

How to reach the rural poor and leave no one behind: Findings from a metaanalysis on poverty targeting

Chitra Deshpande

Senior Evaluation Officer

TC15: Meta-analysis and synthesis

4 October 2019

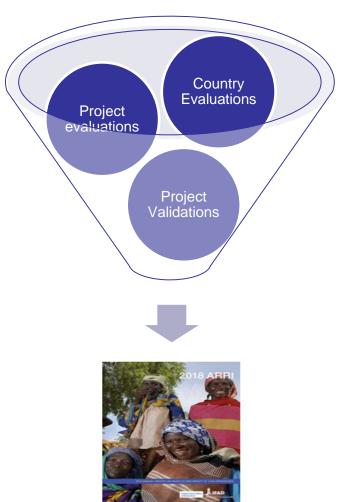




Annual Report on Results & Impact of IFAD Operations (ARRI)

- Annual synthesis report based on a meta-analysis of past evaluations and their ratings.
- Provides a "systematic overview of the results and impact of IFAD's operations, based on the evaluations undertaken each year."
- The ARRI has two objectives:
 - (i) report on results and impacts;
 - (ii) identify lessons and systemic issues.





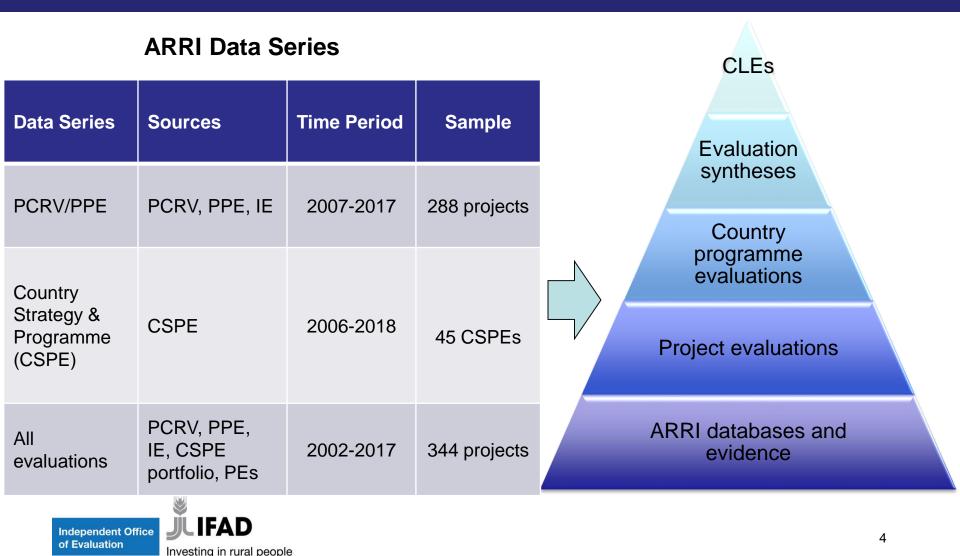
ARRI preparation process is a starting point for IOE knowledge management

Data & evidence collection

Quantitative & qualitative analyses Present findings and key factors



ARRI data (2002-2017) serve as a fundamental building block for all new evaluations



