

**IFAD and Farmers' Organizations**  
**Partnership in progress: 2008-2009**

**Report to the global meeting of the Farmers' Forum  
in conjunction with the Thirty-third Session of the Governing Council of IFAD  
15-16 February 2010**

**IFAD Interdepartmental Policy Reference Group on the Farmers' Forum**



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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>ACCD</b>	Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament
<b>AFA</b>	Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development
<b>ANOPACI</b>	Association Nationale des Organisations Professionnelles Agricoles de Côte d'Ivoire
<b>AP</b>	Asia and the Pacific
<b>AROPA</b>	Projet d'Appui au Renforcement des Organisations Professionnelles et aux Services Agricoles (Madagascar)
<b>ASDP</b>	Agricultural Sector Development Programme (Tanzania)
<b>ASEAN</b>	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
<b>ASPRODEB</b>	Association Sénégalaise pour le Promotion du Développement à la Base
<b>CAFTA</b>	Central America Free Trade Agreement
<b>CFS</b>	Committee on World Food Security
<b>CNCR</b>	Conseil National de Concertation et de Coopération des Ruraux (Sénégal)
<b>CNOP</b>	Coordination National des Organisations Paysannes du Mali
<b>CNOPG</b>	Confédération Nationale des Organisations Paysannes de Guinée
<b>COPROFAM</b>	Confederación de Organizaciones de Productores Familiares del MERCOSUR
<b>COSOP</b>	Country Strategic Opportunities Programme
<b>CPM</b>	Country Programme Manager
<b>CPMT</b>	Country Programme Management Team
<b>CSA</b>	Collectif Stratégies Alimentaires
<b>CSD</b>	United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organization
<b>CTA</b>	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
<b>EAFF</b>	East African Farmers' Federation
<b>ECOWAS</b>	Economic Community of West African States
<b>EPA</b>	Economic Partnership Agreements
<b>ESA</b>	Eastern and Southern Africa
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<b>FETRAF-SUL</b>	Federação dos Trabalhadores na Agricultura Familiar da Região Sul
<b>FLFA.TA</b>	Association for Farmers' Progress (Madagascar)
<b>FO</b>	Farmers' and Rural Producers' Organization
<b>FOCSA</b>	Farmer Organization Support Centre for Africa
<b>HLC</b>	High-Level Conference
<b>ICCARD</b>	International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development
<b>IFAP</b>	International Federation of Agricultural Producers

<b>KENFAP</b>	Kenyan National Federation of Agricultural Producers
<b>LAC</b>	Latin America and the Caribbean
<b>LVC</b>	La Via Campesina
<b>MDG</b>	Millennium Development Goals
<b>MERCOSUR</b>	Mercado Común del Sur
<b>MIJARC/IMARY</b>	International Movement of Agricultural Rural Youth
<b>MUSECH</b>	Movimiento Unitario Campesino y Etnias de Chile
<b>MVIWATA</b>	Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima Tanzania/Defender of Farmer's Interests by Farmers Themselves (Tanzania)
<b>NENA</b>	Near East and North Africa
<b>NEPAD</b>	New Partnership for African's Development
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>NORAD</b>	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
<b>PAKISAMA</b>	National Federation of Peasant Organizations (the Philippines)
<b>PROPAC</b>	Plateforme Sous-régionale des Organisations Paysannes d'Afrique Centrale
<b>PSAOP</b>	Agricultural Services Producers' Organizations Project (Senegal)
<b>REAF</b>	Special Meeting on Family Agriculture (MERCOSUR)
<b>ROPPA</b>	Réseau des Organisations Paysannes et Producteurs Agricoles d'Afrique de l'Ouest
<b>RuLIP</b>	Rural Livelihoods Improvement Project (Cambodia)
<b>SACAU</b>	Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions
<b>SDC</b>	Swiss Development Cooperation
<b>SEWA</b>	Self Employed Women's Association (India)
<b>SFOAP</b>	Support to Farmers' Organisations in Africa Programme
<b>SHOMAP</b>	Smallholder Agriculture and Marketing Programme (Kenya)
<b>SWAp</b>	Sector-Wide Approach
<b>UEMOA</b>	West African Economic and Monetary Union
<b>UNAG</b>	Unión Nacional de Agricultores y Ganaderos (Nicaragua)
<b>UNCTAD</b>	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>WFF</b>	World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fishworkers
<b>WFFP</b>	World Federation of Fisher Peoples
<b>WINFA</b>	Windward Islands Farmers Association
<b>WOCAN</b>	Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management
<b>WCA</b>	Western and Central Africa
<b>WTO</b>	World Trade Organization
<b>ZFU</b>	Zimbabwe Farmers Union



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*The consequences of the conjunction of the recent food, energy and financial crises and of the global recession were brought cruelly to the forefront by FAO's announcement that the number of hungry people had surpassed one billion in 2009. Furthermore, agriculture – the livelihood of the vast majority of poor people in developing countries – is increasingly being affected by climate change, desertification, loss of biodiversity and a growing competition over land and water as the world's population runs towards nine billion.*

*Faced with this situation, the international community is demonstrating a renewed political and financial commitment to food security and agriculture. Last November the participants in the World Summit on Food Security reiterated their commitment to intensify national and international support to agricultural development, in particular to smallholder farmers. A new consensus is emerging to support poor rural women and men in their effort to overcome poverty, achieve their right to food, and adapt to climate change. IFAD is facing these challenges with a sense of urgency and responsibility. Over the last two years the Fund has committed more than US\$1.2 billion to finance 69 rural and agricultural investment projects of its member countries. In 2009 the members of the Fund agreed upon an unprecedented level of replenishment.*

*Stronger organizations of smallholder farmers, pastoralists and fishers are essential to face these challenges and seize opportunities. Cooperation among rural producers improves their access to markets and knowledge. It allows for economies of scale and stronger bargaining power in value chains. It increases their capacity to manage resources and infrastructure and to collectively influence policy and development programmes.*

*The Farmers' Forum was created in 2005 by IFAD, the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP), La Via Campesina and the Network of Peasant and Agricultural Producers' Organizations of West Africa (ROPPA). It was designed as: i) an on-going, bottom-up process of consultation and dialogue between farmers' and rural producers' Organizations (FOs), IFAD and governments focussed on rural development and poverty reduction; ii) an instrument for accountability of development effectiveness; and iii) an interface between pro-poor rural development interventions and the process of enhancing the capacity of FOs. Two global meetings of the Farmers' Forum were held in conjunction with the Governing Council of IFAD, in 2006 and in 2008. Both meetings delivered a "Synthesis of Deliberations" through which the participants addressed to IFAD Management and to the Governing Council their requests and recommendations.*

*As with the previous meeting in 2008, IFAD staff have been preparing this report on "Partnership in Progress" for the third global meeting of the Forum. The report presents the progress achieved against the recommendations of the Farmers' Forum. It is based on a review of activities over the last two years and a survey of all IFAD Country Programme Managers, 12 directors of IFAD-funded projects and leaders of 24 FOs involved in the design and implementation of development projects or country strategies.*

### *Operational Partnerships at Country Level*

*The survey shows that the positive trends observed in the previous biennium have been confirmed over 2008-2009: IFAD's overall commitment to involve FOs in the formulation of country strategic opportunities programmes (COSOPs) and in project design and implementation has been maintained throughout the last biennium and improved in terms of quality and intensity of collaboration.*

*FOs were involved in 83 per cent of new IFAD COSOPs in 2008-2009, and in the majority of cases (61 per cent) the involvement went far beyond a simple consultation: FOs were full members of Country Programme Management Teams, or special workshops were organized with them.*

*In the design of investment projects, FOs were consulted in 70 per cent of the new projects over the period. Here again, they were increasingly considered by IFAD and borrowing governments as “special players” warranting specific modalities of involvement (from 34 per cent of new projects in 2006-2007 to 55 per cent in 2008-2009).*

*The percentage of new projects involving FOs as implementing agencies or service providers reached 52 per cent in 2008/2009, a 30 per cent increase compared to the previous biennium. FO leaders are members of Project Steering Committees in close to half of the projects approved over the last biennium, against 39 per cent in 2006/2007.*

*An interesting finding of the review is the creativity deployed by Country Program Managers who want to work with FOs in project design and implementation. Very diverse modalities are applied according to national contexts as well as to FOs’ actual capacities.*

*Partnership between FOs, IFAD and governments has brought significant advantages in areas that are key to further improving effectiveness of agricultural and rural development. It improves understanding of rural poverty and helps to better identify the target groups of projects. The contribution of FOs has ensured a stronger focus on small and poorer farmers. It has also given access to a wealth of local and indigenous knowledge and experience, which has enhanced project relevance. And it has contributed to increase project sustainability and local ownership.*

*However, there is still a margin for improvement: in 30 per cent of the new projects, FOs were not consulted at the design stage. In some cases this was simply due to the absence of FOs at the national level or in the project area. But in other cases either the government or IFAD neglected to invite FOs to the design process because the project was not focusing on agricultural production or marketing activities. Women and men farmers, pastoralists and fishers are the main users of goods and services delivered in rural areas. Hence the design of projects focusing on rural infrastructures, community development, rural microfinance or business services could also greatly benefit from the involvement of their representatives.*

### ***Increased direct support for capacity building***

*Direct support to FOs through grant financing for capacity building – a major request of the Farmers’ Forum – has increased dramatically since the beginning of the Farmers’ Forum process, from US\$2.4 million per biennium in 2004-2005 to over US\$12.0 million in 2008-2009.*

*Another positive trend has been the evolution towards fewer large grants supporting various national FOs through their regional networks or federations. It reduces IFAD’s transaction costs for the design, approval and supervision of grants, contributes to the strengthening of regional groupings and fosters stronger coherence in overall partnerships with FOs.*

*The assessment of the impact of FOs’ involvement in IFAD operations and of direct support to them shows positive outcomes in terms of institutional capacity, increased membership and improved dialogue within FOs.*

### ***Support to policy engagement***

*IFAD continued to support the participation of FOs in policy dialogue at country, regional and international levels, including in recent global conferences and at the World Summit on Food Security.*

*In Latin America, the regional network of family farmers’ organizations (COPROFAM) has been supported to engage in the MERCOSUR Specialized Commission of Family Agriculture. In Central America, FOs have been supported to identify common interests and jointly engage in the discussion on the Central America Agricultural Policy. In sub-Saharan Africa, IFAD and the European Commission*



*are jointly financing a large programme on institutional development and support to policy engagement at national, sub-regional and pan-African levels.*

*Initiatives to support FOs in policy engagement are always demand-driven. They clearly contribute to reduce the asymmetry of representation and to include the agenda of FOs in policy-making processes from local to regional levels. However their actual impact on national or regional policy frameworks and on their implementation remains insufficiently documented.*

### ***The Farmers forum process***

*After five years of existence, the Farmers' Forum process has demonstrated its relevance. It has indeed changed the way IFAD and FOs are working together. However, there is also a need to reconsider certain aspects of the process in order to adapt to the structuring of FOs, IFAD's internal evolution, and the evolving international context, where small rural producers and their organizations are increasingly engaged in policy dialogue.*

*The bottom-up approach for consultation and dialogue conceived in 2005 proved not to be implemented as planned for various reasons. During the two last biennia, it has been implemented in an opportunistic way through regional or international meetings organized for different purposes. Even if this flexible approach is adapted to time and budget constraints, it cannot be considered fully satisfactory. There is still a lack of organized and on-going feedback from the meetings between IFAD staff and FOs at country or regional level. Therefore the agenda of the global meeting in conjunction with the Governing Council and the selection of participants are developed late and in an ad hoc manner instead of building upon a continuous process.*

*A more powerful tool to monitor and evaluate the impact of the partnerships between IFAD and FOs is required. The survey undertaken in 2009 provides a broad picture of the role of FOs in IFAD-funded projects and of their views about it. It constitutes a first step towards a more thorough and joint analysis and evaluation tool. The undertaking of a joint evaluation of the on-the-ground impact of IFAD-FO partnerships could be a useful step for a "second wind" for the Farmers' Forum process. Through a process of mutual learning and exchange it could be the basis for the preparation of operational guidelines to further mainstream and scale up good practices, including in those countries where organizations of smallholder farmers, pastoralists and fishers are yet to be acknowledged as primary stakeholders in the development of agriculture and in the reduction of rural poverty.*



## INTRODUCTION

1. **The creation of the Farmers' Forum.** The Farmer's Forum was created in February 2005 at a workshop organized by IFAD, the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP), La Via Campesina (LVC) and the Reseaux des Organisations Paysannes et Producteurs Agricoles de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (ROPPA). Participants in the workshop agreed on a brief yet far-reaching statement, which was presented to IFAD's Senior Management and formed the basis of the Farmers' Forum initiative (see Annex 1). A Steering Committee composed of representatives of IFAD and of seven networks of farmers and fishers was then constituted to guide the process. It was agreed that the global meeting of the Forum would be held every two years, in conjunction with IFAD's Governing Council, and that national and regional consultations would be carried out between each global meeting.
2. The Farmers' Forum was thereby established as a permanent process of consultation and dialogue between farmers' and rural producers' organizations (FOs), IFAD and governments that focuses on rural development and poverty reduction. In this context, FOs are defined as membership-based organizations of smallholders, family farmers and rural producers – including pastoralists, artisanal fishers, landless people and indigenous people – that are structured beyond the grassroots or community level, at local, national, regional and global levels.
3. The first global meeting of the Farmers' Forum was held in Rome in February 2006, in conjunction with IFAD's Governing Council. It brought together 50 FO representatives from all regions of the world. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Steering Committee agreed upon a list of recommendations to IFAD that were presented to the Governing Council. In May 2006, the President of IFAD participated in the World Farmers Congress of IFAP in Seoul. In his keynote address to the Congress, he responded to the recommendations of the Farmers' Forum and made a number of commitments on behalf of the Fund. One of these was to monitor progress in IFAD's engagement with FOs and to report back to the Farmers' Forum.
4. **Reporting on IFAD-FO partnership.** IFAD's first report to the Forum, "Partnerships in progress", was prepared in February 2008 and presented the evolution of IFAD's partnership with FOs over the biennium 2006-2007. The present report<sup>1</sup> reviews the evolution of this partnership over the biennium 2008-2009. As with the previous report, it is organized around the main recommendations formulated during previous meetings of the Forum.
5. Sections 1 to 3 and section 5 review the implementation of the main areas of recommendations and related IFAD commitments that emerged from the 2006 meeting:
  - FOs' involvement in IFAD country programmes
  - direct financial support to FOs
  - support to policy engagement at regional and international levels
  - evolution of the Farmers' Forum process itself.
6. Section 4 reviews the implementation of a new recommendation issued in 2008, which concerns supporting the involvement of women and youth in agriculture and rural development.
7. Participants in the 2008 meeting also called upon IFAD to support fishing communities as well as pastoralists and their organizations and urged IFAD to increase its collaboration with FAO in providing support to farmers and rural producers' organizations and in supporting their participation

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<sup>1</sup> This report was prepared by Philippe Remy (Policy Division, IFAD) with the support of Agnès Deshormes (lead consultant), Laura Jalasjoki (Policy Division, IFAD), Sappho Haralambous (consultant) and Samadhi Lipari (junior consultant). It received inputs from and has been endorsed by the members of the Policy Reference Group on the Farmers' Forum, representing all the divisions of the Programme Management Department and the External Affairs Department of IFAD. It was reviewed and cleared by Jean-Philippe Audinet, Acting Director of the Policy Division.

in international events. Information on specific initiatives taken during the biennium 2008-2009 to implement these recommendations is provided in various sections of the report.

8. **Methodology.** The preparation of the present report involved two different exercises. As in 2008, IFAD Country Programme Managers (CPMs) were asked to supply information on the modalities of FO involvement in IFAD's Country Strategic Opportunities Programmes (COSOPs), in loan-funded projects and in direct grant funding. Quantitative data were provided for all COSOPs and projects approved by IFAD during the 2008-2009 biennium. Information collected from CPMs was used to analyse the role of FOs in the design process: were they simply considered as ordinary stakeholders among the range of players involved in IFAD operations, or were they considered as special stakeholders that would warrant specific modalities of association in the process? These data were then compared with similar data collected in 2008 for the 2006-2007 biennium in order to assess the evolution of the partnership. In addition, the survey tried to capture the benefits deriving from FOs' involvement in COSOP and project design, from the point of view of CPMs.
9. Furthermore, and for the first time, a qualitative survey was undertaken with selected farmers representatives to capture their own assessment of FOs' involvement in IFAD activities. What forms does this participation take? What kinds of benefits has it brought to FOs? How has it impacted overall project achievements? Have FOs faced any particular difficulties in participating in project activities? This new component constitutes a first step in associating FOs in the assessment of their partnership with IFAD as well as in moving towards a more comprehensive impact assessment. The modalities of the qualitative survey are briefly explained below.
10. FOs participating in the survey responded to the broad definition provided above (see para. 2). This definition covers a wide range of FOs, including: cooperatives and producer organizations; rural women's groups and women's organizations; agricultural commodity-based organizations; water users' associations and irrigation associations; unions, federations and confederations that bring together FOs at local or national level; and international networks gathering national organizations at regional or global level.
11. The sample of participating FOs was based on a prior selection of loan-funded projects among those included in the 2008 quantitative survey that, at the time, had shown prospects of strong FO involvement, and that indeed had a record of FO participation. Two projects approved in 2009 were added to the selection: *Projet d'Appui au Renforcement des Organisations Professionnelles et aux Services Agricoles (AROPA)* in Madagascar, because it featured strong involvement of FOs from project design onward (see Box 1); and the *Agriculture Sector Development Programme* in Tanzania because it provided an example of how an FO could participate in a sector-wide approach (SWAp) supported by IFAD. Five grant-funded projects focusing on FO capacity building were added to the basket. The resulting selection counts 14 projects, of which 11 are part of country programmes and 3 are regional projects, for a total amount of US\$197 million. All of these projects are providing financial support to FOs and contribute to their capacity and institutional development.<sup>2</sup>
12. **Scope of the report.** This report provides a thorough assessment of the current state and recent evolution of the partnership between FOs and IFAD. It reflects the views of both IFAD staff and FOs involved in IFAD-supported operations. It highlights successful achievements and pinpoints

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<sup>2</sup> For country projects, primary respondents were national FOs involved in their implementation. If there was no such structure or if FOs had not been participating in the project, FOs were surveyed at the highest possible organization level involved in project implementation. At the regional level, regional recipient organizations were surveyed through their secretariat and/or a national member organization. The resulting sample of FOs that participated in the qualitative survey is composed of 22 organizations. Annex 4 provides the list of FOs surveyed. Questionnaires were administered in three different ways. For close to half of the participants, the team made direct contact, mostly by telephone. In a smaller number of cases (corresponding to all provincial and local FOs), due to language barriers or isolation, contacts had to be made through project management teams, who assisted in identifying participating FOs, administering the questionnaire and conveying answers to IFAD. A few organizations provided their answers in writing.

areas where improvements are needed. The report provides concrete proposals to further intensify the partnership, to help make it more efficient and to ensure that it brings positive returns to FOs, to their members and to other rural men and women in developing countries.

