

**Targeting of the Poor and Ultra-Poor:
Literature Review presentation**

IOE Seminar

Friday, 4 February 2022

**Opening remarks by Mr Indran Naidoo Director of the
Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD**

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening to IFAD colleagues worldwide.

I have the pleasure of welcoming you all to this seminar on Targeting of the Poor and Ultra Poor. The objective of the seminar is to share and discuss the findings of the literature review conducted by the external expert Dr Tauhidur Rahman a professor at the University of Arizona.

As we all know, targeting is at the heart of IFAD's mandate and some say that it is the 'raison d'être' of IFAD. The commitments made by our organization under IFAD11 and IFAD12 highlight the importance of targeting, with special attention to very poor groups. They also fully support the Agenda 2030 commitment to "leave no one behind." In line with these commitments, IFAD will prepare an updated policy on targeting in 2022.

IOE has, from 2022, a new multi-year evaluation strategy, which will, inter alia, help assess what has worked, and what requires improvement, under IFAD 11 and IFAD12. The new multi-year evaluation strategy has also introduced the Evaluation Synthesis

Note, a new product that provides a rapid assessment of a topic for a timely and useful input to influence decision making in IFAD. In particular, IOE is working on an Evaluation Synthesis Note on Targeting, which will provide an input to the elaboration of the new IFAD policy on Targeting

In preparation for the synthesis note, IOE commissioned Dr Rahman to conduct the literature review that he will present today.

Dr Rahman will provide us with an external perspective of poverty targeting, based on published economic literature. As such, it allows us to reflect on IFAD's own targeting approaches that we have all become so familiar. With this fresh perspective, we hoped to kick-off the process of the Evaluation Synthesis Note with a stimulating discussion with IFAD colleagues on targeting performance, methods and issues.

We are also pleased to have with us today Ndaya Beltchika, Lead Technical Specialist – Gender and Social Inclusion, from IFAD's Environment, Climate, Gender and Social inclusion Division. Ndaya will share with us the process by which the new Targeting Policy will be prepared.

The Evaluation Synthesis Team is present and will be listening to your views in order to shape the approach they will take in conducting their rapid assessment. Let me take the opportunity to thank Fabrizio Felloni, Deputy Director of IOE for launching the idea of this preliminary review, Chitra Deshpande, Senior Evaluation Officer for leading the initial conceptualization phase of the

synthesis note and organizing this seminar, in collaboration with Jeanette Cooke, Evaluation Analyst.

We hope that this seminar will also open the discussion within IFAD and provide useful insights for the preparation of the new IFAD Targeting Policy.

Therefore, I invite all participants to take full advantage of this opportunity for dialogue, and to engage actively in the seminar discussion. This dialogue has the potential to generate new ideas that contribute to shaping the evaluation and the new Targeting Policy.

I thank you for your attention and look forward to a candid and constructive dialogue.