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Investing in rural people

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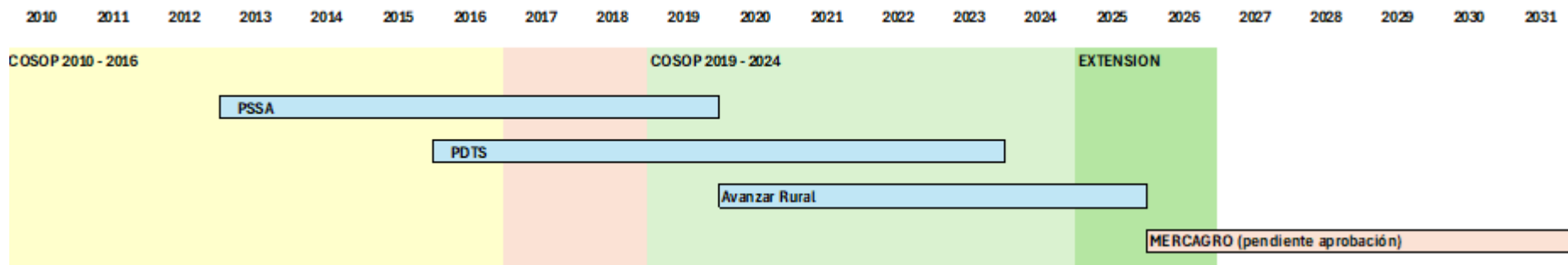
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Republic of Peru Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation

Main findings, conclusions and recommendations

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- Second country-level evaluation in Peru
- Evaluation period: 2017–2024
- The evaluation covered the 2009–2015 and 2019–2024 COSOPs
- Operations analysed: PSSA, PDTS, Avanzar Rural and MERCAGRO
- The evaluated portfolio amounted to USD 182.4 million, excluding MERCAGRO
- The evaluation also examined grants, reimbursable technical assistance and non-lending activities.





The strategy and portfolio were aligned with national priorities related to family farming, rural development, productive inclusion and climate adaptation.

The 2019–2024 COSOP strengthened the focus on the highlands, the upper Amazon, women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, climate resilience and nutrition.

The projects responded to the needs of small-scale producers through business plans, technical assistance, organizational strengthening and rural finance.

Challenges remained in adapting instruments to Amazonian native communities and Afro-Peruvian populations.

MERCAGRO raises questions about its differential contribution and its coherence with IFAD's historical comparative advantage.



IFAD maintained a recognized comparative advantage in family farming, rural poverty reduction and work in remote territories.

Coordination with other development partners and strategic stakeholders was limited and not systematic.

Engagement with the Government was concentrated mainly on MIDAGRI/AGRORURAL, with participation from the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

Institutional instability and turnover among authorities limited the continuity of dialogue.

The portfolio maintained thematic continuity, but with limited articulation between loans, grants, technical assistance and non-lending activities.

Effectiveness

The portfolio achieved progress in outreach, organizational strengthening, business plans, financial inclusion and natural resource management.

Participatory instruments — including competitions, CLAR, local talents, UNICA and FORES — were valued by producers and organizations.

Market integration was uneven and concentrated mainly in local or limited-scope markets.

Impact

Positive contributions were observed in income, assets, productive capacities and social capital.

There were improvements in access to financial services and in the strengthening of producer organizations.

Results in nutrition and institutional influence were less systematic.

Gender

Women's participation was high, with progress in economic empowerment and leadership.

The productive and organizational role of rural women became more visible.

Challenges persist in relation to social norms, care work and intersectionality.

Efficiency

The portfolio achieved high levels of financial execution in closed projects.

The Central Executing Unit model helped streamline processes and sustain technical capacity.

Initial delays persisted, along with requirements from the national public investment system and challenges linked to territorial dispersion.

The prolonged design of MERCAGRO highlighted risks associated with institutional changes and the limited transfer of learning.

Sustainability

The portfolio generated capacities, productive assets and strengthened organizations.

The continuity of results depended on the maturity of organizations, local governments, follow-up technical assistance and market linkages.

The portfolio incorporated conservation and climate adaptation practices that strengthened local capacities and reduced vulnerabilities.

Exit strategies were weak or developed late.

Institutional turnover and limited articulation with permanent services reduced the continuity of some results.



IFAD consolidated a solid and widely recognized track record in family farming and inclusive rural development.

The Central Executing Unit model was key to operational efficiency and continuity.

The portfolio achieved progress in organization, business plans, financial inclusion, environmental management and women's participation.

Results were relevant, but uneven across territories, projects and groups.

The portfolio did not fully function as an integrated programme.

Sustainability and scaling up remain key challenges.





Adjust the scope and strategic targeting of the portfolio towards niches where IFAD provides clear, scalable added value.

Strengthen the sustainability of results through stronger territorial articulation and clear & timely post-project consolidation strategies.

Move towards more coherent programming by articulating loans, technical assistance, climate initiatives and knowledge generation.



Reinforce IFAD's role as an agent of knowledge, innovation and policy dialogue.

Anticipate and mitigate structural bottlenecks through more strategic management of the project cycle and the institutional environment.

Thank you

