



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
Agriculture  
Organization  
of  
the  
United  
Nations

Organisation  
des  
Nations  
Unies  
pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

## CONFERENCE

### Thirty-fourth Session

Rome, 17-24 November 2007

### International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD) - Outcome and Follow-up

#### I. Introduction

1. The Report of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Council recalled the importance of agrarian reform and rural development, and the significant and unique role of FAO in this matter. It noted, in relation to the outcome and follow-up of ICARRD, that FAO's new focal point for rural development was the Gender, Equity and Rural Employment Division (ESW), that cross-cutting work on rural development would be facilitated and co-ordinated through an Interdepartmental Working Group and that the responsibility for agrarian reform and other aspects of land tenure would continue to be with the Land Tenure and Management Unit (NRLA). The Council endorsed the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on Agriculture's decision in paragraph 49 of the COAG Report. Paragraph 49, *inter alia* and of relevance to this Information Document, provided as follows:

*"The Committee decided to: . . .*

*Request the Secretariat to provide an overview of*

- the existing and ongoing activities of FAO on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development;*
- the capacities of the regional offices to deal with the issue of agrarian reform and rural development;*
- FAO technical cooperation programmes on the matter;*
- cost estimates for possible implementation by FAO of recommendations contained in Paragraph 30 of the ICARRD Declaration.*

*(. . .) This overview is to be submitted as an Information Document to the Conference, in November 2007, and to be considered by the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in 2008."*

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## **II. Existing and ongoing activities of FAO on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development**

### **a. Existing and ongoing land tenure/agrarian reform activities**

2. Land tenure reform is a key element in agrarian reform and rural development. The Land Tenure and Management Unit (NRLA) in the NR Department is responsible for this within FAO, with substantial ongoing land tenure/agrarian reform normative activities. Many are closely related to the Unit's technical cooperation programme and undertaken in partnership with other units, including FAO's Forestry Department, the Gender, Equity and Rural Employment Division and the Development Law Service, as well as external partners, such as UN Habitat, World Bank, UNECE, UNHCR, and CSOs. The ICARRD Conference (2006) provided an important opportunity for sharing a wide range of country experiences, views and ideas across the range of examples of land tenure/agrarian reform. The Unit's publications are available, where appropriate, in all of the official languages of the Organization, as well as in Russian.

3. Although the number of major land reform programmes has decreased since the 1979 World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD) redistributive reform remains a significant instrument to provide land to the poor in some countries. Land reform interventions require more than redistribution of land. To be successful, beneficiaries and communities must be provided with rural development support, including institutional (inputs, credit, marketing, etc) and physical infrastructure (road networks, irrigation, etc.). Experiences of land reforms in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Near East have been reported in FAO's bulletin, "Land Reform, Land Settlement and Co-operatives" ("Land Reform"), and distributed widely to experts in the field around the world. FAO has published guidelines to assist those working in land reform projects to gain a better understanding of rural dynamics, anticipate secondary effects and plan appropriate additional actions or policy changes.

4. For many of the poor, with little or no land and capital, leasing offers a way to gain access to land. FAO has prepared guidelines to support Governments' and farmers' improved access to land through leasing, illustrating how leasing arrangements work and how to achieve equitable arrangements that balance the interests of the tenant and land owner. As a complementary guide, FAO's resource kit for grassroots organizations assists farmers to improve their leasing arrangements.

5. In countries emerging from conflicts, the provision of land to refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) is an essential part of establishing sustainable peace. With WFP, FAO has prepared guidelines to support WFP field staff in understanding and acting appropriately on land access issues under such circumstances. Because materials on this are scarce, FAO has published guidelines for re-establishing land tenure and land administration systems in countries emerging from violent conflicts. FAO has co-published, with OCHA, OHCHR, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, and Norwegian Refugee Council, a handbook on "Housing and Property Restitution for Refugees and Displaced Persons". FAO has prepared guidelines on the management of non-violent conflicts over land and has disseminated other materials on the topic.

