

IOE



Investing in rural people

Independent Office of Evaluation

**129<sup>th</sup> session of  
Evaluation  
Committee**

**10 June 2025**



# **Arab Republic of Egypt Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation**

## ***Key Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations***

By Steven Jonckheere – Senior Evaluation officer - IOE

IOE



Investing in rural people

Independent Office of Evaluation

# Agenda



Introduction



Key findings



Conclusions



Recommendations

- The third country-level evaluation in Egypt
- Evaluated period 2017-2023:
  - COSOPs 2011-18 and 2019-24
  - Portfolio: 5 projects, 3 completed and 2 on-going
  - US\$646 million, of which US\$330 million IFAD financing



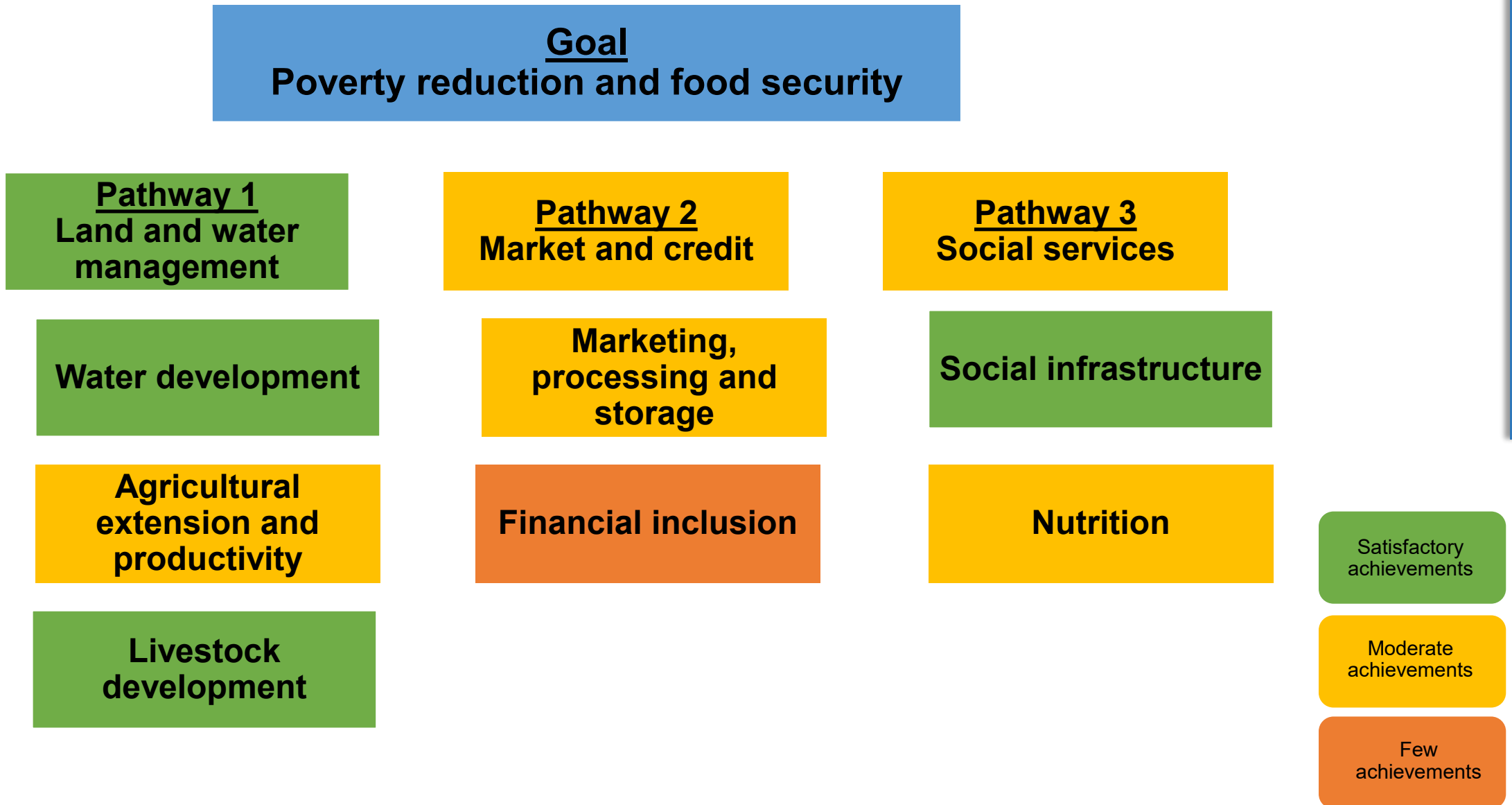


Strong **alignment** with priorities of the Government, IFAD and beneficiaries

IFAD's **comparative advantage** was highly regarded

Some repeated shortcomings in **designs**

Focus on poorer and fewer governorates, but **targeting** strategies were not always solid



# Targeting and non-lending activities



Strategies to reach **target groups** were not always clearly developed, for example in the case of **youth** and the **poor**

There was a lack of a strategic approach to **knowledge management**

Although collaborations with the government expanded, aspirations for building **partnerships** were not met

**Policy engagement** was a central tenet of the 2019 COSOP, but a well-defined policy agenda with practical entry points was lacking

Projects contributed to increased households' **income** and improved **food security**, but had limited impact on **malnutrition**

Many efforts were made to strengthen **human and social capital**, but evidence of behaviour change was missing

Outreach targets for **women** were mostly met, yet opportunities were missed to boost empowerment

Good technical **sustainability** of water systems, but weak market linkages and financial inclusion

Projects contributed to a more efficient use of **water**, but a holistic approach was missing

**Scaling up** beyond replication in subsequent IFAD-funded projects was limited





IFAD continued to be a **key partner** for the government

There was **continuity** in terms of strategic themes and some **progression**

Projects became more effective in delivering **infrastructure**, but critical gaps remained in **marketing** and **rural finance**

Focus on **sustainability** increased

Geographical **targeting** and integrated community support improved living conditions, but targeting strategies were not always adequate

Expected increase in engagement with **non-lending activities** did not materialise

A **programmatic approach** was emerging, but synergies remained limited

**Recommendation 1 :** Incorporate natural resource management and adaptation to climate change into the upcoming strategic priorities and address them in a holistic manner

**Recommendation 2 :** Investments in interventions that address water use efficiency should continue to be a priority, but with more emphasis on sustainability

**Recommendation 3:** Sharpen the country programme's marketing and value chain interventions while catering to the unique financial needs of value chain participants

**Recommendation 4:** Develop explicit strategies and guidelines for the targeting approaches to be employed by the programme

**Recommendation 5:** Create a clear and actionable plan for non-lending activities to enhance IFAD's influence and impact



# Thank you for your attention

