



**RA MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE**



**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION**

FAO - REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

COUNTRY PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK

2012 -2015

January 2012

JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) of the Republic of Armenia (RA) as represented by the RA Minister of Agriculture, and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), as represented by the FAO Representative in Armenia, are pleased to jointly launch the FAO – Republic of Armenia Country Programme Framework (CPF) 2012-2015, as stipulated hereunder.

The CPF 2012–2015 is a result of consultations held with a wide range of stakeholders and partners within the country as well as with the relevant technical units of FAO headquarters in Rome and the regional and sub-regional offices in Budapest. The signatories below express sincere appreciation to all who have so willingly made constructive comments and suggestions through the consultative process.

This document, co-owned by the MoA and FAO, indicates the broad commitment of FAO, subject to the availability of required funding, to assist the Government of Armenia in its efforts to achieve national development objectives as described in the Programme for Sustainable Agriculture Development in Armenia as well as the Localized Millennium Development Goals. It supplements and contributes to the strategic objectives of the UN common system as expressed in the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2010–2015 for Armenia.

By endorsing the CPF 2012–2015, the MoA is committed to providing collaboration, to the fullest possible extent with regard to available capacity and resources, to facilitate the achievement of the objectives and actions proposed in this document.

The CPF 2012–2015 will be pursued with partnerships as broad as possible and in alignment with the joint efforts of the Government of Armenia and the donor community for enhanced coordination and aid effectiveness. The MoA of RA and FAO look forward to seeking collaboration and support from concerned partners *vis-à-vis* the successful implementation of the CPF 2012–2015.

Sergo Karapetyan
RA Minister of Agriculture

Jutta Krause
FAO Representative
in Armenia

----- 2012

----- 2012

Contents

1. INTRODUCTION.....	4
2. COUNTRY SITUATION ANALYSIS.....	5
2.1 Situation Description.....	5
2.2 Economic and Social Challenges.....	6
2.3 Opportunities.....	7
2.4 National and Agricultural Development Priorities	7
2.5 Assistance Platforms for the Establishment of Coordination and Partnerships	8
2.6 Challenges and Opportunities for Field Programme Development	8
2.7 Priority Focus of the CPF in Armenia for 2012 to 2015.....	8
3. PROPOSED PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK.....	10
3.1 Support to Rural Development and Regional Economic Integration.....	10
3.2 Animal Health and Production.....	12
3.3 Crop Production and Plant Protection.....	15
3.4 Food Safety and Consumer Protection.....	17
3.5 Forestry	18
3.6 Development of Fisheries and Aquaculture.....	20
3.7 Agricultural Statistics.....	20
4. FINANCIAL RESOURCES	21
5. IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION.....	21
References.....	22
SUMMARY:.....	23
PROPOSED FAO CPF ACTIVITIES IN ARMENIA	23
Annex I. Summary of Proposed CPF Activities in Armenia	
Annex II. FAO Projects in Armenia	
Annex III. Major Donor Agency Activities and Projects in Armenia	

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AI	Artificial Insemination
ASF	African Swine Fever
COSOP	IFAD Country Strategic Opportunities Programs
CPF	FAO Country Programme Framework
CVFSL	Central Veterinary and Food Safety Laboratory
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAOR	FAO Representative
FBS	Food Balance Sheet
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHP	Good Hygiene Practices
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
LFA	Less Favoured Areas
MCA	Millennium Challenge Account - Armenia
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSS	National Statistical Service
OIE	World Organization for Animal Health
RA	Republic of Armenia
RESCADP	Rural Enterprise & Small-Scale Commercial Agriculture Development Project
SOP	Strategic Opportunities Project
TADs	Transboundary Animal Diseases
TCP	Technical Cooperation Programme
UN	United Nations
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Project
USAID	U.S. Agency for Development
USD	United States Dollar
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WB	World Bank
WTO	World Trade Organization

1. INTRODUCTION

This document establishes FAO's *Country Programme Framework (CPF)* in Armenia from 2012 to 2015. It prioritizes FAO interventions in the country to support the achievement of the development objectives set by the Government of Armenia in its national development strategies. It builds on FAO's Programme in Armenia and is an expansion of that programme. Furthermore, the priorities identified by the CPF reflect those included in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2010–2015. It also takes into consideration the relevant strategies as well as the priorities identified by FAO's partner agencies, such as the Country Partnership Strategy of the World Bank (WB), 2009-2012, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Country Strategic Opportunities Program (COSOP), and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Program and European Commission programmes, and *Millennium Challenge Account - Armenia Program* to ensure FAO's comparative advantage, maximize synergy and increase aid effectiveness.

The formulation of the CPF involved both a review of national priorities for food, agriculture, forestry and fishery practices and the examination of national priorities based on major ongoing and planned programmes in Armenia.

The present CPF is building on the formulation process for the draft CPF 2011-2015 of October 2010 which involved two FAO missions. During the first mission the agricultural and donor situation in the country and the government's development policy goals for agriculture were reviewed; in addition, a review was made of FAO's past and present programmes in Armenia and the programmes of other donors and development agencies. The second mission involved a four day workshop consisting of two formal workshop sessions and setting up of priority area working groups. The formal session was held first introducing the CPF concept followed by a discussion on priority areas for FAO-Government collaboration. Priority area working groups were formed to identify and outline proposal initiatives and areas for support. Each working group comprised one FAO Technical Officer, several concerned ministry officials and outside resource persons. The draft project proposals were presented and discussed at the end of the week at the final formal workshop session.

The document has been developed and subsequently reformulated through consultations with relevant units of the Ministry of Agriculture and after meetings with other national institutions as well as development partners. Effective partnerships will be pursued with interested stakeholders for the implementation of the CPF in Armenia. In identifying FAO's medium-term strategy and priority areas, particular attention was given to the existing opportunities and constraints faced by Armenia in achieving its national development goals and by FAO in providing effective assistance at the country level.

This paper is jointly owned by Armenia and FAO. It demonstrates FAO's commitment to the spirit of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness of March 2005, which stresses coordination, harmonization and partnership within the donor community at the country level. Its time frame and priorities are aligned with those of the national development strategies and the UNDAF 2010-2015. The CPF is of a rolling nature and should be jointly reviewed and adjusted every two years by FAO and Armenia to reflect emerging requirements and changes in the policies, directives and priorities of Armenia as well as those of FAO as directed by its governing bodies.

2. COUNTRY SITUATION ANALYSIS

2.1 Situation Description

The Republic of Armenia is part of the Southern Caucasus region, covering a territory of 29.8 thousand square meters (NSS) with an estimated population of 3.2 million. It is a small, landlocked country neighbouring Georgia, Azerbaijan, Iran, and Turkey. The climate is continental with hot summers and cold winters with an annual rainfall varying between 300mm in the low-lying Arat plains to about 600 mm in the remainder of the country. The country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2010 was USD 9.4 billion with a GDP per capita of USD 2,900. The percentage of the population under the official poverty line amounted to 23.5% (2008), with 23.8% in urban areas and 22.9% in rural areas.

Immediately after achieving its independence in 1991, Armenia faced a severe economic decline during its transition to a market economy. The economic crisis situation was also made worse by the ongoing conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh and the continuing Turkish-Azerbaijani situation. Despite unequal political and economic opportunities, a national policy on building a liberal economic system in the country was implemented. Particularly, several policies were implemented concerning the privatization of land (1991), trade, public food and domestic services sector, (1991-1992) as well as policies on industrial enterprises (1995). Also, there was a phased liberation of prices, the introduction of a national currency (1993), the establishment of foreign currency markets, and stock exchange markets were launched.

About 40% of the country is not suitable for agriculture. The area suitable for agriculture comprises 1.39 million hectares of which 35% is arable agricultural land and very dependent on irrigation. The remainder is grasslands and pastures and perennial plantations. The main crops are cereals (of which 90% is wheat and the staple), potatoes, followed by vegetables, and legume and oil seed crops. Livestock include cattle, pigs, and some sheep and poultry. The forest area in Armenia is currently 459.9 thousand ha (1993), of which 334.1 thousand ha of forest covered areas (11.2 % of the country's total land area). At present, Armenia has about 350 registered fish farms, the total water surface of which comprises 2,677 ha, with 5.5 thousand tons of yearly fish farming output.

Currently, a liberal *market-regulated* economic system operates in Armenia's agro-food sector, which comprises around 340 thousand rural farms (RF), agricultural trade organizations as well as a large number of private organizations focusing on agricultural service provision and processing and marketing of agricultural products. Twenty-six percent of the country's GDP is derived from the agro-food industry, of which 16.1% is generated by the agriculture farming sector. More than 98% of the country's agricultural gross production relies largely on private sector outlets. Currently, 37.6% of Armenia's active workforce is involved in agricultural sector. Although agriculture significantly contributes to the economy and is the main source of economic activity in the rural areas, the Government contributes only 2% of the State Budget to agriculture (including contributions of international organizations).

Agriculture is however characterized by the small size of rural farms (the average size of agricultural land per farm household is 1.37 ha, of which 1.1 ha is arable land), the limited size of the domestic market, the poor state of rural infrastructure, and the low-level development of agricultural and rural services. This has led to low levels of agricultural productivity. There is also an absence of adequate sources of alternative livelihoods in the rural areas.