13. This report is a contribution to the third global meeting of the Farmers Forum in February 2010. It is meant to provide a basis for discussion and an opportunity to identify new ways of strengthening our partnership building and our achievements. As in the past, meeting proceedings will reflect comments and reactions from farmers' representatives as well as their expectations and recommendations for the way forward.

## 1. FO INVOLVEMENT IN IFAD COUNTRY PROGRAMMES

14. IFAD engages in-country on the basis of a Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (COSOP), which is discussed with partners and agreed upon with the government. Once reviewed by IFAD Executive Board, COSOPs define all IFAD-supported operations in the country, which include loan-funded investment projects, grant-funded projects and policy dialogue initiatives. To facilitate the implementation of the country programme, IFAD sets up a Country Programme Management Team (CPMT). It is a resource group of stakeholders<sup>3</sup> who participate in the entire country programme design and implementation, from COSOP formulation through the various stages of project and programme design, implementation and supervision.

### **Box 1 – Madagascar: a developing partnership between and with FOs in IFAD’s Country Programme**

While IFAD projects in Madagascar had a long history of support to grassroots organizations, they had never worked with national FOs. During the preparation of the new COSOP in 2006, IFAD initiated a dialogue with the four existing national FOs and with the Chamber of Agriculture. At the time, these organizations had very few contacts among them, and their relationship with the Chamber of Agriculture, whose creation had been prompted by the ministry of Agriculture, was unclear. IFAD started by becoming acquainted with the different organizations and learning about their activities and expectations, and then asked them to join the COSOP Focal Group, which gathered IFAD’s main stakeholders.<sup>4</sup> The association of national FOs and of the Chamber of Agriculture in all the stages of the COSOP design process led to the inclusion of the third strategic objective: to foster “*increased engagement of small-scale producers’ organizations in economic and policy development through professionalization*”. In parallel with the COSOP process, IFAD financed a small capacity-building project (through a contribution financed by “Farmers’ Africa”, an AgriCord/IFAD regional programme), which gathered representatives of the four national FOs and the Chamber from all over Madagascar to participate in two workshops. The workshops were held to promote exchanges, improve FO collaboration at the national level, and help FOs clarify their different roles and joint priorities. Agri-agencies (i.e. non-governmental organizations (NGOs) created by FOs in the North) active in Madagascar also participated in the two workshops.

According to national FOs, it is this double process (capacity building and participation in a programming exercise where they had to voice common positions) that helped them to build a unified farmers’ movement, where each organization has a distinct identity but where cooperation is developed to defend smallholders’ interests with a unified voice. The double process also gave them increased visibility and recognition and opened the doors to policy dialogue with the government and other donors.

In 2007, national FOs and the Chamber of Agriculture participated in all the stages of the design of the *Projet d’Appui au Renforcement des Organisations Professionnelles et aux Services Agricoles (AROPA)*. Upon IFAD’s request, they constituted a working group to define their priorities and prepare proposals. Then each of the national FOs delegated one representative to join the design team during the field work and, at the end of the formulation mission, the working group validated the first project outline. FOs sat in the task force overseeing project preparation and participated in two validation workshops where they constituted the majority of participants. AROPA’s objectives are to strengthen FOs and facilitate their access to agriculture support services in a number of priority value chains. In the first three-year phase, the implementation of the component dedicated to capacity building was entrusted

<sup>3</sup> Including representatives from government institutions, IFAD project directors, donor representatives and representatives from civil society involved in the IFAD country programme (non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, FOs, etc.).

<sup>4</sup> Now known as Country Programme Management Team.

to a group of three NGOs, of which two are agri-agencies. In the second phase, regional chambers of agriculture, in partnership with regional FOs, should become responsible for managing the component. They will sign a contract with the Ministry of Agriculture and the group of NGOs, which will define the specific objectives to be achieved in the second phase, along with their responsibilities in managing the component and the modalities through which they will continue receiving assistance.

In 2008, FOs joined the CPMT, whose creation coincided with the COSOP mid-term review. FOs were involved in the review, which led to a number of recommendations to further strengthen IFAD-FO partnership – for example by including them in the group of users of the knowledge management system for IFAD’s programme in Madagascar and by adapting communication and knowledge management to their needs and capacities. FOs are now scheduled to take part in the design of a new project on vocational training for the agriculture sector in 2010.

In 2009, IFAD launched a grant (with financing from Norway) that will promote women’s leadership in the FOs of four pilot countries, one of which is Madagascar. Activities will support current loan-supported projects and will include: the development of a curriculum for rural women’s leadership training; training of trainers; training of grassroots women leaders; working with men to support women’s leadership; and advocacy and media work.

In addition, national FOs that are members of the Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU) are benefitting from a direct grant made to SACAU to strengthen the capacities of the Confederation and its members; and one of them from the Support to Farmers’ Organizations in Africa Programme, funded by IFAD and the European Commission.

## **1.1 FO PARTICIPATION IN THE FORMULATION OF IFAD COUNTRY STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAMMES**

***Recommendation from the 2006 Farmers’ Forum:*** FOs to participate – and at any rate at least be consulted - in the development of IFAD’s strategies at both the national level (in COSOPs) and the regional level.

***IFAD Commitment in 2006:*** IFAD agreed with the principle of systematic consultation of FOs in the preparation of COSOPs. We will do this in countries where appropriate national organizations exist. We will also go from consultation to active participation where capacity exists and in agreement with governments.

***Recommendation from the 2008 Farmers’ Forum:*** Clear directions must be provided to IFAD staff to ensure systematic involvement of FOs in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of country strategies and programmes. The way of promoting this is by providing time for interaction, relevant information and specific resources.

### **1.1.1 Evolution of FO involvement in COSOP formulation**

15. IFAD Executive Board reviewed a total of 18 new COSOPs over the last biennium.<sup>5</sup> Figure 1 compares the evolution of FO participation in COSOP design based on the role that FOs are invited to play. For this purpose, three categories were identified:

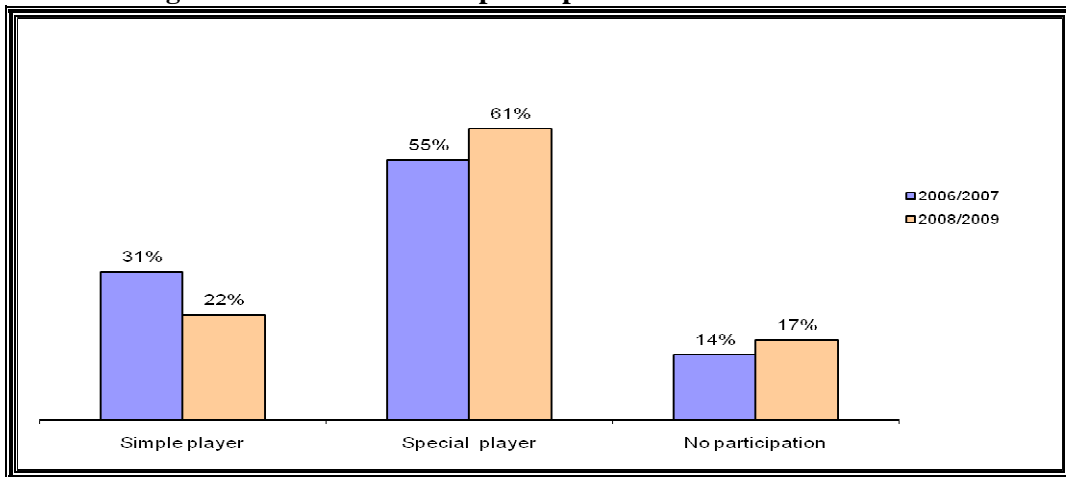
- *simple player:* this category groups the modalities whereby FOs are invited to participate in the COSOP design process but are not given any specific role – they are considered one among

<sup>5</sup> See Annex 2 for a full list of COSOPs reviewed in 2008 and 2009, as well as survey results for each of them.

other IFAD stakeholders. Such modalities, which were sometimes combined together, include: participation in the COSOP validation workshop; bilateral meetings with the CPM or the COSOP preparation team; and participation in multi-stakeholder consultations;

- *special player*: this category gathers all the modalities whereby FOs are recognized as a special stakeholder that requires distinctive, additional forms of involvement in the COSOP formulation process, such as the organization of specific workshops for FOs, or FOs’ full membership in CPMTs;
- *no participation*: in the third category, FOs are not invited to participate in COSOP design.

**Figure 1 - Evolution of FO participation in COSOP formulation**

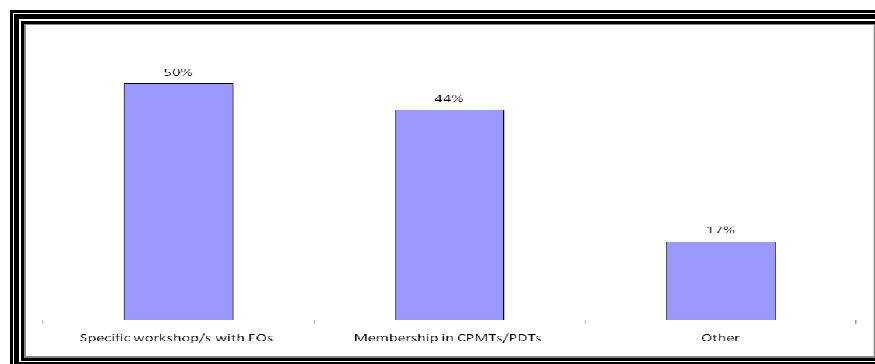


16. The proportion of countries where FOs were involved in the COSOP formulation process has remained high. In 2006-2007, FOs were involved in 19 COSOPs over a total of 22 countries, or 86 per cent. In 2008-2009, FOs were involved in 15 COSOPs over 18 countries. The three exceptions were the COSOPs in Afghanistan, Ethiopia and Viet Nam, where they were not involved at all.

17. The high frequency of involvement in COSOPs is confirmed at above 80 per cent (22 per cent as simple players + 61 per cent as special players). Moreover, a positive evolution can be noticed with regard to the quality and intensity of participation of farmers’ representatives in the formulation of COSOPs: whereas the “simple player” category decreased from 31 per cent in 2006-2007 to 22 per cent in 2008-2009, the “special player” category increased from 55 per cent to 61 per cent in 2008-2009.

18. Figure 2 shows the relative importance of the various types of modalities used to involve FOs as special players in the COSOP design process in the last biennium.

**Figure 2 – Modalities of FO participation in COSOP formulation as “special players”(2008-2009)**



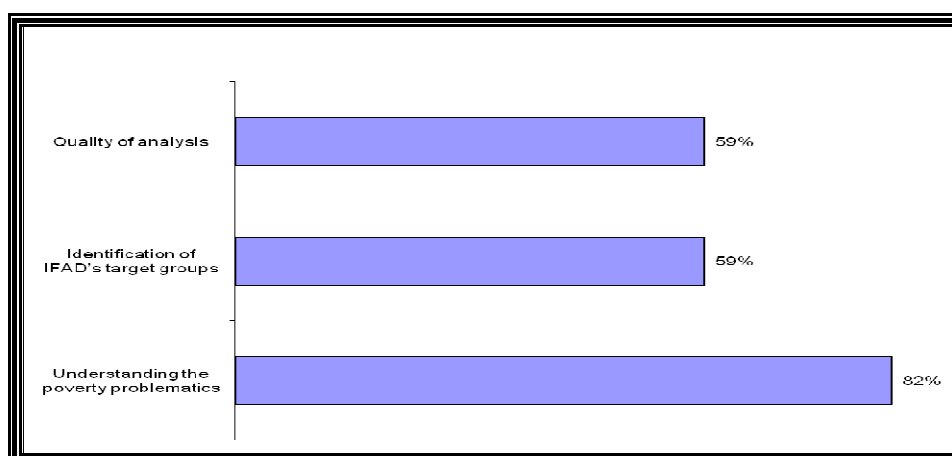


- In 50 per cent of the cases, *specific workshops* were organized for FOs, where they could provide their views and expectations vis-à-vis IFAD programmes. In **the Philippines**, FOs participated in regional broad-based consultation workshops. In addition, the representatives of 15 national and regional FOs were invited to participate in a specific workshop. Delegates from the two largest national FOs, the National Federation of Peasant Organizations (PAKISAMA) and the Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), participated in the high-level government/IFAD meeting to validate the COSOP;
- In **Guatemala, Peru, Sudan and Syria**, FO representatives were invited to join the *CPMT*, thus becoming part of the overall programme development process that unfolds from formulation to implementation and monitoring.
- Other, complementary modalities were used in three countries. In **Guinea**, *joint design missions* formally involving FOs were organized, with terms of reference specifying their role. FOs were also involved to several multi-stakeholder events, including a portfolio review of on-going projects and related regional validation workshops, as well as a COSOP start-up workshop. In **the Philippines**, FOs organized a meeting among them to define a *joint FO position in preparation for the COSOP* and they provided written comments at main design stages. In addition they participated in two regional broad-based consultation workshops. A workshop explicitly targeting FOs was also organized. In **Guatemala**, the first COSOP formulation mission attended the Annual General Assembly of Mayan Forestry Plan, an indigenous umbrella organization, thereby reaching a broad range of rural organizations.

### 1.1.2 Impact of FO participation in COSOP formulation

19. In reviewing with CPMs the participation of FOs in COSOP formulation IFAD assessed the additional value they brought to the process. In the opinion of 82 per cent of CPMs who involved FOs in COSOP formulation FOs' participation is worth the effort. As shown by Figure 3 below, it improved overall understanding of rural poverty in 82 per cent of COSOPs. It also helped identify IFAD's target groups and improved the quality of analysis in 59 per cent of COSOPs.

**Figure 3 – Impact of FO participation in COSOP formulation (2008/2009)**



20. **Formulation of strategic objectives and projects.** FOs' contribution to targeting and to the understanding of rural poverty is generally reflected in strategic objectives and pipeline projects. Eleven out of the 18 COSOPs (61 per cent) include a specific strategic objective that is centred on FOs. Fourteen COSOPs (82 per cent) foresee a role for FOs in pipeline projects and FOs are members of the CPMT in 12 countries (71 per cent).

- The strategic objectives of the **Guatemala** COSOP focus on promoting market access for rural on-farm and off-farm businesses, developing social and human capital and enhancing pro-poor policy dialogue, including through the participation of indigenous peasant organizations. The latter were selected on the basis of a needs assessment that was carried out with over 1,000 representatives of local, municipal and national FOs. During the second phase of COSOP design, various producer organizations participated in regional workshops and contributed especially to sector analysis.
- In **Guinea**, IFAD's historic approach was to combine community-based and decentralized development (consisting mainly in community and social infrastructure) with productive investments. During the COSOP formulation, FOs recommended making a clear distinction between the two areas and including the development of value chains involving FOs among IFAD's strategic objectives for the country. This recommendation was reflected in a COSOP strategic objective, which aims at improving smallholder access to services to secure efficient production and competitive markets in targeted agricultural value chains. FOs' recommendations also led to the restructuring and redesign of old projects.
- In **the Philippines**, FOs' involvement contributed to geographical targeting and target group definition. It also led to the inclusion of land and indigenous peoples' issues, which are central to FOs, reflected in the COSOP's first strategic objective aiming at improving access to and control over land and water resources for upland poor households in the 20 poorest provinces, especially those of indigenous peoples and agrarian reform beneficiaries.

21. **Increased ownership.** Several CPMs also pointed out that involving FOs generated increased ownership by target groups of the country strategy and IFAD-supported operations.

- According to the CPM for **Guinea**, FO participation in the COSOP process brought additional realism to the overall vision. It contributed to having a demand-driven country strategy that is owned by FOs, which are key project implementation partners. It also paved the way for a strong IFAD-FO partnership for country programme implementation.

22. **Positive impacts on FOs.** A large majority of CPMs (65 per cent) estimate that FOs' participation in COSOP-related events helped FOs in promoting their agenda and in participating in policy dialogue. Indeed, having the opportunity to participate in workshops and meetings where they can meet with other stakeholders in the rural sectors, in particular government officials, gives FOs a platform for voicing their priorities, developing networks and lobbying participants. For 47 per cent of CPMs, FOs' involvement also contributes to improving their relationship with the government. Capacity building and increased outreach by FO's to other actors are benefits mentioned by 53 per cent of the CPMs. However, to have a fairer view, impact would need to be assessed by FOs themselves. This could be taken into consideration for the preparation of IFAD's report to the 2012 Farmers' Forum.

#### ***Conclusion regarding FOs' involvement in COSOPs***

**IFAD's overall commitment to systematically involve FOs in COSOP design, and already achieved in 2006-2007, has been maintained throughout the last biennium. FOs were involved in over 80 per cent of COSOP design processes, which demonstrates that FOs' participation in this kind of exercise has become standard practice. The impact assessment carried out with CPMs confirms that FOs' participation in the COSOP design process is not only important for FOs, but also for IFAD, as it generates better and clearer country strategies.**

**The survey also reveals that there has been a significant progress (from 55 to 61 per cent) in considering FOs as special players warranting specific modalities of involvement in COSOP design. The challenge is now to reach the remaining 39 per cent.**

## 1.2 FO INVOLVEMENT IN PROJECT DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

***Recommendation from the 2006 Farmers' Forum:*** FOs should be systematically involved in the design, implementation and evaluation of programmes and projects.

***IFAD Commitment in 2006:*** IFAD will seek increased FO involvement in project/programmes design and implementation in consultation with governments. The level and frequency of national FO involvement in project design and implementation will be closely monitored by IFAD and reported to the Farmers' Forum.

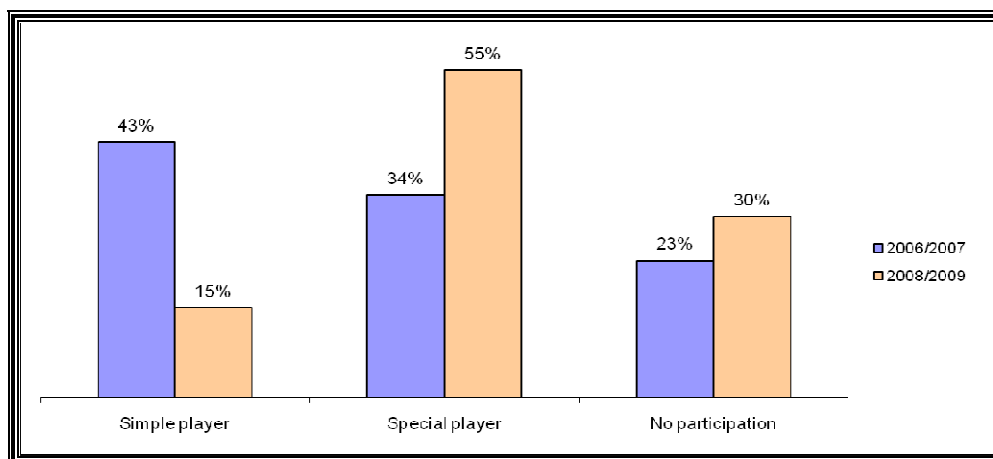
***Recommendations from the 2008 Farmers' Forum:*** IFAD staff is to receive clear direction for systematic involvement of FOs in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of country strategies and programmes. This should be done by providing time for interaction, relevant information and specific resources. One important principle to guide IFAD-FO collaboration will be attention to results in the field and strengthened monitoring and evaluation systems that involve FOs, enhancing mutual accountability between IFAD and FOs for the shared goal to fight poverty and hunger in rural areas.

