



GCP/INT/847/ITA

Thematic area:
Knowledge exchange and policy

Overall Objective:
Facilitating informed multi scale decision-making related to sustainable management of land and water resources

Donor:
Government of Italy

Contribution:
US\$252 780

Participating countries:
Interregional

Duration:
3 years and 6 months
From 01 Apr 2003 to 30 Sep 2006

Capacity Building in Education for Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security



The Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action adopted in 1996 clearly stressed that sustainable development policies should consider education essential for empowering the poor and achieving food security. Recent research indicates that the empowerment of poor people, and policy and institutional reforms in the rural sector leading to participation of stakeholders, needs to be the starting point. In this respect, education has a crucial role since evidence shows that a farmer with four years of elementary education is, on average, nearly 10 percent more productive than a farmer with no education.

Project GCP/INT/847/ITA, is part of the FAO long lasting effort to assist national policy makers in addressing the basic needs of rural populations, and contributing to poverty eradication through improved reforming and planning education and training systems. The project, funded by the Government of Italy, is a key component of the global partnership initiative on Education for rural people (ERP) launched by FAO and United Nations educational, scientific and cultural organization (UNESCO) during the World Summit on Sustainable Development in South Africa in September 2002, described in: <http://www.fao.org/sd/erp/>. The project became operational in April 2003.

■ Beneficiaries

- > Rural population of member countries benefiting for more inclusive and relevant education
- > Member countries' education policy makers, managers and planners as well as experts in donors' agencies

■ Objectives

The general objective is to contribute to poverty reduction, rural development, and improved food security benefiting, especially, vulnerable groups by ensuring increased access to and improved quality of basic education relevant to the needs of rural children, youth and adults.

The specific objectives are:

1. To develop a positive response from multilateral and bilateral agencies to the need to increase development resources and commitment to ERP
2. To strengthen the institutional capacity (Ministries of Education and Agriculture and other stakeholders) of Egypt for reforming ERP by increasing the capacity of a core group of policy makers and managers to plan a system that addresses rural population educational needs by participatory processes

■ Strategies

- > Promotion of education as essential element to grant ownership to the poorest and reach food security
- > Share best practices and lessons learned from the study of FAO/Institute of education and planning of UNESCO and identify key issues to be addressed in national strategies for ERP
- > Collaboration with the Institute of statistic of UNESCO and the production of a study on the teaching conditions in primary schools



- > Preparation of information and educational material
- > Promotion of new interdisciplinary approaches dealing with the education for rural people

■ **Expected results**

- > Improvement of training in the participation process at regional level (Latin-America and Asia) and at national level (Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Honduras, Mexico and Perú), focusing the attention on the level of education for rural people
- > Improvement of food security
- > Organization of an international workshop to increase awareness on the need to use new interdisciplinary approaches on education for people living in rural areas
- > Preparation of information and education for rural people material
- > Production of national and international indicators useful to the design of policies

■ **Ongoing results**

- > Supporting the most vulnerable groups of the population
- > Improvement of the cooperation among stakeholders and rural people extension
- > Preparation and implementation of two international seminars in Latin-America and Asia with the participation of donors and representatives of the educational and agricultural ministries of the various regions, and of non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- > Organization of seminars that allowed the identification of adequate tools

GCP/INT/847/ITA



GCP/INT/927/ITA

Thematic area:
Knowledge
exchange and
policy

Assistance to the NEPAD¹ Member Countries in the Review/Update of National Strategies for Food Security and Agricultural Development, and the Preparation of Medium-term Investment Programmes and Bankable Projects in Support to the CAADP² Implementation

Overall Objective:
Contribute to the implementation of the NEPAD-CAADP, as a means to improving food security and fostering agricultural growth in Africa

Donor:
Government of Italy

Contribution:
US\$998 302

Participating countries:
Interregional

Duration:
2 years and
7 months
From 01 Jan 2004
to 31 Jul 2006



Agriculture dominates the economies of most African countries, providing jobs, incomes and exports. At present, it accounts for some 60 percent of Africa's employment and 20 percent of its export earnings, while more than 70 percent of the total population mainly depend on agriculture for their livelihoods. The sector continues to fall deep into a crisis that started almost four decades ago.

African countries recognize that the agriculture is the backbone of their economies.

A constantly growing agricultural sector is not only crucial for addressing hunger, poverty and inequality, but also fundamental for the overall economic growth. This implies that agriculture is not just about food, but it is also about employment, reduction of poverty and prosperity.

At the 22nd FAO Regional Conference for Africa (RCA) on 8 February 2002 in Cairo, in an effort to halt and reverse the decline of the agricultural sector in the continent situation, the Ministers of Agriculture unanimously adopted a resolution laying down key steps to be taken in relation to agriculture in the framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). In a direct follow-up to this resolution, all ministers endorsed, at a special NEPAD session of the FAO RCA held in Rome on 9 June 2002, the NEPAD Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). This CAADP programme seeks to restore agricultural growth, rural development and food security in the African region. The recent Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa ratified by the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government during its Second Ordinary Session, held in Maputo in July 2003, provided strong political support to the CAADP.

- **Beneficiaries**
- > National Governments
 - > Private sector operators

1. New Partnership for Africa's Development
2. Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme



■ **Objective**

The overall objective is to contribute to the implementation of the NEPAD–CAADP, as a means to improving food security and fostering agricultural growth in Africa.