The level of food self-sufficiency (data from Ministry of Agriculture of RA) totals 60%. Specifically, the level of self-sufficiency appears to be fairly low in wheat (38%), poultry meat (20%), pork (51%) and beef (78%). Butter and vegetable oil are almost fully imported. The country, however, approaches self-sufficiency in potatoes, vegetables, fruits, eggs and milk although these products are also imported. The share of food products comprises an estimated 20% of the foreign trade of the Republic of Armenia. In late 2008, exports and overall external trade volumes started to decrease. The deepest decline in exports and imports were recorded in May

2009 - by 48% and 30% respectively. Starting from the second half of the year, recovery trends became visible. However, the annual numbers showed a considerable reduction: exports decreased by 32.8%, while imports – by 25.0%. Nonetheless, starting from early 2010, significant recovery was seen in export and import volumes: exports grew by 56% and imports – by 24% during the first half of 2010.

2.2 Economic and Social Challenges

Armenia's agricultural sector is currently facing a number of issues, which are reflected in the RA Agricultural Development Policy.

- The small size of farms and the slow formation of agriculture capital and rural development infrastructure are the key constraints to enhancing agricultural productivity.
- About 33.0% or 150.0 thousand ha of arable agricultural land is not used in a targeted and productive manner which if made more productive, could significantly contribute to enhancing food security.
- The productivity of agricultural crops is low (i.e., cereal production at 1.6 mt/ha) due to poor seed production systems, insufficient and inadequate use of fertilizers and pesticides, and poor farm management practices.
- Over 95% of agricultural machinery and equipment have exceeded their anticipated operating lifetime thereby reducing safety and productivity levels resulting in high operation and service costs.
- Although considerable work has been done on irrigation system rehabilitation and development, there are still management and infrastructure issues in this sector. Out of 233 thousand ha of potential irrigated land, only 156 thousand ha (67%) are now irrigated.
- Serious issues exist in the field of animal husbandry concerned with animal breeding and health, requiring the strengthening of the private veterinary practices and improvement of national livestock support mechanisms in the field. Pasture degradation is also a problem stemming from erosion, and over grazing.
- Absence of the local fish fodder production is a serious concern for the fishery sector. Ninety-eight percent of fish fodder necessary to meet the country's overall demand is imported, and of uncontrolled quality and at fairly high prices. Other key problems for the fishery sector are the poor management of fisheries production and the limited access to markets.
- Uncontrolled woodcutting in the 1990s due to the fuel and energy crisis has caused great damage to the forests and many forested areas have lost their environmental properties leading to severe soil erosion.
- The access to agricultural markets is limited mainly to domestic consumers and there is a need to develop both domestic and export market infrastructure and market access including food safety and consumer protection aspects.
- The demand for credit by farm business is not satisfied particularly for operating capital as well as for investment in equipment and infrastructure.
- Armenia's agriculture sustains heavy losses from various natural disasters (droughts, floods, storms) without the benefit of any risk-mitigation strategies.
- In the rural areas in general, the level of development and access to physical, social and financial infrastructure is very low.

2.3 Opportunities

There are opportunities to increase agricultural productivity and production in both the crop and livestock sub-sectors through proper management and investment in infrastructure to service the domestic food market which at present imports a large amount. An additional major opportunity is to exploit Armenia's strategic location between Europe and Asia and to access the EU and other markets that have a high demand for diversified and high quality food products. There is also the opportunity to develop Armenian food product niche markets for the increasingly growing number of Armenian Diaspora in foreign countries. Given the potential of the Armenian agri-food sector, the efforts of the Armenian Government and agricultural producers to increase competitiveness of agricultural production requires foreign investments and external technical assistance. Continued efforts are necessary to obtain access to the EU market by improving quality standards, introducing modern management systems in agriculture, and harmonizing national legislation.

2.4 National and Agricultural Development Priorities

The Government of Armenia has adopted a set of documents that articulates the country's national and agricultural development priorities. These include the Armenian Government's "*Draft Strategy on Sustainable Development of Armenia's Agriculture*" (2004); *the Strategy on Food Safety Policy* (2005) and the updated version of the "*Strategy on Sustainable Development of Armenia's Agriculture*" (2006). In November 2010, the 2010-2020 Strategy of Sustainable Development of Armenia's agriculture was approved by the Government of Armenia.

The 2010-2020 Strategy of Sustainable Development of Armenia's Agriculture identifies the following as major priorities for the development of the country's agro-food sector:

- Addressing the effects of the logistics crisis in agriculture and agro-food industry; strengthening the integration links,
- Developing agricultural inter-field cooperation for the establishment of diversity farm management in the agrarian sector,
- Improving agricultural and agro-processing products sale and increasing export volumes,
- Enhancing agricultural competitiveness and fostering "know-how" technologies,
- Effective use of land, water, labour and intellectual resources to improve the productive potential of the agriculture sector,
- Developing a food safety system in line with the international standards,
- Expanding non-agricultural employment in rural areas and improving farm income of the rural population,
- Developing community infrastructures in rural areas,
- Strengthening agricultural support services and improving their accessibility,
- Improving branch structure of agriculture and promoting production of high-value products,
- Protecting natural and environmental landscapes; developing agro-tourism and organic agriculture.

2.5 Assistance Platforms for the Establishment of Coordination and Partnerships

FAO has also consulted with members of the UN Country Team concerned with the agricultural sector. In the context of UN-wide cooperation, FAO participated as a member of the UN Country Team in the formulation of the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2010–2015. The regional and local development UNDAF goals specifically apply to agriculture and are relevant to FAO’s mandate. The purpose of a partnership with other donors and with the UN Country Team is to develop common approaches to achieving MDG 1 and to support the Government of Armenia in implementing and monitoring their National Development Strategy. FAO will utilize these platforms strategically to enhance its presence in the development community in Armenia.

Several specific partners have been identified for some of the project proposal initiatives (see Annex 3 and the Results Matrix). Partnership building efforts will be continuous throughout the implementation of the CPF.

2.6 Challenges and Opportunities for Field Programme Development

The FAO Representative¹ (FAOR) in Armenia through the Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia has primary responsibility for the development of the field programme in Armenia. The FAOR is assisted by the Multidisciplinary Team in the Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (Budapest), as well as by the Assistant FAO Representative in Armenia and technical divisions in Headquarters.

Several implemented FAO activities were partially prepared as actions in response to the crisis situation and prevention of avian influenza and swine fever. The list of these activities already implemented, those under implementation and those to be implemented are presented in Annex 2. However, these activities do not comprehensively reflect the FAO potential opportunities as a leading agency for the agricultural development.

FAO non-emergency activities have been limited to small-scale projects mainly funded by TCPs, but there is a scope for FAO to up-scale its ongoing effort. In this context, the development of FAO’s field programme in Armenia requires FAO to strengthen its field activities through more active collaboration of all the FAO offices, along with more collaboration with FAO’s development partners. FAO is prepared/committed to expand its technical assistance support to the needs of the country to develop larger-scale Trust Funds (Unilateral Trust Funds (UTFs)) as well as donor funded (GCPs) projects or Global Environmental Facility (GEF) projects in addition to Technical Cooperation Programmes (TCPs). This will require strategic partnerships and effective resource mobilization.

2.7 Priority Focus of the CPF in Armenia for 2012 to 2015

The Government of Armenia and FAO, through consultative meetings, agreed that FAO-Government of Armenia cooperation should focus on the following six priority areas over the CPF cycle, 2012–2015 (see Section 3 for details and Annex 1 for a listing of the project proposal initiatives):

- (i) Policies and instruments to support rural development and regional economic integration,
- (ii) Animal health and production,
- (iii) Crop production and plant protection,
- (iv) Food safety and consumer protection,

¹ FAO is a NRA in Armenia. The Deputy Regional Representative has a double accreditation as FAOR in Armenia and is supported by an Assistant FAO Representative in Armenia.

- (v) Forestry,
- (vi) Development of Fisheries and Aquiculture,
- (vii) Agricultural Statistics.

In addition, the CPF strategy on FAO field programme development and resource mobilization consists of the following **operational priorities**:

- Building more effective partnerships with major development partners under the leadership of the UNRC (through joint programmes) in the framework of the UN Reform moving towards Delivering as One.
- Strengthening working relations with government institutions through capacity building activities/on-the-job training.
- Proactively exploring opportunities for further resource mobilization both for bilateral and multilateral cooperation. This includes the development of project pipelines for new donor identification.

With these priorities, the CPF serves as a planning and management tool for FAO to take the lead in assisting Armenia to achieve its development priorities in the areas of agriculture, food security and rural development. It also allows FAO to effectively collaborate with Armenia and its development partners. Therefore, the CPF is FAO's major contribution to UNDAF and commitment to the UN framework of Delivering as One.

3. PROPOSED PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK

To translate the CPF priorities into action, FAO in consultation with the Government of Armenia, proposes the following programme framework. The proposed programme framework and project proposal initiatives, as spelt out in this CPF, are consistent with FAO's Global Goals and Strategic Objectives. The activities proposed under each thematic priority area are identified based on FAO's comparative advantages and experience in the country as well as the existing critical gap in achieving each thematic goal. FAO continues to utilize its technical expertise and lessons learned in delivering on its mandate — improving agriculture, forestry and fishery practices and ensuring good nutrition for all people of Armenia, with special attention to developing rural areas.