### 1.2.1 Evolution of FO participation in project design

23. **Loan-funded projects** are the core of IFAD operations at country level. Most of these resources are reaching poor rural people, their communities and their organizations under the form of technical and financial services, capacity-building activities, equipment, infrastructure, and credit or matching grants for community-driven micro-projects.

24. In 2008-2009 IFAD Executive Board approved a total amount of US\$1.21 billion for 69 projects.<sup>6</sup> Total cost of these projects including all co-financing amounts to US\$2.59 billion.<sup>7</sup> Figure 4 illustrates the evolution of FO participation in project design.

**Figure 4 - Evolution of FO participation in project design**



25. Overall, trends for projects are similar to those described above for COSOPs. The decrease in the percentage of projects where FOs are considered as simple players – through participation in multilateral discussions and bilateral meetings – is largely compensated by the increase (from 34 to 55 per cent) in the percentage of projects where FOs are considered as special players – by taking

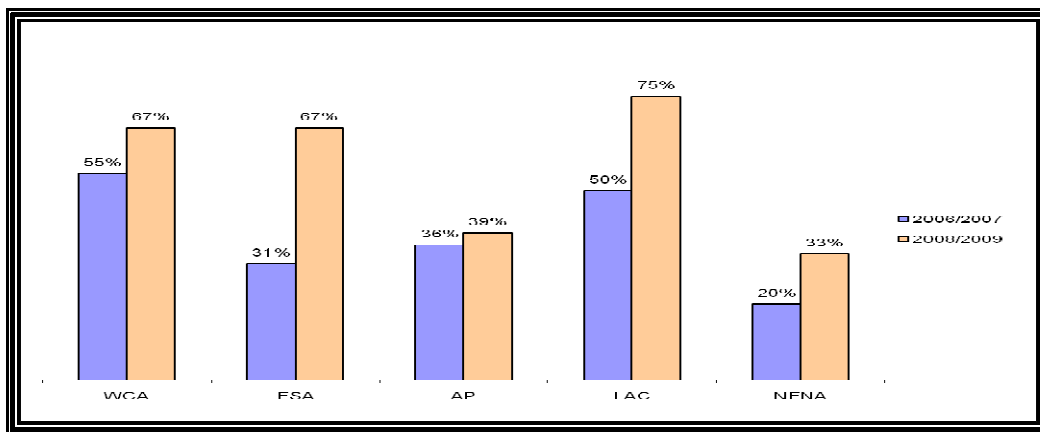
<sup>6</sup> Annex 3 presents a list of all approved projects over the biennium.

<sup>7</sup> On average, IFAD projects last between six and nine years.

part in design teams, in specific workshops and specific supports. When FOs exist and are taken into consideration, the tendency is to make special arrangements to ensure their participation.

26. The percentage of projects where FOs are not involved at all has increased by 7 per cent (from 23 to 30 per cent). CPMs mention two main reasons for not including FOs. One is that FOs' involvement is not relevant in projects that do not deal specifically with agricultural production, such as infrastructure or microfinance projects. However, examples of FO involvement in the design of microfinance projects provided below show that their involvement helps increase project relevance since FOs will eventually be the main users of project deliverables. Another reason is that a number of projects focus on community-based organizations as their main partners. However, even in this case FOs may well be worth involving, as farmer households usually constitute the largest portion of rural communities.
27. Figure 5 shows the progression in considering FOs as a special stakeholder in project design, broken down by geographical division.

**Figure 5 – Evolution of modalities regarding FOs as “special players” in project design<sup>8</sup>**



28. In all regions, the proportion of projects for which FOs were involved in the design process as special players has been increasing. In IFAD's Latin America and the Caribbean division as well as in its two African divisions, over two-thirds of the new projects involved FOs as special players in the design process, which tends to indicate that such an approach is becoming common practice in those regions, even if there is room for improvement. In the case of Asia and the Pacific and Near East and North Africa countries, it is worth recalling that FOs' involvement in project design depends upon the existence of such organizations of smallholders at local or national level and rests on government's prior agreement. However IFAD can play a key role in facilitating such an agreement and in bringing FOs to the discussion table, as illustrated in the Tanzanian example below.

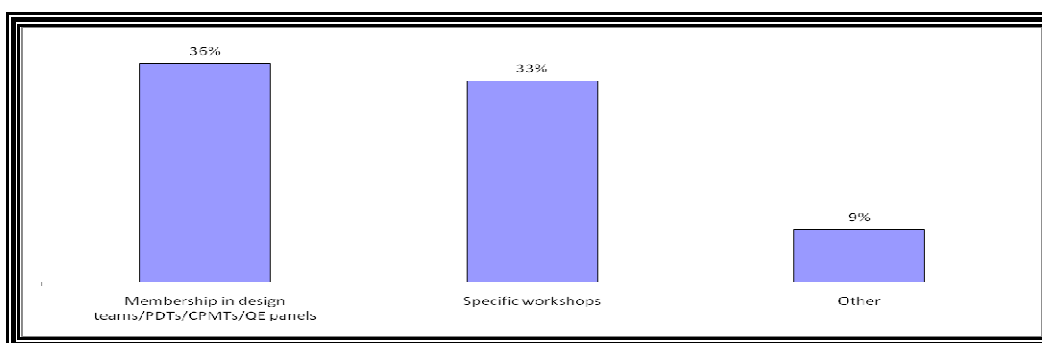
- **Tanzania** and the Agricultural Sector Development Programme (ASDP) provide a good example of the fact that FOs may not always be recognized as natural government partners and of the role that IFAD can play in promoting their participation in policy dialogue. Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima Tanzania (Defender of Farmer's Interests by Farmers Themselves – MVIWATA), Tanzania's national FO, was not invited to take part in the design of the government-sponsored ASDP, which provides a framework to guide all development efforts in the agriculture sector. One consequence is that there is no mechanism to involve FOs in the

<sup>8</sup> WCA: West and Central Africa; ESA: Eastern and Southern Africa; AP: Asia and the Pacific; LAC: Latin America and the Caribbean; NENA: Near East and North Africa.

monitoring and steering of the programme, despite the fact that farmers are the primary beneficiaries. MVIWATA was later invited to participate in the design of IFAD's support project to ASDP, including through a workshop organized with FOs.

29. Figure 6 shows the frequency of the various types of modalities through which FOs have engaged in project design processes as special players in the last biennium.

**Figure 6 – Modalities of FO participation in project design as special players (2008-2009)**



- In 36 per cent of the cases, FOs have been participating in *Design Teams, Project Development Teams, Country Programme Management Teams or Quality Enhancement Panels*.<sup>9</sup> In several cases, such as the Pro-Poor Partnerships for Agroforestry Development in **Viet Nam**, the national umbrella FO is a member of the CPMT and was consulted in the design process. In **Guinea**, FOs had a central role in the design process of the National Support Programme for Actors in Agricultural Value Chains. They were a key design partner in joint design missions, were invited to regional and local workshops and participated in meetings with other stakeholders. Representatives of the national umbrella organization Confédération Nationale des Organisations Paysannes de Guinée (CNOPG) participated in the Project Quality Enhancement at IFAD, as was also the case for the Senegalese Conseil National de Concertation et de Coopération des Ruraux (CNCR) for what regards **Senegal's** Agricultural Value Chains Support Project.
- In 33 per cent of the cases, workshops were organized with FOs, where they could provide their views and expectations vis-à-vis the new project. In **Mexico**, the design phase of the Community-Based Forestry Development Project for Southern States involved FOs from the local level as well as first- and second-tier organizations in six workshops. The design of the Development Project for Rural Poor Economic Organizations of the Border Region in the **Dominican Republic** was launched with a preliminary inventory and diagnostic of existing FOs in the region, in order to better understand their strengths, needs and opportunities. The diagnostic was followed by workshops with FOs as well as multi-stakeholder discussions. The preliminary work with the FOs helped a project strategy to be devised that focuses on second-tier organizations as an entry point, as well as to define targeting criteria.
- The “Other” category includes six cases where other types of modalities were used to involve FOs. In **Senegal** and **Mexico**, FOs were responsible for drafting the project implementation manual, while in **Sri Lanka**, FOs were responsible for designing a project component of the National Agribusiness Development Programme. In **Swaziland**, FOs were reference points for the validation of the Rural Finance and Enterprise Development Programme. In **Madagascar**, the design of the Support to Professional Organizations and Agricultural Services Project

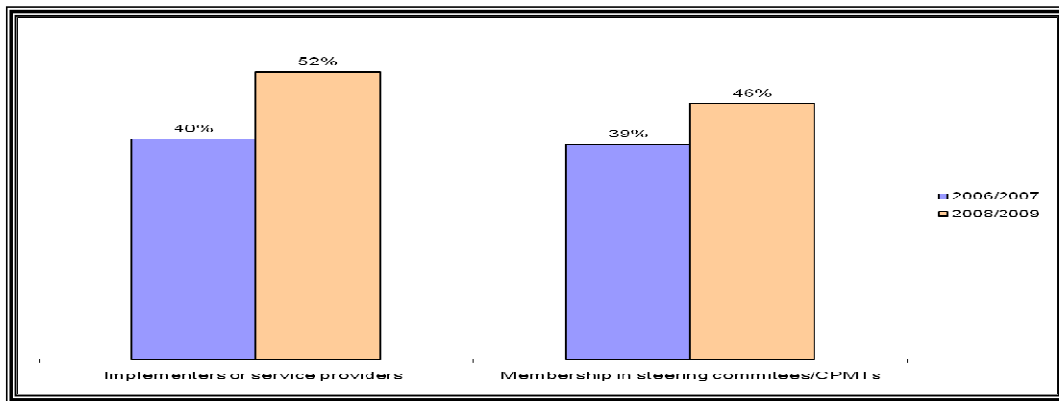
<sup>9</sup> The Quality Enhancement Panel reviews project compliance with IFAD norms and standards to optimize the relevance, coherence, implementability and impact of project design.

involved FOs at all stages, including in the design team. In addition FOs received capacity-building support to facilitate their participation and to support coordination and collaboration among the five national FOs.

### 1.2.2 Evolution of FO participation in project implementation

30. The results presented below are related to projected FO participation in the implementation of projects approved in the two last biennia. The survey captures the extent to which project design documents include FOs in project implementation modalities. However it does not measure actual FO participation in project implementation, which is addressed in section 1.2.3 relative to the impact of FOs' participation in project implementation. Figure 7 compares the evolution in the projected role assigned to FOs in project implementation.

**Figure 7 – Evolution of FO expected participation in project implementation**



31. The percentage of projects that plan to involve FOs as *implementing agents or service providers* has significantly increased, from 40 to 52 per cent. FOs are providing services in over half of the projects approved in 2008-2009.

- In the Revitalizing the Sudan Gum Arabic Production and Marketing Project in **Sudan**, grants will be provided to support capacity development in marketing, market studies as well as research and development for improving quality and adding value. Unions of producer associations are among the agencies that are eligible to implement these activities, based on calls for proposals.
- In the Agricultural Rehabilitation and Poverty reduction Project in **Côte d'Ivoire**, the Association Nationale des Organisations Professionnelles Agricoles de Côte d'Ivoire (ANOPACI) and the national rice producers' organization function as service providers, particularly providing advice and information related to access to and use of improved seeds.

32. In close to half of the projects (46 per cent), FOs are *members of the project steering committee*, which represents a significant increase compared to the previous biennium. This gives FOs the opportunity to participate in decision making, including the approval and monitoring of the project Annual Work Plan and Budget, which is the main instrument for resource allocation within a project.

33. In several cases, there are plans for FOs to be responsible for *managing a project* or part of a project component.

- In the National Support Programme for Actors in Agricultural Value Chains in **Guinea**, FOs prepare annual work plans and budgets and are then responsible for implementing them, which includes managing related project financing and recruiting assistance.
- 
- In **Madagascar**, regional chambers of agriculture are expected to take responsibility for implementing the project component dedicated to FO capacity development in AROPA's second phase, based on a contract to be signed with the Ministry of Agriculture and an NGO consortium providing technical assistance (see Box 1).

### 1.2.3 Impact of FO participation in project design and implementation

34. The quantitative survey carried out with CPMs included questions about the benefits that FOs' participation had brought to project design. In addition, the qualitative survey provides a wealth of information on how FOs themselves view their participation in project design and implementation as well as the benefits that it brought them.
35. **CPMs' assessment of the impact of FOs' participation in project design and implementation.** According to CPMs, FOs' participation had an influence on project design in 58 per cent of the projects and contributed to better analysis and better targeting of small farmers, and increased FO ownership. CPMs noted that FOs' main contribution in the design was their experience from previous projects and the lessons that they had learned. These various areas are reviewed below.
36. **Better analysis and targeting.** Many CPMs reported that FOs' contribution to project design had consisted in ensuring a stronger focus on small farmers because of their knowledge of the local context and their understanding of priority needs of the target population in general, but also by contributing to the selection of value chains and of support activities that would benefit principally small farmers. For example in the Rural Financial Services and Marketing Programme in **Moldova**, the Agricultural Value Chains Support Project in **Senegal**, and the Ardahan-Kars-Artvin Development Project in **Turkey**, FOs contributed to the choice of commodities and production areas that would mainly benefit smallholders, including women producers. By preparing the implementation manual for the Community-based Forestry Development Project for Southern States in **Mexico**, FOs contributed to ensuring that smallholders would benefit from the project by including specific targeting modalities. In many cases FOs also have an important role in informing the local population about the project. In Albania and in the Dominican Republic, FOs contributed to mainstreaming a gender approach into project design. In **the Dominican Republic**, the preliminary inventory of existing rural organizations targeted by the Development Project for Rural Poor Economic Organizations of the Border Region and in consultations with FOs led to the scaling up of good gender-sensitive practises throughout the project. These include specific efforts to increase the incorporation of women members in first- and second-tier FOs, as well as the number of women in FOs' leadership. In **Albania** the design team met about ten rural women's associations for the design of the Mountains to Market Programme, which helped in defining ways of mainstreaming gender in the project – for example by offering capacity building to women and their organizations so that they could access the various project.
37. **Increased ownership.** FOs' participation resulted in a better matching of project design with FOs' concerns and in increased responsibilities for FOs. In **Guinea**, FOs' intensive involvement in the project through co-designing, commenting, guiding consultants' teams and participating in the Quality Enhancement Panel contributed significantly to institutional analysis and arrangements for the programme structure. For example the implementation of the component of small-scale productive infrastructure passed under the direct responsibility of FOs. In several projects FOs also had a central role in choosing service providers. In **Rwanda**, during the design of the Kirehe Community-based Watershed Management Project, FOs advocated for local governments to be largely in charge of implementation, which resulted in a strong local focus in the project design.

38. FOs' role in project design is important even when the project is not focusing on productive activities. For example, FOs had a central role in the design of several microfinance projects. This was the case, for example, in **Cameroon's** Rural Microfinance Development Support Project, where FOs participated in the selection of microfinance institutions. In **Mali**, FOs pointed out the need for new financial tools, which was then reflected in the design of the Rural Microfinance Programme. In **Ghana**, FOs brought their knowledge of various on-going experiences in financing agriculture to the design of the Rural and Agricultural Finance Programme. In the design of the Rural Finance Programme in **Belize**, FO involvement helped develop targeting criteria and brought a better understanding of needs with regard to financial services. This in turn helped in formulating a project strategy that supported local financial intermediaries by expanding their outreach and diversifying their services.

### **FOs assessment of the impact of their involvement in project design and implementation**

- **Benefits to FOs**

39. The qualitative survey captured FOs' views with regard to the benefits that they had gained in being involved in project design and implementation. These included: capacity building, increased contacts, improved dialogue with governments and donors, institutional development, greater cohesion and increased membership.

40. **Capacity building.** Most of the surveyed organizations responded that by participating in the projects they gained increased capacities, through training and capacity-building programmes, but also by acquiring expertise, gaining increased staff exposure and developing external contacts.

➤ In **Nicaragua**, the Value Chain and Market Access Project for Smallholders has introduced the Unión Nacional de Agricultores y Ganaderos (UNAG) and member FOs to value chains and has assisted in implementing a new process to facilitate farmers' integration into value chains. It has built UNAG's capacities to design micro-projects and business plans for farmers' associations, and has improved its ability to discuss and formulate economic policies in collaboration with members. Overall, UNAG considers that it has increased the quality of assistance provided to members, leading to increased efficiency.

41. **Increased contacts.** Again most of the organizations considered that their involvement in projects has led to increased contacts with their members and partners. Even at the local level, the simple fact that FOs were involved in coordination meetings with project implementation teams and partners gave them the opportunity to develop new relationships with public and private stakeholders, to improve their access to information and increase their knowledge, and to voice their concerns and defend their priorities. This in turn has earned them increased recognition by both their members and rural stakeholders.

➤ In **Cambodia**, the Rural Livelihoods Improvement Project (RuLIP) helped farmers' groups become active economic players. The project offered technical and management capacity-building support and facilitated the transfer of technologies. It also helped farmers groups develop relations among themselves, establish partnerships with an array of service providers and traders, and interact with local governments.

➤ In **Viet Nam**, the Programme for Improving Market Participation of the Poor assisted the Provincial Farmers' Association of Tra Vinh province in acquiring increased capacity to meet markets demand in quantity and quality and to develop collective economic management functions. Now cooperatives and farmers' groups market their produce based on contracts signed with trading enterprises.

42. **Improved dialogue with governments and donors.** Most of the surveyed organizations found that projects have helped improve their relationship with national and local governments. Many national



FOs underline the instrumental role played by IFAD in providing increased visibility and recognition, thereby paving the way for a more systematic involvement in policy dialogue.

- In **Tanzania**, MVIWATA is gaining visibility and recognition at the local and national levels due to the combination of two factors: its participation in the design of IFAD's contribution to the Agriculture Sector Development Programme has enabled MVIWATA to enter policy dialogue with the government; and a grant has helped increase MVIWATA's capacities and facilitated its active participation in the policy dialogue. At the local level, this has brought immediate benefits for the organizations as the district governments of Mantumbo, Masasi and Nvinga in the Mutuara region have now included a line in the district budget to finance the strengthening of district Farmers' Forums.
- In **Mali**, the Coordination National des Organisations Paysannes du Mali (CNOP), the national umbrella organization, indicated that its participation in the COSOP process gave it the possibility to promote its strategic plan with government representatives and opened up new opportunities for taking CNOP strategic priorities into account in government programmes. Ultimately CNOP participation in the COSOP process earned it increased government respect and recognition. According to its president, "All donors should share such an approach, which would contribute to generating a better balance between the government and other stakeholders in the rural sector, and would increase projects efficiency."
- In **Madagascar**, the Association for Farmers' Progress (FI.FA.TA.), one of the five national umbrella organizations, indicated that FOs are not yet systematically involved in policy dialogue with the government. However FI.FA.TA's involvement in the IFAD-financed AROPA project enabled it to take part in the preparation of the new policy on agricultural support services and to voice the views of its affiliates with regard to upcoming district Centres for Agricultural Services and Regional Funds for Agricultural Development.

