China Country Programme Evaluation

Eighty-sixth session of the Evaluation Committee
Rome, 27 November 2014
IFAD – China Partnership

- Total projects approved: 27 (since 1981)
- Total amount of IFAD funding: US$ 775.1 million
- Counterpart funding (contribution from the Government): US$ 908 million
- Main thematic areas: rural finance, agricultural production and marketing, natural resources management, cooperatives and SMEs
IFAD - GOC partnership is satisfactory and has been highly valued and mutually beneficial

The persistence of large numbers of rural poor provides the imperative for IFAD’s continued engagement in China

IFAD’s financing resources are comparatively small, but crucial to rural poverty alleviation
The country programme has contributed to better livelihoods in rural areas but efforts in some areas can be enhanced.

The priorities of the future cooperation between IFAD and China need to be adjusted, with increased attention to non-lending activities.
Main Findings - Portfolio Performance

- The performance of the IFAD-financed portfolio between 1999 and 2013 is assessed as *satisfactory* (5)

- Most significant outcomes:
  - Overall high achievement of objectives
  - Valuable contributions to sustainable improvements in beneficiaries income, food security, agricultural productivity
Main Findings - Portfolio Performance (cont.)

- The impact on developing sustainable rural organizations is less prominent
- Innovations emerging during implementation were not systematically captured
- Projects have not benefited from co-financing in recent years
Main Findings - COSOP Performance

- Overall COSOP performance is **satisfactory** (5)

- The strategic objectives in three COSOPs are relevant and in line with Government’s strategies and development priorities

- The evolution of the socioeconomic landscape in the countryside, including rural outmigration, is not sufficiently taken into account in COSOPs and project design
Main Findings - Programme Management

- Establishment of ICO in 2005 and direct supervision since 2008
- Good attention to results measurement and evaluation
- Insufficient resources for policy dialogue, knowledge management and partnership building
Main Findings - Non-lending Activities

- Performance of non-lending activities is assessed as *moderately satisfactory* (4)
- Knowledge management was weak in the past, but is being strengthened, especially since 2011
- Scaling up of innovation beyond provinces has been limited
- Strong partnerships with MOF, NDRC and sub-national authorities. Limited coordination with other in-country stakeholders
Main Recommendations

1. Targeting in a changed rural context
2. Strengthen knowledge cooperation
3. Sharpen focusing on scaling up impact
Main Recommendations (cont.)

4. Promote South-South and triangular cooperation

5. Strengthen partnership with government institutions and other in-country stakeholders

6. Enhance IFAD presence and capacity in country, including out-posting the country programme manager for China