In providing technical assistance and advisory services, FAO pays attention to social issues, such as gender mainstreaming and HIV/AIDS. In doing so, FAO will, where relevant, seek synergies with its partner agencies. There will also be efforts to coordinate with other partner agencies with similar mandates to leverage financial, human and knowledge resources. FAO considers such strategic partnership and aid coordination to be critical for ensuring the effectiveness of its field programmes. This would be particularly relevant to assistance in rural areas where people are often excluded from basic economic and social services and infrastructure, and their welfare is highly vulnerable to both economic and social pressures.

The aforesaid priorities and the priority programmes proposed hereunder encompass FAO's ongoing and planned interventions envisaged at the time of CPF preparation. They do not exclude additional or different interventions that may be considered necessary or requested by Armenia in addressing emerging situations or meeting new requirements. The proposed priorities, frameworks, implementation costs of the projects, including time frame outlined in the project proposals are preliminary and subject to on-going review.

3.1 Support to Rural Development and Regional Economic Integration

Proposal Initiatives

1) Capacity building to reduce poverty through creation of non-farming jobs and services in rural areas

The *2010-2020 Sustainable Agricultural Development Strategy* indicates development of rural areas as a state policy and programme priority in order to reduce disparities and poverty through increased non-farm job and income opportunities in rural areas. This is to be achieved by: (i) the development of rural production and services as well as markets, and (ii) the development of rural infrastructure and provision of vocational and business training for small and medium size entrepreneurs. This will require: (i) a review of the experience of Central and Eastern Europe transition economies in formulation, implementation of rural development programmes, including building rural development agencies as well as and evaluation of impacts of such programmes, (ii) the identification and assessment of priorities in rural development and elaboration of operational modalities of programmes to develop rural areas for submission for approval by the Parliament, Government and farmers' and rural organizations, and (iii) building a national rural development agency under the Ministry of Agriculture that will design and implement such programmes.

The project will assist the Ministry of Agriculture through capacity building and training for rural development programmes addressing both infrastructure development, such as roads rehabilitation, gas and water supply and, secondly, identification of services and products that can be profitably marketed by farmers following support to investment in non-farm businesses, including an assessment of existing and prospective real markets. The project will define programme and practical requirements for advisory and extension services that will assist farmers in rural development programmes, including preparation of project proposals for submission for loan financing and preparations of viable business plans by non-farming small and medium size enterprises for development and return on investment calculations and marketing prospects. The proposed project will be implemented in close cooperation with farmers' organizations and will have a gender component to take into

account *Development Strategy* policy recommendations on gender mainstreaming. The project will specifically focus on the following:

1. Introduction of Ministry of Agriculture staff, and other Ministries staff as may be required, to concepts and practical experience of rural development programmes, as appropriate and applicable in Armenia, including creation of a national agency to identify, formulate assess and implement support programmes for rural areas;
2. Design and implementation of a pilot project in an area of the country selected by the Ministry that will allow to operationalize policy recommendations and define procedures and modalities of projects formulation, assessment as well as disbursement and repayment arrangements for loans to be offered to farmers that can be replicated throughout the country, including evaluation of impacts on the target area;
3. Research and assess products and services in which particular rural areas may be competitive and that will increase job and income opportunities for farmers outside agriculture and that may be supported in a most cost-effective way and;
4. Train selected Ministry of Agriculture and other designated staff in rural development programmes so the team/s will be able to prepare projects proposals for submission to donors and International Financial Institutions.

2) Climate change risk management according to the specifications of each area

The Ministry of Agriculture has so far been only partly involved in activities to (i) assess climate change impacts on agriculture and rural areas, (ii) reporting on these impacts and in (iii) projects and programmes for adaptation to these changes and their mitigation. Armenia's National Communication (NC²) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC, 2010)³ has a sizeable agricultural section that includes forecasts of decline in yields due to climate change, loss of biodiversity and recommended mitigation measures. However, agriculture is not mentioned in the section on "Policies and Measures to Mitigate Climate Change", and no data on implemented adaptation measures and mitigation programmes in the sector are available⁴.

At agriculture and rural sector level there is urgent need for awareness raising and dissemination of good practices on adaptation to and mitigation of climate change impacts, in the first stage mainly through research institutes and through extension services. It is noted however that the extension services in Armenia have limited practical experience in addressing climate change issues and the latter have not been considered in depth in the national agriculture and rural development strategies. There is a need for targeted awareness raising and MA capacity building for work on climate change impacts through introduction to and dissemination of experience of selected south-eastern Europe (SEE) transition countries in work on NCs.

The focus would be on (i) assessing impact of climate changes on agriculture, (ii) MoA inputs to work on next National Communication to the UNFCCC, (iii) dissemination of practical experience and training in forecasting

² The NC is the main national document outlining climate change impacts and proposed policy response

³ Available at <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/armnc2e.pdf>

⁴ Pages 59 ff of the NC

and risk management and (iv) climate change awareness raising through pilot training project/s by extension services on farm-level adaptation to impacts of climate changes and mitigation of these impacts.

An FAO REU technical assistance project could contribute to (i) MA capacity building for work on the agriculture and rural areas component of the National Communication to the UNFCCC (in addition to continued GEF assistance), in order to (ii) better assess impacts of climate change on farming, (iii) develop pilot adaptation and mitigation projects, while a (iv) a special component will provide assistance to national research institutes and extension services to build replicable pilot project models and gain field level experience.

In particular, the pilot project/s will

- (i) introduce MoA and national extension services to issues and concepts as well as approaches to assessing climate change impacts on agriculture and rural areas, as well as forecasting changes and risk management
- (ii) present experience of selected comparable south-eastern Europe (SEE) countries of projects for adaptation to climate change impacts in agriculture, including forecasting changes and risk management
- (iii) assist in undertaking on the basis of existing literature supplemented by additional research if needed, an assessment of the impacts of climate changes on Armenia's agriculture, including impacts on yields of crops, of temperature changes and growing season moves and rainfall distribution, increased risks and good farming practice recommended to reduce negative impacts and,
- (iv) preparation and implementation a pilot project by a designated extension centre of technical assistance, training and small grants for farmers providing environmental services, that would introduce farmers and their organizations to approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation, including training and use of available FAO impact assessment software applications; the pilot project would be suitable to be replicated by the national extension services, including forecasting changes and risk management.

3) Assistance for establishment of temporary open-air agricultural markets in Yerevan

Marketing of agricultural products in Armenia is of high priority to the Government. Since independence, both the level and type of retail activity in Armenia have shifted markedly across geographic areas, becoming more concentrated in the larger cities. Armenia's food marketing system based on the Soviet era market buildings continued operation in the main districts of urban centres. The existing load of these markets is usually much higher than their planned capacity. This situation creates difficulties with market management and food safety. Many of the sellers are professional retailers; farmers are seldom (usually seasonal) guests. There is also a number of newly established open air and covered food markets in the suburbs of Yerevan. Common issues on all these markets is inefficient operation due to the lack of appropriate regulatory framework, market management skills, and market information. On top of that all of them are facing sanitation problems.

The retail prices of farm products on these markets are considerably higher than prices offered and received by farmers. The establishment of temporary open-air agricultural markets has a potential to create favourable conditions for farmers to access urban consumers and to improve their incomes. At the same time it will increase the competition and give an opportunity to urban population to buy greater variety of agricultural products at more competitive prices.

To address the above issues FAO can assist in the development for open air food retail markets in Armenia by creating an enabling environment for improved farmers' access to markets, thereby creating conditions for increase of their incomes. A TCP Facility component (TCP/ARM/3301) has been approved in 2011 so that this project proposal could be developed. A project framework will be based on inclusion of all relevant stakeholders and beneficiary farmers, their groups and associations; consumers, local governments. Consideration needs to be given to legislative and institutional environment for the development of open air retail markets with the view to propose necessary measures for improvements, as well as to the situation regarding quality and food safety standards with the view to identify the need for training and their enforcement in open air retail markets. A project should also address the role of supporting institutions and services in improving of market information, quality standards and farmer cooperation in marketing their produce. Of particular importance is the improvement of the capacity of the MoA to implement the programme for establishment of open air food retail markets. Taking into consideration the significant financial resources needed to establish and operate open markets cost recovery mechanisms and potential investment sources and modalities, need to be identified, including public private partnership, for construction and operation of open air food retail markets.

3.2 Animal Health and Production

Proposal Initiatives

1) Assistance for prevention and control of major transboundary animal diseases

The proposed initiative will assist the Ministry of Agriculture to reduce rural poverty and improve food security of the rural population through prevention and control of major transboundary animal diseases (TADs) such as Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) and African Swine Fever (ASF). The project will define programme and practical requirements for an efficient control strategy that will assist farmers in the prevention and spread of TADs and assist the early detection by veterinarians to contain outbreaks. The initiative will be implemented in close cooperation with the State Food Safety and Veterinary Inspectorate, NGOs and livestock farmers/owners.

The assistance will comprise:

1. Capacity building training of field veterinarians, veterinary inspectors, epidemiologists and laboratory technicians on early detection and early response to TADs, analysis and interpretation of results of monitoring and surveillance, accurate laboratory diagnostics with provision for expendable and non-expendable equipment.
2. Review and re-enforcement of ASF control strategy.
3. Enabling research to continue the study of the role of wild boars and ticks in ASF epidemiology to improve the control strategy.
4. Regular FMD sero-surveillance and support of FMD risk zones with provision of FMD vaccine.