43. ***Institutional development.*** Institutional development is a benefit mentioned by about half of the surveyed organizations. It has taken several forms:

- *legal constitution:* in **Cambodia** and **Laos** project support has enabled farmer groups to evolve into larger, legally recognized FOs at local and provincial levels;
- 
- *logistics:* in **Niger**, the Development Project for the Promotion of Local Initiatives in Aguié financed the construction of office premises for local organizations;
- *expansion:* in **Madagascar**, all national FOs (Koloharena) were involved in the preparation of AROPA, including in regions where they had not yet developed any activity. The organizations thereby had the opportunity to make themselves known and to expand their network into new geographical areas.

44. ***Greater cohesion and increased membership.*** Several organizations reported how capacity development and increased efficiency had improved internal cohesion, generated increased trust between members and elected leaders, and reinforced team building. FOs increased their efficiency altogether, which for several of them resulted in significant increases in their membership.

- In **Senegal**, the number of farmers' federations and union members of the umbrella organization CNCR rose from 22 to 28 (with another six organizations awaiting affiliation) as a result of increased visibility, increased capacity and additional resources gained through the Agricultural Services Producers' Organizations Project (PSAOP).
- In **Kenya**, membership in the Kenyan National Federation of Agricultural Producers (KENFAP) has increased because of greater visibility and credibility gained through its participation in

events promoted by the Smallholder Agriculture and Marketing Programme (SHOMAP). This has also contributed to increasing its financial resources through higher membership fees.

- **Benefits to project activities and outcomes**

45. FOs' assessment of benefits gained out of their involvement in IFAD-supported project confirms CPMs' opinion.
46. **Better targeting.** For example in **Niger** and in **Laos**, local FOs participated in project planning by helping mobilize farmers in local diagnostics and planning, which has contributed to better targeting of most vulnerable categories, and particularly women. In **Nicaragua**, UNAG's involvement in the Value Chain and Market Access Project for Smallholders ensured that project activities would focus on smallholders. In **Kenya**, KENFAP's involvement in project district planning meetings as well its participation in the definition of selection criteria led to a focus on existing, organized farmers' groups, which allows better efficiency and impact, and contributes to a closer matching between farmers' needs and project activities. Early involvement of farmers in project activities also increases their acceptance of innovation/new activities.
47. **Greater relevance of project activities.** Most of the organizations indicated that their participation in project activities led to more relevant and more demand-driven project activities. Many also underlined that this resulted in increased ownership and sustainability of project investments thanks to a stronger implication for and motivation of project beneficiaries. In **Laos, Niger** and **Viet Nam**, project activities are planned by farmers in accordance with their constraints and demands and they match farmers' priorities, particularly with respect to better access to improved seeds and other agricultural inputs.
48. **More effective implementation.** The majority of surveyed FOs also considered that their involvement in project design and implementation resulted in more effective project implementation. For example in **Senegal**, the assignment of management responsibilities to the Association Sénégalaise pour le Promotion du Développement à la Base (ASPRODEB) in implementing the component supporting FO development in the PSAOP led to a better focus on FO needs, better circulation of information on project opportunities, better targeting not only of FOs but also of priority value chains, and better selection of service providers. In addition, CNCR's involvement in the implementation of the project components supporting research and extension services (CNCR chairs the National Fund for Agricultural Research and is a member of the board of the National Agency for Agricultural and Rural Counsel) has increased the coherence and impact of the project altogether.
49. **Better impact on food security.** There are also good indications that FO involvement contributes to improved food security. For example in **Viet Nam**, the involvement of Provincial Farmers' Associations in the Programme for Improving Market Participation of the Poor in Ha Tinh and Tra Vinh Provinces has contributed to focussing on food crops and on supporting farmers in reducing vulnerability of this type of production. In **Senegal**, FOs' participation in PSAOP has resulted in the development of a sustainable production of quality groundnut seeds through the creation of cooperatives of seed producers and of FOs specializing in input supply.

#### **1.2.4 Difficulties in engaging FOs in project design and implementation**

50. This section results from a synthesis, prepared on the basis of the survey results, of the constraints and difficulties encountered by CPMs and FOs to effectively involve FOs in project design and implementation.
51. **Time and financial resources to support FOs' participation.** Bringing together FO representatives from scattered geographical locations and organizing communication in multi-lingual contexts are two common challenges faced when involving FOs in any type of consultation process. It is very

demanding for CPMs, who need to devolve significant time not only to organizing and supporting such processes, but also in finding appropriate financial channels to cover the cost. The time issue constitutes a major constraint, especially since IFAD CPMs, during the last biennium, had to take over direct supervision of projects, which considerably increased their workload.

52. This difficulty was particularly underlined by FOs participating in the qualitative survey. For them most recurrent difficulties are the lack of remuneration for providing services and the lack of appropriate logistics. Providing even simple intermediation or facilitation services is time-demanding and costly. FO leaders are dedicating their time on a voluntary basis. Remunerated technical staff, when there are any, are usually overloaded. While FOs recognize that participation in IFAD activities brings unquestionable benefits, a third of those participating in the survey also state that they do not have access to financial resources that would help them to better cope with additional tasks and result in better performance. For example in **Nicaragua**, the national umbrella organization UNAG is assisting in implementing the Value Chain and Market Access Project for Smallholders without receiving financial resources to support its involvement. The project does not include any financial provisions to cover costs involved by UNAG's participation. UNAG suggests that this derives from its not having been involved in the project design or being requested to estimate costs related to its participation in the project. In **Senegal**, 29 federations representing farmers, fishers, livestock breeders, women and forestry producers' organizations created ASPRODEB, an NGO that is an implementing agency for a whole component of the PSAOP. But other responsibilities carried out by FOs (and in particular by the national umbrella organization CNCR) in the implementation of PSAOP are not remunerated. Accessing sustainable resources to finance permanent staff and expertise and to cover overhead expenses is difficult, yet it is a necessity considering the very low level of fees that farmers can allow to pay in most of the countries.
53. A simple participation in a project meeting, be it for design or implementation, is very time-consuming especially when preparatory work is needed to express farmers' concerns. In inviting FOs to participate, IFAD and the government expect them to represent their members particularly at sub-national and national levels, but this also translates into additional costs: it may involve organizing preparatory meetings, travelling, translating documents, circulating them, etc. In **Mali**, the national umbrella organization CNOP notes that its budget is limited but that when it is asked to participate in IFAD activities, there are usually no resources to facilitate its participation. Finally, the lack of appropriate logistics, such as premises, office equipment and transportation means, constitutes an additional difficulty.
54. In Africa, the Support to Farmers Organizations in Africa Programme (presented in Section 4 on Direct Financial Support) is helping address this problem by providing direct financial support to FO regional networks and their national affiliates.
55. **Farmers' availability.** Farmers' participation is constrained by their farming activities and by agricultural seasons – their availability cannot be guaranteed at all times. On the other hand, sufficient time needs to be made available to national FOs for internal consultations so that they are able to better represent the views of their members when attending consultations with IFAD. Moreover, time requirements are often conflicting with tight timelines imposed by IFAD internal procedures.
56. **FO capacities.** In some cases, both FOs and CPMs pointed out the weak capacity of FOs to make effective contributions. However FOs' participation in design processes can also positively impact their capacities, as was assessed above by CPMs who involved FOs in the COSOP design process. Illiteracy is also a widespread problem that requires adapting communication to make it accessible to the majority of farmers. Contexts where IFAD official languages are not spoken by a large proportion of farmers also require special attention.

57. ***FO representativeness.*** Several CPMs mentioned the lack of representativeness of some FOs, the limited presence of women in leadership positions, or the fact that they may not include the poorest rural people. In some countries – for example in **Brazil** and the **Philippines** – FOs most commonly involved in the COSOP process are national unions or confederations of producer organizations. Even when they are large and well developed FOs, they do not necessarily represent the local FOs with which IFAD projects are working. The disconnection between local FOs and national umbrella organizations may be caused by distance and/or a lack of resources. Projects and specific support can definitely play a role in helping local FOs join umbrella organizations and in assisting the latter to open up to include the former, as has been achieved in various countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and Asia.
58. Another issue complicating the collaboration from the point of view of IFAD staff is the politicized nature of FOs in some countries, an issue that came up strongly in connection with loan-supported projects as well. For example in **Haiti**, national FOs have direct linkages to political parties. During COSOP consultations, some FOs that were invited to two workshops refused to participate if FOs linked to other political parties would be present. The design team resolved the problem by organizing two separate meetings with FOs. In other cases, an intermediation process supported by a project or a grant can help find ways of bringing together the various FOs around agricultural issues rather than political ones, and create a national platform that represents the farmers in their diversity. In some instances, it was noted that FOs' lack of recognition by the government also hampered their participation.
59. ***Donor procedures.*** A few FOs participating in the qualitative survey mentioned that they had to adapt their procedures in order to match IFAD requirements. This constitutes a cumbersome and time-consuming constraint for organizations that often lack staff and management capacities. It was noted that donors require partners to adapt to their procedures but that they seldom adapt their own to those of their partners.
60. ***National procurement procedures.*** Restrictive national procurement procedures may discourage FOs from bidding for contracts awarded in loan-supported projects. To circumvent the difficulty, FOs can be identified as service providers at the design stage with government's agreement, as has been the case, for example, in **Guinea**.

*Conclusion regarding FO involvement in project design and implementation*

During the last biennium, FOs' involvement in project design and implementation has evolved very positively. FOs are involved as a special stakeholder warranting specific modalities of participation in more than half of the cases (55 per cent , as compared to 34 per cent in 2006/2007). The percentage of projects involving FOs as implementing agents or service providers has increased by 30 per cent, and FOs are now members of project steering committees in close to half of the projects approved over the last biennium.

An important finding of the review is the creativity and imagination deployed by CPMs willing to work with FOs to involve them in project design and implementation. Very diverse modalities are applied, which vary according to national contexts as well as to FOs' actual capacities. In a number of cases, this has also included providing FOs with capacity building and institutional support so as to facilitate their active participation.

As noted by the majority of CPMs and FOs themselves, their involvement in project design or implementation has brought significant advantages in areas that are key to achieve IFAD's corporate objectives. FOs' contribution has ensured a stronger focus on small and poorer farmers. It has given access to a wealth of local and indigenous knowledge and experience, which has enhanced project relevance. It has also contributed to increase project sustainability by developing FO ownership.

However, there is still room for improvement: in 45 per cent of the cases FOs are still not considered as special players. Yet their role is important even when the project is not focusing on productive or marketing activities, as farmers constitute the main user of goods and services delivered in the rural areas. Hence projects focusing on areas such as rural infrastructure, local development, support to decentralization, microfinance or business development services should involve farmers' representatives in the design process, even if farmers are not their direct stakeholders.

## 2. DIRECT FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO FOS

***Recommendation from the 2006 Farmers' Forum:*** IFAD to support FOs' own capacity building efforts, both at national and regional levels, through direct financing and according to their own priorities.

***IFAD Commitment in 2006:*** closely monitor progress in the area of direct financing to FOs and at least double the number and volume of capacity-building grants to FOs in 2006-2007, compared to the two previous years.

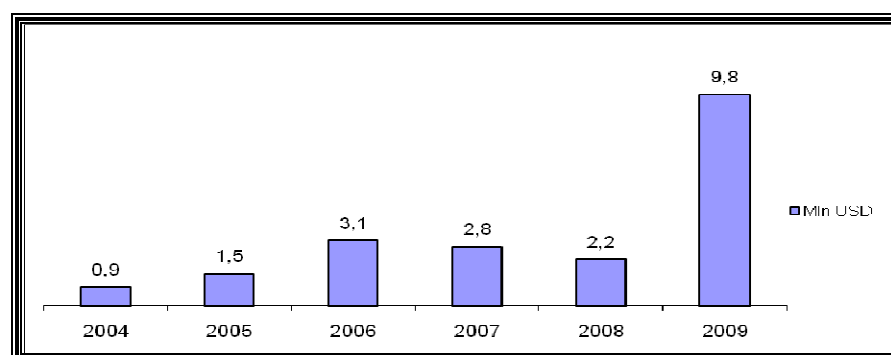
***Recommendation from the 2008 Farmers' Forum:*** IFAD to provide direct financial support over the long term and in a sustained way, in particular through apex organizations at national and regional levels, to enable FOs to strengthen their structure and organize them on higher levels.

61. IFAD's main financial instrument consists of loans to governments of its Member States. However the Fund also provides "direct" financial support to FOs. This direct support can be provided through two modalities: either the FO is the direct recipient of the funds or it designates itself a recipient when it cannot be the formal recipient for reasons related to its institutional, administrative or legal status. The grant facility is IFAD's main instrument for direct financing of FOs' own projects, although direct financial support has also been provided through supplementary funds,<sup>10</sup> direct "institutional contracts" with FOs and demand-driven technical assistance. Support to FOs provided through loan-supported projects (which is by far the largest part) is not considered in this section as it goes through governments.

### 2.1 EVOLUTION OF DIRECT SUPPORT TO FOS

62. **Major increase in the volume of direct financing.** The total amount of direct financing to FOs over the biennium 2008-2009 reached US\$12.0 million, more than double the amount of 2006-2007 (US\$5.9 million). Figure 8 shows the evolution of annual allocation from 2004 to 2009: in six years, direct financing to FOs has been multiplied by 11. Mobilization of supplementary funds (in particular from the European Commission) blending IFADs' own resources played a key role in the exceptional result achieved in 2009.

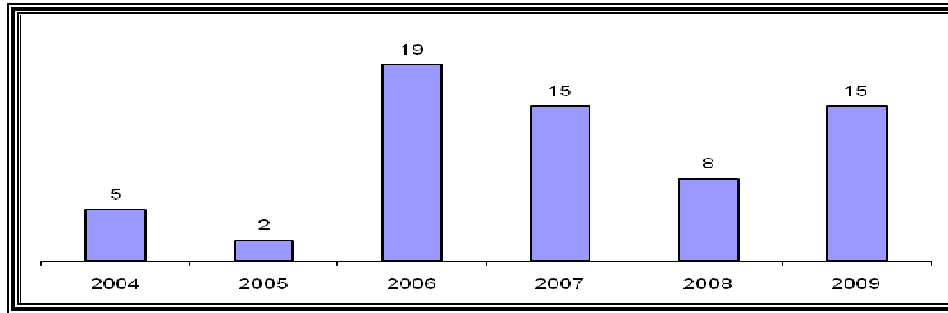
**Figure 8 – Evolution of direct financial support to FOs**



<sup>10</sup> Supplementary funds are extra-budgetary resources provided by IFAD Member States for specific programmes or activities.

63. **Smaller number of grants.** Despite the increase in the total amount of direct support, the number of individual grants and institutional contracts with FOs approved by IFAD has been decreasing by about one third, passing from 34 in 2006-2007 to 23 in 2008-2009. Figure 9 shows the evolution in the number of approved grants since 2004. Annex 4 provides the list of all grants approved in 2008-2009.

**Figure 9 – Evolution of direct financial support by number of approved grants**



64. This trend of increasing contribution through a reduced number of transactions is obviously positive in terms of efficiency gains, given the high transaction cost of each single grant operation. As a matter of fact, the average amount of the direct contributions to FOs increased from US\$0.17 million in 2006-2007 to US\$0.52 million in 2008-2009, representing a three-fold increase.

65. **Trend toward regional/global financial support.** Another important evolution over the biennia lies in the geographical/organizational level targeted by direct financial support. In 2006-2007 about a third of the grants or institutional contracts were made at the national level, and the remaining two thirds were split between regional and global levels. In 2008-2009, only one grant targeted the national level, in Ghana, for an amount of US\$200,000. Fourteen grants addressed the regional level and six went to the global level. This new pattern of distribution corresponds to the evolution in the number of approved grants: it is less costly for IFAD to process few large regional or global grants that can benefit a larger number of national organizations through their regional or global networks, than to formulate a multitude of small grants targeting single national organizations. The preference for the regional or sub-regional levels also corresponds to the growing interest of FOs in regional integration processes, in particular in Africa and in Latin America.

66. **Regional level.** At the regional level, grant projects approved over 2008-2009 provide direct financial support to FOs for a total amount of US\$10.2 million. The main objectives are to build the capacities of recipient FOs, to support institution building and to facilitate FO engagement in policy dialogue.

- In **Africa**, IFAD engaged with the European Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) in a major initiative: the Support to Farmers' Organisations in Africa Programme (SFOAP). It is managed by and benefits four sub-regional networks – the East African Farmers Federation (EAFF), the Sub-Regional Platform of Farmers' Organisations in Central Africa (PROPAC), ROPPA and SACAU – for a total amount of US\$7.6 million. The programme, which was jointly designed by IFAD and the four networks, supports institutional strengthening (through staffing, expertise, training, communication and equipment) and facilitates FOs' engagement in policy dialogue by providing expertise and other resources to develop and promote smallholders' interests on priority agricultural issues. The grant benefits both regional networks directly and their national members: a total of 36 national FOs will share around 60 per cent of the grant resources to support their institutional and capacity building and to facilitate their involvement in national policy processes. In addition, the programme supports

the creation of a Pan-African Farmers' Platform, bringing together all of the five existing African sub-regional networks, including the Maghreb Agricultural Union.

