



The Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD

Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation Georgia

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Independent Office
of Evaluation



Investing in rural people

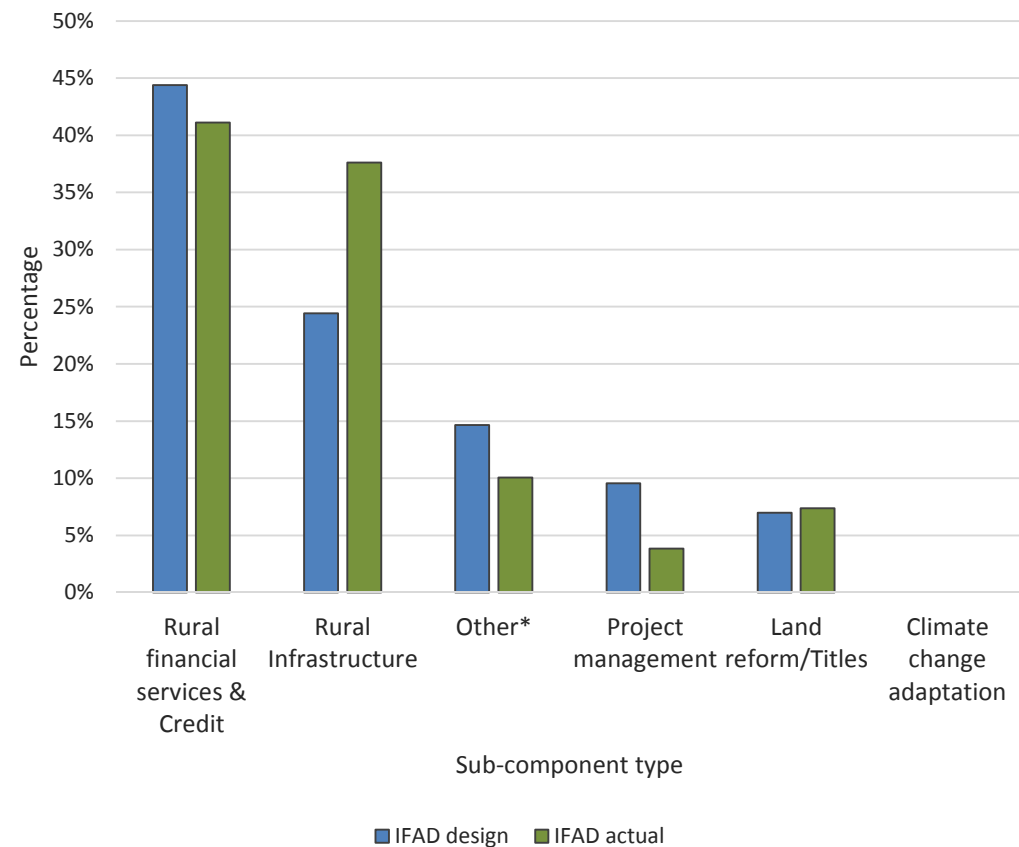
Overview Georgia portfolio

- IFAD's engagement since **1995**;
- First project was ADP (1997)
- World Bank co-funded projects (ADP, RDP)
- COSOP (2004 – 2014)
- Country Partnership strategy note (2015 – 2020)
- **CSPE scope: 2004 - 2017**
- Total portfolio over CSPE period **USD 117,5 million** (including co-funding); IFAD **USD 51.6 million**
- **Lending portfolio:** 4 closed projects (ADP, RDP, RDPMHA, ASP); 1 ongoing project.
- **Non-lending portfolio:** Knowledge management, partnership building, policy engagement; grants.