6. The expansion of agriculture into arid or semi-arid areas threatens pastoral rights of access. At times, policies promoting commercial ranching or cultivation in these areas have failed to recognize that rainfall variability requires pastoralists to have access to extensive rangelands. Removal of some lands traditionally used for pastoralist production for commercial ranching restricts the mobility of pastoralists and results in an over-concentration of pastoral livestock in

those rangelands still accessible to pastoralists. In addition to analytical studies on pastoralism in the Near East, "Land Reform" has in recent years published articles on access to natural resources by pastoralists in countries as diverse as Mali, Syria and Italy.

7. When farms are divided into many fragmented parcels, often far from the farm site, not easily accessible and badly shaped for agricultural purposes, it is difficult for farmers to implement new competitive production arrangements and to use machinery and appropriate technologies. Land consolidation interventions can allow farmers to acquire larger and better shaped farms. Responding to countries in Central and Eastern Europe, FAO has published guidelines on the design of land consolidation pilot projects, and a technical manual and training modules for project managers. These have been disseminated through various fora, including the Prague regional workshops on land consolidation (2005, 2006, 2007) funded by the Czech Republic and FAO.

8. Due attention to the interests of the poor and vulnerable, particularly women and indigenous peoples, is needed, as poorly designed land titling and registration projects may result in their loss of the few rights they enjoy. FAO has published guidelines and grassroots guidance on how gender matters should be addressed in land titling projects.

9. An important aspect of FAO's work on indigenous issues deals with the recognition of indigenous people's rights to land and other natural resources. FAO has disseminated normative materials on the recognition and administration of indigenous lands and provided technical support for a paper on Cultural indicators of Indigenous Peoples' food and agro ecological systems for the 2nd Global Consultation on the Right to Food, Food Security and Food Sovereignty for Indigenous Peoples (2006).

10. Decentralization of responsibilities for providing services from central to local governments has created new needs for sustainable, local sources of revenue. Limited local government revenues have reinforced the growing inequality between rural and urban areas in many countries. FAO prepared guidelines on the design and implementation of rural property taxation systems for governments in Central and Eastern Europe. In response to demand from other regions, an additional guide was published, placing rural property tax explicitly in the context of decentralization.

11. These guidelines and outputs are generally developed through, and in support of, the field programme and are subsequently applied and adapted for further field programme application. The geographical coverage of the field programme where these guidelines have been variously applied is dealt with in part IV of this Information Paper. The FAO guidelines on land tenure and rural development, for example, prepared with WFP, support WFP field staff and others in understanding and acting appropriately on land access issues in the many WFP emergency and other field involvements around the world. Field programme activities in Angola and Sudan have been supported by FAO guidelines for re-establishing land tenure and land administration systems in countries emerging from violent conflicts. The guidelines and related materials on land consolidation have been extensively used in support of FAO projects and for development of policy for land consolidation as part of rural development and building capacity to introduce modern land consolidation approaches in Armenia, Hungary, Serbia, and Lithuania and in other projects in Croatia, UNMIK/Kosovo and Moldova. The guidelines on decentralization and rural property taxation have been used in projects and policy dialogue in Namibia, the Philippines, Laos and China. The guidelines, in general, have been widely requested and distributed and are regularly used in land tenure and administration projects and by governments and civil society,

and are viewed as providing an impartial perspective on often difficult land tenure issues as the basis for informed discussion.

12. FAO's developing land tenure/agrarian reform work is reflected in its new programme entity, which started in the 2006-07 biennium, and includes focus on good governance in land administration, state and public land management, compulsory acquisition and compensation, low cost land registration, improving accessibility of information to the poor and continuing work on land tenure in emergencies.

**b. Existing and ongoing rural development activities**

13. Excerpts from the ICARRD Reports and Declaration were presented to the World Rural Forum (2006) and are also expected to be referred to in FAO's report to the UN Secretary General on rural development for the Commission on Sustainable Development's (CSD) 16th session (2008-2009). As contribution to CSD, FAO, the SARD Initiative, IFAD and ILO, among others, are producing a series of SARD briefs for policy makers on agricultural workers, child labour, the role of agriculture in poverty reduction, agricultural trade, rural enterprises, migration, bio-energy, climate change, agricultural biodiversity, agro-ecology, livestock, property rights, up-scaling local innovations, farmers' organizations, women, children and youth, indigenous peoples, good agricultural practices, organic agriculture, and conservation agriculture.