- **Africa** also benefits from a large grant (US\$950,000) to enable sustainable land management and support resilient pastoralist livelihoods in rangeland environments. The project will support pastoralist organizations of nine countries in Northern, Central and Eastern Africa (**Algeria, Chad, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Somalia, Sudan and Tanzania**) to enhance their capacities to engage in policy dialogue, develop pastoralist lobbies and advocacy, build pastoralist adaptive capacities to climate change, promote better land management and land use systems, and enhance pastoralists' engagement with the market. This project is a direct response to recommendations made by the 2008 Farmers' Forum in favour of **stronger IFAD partnership with pastoralists**.
- In **Latin America and the Caribbean**, a US\$416,000 grant, complemented by an additional IFAD contribution of US\$120,000 in late 2009 and co-financed by Agriterra, Oxfam and Action Aid, benefits 12 national family FOs in seven countries (**Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay**). The objective is to help them obtain legal recognition for their regional platform (Confederación de Organizaciones de Productores Familiares del MERCOSUR – COPROFAM) and engage in policy dialogue within the Mercado Común del Sur (MERCOSUR). A US\$124,000 grant to Terra Livre supports 26 organizations in ten countries (**Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela**) to increase the capacities of women and youth leaders to participate in policy processes within their organizations.<sup>11</sup> A US\$194,000 grant to the Windward Islands Farmers Association (WINFA) supports small producers and agro-processors in four Caribbean countries (**Dominica, Grenada, St Lucia and St Vincent**).
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- In **Asia**, the Medium Term Cooperation Programme with Farmers' Organizations in Asia and the Pacific (valued at US\$1.4 million) was approved by IFAD in April 2008.<sup>12</sup> Its objectives are to: (i) develop FOs' networking and knowledge management skills at the national, regional and global levels and to formulate a strategy to strengthen future collaboration; ii) improve dialogue between FOs, national-level policy making bodies and regional economic communities on issues prioritized by FOs in the programme countries; and (iii) involve FOs in IFAD country programmes in the region. The programme will include the profiling of some FOs and involving them in the design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of IFAD country programmes. During the design phase of the programme, a workshop was held in Bangkok with regional FOs to obtain their feedback and include their views in the design document. Upon their request grant resources provided by IFAD are channelled through two recipients: the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) of India for the South Asia Sub-Programme, and FAO on behalf of the FOs for the South-East Asia plus China Sub-Programme, as well as region-wide activities and technical assistance support. Specific country-level activities started in mid-2009 in South Asia (India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. They should begin in Southeast Asia plus China, along with region-wide activities, in early 2010 with the recruitment of the Regional Programme Coordinator, which will be done in consultation with FOs.
- In 2009, another grant of US\$200,000 was approved in Asia to support the first regional gathering of pastoralist women in Gujarat (**India**).

67. **Global level.** A total of US\$1.85 million was approved for direct financing to FOs at the global level.

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<sup>11</sup> See also chapter 4 on Involvement of Women and Youth in FO leadership.

<sup>12</sup> Although formally approved in early 2008, this grant was counted in the 2006-2007 biennium.



- The **International Federation of Agricultural Producers** (IFAP) is currently implementing a grant of US\$1 million (cofinanced by AgriCord and CTA) to facilitate smallholders' access to markets (Empowering Small Farmers in Markets – ESFIM).
- Four grants totalling US\$650,000 enabled FOs of developing countries to participate in international events: the World Rural Youth Conference organized by the **International Movement of Agricultural Rural Youth** (MIJARC/IMARY) in Uganda in May 2008; the **Civil Society Fora**, parallel to the FAO High Level Conference on World Food Security (June 2008) and to the World Summit on Food Security (November 2009); and FAO's Global Conference "Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries" in October 2008 (grant to the **World Federation of Fisher Peoples**, WFFP). These cases are described in more detail in Section 3 on Support to Policy Engagement.

## 2.2 IMPACT OF DIRECT SUPPORT TO FOS

68. The survey covered five national and two regional FOs that are involved in one national grant project and three regional grant programmes approved in the previous biennium (2006-2007).<sup>13</sup> The impact reported by these organizations is quite similar to the impact reported for loan-supported projects in which FOs are strongly involved. It includes:

- **increased institutional capacity:** for example in **Southern Africa**, a US\$200,000 grant enabled **SACAU** to launch a long-term capacity-development programme for national FOs. A well qualified and experienced capacity-building officer was hired who helped in identifying issues regarding the institutional capacity of member organizations. The outcomes were extensively used in the development of SACAU's Strategic Plan and were instrumental in planning for SACAU's activities in the region. Training materials such as manuals and guidelines were developed and support services are being provided to national FOs;

### **Box 2 – Building the capacities of farmers organizations in Sub-Saharan Africa: a collaboration between IFAD and AgriCord to support local and national FOs**

AgriCord, the alliance of agri-agencies created by producers' organizations of developed countries,<sup>14</sup> is a close partner of IFAD in providing support to FOs. It received a US\$500,000 contribution from IFAD (and its Italian Supplementary Fund), to implement the programme "Building Capacities of Farmers Organizations in Sub-Saharan Africa". The objective of this regional programme was to strengthen the organizational capacity of national FOs on a demand-led basis. The evaluation of the programme showed that:

- The programme was successfully implemented in 14 Sub-Saharan countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, and Togo. FO inventories or mapping were carried out in Cameroon, Ghana, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Tanzania and Uganda. Sixteen FOs engaged in organizational profiling in various countries. A total of 24 FOs received support to participate in policy making at the regional level (food crisis and food sovereignty) and at the national level (value chain organization, agriculture sector policy). Ten projects were also supported for strengthening FO staff capacity through workshops, training, information and communication technology application, procedures and handbook development

<sup>13</sup> See Annex 5 for the list of projects and FOs involved in the qualitative survey.

<sup>14</sup> AgriCord has a co-operation agreement with the Development Cooperation Committee (DCC) of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP). Seven agri-agencies are currently AgriCord's members: AFDI and FERT (France); Agriterra (Netherlands); Trias and CSA (Belgium); SCC (Sweden); and UPA DI (Canada). Three FOs are associated members: MTK (Finland), CIA (Italy) and UPA (Spain).

- IFAD CPMs involved in the programme assessed the profiling and mapping tools developed by AgriCord as useful and efficient because they help identify FOs and establish stronger ties with them. However, operational links or working contacts between IFAD staff and AgriCord officers remained limited, with the exception of Ghana and Madagascar. This is partly due to the fact that IFAD and agri-agency operating modalities are different, and that no formal agreements had been defined in this respect.
- There is a need to review the terms of collaboration between IFAD and AgriCord. The establishment of an AgriCord reference point per country, along with the increasing number of out-posted IFAD CPMs, should facilitate linkages and collaboration at country level.
- The number of FOs that strengthened their internal institutional capacities and external outreach is increasing at national and regional levels. These FOs are increasingly able to define and plan for their priorities and to act as service providers to their members. As a consequence, IFAD tends to prioritize direct support to these FOs instead of passing through collaboration with the agri-agency members of AgriCord, despite the fact that agri-agencies' know-how is critical for FOs' development. The collaboration between IFAD and AgriCord must therefore be revisited and improved in light of this evolution.
- In some countries and regions, development agencies have been initiated by umbrella organizations and have started providing services to their members or other FOs, thus playing some agri-agency roles. Consequently, AgriCord is planning to explore intensified working relations with these new agencies and is envisaging closer partnerships within the AgriCord alliance.

- *institutional development:* in South America, the creation of COPROFAM was facilitated by a grant financing its legal recognition. In **Southern Africa**, a grant enabled SACAU to set up a Functional Capacity Development Unit, headed by a qualified capacity-building officer, that extends support to members in developing and/or reviewing their constitutions. The **Zimbabwe Farmers Union** benefited from the same grant to carry out a restructuring exercise resulting in the creation of representative committees from the grassroots to national level and in setting up a new staff structure following the union's strategic themes;
- *increased memberships, exchange and convergence among FOs:* one of the expected outcomes of the grant to SACAU was to increase the membership of smallholder organizations. National organizations from **Botswana, Lesotho, the Seychelles, Swaziland and Tanzania** joined the regional network. The additional impact reported for grants actually derives from their regional nature, which enabled participating national FOs to exchange experience and knowledge. In **Central America**, the Programme for Strengthening Rural Organizations to Participate in Policy Dialogue has contributed to increased/strengthened relationships between FOs from **Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua**. This has enabled them to identify common interests and jointly develop their policy agenda vis-a-vis the Central American Agricultural Policy;
- *stronger engagement with governments:* regional grant project projects have supported FOs in entering policy dialogue and negotiation with governments, both at the national and at the regional levels. In **South America**, COPROFAM participates actively in the Special Meeting on Family Agriculture (REAF), a structure created in the framework of MERCOSUR to foster dialogue and negotiation between governments and family farmers' organizations. COPROFAM demonstrated its proactive capacity by conducting a study to present policy proposals for fighting hunger in rural areas. In **Zimbabwe**, the Zimbabwe Farmers Union's new strategic plan, which was sponsored by SACAU, was a key instrument in promoting new partnerships

with donors. The union is now supported by the European Commission, which is financing a capacity-building project.

***Conclusion regarding direct support to FOs***

**Direct financing to FOs through grant has increased dramatically since the beginning of the Farmers' Forum process, reaching a significant amount (US\$10 million in 2009), which is additional and complementary to the much larger support to smallholder farmers that IFAD provides through loans to governments.**

**The evolution towards large regional grants supporting various national FOs through their regional networks is a positive trend. It prevents the multiplication of small operations and related administrative costs (for design and approval but also supervision) and enables stronger coherence in overall partnerships with FOs at regional level.**

**Increasingly, IFAD is mobilizing supplementary funds and entering into co-financing arrangement with other FO partners (European Commission, AgriCord, bilateral donors and NGOs) following a demand-led approach controlled by FOs. In this regard the regional programme supporting FOs in Africa appears to be a promising model.**

**Surveys clearly demonstrate the positive impact of direct support to FOs in terms of capacity building, institutional development, increased membership and autonomous policy engagement of the organizations of smallholder farmers, pastoralists and fishers. Furthermore the positive impact of FOs' involvement in IFAD country programmes, illustrated above, suggests that support to FOs through direct financing should be maintained and possibly increased. The new IFAD grant policy facilitating the design and approval process will be helpful in this respect.**

**The ultimate impact of these FOs capacity-building programmes on the livelihoods of smallholder men and women farmers remains to be assessed and analysed. In this regard self-evaluation efforts by FOs should be increased.**

### 3. SUPPORT TO POLICY ENGAGEMENT AT REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS

***Farmers' Forum Recommendation:*** IFAD should continue and broaden its support for the set-up of regional platforms for dialogue and negotiations between farmers' organizations and governments within sub-regional and regional institutions involved in integration processes (e.g. Special Meeting on Family Agriculture (REAF)/MERCOSUR). It should also continue its support to regional consultations among farmers' organizations in their lobbying and advocacy initiatives vis-à-vis these processes of integration and the development of regional common agricultural policies (e.g. support to FOs' engagement in the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Initiative).

***IFAD Commitment in 2006:*** IFAD committed to extend the support already provided to areas in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and in the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA).

***Recommendations from the 2008 Farmers' Forum:*** IFAD should support farmers' organizations to increase their capacity to engage with policy-making and implementation processes effectively and in a flexible manner. IFAD should continue and increase its collaboration with FAO, particularly in the organization of the conference on climate change, food security and agriculture and of the conference on fisheries. IFAD is also urged to support the mobilization of civil society around these two international events.

#### 3.1 SUPPORT TO POLICY ENGAGEMENT AT REGIONAL LEVEL

69. At regional level, large support programmes were approved during 2008-2009 to support FOs' participation in policy dialogue. Many of these initiatives have emerged as a follow-up to previous support projects that were reported in the 2008 report "Partnerships in Progress".
70. **Support to Farmers' Organizations in Africa Programme (SFOAP).** This four-year programme, co-financed by the European Commission and IFAD, was launched in 2009 by ROPPA, PROPAC, SACAU and EAFF. It was the outcome of long negotiations between FO networks and the European Commission. IFAD is channelling EC funds and co-financing the programme in response to FOs' specific request. This programme will strengthen the capacity of 36 small FOs in 33 countries of the four sub-regional networks, and of their future Pan-African organization, to influence policies and support programmes affecting agriculture, rural development and food security. In addition to building their organizational capacities, participating FOs will use programme funds for analytical work on policy issues relevant to their members, develop their own policy agenda and advocate with national and regional policy makers for the interests of their members. Selected policy issues are based on FOs' strategic priorities and were validated by their elected leadership. They include land access and smallholder market access in Southern Africa, market integration in East Africa, regional common agricultural policies and women's role in smallholder agriculture in Central Africa, and climate change and food sovereignty in West Africa.
71. Sub-regional FO networks position themselves as stakeholders in policy dialogue with the regional economic communities. Furthermore an important component of the programme is supporting the formal creation of the Pan-African Farmers' Platform, a common initiative of FO networks throughout Africa to establish a representative platform with a continental scope of action that would be the voice of farmers at continental level, and particularly vis-à-vis the African Union.
72. **South America - Support to COPROFAM and to the REAF.** Following a previous grant that supported the constitution of COPROFAM to represent family farmers of MERCOSUR in the regional policy dialogue, IFAD approved a broader support programme called "Strengthening rural

organizations for policy dialogue in South America” in 2008 for a total cost of US\$1.03 million, co-funded by IFAD, Agriterra, Oxfam and Action Aid. COPROFAM includes 12 second- and third-tier FOs and approximately 350 associated first-tier groups in the Southern Cone Region. The new grant aims to further consolidate COPROFAM and enable producer organizations in the region to influence institutions (including policies, laws and regulations) of relevance to rural poverty reduction.

73. COPROFAM has been catalytic in raising family farmers’ visibility in the region and in increasing the recognition of their organizations as stakeholders in agricultural policy making, both at the regional and national levels. For example, in Chile the grant helped the national umbrella organization Movimiento Unitario Campesino y Etnias de Chile (MUSECH) deepen its engagement with the government and organize several events in Chile, including an international workshop on the integration of family agriculture and an international seminar on trade. The latter brought together representatives from governments and FOs and was opened by the Minister of Agriculture of the Government of Chile.
74. COPROFAM’s principal advocacy platform is the Specialized Meeting on Family Farming of MERCOSUR (REAF), a body within MERCOSUR that brings together ministers of agriculture and representatives of family farmers. IFAD is continuing to support the functioning of REAF with a new grant approved in 2008. The most significant outcomes of the policy work achieved by FOs in the context of REAF have been: (i) the official recognition of family farmers as a specific category of farmers in the MERCOSUR countries; (ii) the implementation of registers of family farmers in three countries that did not yet have them in place; and (iii) the institutionalization of special or differentiated policies for family farming in two countries. REAF experiences offer a unique example of institutionalizing policy dialogue between FOs and governments. The experience has been shared with similar initiatives in other regions where there is interest in replicating the initiative (see the example in Central America, described in the paragraph that follows).
75. In **Central America**, the Programme for Strengthening Rural Organizations to Participate in Policy Dialogue has enabled participating FOs from Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua to identify common interests and jointly engage in the discussion on the Central American Agricultural Policy. The programme enabled FOs to prepare counter-proposals to the Central American Agricultural Policy in the context of regional integration, and facilitated policy engagement with governments at national and regional levels. It has successfully achieved the objective of helping participating FOs in defining a common policy agenda around three main fields of action: regional agricultural policies, trade liberalization and food sovereignty. The second programme objective was to support the creation of platforms of dialogue between FOs and governments at national and regional levels. For example, in El Salvador FOs and the government have opened a dialogue process for the first time in the context of this programme. A key achievement is the formal recognition by the Central American Agricultural Council in August 2009 that dialogue with rural organizations is part of the regional integration process.

### **3.2 SUPPORT TO POLICY ENGAGEMENT AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL**

76. Over the biennium IFAD continued to promote FOs’ policy engagement at the international level by supporting their participation in global forums on agriculture, rural development and food security.
77. **South-South Cooperation.** A grant to Collectif Stratégies Alimentaires (CSA), a Belgian partner of many FOs, facilitated smallholder farmers’ participation in the formulation of public and trade policies at national and international levels through an innovative approach presented in box 3.

### **Box 3: Promotion of South-South cooperation among farmers' organizations**

Through an IFAD grant for the “Facilitation of Smallholder Farmers’ Participation in Public and Trade Policies at National and International Levels”, CSA organized more than 22 missions of FO leaders from Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean in which they participated in 53 meetings with decision makers in the World Trade Organization (WTO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the European Parliament, the European Commission, and the Belgian Cooperation. For instance, CSA facilitated FOs’ participation in the 12th Annual UNCTAD Conference on Commodities (Accra, Ghana) in April 2008; and in September 2008, it supported the participation of ROPPA and EAFF Presidents in a public audience organized by the European Commission on “Intercultural Dialogue with Africa on Food Security”. The programme also helped FO leaders participate in international gatherings with policy makers, where they could develop and present their collective positions in support of pro-poor policies and family farming in international and national agendas.

However, the major innovation is the promotion by CSA of a South-South intercontinental learning experience around agricultural issues, based on exchanges and study trips directly involving family farmers and their representatives from Africa and Latin America. The idea came out of the dynamic collaboration between two national FOs: Federação dos Trabalhadores na Agricultura Familiar da Região Sul (FETRAF-SUL), which represents millions of family farmers and smallholder agricultural producers in 22 states of Brazil; and CNCR, which represents the main farmers’ movement in Senegal and in the whole West Africa region through its affiliation with ROPPA. Both organizations decided to launch mutual programmes of training and capacity building for their leaders. The objective of the exchange was to analyse the situation and evolution of the agricultural sector in both countries as well as in an international context, and to propose strategies to influence agricultural and rural development policies in favour of family farming. In this first pilot experience, eight farmers’ leaders from Western Africa visited Brazil, and six Brazilian farmers visited three Western Africa countries (Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Senegal) for a two-week study, with a view to exchange experiences and ideas.

Participants learned about: (i) the institutional framework in which family agriculture operates in their respective countries; (ii) the legal framework for access to land by smallholder farmers, landless workers and indigenous communities; and (iii) issues of shared interest such as the inclusion of women and youth in family farming, access to markets and production of bio-fuels. Overall, they gained a better understanding of the structure and role of their organizations with respect to decision-making processes at national and regional levels, in particular of the positioning of CNCR/ROPPA towards the two Western and Central Africa sub-regional institutions (the West African Economic and Monetary Union – UEMOA – and the Economic Community of West African States – ECOWAS) and of the role of FETRAF-SUL in the context of the REAF.

The study trip as well as the stock-taking report on the Senegal-Brazil exchange programme and follow-up activities helped build a South-South collaboration between FOs of two continents, in which they could also jointly reflect on how to improve their partnerships with governments for the implementation of pro-poor programmes.

78. **FAO High-Level Conference on World Food Security and the Challenges of Climate Change and Bio-Energy** (June 2008). IFAD supported both the participation of FOs as observers in the Conference and the organization of the Parallel Civil Society Forum, which brought together FOs and other civil society members of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty. Participants in the parallel meeting developed common positions on the topics discussed in the High-Level Conference (HLC) and formulated a common Civil Society Declaration that was presented to HLC participants in the closing plenary. This support allowed participants to build a collective understanding of the main causes behind the food price crisis and of the policies needed to overcome it. It also offered participants an opportunity to advocate, with governmental delegation

and through wide media coverage, for solutions to hunger crises based on smallholder agriculture, food sovereignty and land reforms.