The immediate objectives of the project is to provide financial resources and technical assistance in:

1. Review/update of national long-term food security strategies
2. Preparation of national medium-term investment programmes (NMTIP) in all NEPAD member countries
3. Formulation of bankable investment projects

■ **Strategies**

- > Updating of national strategies as a basis for planning in adequate management of resources to fight hunger. The National Food Security and Agricultural Development Strategies (NFSAD) – Horizon 2015 are meant for the whole rural world considering micro–macro linkages, the urban dimension of food insecurity and cross cutting issues such as diseases (HIV/AIDS, malaria, etc.), public sector reform, decentralization, trade and macro–economic reforms
- > Revitalization of the agriculture and animal, forestry, and fishery sectors through adequate policies
- > Implementation of CAADP and the plans of action for the agriculture development at national, regional and continental level
- > Joint action of the African Union Commission, NEPAD, FAO, and other partners in support of African countries and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) for the implementation of CAADP

- > Consultation at national and regional level with civil society organization and other stakeholders
- > Preparation through joint efforts at national and regional level, of bankable projects in the framework of CAADP for the mobilization of resources for agricultural growth and rural development

■ **Expected results**

- > Agricultural growth, rural development and food security in the region
- > A national medium-term investment programme for each one of the NEPAD member countries
- > Project documents for at least five technical assistance projects to be considered for grant funding by the donors

■ **Ongoing results**

- > As of end 2005, NMTIPs have been completed in all NEPAD. In addition to date, around 200 bankable projects have been prepared with total investments of around US\$5–6 billion
- > Support to the NEPAD Secretariat in the organization of the national consultancies between January and May 2005. The last meeting took place in Accra, 5–6 May 2006. These meetings provided the opportunity to identify priorities for the various regions and early action, which can be promoted and implemented shortly
- > Approval of CAADP: the programme aims at re-establishing agricultural growth, rural development and food security in the region





Thematic area:
Knowledge exchange and policy

Overall Objective:
Addressing poverty and food security to achieve the Millennium development goals (MDGs)

Donor:
Government of Italy

Contribution:
US\$1 800 000

Participating countries:
Interregional

Duration:
2 years
From 01 Nov 2004 to 30 Oct 2006

Support to Regional Economic Organizations (REOs) for the Implementation of their Regional Programmes for Food Security



Following the increased efforts of industrialized countries towards integration new impetus has been given to the debate on regional integration among developing regions. Approximately 20 Regional Economic Organizations have been established in the developing world so far. FAO has started the preparation of 12 regional programmes for food security (RPFS), out of which, CARIFORUM (Forum of the Caribbean ACP States) and the Pacific island countries (PIC) are funded by the extraordinary Italian Contribution to the FAO Trust Fund for Food Security and Food Safety. FAO's approach to regional food security is innovative and the limited implementation experience accrued so far calls for further improvement and additional support. This project therefore promotes the implementation of

RPFS, contributing to the development of policy and regulatory frameworks for food, agriculture, fisheries and forestry.

■ Beneficiaries

- > Regional economic organizations
- > Producers
- > Traders
- > Entrepreneurs

■ Objectives

The overall objective is to address poverty and food security to achieve the Millennium development goals by linking regional and

national efforts to promote private agro-industries in providing good quality and safe food at prices affordable to the poor.

The specific objectives are:

1. Support the capacity building process to facilitate regional integration through market access and expansion
2. Assist member countries to identify agricultural investment opportunities

■ Strategies

- > Organizing regional workshops to discuss key questions related to regional integration and food security and to raise political awareness
- > Promoting synergy and coordination between projects and establishing partnerships between United Nations agencies and regional bodies in order to use resources to implement RPFS efficiently.
- > Establishing a Rapid-Response Unit to address technical support requirements from CARIFORUM, PIC and the Economic and monetary West African union (Union économique et monétaire ouest Africaine – UEMOA) on issues related to trade and food Security
- > Promoting countries' specializations within a regional context
- > Supporting the harmonization process of regulations and rules on phyto-sanitary standards and trade legislation with those prevailing in the international arena

■ Expected results

- > Establishment of consultative mechanisms to support the definition of investment priorities
- > Exchange of information and promotion of specialization among countries to ensure optimization of comparative advantages and economies of scale and to expand both intra- and extra-community trade flows



- > Assured capacity building assistance in areas such as market access
- > Advisory and consulting services to assist investment project formulation

■ **Ongoing results**

- > Organization of a Work Plan supporting the negotiations mechanisms in the regional markets, the identification and

implementation of the regional communication strategies in the health, phyto-sanitary and food security sectors, and the establishment of an agricultural information system

- > Collaboration with the 'Istituto di Servizi per il Mercato Agricolo Alimentare (ISMEA)' for a study on the feasibility of the regional trade exchange



GTFS/INT/928/ITA

Thematic area:
Knowledge exchange and policy

Overall Objective:
Facilitating informed multi scale decision-making related to sustainable management of land and water resources

Donor:
Government of Italy

Contribution:
US\$2 373 709

Participating countries:
Interregional

Duration:
2 years and 6 months
From 01 May 2004 to 31 Oct 2006

Topic Centre for the Global Land Cover Network (GLCN) – a Blueprint for Land Cover and Land Cover Dynamic



Land cover assessment and monitoring of its dynamics are essential requirements for the sustainable management of natural resources and for environmental protection. They provide the foundation for environmental, food security and humanitarian programmes that are crucial in fulfilling the mandates of many UN, international and national institutions. Current monitoring programmes, however, have no access to reliable or comparable baseline land cover data. Therefore, the implementation of a global programme using a fully harmonized approach is essential to increase the reliability of land cover information for a large user community. Responding to this need, a Global Land Cover Network (GLCN), with a dedicated centralized Topic Centre, is being developed based on the land cover mapping technologies which have already been developed and operationally tested during the FAO Africover East Africa module project GCP/RAF/287/ITA, also funded by the Government of Italy.