14. A web-based collection of over 70 community-level sustainable agriculture and rural development (SARD) good practices was published. To help Members identify their own SARD good practices, a Guide for identifying, assessing, sharing information about and up-scaling SARD good practices was prepared, tested and translated (2006). To replicate and upscale good practices, stakeholder consultations, community exchanges and policy exposure visits were held in India, Africa and Latin America. A Workshop on Upscaling of SARD Good Practices which was held in Rome in 2006 helped to identify promising methodologies to scale up SARD Initiative, GTZ, FAO-GAP, LEAD and TECA good practices at local, national and regional levels. A SARD Project Toolkit: a Resource Guide for Promoting SARD in Projects and Programmes was published to help improve the sustainability and impacts of agriculture and rural development projects. The FAO SARD in Mountain Regions project identified key principles for improved policy packages and institutional processes through SARD-oriented policy assessments in the Andes, Carpathians, Central America, Hindu Kush-Himalayas, Mediterranean region, and South East Europe.

15. FAO co-chairs the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development (GDPRD), which now comprises 29 member organizations including all the main financing institutions and bilateral donors. It is committed to reducing rural poverty through enhanced donor harmonization and alignment, working in support of the extremely poor who live in rural areas and depend upon agriculture and other jobs for their livelihoods. Its mandate to raise the profile of agriculture and rural development on the development agenda is implemented through advocacy, both for harmonization and alignment as well as for agriculture and rural development; shared learning of rural development experiences; and country level support for enhanced programmes in the sector. A Joint Donor Concept on Rural Development synthesising donor consensus on the principles and aid delivery for rural development, a Code of Conduct in Rural Development built around the formulation of Joint Donor Minimum Standards and Cornerstones for Effective Agriculture and Rural Development Programmes, and an FAO-led global study of Sector Wide Approaches (SWAs) in Agriculture and Rural Development have recently been produced. A World Bank-led and FAO-implemented study on Core Indicators for Agriculture and Rural Development and a

CIDA-led applications initiative on Civil Society Organizations in Agriculture and Rural Development for the Accra High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (2008) have been initiated recently.

16. An FAO-organized expert conference on Beyond Agriculture: The promise of the rural economy for growth and poverty reduction (2006) analyzed the characteristics of the new rural development paradigm and the role of agriculture in a context of growing importance of non-farm activities. Some of the best papers are being edited for publication in the Electronic Journal of Agricultural and Development Economics. To gain a better understanding of agriculture's role in rural development, the linkages of farm and non farm activities within household income maximization strategies and the synergies that can be promoted in national rural development strategies, FAO's Rural Income Generating Activities (RIGA: [www.fao.org/es/esa/riga](http://www.fao.org/es/esa/riga)) project is providing consistent measures and producing an internationally comparable database of rural income sources. Several studies using this database will be reviewed in a workshop (2007) and published. To assess the role of migration and remittances in rural development, an FAO workshop (2007) analyzed studies on the interplay between public transfers, private transfers/remittances and economic decision-making at the household level. Current joint studies in Mexico, Guatemala and Albania are analyzing migration, remittances and their effect on rural development and food security.

17. Given that globalization and the liberalization of agricultural trade have significant impacts on rural livelihoods, FAO is supporting multilateral trade negotiations and their implementation at national and international levels, assisting in analyses and assessments of impacts on food security, modelling and conducting outlook studies, and analysing the implications of trade agreements for agriculture, rural development and food security at national, regional and global levels.