2) Assistance for controlling brucellosis

The proposed initiative will assist the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Health to improve the well-being of livestock farmers and consumers through the reduction of brucellosis infection in livestock and humans, decrease farm medical treatment costs, prevent livestock income losses from brucellosis and strengthen the Government's capacity to respond to community health concerns. The initiative will sustain progress achieved

during the pilot vaccination period, develop national capacities for cost-effective control of the disease and reinforce general public awareness about brucellosis prevention in humans and create awareness of the prevention and control of the disease among livestock farmers and veterinarians. Implementation will be in close cooperation with State Food Safety and Veterinary Inspectorate of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, NGOs and livestock farmers/owners. The assistance will focus on:

1. Continued support for a vaccination campaign in a pilot Marz.
2. Public awareness campaign on brucellosis prevention in humans and livestock.
3. Capacity building training of the veterinary inspectors in trace-back of human brucellosis cases and registration/diagnosis of humans.
4. Conduct a national random sample brucellosis sero-prevalence study in cattle, sheep and goats before the completion of the project.

3) Assistance in development of animal identification and registration system

A TCP Facility component of TCP/ARM/3301 has been approved in 2011 in order to develop this proposed initiative, which will assist the Ministry of Agriculture to assess requirements for introduction of animal identification and registrations systems. The overall objective of assistance is to review the institutional and legal framework for introduction of animal identification (AI), traceability and registration of holdings, provide training and technical guidance on introduction of AI system focusing ultimately to assist Armenia in development of AI and registration system. Expected outputs:

1. A report presenting the analysis of the legal and institutional framework for introduction of AI system is prepared and presented to the Ministry of Agriculture.
2. Staff of Ministry of Agriculture is trained on legal, institutional, budget and IT requirements for introduction and effective operation of AI system.

4) Rehabilitation of artificial insemination services for the development of the livestock sector

This initiative will increase the productivity of family farm livestock production through the re-vitalization of the artificial insemination (AI) services. The AI services will provide semen from animals resistant to local livestock diseases. The project intends to utilize and conserve local breed resources (for immunity and adaptability characteristics), and employ crossbreeding with other suitable breeds from neighbouring and European countries with similar agro-climatic conditions. The initiative will be implemented in close cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture NGOs and livestock farmers/owners. The assistance will focus on:

1. Capacity building and staff training support to two state pedigree stations.
2. Establishment of mobile insemination facilities and supply of necessary equipment.
3. Training of staff on newly established mobile insemination facilities.

3.3 Crop Production and Plant Protection

The **Strategy for the Sustainable Development of Agriculture for 2010-2020** outlines the main priority directions in plant breeding and plant protection development policy as follows: (i) implementation of leading agro-technical technologies, (ii) widespread cultivation of crops that ensure high value addition, (iii) development of selection and seed breeding systems, (iv) the improvement of plant sanitary conditions; and (v) preservation of crop genetic diversity. A main priority for FAO-Government of Armenia collaboration is the development of the seed selection and breeding system and the improvement of plant sanitary conditions. The effectiveness of plant breeding is highly dependent on seed quality. Presently, more than 90% of the seed volume used in the Republic is not certified which has a negative impact on agriculture productivity.

Three priority areas for FAO-Government of Armenia collaboration and FAO immediate assistance have been identified and proposed as initiatives: (i) apricot genetic resources conservation and utilization, (ii) improvement of plant sanitary conditions, and (iii) the development of the vegetable seed breeding system. Additional assistance for FAO-Government of Armenia collaboration and FAO assistance to be discussed and defined at a later date include: (i) the use of biotechnology for plant breeding and seed production, (ii) Conservation Agriculture, (iii) IPM and organic agriculture, and (iv) the sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture production.

Proposal Initiatives

1) Support to apricot genetic resource conservation and utilization

An FAO Technical Cooperation Programme project (TCP/ARM/3302) approved in February 2011 will assist the Ministry of Agriculture in its effort to contribute to sustainable development through establishing the basis for the improvement and modernization of the apricot production sector which will lead to a significant increase in food security, employment opportunities and income generation. The main outcome of the project will be to reinforce the foundations of a solid apricot industry through the collection and preservation of apricot genetic resources and the introduction of suitable varieties and rootstocks and appropriate technology for fruit and planting materials production. The assistance will be focused on:

- Establishment of apricot collection orchards for the purpose of genetic fund preservation.
- Establishment of foundation mother orchards with the aim to provide assistance to organizations and individuals involved in apricot planting materials growing.
- Establishment of demonstration orchards in different zones by establishing intensive orchards, using dwarf root stocks and modern technologies in apricot growing, and provision of adequate training in improved apricot production to farmers to increase productivity and production levels.

2) Development of the vegetable seed breeding and production system

The initiative will assist the Ministry of Agriculture of Armenia to make a comprehensive assessment in the field of vegetable seed breeding and production and give support to the Government for the preparation of the draft project document “The Development of the Vegetable Seed Breeding and Production System in Armenia”. A TCP Facility component of TCP/ARM/3301 has been approved in 2011 in order to develop the project proposal. The proposed project will develop a sustainable, environmentally friendly vegetable seed production and supply system which will contribute to the food security of Armenia and create rural employment and will contribute to the development of an efficient and integrated vegetable seed production system through the strengthening of variety development, establishment of a sustainable farmer-based seed production system and the initiation of an effective marketing system.

The assistance will focus on:

- Conservation and sustainable use of vegetable plant genetic resources system for vegetable crops, including the inventory and characterization of indigenous vegetable crop varieties.
- Capacity building in advanced biotechnology-based methods of plant breeding, including heterosis breeding and marker-assisted selection techniques.
- Establishment of limited generation seed crop production systems comprising Pre-Basic, Basic and Certified seed classes.
- Varietal development and registration mechanism for the improved vegetable crops.
- Transfer of technology on sustainable, environmentally-friendly farmer-based vegetable seed production and supply to selected, trained and assisted farmer-groups.
- Creation of a marketing system for vegetable seed.

3) Technical assistance to development of organic farming in Armenia

The proposed initiative will assist the Ministry of Agriculture to assess the current situation in the organic agriculture and to promote organic production in the country. The project will contribute to the development of environment-friendly agricultural production in Armenia by analyzing its market potential and requirements for a number of organic crops and will propose recommendations for product development, marketing, and organization. The assistance will focus on:

- Strengthening the capacity of the Ministry through the improvement of legislation and its implementation in the field of Organic Agriculture.
- Capacity building activities for the extension service providers and farmers in the field of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and organic agriculture for selected crops.
- Supporting institutional and capacity-building activities to facilitate the transition from conventional through IPM to sustainable organic agriculture.
- Market Analysis Development for Organic Products.

4) Improving management of migratory and other locusts

The initiative will assist the Ministry of Agriculture to improve national locust management in the country as well as in Caucasus and Central Asia through regional cooperation and capacity-building.

It is planned to facilitate regional exchanges to manage locust situations, develop coordination, including through transboundary policy and identify the best long-term solution for sustainable regional cooperation. The project will strengthen national capacities by making available background documentation and literature on the three locust pests and organization of internships.

The assistance will focus on:

- Development of regional cooperation for better locust management
- Strengthening national capacities
- Locust issues and disasters better anticipated and mitigated
- Improvement of response mechanisms to locust outbreaks
- Mitigation and monitoring of the impact on human health and the environment

5) Support to genetic resource conservation and utilization of grapes

The proposed initiative will assist the Ministry of Agriculture in its effort to contribute to sustainable development through establishing the basis for the improvement and modernization of grapes production sector which will lead to a significant increase in food security, employment opportunities and income generation. The main outcome of the project will be to reinforce the existing grapes production through the collection and preservation of grapes genetic resources and the introduction of suitable varieties and appropriate technology for grapes and planting materials production. The assistance will be focused on:

- Establishment of grapes collection orchards for the purpose of genetic fund preservation.
- Establishment of foundation mother orchards with the aim to provide assistance to organizations and individuals involved in grapes planting materials growing.
- Establishment of demonstration fields for grape production in the different zones by establishing intensive orchards, using new technologies, and provision of adequate training in improved grape production to farmers to increase productivity and production levels.

6) Technical assistance for mole control

The initiative will support the country in its effort to reduce crop losses in the field, through development of effective systems of mole control and development of human resources in mole pest management among officials of the agriculture department as well as the farming community. The assistance will focus on:

- Development of locally appropriate integrated management measures against mole pests in wheat, barley and orchards crops.
- Development of progressive technologies on mole surveillance in the country and to devise appropriate reporting system for timely monitoring of mole population.
- Establishment of effective systems for monitoring and control of mole.

3.4 Food Safety and Consumer Protection

The **Sustainable Agriculture Development Strategy 2010-2020** identified food safety and consumer protection as one of the targeted priorities. The legislation framework for the regulation of food safety matters in the Republic of Armenia is provided by the 2006 Law on "Food Safety" which has been developed based on the European Council Regulation 178/2002. Furthermore, other sub-legislative acts have been adopted, including the Government decree on maximum residues level of veterinary drugs in products of animal origin. These efforts are focused on bringing food safety standards and practices in compliance with EU and WTO

requirements in order to increase the country's capacity for international food trade. The following are the areas agreed upon in food safety and food control that will be strengthened with FAO technical assistance.