Satellite remote sensing enables continuous land cover monitoring whilst geographical information system provides a capacity for predicting trends in land cover changes. What is now needed is to translate these advanced geo-information capacities, combined with the extensive experience obtained by FAO during the implementation of the Africover East Africa module into a global land cover network.

■ Beneficiaries

- > Staff located in the Ministries of Agriculture, Environmental Management, Survey Departments or other ministries responsible for thematic mapping in the beneficiary countries
- > Poorest and most vulnerable groups

■ Objectives

The overall objective is to facilitate informed multi scale decision-making related to sustainable management of land and water resources, strengthen food security and improve environmental protection.

The specific objectives are:

1. The harmonization of land cover mapping and monitoring projects based on the land cover classification system (LCCS), at regional and global level
2. The facilitation of information exchange at global, regional and national level; and
3. The development of baseline datasets and their dissemination in developing countries within regional modules and selected national prototypes. An important training component is also envisaged.

■ Strategies

- > Reinforcement of the national and regional capacity building on the use of land cover maps
- > Organization of multi-level training courses
- > Promotion of training courses on the job of local experts
- > Institution of a seminar about the use of GLCN and land cover maps
- > Increase awareness of potential users of different countries to introduce the use of national database through the presentation of the GLCN. During these workshops, held between June 2004 and March 2005, over 300 people from 75 countries have been trained in GLCN methodologies



Thematic area:
Knowledge exchange and policy

Overall Objective:
Strengthen the capacities, reduce the vulnerability and increase the self-reliance of rural communities and networks

Donor:
Government of Italy

Contribution:
US\$299 774

Participating countries:
Interregional

Duration:
18 months
From 15 Jun 2005 to 31 Jul 2006

Facility for Sustainable Development and Policy Implementation Assistance



In recent years, the focus of development cooperation has gradually shifted toward a greater balance between, on the one hand, the need to achieve economic growth rates compatible with the long-term objective of eradicating poverty, disease and malnutrition and, on the other hand, the need to do so in a 'sustainable' manner, i.e. by ensuring that the interests of future generations (in environmental, social and economic terms) are taken into account alongside those of present ones, which are more immediately perceived. This principle was reaffirmed at such international fora as the two most recent World food summits (Rome, 1996 and 2002), the Millennium summit (New York, 2000), the International summit on financing for development (Monterrey, 2001) and the World summit on sustainable development (Johannesburg, 2002).

Within this general framework, a specific dimension has been identified and recommended with respect to agriculture and rural development, which, in order to be sustainable, should be environmentally sound, technically appropriate, economically viable and socially acceptable. The concept of 'sustainable agricultural and rural development' (SARD) has thus emerged, through such widely accepted international policy instruments as the Millennium goals and Agenda 21.

■ Beneficiaries

- > Rural communities and poorest groups that are involved in the projects selected for the pilot phase
- > Project managers, civil society organizations and their networks and others involved in the design, implementation and monitoring of agricultural and rural development projects selected for the pilot phase

■ Objectives

The overall objective is to build the capacities, reduce the vulnerability and increase the self-reliance of rural communities, organizations and networks, so as to improve their access to resources and to promote good practices for SARD.

The project's immediate objectives are:

1. To systematize existing tools and, if necessary, develop new tools aimed at increasing the environmental, economic and social sustainability of development projects. These tools include guidelines for project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and best-practice repertoires
2. To generate and disseminate lessons from projects concerning factors which tend to undermine sustainability and impact on target groups, identifying innovative approaches and good practices, and providing a framework for up-scaling and replication to ensure sustainable project outcomes
3. To facilitate and improve the capacity of selected project and project managers
4. To bring about significant improvements in the achievement of sustainable agriculture and rural development outcomes



■ **Strategies**

- > Study of existing documentation of a series of analytical tools
- > Identify and document best/good practices arising from projects visited and define standards of effectiveness and sustainability that are achievable under prevailing contexts and circumstances
- > Preparation of two newsletters to disseminate information on the project
- > Identification of 10 projects funded by the Government of Italy and plan to conduce field missions to most of the selected projects
- > Propose concrete measures aimed at enhancing cooperation, within the project implementation framework, between local authorities, civil society organizations, governments and bilateral and multilateral development partners

