

IOE



Investing in rural people

Independent Office of Evaluation



135th
Evaluation
Committee

Republic of Côte d'Ivoire Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation

Key Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations

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Objectives

- To evaluate the results and performance of IFAD's country strategy and programme
- To draw conclusions and make recommendations to strengthen the future partnership between IFAD and the Government of Côte d'Ivoire

Scope

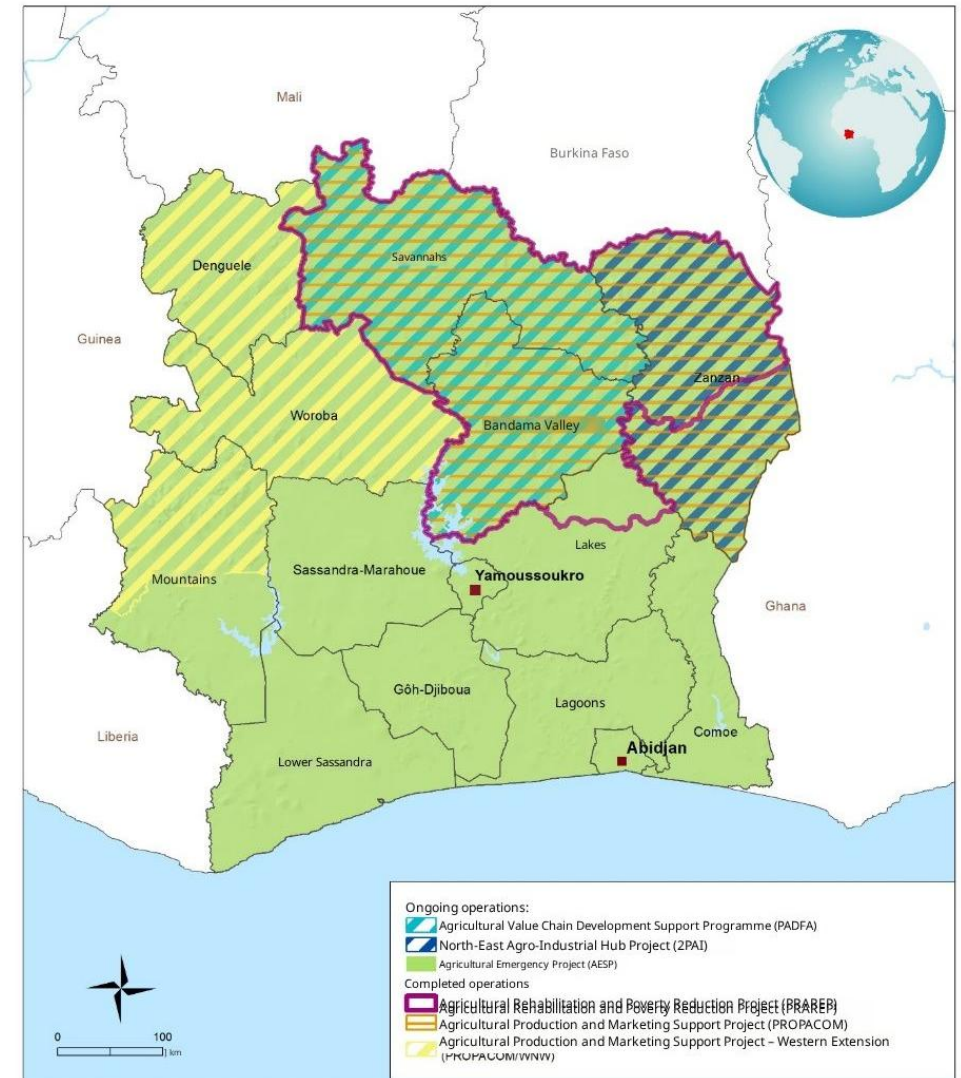
- Period 2013–2024
- COSOP 2010, 2016 Country Strategy Note and COSOP 2020
- Six loans with a total portfolio value of USD 502.73 million
- Loan portfolio, non-lending activities, and the performance of the Government and IFAD

Literature review and data analysis

Stakeholder interviews

Field mission – collection of primary data

Reconstruction of the theory of change and data triangulation





Strategic alignment

- With national priorities, IFAD's strategies and the needs of rural households

Appropriate targeting

- Regions with high levels of poverty and climate vulnerability
- Gradually refined, using a participatory approach

Identified limitations

- The abandonment of certain key value chains was insufficiently justified; marginal livestock farming in the projects
- Agricultural financing mechanisms poorly suited to the capacities of producers and local institutions
- Inclusion of people with disabilities was effectively implemented



- Clear positioning of IFAD as a pro-poor actor
- Logical progression: post-crisis recovery towards value chains
- Strong partnership with the government
- Opportunities for synergy with other technical and financial partners under-utilised, reducing the potential collective impact
- Lack of institutional support to build capacity in a sustainable manner
- Limited results in policy engagement; outcomes of recent initiatives remain to be seen
- Knowledge management was poorly structured and underutilised to guide strategic decisions

- 83 per cent of targeted households reached, with 46 per cent of beneficiaries being women
- Partial recovery of food production
- Results limited by delays and inadequate sequencing
- Gradual structuring and professionalisation of producer organisations and inter-professional bodies (results still mixed and incomplete)
- Value chain development was modest
- Restricted access to markets and credit, hindering sustainable economic integration, particularly for young people
- Technical and organisational innovations introduced but not widely adopted



- Significant delays and poor performance in disbursement
- High management costs reducing overall efficiency
- Strengthening of local technical capacity and collective organisation of rural communities
- Varying positive effects: Food diversification and a reduction in the lean season observed, but with variations across different areas.



- Fragile sustainability of achievements, dependence on external funding and weak infrastructure
- Integrated agroecological practices
- Innovative technologies applied
- Challenges relating to dissemination and scaling up
- Reinforced economic and social empowerment of rural women
- Increased access to productive resources, training and producer organisations
- Persistent constraints - social norms, access to decision-making





Key contributions:

- A broadly relevant and well-aligned strategy
- Contribution to the revival of agricultural production
- Capacity building for producers and the gradual structuring of value chains
- Progress on gender equality and climate adaptation

Challenges:

- Results falling short of initial ambitions
- Limited development of value chains
- Coordination and synergies underdeveloped
- Sustainability and scaling up need to be strengthened
- Portfolio efficiency below expectations

- **Continue and expand strategic support for the structural transformation of the agricultural sector** → consolidate production systems, diversify crops and secure hydro-agricultural and post-harvest investments
- **Include the development of value chains and agri-clusters amongst the strategic priorities** → by strengthening the role of downstream economic actors and establishing an effective and inclusive rural finance ecosystem
- **Develop a clear strategy for the gradual support of producer organisations** → strengthen their governance, management capacities and economic role within the value chains
- **Develop a differentiated and inclusive targeting strategy** → tailor support programmes to the capacities of rural households and ensure that the most marginalised groups benefit equitably from the portfolio
- **Integrate sustainability and scalability from the design stage** → develop institutional, technical and financial mechanisms to ensure the long-term viability and dissemination of achievements
- **Strengthen the coordination and efficiency of the portfolio** → to maximise the impact on agricultural transformation and the efficient use of development funding



Thank you for your attention!