Proposal Initiatives

1) Implementation of mechanisms for contaminants monitoring in the food chain

Monitoring the residues of chemical and biological contaminants in the food chain is essential for ensuring food safety. FAO will assist with the development and implementation of mechanisms for contaminants monitoring in the food chain. Related activities would include:

- Elaboration of mechanisms for the monitoring of contaminants in the food chain and development of monitoring plans for chemical and biological hazards.
- Training of employees involved in the monitoring of chemical and biological contaminants.
- Determination of import border posts for high risk commodities, training of border inspection personnel in plant and animal health, and in sampling.
- Establishment of an IT system for monitoring and recording results.

3.5 Forestry

The strategic direction for forestry development approved by the GoA are articulated in the National Forestry programme (2005) and the National Forest Policy and Strategy (2004) and are as follows: i) the provision of sustainable forestry management, ii) the restoration of degraded forest land and expansion of forest covered areas, and iii) prevention of illegal woodcutting.

In line with the above strategy, a current ongoing (2009) TCP focuses on Afforestation and Reforestation TCP/ARM/3203 (D) with the main objective of the development of human resources in the fields of seed collection, nurseries, plantations and natural regeneration as Armenia lacks adequate resources to implement reforestation and afforestation programmes required to ensure sustainable prosperity in term of social, environmental and economic effects from forest management. Two other initiatives have been discussed:

Proposal Initiatives

1) Support to State registration of forests and the establishment of a State Forest Cadastre

The absence of a state forest registration and a state forest cadastral system is a serious concern for the future development of the forest area in Armenia. It is proposed to have a project to organize and implement the registration of forests and forest lands, as well as establish a state forestry cadastre. The project outcomes will include accurate data and information on the forests that would promote the improved sustainable management of forests.

2) National Forest Programme (NFP)

The National Forests Programme Facility is proposed as a joint initiative of interested organizations and countries to:

- Strengthen the information and knowledge base for national forest programme implementation; and

- Improve processes and mechanisms which enable governmental and civil society actors to share and use this knowledge.

It is expected that this will also enhance the co-ordination of efforts of the various partners. The facility will draw on past experiences achieved by national and international supporters in promoting formulation and implementation of national forest programmes and policies. While increasing access to knowledge and tools, the facility will support the efforts of countries to engage and involve forest stakeholders in formulating and implementing their national forestry programmes as an on-going policy process. The ultimate goal is to assist countries to put into place forest policy planning and implementation processes that effectively address local needs and national priorities, and reflect internationally agreed principles for national forest programmes.

3) Assistance in development of forest monitoring

Forest rehabilitation and improvement of forest management is a priority for the Government of Armenia, and considerable legislative and institutional efforts have been made in this direction in collaboration with international organizations in the past. However, in order to achieve long-term and scientifically justified sustainable forest management on the ground, a robust forest monitoring system has to be in place which provides the necessary qualitative and quantitative information on the state, use, management and trends of the national forest resources. It is proposed to have a small-scale project to explore and describe the most promising options for developing a forest monitoring system tailor-made to the country's most pressing needs.

3.6 Development of Fisheries and Aquaculture

The Republic of Armenia has 18 lakes (126 270 ha), 41 major rivers (about 2 380 km), 5 canyons, numerous springs and torrents. The rivers belong to the Aras and Kur water systems which are utilized for irrigation. Lake Sevan, Armenia's largest lake, is one of the world highest and largest alpine lakes with a unique ecosystem. Both fishing and fish farming contribute to Armenia's fish production. In 2008, the total fish production was 5 700 mt (5 100 mt aquaculture, and estimated 600 mt capture fishery). The substantial increase of reported fish production is mainly due to the dramatic growth of aquaculture production. At present Armenia has about 350 registered fish farms with a total surface of fish farms of 2 720 ha. Size and productivity of fish farms varies between 5 to 500 tons production per year. Armenia exported USD 5.5 million and imported USD 8.8 million of fish and fishery products in 2008. In 2007 fish consumption reached a level of 2.1 kg per caput.

Capture fisheries production in lake Sevan earlier accounted for between 2 500 – 3 000 tons per year. However, Lake Sevan's productivity is under serious threat due to: (1) a decrease of 19 meters in the water level, (2) introduction of non-indigenous fish and crayfish species, (3) extreme high fishing pressure, and (4) water pollution. Moreover, the Sevan region has suffered tremendously from a deteriorating local economy, stimulating illegal fishing activities. Fishing activities are currently prohibited, but as the unemployment is over 50% along the lake, poaching is prevalent.

The potential of smaller public water bodies (lakes, reservoirs, principal irrigation canals) is a minimum of about 500 – 750 tons fish production per year. However, fishery management and regulation of these water bodies do not exist. In addition, Armenia's fishery has the potential to exploit underground water resources which offer excellent water quality to produce trout, sturgeon and carps. Official sources estimate that the potential of aquaculture is about 25,000 tonnes which is fivefold the present production.

Proposal Initiatives

1) Certification of aquaculture production for export

FAO would provide technical assistance for **certifying aquaculture production** for export to the EU and Russian markets and guide the necessary institutional setup including certifying laboratories. The aquaculture industry has expressed their intention to support this financially which would be very beneficial for attracting possible donors and as a matter of ownership.

3.7 Agricultural Statistics

The State Council on Statistics/National Statistical Service (NSS) provides the following functions: i) maintenance of the comprehensive information system on agricultural issues (including Food Balance Sheets), ii) development of a comprehensive national agricultural registration system (farm registers), and iii) planning and conducting the General Agricultural Census (first agricultural census tentatively planned for 2012 to follow the second population census in 2011). FAO can support and provide Technical Assistance in each of these three areas.

Proposal Initiatives

1) Technical assistance for the Agricultural Census (including implementation of a Pilot census)

The Law on the Agricultural Census was issued in 2008 (with assistance in its formulation from USDA), but without a binding timeframe for the implementation of the agricultural census. To date, there is no documentation regarding the methodology and planning. The funding of this first agricultural census is yet undefined, and it should be noted that the official commitment of funds for planning and conducting the census is imperative for FAO to provide its preliminary technical assistance (including a Pilot Census).

The results of the General Agricultural Census will provide an updated overall picture of the agricultural resource potential by the community in the Republic of Armenia. Furthermore, the census results will allow to expand the range of statistical indicators describing the situation of the agricultural sector and improve their quality; to set up an integrated electronic database on agricultural statistics and information; and enable the assessment of inter-sectoral structural changes in agriculture.

4. FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Implementation of FAO's activities over the four year 2012-2015 CPF period is subject to the availability of required funding, largely depending on financial support from the donors, while a minor share of the requirements could be provided from FAO's own resources.⁵ FAO will make an additional effort to mobilize resources to support the implementation of the CPF 2012–2015, which, in turn, will be the FAO input into UNDAF Armenia 2010-2015.

The Government of Armenia is expected to provide counterpart contributions in terms of the provision of human resources, project offices, access to information and statistics and import duty exemption for equipment and supplies procured in support of FAO-executed projects.

5. IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The FAO CPF 2012 - 2015 for Armenia is co-owned by the Government of Armenia and FAO. Accordingly, implementation of the CPF will be pursued in close consultation and collaboration with the concerned ministries and national institutions. With delegated authority, as conferred in the context of FAO's decentralization policy, the FAO Representative in Armenia and the Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia will take leadership and responsibility for the implementation of the CPF on behalf of FAO. The Regional Office, in turn, will receive full support of the inter-disciplinary Country Task Force of technical officers at FAO headquarters and FAO Representative Office in Armenia.

Given that most of the proposed activities of the CPF will be implemented by or in close collaboration with the MoA, the ministry will have the responsibility for overall coordination of the implementation of the CPF. As for monitoring and evaluation, it is recommended that a steering committee be established to periodically review and advise on progress in the implementation of the CPF, with membership comprising senior officials, project team leaders and the FAO Representative in Armenia. As both the mandates of FAO and the CPF are multisectoral, involving working relations with several concerned ministries, it appears most appropriate to also seek collaboration from other ministries for the steering committee and periodic reviews of the CPF. As the CPF is of a rolling nature, such periodic reviews should be undertaken every two years or earlier if necessary.

⁵ It is important to note that the starting dates of the identified project proposals will be staged over a five year period of the CPF thus funding requirements will also be staged over this period.

