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particularly of the young has driven migration to impoverished urban areas resulting in greater crime and damaging what could be an improving business climate under President Robb. Robb has made economic growth and food security his highest national priorities.

Honduras, a nation with a heavy dependency on remittances from its diaspora population, was hit hard by the ongoing global financial slowdown. Therefore its intended reforms in areas like tax collection and agricultural infrastructure are lagging. However, in Honduras' 2011-12 intentions, as evidenced by its National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition (ENSAN) and Agriculture Sector Strategy (ESA), as well as the document under this review (CIP) on Food Security and Nutrition Goals, Honduras has set clear goals.

Honduras, with rich natural resources, good agricultural potential, and a very favorable location for international trade, with access to the Pacific on the south and a Caribbean coast in the north, has great potential for economic growth. It is, therefore, not an accident that Honduras was selected to be the second Millennium Challenge Corporation compact nation and the first in the Western Hemisphere to be so selected. A nation had to be judged as a sound investment opportunity where significant financial infusion in needed infrastructure and economic stimulus would pay for itself and internal growth could replace external aid. Many nations have made similar calculated decisions in determining that Honduras is a sound investment. The U.S. Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for Coordination Group has been attempting to bring strategic direction and leveraged collaboration by uniting behind a coherent national plan. These nations have expressed their belief, through development funding, that Honduras possesses the raw components of a successful food security strategy, but it needs both financial support and a coherent national plan to maximize results.

The CIP has an extensive array of programs, spread throughout the food supply chain from farmers to manufacturers to transporters and from those building roads to those training farmers. While it may seem counterintuitive at first, each of these components is an important building block for the success of the whole. The CIP is, therefore, outlining a blueprint for reaching its two goals of economic growth and poverty reduction (which are complementary and not mutually exclusive), and it does a credible job of identifying all of the necessary issues as well as obstacles.

CIP Evaluation Criteria

1. Likelihood for the investment programs to realize growth and poverty reduction

The CIP is an important component in the overarching national food security strategy as outlined in the National Plan and Country Vision. In addition, it is consistent with national policies related to economic growth, focused especially on the agricultural sector. It is also important to note that the plan is very much aligned with the most foundational internationally agreed Millennium Development Goal (MDG), i.e., halving extreme hunger and poverty by 2015. While

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Since the CIP is based on an annual growth of 4 percent in the agriculture sector alone, this calls into question the G + 1 V D E L O L W \ W R A D E T W A L D , O H R J D R A W I S V E R Y S O D Q vulnerable to both climate and financial shocks. While UNDP has credited the country for improving its climate change risk mitigation, it was ranked

Although top-line indicators have been included in the plan, further elaboration of more specific objectives is still needed to specifically clarify roles and responsibilities from ministry level to local implementation. Further details on how this would be developed, managed, and funded would be appropriate. While a number of indicators are noted in Table 11 (pp 52-53) it is not clear how these targets were determined and whether they are realistic, not only on past performance (which is not indicated) but also on the respective programs and the availability of funding. Again, there needs to be a reality check of timeline against goals.

Strengthening the M&E systems is an area where leveraging existing relationships with internationally respected organizations such as WFP, UNICEF, UNDP, and FAO, as well as the G-16 Donor Coordination Groups is important. 7 K H & , 3 U L J K W O \ F D O O V L W 3 L P S H U agreement amongst implementing partners on relevant results, or standard deliverable L Q G L F D W R U V I R U H D F K F R P T H S Q H I C W D Q G V X E F R P S R Q H Q W '

With the cohesive and comprehensive support of donors and international organizations that have been involved in the consultative design of the CIP, with the continued focused implementation and transparent reporting of results, the GOH has the opportunity to have a similarly successful outcome with its CIP as China and Brazil. The plan for Honduras is sound and the dual goals can be achieved. However, it must be reiterated that the funding gaps are significant and further delay in bridging them will surely impede reaching the CIP goals.

7. Appropriateness and feasibility of the indicators for impact and system for capacity improvement and accountability

\$ V VWDWHG LQ WKH & ,3 LWV SXUSR VH LV WR ³UHGXFH UXUD inclusive economic growth, employment and rural poverty. The indicators for impact are appropriate but in some cases aggressive (e.g., 10% reduction in rural families in poverty as well as those in

8. Extent and quality of dialogue, (peer) review and mutual accountability system

Considering the comments made on the consultative process in #3 above, the advisory and

x Highlight nutrition as a core feature of the plan. The CIP could include a separate category for visibility. This is in keeping with the needs to focus more heavily on growing nutritious crops for alleviating hunger and malnutrition. With the exception of fish and maybe a few of the minor crops proposed under the plan, the emphasis is on exports, such as coffee and high value export fruits, rather than producing food

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