



**Document of the
International Fund for Agricultural Development**

**Republic of Mozambique
Country Programme Evaluation**

Issues Paper

Office of Evaluation

May 2010

Mozambique Country Programme Evaluation

Issues Paper for the National Roundtable Workshop 24-25 May 2010

Maputo, Mozambique

A. Introduction

1. This issues paper has been prepared as part of the background documentation provided to the participants of the National Roundtable Workshop (NRTW) on the Mozambique Country Programme Evaluation (CPE) which will be held in Maputo 24-25 May 2010.
2. The purpose of the paper is to highlight some of the main learning issues brought up by the CPE undertaken by the Independent Evaluation Office (IOE) in 2009. An initial set of questions to be considered by the participants during the workshop are also included. Participants will note however, that the questions raised in this issues paper are not exhaustive. These are included merely for stimulating discussion, with the understanding that there are likely to be other important issues that will need to be debated during the workshop.
3. The paper is organized around three core themes, each of which will be considered in a separate working group during the workshop in the afternoon of 24 May. The three themes are:
 - a. Engaging private and civil society organizations in the country programme
 - b. Targeting aspects in future interventions
 - c. Focus of IFAD programmatic thrusts
4. A new Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (COSOP) for Mozambique will be developed by the Government of Mozambique and IFAD's Eastern and Southern Africa Division after the completion of the CPE process. Workshop participants are therefore invited to discuss the issues contained in the document with the specific aim of generating

concrete inputs for the new COSOP. In addition, the outcome of the workshop will also inform, as appropriate, the CPE's Agreement at Completion Point (ACP).

5. As per the IFAD Evaluation Policy (2003), the ACP is a short document which captures the main findings and recommendations from the CPE, and illustrates the commitment of the Government and the IFAD management to implement the evaluation recommendations within specific timeframes. The ACP will be signed by the designated representative of the Government of Mozambique and the Associate Vice-President of IFAD's Programme Management Department.
6. Theme one: Engaging private and civil society organizations in the country programme. The CPE notes that in most cases, private and civil society organizations rather than government agencies are best positioned to develop the capacity of private-sector entities. While outsourcing has been applied in the ongoing portfolio, the possibility of delegating the execution and budget of loan-financed components or subcomponents to a private-sector/civil society organization may warrant further consideration. Workshop participants are invited to consider the following questions for further discussion:
 - Could private-sector/civil society organization indeed be assigned further implementation responsibilities in the future IFAD country programme?
 - What type of responsibilities would be most appropriate?
 - Under what conditions might such responsibilities be assigned?
 - What are the constraints facing private and civil society organizations?
7. Theme 2: Targeting aspects in future interventions. The CPE found that the COSOPs argued against the need for a targeting strategy as they claimed that all rural households could be considered as poor. Recent poverty analysis, finding increasing rural inequality and a pessimistic outlook for the poorest, contradicts this argument. Furthermore, the provinces in the north, where IFAD has concentrated most its field support, have experienced the most rapid reduction in poverty incidence and have now

lower poverty incidence than some of the provinces in the south. Considering the evolving socio-economic context in Mozambique and IFAD's mandate and relatively limited resources, it is important for IFAD to pay further attention to targeting aspects in future interventions. Workshop participants are invited to consider the following questions for further discussion:

- What are the key dimensions of targeting for IFAD to take into account in Mozambique?
- What is the experience with targeting aspects in the past portfolio?
- What are the lessons for the future?

8. Theme 3: Focus of IFAD programmatic thrusts. The current IFAD country program has focused on improving the market participation of smallholders and artisanal fishers through three programmatic thrusts: (i) increasing surplus production and its value; (ii) facilitating market linkages and developing smallholders' organizations and agribusiness SMEs; and (iii) enhancing the access to finance of poor rural people and SMEs. Workshop participants are invited to consider the following questions for further discussion:

- Is it this focus relevant for the future?
- Is the evolving context of Mozambique suggesting any adjustments?
- If so, how can linkages and synergies among the programmatic thrusts be fostered?