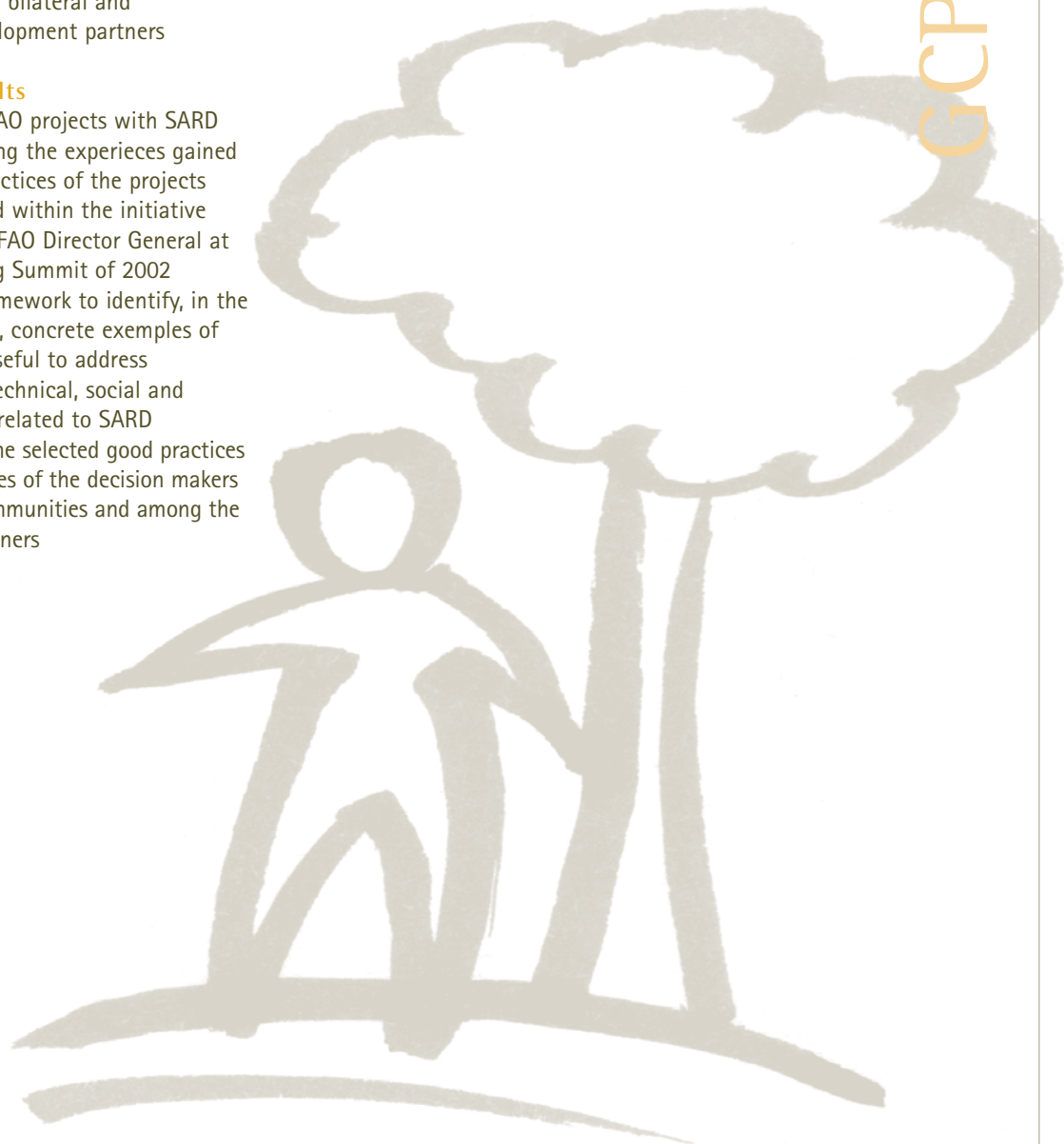
■ **Expected results**

- > Coincidence of FAO projects with SARD objectives applying the experiences gained and the good practices of the projects recently executed within the initiative launched by the FAO Director General at the Johannesburg Summit of 2002
- > Creation of a framework to identify, in the FAO programmes, concrete examples of good practices useful to address environmental, technical, social and economic issues related to SARD
- > Presentation of the selected good practices to the beneficiaries of the decision makers in the donors communities and among the development partners

■ **Ongoing results**

- > Preparation of a sustainability analysis model for development projects and of an adequate methodology design for the projects feasibility evaluation
- > Production of a draft report on the methodological instruments for the planning, management and evaluation of SARD activities
- > Realization of a repertory of good practices that promote SARD
- > Publishing of two newsletters containing information on the project and lessons learned

GCP/INT/938/ITA





GCP/INT/944/ITA

Thematic area:
Knowledge
exchange and
policy

Strengthening Partnerships on Education for Rural People



Overall Objective:
Strengthen the
Education for
Rural People
(ERP)
coordination unit
and support the
partnership
activities

Donor:
Government of
Italy

Contribution:
US\$200 000

**Participating
countries:**
Interregional

Duration:
3 years
From 01 Jan 2005
to 31 Dec 2007

During the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD, Johannesburg, 3 September 2002) .FAO and the United Nations educational, scientific and cultural organization (UNESCO) joined efforts in the establishment of a new global partnership flagship initiative on Education for rural people (ERP).

This initiative is meant to respond to rural people training needs. This is a fundamental step towards granting authority and power to rural people, and therefore essential to reduce poverty and hunger, promote sustainable development and is a key to achieve the goals set by the UN Millennium development goals (MDGs).

