



CONCEPT NOTE

Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE)

Learning event

Thematic Evaluation on IFAD's support to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Location:

Hybrid: Conference room C600 and on zoom

Register in advance for this event:

<https://ifad.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEscuGqzkrG9269RYcTfTMFkxX0fl7UBQM>

Date and time: Monday 9 December 2024, 14:00-16:00 CET

Rationale and objective

To promote ownership and use of its evaluations, IOE organizes learning events around its major evaluation products. The learning event for the Thematic Evaluation (TE) on IFAD's support to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) has two objectives: (i) facilitate better understanding across IFAD of the key evaluation findings and recommendations, and (ii) promote organization-wide discussions around how the evaluation informs the update of the gender policy and action plan and guides future interventions to enhance the impact of IFAD's work on gender equality. The event is meant for all IFAD staff, with a focus on decision-makers (IFAD Senior and Middle management) as well as out-posted operational staff.

Approach

The event will be held in a hybrid manner with the possibility of in-person participation of staff in headquarters and online participation by field staff. The content will be managed by IOE with active participation of IFAD management. Following a brief introduction of the event by the IOE Director, the event will be divided in two sessions. The first one will be focused on the key findings and recommendations of the thematic evaluation and the management actions in response to the evaluation. The second one will be organized

around a panel discussion aimed at guiding future interventions to accelerate IFAD's work on GEWE, followed by questions and answers.

Agenda

Introduction: opening, purpose and structure of the session (5 minutes).

Session 1: Key evaluation findings and recommendations (IOE) & Management Actions in response to the evaluation (55 minutes):

- a) Key findings and recommendations will be presented by the IOE Team Leader (15 minutes)
- b) The ongoing efforts to update the Gender policy and the Gender Action Plan and how they complement the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategy and 5R Action Plan will be presented by the AVP of CSD, the ECG Director and the Lead Policy and Technical Advisor to the AVP DCO (5 minutes each = total 15 minutes)
- c) Q&A will follow (25 minutes)

Session 2: A Panel Discussion around three questions posed by the moderator (IOE Director) to six IFAD staff members (total time 60 minutes). The questions will be around the following themes:

1. **Improving GEWE design, implementation and reporting** (going beyond women/men participation quotas and outreach in IFAD-funded projects; designing, monitoring and reporting along pathways to gender equality outcomes);
2. **Strategic partnerships to scale up impact and leverage capacities to work on gender** (How to further leverage the value added of gender-related Supplementary funds and grants for enhanced impact of IFAD's interventions on GEWE? ;
3. **Context matters, what a gender transformative process looks like in the framework of IFAD programming?** (gender transformative programming moves beyond women's empowerment towards transforming unequal power relations and the social institutions which perpetuate and reinforce gender inequalities, discussion about good examples on the ground of IFAD interventions).

Expected results

Improved understanding by IFAD managers and staff of the key messages of the Evaluation and ongoing efforts to update the gender policy and action plan and improving IFAD's contribution to GEWE performance.

Background documents

Related documentation will be made available on the IOE event [webpage](#).

AGENDA

13:30–14.00	Connection tests
14.00–14.05	<p>Welcoming remarks and introduction</p> <p>Indran Naidoo, Director, Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE).</p>
Session 1	
14.05–14.20	<p>Presentation of the key evaluation findings and recommendations</p> <p>Mónica Lomeña-Gelis, Senior Evaluation Officer (IOE)</p>
14:20–14:35	<p>Remarks by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bettina Prato, Lead Policy and Technical Advisor to the Associate Vice-President, Department of Country Operations (DCO) • Guoqi Wu, Associate Vice-President, Corporate Service Department, (CSD) • Juan Carlos Mendoza Casadiegos – Director, Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion (ECG)
14:35–15:00	Questions and Answers (Zoom and in-person attendants)
Session 2	
15.00-16.00	<p>Panel discussion and Q&A</p> <p>Moderator: Indran Naidoo, Director, Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE).</p> <p>Question 1: Improving GEWE design and reporting.</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaushik Barua, Lead Portfolio Advisor, APR • Maine Astonitas, Senior Portfolio Advisor, LAC <p>Question 2: Strategic partnerships to scale up impact and leverage capacities to work on gender.</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sara Mbago-Bhunu, Regional Director, ESA • Beatrice Gerli, Senior Technical Specialist, coordinator of the Gender-transformative mechanism in the context of climate adaptation, ECG <p>Question 3: Context matters, what a gender transformative process looks like in the framework of IFAD programming?</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philippe Remi, Country Director Tunisia, Libya, and Montenegro, NEN • Pascaline Barankeba, Country Director Sierra Leone-Liberia, WCA <p>Questions and Answers from participants.</p>
15:50-15:55	<p>Summary and next steps towards reviewing IFAD’s gender policy and action Plan –</p> <p>Loise Maina, Lead Technical Specialist – Gender and Social Inclusion, ECG (5 minutes)</p>
15:55–16:00	<p>Concluding remarks</p> <p>Indran Naidoo, Director, Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE).</p>