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An evidence-based assessment of IFAD's end-of-project reporting

by
Bia Carneiro
University of Coimbra

Alessandra Garbero
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

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A stylized illustration of several purple wheat stalks with long awns, positioned in the bottom left corner of the page.

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Abstract

Project Completion Reports (PCRs) are used by development institutions to tell a project's story – achievements, failures and learning. As such, they should provide evidence of effectiveness in bringing about development. But is this the case? This article uses a descriptive content analysis approach to assess the extent of evidentiary support presented in IFAD end-of-project documentation. It employs a custom conceptual framework to classify claims about project results found in PCRs based on the results level, presence and types of evidence sources, and themes. Findings show that the majority of claims relate to output- or outcome-level results and are not explicitly supported by evidence. The lack of evidence-based reporting carries implications to the objective measurement of development effectiveness.

Introduction

As international development debates have increasingly focused on improving development effectiveness, the role of evidence-based reporting on results has also gained prominence. As an evolution from the concept of aid effectiveness, development effectiveness aims to measure the results arising from the overall development process rather than focusing exclusively on efficient planning, management and deployment of aid (Kindornay and Morton, 2009). While the two terms are still often used interchangeably, the scope of the latter is broader and applied by several development agencies to assess not only programme and organizational performance, but also whether policies are achieving stated objectives and goals, and what lessons can be learned for future planning (see, for example, UNDP, 2001; World Bank, 2005; Kindornay and Morton, 2009; Crespo et al., 2013; IFAD, 2014; ADB, 2015).

Development effectiveness is framed within the logic of results-based management and has engendered multiagency commitments such as the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (OECD, 2005), which underline issues around the quality, impact and accountability of development interventions. There has been a strong emphasis on the need to focus on results rather than inputs, and to ensure that processes contribute to the achievement of objectives (Flint, 2003). Central to this approach are the notions of causality and attribution, from which results represent an attributable change arising from a cause and effect relationship. Where there is no attribution, there is no result, and in order to prove this relationship, good evidence is key.

As a result, beyond the programme/project level, current favoured models for developing policy are also placing a heavy emphasis on knowledge-driven decision-making (Young et al., 2002; Levitt, 2013), once again highlighting the importance of robust evidence to support the reporting of results. Davies et al. (2000) believe that the prominence of evidence in policy and practice results from factors such as increased availability of data through information technology advances; the growth of the social sciences research community; increased emphasis on productivity and competitiveness; and increased scrutiny from various stakeholders.

At the practical level, these shifts have led several international development agencies to establish development effectiveness frameworks that seek to integrate project data into a learning process (ACFID, 2015). Ultimately, the goal is to ensure ongoing improvement of operations and interventions, which will in turn bring about better outcomes for beneficiaries down the line. Regardless of the focus on effectiveness at the organizational level, or on linkages to a project's theory of change, the essential component of such frameworks is the existence of a feedback loop (ibid.).

Within these frameworks, Project Completion Reports (PCRs) are a crucial element and serve two purposes: they are an internal and external accountability tool, and a means of learning from experience to inform the design of future operations (Crespo et al., 2013). They tell the story of a project, making sense of data generated throughout the project cycle to discuss the achievement of its development objectives vis-à-vis what was originally expected, any challenges or failures encountered, and the sustainability of interventions. They should provide evidence of the scaling-up potential of a project's approach, or help improve any negative strategies.

PCRs are often the main instrument used by development institutions that promote self-evaluating systems for reporting on results. As such, these documents should provide solid evidence of a project's effectiveness in bringing about development and be a key part of any agency's overall strategic planning. To this end, this study's objective was to examine the extent of evidentiary support in a sample of PCRs from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). It employed a descriptive content analysis approach that applied an IFAD-specific conceptual framework to capture the diversity of activities and potential impacts of IFAD investments, classifying claims about project results according to their results level, presence and types of evidence sources, as well as themes. Across a sample of 72 projects, almost 4,000 unique claims were identified. Main findings show that the majority of claims relate to output or outcome-level results and are not explicitly supported by evidence. "Commerce and value chain" was the most frequent theme, highlighting the prevalence of market-oriented strategies in IFAD-funded initiatives, while project monitoring and evaluation (M&E) data was the most common source of evidence cited in PCRs, which, albeit acceptable if reporting on inputs and outputs, such systems are not built to support reporting further down the results chain. These findings and their implications to the objective measurement of development effectiveness are discussed in the next sections.

