

Impact Evaluation of the Republic of Niger

Food Security and Development Support Project in the Maradi Region (PASADEM)

Independent office
of evaluation



Country Context

Population

21.48 million (2018)

Life
expectation
at Birth
61.5

Population in
Agriculture
86%

GDP
\$412

Programme Financing

Total project cost

\$33.83 million

IFAD contribution
\$21.99 million

Government financing
\$5.55 million

Beneficiary contribution:
\$1.16 million

World Food
Programme
\$4.43 million

Coverage

Targeted groups for food security and development support project:



Agricultural producers



Agropastoralists



Youth/Women



Landless or near-landless farmers



Rural communes
Managers of local development



Rural organizations

Started in:
December 2011

Closed in:
March 2018

In 2015, the project was merged with the Family Farming Development Programme

Reached
50,710
Households

18

288

Villages in districts

Maradi is among the most vulnerable regions of Niger

Objectives

Improve the living conditions and resilience capacities of rural groups in Maradi

by developing

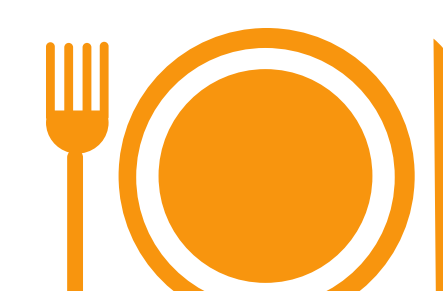


economic development hubs

Focus

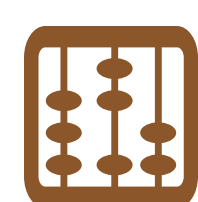


Food and nutritional security



Methods

Quantitative analysis
quasi-experimental methods:
difference-in-differences method and propensity score matching.



drawing from interviews:

1,350 households

614

736

Focus – project impacts on



Household agricultural productivity



Food security



Net assets

Qualitative analysis

560

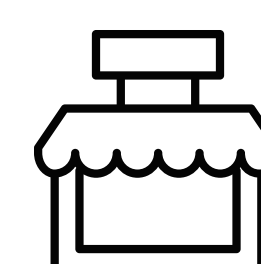
Micro-stories collected and analysed



From

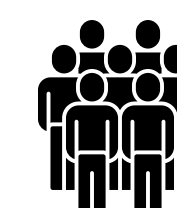


Small producers



Market traders

Other stakeholders



Key Findings

Areas of Strength



Sustainability of project results enhanced through social mobilization, strengthening rural action groups, large-scale promotion of sustainable land management, and formation of regional partnerships and bodies.



Market centres constructed cut transaction costs for traders; increased transparency and dissemination of information on prices; fostered competition in market centres.



New production techniques learned by 12,671 producers, exceeding targets by 219% (agriculture) and 119% (livestock).

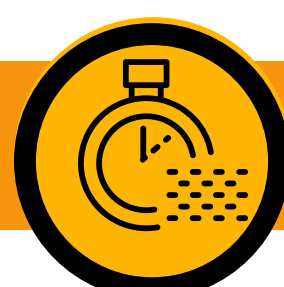


Women's empowerment was advanced, e.g. increasing their participation in managing positions within local organizations from 17.5% to 24.5%.



Food security and resilience improved in the project area overall: beneficiary households now enjoy adequate household food provisioning for 8.23 months (up from 7.97 months).

Areas for Improvement



Insufficient reinforcement of role of farmer organizations in delivering production and postproduction services.



Underestimation of costs and time needed to develop infrastructure prevented the economic development hubs from reaching their full potential.



Difficult access to inputs prevented development of reclaimed land and limited the positive impacts of agricultural extension.



Budget reorientation from production to infrastructure negatively affected the project's long-term impact on agricultural productivity.



More suitable women-business activities (simple processing, instead of managerial technical skills) should have been chosen.

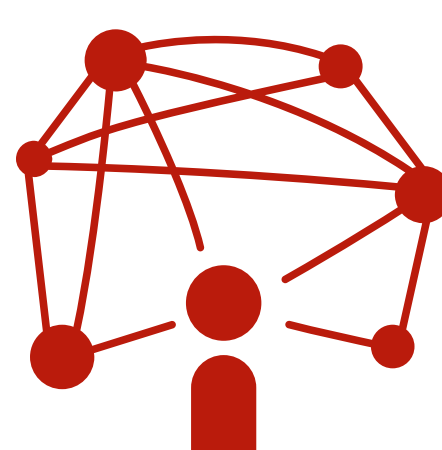
Recommendations

ONE



Substantially increase interventions to improve food and nutritional security for poor and vulnerable households, so that "no one is left behind".

TWO



Fully develop at least one economic development hub and related market infrastructure in each project area.

THREE



Further strengthen grassroots farmers' organizations, to provide producers with sustainable quality production and post-production services.