



**115th
Evaluation
Committee,
Rome**

Thematic Evaluation of IFAD's Support for Smallholder Farmers' Adaptation to Climate Change

19 October 2021

Evaluation: Key Milestones



Scope of the Evaluation

Approved 2010 - 2019

- Replenishment Commitments (IFAD8, IFAD9 & IFAD10)
- Strategic Frameworks (2010-2015 & 2016-2025)
- Climate Strategy 2010; SECAP 2015 & 2017
- Operations, Country Strategies & Related:
 - 256 projects with climate components
 - 93 COSOPs/CSNs

Ongoing

- IFAD11 & IFAD12
- Strategy & Action Plan on Environment and Climate Change 2019-2025
- Rural Resilience Programme (2RP)
- SECAP 2020
- Tools (Adaptation Framework, database of adaptation solutions, guidance on core outcome indicators for surveys...)
- Updates to policies/strategies (KM, Targeting, Grants, Guidelines to country strategies, Project restructuring...)



COSOPS and operations are **well aligned with national climate priorities (including NDCs)**



IFAD 11 **36% of PoLG on CCA** (exceeding the target by 11%) and mobilized **over US\$500 million on CCA finance** (2010-2020)



On track to achieve or exceed targeted CCA 'results' in most case studies



IFAD lacks a corporate conceptual and results framework to measure the progress in strengthening climate resilience

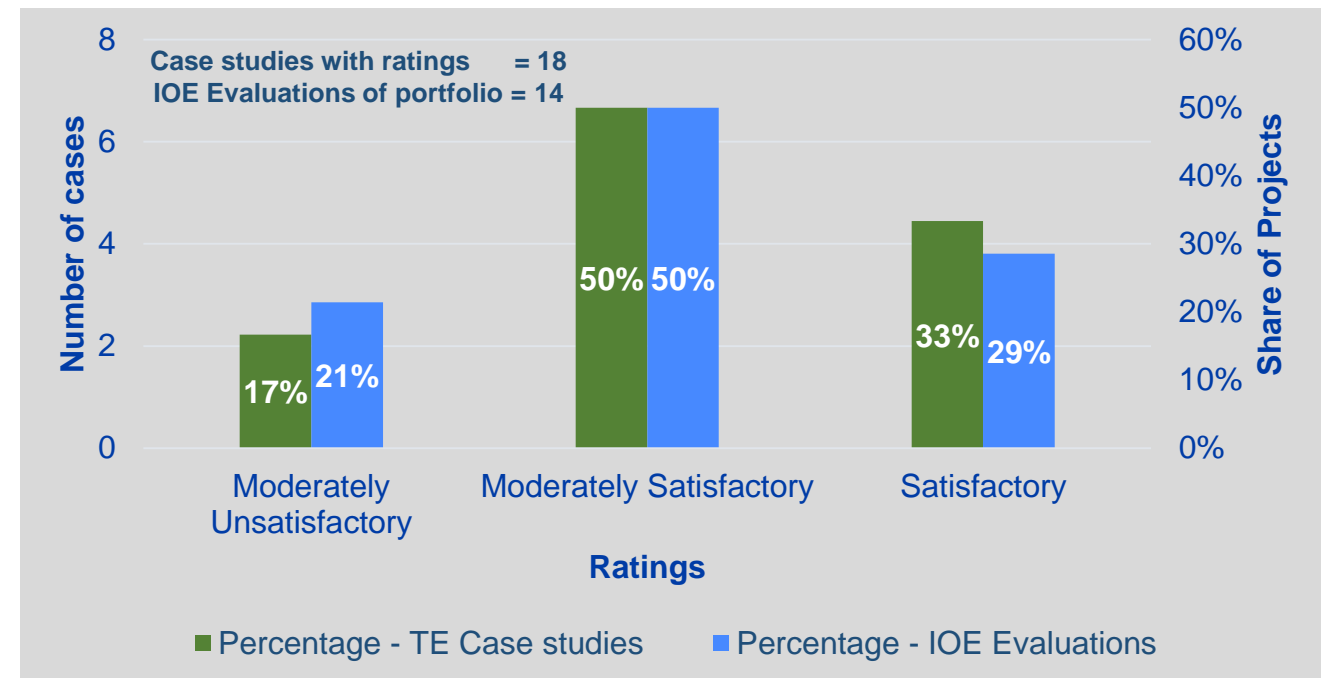
- Increasing use of climate vulnerability targeting
- Improving targeting of women (75% of the total portfolio targeted women smallholders)
- Often lacked differentiated analysis and engagement strategies in the presence of conflicts among beneficiary groups