Study design

As in several international development agencies, IFAD's PCRs are the final product of a project completion review process undertaken by loan borrowers at the end of a project implementation cycle. According to the Fund's guidelines for project completion, "the main purposes of the completion review process are to promote accountability, reflect on performance and elicit lessons learned to inform new project design, and to define an appropriate post-project strategy" (2015: 3). PCRs are also a primary source of information for the Report on IFAD's Development Effectiveness (RIDE), which assesses performance against indicators in the institution's Results Measurement Framework (RMF) (IFAD, 2011), as well as annual Portfolio Review Reports.

Under the RMF covering the period between 2013 and 2015, IFAD had committed to strengthening and better demonstrating the outcomes achieved by the Fund by providing a broader and more in-depth assessment of the impact of IFAD on poverty reduction. Therefore, the current study was originally part of a larger impact evaluation initiative that employed a mixed-methods approach to assess IFAD's contribution to movements out of poverty across the project portfolio. Specifically, it intended to find out the types of claims about project results that exist in IFAD project documentation, and the sources of evidence used to support them.

More broadly, however, the study aimed to verify the hypotheses that since PCRs – as standardized documents that take stock of project performance – play an important role within the project cycle and in broader institutional planning, they report on project results and learning based on robust evidence. To accomplish this goal, a content analysis approach was paired with an IFAD-specific conceptual framework that featured a number of learning domains selected to capture the diversity of activities and the potential impacts of the Fund's investments. This coding framework was developed and designed to assess the state of evidence in IFAD project documentation and to assign claims about results across ten themes: agricultural production; capacity to innovate; commerce and value chain; economic mobility; environmental sustainability; food security and health; human capital; policies and institutions; resilience capacity; and women's empowerment.

Methodology

Descriptive content analysis was employed. This approach refers to "any procedure for assessing the relative extent to which specified references, attitudes, or themes permeate a given message or document" (Stone, 1964), which consists of "making inferences by systematically and objectively identifying characteristics of messages" (Landis and Koch, 1977). In fact, content analysis is a quantitative analysis of messages that relies on a scientific method that

considers, among other parameters, issues of objectivity, intersubjectivity and reliability (Neuendorf, 2002). Holsti (1969) describes four overarching notions for this approach:

1. *Categories of analysis*, which provide the conceptual structure for organizing data into predefined groups or categories. Observations contained in the source documents are coded to these categories of analysis, enabling aggregation of the units of enumeration. The categories should be mutually exclusive and as clearly defined as possible so as to avoid miscategorization. For this study, the categories of analysis were split into “cases” and “themes” (with corresponding “subthemes”), which will be discussed in more detail in the next section.
2. *Units of enumeration*, which represent “the unit in terms of which quantification is to be performed” (ibid.). The most common form of quantification is by tallying the frequency of unit occurrence. In this case, the unit of enumeration is the “project result claim” – or “claim” – which was further disaggregated into three result levels: output, outcome and impact. The “claim” is characterized by a description of an achievement rather than of an activity; this distinction between how activities were executed versus what effect the activity produced is imperative for discerning results from activities.
3. *Units of analysis*, which represent the recording unit in content analysis and include the size or length of the piece of information to be coded. The recording unit could be a word, a part of a sentence, a sentence, a paragraph, a theme or even a full document. For this study, the recording unit is the statement surrounding the claim, which must provide enough context to ensure the stated change is comprehended regardless of its length.
4. *The sampling strategy*, as various sources can be used to study a particular subject. The sample selection of sources is often determined by the research question itself, and this study’s strategy is discussed in more detail below.

Nevertheless, while content analysis provides an empirically sound approach for quantifying qualitative data, the method is not without limitations. As explained by Krippendorff (2013:10), “content analysis entails a systematic reading of a body of text, images and symbolic matter, not necessarily from an author’s or user’s perspective”. At the same time, he points out that all reading of text is qualitative and context dependent, even when characteristics are later quantified. This highlights issues arising from varying interpretations and understandings of a particular text and methodological framework, introducing potential errors by those performing the analysis, also denominated as coders (Holsti, 1969; Weber, 1990; Neuendorf, 2002). Such consistency is linked both to intracoder consistency – dependent on how the coder understands the concepts underlying the categories – and to intercoder reliability, which is the amount of agreement or correspondence between two or more coders. Ideally, different coders would interpret the same content identically, but in reality some degree of variation is expected and this can be addressed with an intercoder reliability test that generates a Kappa score to quantify the differences between coders.

