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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

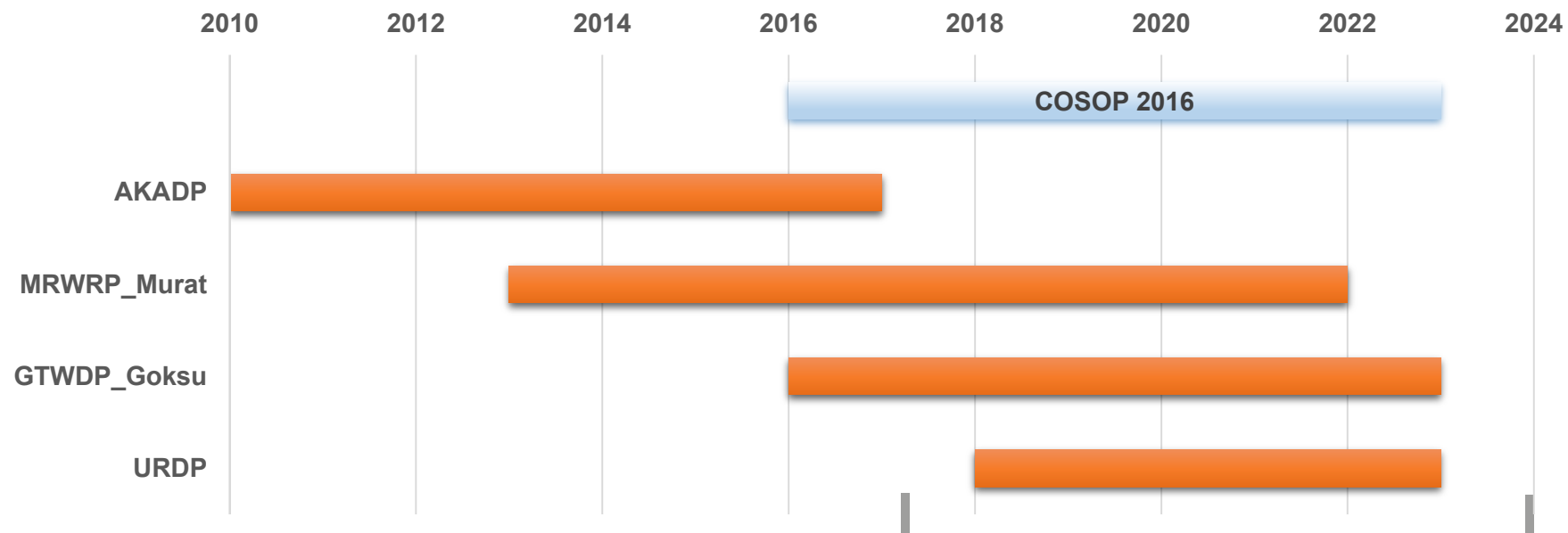
Methodology

Key findings

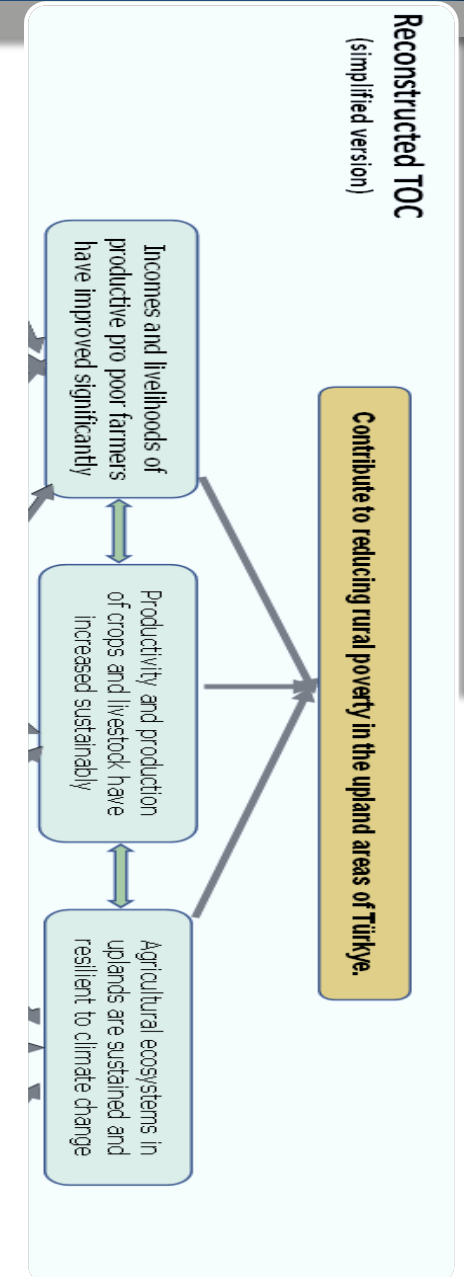
Conclusions

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' documentation;
  - 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 baselines and endline surveys; (ii) interventions scattered 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 found relevant.
- The strategic partnership with the GoT was strong and effective through solid national institutions.
- Geographic targeting allowed reaching marginalized people and communities in remote upland areas;
- IFAD's role: catalytic in reducing rural poverty in those areas.
- Continuous efforts in delivering knowledge products through documentation and dissemination of information.
- Lessons from previous interventions were applied to design new projects.



## ***In terms of effectiveness, impacts and efficiency.***

- Outreach: 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 has increased thanks to supports for livestock production, and economic activities were diversified.
- Human capital: enhanced with capacity building activities.
- Diverse technologies (new for beneficiaries), practices, and processes, were promoted, contributing to results.
- Economic efficiency: positive return rates of investments.



## ***Gender, Sustainability of benefits and of Environment.***

- Women outreach: 46.1% (end of 2022), vs. 30-40 targets.
- Positive results on economic empowerment of women, and for their presence in decision-making bodies.
- “Economically active” farmers were reached with matching grants, enabling the sustainability of results.
- Cooperatives: positive prospects to sustain project benefits.
- Scaling-up results: achieved at provincial level.
- Positive results obtained in rehabilitating degraded lands.
- Economic diversification: useful for adaptation to climate change.



## ***Coherence – Effectiveness – Efficiency***

- Gaps of mutual learning across actors of the country program.
