

IOE



Investing in rural people

Independent Office of Evaluation



128<sup>th</sup>  
Evaluation  
Committee

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# Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation (CSPE) in the Republic of Ghana

Presentation of the evaluation report

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Country-level evaluation in Ghana. Period of this evaluation: 2013-2023
- Scope: IFAD-supported strategies and operations and non-lending activities
- Strategy and portfolio coverage: COSOP 2013-2018; 2019-2024  
Seven projects (4 completed, 2 past their mid-term point, and 1 relatively new)
- Evaluated portfolio: US\$628.1 million, with IFAD financing of US\$ 224.8 million
- Majority co-financing with: African Development Bank

Timeframe	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
IFAD COSOP	COSOP 2013-2018						COSOP 2019 -2024						New COSOP
PBA Cycle	IFAD 9			IFAD 10			IFAD 11			IFAD 12			Soon IFAD 13
IFAD Portfolio	RTIMP (US\$ 18.9 million)												
	NRGP (US\$ 22.7 million)												
	RAFiP (US\$ 15 million)												
	REP (US\$ 86.5 million)												
	GASIP (US\$ 46.6 million)												
	AAFORD (US\$ 15 million)												
	ESRF (US\$ 20 million)												

- COSOPs and their thematic focus areas well-aligned with the Government of Ghana's policies and flagship programmes, and with IFAD's own
- The country programme reflective of IFAD's comparative advantage
- Focus of portfolio able to shift to respond to government's changing priorities
- Relevant targeting of women and youth, and of specific geographic areas
- Strong and effective strategic partnership with the government; cooperation with AfDB leveraging IFAD's investments further
- Some level of effort expended in collecting knowledge from projects and contributing to national policy



- Effective outreach of the target population: smallholders and MSMEs
- Production and productivity gains from supply of inputs, productive infrastructure and improved farming practices
- Some success in infrastructure for improved market linkages
- Evidence of increases in incomes and food security
- Increased access to rural finance
- Strengthened capacities of government institutions
- Projects facilitating some innovations



- Planned targets for women's participation achieved
- Targeted interventions improved gender equity
- Overall sustainability of rural financial institutions highly likely
- Enhanced technical skills of FBOs and group financing model sustainable
- Good Agricultural Practices, Conservation Agriculture and Climate Smart Agriculture fostering better resilience
- Holistic approach to complementing better NRM and adaptation of climate change practices





- Inadequate contextualization of some projects
- Insufficient recognition and addressing of the heterogeneity of target population
- Limited variety of international co-financing sources
- Less systematic approach to knowledge utilization; inadequate consideration of local knowledge. M&E a challenge
- Bureaucratic processes, procurement and external factors negatively affected efficiency



# Challenges: effectiveness and impact

- Potential for production and productivity gains affected by quality and timeliness of farm inputs
- Lesser focus on marketing side of crops; formal contracts with agri-businesses limited
- Effective support to MSMEs affected by: lack of clarity about their growth path, underestimation of time and effort to create and sustain them and the demand led approach
- Financing instruments for value chain participants and enterprises less effective
- Mixed performance of institutions supporting rural enterprises
- Support to grassroots organizations more oriented to production than marketing, and insufficient to create self-reliant, self-managed institutions

# Challenges: gender, sustainability and scaling up

- Early indications of enabling equal gender voices within households, but still to be consistently practiced
- Insufficient gender strategies and action plans in project designs
- Institutions supporting MSMEs; value chain marketing linkages; and matching grants expected to be less sustainable
- Somewhat weak production infrastructure affecting sustainable agricultural productivity and community resilience
- Despite strategic attention on scaling-up, not enough leveraging of IFAD's approach





- IFAD programme solidly aligned with policies and programmes of government; incipient partnership with private sector
- Targeting and capacity building generally sound but less responsive to specific needs, context
- Income increases for beneficiaries, but lack of a holistic and forward-looking approach
- Insufficient leverage of non-lending operations
- Persistent and systemic inefficiencies, and weak accountability
- Sustainability of benefits a challenge to overcome



- 1 Develop explicit strategic orientations for supporting business models
- 2 Expand partnerships with private sector and development actors
- 3 Strengthen the targeting strategy - more responsive and systematic
- 4 Address capacity inefficiencies - documentation, monitoring and accountability
- 5 Leverage funding for infrastructure investments and address gaps for sustainability

# Thank you for your attention



[Ghana - Article in IOE Independent News](#)