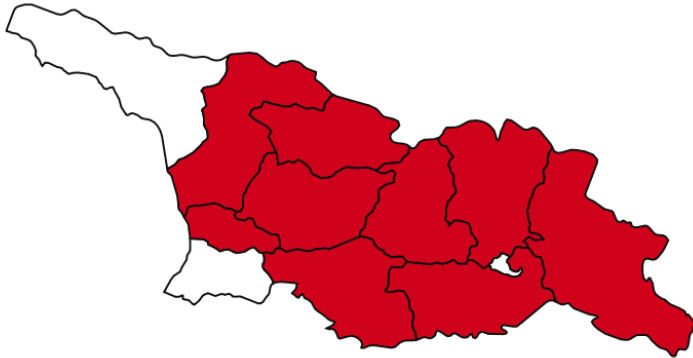


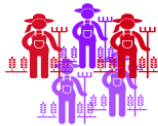
## Agricultural Support Project - Georgia

### Project area



**> 3.8 million**  
Total population of Georgia

**200.000**  
Internal displaced people



**> 50%**  
of population working in agriculture

**8.4%**  
of GDP comes from agricultural sector



### Overall goal

To increase incomes among rural people engaged in agricultural activities in Georgia



### Development objectives

1



**Improvement of assets and incomes**

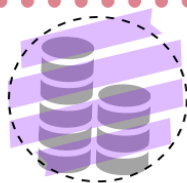


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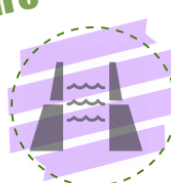
**Remove infrastructural bottlenecks**

### Project components

**Support for rural leasing**



**Small-scale infrastructure**



**Financing to support project management and implementation**



## Impact evaluation

Ex-post evaluation assessing the impact of the IFAD-funded programme in Georgia...



...using quantitative techniques and combining them with the qualitative component of the evaluation (mixed-method approach)

...and conducting a "with or without" and a "before and after" the project analysis.

### THE PROJECT USES:

#### Genetic matching method

It directly optimizes covariate balance and obtains better levels of balance without requiring the analyst to repeatedly specify the propensity score.



#### Geospatial analysis

Innovative Earth Observation methodology that analysed temporal variations of the normalized difference vegetation index.

# Key findings

## Areas of Strength



### INNOVATION

The project introduced an innovative form of financial product in the Georgian context.

### INVOLVEMENT

The project triggered some revitalised interest in agriculture, encouraging other agencies to step in to address the neglected irrigation schemes.

### ECONOMIC CONDITION

Results of the minor component - leasing to agro-enterprises - showed positive statistically significant changes in the economic condition of IFAD's intended beneficiaries.

## Areas for improvement



### IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project did not achieve the expected impact on beneficiaries on the small-scale infrastructure component.

### Women's empowerment

The project could have contributed positively towards improving the existing gender imbalance and low level of women's empowerment in Georgia but was unable to do so because no clear cut gender strategy was formulated.

### SYNERGIES

More could have done to integrate project components in a manner that would have produce the expected development results.

# Recommendations

1

## Apply holistic approach

to infrastructure rehabilitation when attempting to achieve a measurable change in lives of farmers. Simply rehabilitating infrastructure may not necessarily change the economic condition of people.

2

## Apply a longer term programmig approach

for infrastructure related interventions. Substantial infrastructural construction would require longer implementation periods.

3

## Provide technical assistance and training

to minimize the gap between the irrigation potential created and that utilized by promoting environment and natural resource management.

4

## Analyse the demand and the supply sides

ex-ante analysis and consultations with partners and beneficiaries to ensure that new products meet the needs of all concerned.