Republic of Uganda





Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation 2013-2020

Land area: 200,520 km2

Population: 42.7 million, of whom 76% live in rural areas (2019)

Population below poverty line: 21.4% (2016)

Rate of stunting (children <5): 28.9% (2018)

Average annual real GDP growth: 5.9% (2019 estimate)

Agriculture as proportion of GDP: 24.2% (2018)

Labour force engaged in agriculture: 72% (2020)

Sources: IFAD, World Bank, African Development Bank

IFAD operations (since 1981)

18
Total number of IFAD-funded projects

number of ongoing projects

us\$ 562
million
Total IFAD investment financing approved

1998
2004
2013
Country strategic opportunities

programmes

Areas covered by projects



Market access & development



Economic infrastructure

Agricultural production & marketing



Rural finance



Agricultural production & productivity



Main evaluation findings

AREAS OF STRENGTH

Portfolio effectively sequenced; objectives relevant and aligned with national and IFAD strategic frameworks, continuing focus on smallholder commercialization and community empowerment

Evidence suggests IFAD-funded projects have helped improve household incomes & assets and food security, and strengthened grassroots institutions

Move towards value chain approaches led to significant rise in farmer incomes, private-sector co-investment, and private-sector partnerships; insulated IFAD investments from political events

Building infrastructure and support services around confirmed market demand reduced transport costs, enabled higher market prices and added value through bulking and processing

IFAD's investments in rural finance effectively built linkages between local savings & credit groups and service providers, and introduced regulatory reforms

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Portfolio reflected a tension around delivering on poverty reduction objectives while focusing on a more commercial growth strategy

IFAD has successfully built private sector partnerships, but must ensure greater beneficiary outreach

Poverty targeting well addressed, but only modest efforts were made to meet specific needs of youth and transform role of women

Resilience of communities reached has been enhanced, but achievements modest compared to climate change challenges facing Uganda

Empirical development experience from the country programme has not been effectively translated into useful knowledge products

Recommendations

#1

Expand IFAD's effective value chain approach to other commodities with greater beneficiary outreach potential

#2

Mainstream climate change more directly in the new COSOP, given the growing urgency in Uganda

#3

Deliver more transformative approaches and interventions tailored to the specific needs of women and youth

#4

Develop a non-lending strategy that systematizes knowledge management, partnerships and country policy engagement and provides the necessary resources for its implementation

#5

Strengthen M&E, reporting and financial management for greater governance and anti-corruption and better assessment of results