- Insufficient synergy and low visibility of IFAD.
- Evidence gap on knowledge utilization for decision making.
- Low diversification of partners, strategic and operational, and of partnerships with private actors.
- Insufficient engagement on policy matters.
- Modest results for access of poor farmers to markets.
- Insufficient in-depth analysis of youth issues, which limited the effectiveness of supports to them.
- Consistent procurement challenges, leading to delays.





## ***Impact – Gender – Sustainability***

- Insufficient results in strengthening social capital (for natural resources management).
- Mixed results achieved on food security and nutrition aspects.
- Only anecdotal evidence on results aiming at reducing women workload.
- Addressing root causes of gender inequality is yet to be done in the IFAD supported program.
- Weak capacity of community-based organizations and user groups to sustaining results.
- Lack of a master plan (watershed management) and insufficient practices of sustainable rangelands management.



- **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 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 greater effectiveness of knowledge management and scaling up of results; for instance, by organizing debates / discussions at strategic and operational levels on knowledge generated on topics in relation to smallholder farming.

## Recommendation 3

- Improve the inclusiveness of the country program 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 good practices of youth support in the Turkish context, e.g. with digital innovations.

## Recommendation 4

- Strengthen the programmatic approach in the delivery of IFAD's support; foster the learning culture and the continuous improvement as one IFAD supported programme under the MoAF, by reinforcing mechanisms to interact and share experiences that involve stakeholders at central and decentralised levels; and address recurrent implementation challenges.



Thank you for your attention