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Investing in rural people

Independent Office of Evaluation



Türkiye Final CSPE Workshop

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Republic of Türkiye Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation *Key Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations*

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Agenda

Introduction

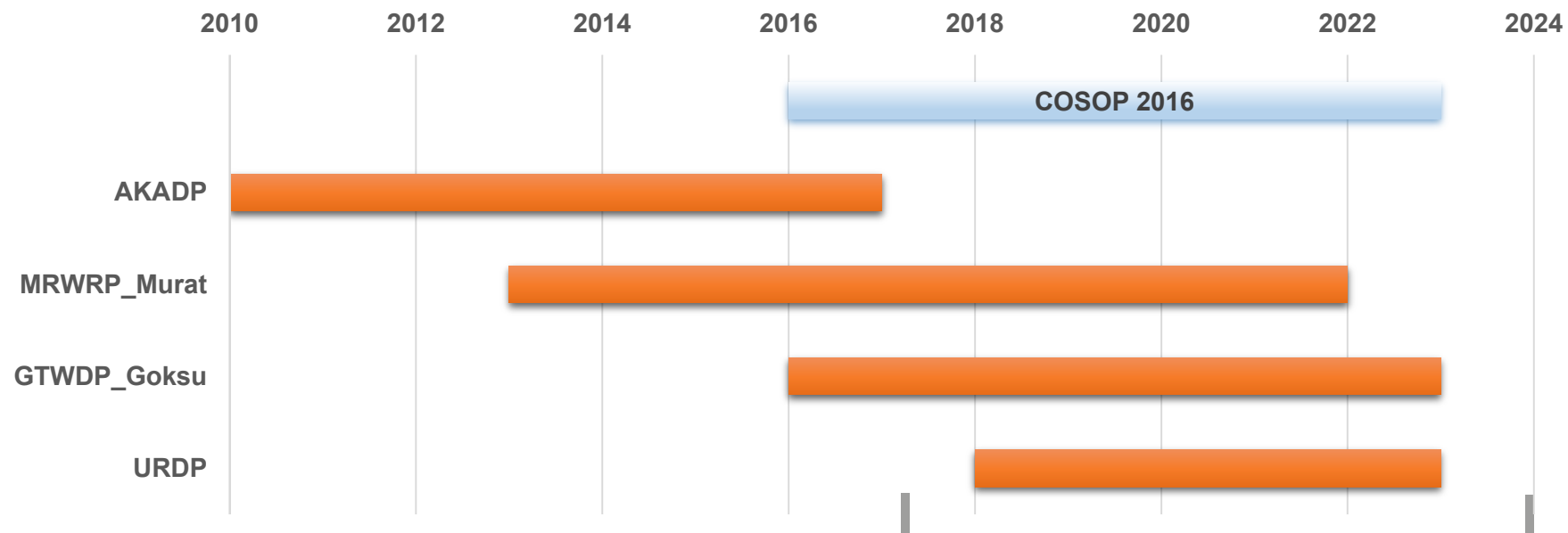
Methodology

Key findings

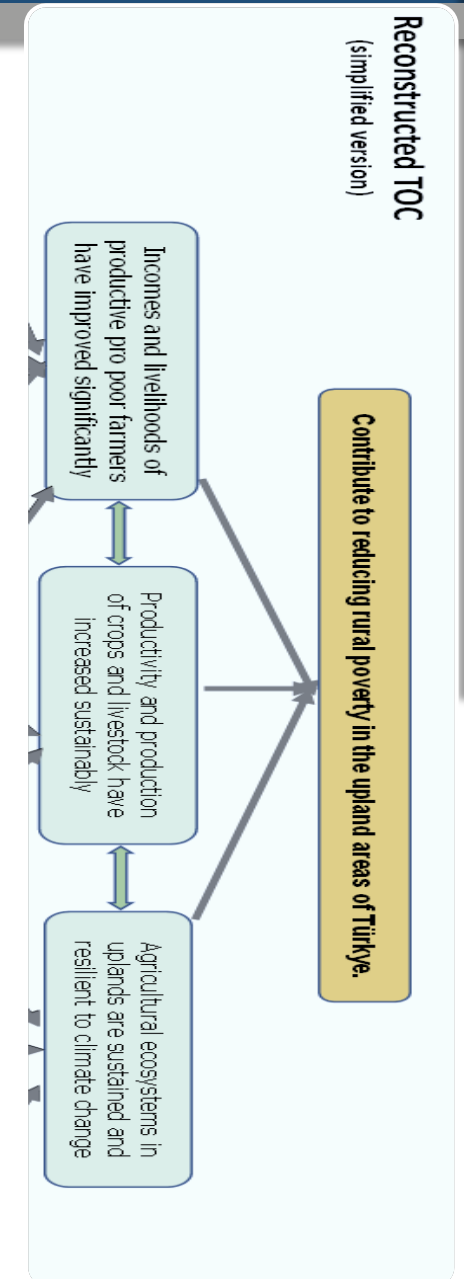
Conclusions

Recommendations

- **Second** country-level evaluation in Türkiye; COSOP 2016-2022 covered.
- **Objectives:** Assess the results and performance of IFAD strategy and programme; Generate recommendations to support the future partnership (IFAD and Government)
- **Scope:** Strategy, Non-lending and Loan projects (2 completed and 2 on-going).
- **Loan portfolio** evaluated : US\$ 233.2 million; IFAD financing of 136.6 million.
- **Co-financing:** the Government of Türkiye, domestic Banks and Beneficiaries.



