

Egypt Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation

NATIONAL WORKSHOP

26 November 2017

DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

A. Background

1. The Independent Office of Evaluation (IOE) conducted a Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation (CSPE) in Egypt. As a part of the evaluation process, a national workshop is held at the end of each CSPE undertaken by IOE. The Egypt CSPE national workshop will be co-organized by the Government of Egypt and IOE, in consultation with IFAD's Near East, North Africa and Europe Division.

2. The Egypt CSPE national workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss in-depth the main findings and recommendations from the CSPE with a larger group of stakeholders. It will also provide an opportunity to develop a common understanding on some agreements and key elements that will inform the future results-based Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (COSOP) for Egypt.

B. Objectives

3. The objectives of the Egypt CSPE national workshop are to: (i) discuss the main issues emerging from the Egypt CSPE; (ii) and provide an opportunity for reflecting on key recommendations and issues for the next Egypt COSOP.

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

C. Egypt national workshop

5. **Place and timing.** The national workshop will take place in Cairo on Sunday 26 November 2017 at the Ministry for Investment and International Cooperation. The provisional agenda can be found in annex 1 of this concept note.

6. **Workshop invitations and documentation.** Invitations will be sent to participants by the Ministry of Investment and International Cooperation (MIIC), in the joint name of the Government of Egypt and the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD. The final Egypt CSPE report will be the main background document for the workshop and a presentation of the findings and documentation will be delivered, guiding the discussion during the plenary session.

7. **Key themes for the workshop.** The workshop will focus on three key themes emerging from the CSPE: (i) country programme coordination and oversight; (ii) thematic focus of country programme; (iii) community organizations capacity development and legal framework.

8. **List of participants.** The provisional list of participants will be prepared by the MIIC and IFAD IOE, with inputs from the IFAD country office and the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MALR).

9. **Workshop process.** The workshop format includes speeches, presentations and group discussions. The agenda (annex 1) has built in opportunities for exchange views and perspectives among participants and panel members.

10. The workshop will be chaired by H.E. Dr. Sahar Nasr, Minister of Investment and International Cooperation, who will inaugurate the workshop with her welcoming remarks and main findings of

MIIC's thematic evaluation of the previous IFAD country programme. This will be followed by introductory remarks delivered by Mr Kodjo on behalf of the Director of the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD and statements by H.E. Dr. Abdul Moneim El-Banna, Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation.

11. Mrs. Johanna Pennarz, IOE Lead Evaluation Officer and lead evaluator for the Egypt CSPE will present the findings and recommendations from the CSPE, followed by a questions and answers session.

12. After a coffee break, an introduction to the workshop working groups will be presented. Participants will be divided into three parallel working groups and each group will discuss one of the three workshop themes (see paragraph 7 above). A facilitator for each group will be identified prior to the workshop and rapporteurs will be nominated by the respective groups during working session.

13. The plenary will be re-convened after lunch. The working groups will present the results of their respective work. This will be followed by an open plenary discussion facilitated by the chairperson or a representative.

14. The workshop's salient conclusions will be set forth in closing statements by Mr. Oscar A. Garcia, Director of IOE and representatives from MIIC and MALR.

D. Communication and media coverage

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

- IOE will prepare a summary of the main findings and recommendations from the evaluation in English and Arabic
- Invitation by the Government of Egypt to daily newspapers to ensure the coverage of the event
- Media advisory sheet
- Issue of a press release by IOE and the MIIC during the workshop
- Workshop and press kits

16. The IOE Knowledge Management and Communication Officer, Mr. Mark Keating, will be the focal point for communication and media coverage, and will closely collaborate with the Government of Egypt, the IFAD communication division and the IFAD Country office in Egypt.

Proposed agenda

- 08:00 *Registration of participants*
- 09:00 Welcoming remarks by the H.E. Dr. Sahar Nasr (Minister of Investment & International Cooperation)
- 09:15 Key note by the Director, Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE), delivered by Dr. Kodjo, IOE Lead Evaluation Officer
- 09:20 *Coffee break and press conference*
- 09:50 Statement by H.E. Dr. Abdul Moneim El-Banna Minister, Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (tbc)
- 10.00 Introduction into presentations by Dr. Moataz Yeken, Senior Advisor, MIIC
- 10.10 Presentation of IFAD CSPE findings and recommendations by Dr. Johanna Pennarz, IOE Lead Evaluation Officer
- 10.30 Questions and answers
- 10.45 Presentation of MIIC Thematic Evaluation of IFAD Programme by Ms Randa Hamza
- 11.05 Questions and answers
- 11.15 Group discussion
- Group 1: Country programme coordination and oversight
 - Group 2: Thematic focus on rural finance
 - Group 3: Community organisations capacity development and legal framework
- 12.30 *Coffee break*
- 13.00 Feedback from Group discussions
- 13.30 Reflections on future directions and timelines for the preparation of the forthcoming IFAD-Egypt country strategy by Dr. Khalida Bouzar, Director, Near East, North Africa, Europe and Central Asia, IFAD (tbc)
- 13.45 Closing statement by Chair
- 14.00 Closing and group picture