

برنامج  
الأغذية  
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Programme  
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World  
Food  
Programme

Programa  
Mundial  
de Alimentos

**Executive Board  
Resumed Second Regular Session**

**Rome, 26 May 1997**

# **EVALUATION REPORTS**

**Agenda item 2**

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Distribution: GENERAL  
**WFP/EB.2R/97/2**  
24 April 1997  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

## **COVERING NOTE**

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1. The Executive Director is submitting to the Executive Board for its consideration three evaluation reports which cover a common theme in three different regions of the world. The theme is the application of food aid for helping hungry and poor populations, through support for the conservation and management of land and water resources. The reports address activities in Africa, Asia and Latin America.
    - a) The interim evaluation of Project Ethiopia 2488 (Exp.3) - “Rehabilitation and development of rural lands and infrastructure”, reviews the largest single food-for-work project in Africa, which is supporting land and water conservation in four heavily degraded regions.
    - b) The sectoral evaluation of natural resource management in Pakistan reviews four projects, each assisting the management and conservation of natural resources, in four different parts of the country.
    - c) The thematic evaluation reviews three projects which channel food to support the conservation and management of land and water in Bolivia, Nicaragua and Peru.
  2. The findings of these studies identify remarkably similar conclusions, which include:
    - a) the shift in project design from a technical problem focus to a people-oriented problem focus and a corresponding shift in implementation strategies, in order to more effectively tackle the problems of the hungry poor;
    - b) the vital importance of attention to the conservation and sustainable management of land and water for the food security of vulnerable population groups in these impoverished regions, where pressure on the land has driven the poor on to land which is barely suitable for agriculture;
    - c) the importance of managing and treating these areas in coherent sections, based on the natural watershed divisions and coherent social organizations, in order to provide for sustainable land use;
    - d) the importance of participation by the beneficiary communities in identifying, planning, implementing and maintaining conservation and management programmes for their lands; and
    - e) the importance of the role to be played by WFP, not only in the provision of food to support the communities in their participation, but also in supporting and encouraging governments in their approach to tackling this daunting task.
  3. The Executive Board is requested to take note of the reports and to endorse the Secretariat’s plan to integrate the recommendations and lessons learned into the future work of WFP.