Meta-analysis of ratings and qualitative evidence indicates important topics

U U		I DAT	AB	AS v v	SE V	(20(00-20	16) 1 · · · ·	v v j	2 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	W X Y Z A	AD AD				 Ger Aw train wo vio 	Key nder aren ining men lence
COUNTR		AF.	REGION		Proje Loan	Co- Cooperati inanc ng	YEAR OF:	CPE/ PE Year DEAD									mot
			Region C	ode sector	et ID nit	ing Institutio A	pproval fectivene‡ompletio		OVER	$ \longrightarrow $						in g	group
Congo	Flural Development Project in the Niari, Bouenza, and La			_	1327 8.4	_	0-Apr-06 28-Nov-06 31-Dec-13		3	3 3 3	3 3.0 3	3	NR	NR 3 2 N		200	sitior
DRCorgo	· · · ·	1 1	Vestern and Cer 1		1311 15.5 1244 14.8		1-Dec-05 14-Nov-07 31-Oct-13 11-Apr-04 11-Oct-05 31-Dec-12		3	3 3 2	3 28 3	2	NR	NR 3 2 N		1	
Dibouti	 Agricultural Revival programme in Equateur Province (F Programme for Mobilization of Surface Water and Sust 		Vestern and Cer 14	_	1244 14.8		3-Dec-17 16-Dec-18 31-Dec-12 3-Dec-17 16-Dec-18 31-Dec-14		3	3 3 3	3 3.0 3	3	NR	NR 3 2 N			
Ecuador	Development of the Central Conidor Project	enade canomanagen en of Fromcord	Latin America at L				2-Dec-14 25-Sep-07 30-Jun-14		1	5 4 4	4 43 5	2	NR	NR 4 4 N		K	(ey (
Egypt	Vest Noubaria Pural Development Project		NearEast and N M	_	1204 185		3.April2 (8.April3 30.Jun-4		4	4 4 3	4 3.7 4	5	N8	NR 4 4 N			-
Inda	Vomen's Empowerment and Livelhoods Programme in	the mid-Gangetic Plains (VELP)	Asia and the Part A	_			4-Deo-16 04-Deo-09 31-Jan-15		2	3 2 2	3 25 4	2	NR	NR NA 2 N			
Kenya	Smallholder Horizulture Marketing Programme (SHoN		Eastern and Sou B				8-Apr-07 23-Nov-07 30-Jun-15		4	4 4 4	4 4.0 5	4		NR 5 5 N		• NO	n-ali
Malawi	Rural Livelhoods Support Programme (RLSP)		Eastern and Sou B	SA RURAL	1164 13.5	YES UNOPS 1	2-Sep-01 30-Aug-04 30-Sep-13	31Mar-14 2017 PPE	3	4 3 2	4 3.3 4	3	NR	NR 3 4 N		ope	erati
Mali	Northern Regions Investment and Rural Development P	Programme (PICIFN)	Vestern and Cer Y	_	1131 14.6		9.Apr-05 10.Apr-06 30.Jun-14		4	5 5 4	3 4.3 5	5	NR	NR 5 5 N		-	
Mali	Kidal Integrated Rural Development Programme (PIDR)		Vestern and Cer Y				4-Dec-16 20-Jul-07 30-Sep-14		4	5 3 3	3 3.5 5	4	NR	NR NA NA N		 Abs 	senc
Merico	Sustainable Development Project for Rural and Indigen				1049 250	YES UNDES (1.Jun-05 01-Seo-06 31-Dec-13	18-Aug-14 2017 PCRY	4	4 3 4	3 35 4	4	NR	NR 4 4 N		in t	he d
Mozambig	py Sofala Bank Antisanal Fisheries Project		Eastern and Sou E	10	0	02	95	02									
				10		92		92			_	_	87	89	89	out	tcom
				9	o —					85	83		07			• 10	w wo
							24			7			3				
				8	0+	27	24	30			2					pro	oject
								50								22	-
				7	0 +					35				43	36	~~~~	
				6	ю —					55	42		49	45			
				ľ	~						43		49				
				% 5	o —	_											
				1													
				4	0 —	_											
						65	71	62									
				3	0			62							E 4	61	
										48				44	51		
				2	0						38		36				
				1	.0												
				1													
		\otimes			o —		1	-	-					1			
	and the state of the state		FA	l l	2	007-2009	2008-2010	2009-201	11	2010-2012	2011-2	013	2012-2014	2013-2015	2014-2016	2015-2017	
	endent Office		A			(26)	(42)	(60)		(60)	(82))	(101)	(108)	(96)	(59)	
of Eva	luation	-	g in ru								Comp	letic	on Years	(/	\ <i>/</i>		
		Investing		1								otal No. of Proje					
											•		, ,				
	Moderately Satisfactory Satisfactory Highly Satisfactory —											—— Iotal					

Key Facilitating Factors

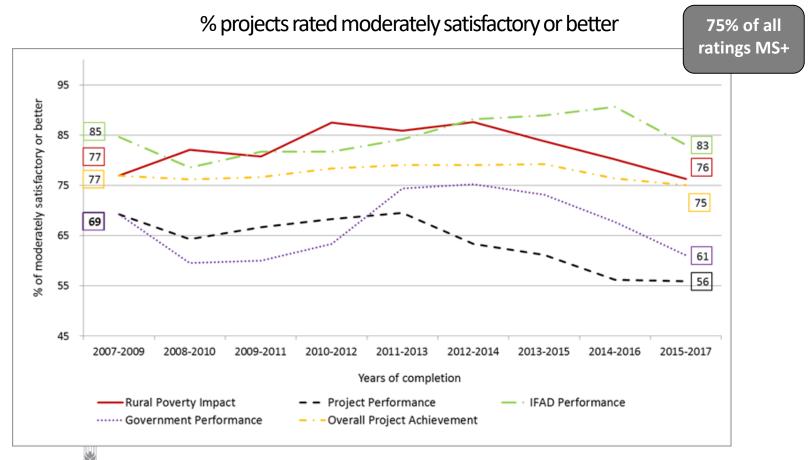
- Gender-sensitive project design
- Awareness campaigns and trainings on gender equality, women's rights and domestic violence
- Promotion of women's leadership in groups and management positions