79. **The World Federation of Fisher Peoples (WFFP).** The WFFP benefited from a small grant enabling its member organizations of artisanal fishers and fish farmers to participate in FAO's Global Conference "Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries: Bringing together responsible fisheries and social development", organized in Bangkok in October 2008. WFFP members participated in a civil society meeting before the conference; contributed to lobbying activities organized by local fisher organizations in Thailand; and helped formulate a declaration summarizing the common objectives of 106 organizations representing small-scale fishers throughout the world that was presented in the Conference. According to WFFP, grant-supported activities increased the organization's capacity to build common and coherent policy positions and to present them with a single voice. Participation in the Conference's preparatory and follow-up activities also strengthened the institutional capacities of WFFP's national members.
80. **The FAO High-Level Expert Forum, "How to Feed the World in 2050"** (October 2009). The Forum examined policy options that governments should consider adopting to ensure that the world population can be fed when it nears its peak of nearly 9.2 billion people in the middle of this century. The main objective of this meeting was to create an open forum for discussions, views and analyses on prospective developments in food and agriculture, in view of the World Summit on Food Security held at FAO in November 2009. IFAD contributed to the Forum mainly by funding the participation of FO representatives from developing countries, with a particular focus on the participation of women.
81. **Civil Society Forum for People's Food Sovereignty** (November 2009). In conjunction with the World Summit on Food Security, a Civil Society Forum for People's Food Sovereignty was held by CSO networks on 13-17 November. In consultation with FAO and the organizers of the Forum, IFAD contributed financially to the event, together with the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC), the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament (ACCD) and the City of Rome. Over 600 participants, including many FO representatives from the five continents, developed their proposals based on the principles of the right to food and food sovereignty, with smallholder and women farmers in a central role. The civil society organization (CSO) forum presented a joint statement to the plenary of the Summit. The Summit declaration endorsed, under its second principle of action, the reform of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and "welcome[s] the efforts of CFS to ensure that the voices of all relevant stakeholders – particularly those most affected by food insecurity – are heard". Food producers' organizations are explicitly mentioned among those "relevant stakeholders".
82. IFAD took the opportunity of the Civil Society Forum in Rome to organize a dialogue session with selected CSO and FO representatives. The purpose of the session was to present and discuss a preliminary outline of the new Rural Poverty Report IFAD is preparing, in order to understand whether it is focusing on the right issues from the perspective of civil society organizations, and to listen to the views of representatives of FOs and NGOs working on rural development issues.
83. **Voluntary guidelines on responsible governance of tenure of land and other natural resources.** The FAO initiative to develop voluntary guidelines on responsible governance of tenure of land and other natural resources is supported by IFAD with a grant of US\$1.4 million. The voluntary guidelines are intended to provide practical guidance to governments, civil society and the private sector on responsible governance of tenure as a means of reducing poverty and food insecurity. By setting out principles and internationally accepted standards for responsible practices, the guidelines will provide a framework and a point of reference that stakeholders can use when developing their own policies and activities in the land sector. The voluntary guidelines will build upon FAO's and IFAD's long-term work in improving secure access to land and other natural resources, including the outcomes of the 2006 International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICCARD).

84. The voluntary guidelines are being prepared jointly with governments, civil society (including FOs), and private-sector and international organizations. They will be drawn from multi-stakeholder regional consultation meetings, civil society workshops and expert group meetings. The voluntary guidelines will be submitted for approval by FAO Member Countries. Upon adoption of the guidelines, FAO and its partners will support their implementation through national action plans and through the FAOs extensive partnership networks and related project activities in which FOs will be fully involved.
85. **IFAD Policy on Promoting Access to Land and Tenure Security.** During the first global Farmers' Forum in 2006, a thematic session was held on issues related to land and land tenure. The outcome of these deliberations with FOs went into shaping the internal dialogue on these themes and fed into the policy process within IFAD. A draft of the policy that was subsequently developed was shared and discussed with FOs participating in the second Farmers' Forum in 2008. Feedback from this session fed into finalizing the document. Overall the draft was well received and participants recommended its quick approval and implementation. One principle that received strong support from the Farmers' Forum participants was the principle of "free, prior and informed consent" to be solicited through inclusive consultation before undertaking any intervention that might affect land access and land use rights of rural communities.
86. In the guiding principles, and indeed in the entire approach of the policy, there is consistent attention to the condition of poor rural people having no formal tenure or insecure tenure rights to the land they use. The policy recognizes this reality and respects customary tenure arrangements that are favourable to resource poor people, including communal rights and user rights of rural women. The policy was approved by IFAD Executive Board in December 2008. It places much importance on extensive consultation with FOs and community-based organizations at various stages whenever activities involving land tenure, land use rights or land improvement are undertaken, from COSOP to project design and implementation. The development of guidelines is planned in order to help the implementation of the policy within IFAD operations.

*Conclusion on support to policy engagement at regional and international levels*

**At regional and international levels, decisions that affect the lives of poor rural people (and smallholder farmers in particular) continue to be taken with minimal, often pro-forma, involvement of those who will have to live and produce under such policies. Responding to the request of the Farmers' Forum, IFAD has been supporting the autonomous policy engagement of FOs at regional and international levels to help reduce the asymmetry of representation and influence in rural and agricultural policy-making processes.**

**IFAD agreed with the request of the Farmers' Forum to continue and increase its collaboration with FAO, including in the organization of high-level conferences and events, and to support the mobilization of civil society around these events. Support provided in this area has contributed to opening policy processes to representatives of agricultural producers of developing countries and to strengthening their capacity to influence.**

**This evolution materialized in the reform of the CFS, a major element of the global governance of agriculture and food security, where FOs will now be full participants and will be able to share their experience and views with governments and other stakeholders.**



## 4. INVOLVEMENT OF WOMEN AND YOUTH IN FO LEADERSHIP

***New 2008 Recommendation:*** *In its partnership with farmers' organizations, IFAD needs to pay greater attention to young people... and to support farmers' organizations to engage their women members in the management and decision-making processes of their organizations, with a minimum quota in leadership positions of 30 per cent. We also ask IFAD to apply a significant quota of women farmers (at least 30 per cent) to all IFAD programmes, events and initiatives.*

*We also recommend that, in the context of the next global meeting of the Farmers' Forum, a preparatory meeting be organized with a specially set up group to focus on the specific issues of women, which will then be brought to the Forum.*

87. Having a specific section of this report on women and youth is not meant to suggest that supporting the organization of women and young farmers is an additionality rather than a key concern that should be addressed in all the components of partnership with FOs. A first fact is that the majority of smallholder farmers and rural producers today are women. A second one is that the future of agriculture and rural economies hinges on whether they can offer decent opportunities to rural youth.

### 4.1 WOMEN'S INVOLVEMENT

88. In many parts of the World, despite women being the main farmers or producers, their roles are largely unrecognized. The voices and concerns of rural women are little heard at national and global levels. This is largely caused by their weak presence in the leadership of rural organizations and, in some cases, the limited ability of the few women leaders at national level to effectively represent the interests of grassroots women. Women's groups tend to remain confined to the local level. In mixed organizations, while women may be well represented as members, there are generally few in leadership positions – and increasingly less as one moves from local to regional and national levels. This translates into a dramatic disproportion between rural women's voice and decision-making role and their enormous contribution to agricultural production and marketing. Some initiatives in IFAD are trying to provide solutions to correct those distortions.

89. **Network of Women Ministers and Leaders in Agriculture.** On the occasion of the meeting of the United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) in May 2008 a Network of Women Ministers and Leaders in Agriculture was launched, organized by Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (WOCAN). It aims to bring women leaders together into a high-level group to define strategies and concrete actions and to mobilize funding to invest in women farmers of Africa and other developing regions. The Network also aims to stimulate dialogue and cooperation between the ministers and women farmer representatives from the North and South.

90. At the World Food Summit on Food Security in Rome in November, members of the Women Ministers of Agriculture and Leaders in Agriculture and representatives of FOs attended a side event and discussed how the agricultural sector should recognize women producers and value their role as primary food producers and custodians of natural resources. IFAD has provided a grant to WOCAN to support the Network; activities will include an event to be held in 2010.

91. **Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook and other publications.** More than 100 gender experts were brought together in March at the International Expert Consultation on the joint World Bank, FAO

and IFAD publication, *Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook*. The experts discussed emerging development challenges, such as climate change, food security and pressures on land and water use, and how the impact is different for rural men and rural women. Building on the Sourcebook, IFAD published “Gender and Rural Microfinance: Reaching and Empowering Women”, an overview of gender issues for rural finance practitioners. IFAD also co-published with Practical Action Publications Ltd the book “Lightening the Load: Labour-saving Technologies and Practices for Rural Women”.

92. **Rural Women’s Leadership Programme.** With the support of the Government of Norway, IFAD has recently launched a Rural Women’s Leadership Programme, which will support pilot programmes in four countries (Madagascar, Nepal, the Philippines and Senegal). IFAD will be seeking resources to expand this programme to other countries. The pilots will include: development of a curriculum for rural women’s leadership training; training of trainers; training of grassroots women leaders; working with men to support women’s leadership; and advocacy and media work. The idea of this programme was first discussed with representatives of the governments of Norway and Canada, following the meeting organised with the women delegates at the 2008 Farmers’ Forum.
93. **Training of farmers’ leaders in La Via Campesina.** Another grant, of US\$124 000, was provided to Terra Livre to benefit national member FOs of La Via Campesina in South America for the organization of capacity building and training of farmers’ leaders. The trainings focus on the role of women farmers and rural women in their organizations, and gender issues are thus expected to be integrated in the capacity-building strategies of each participating organization, which will be defined as an outcome of the project. The same project also includes training for rural youth to support their participation in FOs.
94. **Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 3 Champion Torch.** In 2009, the “MDG 3 Champion Torch” to accelerate actions to improve gender equality was passed on to IFAD by the Danish Government. IFAD made four commitments “to do something extra” in support of gender equality and women’s economic empowerment: (i) better integrate gender equality and women’s empowerment concerns into IFAD’s Strategic Framework; (ii) strengthen rural women’s leadership and decision-making influence; (iii) lend IFAD’s voice to encourage greater investment in rural women; and (iv) bolster IFAD grants programme to support technology development and capacity strengthening for gender equality and rural women’s empowerment.
95. These commitments have since been reflected in, for example, more attention paid to gender indicators and women’s quotas during the quality enhancement process of IFAD grants, aiming at 50 per cent participation in grant activities by women beneficiaries. This is the case in the IFAD contribution of US\$1.5 million to the Support to Farmers’ Organizations in Africa programme (see above) co-financed by the European Commission.

## 4.2 YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

96. More than 1 billion people today are between 15 and 25 years of age, and nearly 40 per cent of the world's population is below the age of 20. About 85 per cent of these young people live in the developing world, and 50 per cent of the world’s young people live in rural areas. However, 60 million people (mainly young people) move into cities each year in developing countries. It is expected that this rate of movement will continue for the next 30 years. The very future of smallholder agriculture and its potential to contribute to reducing poverty and to overcoming challenges such as climate change is jeopardized by the reality that young people cannot pursue viable livelihoods in their rural areas. Youth are often one of the most vulnerable segments of IFAD’s target group, both in terms of access to assets and services and in terms of ability to engage in decision-making processes that determine their livelihood prospects.

97. This is the rationale and context for an IFAD grant provided to the International Movement of Rural Youth (MIJARC) totalling US\$200,000 to support the organization of a Rural Youth Conference in Uganda, the establishment of an Action Plan of rural youth movements at local, national and international levels, as well as follow-up activities including global advocacy and campaigning for young people's role in ensuring food sovereignty. Almost 100 young rural people from four continents participated in the conference and benefited from training on developing economic activities through an analysis of the potentials and challenges of the rural areas where they come from. According to evaluations by the participants, the activities undertaken through the grant clarified the objectives and the strategy of MIJARC as a global movement, and also provided a clearer framework of action for national movements; local learning visits and trainings organized in conjunction with the conference improved participants' technical capacities and readiness to take up economic initiatives; and MIJARC visibility was increased, leading to greater interest shown towards its member movements at national level. The networking and exchange of experiences among young rural women was reported to encourage them to find spaces of influence and engage in politics. One participant from Senegal reported that the conference increased her knowledge and capacity to address socio-political issues in her village, and that she had implemented these acquired skills to pursue a campaign in local politics and to regroup the youth and women of her village to initiate small income-creating activities.
98. The Terra Livre grant-funded project (described in section 4.1) also includes sessions for rural youth in order to train youth members of participating organizations to become more involved in the internal processes of FOs.

***Conclusion on the involvement of women and youth in FO leadership***

**The few examples presented above show that there is still a long way to go to ensure that more importance is given to increased inclusion of women, and even more for young people, in FOs and FO leadership, However the number of initiatives that consider women and young people as critical actors is increasing.**

**Regarding women's participation, following the 2008 Farmers' Forum recommendation, IFAD and the Farmers' Forum Steering Committee aim to have at least 30 per cent women as participants at the global meeting to ensure that the views and concerns specific to women farmers and food producers can be given adequate voice and consideration.**

**A preparatory workshop is being held one day before the 2010 Farmers' Forum global meeting to reflect on proposals to promote women's representation within FOs and to consider, with a gender perspective, the various issues to be addressed during the global meeting**

**These initiatives should lead to new proposals for including, in a more consistent and efficient way, women and young people in FO and FOs' leadership and in the Farmers' Forum process itself.**

## 5. THE FARMERS' FORUM PROCESS

***2006 Farmers' Forum Recommendation:*** *The 2006-2008 cycle of the Farmers' Forum will comprise a significant number of national consultations in each region, to be fed into regional or sub-regional forums, before the 2008 Governing Council. The planning of these consultations should be elaborated region by region together with regional and international organizations.*

99. The Farmers' Forum was initially conceived in 2005 as an "on-going bottom-up process". The process was designed to "start with national-level consultations that would feed into regional or sub-regional meetings. The latter would then shape the content of, and the participation in, the Farmers' Forum at the IFAD Governing Council". This was considered in 2005 as one of the conditions for the success of the Forum. However, one of the conclusions of the 2008 meeting was that in practice the Farmers' Forum in 2006-2007 had not followed such a simple, systematic and organized bottom-up process. On the side of both IFAD and FOs, limited availability of time and resources as well as conflicting priorities resulted in different sets of events and consultations, varying across countries and regions.

100. The same observation can be made for the last biennium: instead of applying the "model" agreed upon in 2005, the Farmers' Forum mainly built upon a diversity of existing processes, forums and events. At country level, consultations with FOs are increasingly organized around the preparation of IFAD country strategies, project design and implementation, and in some cases country policy dialogue processes. This trend was also considered in 2005 as a condition of the success of the Forum and is certainly positive. In particular it focuses the consultation and dialogue on concrete development action and ensures a central role of the government in the process. However, as these consultations are strongly rooted in the specificities of different countries and projects they do not easily converge to "shape the content of, and the participation in, the Farmers' Forum at the Governing Council". Furthermore the "regional or sub-regional meetings" that were initially planned to facilitate and organize the bottom-up convergence of the debate were not implemented in 2008-2009. Instead, IFAD staff and FO leaders met in various regional workshops and events that have been good opportunities for exchanging and reflecting on ways to strengthen partnerships. For example, IFAD staff participated in the following meetings:

- IFAP Regional Committee Meeting for Africa in Nairobi (April 2009), and the Mediterranean Committee Meeting in Catania (September 2009), where IFAD had the opportunity to meet and speak with farmers' representatives of participating regions;
- Start-up Meeting of SFOAP (see Section 2 on Direct Financial Support to FOs) in Johannesburg (17-19 June 2009);
- Signing of the grant agreements with FAO and SEWA for the Medium-Term Cooperation Programme with FOs in the Asia and Pacific Region, Bangkok (14 May 2009);
- IFAP session on agriculture in the WTO Public Forum, Geneva (30 September 2009);
- Workshop on Increasing Farmers' Power on Markets, hosted by CSA, Brussels (2 October 2009);
- Civil Society Forum parallel to the World Summit on Food Security, in Rome (14-16 November 2009);
- Regional Seminar and General Assembly of COPROFAM in Asuncion, Paraguay (16-18 December 2009);
- Farmer Organizations' consultative workshop on the Farmer Organization Support Centre for Africa (FOCSA), Nairobi (7-8 December 2009).

***2006 Farmers' Forum Recommendation:*** *Coordination with other international agencies, in particular with FAO, would strengthen the process of the Forum and minimize the demands on the time and resources of farmers' organizations.*

***2008 Farmers' Forum Recommendation:*** *IFAD should continue and increase its collaboration with FAO, particularly in the following three areas: providing support to farmers and rural producers, the follow-up to ICCARD, and the organization of the conference on climate change, food security and agriculture and of the conference on fisheries. IFAD is also urged to support the mobilization of civil society around these two international events.*

101. As reported above, IFAD has been strengthening its collaboration with FAO in support of FOs. In particular, FAO is closely involved in SFOAP in Africa and is implementing agency of the Medium-Term Cooperation Programme with FOs in Asia.
102. IFAD is promoting ICCARD's follow-up through the its support to the FAO-initiated Voluntary Guidelines on responsible governance of land tenure and other natural resources. It has also been supporting FOs' involvement in the FAO Conference on Climate Change, Food Security and Agriculture, in the Conference on Sustainable Fisheries and in the World Summit on Food Security. During the discussion on the reform of the Committee on World Food Security, IFAD advocated for a stronger participation of food producers' organizations in the committee.

***2006 Farmers' Forum Recommendation:*** *The interface between the Farmers' Forum and IFAD's Governing Council must be institutionalized. The participants of the Forum proposed the development of agreed-upon principles of engagement or code of conduct to guide interactions and partnerships between FOs and IFAD.*

***IFAD Commitment in 2006:*** *The initiative of the Farmers' Forum in conjunction with the Governing Council has been well received by the Governors of IFAD and is de facto institutionalized. The President said it clearly in his concluding statement to the Governing Council plenary in February 2006.*

***New 2008 Recommendation:*** *One important principle to guide our collaboration will be the attention to results in the field and to strengthened monitoring and evaluation systems which will involve FOs. Such systems will also enhance mutual accountability between IFAD and FOs for the shared goal of fighting poverty and hunger in rural areas.*

103. There is continuous support to the Farmers' Forum process within IFAD management and staff, including through the regular hosting of the global meeting of the Forum in conjunction with the Governing Council.
104. The positive evolution of the partnership illustrated in the 2008 report (and in the present one) seems to indicate that, at least from IFAD's point of view, there may not be a need for formal principles of engagement or code of conduct to guide interactions with FOs. Although individual staff engagement in the process remains uneven, it seems that the meetings of the Forum, the proceedings of the debates and the agreements reached at different levels around joint programmes have been themselves sufficient to shape the overall interaction between IFAD and FOs.
105. The 2008 report to the Farmers' Forum did not really address the issue of the development effectiveness of IFAD-FO partnership and its impact on the reduction of rural poverty. The 2008

recommendations of the Forum call for strengthening the involvement of FOs in monitoring and evaluation systems. To take a first step in this direction, the survey undertaken for the preparation of the present report included a qualitative opinion survey carried out with representatives of FOs involved in IFAD country programmes. The outcomes of this opinion survey show that the partnerships bear considerable impact with regard to the institutional capacity, empowerment and influence of FOs. There is also a widespread perception that the involvement of FOs in IFAD country programmes and the growing direct support to FOs are – together – contributing to a better quality of agricultural development project designs, stronger ownership by the rural population and better prospects for sustainability.