18. FAO is supporting its Members in the formulation and development of gender-responsive policies, strategies, programmes, methods, tools and capacities for agriculture and rural development; the management of natural, productive and household resources, SEAGA and Junior and Adult Farmer Field and Life School (JFFLS/AFFLS) training; the prevention and mitigation of the impacts of diseases (i.e. HIV/AIDS, malaria, HPAI) on rural livelihoods; and the rehabilitation of the livelihoods of vulnerable farmers in areas affected by climate change, natural disasters and armed conflicts. To support the revitalization of rural areas, FAO is working with partners to develop an FAO/ILO website, assess FAO's rural employment related work, develop an employment strategy using the CEB-endorsed Toolkit on Employment and Decent Work, ensure inter-agency policy coherence on child labour in agriculture, and strengthen social welfare and workers' health and safety in the principles of Good Agricultural Practice. Training in Livelihoods-based facilitation as a tool in joint planning at country level is helping to develop the skills for inter-agency programming, collaborative planning, and multi-stakeholder negotiation that are needed in emergency responses and longer-term UNDAF and One-UN processes.

19. Within the context of preparing an FAO capacity development strategy, a Global Partnership is being developed to build the capacities of farmers', fishers' and forest users' organizations and to promote their participation in programme and policy formulation, implementation and evaluation. To foster competitive and profitable agricultural and food enterprises and enhance access to markets and services (credit, inputs, mechanisation), FAO is assisting farmers and agribusinesses to develop managerial and technical skills throughout the value chain (production, post-harvest, processing, marketing and financial operations). Market infrastructure requires assessments, and planning guides have been produced.

20. FAO is strengthening partnerships and providing policy advice and technical assistance on market-oriented farming and small and medium scale agro-enterprises and agro-industry development to promote competitive rural agro-industries, enhance small farmers' incomes and livelihoods, and develop rural infrastructure. Strategies to increase the availability of food and improve agricultural productivity, overcome market access constraints and improve the profitability, efficiency and competitiveness of farms and small and medium agribusiness firms are emphasized. A Rural Finance Learning Centre has been developed to help build the capacity of developing country organisations to deliver improved financial services to rural households and businesses.

21. FAO has provided policy, strategy, methodology, planning, advocacy, knowledge management and capacity development support to selected Members, regions and NGOs in the fields of communication for development, education for rural people, training and extension. FAO, with the World Bank, hosted in October 2006 the first World Congress on Communication for Development to review the evidence for increasing the role of communication in sustainable rural development and establish priorities for future interventions. Regional Communication for Development platforms were established in Central America and the Near East and thematic platforms were established on Indigenous People (with UNPFII) and Rural Radio in Latin America. FAO's Participation Website is supporting improved programme and policy design by strengthening the involvement and capacities of rural people to conceive and manage their own projects in a bottom-up, multi-sectoral, decentralized, inter-community and inter-territorial fashion.

### **III. Capacities of the regional and sub-regional offices to deal with the issue of agrarian reform and rural development**

22. The Regional Offices provide technical advice on region-specific priorities, while the sub-regional Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs) are responsible for planning the programme interventions in the sub-region based on country needs consonant with regional and global priorities. The MDTs are the first line of response for technical assistance. They have at their disposal the technical capacities of the team members, including FAORs in the sub-region, as well as non-staff resources for mobilizing additional expertise needed to respond to specific requests, including on land tenure/agrarian reform and rural development.

23. The technical capacity of FAO regional and sub-regional offices to respond to land tenure/agrarian reform and rural development requests for technical assistance could be strengthened. NRL (the Land and Water Management Division) comprises the Land Tenure and Management Unit, NRLA, and the Water Management and Development Unit, NRLW. NRLA's responsibilities include both land tenure/agrarian reform, and land management; the latter predominantly addressing issues of land degradation, desertification, etc. The majority of the current decentralized posts and the technical capacities of incumbents under NRL (the former Land and Water Division (AGL)) address fields other than land tenure/agrarian reform, reflecting the fact that those posts were designed and officers recruited when the Division was based in the Agriculture Department, i.e. when land tenure/agrarian reform were not part of its responsibilities. Only one officer at present in post (Regional Office for Europe) has terms of reference that encompass land tenure/agrarian reform.