Key Constraining Factors

- Non-alignment with project's operational strategy on gender
- Absence of a specific project issue in the design phase and of outcome data.
- Low women's participation in project staff capacity building

Declines in rural poverty impact indicated the need to focus on targeting to "leave no one behind"

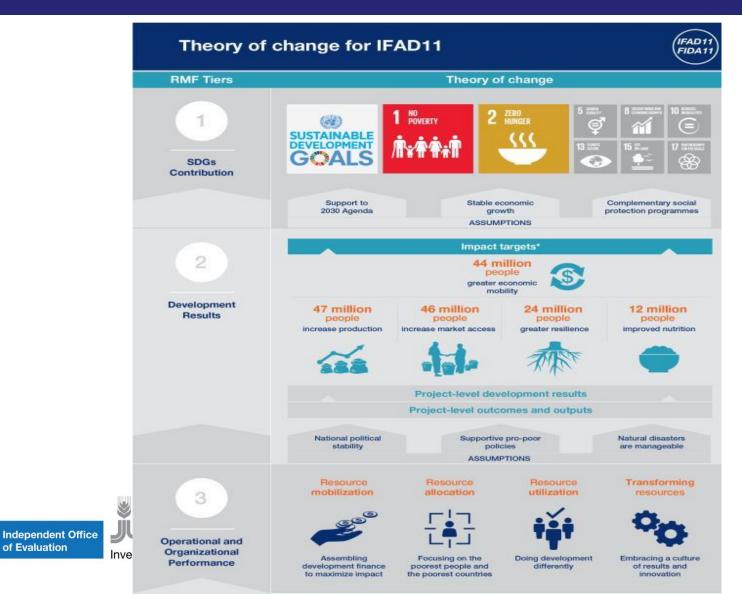
Overview of main evaluation criteria



Independent Office of Evaluation



Targeting topic salient and timely to IFAD11 and SDGs - "Leave no one Behind"



of Evaluation

7

Holistic approach engaged many stakeholders through Rural Inequalities conference

Mixed Methods

- Quantitative data analysis (ratings, costs, project duration)
- Qualitative analysis (review of projects, evaluations, key informant interviews and focus groups by region, benchmarking, case studies).

Rural Inequalities Conference

- Concept note
- Expert Advisory Panel on rural inequalities
- Inclusion of key stakeholders and experts in IFAD and externally (academics, government, NGOs, etc.)
- Targeting Issues paper presented.

ARRI

- Targeting Issues Paper finalized
- Targeting chapter included in ARRI
- Presentation to the Executive Board
- ARRI Learning workshop on Targeting – with EB and staff.

IFAD Policy on Targeting – leaves room for interpretation

- Defines <u>poverty</u> as context-specific and multidimensional – economic but also a condition of vulnerability and exclusion – and based on national poverty lines.
- Defines target groups a "rural people living in poverty and experiencing food insecurity in developing countries."
- Adds IFAD "proactively strives to reach extremely poor people who have the potential to take advantage of assets and opportunities for agricultural production and rural income-generating activities."



Finding 1 - Lack of agreement on IFAD target group and strategies needed

- IFAD's commercialization work tended towards better-off small farmers – the economically active poor – rather than poorer households.
- In Georgia, program leases went to medium and large agro-processing companies including biggest wine companies – none went to farmer groups
- Need to strike balance between market-oriented and poverty-focused projects/components (e.g., GALS in value chain projects).



Finding 2 – Effective targeting strategies are informed by robust poverty analysis

- Differentiated analysis of marginalized groups (e.g., women, youth, indigenous peoples) supported by strong capacity and resources;
- Strong contextual analysis for realistic, clear, and practical targeting strategies;
- **Flexible** to allow for adjustments in a changing world, particularly countries and regions in fragile situations.
 - IFAD design guidelines lack specificity on addressing fragility
 - Need to include conflict analysis or risk assessment of affects of IFAD intervention

Independent Office of Evaluation



Finding 3 – Robust data, monitoring and supervision crucial for implementation

- A lack of credible poverty data challenges targeting
 - Insufficient disaggregation of national data
 - Lack multidimensional poverty data
- Some countries have addressed lack of poverty data by incorporating **participatory data collection** approaches
- Monitoring targeting during supervision allows for adjusting targeting strategies to changing context
- Therefore, **investment in related systems** and capacity development is needed.