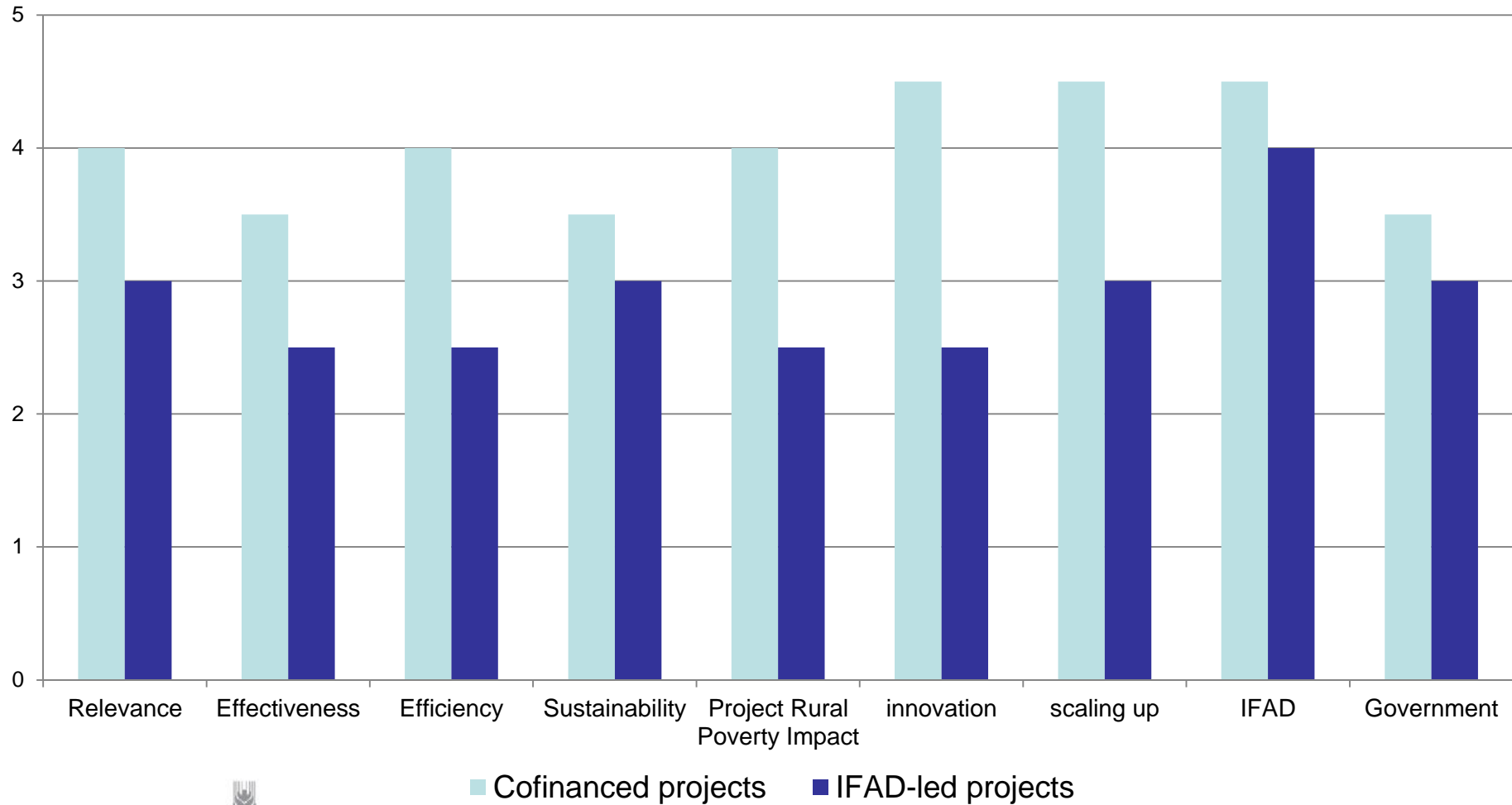
Lending portfolio

- Lending terms:
 - Highly concessional (ADP, RDPMHA, RDP)
 - Hardened (ASP)
 - Blended (AMMAR)
- Focus on **rural finance** and **infrastructure**
- Increase in actual expenditure on infrastructure (RDPMHA)

Proportion of design and actual use of IFAD funding by sub-component type in the closed portfolio



IOE project performance ratings



Highlight - Access to summer pastures

- **Rural road links pastures with local market** (RDPMHA, 2001-2011): Tselati-Chirukhi-Ginali in Shuakhevi (7km)
- Fresh dairy products (more than 200 t. cheese, 100 t. cottage cheese, 50 t. butter per summer season) produced in summer pastures for the local and regional markets.



Highlight –Microfinance outreach

MFI outreach to women under RDP (2006-2011)

Indicator	MFI	Commercial banks
Avg Years in the Programme (out of 10)	7.8	3.0
Total number of loans	28 580	28
Number of clients	24 442	25
Number of loans to women	9 067	N/A
Percent of loans to women	32%	N/A
Total loan value (USD)	37 773 100	6 288 950
Loan value of loans to women (USD)	9 530 083	N/A

Lowlight - Poverty targeting & Gender

- Limited resources spread across regions and broad range of interventions
- Youth had not been explicitly targeted (until very recently)
- Performance on gender below IFAD corporate average
- Only two projects (RDPMHA, AMMAR) had gender strategy
- Low participation rates; women's choices not well reflected (horticultural value chains)
- Results not been gender-disaggregated
- Systemic issues not recognised and addressed (e.g. gendered access to resources, land)

Lowlight - Knowledge management

- Important knowledge generated through grants and loans
- Some knowledge products influenced regulatory framework of the country (Crystal grant on remittances).
- No systematic learning from implementation: Complex approaches, fragmented implementation structures; weak M&E; missing links between grants and loans.
- Experiences included achievements and failures – lessons not systematically learned
- New approaches introduced, often without sufficient analysis

Conclusions

- Portfolio was relevant; IFAD accommodated evolving Government priorities
- IFAD's strategies slow to follow fast-paced development and changes
- Frequent changes and adjustments overall results limited; weak outreach and targeting
- New approaches or concepts introduced without sufficient understanding of the context; consistent follow up missing
- Mainstreaming issues (gender, participation, grassroots organizations) absent from loan portfolio
- Opportunities missed for scaling up innovations (rural finance)

Recommendations

1. Establish some form of country presence or limit IFAD's engagement to co-financing operations led by other development partners
2. Establish a strategic focus on rural finance and rural institution building, in line with Government priorities
3. Radically revise the approach to targeting, to adopt an explicit strategy for targeting those at risk of poverty and social exclusion within the rural population, in close cooperation with other development partners.