24. When recruiting for the remaining planned decentralized posts under the Division's responsibility, post descriptions will reflect the broad responsibilities of the Division including land tenure/agrarian reform. Naturally, candidates cannot be expected to have professional skills in all of the distinct technical areas of water management and development, land management, and land tenure/agrarian reform. Competence to identify issues, including in land tenure/agrarian reform, will be developed in such staff. This should enable these officers to be able to recognise, inter alia, land tenure/agrarian reform issues and to refer these to those with requisite skills, including through the advice of the five land tenure officers based in headquarters and the use of non-staff human resources. Within regions there may be scope for sub-regional MDTs to share skills across the Division's technical areas of responsibility to maximise their efficient use.

25. Technical staff (AGS) situated in regional and sub-regional offices in Asia and the Pacific, Africa (Ethiopia sub-regional office), and Central and Eastern Europe are helping to enhance small farmer and agro-entrepreneur incomes, competitiveness, livelihood diversification, agribusiness development, marketing, post harvest handling, and farm management systems in rural areas. Regional and sub-regional policy officers (TCA), and sub-regional investment officers (TCI), variously cover regional dimensions of their programmes and contribute to the work of sub-regional multidisciplinary teams in their areas of specialisation. Decentralized coverage of the social aspects of rural development is provided by dedicated staff in RAP and RAF and could be acquired using non-staff resources in other locations as needed.

#### **IV. FAO field and technical cooperation programmes on agrarian reform and rural development**

26. The synergies gained from closely linking normative and technical field programme activities are exemplified by FAO's work in land tenure/agrarian reform. Closely corresponding with the technical areas reviewed previously, FAO's land tenure and agrarian reform technical programme in the field (over the past decade and ongoing) includes projects in the following regions and countries:

Region	Countries
Africa	Angola; Ethiopia; Ghana; Madagascar; Mali; Mozambique; Namibia; Niger; Sudan; Tanzania
Asia and the Pacific	China; Indonesia; Laos; Philippines; Sri Lanka; Thailand
Europe and Central Asia	Armenia; Azerbaijan; Croatia; Hungary; Kosovo; Kyrgyzstan; Lithuania; Moldova; Russia; Serbia; Tajikistan; Ukraine;
Latin America and the Caribbean	Brazil; Colombia; Guatemala; Honduras; Mexico; Panama
Near East and North Africa	Syria; Tunisia; Turkey

27. The more than 70 projects in these countries are divided into approximately 22% as TCPs, 40% as GCP/UTFs, 18% as World Bank Co-operation Programmes, and the balance financed by bilateral donors. The projects range in scale from a few hundred thousand dollars to large trust funds (such as the US\$5mn AusAID financed Philippines PATSSARD project completed in 2006).

28. NRLA's land tenure/agrarian reform work in the 2006-07 biennium is continuing to generate important technical co-operation requests, including three proposed regional TCP projects covering the Latin America and the Caribbean (RLC), Africa (RAF) and Asia and the Pacific (RAP) regions, and technical outputs particularly in relation to land reform, including good governance, emergencies and state and public land management.

29. To improve the welfare of the poorest rural populations, FAO assists member countries and international financing institutions in mobilizing external, public and private investment in rural development. Rural development is the focus of some 27 percent of all investment projects prepared with the Investment Centre's assistance and approved for financing over the past 40 years. These have targeted rural economic development and poverty reduction, specifically community-driven development, social programme investment, rural employment, farmer empowerment, village investment, rural institutions and tele-centers, and livelihood support and partnership programmes. The Centre also works with FAO technical departments in mobilizing rural investments in agrarian reform, access to land, real estate cadastre and registration, and land administration.

30. Although there is an element of overlap with the figures provided above, a rough estimate suggests that FAO is providing technical assistance to 19 on-going projects directly related to rural development and totalling approximately US\$ 27 million. FAO continues to support the preparation, formulation, management, coordination, implementation and monitoring of National and Regional Programmes for Food Security, Agricultural and Rural Development, and related pro-poor small projects and capacity building efforts at country and regional levels. Support for enhancing small farmer income and competitiveness through a portfolio of field projects to diversify farmers' and agro-entrepreneurs' livelihoods, develop agribusiness, and improve marketing and post harvest handling support systems and farm management extension in developing countries is estimated at US \$40 million.