The partnership is open to members committed to promote improved access to quality basic Education for Rural People.

The Italian Government is an active member of the partnership and has supported its initiatives through project GCP/INT/847/ITA 'Capacity building in Education for Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security', operational since March 2003.

The project was able to further catalyse resources for the ERP partnership from other sources such as civil society, European Commission, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The project also contributed to raise awareness of policy makers holding key positions.

The present project will contribute to build upon, and expand the activities funded by the Government of Italy

through project GCP/INT/847/ITA funded by the Italian Government. The present proposal envisages reinforcing the ERP partnership coordination unit (CU) capacity in managing and expanding the global initiative towards two more regions – African and the Balkans.

■ Beneficiaries

People living in rural areas

■ Objectives

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the Education for Rural People global partnership initiative led by FAO

Immediate objectives are:

1. To strengthen the capacity-building activities of the ERP partnership by contributing to the organization of two regional capacity building workshops (Africa and the Balkans)
2. To reinforce the ERP Partnership Coordination Unit with technical expertise. This is needed to increase the technical assistance provided to the ERP Partnership members, to identify more sources of extra budgetary funding, to better manage the information generated by the partnership - through the ERP web site, the printed publications and by other means of communication - and to plan mechanisms and activities to strengthen the partnership impact

■ Strategies

- > Opening partnership to all members committed to the education for people living in rural areas
- > Adoption of some information and communication technologies (ICTs) such as virtual space, a learning video, a toolkit to implement the dissemination of teaching and learning materials for rural people
- > Organization of initiatives aimed at promoting the ERP issues, in Europe, involving at local level schools,



- decentralized national institutions and civil society organizations; at national level, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and cooperation agencies
- > Establishment of training courses at school in order to increase awareness on ERP issues in developing countries
- > Proposal of seminars for local administration and civil society organizations to implement networks of decentralized cooperation
- > Organization of research activities in developing countries aimed at identifying concrete possibilities of intervention to implement ERP and the synergies of all actors involved
- > Institution of a focal point in each country involved. He is a source of information on ERP at disposal of all local and institutional stakeholders

■ **Expected results**

- > Reducing poverty and hunger
- > Increasing awareness of politicians and managers to satisfy the real needs of rural people through a better educational planning system
- > Strengthening the capacity-building activities of the ERP partnership and the partnership impact
- > Assignment of authority and ownership to rural people to reduce poverty, hunger and to promote sustainable development and reach the United Nations MDGs
- > Addressing the education needs of people living in rural areas
- > Strengthening the ERP Partnership Coordination Unit for ERP and spread the initiative in Africa and Balkans

■ **Ongoing results**

- > Reinforcement of the ERP Partnership Coordination Unit
- > Organization of the ERP capacity building workshop in the Caribbean
- > One regional capacity building workshop for policy makers of Ministries of Education and Agriculture from the Balkans undertaken
- > Organization of a regional capacity building workshop for policy makers of Ministries of Education and Agriculture in Ethiopia undertaken
- > Increasing the number of partners up to 277
- > About 100 policy makers and managers from Africa and the Balkans, civil society and private sector representatives enabled to plan and implement effective ERP policies
- > One capacity building workshop on statistics on education in rural areas as a tool to monitor progress in ERP undertaken targeting key staff in selected and relevant UN agencies and in selected member countries

GCP/INT/944/ITA





Thematic area:
Knowledge exchange and policy

Overall Objective:
Facilitating informed multi scale decision-making related to sustainable management of land and water resources in the Nile Basin

Donor:
Government of Italy

Contribution:
US\$5 000 000

Participating countries:
Interregional

Duration:
4 years
From 01 Dec 2004 to 31 May 2008

Information Products for Decisions on Water Policy and Water Resources Management in the Nile Basin



The River Nile is shared by 10 sovereign nations. The basin covers some 3.1 million km², which is approximately 10 percent of the African continent. An estimate of 160 million people live within the Nile basin, while the total population of the 10 Nile states exceeded 300 million in 2002. The present project GCP/INT/945/ITA is intended to strengthen the ability of the governments of the Nile Riparian States to take informed decisions on water resources policy and management matters regarding the common Nile resource. This project is directly linked to two previously executed Italy-FAO projects: GCP/INT/752/ITA 'Capacity Building for Nile Basin Water Resources Management', operational from November 1999 to October 2004 and GCP/RAF/286/ITA 'Operational water resources management and information system in the Nile Basin countries', operational from April 1996 to October 1999. The project will be carried out under the umbrella of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI), of which the Government of Italy is a full partner. Recognizing the need to realize the development potential of the Nile, the Nile Basin States launched this historic initiative in 1999. NBI is guided by a shared vision 'to achieve sustainable socio-economic development through the equitable utilization of, and

benefits from, the common Nile Basin water resources' and aims to foster a basin-wide framework for cooperative action.

