

Hand in Hand Initiative Investment Fora
Procedure and Criteria for Selection of Countries for Participation

1. Initial Assessment and Consultation

The HQ Hand in Hand (HIH) assigned focal points conduct consultations with the FAOR and sub-regional/regional offices to evaluate progress in HIH member countries and regional initiatives. The assessment includes:

- a. Confirmation of HIH membership and handshake.
- b. Completion of HIH briefings with government and partners (e.g., UNCT).
- c. Development of typologies and territorial approach.
- d. Progress in government engagement and selection of typology-identified green areas of operation.
- e. Agreement on government priorities within identified areas following consultations.
- f. Identification of bottlenecks within the agreed areas.
- g. Advancement in the development of Investment Notes.
- h. Absence of foreseeable political transitions, changes in government, or conflict.

2. Virtual HIH HQ Team Review Meetings

A series of four virtual meetings over two months are held to review and discuss each country and regional initiative:

- a. Each HQ focal point presents their country case, highlighting identified issues and risks.
- b. Discussion on prioritization of countries based on identified risks.
- c. Consultation with sub-regional and regional offices on potential countries for inclusion.
- d. A preliminary list is defined, and focal points assess government/FAOR interest and commitment, including proposed timelines.

3. Detailed Review and Drafting of the Potential List

Two virtual meetings are conducted to finalize the potential list:

- a. Each focal point confirms country interest and updates any risks or changes.
- b. Ensure regional representation in line with HIH membership.

- c. Ensuring adequate participation of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
- d. The HIH Coordinator drafts a list of 28-30 countries and up to five regional initiatives.

4. Submission and Consideration of the Draft List

- a. The HIH Coordinator submits the final draft list to the Chief Economist for review.
- b. A feedback session is conducted with HIH HQ focal points.
- c. The list is finalized based on received feedback.
- d. The final list is submitted for approval by the Chief Economist.

5. Final Approval

The Chief Economist conducts a final review and grants approval via email.

6. Official Notification of Selected Countries

- a. The selected countries are informed of their selection.
- b. An official invitation letter is sent from the Chief Economist's office to the respective country or regional initiative via the FAOR.

7. Ongoing Review and Monitoring

A monthly review is conducted by the HIH team to assess country progress and determine if any changes are required. This process is carried out in consultation with the country office (CO), regional office (RO), and sub-regional office (SRO).

END