31. The FAO Dimitra project is helping to increase the visibility of rural people, especially women and their organizations, by sharing their knowledge and experiences, fostering partnerships for development, and sensitising others. The Dimitra network, in which some FAORs act as convenors, is helping to strengthen the capacities of partners in Africa and the Near East to manage and use information to empower women. A donor trust fund is supporting a Communication for Sustainable Development Initiative (2007-2010) to foster dialogue and cooperation and to strengthen national programmes on sustainable natural resource management and rural development.

## **V. Cost estimates for possible implementation by FAO of recommendations contained in Paragraph 30 of the ICARRD Declaration**

32. Recommendations in Paragraph 30 of the ICARRD Declaration include:



a. *“We will develop appropriate mechanisms through a lasting platform at global, regional, national and local levels in order to institutionalize social dialogue, cooperation and monitoring and evaluation of progress in agrarian reform and rural development, which are crucial to promote social justice and to enhance an environmentally sustainable agrarian reform and rural development, more focused on the poor and respectful of gender equality.”*

b. *“We will recommend that FAO’s Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in close coordination with its Committee on Agriculture (COAG), adopt appropriate measures to implement the ICARRD Declaration. In order to monitor the implementation of the ICARRD Declaration, we will also recommend that the CFS adopt a set of additional reporting guidelines. These processes should include the participation of civil society, and other UN Organizations dealing with food sovereignty, food security, agrarian reform and rural development.”*

c. *“We will support International Partnership Initiatives on agrarian reform and rural development along the lines of the ICARRD Declaration.”*

33. These three recommendations have cost implications. Proposals and indications of costs for possible elements and options for parts a. and b. are indicated below.

34. There has been progress in the development of part c., international partnership initiatives, with ongoing TCP funded work with the Lusophone countries and the three proposed regional TCPs under preparation for the RLC, RAF and RAP regions. It is anticipated that further provision for such International Partnership Initiatives would be on a project-by-project basis, or would be the subject of recommendations arising out of the proposed regional TCPs. It is therefore considered premature to attempt to propose or provide cost options at this stage.

35. The remaining recommendations of Paragraph 30, given below, have already been implemented as stipulated:

d. *“We propose that the multi-stakeholder dialogue of the Special Forum to be held during the Thirty-second Session of the Committee on World Food Security, September 2006, include an agenda item on agrarian reform and rural development, as an additional follow-up mechanism on the results of ICARRD. This will be an important agenda item to be discussed during the Mid-Term Review of the Progress in the Implementation of the World Food Summit Plan of Action.”*

e. *“We will recommend to the Hundred and Thirty-first Session of the FAO Council, November 2006, to examine the possibility of further follow-up mechanisms designed to assist countries in the implementation of the outcomes of ICARRD.”*

36. The estimation of costs in this paper “to adopt appropriate measures to implement the ICARRD Declaration” has regard to the fact that many of FAO’s ongoing activities and technical co-operation programmes, as reviewed above, are already directly devoted to this end. These ongoing and recognised activities and programmes are already included in the Strategic, Medium Term and biennial workplans of the Organization and are budgeted accordingly.

**a. Cost estimates for a lasting platform**

37. Several elements and options may be possible for enhancing or developing mechanisms as a lasting platform on agrarian reform and rural development. The options identified are not

mutually exclusive, they build on existing arrangements and are costed according to the additional funds that would be required to implement them, excluding the costs related to FAO staff time which would need to be calculated and budgeted separately.

38. Capitalise on the consultative mechanisms of civil society which organized the forum on “Land, Territory and Dignity” held in parallel to ICARRD. This was led by the CSOs, NGOs and Social Movements associated with the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC). The IPC mechanism already facilitates civil society engagement at the CFS, COAG, FAO Conference and Regional Conferences. It has experience in convening CSOs and social movements, and working at global, regional and national levels. It has thematic and regional focal points that could serve as a starting point to establish a lasting platform of appropriate civil society organizations. The platform would also reach out to other relevant networks or mechanisms, for example with international NGOs, such as ActionAid and Oxfam, and member-based organizations representing the rural poor, the landless, agricultural workers and women. To utilize this mechanism to mobilise and finance social dialogue around agrarian reform and rural development at national, regional and global levels in association with relevant agenda items of FAO’s technical committees, Governing Bodies, and Regional Conferences, including the possibility of a one day recurrent event alongside CFS for governments and civil society, the estimated costs would be US\$3 mn/biennium.