106. These results tend to confirm the validity of the basic assumption that brought together the stakeholders of the Farmers' Forum in 2005: Not only IFAD and FOs share the same fundamental objective of “overcoming rural poverty through the economic, social and political empowerment of rural poor people”, but their partnership and collaboration around IFAD-supported operations on the ground and policy dialogue actually contribute to a better achievement of this fundamental objective.
107. However hard data are still missing on the specific impact of the different forms of these collaborations in terms of better incomes, livelihoods and food security of smallholder farmers and other rural poor people.
108. The issue today is to further improve the scope and effectiveness of the partnership informed by the Farmers' Forum process. In this regard the partners – IFAD, FOs and governments – could consider undertaking a joint evaluation of the impact of this partnership. Such a joint evaluation could be a useful step in providing new insights on the power of smallholder producers' organizations in terms of agricultural and rural development effectiveness. It could then feed into the development of new agreed-upon good practices and guidelines on collaboration between FOs, IFAD and governments that could provide a new impetus to the process. These guidelines, based on the best examples of effective collaboration, would support scaling up good practices not only throughout IFAD country programmes but also in other agricultural development initiatives.

#### ***Conclusion on the Farmers' Forum process***

**After five years of existence, the Farmers' Forum process has demonstrated its relevance. However, there is also a need to reconsider certain aspects of the process in order to adapt to the structuring of FOs, IFAD's internal evolution, and the international context, where small producers and their organizations are increasingly engaged in policy dialogue.**

**Particularly, the bottom-up approach scheduled at the beginning of the process proved not to be implemented as planned for various reasons. During the two last biennia, it has been implemented through regional or international meetings organized for different purposes and gathering FOs at regional or global level. Even if this flexible approach is adapted to time and budget constraints and is a good solution for meeting with FOs, it cannot be considered as fully satisfactory. There is a lack of organized feedback from the meetings, and the report to the global meeting is not easy to compile. Therefore, the Steering Committee could explore ways to better take advantage of these ad hoc meetings and to propose additional channels of discussion to facilitate a more organized process between the global meetings.**

**The undertaking of a joint evaluation of the on-the-ground impact of IFAD-FO partnerships could be a useful step for a “second wind” for the Farmers' Forum process. Through a process of mutual learning and exchange it could be the basis for the preparation of operational guidelines and an accompanying toolkit to mainstream and scale up good practices, including in those countries where FOs are still not acknowledged as primary stakeholders in the development of smallholder agriculture and in the reduction of rural poverty.**

## ANNEXES

### **ANNEX 1: THE FOUNDATION OF THE FARMERS' FORUM: Concluding statement of the workshop "Towards A Farmers' Forum" - Rome, 15 February 2005**

The participants in the workshop share IFAD's fundamental objective of overcoming rural poverty through the economic, social and political empowerment of rural poor people themselves and their organizations.

They agree with and support the overall project of creating a Farmers' Forum for consultation and dialogue on ways to "enable the rural poor to overcome poverty" and on IFAD operations.

The Farmers' Forum is:

- an ongoing, bottom-up, process – not a periodic event – spanning IFAD-supported operations on the ground and policy dialogue;
- a tripartite process involving farmers' and rural producers' organizations, governments and IFAD;
- a space for consultation and dialogue focused on rural poverty reduction;
- an instrument for accountability of development effectiveness, in particular in the area of empowerment of rural poor people and their organizations; and
- an interface between pro-poor rural development interventions and the process of enhancing the capacity of farmers' and rural producers' organizations (including organizations of artisanal fishers, pastoralists, landless workers and indigenous peoples).

The Farmers' Forum:

- is guided by the principles of inclusiveness, pluralism, openness and flexibility;
- builds on existing forums where possible and avoids duplication in these cases; and
- respects existing organizations and creates new spaces where needed.

Conditions:

- The Forum process starts with national-level consultations that feed into regional or sub-regional meetings. The latter will then shape the content of, and participation in, the Farmers' Forum at the IFAD Governing Council;
- The Forum process should feed into IFAD's governing bodies; and
- The Forum's success depends on IFAD's capacity to enhance country-level consultation with farmers' organizations and contribute to their capacity-building needs.
- Participants recommend, in particular, institutionalizing engagement with farmers' organizations in key IFAD operational processes (projects and country and regional strategies).

#### Members of The Farmers' Forum Steering Committee:

International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)

La Via Campesina (LVC)

Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA)

Coordination of Family Farms of MERCOSUR (COPROFAM)

Reseaux des Organisations Paysannes et Producteurs Agricoles de  
l'Afrique de l'Ouest (ROPFA)

World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fishworkers (WFF)

World Forum for Fisher Peoples (WFFP)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

## ANNEX 2 – LIST OF COSOPS APPROVED IN 2008 AND 2009 AND SURVEY RESULTS

### COSOP formulation

FO involvement in formulation of COSOP												
Country	Approval year	Has there been consultation with FOs?	If yes how									Were proposals and recommendations received from FOs reflected in the COSOP?
			Meeting with preparation team (norm player)	Specific workshop/s with Fos (spec player)	Participation in multi-stakeholder Consultations (norm player)	Membership in CPMTs and/or PDTs (spec player)	Participation in the COSOP validation (norm player)	Other (spec player)	Merged cell (special player): Meeting with preparation team+Participation in the COSOP validation	Merged cell: (special player): Specific workshop+Membership in multi-stakeholder discussion+Membership in CPMTs and/or PDTs+		
PA	Chad	2009	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1
	Congo	2009	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
	Guinea	2009	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
PF	Burundi	2008	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Ethiopia	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Malawi	2009	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
PI	Afganistan	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Indonesia	2008	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
	Pakistan	2009	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
	Philippines	2009	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Vietnam	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PL	Brazil	2008	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
	Guatemala	2008	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
	Haiti	2009	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
	Peru'	2009	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
PN	Marocco	2008	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Syria	2009	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
	Sudan	2009	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
TOT COSOPs	18	TOT by question	15	12	9	9	8	12	3	15	11	14
2008	8	% by question	83%	67%	50%	50%	44%	67%	17%	83%	61%	78%
2009	10	TOT 2008	5	4	2	2	1	3	1	5	2	4
		%	63%	50%	25%	25%	13%	38%	13%	63%	25%	50%
		TOT 2009	10	8	7	7	7	9	2	10	9	10
		%	100%	80%	70%	70%	70%	90%	20%	100%	90%	100%
		% over consultation cases		80%	60%	60%	53%	80%	20%	100%	73%	93%
		2008		80%	40%	40%	20%	60%	20%	100%	40%	80%
		2009		80%	70%	70%	70%	90%	20%	100%	90%	100%
		TOT by question, by Division	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA
		% by question, by Division	3	2	3	2	2	3	1	3	3	3
			100%	67%	100%	67%	67%	100%	33%	100%	100%	100%
			PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF
			2	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	2
			67%	67%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	67%	0%	67%
			PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI
			3	3	2	3	3	3	1	3	3	3
			60%	60%	40%	60%	60%	60%	20%	60%	60%	60%
			PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	PL
			4	4	3	4	1	3	1	4	3	4
			100%	100%	75%	25%	25%	75%	25%	100%	75%	100%
			PN	PN	PN	PN	PN	PN	PN	PN	PN	PN
			3	1	1	1	3	2	0	3	2	2
			100%	33%	33%	100%	67%	67%	0%	100%	67%	67%



## COSOP implementation

Foreseen Inclusion of FOs in the Implementation of the COSOP							
	Country	Approval year	Is there a specific strategic objective addressing FOs (role, needs, their agenda)?	Does the COSOP foresee a role for FOs in the...			
				Realization of the COSOP	In pipeline projects identified	Membership in CPMTs, Steering Committees	Participation in monitoring exercises
PA	Chad	2009	0	0	1	1	1
	Congo	2009	1	1	1	1	1
	Guinea	2009	1	1	1	1	1
PF	Burundi	2008	1	1	1	0	1
	Ethiopia	2008	0	0	0	0	0
	Malawi	2009	0	1	1	1	1
PI	Afganistan	2008	0	0	0	0	0
	Indonesia	2008	1	1	1	1	1
	Pakistan	2009	1	1	1	1	1
	Philippines	2009	1	1	1	1	1
	Vietnam	2008	0	0	0	0	0
PL	Brazil	2008	0	1	1	1	1
	Guatemala	2008	1	1	1	1	1
	Haiti	2009	1	0	1	0	0
	Peru'	2009	1	1	1	1	1
PN	Marocco	2008	0	1	0	0	0
	Syria	2009	1	1	1	1	1
	Sudan	2009	1	0	1	1	1
TOT COSOPs	18	TOT by question	11	12	14	12	13
2008	8	% by question	64,7%	70,6%	82,4%	70,6%	76,5%
2009	10	TOT 2008	3	5	4	3	4
		%	42,9%	71,4%	57,1%	42,9%	57,1%
		TOT 2009	8	7	10	9	9
		%	80,0%	70,0%	100,0%	90,0%	90,0%
		TOT by question, by Division	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA
		% by question, by Division	2	2	3	3	3
			67%	67%	100%	100%	100%
			PF	PF	PF	PF	PF
			1	1	1	0	1
			33%	67%	67%	33%	67%
			PI	PI	PI	PI	PI
			3	3	3	3	3
			60%	60%	60%	60%	60%
			PL	PL	PL	PL	PL
			3	3	4	3	3
			75%	75%	100%	75%	75%
			PN	PN	PN	PN	PN
			2	2	2	2	2
			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

**COSOP benefits and difficulties**

<b>Foreseen Inclusion of FOs in the Implementation of the COSOP</b>							
	Country	Approval year	Is there a specific strategic objective addressing FOs (role, needs, their agenda)?	Does the COSOP foresee a role for FOs in the...			
				Realization of the COSOP	In pipeline projects identified	Membership in CPMTs, Steering Committees	Participation in monitoring exercises
PA	Chad	2009	0	0	1	1	1
	Congo	2009	1	1	1	1	1
	Guinea	2009	1	1	1	1	1
PF	Burundi	2008	1	1	1	0	1
	Ethiopia	2008	0	0	0	0	0
	Malawi	2009	0	1	1	1	1
PI	Afganistan	2008	0	0	0	0	0
	Indonesia	2008	1	1	1	1	1
	Pakistan	2009	1	1	1	1	1
	Philippines	2009	1	1	1	1	1
	Vietnam	2008	0	0	0	0	0
PL	Brazil	2008	0	1	1	1	1
	Guatemala	2008	1	1	1	1	1
	Haiti	2009	1	0	1	0	0
	Peru'	2009	1	1	1	1	1
PN	Marocco	2008	0	1	0	0	0
	Syria	2009	1	1	1	1	1
	Sudan	2009	1	0	1	1	1
TOT COSOPs	18	TOT by question	11	12	14	12	13
2008	8	% by question	64,7%	70,6%	82,4%	70,6%	76,5%
2009	10	TOT 2008	3	5	4	3	4
		%	42,9%	71,4%	57,1%	42,9%	57,1%
		TOT 2009	8	7	10	9	9
		%	80,0%	70,0%	100,0%	90,0%	90,0%
		TOT by question, by Division	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA
		% by question, by Division	2	2	3	3	3
			67%	67%	100%	100%	100%
			PF	PF	PF	PF	PF
			1	1	1	0	1
			33%	67%	67%	33%	67%
			PI	PI	PI	PI	PI
			3	3	3	3	3
			60%	60%	60%	60%	60%
			PL	PL	PL	PL	PL
			3	3	4	3	3
			75%	75%	100%	75%	75%
			PN	PN	PN	PN	PN
			2	2	2	2	2
			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

## ANNEX 3 – LIST OF PROJECTS APPROVED IN 2008 AND 2009 AND SURVEY RESULTS

### Project design

	Country	Project Name	Questionnaire received	Project amount (USD, million)		Approval year	Have FOs been consulted? 1 = Yes / 2 = No	1 - Specific workshops with producer organizations	2 - Participation in multi-stakeholder discussions	3 - Negotiations with government or other Development actors	Simple player: 2 + 7	4 - Membership in design teams PDTs, CPMTs, QE Panels	5 - Participation in loan negotiations	6 - Other forms of involvement, please specify	7 - Bilateral meetings and field presence	Special Player: 1+ 3 + 4 + 5 + 6	Influence of design	number of projects by Division		
				Total	IFAD															
PA	Benin	Rural Economic Growth Support Project	1	47.8	18	2009	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	PA	15	
	Burkina Faso	Rural Business Development Services Programme	1	25.2	8.1	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	Cameroon	Rural Microfinance Development Support Project	1	22.5	13.7	2008	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0			
	Chad	Pastoral Water Management Project in Sahelian Areas	1	39.5	19.5	2009	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1			
	Congo	Rural Development Project in Likouala, Pool and Sangha Departments	1	82.1	46.2	2008	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
	Cote d'Ivoire	Agricultural Rehabilitation and Poverty Reduction Project	1	225.7	86.7	2009	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1			1
	Dr Congo	Integrated Agricultural Rehabilitation Programme in the Maniema Province	1	30.02	15.7	2008	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			1
	Gambia	Livestock and Horticulture Development Project	1	15.942	8.005	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
	Ghana	Rural and Agricultural Finance Programme	1	41.9	6	2008	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1			
	Guinea	Sustainable Agricultural Development Project in the Forest Region (Loan No. 589-0N) - Amendment to the loan agreement and reallocation of loan proceeds	1	15.5	12.5	2009	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1			
	Liberia	Agriculture Sector Rehabilitation Project	1	100	47.53	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
	Mauritania	Value Chains Development Programme for Poverty Reduction	1	17.8	12	2009	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1			
	Mali	Rural Microfinance Programme	1	30.8	25	2009	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1			
	Niger	Agricultural and Rural Rehabilitation and Development Initiative Project – Institutional Strengthening Component (ARRDI-ISC)	1	36.3	15.6	2008	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1			
Senegal	Agricultural Value Chains Support Project	1	31.6	15.167	2008	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1				

PF	Burundi	Agricultural Intensification and Value-Enhancing Support Project	1	31.6	13.6	2009	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Ethiopia	Pastoral Community Development Project II	1	19.5	19.5	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Community-based Integrated Natural Resources Management Project	1	25.4	13	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Madagascar	Support to Farmers' Professional Organizations and Agricultural Services Project	1	56.4	19.215	2008	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
	Mozambique	Rural Markets Promotion Programme	1	40.6	31.1	2008	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
	Mauritius	Marine and Agriculture Resources Support Programme	1	14.9	6.03	2009	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
	Rwanda	Kirehe Community-based Watershed Management Project	1	43	20.4	2009	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
	Swaziland	Rural Finance and Enterprise Development Programme	1	9	6	2008	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
	Tanzania	Supplementary Loan in Support of the Agricultural Sector Development Programme	1	190.1	56	2008	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Uganda	District Livelihoods Support Programme – Supplementary loan	1	58.9	27.8	2009	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1
Community Agricultural Infrastructure Improvement Programme – Supplementary loan		1	82	15	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Zambia	Smallholder Agribusiness Promotion Programme	1	23.6	20.2	2009	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	

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PI	Afghanistan	Rural Microfinance and Livestock Support Programme	1	26.1	23.9	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Bangladesh	Participatory Small-scale Water Resources Sector Project	1	107.3	22	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Cambodia	Tonle Sap Poverty Reduction and Smallholder Development Project	1	55.3102	13.38	2009	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	China	Sichuan Post-Earthquake Agricultural Rehabilitation Project	1	77	30.5	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Dableshan Area Poverty Reduction Programme	1	70.9	31.9	2008	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
	India	Mitigating Poverty in Western Rajasthan Project	1	62.3	31.08	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra's Distressed Districts Programme	1	40.1	1	2009	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Indonesia	FAD Support to the National Programme for Community Empowerment in Rural Areas	1	68.5	68.5	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Kyrgyzstan	Agricultural Investments and Services Project	1	23.4	9	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Forestry and Carbon Trading project	1	22.865	8	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Laos	Sustainable Natural Resource Management and Productivity Enhancement Project	1	38.8	15	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Nepal	High-value Agriculture Project in Hill and Mountain Areas	1	18.8725	15.2826	2009	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Pakistan	Crop Maximization Support Project	1	20.3	18.3	2009	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Philippines	Rapid Food Production Enhancement Programme	1	42.2	15.9	2008	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
		Second Cordillera Highland Agricultural Resource Management Project	1	66.4	26.6	2008	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Sri Lanka	NADEP	1	24.999995	24.999995	2009	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1		
Tajikistan	Khaton Livelihoods Support Project	1	14.9	12.3	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Vietnam	Pro-Poor Partnerships for Agroforestry Development Project	1	25.3	21	2008	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	

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PL	Belize	Rural Finance Programme	1	6	3	2008	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Bolivia	Management of Natural Resources in the Chaco and High Valley Regions Project - Expansion of the project area and target group	1	15	12	2008	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
	Brazil	Second Cordillera Highland Agricultural Resource Management Project	1	39.1	20	2009	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
		Cariri and Seridó Sustainable Development Project	1	49.695	25	2009	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
	Costa Rica	National Rural and Entrepreneurial Development Programme	1	17.33	5.85	2008	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Ecuador	Ibarra-San Lorenzo Development Project	1	13.7	8.6	2009	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
	Guatemala	Sustainable Rural Development Programme for the Northern Region	1	40.4	18	2008	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Haiti	Small-scale Irrigation Development Project (PPI-2) – Supplementary grant	1	34.1	13	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
	Mexico	Community-based Forestry Development Project for Southern States	1	18.53	3.2	2009	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
	Paraguay	Proposed supplementary financing for the Empowerment of Rural Poor Organizations and Harmonization of Investments (Paraguay Rural) Project	1	14.44	7.85	2009	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Rep. Dom.	Development Project for Rural Poor Economic Organizations of the Border Region	1	29.8	13.8	2009	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Venezuela	Orinoco Delta Warao Support Programme	1	18	13	2008	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
																PL	12

