

IOE



Investing in rural people

Independent Office of Evaluation

2024 gLOCAL
Evaluation
Week



**How evaluations contribute to addressing transformational change
towards gender equality**

Mónica Lomena-Gelis
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The evaluation assessed the development effectiveness and contribution to gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) of IFAD interventions.



The evaluation generated lessons and recommendations to enhance IFAD's future policies, strategies and interventions.

Scope: 2012-2023 (focus from 2016)



- Key gender corporate documents
- Key corporate documents
- Corporate documents related to gender
- IOE products

Focus of this presentation:

How the TE assessed IFAD's contribution to tackle the root causes of gender inequality (*gender transformative results*)

Gender policy strategic objectives (2012)



Economically empowered



More equal voice



More equitable shared workloads

Gender policy mid-term review (2016):

IFAD is experimenting with **gender transformative project activities** at the household and community levels that go beyond dealing with the symptoms of gender inequality to **address the root causes – including social norms, attitudes and behaviours, and social systems.**

Gender Action Plan 2019-2025

*“A **gender transformative project** actively seeks to transform gendered power dynamics by addressing social norms, practices, attitudes, beliefs, and value systems that represent structural barriers to women’s and girls’ inclusion and empowerment. Such a project uses a **gender-transformative approach**, creating opportunities for individuals to actively challenge gender norms, promoting women’s social and political influence in communities, and addressing power inequities between people with different gender identities”.*

How to assess the contribution of bundles of activities funded by IFAD to gender transformative results in specific contexts? (project performance)

IFAD Gender marker: assessing GEWE progress across the project cycle

| Rating: 1, HU | Rating: 2, U | Rating: 3, MU | Rating: 4, MS | Rating: 5, S | Rating: 6, HS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No attempts to address gender concerns or mainstream gender into project activities | Focus on gender issues is vague and erratic | Some limited measures to strengthen gender focus, some efforts to facilitate the participation of women | Partial contribution to addressing gender needs, and promoting GEWE, addressing two out of the three gender policy objectives | Significant contribution to addressing gender needs and achieving GEWE, addressing all three gender policy objectives | Significant contribution to gender transformative, addressing all three gender policy objectives and engaging in policy dialogue. |

Source: Performance score descriptors (Annex I of the Project Implementation guidelines), November 2020.

HU: highly unsatisfactory, U: unsatisfactory, MU: moderately unsatisfactory,

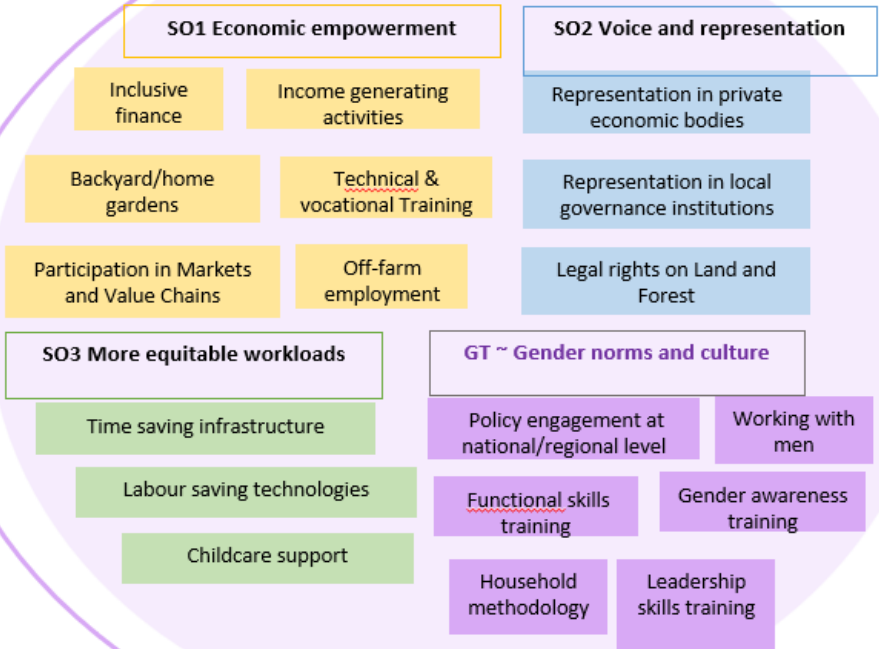
MS: moderately satisfactory, S: satisfactory, HS: highly satisfactory.

Projects with low gender outcome

Projects with high gender outcome

How the evaluation assessed the contribution of GEWE practices, considering differences in context and characteristics of projects?

GEWE PRACTICES



PROJECT DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION

- Gender/targeting Strategy at design
- Gender Expert in the PMU
- Strategic implementing partners
- Adequate GEWE Budget

CONTEXTUAL FACTORS

% of IFAD financing in project costs; % of domestic (government) financing in project costs

Country income status

Country gender inequality index

GENDER PROJECT OUTCOME

Gender rating in Independent evaluation reports (IOE)

Projects in the **high** outcome group: rating 6 or 5

7 pjs

Projects in the **medium** outcome group: Rating 4

12 pjs – not used for QCA

Projects in the **low** outcome group: Rating 1, 2 or 3

9 pjs

Qualitative Comparative Analysis-QCA conceptual framework

based on prioritization of key aspects of the overall thematic evaluation ToC

- Gender transformative changes are **highly context specific**. The combination of several GEWE practices is effective when **contextual and implementation factors** are considered.
- Extra **capacity building efforts to implementing partners** are necessary to go beyond gender mainstreaming and address the root causes of gender inequality.
- IFAD interventions contribute to promote women's involvement in **activities traditionally reserved for men**. Other practices improved their '**standing**' in the **community** and in their **households**.
- Scant evidence on outcomes from **sensitizing and engaging with men** in communities as a tool for gender inequality, which is acknowledged as effective to change (local) gender norms.
- Over-reliance on household methodologies**. (Reported) evidence on results of GTAs (such as HHM) still limited, same about the cost, time, and the number of people targeted and effectively reached by HHM activities.

➔ Continuous engagement with a core learning group (composed by designated staff from various IFAD divisions/departments) throughout the evaluation process : evaluation design workshop, promote participation of other colleagues during data collection, preliminary findings session;

Evaluation report to inform decision-making (discussed at the Evaluation Committee and the Board) – it will directly inform the new gender policy and 2025 GAP; ➔

➔ IFAD's management formally writes a “response”, then PRISMA tracks if recommendations are implemented/ acted upon;

In-house learning event after report is cleared by the Board of Directors; ➔

➔ Other venues like this one will be used to share different aspects of the evaluation.

Thank you, gracias, merci, شكراً لك, 謝謝