

IOE



Investing in rural people

Independent Office of Evaluation

135th
Evaluation
Committee

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COUNTRY STRATEGY
AND PROGRAMME
EVALUATION

REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA

*Presentation
of the evaluation results*

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Introduction

Objectives

- To evaluate IFAD's strategy and program in Tunisia
- To draw lessons and make recommendations for IFAD's new COSOP and future activities in the country

Scope

- 2019–2025
- Five loans totaling \$222 million
- Non-loan activities



Key Findings

Relevance

- **Program objectives aligned** with national strategies and policies
- **Relevant intervention approaches** which were adapted to the intervention areas
- **Climate resilience dimension** integrated but often focused on ad hoc technical solutions
- **Intervention by governorate** allowed for better consideration of local specificities, but created a certain degree of compartmentalization
- Limited learning from experience on **targeting**



Key Findings

Coherence

- **New project designs** not truly building on past experience
- **Comparative advantages** recognized by national partners, but **program visibility** relatively low
- Coordination of **grants** with the loan portfolio not fully achieved
- **Knowledge management** fragmented and not well institutionalized, limiting dissemination and use
- Some contributions to **policy dialogue**
- Several **partnerships** established with mixed results



Effectiveness and Impact

- The program contributed to:
 - community access to **infrastructure** (trails, roads, water, etc.)
 - development of **economic opportunities** with a focus on women and youth
- Uneven strengthening of **capacity** and a lack of **support** after establishment
- Weak **learning** on approaches for value chain development
- Insufficient efforts to facilitate access to the **market** and **funding**



Gender equality and women's empowerment

- **Progressive integration** of the gender perspective into the programme
- Synergies developed with the **JP-RWEE** contributed to this improvement
- **Partnerships** on gender insufficiently structured
- Several contributions to **women's economic empowerment**
- Limited efforts to strengthen **women's leadership**
- **Transformational ambition** of new projects, but insufficient consideration of institutional, organizational, and social aspects



Sustainability, sustainable natural resource management and climate change adaptation

- Sustainability limited by:
 - **exit strategies** difficult to implement
 - participants' limited access to **funding**
 - weak **coordination** between actions
- Several actions **to adapt to climate change**
- Significant contribution of the program to **rehabilitation of communal pastoral lands** and the development of the **pastoral code**
- Promotion of **good agroecological practices** limited and risk of overuse of **water**



Key Findings

Efficiency and performance of partners

- **Smooth collaboration** with the government
- Good technical quality of the **design**
- Establishment of **governance structures** with the exception of the graduation monitoring committee
- Work through the **CRDA**, which strengthened institutional ownership and facilitated implementation
- **Delays** in setting up teams and lack of key expertise, partially addressed by technical assistance
- **Chronic delays** in implementation



- Climate resilience integrated, but approach often based on technical solutions and not systemic
- Strong local engagement, but limited national synergies and learning
- Weaknesses in knowledge management and limited support for market access and financing
- Progress on gender mainstreaming, but efforts to strengthen women's leadership and transformative approach remain limited



Recommendations

1. Establish a systemic approach focused on strengthening climate resilience.

2. Develop a programmatic approach with national directions and decentralized implementation, and strengthen synergies with other stakeholders.

3. Consolidate the approach to promoting integrated and inclusive value chains by building on previous experiences and fostering the effective involvement of the private sector.

4. Adopt an integrated and transformational approach to strengthen the economic empowerment of rural women and the inclusive transformation of production systems.

Thank you for your attention