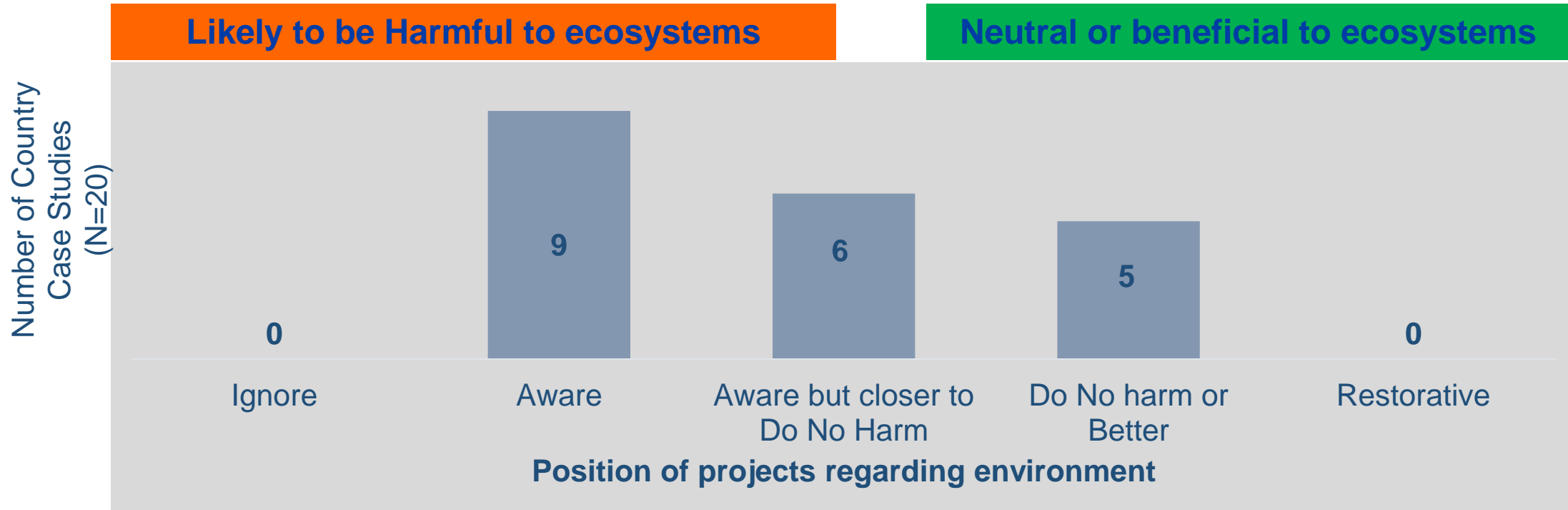
CCA commitments and development results of IFAD11 (2019 - 2021) **were achieved** or are **on track** to being achieved

However, these results **do not reflect actual changes** to climate resilience

Effectiveness of IFAD CCA response: Case Study Assessments and IOE Evaluation Ratings



Impact of CCA: Ecosystem – Human System Nexus



Successful projects pursued integrated approaches with nature-based solutions

Failure to 'Do No Harm' is likely to lead to low sustainability of benefits of IFAD interventions

A strong subset of IFAD climate projects were performing at or beyond doing no harm



● Overarching Question#1

What difference did IFAD make in the ability of the most vulnerable smallholders & their communities to adapt to CC?

- **Achieved important progress during 2010-2019:** explicitly made climate response a corporate priority, mobilized climate finances and focused an increasing share of its PoLG on climate support
- **Climate risks were assessed in all COSOPs** and operations and **integrated into climate response** in 'moderate' or 'high' climate risk situations
- Projects are **paying increasing attention to addressing existing tensions** arising from competition over use of land and water resources
- **IFAD lacks corporate-level conceptual framework and guidance** for measuring and tracking climate resilience
- Insufficient project and country-level **capacity is a major bottleneck** to improving CCA performance

Overarching Question #2



To what extent IFAD strengthen smallholder CCA capacity through partnerships, by scaling up successful interventions, promoting policies, strengthening capacities? What has worked and why and what opportunities were missed?

- The future of IFADs ability to successfully strengthen smallholder climate resilience at scale depends on **additional funding to promote non-lending activities (NLA)**
- **IFAD lacks operational experience** to pursue non-lending activities in a systematic manner
- Due to resource limitations, project designs do **not systematically prioritize** NLA, identify results expected from non-lending activities or develop strategies to implement them.
Monitoring to track progress was also largely absent

Overarching Question #3:



To what extent is IFAD equipped to address the existing and projected adaptation challenges facing smallholder farmers and to meet its commitments under IFAD11 and beyond?

- IFAD's approach to CCA is progressing in the right direction
- **Significant gaps** to be addressed to deliver IFAD12 CCA commitments:
 - Mechanisms to ensure systematic organizational learning from operational experience
 - Adequate support and guidance from headquarters
 - Strengthen the quality of design of CCA responses and facilitate government buy-in (time and resources)
 - Guidance to design and implement 'Do-no-harm' and 'win-win' CCA responses (as feasible)
 - A shared vision and commitment of management and staff to deliver much needed CCA action



Update **IFAD Strategy and Action Plan on Environment and Climate Change 2019-2025** to comprehensively address bottlenecks to CCA performance



Expand **CCA guidance** to include restorative solutions



Undertake an **analysis of staff capacity and skills set** needed to design, implement and monitor the ability to deliver climate finance of 40% of PoLG under IFAD12



Systematically **prioritize with dedicated resources scaling up and other non-lending activities**



Develop and implement a **framework and strategy for partnership** necessary to achieve results



Ensure **sustained organizational learning from operational experience** to improve current and future CCA performance