References

- RA National Statistical Service (RA NSS)
RA Socio-Economic Situation, 2009 January – December,
Food Provision and Poverty, 2009 January – December,
RA Law on Widespread Agricultural Registration, 2008 November
RA Ministry of Agriculture (RA MoA)
Sustainable Development Strategy, 2004,
Sustainable Development Strategy (revised version), 2006,
RA Sustainable Agriculture Development Strategy for 2010-2020, 2010,
Fish breeding Development Project in the RA, 2008-2015,
RA National Forest Programme (2005),
RA Forest Policy and Strategy (2004),
RA Food Safety Policy, Strategy, (2005)
RA Government
Sustainable Development Programme
UNDAP – Development Assistance Project, 2010-2015
WB – Country Partnership Strategy, 2009-2012
IFAD –Strategic Opportunities Programme, 2005
S. Avetisyan – Agriculture and food processing in Armenia, 2010

ANNEX 1

SUMMARY:

PROPOSED FAO CPF ACTIVITIES IN ARMENIA

I. POLICIES TO SUPPORT RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTERGATION

- 1) Capacity building to reduce poverty through creation of non-farming jobs and services in rural areas.
- 2) Climate change risk management according to the specifications of each area
- 3) Assistance for establishment of temporary open-air agricultural markets in Yerevan

II. ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION

- 1) Assistance for prevention and control of major transboundary animal diseases
- 2) Assistance for controlling brucellosis
- 3) Assistance in development of animal identification and registration system
- 4) Rehabilitation of artificial insemination services for the development of the livestock sector

III. CROP PRODUCTION AND PLANT PROTECTION

- 1) Support to apricot genetic resource conservation and utilization
- 2) Development of the vegetable seed breeding and production system
- 3) Technical assistance to development of organic farming in Armenia
- 4) Improving management of migratory and other locusts
- 5) Support to genetic resource conservation and utilization of grapes
- 6) Technical assistance for mole control

IV. FOOD SAFETY AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

- 1) Implementation of mechanisms for contaminants monitoring in the food chain

V. FORESTRY

- 1) Support to State registration of forests and the establishment of a State Forest Cadastre
- 2) National Forest Programme (NFP)
- 3) Assistance in development of forest monitoring

VI. DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

- 1) Certification of aquaculture production for export

VII. AGRICULTURE STATISTICS

- 1) Technical Assistance for the Agricultural Census and Pilot Survey

ANNEX 2
FAO PROJECTS IN ARMENIA⁶

FAO Project Under Implementation (ongoing)

Project Symbol	Project Title	Actual EOD	Actual NTE
National Projects			
TCP/ARM/3203	Afforestation and Reforestation in the Republic of Armenia	2009-11	2011-12
TCP/ARM/3301	TCP Facility	2010-05	2011-12
- BABY02	Animal Identification and Registration System	2010-05	2011-12
- BABY03	Open-air agricultural markets	2010-05	2011-12
- BABY05	Development of Vegetable Seed Breeding and Production System in Armenia	2010-05	2011-12
TCP/ARM/3302	Support for the Establishment of Apricot Collection Orchards for the Purpose of Genetic Fund Preservation	2011-03	2013-02
GCP /ARM/003/GRE	Support for pesticide quality control and residue monitoring in Armenia	2009-03	2012-02
GCP /ARM/004/GRE	Support for Abattoir development in Armenia	2009-03	2012-02
Regional and Interregional Projects			
TCP/INT/3202	Improving management of migratory and other locusts in the Caucasus and Central Asia	2009-04	2011-03
TCP/RER/3207	Capacity building in agricultural biotechnologies and biosafety - Phase II of TCP/RER/3102	2010-01	2011-12
GCP /INT/062/GFF	Capacity building on Obsolete and POPs Pesticides in EECCA countries (FSP)	2009-04	2011-09
GCP /GLO/275/EC	EC/FAO Programme on information systems to improve food security decision-making in the ENP-East Area - DCI-FOOD 2009/223-068	2010-01	2012-12
GCP /RER/026/AUS	Increasing resilience of small scale farmers to the impacts of soaring food prices by improving capacity and institutional environment for seed production and the use of irrigation technologies	2009-09	2011-09

⁶ The projects indicated as RER, GLO and INT are Regional, Global and Interregional in which Armenia was one of the beneficiary countries

FAO Project Implemented (closed)

Project Symbol	Project Title	Actual EOD	Actual NTE
SPFM/ARM/6701	SPFM Armenia	1998-04	1998-12
TCP/ARM/0065	Strategy for Agricultural Development	2000-11	2002-05
TCP/ARM/0066	Emergency Distribution of Locally Produced Potato Seed to Drought-affected Farmers	2001-01	2001-08
TCP/ARM/2801	Sustainable Mountain Development - Advance Allocation - Recoded from TCP/ARM/2901	2003-04	2003-04
TCP/ARM/2802	Sustainable Management of Oak Production Forest - Advance Allocation - Recoded from TCP/ARM/2902	2003-07	2003-09
TCP/ARM/2901	Sustainable Mountain Development - Advance Allocation (Recoded to TCP/ARM/2801 - Return Flow)	2003-04	2003-04
TCP/ARM/2902	Sustainable Management of Oak Production Forest - Advance Allocation (Recoded to TCP/ARM/2802 - Return Flow)	2003-07	2003-09
TCP/ARM/2903	Emergency Assistance to Farmers Affected by Frost	2003-08	2004-04
TCP/ARM/3001	Sustainable Mountain Development	2004-03	2006-02
TCP/ARM/3002	Strengthening of the Locust Control Capabilities	2004-02	2005-09
TCP/ARM/3003	Rodent Control in Armenia	2004-04	2005-12
TCP/ARM/3004	Support to the Preparation and Implementation of Land Consolidation and Improved Land Management Schemes	2004-08	2006-12
TCP/ARM/3101	TCP Facility	2006-03	2009-02
TCP/ARM/3102	Emergency Assistance for the Control of African Swine Fever (ASF)	2008-02	2009-12
TCP/ARM/3103	Establishment of a virtual extension and research information and communication network	2008-08	2009-12
TCP/ARM/3201	TCP Facility	2008-04	2010-07
- BABY01	FAO Initiative on Soaring Food Prices	2008-04	2010-07
- BABY02	Strengthening MoA in agro-business	2008-04	2010-07
- BABY03	Hybrid Maize Seed Production	2008-04	2010-07
- BABY04	Support for the Establishment of Apricot Collection Orchards for the Purpose of Genetic Fund Preservation	2008-04	2010-07
- BABY05	Development of National Medium Term Priority Framework (NMTPF) ? 2010-2015	2008-04	2010-07
TCP/ARM/3202	Input supply to vulnerable populations under ISFP	2008-09	2010-04
TCP/ARM/3205	Emergency Assistance for the Control of African Swine Fever (ASF) - Phase II of TCP/ARM/3102	2010-02	2010-11
TCP/ARM/3301	TCP Facility	2010-05	2011-12
- BABY01	Assessment of pesticide disposal site and development of a plan for stabilization and future rehabilitation in Nubarashen	2010-05	2011-12
TCP/ARM/4451	Forestry Sector Development	1994-07	1996-07
TCP/ARM/5612	Forestry Sector Development (Ph.II)	1996-11	1997-11
TCP/ARM/6611	Reorganizing and Strengthening of Food Control Services	1996-10	1998-10
TCP/ARM/9065	Strategy for Agricultural Development (recoded from TCP/ARM/0065)	2000-11	2002-05
TCP/ARM/3204	Establishment of a Virtual Extension and Research Information and Communication Network - Phase II of TCP/ARM/3103	2010-01	2011-10

FAO Project Implemented (closed)

Project Symbol	Project Title	Actual EOD	Actual NTE
TCP/INT/2906	Legal Assistance on In-situ Conservation of Crop Wild Relatives	2004-06	2005-12
TCP/INT/3104	Legal assistance for in situ conservation of crop wild relatives – Phase II of TCP/INT/2906	2006-04	2006-07
TCP/RER/2901	Institutional Strengthening to Facilitate Intra- and Inter-regional Agricultural Trade of the BSEC Member States	2003-02	2004-10
TCP/RER/2904	Support to the Promotion of Beekeeping - Advance Allocation	2003-11	2004-02
TCP/RER/3001	Strengthening transboundary animal disease diagnosis, surveillance and control capacities	2004-12	2006-07
TCP/RER/3003	Food safety capacity building	2006-05	2007-12
TCP/RER/3004	Emergency assistance for early detection and prevention of avian influenza in the Eastern Europe and Caucasus regions	2005-11	2007-10
TCP/RER/3102	Capacity building in agricultural biotechnologies and biosafety (Armenia, Georgia, Moldova)	2007-11	2009-10
TCP/RER/3201	Food Safety Capacity Building - Phase II of TCP/RER/3003	2008-03	2009-09
TCP/RER/3203	TCP Facility - REU	2008-10	2011-05
- BABY01	Europe and Central Asia Regional Consultation on Soaring Food Prices	2008-10	2010-06
- BABY02	Support to the establishment of a regional fisheries and aquaculture organization for Central Asia and the Caucasus	2008-10	2010-06
- BABY03	Mapping of and policy orientation for adaptation to climate change in selected countries of CEE and CA sub-regions	2008-10	2011-05
TCP/RER/3303	Support to the design of immediate country-level actions in response to the current high food prices in Europe and Central Asia	2011-05	2011-12

FAO Project Implemented (closed)