PN	Albania	Mountain to Markets Programme	1	17.9	9.2	2008	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	PN	12	
	Bosnia Herzegovina	Rural Livelihoods Development Project	1	25.7	11.1	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	Egypt	On-farm Irrigation Development Project in the Oldlands	1	19.8	15.954	2009	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1			
	Georgia	Agricultural Support Project	1	17.221	8.7	2009	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	Lebanon	Hilly Areas Sustainable Agricultural Development Project	1	16.64	3	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	Moldova	Rural Financial Services and Marketing Programme	1	18.95	13.23	2008	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1			
	Gaza and West Bank	Report on the Participatory Natural Resource Management Programme financed from the IFAD Fund for Gaza and the West Bank	1	25.9	8.8	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	Yerteri	President's memorandum - Pilot Community-Based Rural Infrastructure Project for Highland Areas - Modification to the financing agreement	1	14	9.4	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	Sudan	Southern Sudan Livelihoods Development Project	1	25.9	13.5	2008	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
		Revitalizing The Sudan Gum Arabic Production and Marketing Project	1	10.9	3	2009	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1			
Rural Access Project		1	14.96	19.95	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Turkey	Ardahan-Kars-Artvin Development Project	1	26.415	19.2	2009	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1				
			69	2589.190695	1212.443595	TOT by question	48	23	39	16	48	25	0	6	9	38	39			
			100.0%																	
Total amount of consultation cases			1710.583695	814.778595	% by question	70%	33%	57%	23%	70%	36%	0%	9%	13%	55%	57%				
Total amount of non consultation cases			878.607	397.665	TOT 2008	20	11	18	7	20	10	0	3	3	16	15				
Total amount of active participation cases			1517.253495	725.998595	%	67%	37%	60%	23%	67%	33%	0%	10%	10%	53%	50%				
Total amount of non active participation cases			1071.9372	486.445	TOT 2009	28	12	21	9	28	15	0	3	6	22	24				
Amount: % over total replies				46.8%	%	74%	32%	55%	24%	74%	39%	0%	8%	18%	58%	63%				
Amount: % over active participation cases			59%	28.0%	% over consultation cases	47.8%	81.3%	33.3%	100.0%	52.1%	0.0%	12.5%	18.8%	79.2%	81.3%					
TOT Projects				59.9%		PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA				
TOT 2008			30		TOT by question, by Division	12	3	11	5	12	10	0	1	1	10	10				
%					% by question, by Division	80%	20%	73%	33%	80%	67%	0%	7%	7%	67%	67%				
TOT 2009			38		% by question, by Division over consultation cases	25%	92%	42%	100%	83%	0%	8%	33%	83%	83%					
%						PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF	PF				
						9	5	8	2	9	6	0	2	2	8	8				
						75%	42%	67%	17%	75%	50%	0%	17%	17%	67%	67%				
							56%	89%	22%	100%	67%	0%	22%	22%	89%	89%				
						PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI	PI				
						9	3	8	3	8	4	0	1	1	7	7				
						50%	17%	44%	22%	50%	33%	0%	6%	6%	39%	39%				
							33%	89%	44%	100%	67%	0%	11%	11%	78%	78%				
						PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	PL				
						11	8	8	8	8	4	0	2	3	9	9				
						92%	67%	67%	33%	92%	17%	0%	17%	25%	75%	75%				
							73%	73%	36%	100%	18%	0%	18%	27%	82%	82%				
						PN	PN	PN	PN	PN	PN	PN	PN	PN	PN	PN				
						7	4	4	4	4	1	0	2	4	5					
						58%	33%	33%	8%	58%	8%	0%	0%	17%	33%	42%				
							57%	57%	14%	100%	14%	0%	0%	29%	57%	71%				

## Project implementation

FOs involvement in Project Implementation											
Country	Project Name	Project amount (USD, million)		Approval year	Inclusion of FOs in component(s) as direct beneficiaries of capacity building/institutional development activities	Involvement of FOs in component(s) as implementers or service providers	Involvement as component managers	Formal membership in CPMTs, steering committees	Other form of involvement, please specify	Implementation partners/service provider (involvement as service providers and comp managers)	
		Total	IFAD								
PA	Benin	Rural Economic Growth Support Project	47.8	18.0	2009	0	0	0	1	0	0
	Burkina Faso	Rural Business Development Services Programme	25.2	8.1	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Cameroon	Rural Microfinance Development Support Project	22.5	13.7	2008	0	0	0	1	1	0
	Chad	Pastoral Water Management Project in Sahelian Areas	39.5	19.5	2009	0	0	0	0	1	0
	Congo	Rural Development Project in Likouala, Pool and Sangha Departments	82.1	46.2	2008	1	0	0	1	0	0
	Cote d'Ivoire	Agricultural Rehabilitation and Poverty Reduction Project	225.7	86.7	2009	1	1	0	1	0	1
	Dr Congo	Integrated Agricultural Rehabilitation Programme in the Maniema Province	30.0	15.7	2008	1	1	1	1	0	1
	Gambia	Livestock and Horticulture Development Project	15.9	8.0	2009	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Ghana	Rural and Agricultural Finance Programme	41.9	6.0	2008	1	1	0	1	0	1
	Guinea	Sustainable Agricultural Development Project in the Forest Region (Loan No. 589-GN) - Amendment to the loan agreement and reallocation of loan proceeds	15.5	12.5	2009	1	1	0	1	0	1
	Liberia	Agriculture Sector Rehabilitation Project	100.0	47.5	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Mauritania	Value Chains Development Programme for Poverty Reduction	17.8	12.0	2009	1	1	0	1	0	1
	Mali	Rural Microfinance Programme	30.8	25.0	2009	0	0	0	1	0	0
	Niger	Agricultural and Rural Rehabilitation and Development Initiative Project - Institutional Strengthening Component (ARRDI-ISC)	36.3	15.6	2008	1	1	1	1	0	1
Senegal	Agricultural Value Chains Support Project	31.6	15.2	2008	1	1	1	1	1	1	
PF	Burundi	Agricultural Intensification and Value-Enhancing Support Project	31.6	13.6	2009	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Ethiopia	Pastoral Community Development Project II	19.5	19.5	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Community-based Integrated Natural Resources Management Project	25.4	13.0	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Madagascar	Support to Farmers' Professional Organizations and Agricultural Services Project	56.4	19.2	2008	1	1	0	1	0	1
	Mozambique	Rural Markets Promotion Programme	40.6	31.1	2008	1	0	0	1	0	0
	Mauritius	Marine and Agriculture Resources Support Programme	14.9	6.0	2009	1	1	0	0	0	1
	Rwanda	Kirehe Community-based Watershed Management Project	43.0	20.4	2009	1	1	0	1	0	1
	Swaziland	Rural Finance and Enterprise Development Programme	9.0	6.0	2008	1	0	0	1	0	0
	Tanzania	Supplementary Loan in Support of the Agricultural Sector Development Programme	190.1	58.0	2008	0	1	0	1	0	1
	Uganda	District Livelihoods Support Programme - Supplementary loan	58.9	27.8	2009	1	0	1	0	1	1
Community Agricultural Infrastructure Improvement Programme - Supplementary loan		82.0	15.0	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Zambia	Smallholder Agribusiness Promotion Programme	23.6	20.2	2009	1	1	1	1	0	1	
PI	Afghanistan	Rural Microfinance and Livestock Support Programme	26.1	23.9	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Bangladesh	Participatory Small-scale Water Resources Sector Project	107.3	22.0	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Cambodia	Tonle Sap Poverty Reduction and Smallholder Development Project	55.3	13.4	2009	1	1	1	0	0	1
	China	Sichuan Post-Earthquake Agricultural Rehabilitation Project	77.0	30.5	2009	1	1	0	0	0	1
		Dabieshan Area Poverty Reduction Programme	70.9	31.9	2008	1	1	0	0	0	1
	India	Mitigating Poverty in Western Rajasthan Project	62.3	31.1	2008						0
		Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra's Distressed Districts Programme	40.1	1.0	2009						0
	Indonesia	IFAD Support to the National Programme for Community Empowerment in Rural Areas	68.5	68.5	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Kyrgyzstan	Agricultural Investments and Services Project	23.4	9.0	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Forestry and Carbon Trading project	22.9	8.0	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Laos	Sustainable Natural Resource Management and Productivity Enhancement Project	36.8	15.0	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Nepal	High-value Agriculture Project in Hill and Mountain Areas	18.9	15.3	2009	1	1	0	1	0	1
	Pakistan	Crop Maximization Support Project	20.3	18.3	2009	1	1	1	0	0	1
	Philippines	Rapid Food Production Enhancement Programme	42.2	15.9	2008	1	1	1	1	0	1
		Second Cordillera Highland Agricultural Resource Management Project	66.4	26.6	2008	1	0	0	1	0	1
	Sri Lanka	NADEP	25.0	25.0	2009	1	1	1	1	0	1
Tajikistan	Khation Livelihoods Support Project	14.9	12.3	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Vietnam	Pro-Poor Partnerships for Agroforestry Development Project	25.3	21.0	2008	1	1	1	1	0	1	



Country	Project Name	Project amount		Approval year	Inclusion of FOs in component(s) as direct beneficiaries of capacity building/institutional development activities	Involvement of FOs in component(s) as implementers or service providers	involvement as component managers	Formal membership in CPMTs, steering committees	Other form of involvement, please specify	Merged Cell (Implementers or service providers): Involvement as service providers+Involvement as components(s) managers
		Total	IFAD							
Belize	Rural Finance Programme	6,0	3,0	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bolivia	Management of Natural Resources in the Chaco and High Valley Regions Project - Expansion of the project area and target group	15,0	12,0	2008	1	1	1	1	0	1
Brazil	Semi-arid Sustainable Development Project in the State of Piauí (Viva o Semi-Arido)	39,1	20,0	2009	1	1	0	1	0	1
	Cariri and Seridó Sustainable Development Project	49,7	25,0	2009	1	1	0	1	0	1
Costa Rica	National Rural and Entrepreneurial Development Programme	17,3	5,9	2008	0	1	1	0	0	1
Ecuador	Ibarra-San Lorenzo Development Project	13,7	8,6	2009	1	0	1	0	0	1
Guatemala	Sustainable Rural Development Programme for the Northern Region	40,4	18,0	2008	1	1	0	1	0	1
Haiti	Small-scale Irrigation Development Project (PPI-2) – Supplementary grant	34,1	13,0	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mexico	Community-based Forestry Development Project for Southern States	18,5	3,2	2009	1	1	0	0	0	1
Paraguay	Proposed supplementary financing for the Empowerment of Rural Poor Organizations and Harmonization of Investments (Paraguay Rural) Project	14,4	7,9	2009	1	1	1	1	1	1
Rep. Dom.	Development Project for Rural Poor Economic Organizations of the Border Region	29,8	13,8	2009	1	1	0	1	0	1
Venezuela	Orinoco Delta Warao Support Project	18,0	13,0	2008	1	1	1	1	0	1
Albania	Mountain to Markets Programme	17,9	9,2	2008	1	1	1	0	0	1
Bosnia Herzegovina	Rural Livelihoods Development Project	25,7	11,1	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0
Egypt	On-farm Irrigation Development Project in the Oldlands	19,8	16,0	2009	1	1	1	1	0	1
Georgia	Agricultural Support Project	17,2	8,7	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lebanon	Hilly Areas Sustainable Agricultural Development Project	16,6	3,0	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moldova	Rural Financial Services and Marketing Programme	19,0	13,2	2008	1	1	0	1	1	1
Gaza and West Bank	Report on the Participatory Natural Resource Management Programme financed from the IFAD Fund for Gaza and the West Bank	25,9	8,8	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yemen	President's memorandum - Pilot Community-Based Rural Infrastructure Project for Highland Areas - Modification to the financing agreement	14,0	9,4	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sudan	Southern Sudan Livelihoods Development Project	25,9	13,5	2008	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Revitalizing The Sudan Gum Arabic Production and Marketing Project	10,9	3,0	2009	1	1	1	1	0	1
Turkey	Rural Access Project	15,0	20,0	2009	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ardahan-Kars-Artvin Development Project	26,4	19,2	2009	1	1	0	0	0	1
		2589,2	1212,4	<b>TOT by question</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Total amount of consultation cases</b>		<b>1710,6</b>	<b>814,8</b>	<b>% by question</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>55%</b>
<b>Total amount of non consultation cases</b>		<b>878,6</b>	<b>397,7</b>	<b>TOT 2008</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total amount of active participation cases</b>		<b>1517,3</b>	<b>726,0</b>	<b>% 2008</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>55%</b>
<b>Total amount of non active participation cases</b>		<b>1071,9</b>	<b>486,4</b>	<b>TOT 2009</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Amount: % over projects</b>			<b>47%</b>	<b>% 2009</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>55%</b>
<b>Amount: % over active participation cases</b>		<b>59%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>TOT by question, by Division</b>	<b>PA</b>	<b>PA</b>	<b>PA</b>	<b>PA</b>	<b>PA</b>	<b>PA</b>
<b>TOT Projects</b>			<b>67</b>	<b>% by question, by Division</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>
TOT 2008	28				<b>53%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>40%</b>
TOT 2009	37				<b>PF</b>	<b>PF</b>	<b>PF</b>	<b>PF</b>	<b>PF</b>	<b>PF</b>
					<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>
					<b>58%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>58%</b>
					<b>PI</b>	<b>PI</b>	<b>PI</b>	<b>PI</b>	<b>PI</b>	<b>PI</b>
					<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>
					<b>56%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>56%</b>
					<b>PL</b>	<b>PL</b>	<b>PL</b>	<b>PL</b>	<b>PL</b>	<b>PL</b>
					<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>
					<b>75%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>83%</b>
					<b>PN</b>	<b>PN</b>	<b>PN</b>	<b>PN</b>	<b>PN</b>	<b>PN</b>
					<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>
					<b>50%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>42%</b>

## ANNEX 4 – GRANTS PROVIDING DIRECT FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO FOS

GRANTS direct support to Fos in 2008/2009								
Date	Object	Grant no	Geographical area	Recipient	Recipient type	Direct / not direct	Amount USD	
2008	PARALLEL CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM TO FAO HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY AND THE CHALLENGES OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIO-ENERGY	1041	Global	CIC	CSO	not direct	200.000	
2008	RURAL YOUTH CONFERENCE, UGANDA 2008 - BETTER LIVELIHOODS FOR YOUNG RURAL PEOPLE	1042	Global	MIJARC	CSO	not direct	200.000	
2008	CAPACITY BUILDING FOR WOMEN AND MEN FARMERS LEADERS IN SOUTH AMERICA	1044	Regional	TERRALIVRE	CSO	direct	124.000	
2008	STRENGTHENING FISHERFOLK ORGANIZATIONS CAPACITIES AS ADVOCATES FOR SMALL SCALE FISHERS AND FISH FARMERS	1046	Global	WFFP	IGO	direct	50.000	
2008	EMPOWERING SMALLHOLDER FARMERS IN MARKETS (ESFIM)	1077	Global	IFAP	CSO	direct	1.000.000	
2009	SUPPORT TO FARMERS ORGANISATIONS IN AFRICA PROGRAMME		Regional	EAFF/PROPAC/R OPPASACAU	FO	direct	6.579.000	
2009	SUPPORT TO FARMERS ORGANISATIONS IN AFRICA PROGRAMME		Regional	EAFF/PROPAC/R OPPASACAU	FO	direct	1.500.000	
2009	NGOs / CSOs Parallel Forum to the World Summit on Food Security 2009		Global	AIAB	CSO	not direct	200000	
PA	2008	PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR GRAINS AND OILSEED DEVELOPMENT	1043	National (Ghana)	ACDI-VOCA	CSO	not direct	200.000
PL	2009	FORTALECIMIENTO DE ORGANIZACIONES RURALES PARA PROMOVER EL DIÁLOGO SOBRE POLÍTICAS EN SUDAMÉRICA	1109	Regional	COPROFAM	CSO	direct	416.000
	2009	Increasing income of small producers and agro-processors in Grenada, St Vincent, Dominica and St Lucia	1144	Regional	WINFA	FO	direct	193600
PT	2008	WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT TO SUPPORT GLOBAL ADVOCACY AND ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION	1045	Global	WOCAN	CSO	not direct	200.000
	2009	RESEARCH RESULTS DISSEMINATION SYSTEM (PRODIRE)	1116	Regional	ENDA GRAF	IGO	not direct	200.000
	2009	ENABLING SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, RESILIENT PASTORAL LIVELIHOODS AND POVERTY REDUCTION IN AFRICA		Regional	IUCN		not direct	950.000
PT/EO	2008	Enhancing West African Farmer Organizations' Capacities for Safeguarding Local Agricultural Biodiversity	1048	Regional	BEDE	CSO	not direct	200.000

	No	USD Mn amount
TOTAL	21	12,2
Global	6	1,9
Regional	14	10,2
National	1	0,0

**ANNEX 5 - LIST OF PROJECTS CONSIDERED IN THE QUALITATIVE SURVEY AND OF RESPONDING FOS**

Country/Region		Farmers' Organisations	
<i>National projects - Loans</i>			
<b>WCA</b>	<b>Niger</b>	Projet de Promotion de l'Initiative Locale pour le Développement à Aguié (PPILDA)	Groupement Wandaka Organisation of seeds producers Organisation for inputs marketing
	<b>Senegal</b>	Programme des Services agricoles et Organisation de Producteurs (PSAOP)	Conseil National de Concertation et de Coopération des Ruraux (CNCR)
	<b>Kenya</b>	Programme des Services agricoles et Organisation de Producteurs (PSAOP)	Kenya National Federation of Agricultural Producers (KENFAP)
	<b>Madagascar</b>	Projet d'appui aux organisations professionnelles et aux services agricoles (AROPA)	Chambre nationale d'Agriculture
			FEKRITAMA
			FI.FA.TA Koloharena
<b>Tanzania</b>	Agriculture Sector Development Programme (ASDP)	MVIWATA	
<b>AP</b>	<b>Cambodia</b>	Rural Livelihoods Improvement Project in Kratie, Preah Vihear and Ratanakiri (RuLIP)	Village Farmers Group
	<b>Laos</b>	Rural Livelihoods Improvement Programme (RLIP)	Farmers Business Association of Attapeu Province
	<b>Vietnam</b>	Programme for Improving Market Participation of the Poor in Ha Tinh and Tra Vinh provinces	Provincial Farmers Association of Tra Vinh Province
<b>LAC</b>	<b>Brazil</b>	Rural Communities Development Project in the Poorest Areas of the State of Bahia	Associação de Pequenos Produtores Rurais do Povoado de Laje do Antônio Associação de Produtores Rurais da Região do Espírito Santo
	<b>Nicaragua</b>	Project in Support to the Integration of Smallholders and Value Chains and to Market Access	Unión Nacional de Agricultores y Ganaderos (UNAG)
<b>NENA</b>	<b>Sudan</b>	Gash Sustainable Livelihoods Regeneration Project	Gash
<b>National projects – Grants</b>			
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	Projet de Renforcement des Capacités institutionnelles et opérationnelles de la Confédération paysanne du	Confédération paysanne du Faso (CPF)	
<i>Regional projects - Grants</i>			
<b>Southern Africa</b>	Support to SACAU for Capacity Building of Farmer Organisations	Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)	
		CPM (Madagascar)	
		Zimbabwe Farmers Union	
<b>Central America</b>	Program for the Strengthening of Rural Organisations for their Participation in the Dialogue on Policies – Rural Regional Dialogue (DR-CAFTA)	Unión Nacional de Agricultores y Ganaderos (UNAG)	
<b>MERCOSUR</b>	Project in support to COPROFAM	Confederación de Organizaciones de Productores Familiares del MERCOSUR Ampliado (COPROFAM)	
		Movimiento Unitario Campesino y Etnias de Chile (MUCECH)	
<b>Latin America</b>	Regional Programme in Support to Rural Populations of African Descent in Latin America		