■ Beneficiaries

- > Human resources in the government sector responsible for water development and management
- > Rural population in areas affected by water development projects in the Nile Basin

■ Objectives

The overall objective is to strengthen the ability of the governments of the Nile Basin states to take informed decisions with regard to water resources policy and management in the Nile Basin

The specific objectives are:

1. Develop the capacity to integrate technical data related to water resources with socio-economic and environmental information of the Nile Basin region
2. Presentation of general thematics and trends dealing with the use and the potential development of water resources shared in the Nile Basin

■ Strategies

- > Development of information products that integrate technical water resources and water use data with other relevant data, including in particular demographic, socio-economic and environmental data
- > Strengthening of national capacity to deal with national and regional water policy and development issues
- > A participatory approach applied to project planning and management. The project will strive to extend the participatory approach to secure the necessary inputs from stakeholders and civil society



- > The role of women in agricultural production, nutrition, and food security and in actual water management is recognized
 - > Participatory approach during the organization and the management of the project
 - > Development of human resources as main instrument to ensure the sustainability of the project results
- **Expected results**
- > Strengthen ability of the Nile riparians to make informed decisions with regard to national and regional water resources policy and management in the Nile Basin
 - > Enhance the capacity to generate integrated data products combining water resources and other relevant data
 - > Produce of case studies
 - > Increase the agricultural productivity and the reduction of impact of risks for agriculture to stabilize and improve the subsistence in rural areas. In many cases the improvement of water access can transform a situation of stagnation into a socio-economic growth
- **Ongoing results**
- > Intervention on transboundary water resources
 - > Established links with civil society
 - > Active participation of representatives from the ten member countries and approval of a detailed operational work plan for the project
 - > Identification of geographical information systems (GIS) products useful for the description of the common management of Nile resource

GCP/INT/945/ITA



GCP/INT/969/ITA

Thematic area:
Knowledge exchange and policy

Overall Objective:
Raise the profile of water issues in the context of donor-funded interventions and national poverty reduction efforts

Donor:
Government of Italy

Contribution:
US\$350 000

Participating countries:
Interregional

Duration:
2 years and 6 months
From 01 Jul 2005 to 31 Dec 2007

Development of a Methodology to Monitor Water Policies



Collection and analysis of reliable information on water availability and quality and on the prevailing socio-economic context is essential for effective water planning and management. Vital decisions at national and international levels cannot be made under conditions of uncertainty or risks due to the lack of appropriate information. Rational planning of development intervention and effective management of water resources based on facts and decision-aid tools will be the only way to avoid conflicts, properly allocate resources and solve complex environmental problems.

Despite past efforts, a comprehensive monitoring methodology has never been prepared and tested. The project aims specifically at developing a methodology that is well adapted to the needs of monitoring policies and projects in developing countries and can be implemented to evaluate advancements towards the Millennium development goals (MDGs) and the World summit on sustainable development (WSSD) targets in the field of water. This will require an important effort in capacity building and exchange of experience.

■ Beneficiaries

- > Governments
- > Donor community
- > Rural people

■ Objectives

The overall objective is to raise the profile of water issues in the context of donor-funded interventions and national poverty reduction efforts.

The specific objectives are:

1. Improvement of the present monitoring systems
2. Adoption of a suitable methodology to evaluate the impact of the policies and national programmes in the field of water in developing countries
3. Assessing progress towards achievement of the MDGs and WSSD targets
4. Better support to the initiatives taken and better formulation of the correspondent policies and strategies

■ Strategies

- > Development of a methodology suitable to the monitoring policies in developing countries, useful to be used to evaluate the progress in the achievement of the MDGs and the World Summit for Sustainable Development
- > Promotion of training activities
- > Collection and dissemination of experiences related to the management of water and the practices in use

■ Expected results

- > Realization of an efficient system which addresses the needs of many users (governments, donors, beneficiaries, etc.) and which is flexible, simple to update and ease
- > Rationalization of the information flow between the monitoring agencies and within the national and international bodies, allowing the beneficiaries countries to develop an information system in the field of water
- > Improvement of the present monitoring systems, their fine tuning and broadening, to promote the adoption of a



- methodology suitable for the evaluation of the policies and national programmes impact in the field of water in the developing countries
- > Formulation of guidelines for including regional and cross-cutting initiatives

■ **Ongoing results**

- > Collection and dissemination of experiences related to the management of water
- > Improve the skills and capacity of rural communities in their undertaking and management of commercial crop production
- > Reduced food losses, income generation, increased access to food, and above all reduced dependency on middle men/women
- > Development of training programmes with a high level of participation from national extension services as well as private sector entrepreneurs

GCP/INT/969/ITA





Thematic area:
Knowledge exchange and policy

Overall Objective:
Strengthen participation of civil society in decision-making processes related to food security and food sovereignty policies

Donor:
Government of Italy

Contribution:
US\$407 660

Participating countries:
Interregional

Duration:
10 months
From 01 Oct 2005 to 31 Jul 2006

Strengthening Civil Society Involvement in Agricultural and Food Security Policies and Programmes: Achieving Food Security and Food Sovereignty



The World Food Summit Plan of Action underlined that the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the civil society (CSO) are indispensable to implement the commitments underwritten by Governments, and to reach the goal of halving the number of undernourished people in the world by 2015.

The work carried out by thousands of NGOs and social organizations over the last decade has helped not only to significantly strengthen communities of food producers – farmers, fisher folk, herders, Indigenous Peoples – but also to reinstate food issues in a central position in debates on development policies.

In recognition of the crucial role that civil society can play in decision-making on agricultural and food security policies and the need to enhance its indispensable involvement, the Italian Government has already been a key player in supporting and financing civil society participation and debate on food and agricultural issues.