Project Symbol	Project Title	Actual EOD	Actual NTE
OSRO/ARM/001/GRE	Emergency Supply of Winter Wheat Seed, Spring Potato Seed and Animal Feed to Drought-affected Farmers	2001-01	2001-12
OSRO/ARM/101/NET	Emergency Supply of Animal Feed to Drought-affected Farmers	2001-01	2001-12
OSRO/ARM/103/CYP	Emergency Distribution of Locally Produced Potato Seed to Drought-affected Farmers	2001-02	2001-12
OSRO/ARM/104/FRA	Emergency Supply of Winter Wheat Seed to Drought-Affected Farmers in Armenia	2002-07	2003-01
OSRO/GLO/504/MUL	Emergency assistance for the control and prevention of avian influenza	2005-12	2007-04
OSRO/GLO/604/UK	To support the implementation of the "Avian Influenza Response Programme" through the "Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation Activities (SFERA)" in the countries affected by the epizooty	2007-03	2010-03
OSRO/GLO/702/CAN	Contribution of the Government of Canada to FAO's Global Programme for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Control and Eradication in Support of Africa and other Regions	2007-03	2011-03
OSRO/INT/603/USA	Support FAO's Global Avian Influenza and Eradication Programme (International Coordination AI Control)	2006-07	2010-06
OSRO/INT/603/USA BABY01	Support FAO's Global Avian Influenza and Eradication Programme in Eurasia (International Coordination AI Control)	2006-07	2009-03
OSRO/INT/603/USA BABY02	Support FAO's Global Avian Influenza and Eradication Programme in Eurasia (Europe & Eurasia) - Development of integrated desk-top-simulation exercises on avian influenza in animal and human populations	2006-07	2010-06
GCP /ARM/002/GRE	Identification and Formulation Mission to Armenia	2007-09	2007-12
GCP /GLO/162/EC	EC/FAO Food Security Programme Phase II (Year 2 and 3) - Account 3 - Main Programme	2006-04	2009-04
GCP /GLO/162/EC	EC/FAO Food Security Programme Phase II (Year 2 and 3) - Account 1 - Facility for Global Donor Platform Rural Development	2006-04	2008-12
GCP /GLO/162/EC	EC/FAO Food Security Programme Phase II (Year 2 and 3) - Account 2 - Facility for Consultancy Service	2006-04	2008-12
GCP /RER/032/HUN	Informal Consultation on Priorities for FAO Assistance in Europe and Central Asia Region	2010-03	2010-07
GCP /RER/033/SWI	Participation of Representatives of Low-Income Food-Deficit Countries in the Europe and Central Asia Region in the 27th FAO Regional Conference for Europe on "Agriculture and environmental policy for food security", 11-14 May 2010, Yerevan	2010-04	2010-09
GCPS/INT/814/EC	Intensified Monitoring Of Food Security In The Five Cis Low-Income Food Deficit Countries (formerly GCPS/RER/012/EC)	2000-08	2004-12
GCP /ARM/001/ITA	Assistance to Brucellosis Control in Armenia - (Phase I)	2007-05	2011-12

FAO Project Implemented (closed)

Project Symbol	Project Title	Actual EOD	Actual NTE
TFD-00/ARM/002	Natural honey production for twenty poorest rural households	2001-04	2002-04
TFD-00/ARM/003	Supply of sheep for twenty needed and poor families affected by the drought	2001-06	2002-03
TFD-01/ARM/001	Women Income Generation Through Goat Rearing and Breeding	2003-10	2004-04
TFD-01/ARM/002	Development of Fish Farming, Processing for Rural Poor Families	2003-10	2004-10
TFD-01/ARM/003	Small-Scale Commercial Honey Production for twenty poorest rural households	2003-10	2004-10
TFD-02/ARM/002	Organic Agriculture as Tool to Strive against lack of food security among Women Headed Households	2003-12	2004-12
TFD-05/ARM/001	Support provided to the Kindergarten to improve the children's food conditions	2007-02	2008-01
TFD-05/ARM/003	Support to Young Tavush Farmers' Association	2007-03	2008-01
TFD-05/ARM/004	Support in poverty reduction in villages and development of animal breeding	2007-03	2008-03
TFD-05/ARM/005	Support in poverty reduction in Norashen community through development of sheep breeding	2007-10	2008-10
TFD-05/ARM/006	Providing support to vulnerable groups of population and developing sheep breeding (Karaberd)	2007-10	2008-10
TFD-05/ARM/007	Support in poverty reduction in Gyumri city through development of animal breeding	2007-10	2008-10
TFD-05/ARM/008	Poverty eradication through beekeeping	2007-09	2008-05
TFD-05/ARM/009	Cultivation of Organic Potato and Vegetables	2007-10	2008-06
TFD-05/ARM/010	Providing support to vulnerable groups of population and developing potato production	2007-10	2008-10
TFD-08/ARM/005	Women Income Generation Through Goat Breeding	2009-09	2010-03
TFD-08/ARM/006	Assistance in Poverty Mitigation and Development of Vegetable Growing	2009-09	2010-09
TFD-97/ARM/001	Establishment of School Orchard		
TFD-97/ARM/004	Establishment of Fruit and Vegetable Garden		
TFD-97/ARM/005	Group Sheep Fattening		
TFD-97/ARM/006	Pig keeping		
TFD-98/ARM/001	Seedling Cultivation in Greenhouses	1999-03	1999-09
TFD-98/ARM/002	Establishment of Small-scale Inter-community Fruit Tree Nursery	1999-03	2001-03
TFD-02/ARM/001	Establishment of fruit and vegetable garden for 30 poorest households	2003-12	2004-12
TFD-05/ARM/002	Support in poverty reduction in Yernjatap village and production of winter wheat seed	2007-03	2008-03
TFD-08/ARM/001	Apiculture (Bee-Keeping) Honey Production	2009-09	2010-09
TFD-08/ARM/002	Development of Bee –keeping/apiculture in Goris sub region	2009-09	2010-09
TFD-08/ARM/003	Support to vulnerable groups of population and development of wheat production	2009-08	2010-08
TFD-08/ARM/004	Development of Fish Farming for Rural Poor Families	2009-09	2010-09

ANNEX 3

MAJOR DONOR AGENCY ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS IN ARMENIA

Institution	Activities and Projects in Armenia
<p>Armenian Technology Group (ATG)</p>	<p>Established in 1992 in California as a U.S. non-profit charitable corporation and is registered as a private volunteer organization. It assists in the dissemination of new varieties of agricultural crops and dissemination of progressive technologies in Armenia as well as supplying Armenian farms with agricultural equipment. Below are the on-going projects of special importance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitation of private seed production[n by developing small and medium businesses; • Importing, renovation, and technical service of agricultural equipment; • Setting up an anti-hail station in Artashavan community of Aragatsotn marz; • Providing milk cooling tanks to Akhuryan, Talvorik, Vahagni, and Yeghipatrush communities. • Distribution of wheat, vegetable, and maize seeds to farmers.
<p>Centre for Agribusiness and Rural Development (CARD)</p>	<p>CARD is the successor of the USDA’s Marketing Assistance Program (MAP). CARD was established and registered in 2005 as an Armenian foundation to ensure the continuity of MAP’s programs.</p> <p>Below are some of the outcomes of projects implemented by CARD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seventeen milk marketing associations were established. ▪ Support to establish and develop 6 goat cheese production units and 7 goat cheese varieties in local and export markets. ▪ Assistance to 60 agribusinesses to develop and test and market 40 new products. ▪ Technical Assistance Program to support the Armenian Food Safety System. ▪ A constant export-oriented approach focused on providing technical assistance to farmers and agribusinesses while investigating in new markets both internally and externally. ▪ Relevant assistance, to train over 60 cheese-making specialists, enhance their skills, as well as organize practical training for more than 30 students from the Armenian State Agrarian University and other educational institutions. ▪ The Armenian Rural Youth and Gender Development Program develops the skills of young people. This program has grown to more than 130 clubs located in every region of Armenia with membership reaching more than 2000 youth. ▪ The introduction of high quality input supplies and technologies to Armenian agribusinesses and farmers. ▪ The Herd Genetic Improvement Initiative is gaining momentum in Armenia with the introduction of World Wide Sires’ products and advanced Artificial insemination technologies. Each year more than 5000 cows and 1800 goats are inseminated. ▪ Development of small, boutique wineries.
<p>Heifer International</p>	<p>Heifer International started its mission in the South Caucasus in 1999. Since that time, they has accomplished 51 projects in this region, with 5,763 rural families benefiting.</p> <p>Today, 165 rural families are involved in projects underway in Armenia. Under these projects, Heifer International provides cows, goats, sheep, bees, rabbits, chickens, fish, turkeys, buffalos, young bulls, Californian worms, as well as seed potatoes and wheat, fruit and other trees.</p> <p>Heifer International is implementing diverse and innovative projects in Armenia. In addition to animal raising and crop growing, Heifer Armenia is involved in developing leadership skills and professional training among rural youth. Heifer ARMENIA has established “Ayo” youth clubs in 20 rural communities of Armenia through</p>