As there were three coders involved in this initiative, two comparisons were carried out, in which a specific document was double-coded by two coders at a time and tested for intercoder reliability. Both tests revealed nearly perfect coverage of coded claims, averaging 99 per cent, as well as average Kappa scores of 0.79, which place right at the cut-off between “substantial” and “almost perfect” agreement (Landis and Koch, 1977).

Another limitation is that descriptive content analysis is not intended to explain a phenomena. Rather, it seeks to organize data from source materials into specific categories of analysis. While the method cannot be simplified to a mere “word count”, it is limited in what research questions it can answer and dependent on complementary analysis for in-depth interpretation. Yet, despite such limitations, this is an appropriate method to carry out a systematic assessment of extensive documentation, as was the case in this study, since it enables the detection of clear trends in large quantities of data.

Conceptual framework

The conceptual framework for this study was developed based on the theoretical foundations of the content analysis approach discussed above. The categories of analysis were therefore divided into two distinct types: case coding and thematic coding. While case coding was strictly intended to characterize the claims – such as the tone or the evidence source – thematic coding described the subject of the claims, in a structure that enabled intersecting the two for a comprehensive analysis. A detailed codebook that defined the parameters that coders should consider for each of the indicators within the categories of analysis was developed for both case coding and thematic coding in order to ensure consistency and reliability during the coding process (see Appendix 1 for complete codebook).

Diagram 1 illustrates the framework of indicators. Four types of case coding were devised to categorize the characteristics of claims: claim direction, claim support, claim quantification and evidence source. The direction of a claim represents the tone of the reported result. A claim was coded as “positive” if the change was beneficial, “neutral” if it stated that no change occurred, and “negative” if the claim stated a change that was not beneficial. The support of a claim was coded “not supported” if the evidence source was not stated or not implied, coded “partially supported” if the evidence source was implicitly stated but not specified, and coded “supported” if the evidence source was explicitly stated. A claim was coded as “qualitative” if it expressed a non-numerical change and “quantitative” if the change was quantified. Finally, the evidence source for a claim was coded according to the source of data used to support it, thus directly linking this category to claim support. The list of evidence sources was divided into three types: large-n, quantitative sources such as household surveys or government data; small-n, qualitative sources such as small-scale community interviews; and unknown evidence.

While case coding characterized the various types of claims, thematic coding described the subject or the content of a claim, representing the most important category of analysis by organizing the various results associated with IFAD’s projects by themes. Such a categorization system enabled the analysis of results according to recurring themes found in the theories of change of IFAD-funded projects, as well as aligned with the Fund’s broader rural development mission. When combined with the case coding described above, findings across themes could be further contextualized and described across all case coding categories.

The ten themes were: agricultural production; capacity to innovate; commerce and value chain; economic mobility; environmental sustainability; food security and health; human capital; policies and institutions; resilience capacity; and women’s empowerment (see Appendix 1 for detailed subthemes and descriptions). In order to devise an IFAD-specific thematic framework, these themes and their respective subthemes were developed after an

Diagram 1: Framework of indicators for case and thematic coding

Thematic coding

Human capital	Agricultural production	Policy and institutions	Women's empowerment	Economic mobility
Service provider training	Agricultural land coverage	Credit or savings groups	Women in leadership	Income generated
Cultivation training	Irrigated land coverage	Public spending on agriculture	Control of decision-making	Job creation
Livestock training	Crop or livestock quality	Farmers' organizations	Control of assets or benefits	Reduced costs
Business development training	Input use	Resource management organizations	Girl versus boy school enrolment	Acquisition of assets (any)
Financial training	Irrigation infrastructure	Membership in organizations	Female labour force participation	Acquisition of durable assets
PMU training	Herd or fishery size	Infrastructure management organizations	Asset ownership differential	Diversity of income sources
Government staff training (non-PMU)	Crop diversity	Financial organizations		Poverty prevalence
Marketing training	Yield per hectare	Organizational contracts		Lifted out of poverty
Irrigation training	Yield per hectare (irrigation)	Benefits of membership		HH asset index
Fishery training	Gross margin per hectare	Organizational sustainability		Durable index on assets
Processing training	Post-harvest loss	Changes to policy and regulation		
Storage training				
Research staff training				
Other technical and extension training				
Literacy				