This process contributed to a strengthened civil society preparation for and participation in the World Food Summit: five years later (WFS:fyf). The NGO/CSO Forum for Food Sovereignty, held in parallel to the Summit, with the support of the Italian Government, resulted in the creation of a formally-recognized global civil society mechanism for debate on issues of food sovereignty and food security:

the International NGO/CSO Planning Committee (IPC) for Food Sovereignty. The IPC acts as a network interfacing with FAO and the other Rome-based food and agricultural international institutions

The IPC promotes and supports the direct and systematic participation and involvement of CSO and social movements in follow-up activities to the WFS:fyf and the parallel NGO/CSO Forum, and is the chief organizer of civil society consultations and activities in conjunction with the FAO Regional Conferences.

The present project, supports the working groups of the International NGO/CSO IPC on topics relevant to agriculture, hunger and food security.

■ Beneficiaries

- > Civil society working group members and their partners in the Governments
- > Government delegations which
- > Smallholder farmers, fisherfolks, women, youth

■ Objectives

The overall objective is to strengthen the participation, mobilisation and capacity of civil society organisations, social movements and Indigenous Peoples' organizations.

The specific objectives are:

1. Promotion of an agriculture and rural development paradigm for the realization of food sovereignty and the eradication of hunger and poverty
2. Ensure the effective involvement of civil society in follow-up activities to the WFS:fyf and in project activities
3. Strengthen the IPC network to function as an effective, reliable and well informed voice of civil society on food sovereignty issues



■ **Strategies**

- > Produce and disseminate information materials on the right to food, impact of the agrarian reform, and the rural development policies
- > Build public awareness through local media (i.e. radio and newspapers)
- > Promote the participation of working group representatives to FAO intergovernmental meetings to discuss the Voluntary Guidelines country implementation Process
- > Coordinate the efforts and exchange of information at inter-regional level
- > Monitor developments in food, agriculture and search agencies
- > Develop the coordination of meetings and interactions with the civil society

■ **Expected results**

- > Production of leaflets and information addressing different audiences and translated into local languages
- > Publication of paper on civil society perspectives on agricultural biotechnology and its impacts on agriculture and on food sovereignty, the rural poor and the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups
- > Identification and documentation on traditional agricultural models as the base for the elaboration of a programme proposal in the Latin American region
- > Production of information and awareness raising materials on Indigenous Peoples' experiences and practices

■ **Ongoing results**

- > Identifying the constraints hindering the development of production
- > Increase productivity and production stability

GTFS/INT/974/ITA





Thematic area:
Knowledge exchange and policy

Overall Objective:
Support the GTOS Secretariat to ensure a better information on the environmental state

Donor:
Government of Italy

Contribution:
US\$350 000

Participating countries:
Inter-Regional

Duration:
12 months
From 01 Aug 2005 to 31 Jul 2006

Support to the Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS) - GTOS Secretariat – a Regular Programme Support Mechanism for Improved Information on the State of the Environment



At the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, the international community adopted Agenda 21, an unprecedented global plan of action for sustainable development. To achieve the goals of the summit and other international conventions, there is a need for specific, reliable international data on global and regional environmental change. In 1996 four United Nations bodies (FAO, the United Nations environment programme – UNEP, the United Nations educational, scientific and cultural organization – UNESCO and the World meteorological organization – WMO) and the International council for science (ICSU) created the Global terrestrial observing system (GTOS) to confront this challenge. GTOS is the third and youngest of the Global Observing Systems (GOS) and has its Secretariat based in FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy. GTOS is a programme for observations, modeling, and analysis of terrestrial ecosystems to support sustainable development. It facilitates the access to information on terrestrial ecosystems so that researchers and policy-makers can detect and manage global and regional environmental change. In the first eight years since the conception of GTOS,

its Secretariat, hosted by FAO headquarters, has played an essential role in the observing systems achievements toward its mission and long-term goals. With the increase in programme activities and the intensification of efforts of the technical Panels, the GTOS Secretariat has found it increasingly difficult to fulfill all its duties and provide adequate support. The following project will allow the GTOS Secretariat to respond to the increasing needs of national and international users.

■ Beneficiaries

- > GTOS data/information users
- > Reserchers
- > Most vulnerable groups

■ Objectives

The overall objective is to support the GTOS Secretariat to ensure a better information on the environmental state

The specific objectives are:

1. Provide additional support to GTOS panels and thematic activities and to improve collaboration between national, regional and international initiatives to identify data gaps and facilitate the development of regional and global products
2. Develop the coastal module into an active GTOS Panel
3. Assist in the development of the Global Land Cover Maps
4. Provide the United Nations of Biodiversity, Climate and Desertification with the methods, tools, data and information to monitor changes and predict future developments at the local, national, regional and global scales. In particular, facilitate the harmonized collection,



analysis and exchange of relevant information related to loss of biodiversity, land degradation, and climate change

■ **Strategies**

- > Develop auto-evaluation techniques under the guidance of Environment and Natural Resources Service (SDRN) of FAO
- > A panel of land and coastal experts will be formed to insure the accurate formation and subsequent implementation of GTOS coastal activities
- > New sites, networks, variables, socio-economic data, maps, modules, data matrix, will be added to the database to support national and international activities
- > Promotion of techniques in order to facilitate an homogeneous collection of data, the analysis and sharing of information related to the loss of biodiversity, the soil degradation and the climate changes

