

IOE's mandate

The Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE) is responsible for conducting independent evaluations of IFAD-financed policies, strategies and operations to promote accountability and learning. The main purpose is to contribute to improving IFAD's and its partner's performance in supporting rural transformation in recipient countries.

In identifying key insights and recommendations drawn from evaluation findings, IOE is also concerned, in accordance with IFAD's disclosure policy, with communicating and sharing IFAD's knowledge and experience of rural and agricultural development with a wider audience.

Mission

To promote accountability and learning through independent, credible and useful evaluations of IFAD's work.

Vision

Increasing the impact of IFAD's operations for sustainable and inclusive rural transformation through excellence in evaluation.

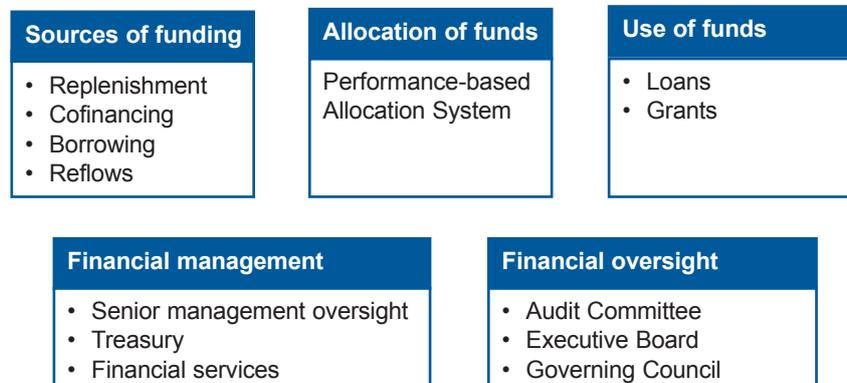
Corporate-level evaluation on IFAD's financial architecture

IFAD's financial architecture can be defined as the policies and systems adopted to mobilize, manage, allocate and disburse financial resources to support the Fund's objective "to mobilize additional resources to be made available on concessional terms for agricultural development in developing Member States".

Objectives

The objectives of this evaluation are to assess: (i) the relevance of IFAD's financial architecture in mobilizing resources; (ii) the value-added of IFAD's financial instruments to Member States; (iii) the efficiency of IFAD's financial architecture; (iv) the contribution of the investment and financial strategies to IFAD's financial sustainability; and (v) to make recommendations as to alternatives and options related to the financial architecture that would strengthen IFAD's capacity to fund rural poverty reduction programmes.

Scope



Methodology

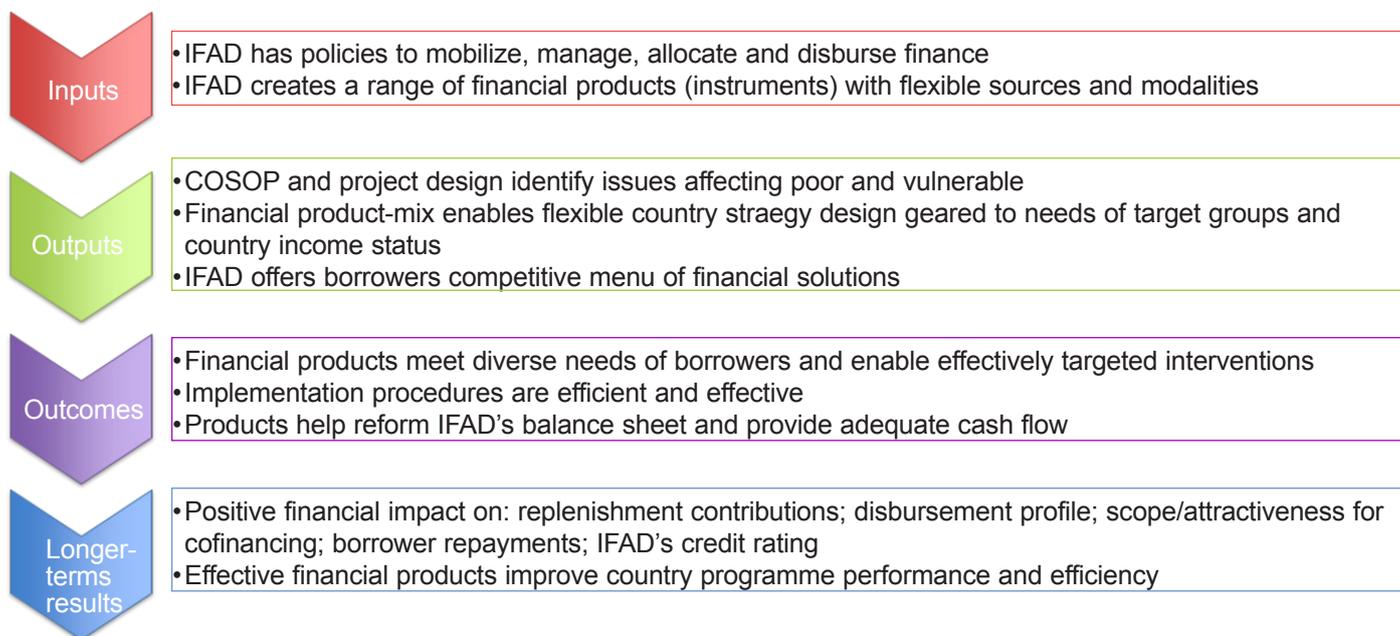
The evaluation will follow the broad methodological fundamentals set out in the second edition of the Evaluation Manual (2015).^{*} It will be anchored in four common evaluation criteria: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and financial sustainability. A desirable financial architecture would: (i) Mobilize sufficient resources to maximize IFAD's contributions to help borrowing countries overcome poverty. (ii) Provide instruments that respond to the recipient countries' priorities for rural poverty reduction. (iii) Provide opportunities to enhance IFAD's financial efficiency through leveraging, while giving due

^{*} www.ifad.org/en/evaluation/policy_and_methodology/tags/5702569.

consideration to institutional capacities, costs and risk management. (iv) Ensure that IFAD is financially sustainable in the long term and not subject to undue risks. (v) Allow IFAD to finance a growing Programme of Loans and Grants.

The following figure presents a simplified scheme of the results chain of the financial architecture, which helps build an analytical framework. The evaluation will assess initial conditions underlying the financial architecture and issues at the input, output and outcome levels, and how these can support longer-term results.

Results chain of the financial architecture



Process

Preparation, design and desk review phases.

These phases include the preparation of the evaluation approach paper and an inception phase. The approach paper is prepared well in advance with the aim of ensuring agreement on the objectives, scope, and evaluation design, and is then shared with IFAD Management for comments.

During the desk review phase, the evaluation team collects and analyses relevant external and internal documents and data, and conducts interviews with IFAD Management, staff, and with external informants, such as members of the Evaluation Committee and Executive Board.

Data collection and analysis phases. The focus of the data collection phase is to capture evidence from key partners at the country level to strengthen the CLE's partnership dimension, analysis and conclusions. Once the information and data have been collected, they are to be categorized, systematized, interpreted and analysed.

During this phase it is also recommended that an "emerging findings workshop" be organized to (i) engage stakeholders in the process; (ii) ensure that findings resonate with staff and experts knowledgeable of the issue being evaluated; (iii) identify possible gaps or findings with insufficient evidence; and (iv) triangulate and possibly nuance key findings.

Report writing, comments and communication phases. During this phase, IOE will prepare the draft final report, and will share it with IFAD Management for comments. IFAD Management will prepare a written Management's response, which will be included in the final report when published. The final report will be shared with the Evaluation Committee and the Executive Board in September 2018.