Finding 4 – Reaching the poorest and "last mile" is costly but essential in SDG context

- Remote and fragile areas where most vulnerable people live post cost-associated challenges (i.e., logistics, travel, capacity)
- More time and resources are needed to design and implement projects targeting people on the "last mile"
- Pursuing efficiency can push targeting away from poorest and most vulnerable people, towards those with the resources and capacity to leverage investments.



Finding 5 – Government commitment and partnership important to reach poorest

- Importance of government commitment to prioritizing rural poverty, poverty reduction and follow-up actions e.g. systematizing poverty targeting data;
- IFAD experience points to value of engaging in policy dialogue with governments to ensure most vulnerable are a priority;
- Partnering with other organizations may be best way to meet (basic) needs of the most vulnerable, e.g. Belgian Survival Fund.



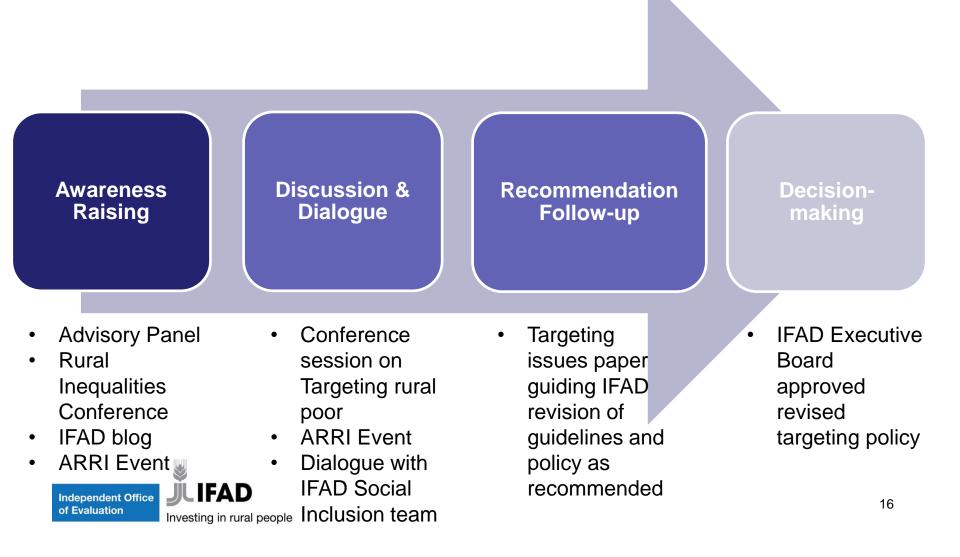
2018 ARRI Recommendations "Targeting the Rural Poor"

ARRI Recommendations

- 1. Revise IFAD's Targeting Policy and related guidelines
- 2. Develop appropriate targeting strategies based on robust and differentiated poverty and context analysis that are flexibly implemented
- Establish strong M&E systems that tap into local knowledge through country-level partnerships and pursue policy engagement in favour of IFAD's target groups
- 4. Ensure sustainability of rural poverty impacts through exit strategies that are inclusive of targeted beneficiaries and through sufficient project duration.



How was the "Targeting the rural poor" learning theme influential?

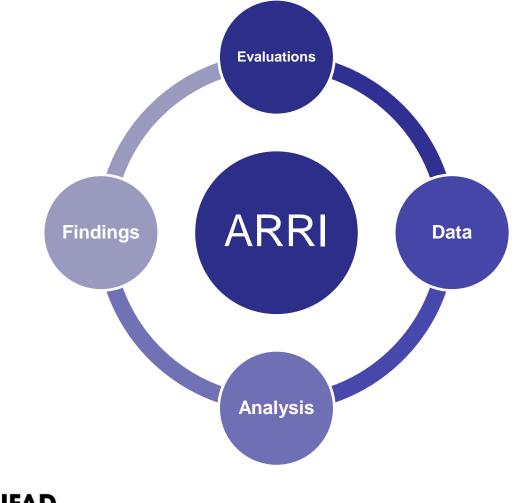


Thank you!

Questions & Answers

I TAN

ARRI process is the basis of IOE's knowledge management system



Independent Office of Evaluation