39. Support the International Land Coalition (ILC). FAO and IFAD are founding members of the ILC and they already form part of its executive body, the Coalition Council. The ILC aims at “Putting a Pro-poor Land Agenda into Practice” by promoting land partnerships, capacity building and knowledge exchange among the members, as well as dialogue between governments and Civil Society at various levels. Existing activities could be expanded and new activities introduced to support more directly a platform for social dialogue on agrarian reform and rural development. A rough estimate of the additional cost would be US\$ 600,000-800,000/biennium.

40. Development of a new FAO web-based platform as a dynamic space for all those involved in agrarian reform and rural development to share information and provide a voice for rural people. The platform would include an interactive Forum, enabling members to exchange opinions, experiences and good practices, and to ensure that the knowledge created is effectively shared and used worldwide. Members would be able to participate in further development of the web site platform, by providing relevant content, including news items, resources and other materials. This could build upon or incorporate a number of related thematic and regional virtual platforms recently developed with FAO assistance to support communication for rural development in Central America, Latin America, the Near East and for Indigenous Peoples. The estimated costs for developing and maintaining the proposed web-based platform would be US\$590,000/biennium.

41. Support the Global Donor Platform on Rural Development (GDPRD) in assuming a role in ICARRD follow-up as a new activity, pending FAO membership advice and agreement by the GDPRD Steering Committee. The GDPRD has, among its functions, to share information and experiences among donors and technical agencies about key rural development issues, including land and agrarian reform. The GDPRD Social Dialogue Forum could be launched as such through the membership and given a specific place on the web site, affording a basis for information exchange, the preparation of a number of case studies on the issues and perhaps convening a workshop event on an annual or biennial basis. This could also be associated with the idea of creating a satellite Secretariat of the GDPRD in Rome, with estimated costs of US\$200,000-400,000/biennium.

42. Focus support on creating synergies among some or all of the existing mechanisms listed above to create a legitimate voice for rural people across a gamut of agrarian reform and rural development fora. A minimal cost estimate for this would be US\$500,000/biennium.

43. A further set of options or elements outside the scope of FAO direct activities could include support for other existing initiatives devoted to the analysis and sharing of information related to agrarian reform and/or rural development, in which FAO is not currently directly participating. One example would be LandNet which focuses on experience at the regional level and mobilizes national institutions and partners in civil society, including INGOs such as ActionAid and Oxfam.

#### **b. Monitoring and reporting**

44. Monitoring the implementation of the ICARRD Declaration, as well as the design of an additional set of reporting guidelines would require a number of activities:

- Designing, testing, discussing (at regional and global levels) and approving (at national and regional levels) a number of appropriate and measurable indicators for the achievement of the goals and activities recommended in the ICARRD Declaration;
- Collecting data and calculating/generating indicators at national level through appropriate mechanisms under the responsibility of member Countries. Note that costs in relation to this are not quantified;
- Processing, analyzing and consolidating data and indicators, and assessing the contribution of activities and outcomes measured to the goals recommended by ICARRD; and
- Presenting and discussing the data and indicators at appropriate technical committee(s) of FAO and potentially at regional levels (including possibly regional conferences).

45. In addition to the costs, including time, of Regular Programme staff who can provide supervision and some coordination of the technical aspects for the design and processing of indicators, the completion of the above tasks will require additional resources for the following activities:

- Establishment of a small unit dedicated to the monitoring of Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, in line with ICARRD Declaration (two professionals and small secretariat and logistics at Headquarters);
- Contracting with experts on monitoring and evaluation, to design the indicators and prepare background papers;
- Technical support services from specialized units in FAO;
- Preparation and translation of technical documents; and
- Organization of regional and other workshops.

46. The total cost for these monitoring and reporting activities is estimated between US\$2 – 2.5mn/biennium.