- Reconstructed theory of change: three impact pathways;
- Mixed-methods approach including:
 - Extensive desk review of projects' documentations;
 - Secondary and GIS data analysis;
 - Virtual and in-person interviews of various stakeholders;
 - Mission in the country for visits and direct observations at selected project sites in Konya, Sinop, Kastamonu, Elazığ, Bingöl and Kars.
- Challenges: (i) inconsistency in the methodologies of endline and baselines surveys; (ii) interventions located in various regions.
- However, triangulation using various sources of information, and approaches.



In terms of relevance and coherence of operations.

- Strategic theme of inclusive rural resilience of smallholders' livelihoods in remote upland areas was relevant.
- Strong and effective strategic partnership with the GoT, with solid national institutions.
- Catalytic role of IFAD to address rural poverty in those regions.
- Geographic targeting allowed reaching marginalized people and communities;
- Specific themes (VCD, access to markets, diversification) aligned with smallholders' needs.
- Continuous efforts in delivering knowledge products through documentation and dissemination of information.
- Lessons from previous interventions applied for new projects.



In terms of effectiveness, impacts and efficiency.

- Outreach of about 116,295 households (by end of 2022).
- Contribution to - Increased agricultural productivity and production and - Enhanced resilience to climate change, by strengthening absorptive and adaptive capacities.
- Smallholders' income increased thanks to supports for livestock production, and the diversification of economic activities.
- Enhanced human capital with capacity development activities.
- Various technologies, practices, and processes (new for beneficiaries) were introduced for achieving results.
- Positive internal economic return rates of investments.



Gender, Sustainability of benefits and of Environment.

- Beneficiary women: 46.1% (end of 2022), vs. 30-40 targets.
- Positive results on beneficiary-women on economic empowerment, and presence in decision-making bodies.
- Matching grants reached “economically active” farmers who could afford initial costs and sustain benefits after.
- Good strategies of cooperatives to sustain projects’ benefits.
- Various positive scaling-up results at provincial level.
- Positive impacts on the rehabilitation of degraded lands.
- Economic diversification was critical for CC adaptation.



In relation to Relevance and Coherence.

- Insufficient clarity on impact pathways and in-depth analysis at design stage.
- Gap of mutual learning across actors of the country program.
- Weak consolidation of achieved results in intervention areas.
- Insufficient synergy developed with other key players of the agricultural sector, and low visibility of IFAD.
- Lack of evidence of knowledge utilization for decision making.
- No diversification of partners, co-financing, operational and for access to markets (private actors).
- Insufficient results linked to policy engagement.



In relation to Efficiency, Effectiveness and Impact.

- Low outreach of poor people with the matching grant schemes for value chain development activities.
- Modest results achieved for access of poor people to markets, due to absence of solid partnerships with private actors.
- Lack of in-depth analysis of youth issues, which limited the effective supports to them.
- Insufficient results in terms of social capital strengthening.
- Mixed results on food security improvement; and lack of evidence on nutrition results.
- Consistent procurement challenges and delays, leading to extension of all reviewed projects.



In terms of Sustainability and Gender aspects.

- Weak capacity of community-based organizations and user groups on economic and technical sustainability aspects.
- No prior watershed strategic management planning (master plan) developed.
- Lack of support to generalize best practices of sustainable rangelands management, and environmental services.
- Only anecdotal evidence of contribution to reducing women workload.
- Finally, addressing root causes of gender inequality is yet to be addressed by the IFAD supported programme.



- **Main strengths**

- Effective and solid strategic partnership between IFAD and the Government
- Sound geographic targeting of upland / mountain areas for supports;
- Overall positive contributions to resilience building in the mountain areas;
- Increased efforts over time to target women, youths, and nomadic groups.

- **Main challenges**

- Low IFAD's visibility and engagement with Government on policy matters;
- Insufficient diversification of partners (strategic and operational);
- Gaps in strengthening the social capital ;
- Low linkages with private actors for smallholders' access to markets.

Recommendation 1

- Further prioritize in the next strategy, the resilience of rural livelihoods in the mountain areas of Türkiye in an integrated manner, by deploying innovative approaches that build on the existing country potentials in value-chain segments and the presence of private actors.

Recommendation 2

- Leverage the strategic partnership between IFAD and the GoT, beyond the portfolio oversight, to foster engagement on policy matters through effective knowledge management and greater scaling up of results.

Recommendation 3

- Improve the inclusiveness of the country programme towards poor/vulnerable rural women, as well as young men and young women, for instance, by building on the success of supported women-led cooperatives and in leveraging of good practices of youth support in the Turkish context.

Recommendation 4

- Strengthen the programmatic approach in the delivery of IFAD's support, and foster the learning culture, for instance by (i) enabling the consolidation of results achieved in the targeted interventions areas, (ii) reinforcing mechanisms for experiences sharing among stakeholders at all levels and (iii) addressing recurrent challenges during the implementation.



Thank you for your attention