Did IFAD do what it promised? How do we know?

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Why Impact Assessments?

• Credibility
• Accountability
• Learning
• Setting targets and ambitions
IAs are costly, but critical for *credibility*. IFAD11 IA sample: 25% of the portfolio

- Results from 24 project level IAs
- The population is US$7.1 billion. IFAD total investment is $3.1 Billion. Sample accounts for $1.1 Billion.
Most studied projects closed AFTER the pandemic and lasted an average of 8 years.
Promises made… promises exceeded (mostly)!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal/SO</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Threshold</th>
<th>IFAD11 target (millions)</th>
<th>IFAD11 IA RESULT (millions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goal</td>
<td>Number of people with increased income</td>
<td>≥ 10%</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO1</td>
<td>Number of people with improved production</td>
<td>≥ 20%</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO2</td>
<td>Number of people with improved market access</td>
<td>≥ 20%</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO3</td>
<td>Number of people with greater resilience</td>
<td>≥ 20%</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main-streaming Goal</td>
<td>Number of people with improved nutrition</td>
<td>≥ 10%</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What were the impacts?
IFAD Goal: Incomes increased by 23%

IFAD beneficiaries had 23% higher income than the comparison group.
SO1: Productive capacities improved by 23%

IFAD beneficiaries increased the value of their production by 23%
SO2: Benefits from market participation improved by 25%

IFAD beneficiaries increased the value of market sales by 25%
SO3: Resilience improved by 13%

Beneficiaries were 13% more likely to recover from shocks
Mainstreaming Themes: Not everything worked well

Very little improvement in nutrition: 1%

![Image of women sitting and holding drinks]
Doubling impact

FROM 20 million people with increased incomes every year

IFAD10

IFAD11
We are already at 25 million people per year with increased incomes…

IFAD12
Projected to reach 30 million using IFAD11 estimate

IFAD13

IFAD14

TO 40 million people per year By 2030

…BUT achieving this target will require more financing & effort as climate change and ongoing geopolitical conflicts take their toll on food security and incomes of the most vulnerable.
Lessons Learned for project designs
#1: Invest in value chains – particularly in the *midstreams* - to maximize benefits

#2: Strengthening resilience requires designs that address chronic *and* acute shocks

#3: Food security *does not* translate into nutrition automatically

#4: Decision making power for women the first step towards transformative change
A few things that did *not* work

- Promotional activities do not automatically translate into adoption.
- Clear targeting and eligibility criteria for better M&E and IA.
- Christmas tree projects.
- Mainstreaming themes need thoughtful integration in project’s logic.

Nutrition: too early to tell.
Looking ahead

IFAD remains the only IFI that reports corporate results based on rigorous impact assessments and maps project results on SDGs.

Important to start looking at technology adoption/behavior and last mile design areas (ex ante implementation RCTs?).

Methodology: continuous improvements
- IFAD12 sample already selected randomly.
- Resilience indicators are being improved.
- Reporting on mainstreaming themes is being broadened

Wealth of lessons to improve project design (provided through ORMS). Storage of data at IFAD.
Thank you!

Strategy and Knowledge Department

#RIASKDIFAD
#IFAD11IAReport
Food security improved

Food insecurity decreased by 11%
How many beneficiaries per x USD$ invested?

1 000 = 11

1 000 000 000 = 10.9 million

Income

Production

Market

Resilience

9

9

5

10.9 million

8.8 million

9.1 million

5.4 million
Evidence created by IFAD11 Impact Assessments

- **IA products**: 24 IA reports + policy brief & infographics.
- **IFAD11 IA Report**: aggregation, impact and projection.
- **Microsite**: Methodology, Knowledge, Data, Research Publications.
- **Data Dashboard**: visual representation by country/indicators.
- **Descriptive analysis**: impacts of COVID19 on IFAD beneficiaries.
- **Persons with Disabilities (PwD)**: lessons and descriptive data from 14 projects using Short Set of Disability Questions (SSDQ).
Toolkits – empowering our staff

- **Harmonized Datasets**: including Livelihood Indicators of representative HH from 24 + 17 projects.
- **E-learning Platform**: interactive course on impact assessment.
- **Data Collection Kit**: tool for PMUs and country offices.