



Evaluation of FAO's contribution to SDG 13: Climate action

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Why an evaluation?

At its 127th session, the FAO Programme Committee requested an evaluation of FAO's contribution to Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate action (SDG 13 evaluation). Considering that FAO's work on climate change is cross-cutting, this SDG 13 evaluation will analyse various areas of FAO's work that contribute directly, or indirectly, to SDG 13 and the Paris Agreement through interlinkages with other SDGs. This evaluation will also assess the results achieved under the FAO Strategy on Climate Change and identify the factors for success or areas for improvement.

What is the focus?

The overall objective of this evaluation is to assess the extent to which FAO has adopted an effective, coherent and transformative approach in its work in 2015-2020 in support of SDG 13 and Paris Agreement. The evaluation will assess the relevance, effectiveness, and emerging impacts of FAO's climate change work, covering all delivery channels and also partnerships, at country, regional and global level.

The evaluation will answer the following questions:

1. Is FAO **making a relevant and effective contribution** to globally agreed climate action targets?
2. Is FAO **fit for purpose** to significantly contribute to globally agreed climate action targets?
3. Does FAO **optimally engage partnerships** that leverage the effect of its work on climate action towards impact generation?

What are the evaluation objectives?

The *specific objectives* of this evaluation are to:

- Assess the relevance and effectiveness of FAO's programme and project portfolio, delivery mechanisms, tools, products and services in support of SDG 13 and the Paris Agreement.

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Evaluation calendar

January 2020 - April 2021

Preparatory phase

January - July 2020

- Scoping interviews
- Portfolio analysis
- Concept note
- Webinar
- Stakeholder workshops
- Terms of reference

Main phase

August - December 2020

- (Possible) field visits
- Data analysis
- Stakeholder workshops
- Drafting of the report

Dissemination of the results

March - April 2021

- Presentation of evaluation to Programme Committee
- Production of communication materials and dissemination

- Assess FAO institutional capacities, processes and programming at all levels (headquarters, regional/subregional offices and country offices) to operate transformational change that contributes directly, or through other SDGs, to the targets of SDG 13 and the Paris Agreement, and associated international commitments, including the principle of "leaving no one behind", as well as FAO's own principles concerning gender equality, youth and indigenous peoples.
- Assess the relevance and effectiveness of FAO's partnerships - including within the UN system, other development organizations, climate change-related global initiatives, research organizations, regional partners, civil society, private sector - to enhance impact, building on its own competitive strengths and institutional niche.
- Recommend improvements to the FAO Strategy on Climate Change, its Action Plan and current Results Framework to optimally support SDG 13 and the Paris Agreement, based on an assessment of the effectiveness and emerging impacts of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change.
- Serve as an institutional baseline for future assessments pertaining to SDGs implementation, including mid-term reviews and final evaluations.

How will the evaluation be conducted and who is involved?

The evaluation will be managed by the FAO Office of Evaluation (OED) and will be conducted by a team of external independent experts, covering various areas of FAO's work on climate change, as well as cross-cutting aspects, such as gender and social inclusion. FAO stakeholders and external advisers (on youth and indigenous peoples) will support this evaluation by providing comments on key deliverables.

The evaluation design takes into account the Covid-19 pandemic crisis. This will limit the possibility for field visits and face-to-face meetings with key informants, and has pushed the OED team to set in place alternative ways of consultations, such as remote stakeholder workshops, geo-spatial data analysis and the involvement of national consultants for in-country data collection.

In addition to field projects, a number of FAO's key climate change-related products and services will be sampled and analysed from the perspective of contributing to SDG 13.

Who are the users?

The intended users of this evaluation are FAO Members, FAO senior management, FAO technical units and decentralized offices that are directly involved in the implementation of climate change-related projects. UN agencies, international research institutions, academia, resource partners, civil society and other partners involved in climate change, working with FAO and delivering against SDG13 and other related SDGs.

Lessons learned from the evaluation will be widely shared through different communication channels, including target publications.

All FAO evaluations and management responses are public documents and can be found at:

www.fao.org/evaluation/oed-home/en/
