

## 175th Session of the FAO Council

### **Item 3: Programme Implementation Report 2022-23<sup>1</sup>**

The Programme Implementation Report (PIR) is FAO's main accountability document. Mandated by the FAO Basic Texts, it provides qualitative and quantitative information on results achieved by the Organization over the preceding biennium, in supporting Members in transforming agrifood systems and progressing towards the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through the transformation to MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable agrifood systems for *better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life*, leaving no one behind

The PIR 2022-23 reports on the implementation of the Medium Term Plan (Reviewed) 2022-25 and Programme of Work and Budget 2022-23 and subsequent updates. The main text of the PIR provides an overview of FAO's work and the context in which it operated. Introductions for each of the *four betters* provide a succinct description of FAO's delivery and stakeholder satisfaction, and progress towards the relevant Programme Priority Area (PPA) outcomes and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These are followed by focused narratives around selected initiatives showcasing results in supporting Members and the international community to achieve PPA outcomes and specific SDG targets.

It also describes FAO's journey towards an Organization that is fit-for-purpose and fit-for-future, focusing strategically on where the greatest impact can be made, increasingly inclusive, efficient, effective and responsive in its work; relying on a highly skilled and motivated workforce; and managing resources optimally. *Annex 1* of the document provides full accountability for reporting on performance indicators within the results framework laid out in the updated results framework 2022-25,<sup>2</sup> and *Annex 2* presents comprehensive information on the Organization's financial performance.

The document describes how, more than ever, FAO stepped up as a key player on the global stage, leading the way in addressing the main challenges and opportunities that unfolded during the biennium, including the unprecedented food crisis, the fallout of the war in Ukraine and other conflicts, and ever-increasing climate impacts.

The FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and its agrifood systems approach proved their ability to steer the Organization towards coherent, holistic action, managing trade-offs and focusing on key priorities. Agrifood systems are positioned at the heart of the 2030 Agenda as climate solutions and FAO's work featured prominently in contributing to landmark commitments at global governance fora such as the 28th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the 2023 SDG Summit. The data and information provided by FAO informs global governance, and the Organization's convening power and technical expertise brought experts and stakeholders together around technical topics that are core to the agrifood sector.

The PIR also describes how FAO leveraged its unique expertise to provide tailored support to the Members in progressing towards the SDGs. FAO's knowledge tools, technical guidelines, direct assistance and policy options contributed to addressing the challenges posed by food insecurity, rising prices, climate change, poverty and inequality.

The document informs of how the Organization is bridging traditional and scientific knowledge and catalysing impact. It highlights the Organization's collaboration with partners, as well as the continued commitment to inclusive approaches that leave no one behind, and the focus on technology and innovation.

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<sup>1</sup> C 2025/8

<sup>2</sup> CL 168/3, Adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2022-23

The PIR 2022-23 also reports on improvements to the enabling environment with special attention to maximizing efficiencies, strengthening operations and internal structures – especially transforming decentralized offices – and working as One FAO. The Organization continues on its path of digitalization and is introducing the changes required to reduce its environmental footprint.

We are proud of our results. As you can see in the overviews of the *four betters* and in *Annex 1*, the Organization met most of its objectives for the biennium, with great satisfaction of our country-level counterparts. Ninety-seven percent of them, when surveyed, indicated that they would work with us again and, across the PPAs, gave an overwhelmingly positive assessment of our contributions. We contributed to PPA Outcomes and related SDG targets largely as planned (94 percent) and met most of our performance targets for Objective 5, Functional Objectives and Special Chapters (44 out of 56 or almost 80 percent).

The SDG indicators show encouraging signs at the outcome level, which is the level that FAO influences. The data shows changes in policy and regulatory frameworks and institutional environments in a number of areas, reflecting the changes implemented by countries and other stakeholders towards our shared aspirations. Unfortunately, the SDGs, overall, remain largely off track, and the impact-level indicators show that as well. There is a dire need for further commitment and investment.

In the final section of the document, the PIR summarizes how FAO managed resources, with full details provided in *Annex 2*. In 2022-23, the Organization spent over 30 percent more than in 2020-21, including 99.8 percent of the net appropriation. A record-breaking USD 4.2 billion was mobilized, over 50 percent more than last biennium. Unilateral Trust Funds doubled, International Financing Institutions represent a larger proportion than ever, and 20 new resource partners contributed to the Organization's work. The cost recovery policy ensured we were transparent, equitable and accountable with voluntary contributions. In addition, FAO supported Members in designing investment projects to be financed by International Financing Institutions for a total of USD 15.5 billion and, through the Technical Cooperation Programme, catalysed USD 940 million in financing.

The Council is requested to endorse the Programme Implementation Report 2022-23, providing such guidance as it deems appropriate.

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