Project Performance Evaluation
Madagascar - Project to Support Development in the Menabe and Melaky Regions  (AD2M)

104th Session of the Evaluation Committee, 28 March 2019
Key Project data

Total cost: US$ 27.2m
IFAD loan(s): US$ 19.1m
IFAD grant: US$ 0.4m
Government: US$ 2.4m
EU (PARECAM): US$ 3.8m
Others: MCA, UNDP

Approved: Apr 2006
Closed: Jun 2016 (1 yr ext.)

Three components:
(i) providing support for local governance and land tenure security; (23% total costs)
(ii) supporting sustainable agriculture development (55%)
(iii) project management, monitoring and evaluation (22%).
Relevance

• Combination of land tenure security with small-scale irrigation. Relevant to Gov 2004 reform of land titling

• Differentiated, granular targeting strategy

• During implementation, the concept of “development clusters” emerged: geographic areas with concentrated investments in production and infrastructure to facilitate market access

• Gap: did not address sanitation and potable water in the project area (poor hygiene conditions)
Effectiveness

- Agricultural development component: hydro-agricultural improvements (5,588 ha vs. 3,000 ha target). 70% of beneficiaries were previously landless
  - Increased cropping intensity, added second rice season and vegetable growing season
  - System of rice intensification. Rice yields from 1.5 t/ha to 4.5 t/ha;
  - Other crops: beans from 1.1 to 1.7 t/ha; onions from 15 to 25 t/ha.

- Land titles below targets (8,840 certificates vs 17,450 target) but certification offices supported by the project produced 2.7 times more certificates than national average.
Command area of Lahaveloka (Antsoha) and plots with certificates
Impact

- Between 2009 and 2015, average project hh income increased by 54% - 118% % depending on the area and crops grown.

- Access to food increased but child malnutrition (stunting) did not drop significantly. Likely explanation: poor health and hygiene conditions lowered effects of food intake.

- Strengthened capacity: (i) of water user associations; (ii) of local governments to establish local development plans and manage land titling.
Other criteria

• Gender equality
  ➢ Project beneficiaries 34% women (traditional discrimination). Beginning of women’s representation in management of local organizations
  ➢ Gender-related roles. Increasing number of men taking responsibility for rice weeding and transplanting

• Climate change likely to strongly affect project area.
  Some adaptation measures introduced before 2010 IFAD climate change strategy. E.g., drought-resistant crop varieties. SRI can work as ‘carbon sink’. Risks still high
Other criteria – cont.

Innovation

a) System of intensified rice cultivation (SRI), discovered in Madagascar in the 1980s; AD2M contributed to dissemination

b) Alternative flood recession-based system where permanent water control is not feasible

c) Production clusters: promote supportive local economic environment

• Scaling up. Initial discussions with UNDP and JICA.

• Sustainability
  - Enabling factors: good quality of irrigation works, social capital
  - Threats: Fledgling grassroots organizations; insecurity in project area and cattle theft
Recommendations

1. Design projects with a limited number of synergetic themes.

2. Combine land tenure security with agricultural development (incentives for agricultural investment)

3. Plan systematically for scaling-up opportunities from the time of project design. Use follow-up phases to promote scaling up with other partners

4. Follow-up project (AD2M) should promote environmental health and sanitation. Reducing environmental enteropathy improves nutrition security (evidence in medical literature)