

IOE



Investing in rural people

Independent Office of Evaluation



**Evaluation
Committee**

116th session

Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation – Burundi Republic

17 March 2022

- **IFAD in Burundi since 1979:** 3 COSOP, 14 projects, US\$ 668.9 million;
- **First CSPE** carried out by IOE; **objectives:** (i) to assess the performance and results of the strategy and the programme and (ii) to draw recommendations for the future partnership between the Government of Burundi and IFAD.
- **CSPE scope:** 2009-2020; **10 projects** (US\$ 566,7 million: 42% funded by IFAD, 43% by international co-financers, 15% by government and beneficiaries) and **8 grants** (US\$ 9 million).
- Evaluation carried out in 2020, in the **difficult context of the pandemic**. A **mixed-methods approach** was applied, including a two-week field mission.

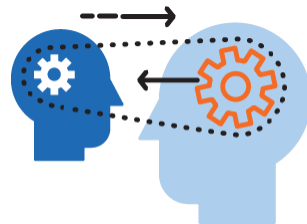
- **Objectives** were **well aligned** with country and IFAD strategies and the needs of rural poor population;
- Good **internal consistency** and **good adaptation** to the changing context;
- Contribution to the **development of 20% of the country marshlands** (rice productivity) and to the increase in **milk production and manure**;
- 65% of beneficiary households have **improved their income** by at least 30%, but lack of data on the most vulnerable households;
- Promising approaches in relation to **food security and nutrition** for the most vulnerable;
- Good results in terms of **women economic empowerment**, less in other areas of IFAD's gender pillars.

- Geographic and socioeconomic **targeting** showing **limits in terms of inclusivity** and to contribute to solve the **high land pressure** in the country;
- **Systemic vision of investments in value chains lacking**, links with other actors not sufficiently developed, rural finance results to be consolidated;
- Exceeding project **implementation deadlines and management costs** in relation to designs;
- **Sustainability** of results not totally assured;
- Insufficient consideration of **critical ecosystems** to ensure **local resilience**.



STRENGTHS

- Contribution to the **legislative and regulatory framework** for local development and livestock;
- **Solid and fruitful partnerships** with ministries and deconcentrated & decentralized levels;
- Good **cofinancing with other TFP** (~40%); interesting partnerships with WFP and FAO.



CHALLENGES

- Some **grants** with too limited size and duration and lack of integration with programme;
- **Knowledge management** too focused on communication;
- **Missed opportunities in terms of policy dialogue:** land management, Agricultural and Rural Finance Regulation.



- In a fragile context, the program **achieved most of its objectives**, but baseline and monitoring **data were not disaggregated** enough;
- The strategy could have done more to address **challenges related to the scarcity of productive land**;
- The **integrated watershed approach** remains to be operationalized. Cumulative impacts and protection of buffer zones not fully considered.
- **Value chains investments** are still too concentrated upstream, links between actors not yet sufficiently developed, including access to credit.
- Some key results lack the necessary financial and technical resources to ensure their **sustainability** and regulatory frameworks are to be reinforced.



1. Complete the transition to the **program approach** and consolidate IFAD's **comparative advantage**;

2. Consolidate the **holistic approach of pro-poor value chains**;



3. Prioritize strategies and actions to **reduce land pressure** and facilitate **access to assets for the most vulnerable**;



4. Pursue and strengthen the **regulatory and financial provisions to ensure the sustainability** of achievements;



5. Reinforce actions to develop the **resilience of populations and infrastructures in relation to climate risks**;



6. Pursue and **scale up** interventions to improve the **food and nutritional security**.

Thank you, merci

