alam, CPE Lead Senior Consultant
66. Mr Rabiul Islam (Rural infrastructure) based in Bangladesh
67. Mr Kazi Ali Toufique (Institutions) based in Bangladesh

68. Mr Arun Kumar Saha (Agriculture) based in Bangladesh

³ The list of participants is provisional and subject to changes as appropriate

Provisional Field Visit Programme:

05 June 2015

**Haor Infrastructure and Livelihood Improvement Project –
Climate Adaptation and Livelihood Protection
Local Government Engineering Department
District: Sunamganj**

(details coordinated and developed by the Government, APR and project authorities)

05June 2015	
Time	Activity
07:30	Departure from Hotel Amari to Dhaka at Hazrat Shahjalal
08:30	Flight to Sunamganj
09:30	Arrival in BGB Ghat, Surma River, Sunamganj
09:45	Meeting with Government representatives
10:10	Brief presentation on the HILIP/CALIP
10:45	Field visits until 12:30
13:00	Prayer and Lunch Break
14:30	Meeting
16:00	Departure to Dhaka