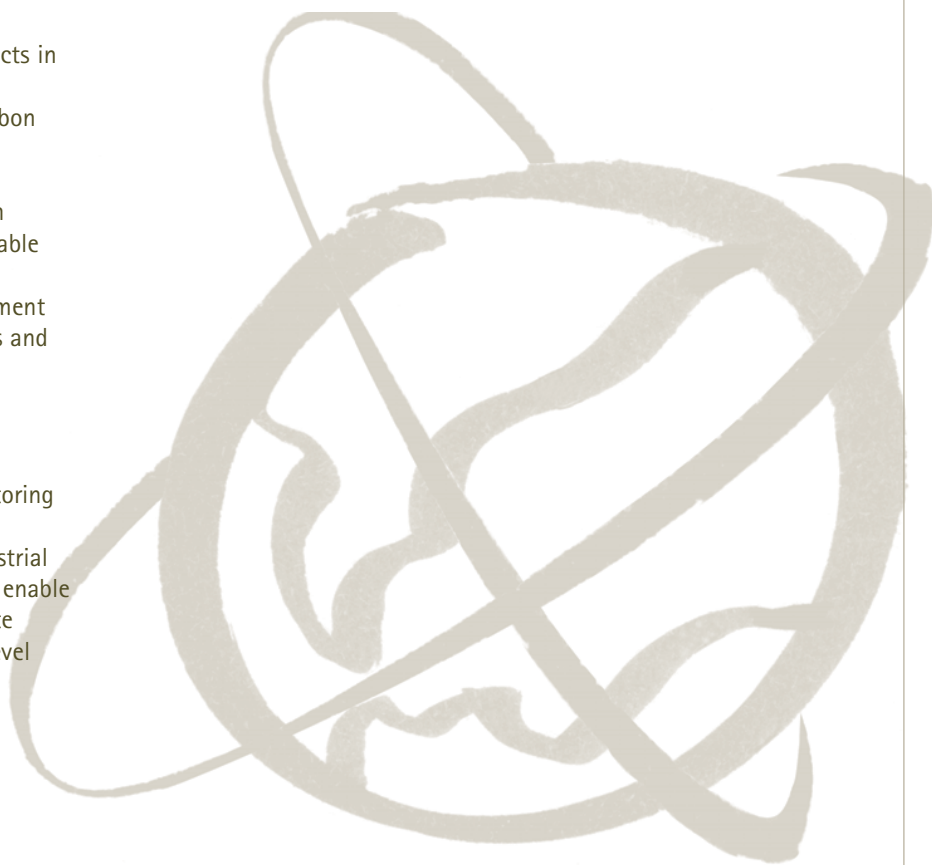
■ **Expected results**

- > Operational programmes and products in GTOS key issues (ecological measurements, climate change, carbon fluxes, biodiversity, coastal issues, mountains, land cover, etc.)
- > Increased sharing of information on terrestrial observations and sustainable development issues
- > Increased cooperation and development of joint activities by GTOS members and national and regional institutions
- > Improved durable institutional mechanisms established in many countries to better deal with comprehensive national level monitoring and mapping
- > Improvement of the access of terrestrial ecosystems information in order to enable researchers and to recognize climate exchanges at regional and global level and the intervention planning

■ **Ongoing results**

- > Provide information to be used in understanding issues related to food instability and vulnerability
- > Improvement of food security of the least privileged populations
- > Provide a scientific baseline for addressing some of the primary sources of food insecurity, such as land degradation, desertification, biodiversity-loss and climate change
- > Contribution to soil and water conservation
- > Strengthen the role of the Secretariat in developing and fostering partnerships in the promotion of cooperation

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■ **Expected results**

- > To build with the support of the 'Istituto Agronomico per l'Oltremare' (IAO) in Florence a global land cover network among governmental and inter-governmental agencies, academic institutions, the private sector and other interested stakeholders
- > Improve data access and information exchange on the observation of the Earth
- > Develop new methodologies to map and describe land cover/vegetation dynamics

■ **Ongoing results**

- > Assist countries willing to translate/migrate their national land cover data sets into LCCS
- > Assist regional centers in harmonizing land cover data sets at a regional and global scale
- > Promote the use of LCCS in international initiatives

- > Assist in developing mapping programmes in individual countries (including India, Morocco, Senegal, Ethiopia, Namibia and Uruguay) and collaborate and assist in regional initiatives
- > Support and promote the development of specific applications of land cover data for sustainable land resources management and development (e.g. food security, sustainable agricultural and rural development, environmental and biodiversity conservation, carbon stocks, poverty mapping, land use planning, risk assessment, catastrophe prevention and mitigation)
- > Creation of two websites providing more detailed information on the different components of the GLCN programme. The website includes also current and future mapping activities and expected results, data, products, applications and useful resources for users

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The report is divided into two parts: the first consists of an introduction which contains updated background information on the origins and scope of the FAO/Government of Italy Cooperative Programme, a description of the Programme's development and management and a brief summary of the various initiatives by thematic area.

The second part includes a collection of project profiles. Each profile provides a brief description of the initiative and includes information on its location and its financial commitment, together with a record of the project's objectives, activities and expected outputs. Only projects active in 2006 are included.

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