	<p>the Development Principles NGO. Six life and leadership skill development trends are practiced in these clubs: agricultural management (through special programs of livestock and crop production), healthy lifestyle, civil education and law, nature protection, ogic, and journalism. Over 3,500 children have benefited from these programs.</p> <p>Heifer Armenia also focuses on capacity building for different community groups through training courses conducted by qualified experts. The topics of trainings include: livestock management, field crop production, plant protection, artificial insemination, beekeeping and farm management.</p>
IFAD-MoA	<p><u>Rural Area Economic Development Project (RAEDP)</u></p> <p>The Rural Area Economic Development Project (RAEDP) Management and Analysis Office has implemented 4 loan programs starting in 1998. The first loan program was the Agricultural Services Development Program in North-Eastern Regions (USD 15.15 million, of which USD 12.94 million was co-funded by IFAD. The project was implemented in Shirak, Lori and Aragatsotn marzes.</p> <p>The next stage of the Rural Area Economic Development Project was the Farmer Marketing Opportunity (FMO) project. This project contributed to the marketing of agricultural products and development of small and medium size entrepreneurship in rural areas. Overall, infrastructure development activities worth USD 15.0 million were implemented in 110 communities in the target region, including capital renovation of irrigation and drinking water networks, drilling of deep water wells, cleaning and rehabilitation of river beds and drainage systems in 36 communities; gas supply in 73 communities; and community road renovation in one community. Within the project, the Fund for Rural Economic Development in Armenia (FREDA) was established by a decision of the RA Government to implement joint funding (investments) for agricultural producers and processors in rural areas of Armenia. One joint investment of 200.0 million AMD was made in fish farming through this fund. The project has also assisted in the vitalization of economic activity in rural areas by making financial products more accessible for small and medium size entrepreneurs. Through pre-qualified banks, a total of USD 2,975 thousand was allocated in 68 short-term and long-term loans during 2009 for rural SME development.</p> <p>A new agreement on loan program funding with the value of USD 20 million has been signed between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and OPEC.</p> <p>Further, the following programs with funding from IFAD are ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Asset Creation Programme (2011-2016). The programme supports the fruits and nuts sector and investments of the construction or rehabilitation of public utilities critical for the economic development and well-being of rural population (such as water supply, natural gas supply, storm-water drainage) • Farmer Market Access Programme (2008-2013). Specific aims of the programme are to (i) stimulate the growth of rural enterprises with links to poor primary producers, (ii) help provide financial services in rural areas and build the capacity of the Armenian financial sector to respond to the need for small and medium loans, and (iii) provide rural business with training in appropriate knowledge and technology.
Millennium Challenge Account - Armenia	<p>The goal of the Millennium Challenge Account - Armenia Program is to reduce the level of rural poverty through sustainable growth in economic activities in the agriculture sector. It is anticipated that due to the implementation of the Millennium Challenge program, by 2013, rural poverty will be reduced by 6%.</p> <p>About one- half (USD 113.26 million) of the funds of the Millennium Challenge Armenian project will be directed to solve problems existing in the irrigation sector. Twenty-one regional irrigation schemes will be rehabilitated, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 18 mechanical irrigation systems will be transferred into gravity flow irrigation systems, - 5 new reservoirs will be built, and 2 will be rehabilitated, - a total of 200 km of damaged canals will be restored, - 68 pump stations will be renovated and re-equipped,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in-farm irrigation networks with total area of 75,000 ha will be rehabilitated, - drainage systems in the Ararat Valley will be rehabilitated, which will improve about 25,000 ha of land.
Oxfam (Great Britain) Armenia	<p>Since 1994, Oxfam GB Armenia, has implemented various humanitarian and community development projects in about 165 remote and isolated communities of Armenia.</p> <p>In the agrarian sector, two projects, ‘Supporting Rural Smallholders’ and ‘Small Farmers’ Livelihoods Programme’ are being implemented, which enhances the livelihoods of impoverished rural communities. Oxfam GB Armenia gives preference to community initiatives aimed at market-oriented agricultural development.</p> <p>Oxfam livelihoods projects foster sustainable utilization of community resources by supporting income generation activities for small farmers in the areas of dairy processing as well as high quality crop production. The project provides increased access of the beneficiary communities to agricultural inputs, technical support and markets for high quality seeds. The project also provides training in marketing, assists in establishment of business clubs as organized entities for improved agricultural output and technical knowledge sharing. The project also assists in the development of entrepreneurship in rural communities by creating jobs. Oxfam livelihoods projects also strengthen communities’ resilience to natural disasters and promote community flexibility in emergency situations.</p> <p>Within the 2010 program, the project will set up 4 agriculture cooperatives and 2 cool storage facilities in several communities of Tavush and Vayots Dzor marzes. They will be managed by newly established agricultural cooperatives. Over five years, the Livelihoods Strategy in total has benefited 3500 farm households from 40 communities in Vayots Dzor and Tavush regions.</p>
UNDP	<p>Community Development Project: In last 4 years, UNDP implemented the following projects in several rural communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lusadzor, Tavush marz - Construction of intra-community gas network; Return of non-cultivated arable land to crop rotation; Planting of persimmon orchards and distribution of seedlings; Enlargement of persimmon planting in the community; Internal irrigation network construction; Artificial insemination of the cattle; Cultural Centre rehabilitation; Reconstruction of the internal community network of potable water; Establishment of a greenhouses in Lusadzor. • Yeghvard, Syunik marz - Establishment of an agricultural machinery pool in the community; Creation of a grain seed revolving fund; Construction of a flour mill. • Geghamasar, Gegharqunik marz - Establishment of an agricultural machinery pool in the community; Provision of wheat seeds and nitrate fertilizers. • Pambak (previously Haykashen), Gegharkunik marz - Establishment of an agricultural machinery pool in the community; Provision of pedigree cattle to the households. • Bavra, Tavshut, Sizavet and Saragyugh communities, Shirak marz - Establishment of an agricultural machinery pool in the Micro-region.
UMCOR	<p>The U.S. “United Methodist Committee on Relief” NGO Armenian branch (UMCOR) was established in Armenia in 1994. UMCOR's mission in Armenia is to assist socio-economic development and to eradicate poverty during Armenia's transition to a healthy and wealthy civil society. At present UMCOR-Armenia implements humanitarian, agricultural, health and anti- trafficking projects. The Community Association Program, Farmers Organizations Support Program and currently the Sustainable Cooperative Extension and Agricultural Development Project are the agricultural development projects implemented by UMCOR.</p> <p>Since July 2009, UMCOR has been implementing its Sustainable Cooperative Extension and Agricultural Development Program (SCEAD).</p> <p>The objectives of the program are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To create 14 new agricultural consumer cooperatives and support to 10 existing cooperatives; • To provide technical assistance and training to the cooperative members; • To provide agricultural machinery; • To support organizing the pre-processing and marketing of agricultural products;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To produce and broadcast 56 films on the current agricultural problems faced by individual farmers from Armavir and Ararat marzes. <p>Within the scope of the project, UMCOR cooperates with the Centre for Agribusiness and Rural Development (CARD), the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia, municipalities, Regional Centres of Agricultural Support, and other organizations.</p>
World Bank -MoA	<p><u>Rural Enterprise and Small-Scale Commercial Agriculture Development Project” (RESCADP):</u></p> <p>The objective of the Project was to support the development of Armenia’s small- and medium-scale rural enterprises, improve their ability to access markets and raise competitiveness. To achieve this objective, foreign lending of USD 22 million was spent. The project progress by components to-date is set out below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community-Focused Economic Development <p>Activities were carried out in marzes of Lori, Shirak, Aragatsotn, Tavush, Syuniq and Gegharqunik. According to the World Bank, 144 communities were selected from these marzes and USD 9.5 million was directed towards their development.</p> 2. Loan Component <p>Loans amounting to USD 5.5 million were provided to 100 organizations and private entrepreneurs. As a result, 360 permanent and 720 temporary jobs were created.</p> 3. Competitive Grant Program <p>53 innovative projects were implemented - 450 permanent jobs were created as a result of the project implementation</p> 4. Strengthening the Agricultural Extension System Component <p>The 10 marz ASCs and the Agricultural Support Republic Centre (ASRC) received continuous support under the Strengthening the Agricultural Extension System Component. Particularly, USD 2.5 million was allocated to these organizations for staff maintenance. Technical equipment, training needs and strengthening of logistics.</p> 5. Strengthening the Seed and Sapling market <p>Under the Strengthening the Seed and Sapling market Component, USD 604 thousand was allocated to the Seed Agency SNCO, which was used to renovate and refurbish 4 regional and central laboratories and to provide computer and laboratory equipment, vehicles and agricultural machinery.</p> 6. The “Avian Influenza Preparedness” project (AIP) (USD 5.3 million) was implemented during the period from 2006 to 2010. Within this project, The central and marz facilities of the Food Safety and State Veterinary Inspection (FSSVI) were renovated and furnished with modern equipment, including staff training and technical equipment; The National Veterinary Anti-Epidemic and Diagnostic Centre was constructed and re-equipped.
World Bank -MoA	<p><u>Irrigation system development project</u></p> <p>The first loan provided by the World Bank and IFAD was used by the RA Government to implement an “Irrigation system rehabilitation” project. The project with a total budget of USD 52 million was implemented during 1994-2001. This project rehabilitated and regulated the work of irrigation systems. Through the WB loan funds and co-funding by the RA Government, the Irrigation System Rehabilitation Project was implemented during 2001-2007 with a budget of USD 30.82 million, of which the shares of the WB, RA Government and the beneficiaries were respectively USD 24.86 million, USD 3.89 million and USD 2.07 million.</p> <p>During the same period, the first stage of the “Dam Safety” project was implemented, with the total value of USD 30.3 million, including USD 3.7 million-worth share of the Government. Under the project, 20 dams were rehabilitated together with safety measures taken, as well as 60 reservoirs were studied. The second stage of the Dam Safety project started in 2004 with a USD 7.5-million budget. Over the recent years, considerable effort have also been made in institutional reforms of the irrigation system. As a result, over 50 Water Users Associations (WUA) have been formed.</p>

World Bank	In March 2011, a project on “Community Agricultural Resources Management and Competitiveness” (CARMAC) was approved.
EU	<p><u>Within the frame of a food security programme, the European Union is providing budget support to Armenia with specific focus on animal health and phytosanitary policy.</u></p> <p>Further, Armenia is part of a number of regional EU projects, e.g. in the field of river basin management.</p>