Capacity to innovate	Environmental sustainability	Commerce and value chain	Food security and health	Resilience capacity
Public sector R&D funding	Protected land and water	Infrastructural investments	Public facilities built	Vulnerability to shocks
Private sector R&D funding	Water points	Uptake of financial services	HH health	HH resilience to shocks
Yield per hectare (research)	Soil quality	New SMEs	Access to sanitation	Agricultural resilience to shocks
Adoption of technology	Energy system diversity	Production contracts	Access to safe food	Community resilience to shocks
Adoption of practices	Pesticides or fertilizer use	Commercial sales	Access to safe water	Personal resilience to shocks
	Biodiversity	Change commercial farming	Dietary intake (kcal)	
	Carbon reduction	Farm gate prices	Changes to HH diet	
	Climate mitigation		Weight for height (wasted)	
			Weight for age (underweight)	
			Height for age (stunted)	
			Length of hungry season	

■ Output ■ Outcome ■ Impact

Case coding

Claim quantification	Claim direction	Claim support
Quantitative	Positive	Supported
Qualitative	Neutral	Partially supported
	Negative	Not supported



Quantitative evidence	Qualitative evidence	Unknown source
Project M&E	PCR mission	
HH survey (non-RIMS)	Community interviews	
RIMS completion	Qualitative data collection	
RIMS midterm	Secondary interviews	
RIMS baseline		
Government data		
Secondary survey		
Community survey		

extensive review of other benchmark systems of categorization, namely, the Food Security Learning Framework and the CGIAR common metrics framework, as well as IFAD's own Results and Impact Management System (RIMS) and impact domains that inform the ratings in the PCRs (IFAD, 2005, 2014, 2015; M&E Harmonization Group of Food Security Partners, 2013; ISPC, 2014). Several iterations of the thematic categorization took place. The system was first piloted in March 2014, when adjustments to the structure and indicators were made. Subthemes were associated with a results level (output, outcome or impact) to allow for deeper disaggregation. While some subthemes could be classified within a different results level depending on the type of project, the complexity of the project's theory of change, or varying interpretations of concepts, for the purposes of this study, subthemes were assigned the "output" results level if they were the immediate result of a project's activity; "outcomes" were defined as results that do not stem immediately from project activities, but, instead, represent changes further along the results chain of a theory of change; and finally, "impacts" were defined as long-term results found towards the very end of the results chain.

Most of the document coding took place in April 2014, followed by a revision in the system's hierarchical structure that preserved the continuity of thematic coding while reorganizing the themes where subthemes would be aggregated. Remaining documents were coded in December 2015, when the final analysis of the findings was performed.

Sampling strategy

IFAD Project Completion Reports (PCRs) were the principal source for analysis. They were selected over other possible project documentation because of their standardized format, the required quality review conducted by the Programme Management Department, and for presenting a comprehensive compilation of relevant records that retrace a project's trajectory. In two cases where the PCR was not available, an impact assessment report was selected for coding.

As this study was originally framed by a broader evaluation effort that looked at all IFAD projects closing between 2010 and 2015, the IFAD9 Impact Evaluation Initiative (Garbero, 2015),

this time frame was the first criteria for selecting eligible projects. Subsequently, all projects undergoing experimental, quasi-experimental or non-experimental impact evaluations by external research organizations under the initiative were excluded. An additional subset of projects selected for an in-house quantitative analysis study was also precluded. Finally, as the existence of a PCR is dependent upon the closing of a project, all projects that had not yet closed during the selection process were excluded from the analysis, leaving a total of 78 eligible projects within the January 2010 to June 2014 period. After applying the eligibility criteria, a qualitative research team successfully completed the coding of 72 project documents using qualitative data analysis software NVivo 10. The six remaining reports were excluded as their format was not readable by the software.

Data

As shown in Figure 1, among the 72 projects coded, 19 originate from IFAD’s West and Central Africa Division (WCA), 15 from the East and Southern Africa Division (ESA), 14 from the Latin America and the Caribbean Division (LAC), 14 from the Near East, North Africa and Europe Division (NEN), and 10 from the Asia and the Pacific Division (APR). The projects selected for the review are mostly distributed over the first years of the reporting period (2010-2013), with 16 projects that finished in 2010, 17 in 2011, 15 in 2012, and finally 21 in 2013. Only three projects closed in 2014, which reflects the availability of PCRs for analysis (Figure 2).

According to the Fund’s Project Portfolio Management System (Figure 3), almost half of the projects coded were funded under the category “rural development”, which encompasses a wide variety of activities, from infrastructure rehabilitation and training to support to farmers’ organizations. Twenty projects were dedicated to agricultural development and eight projects dealt with credit and microfinance. Finally, five projects were linked to research, and the remaining four projects dealt with marketing, irrigation and fisheries. The sample is thus representative of the diversity of the Fund’s total portfolio. More project-specific information is presented in Appendix 2.

Figure 1: Number of projects by division

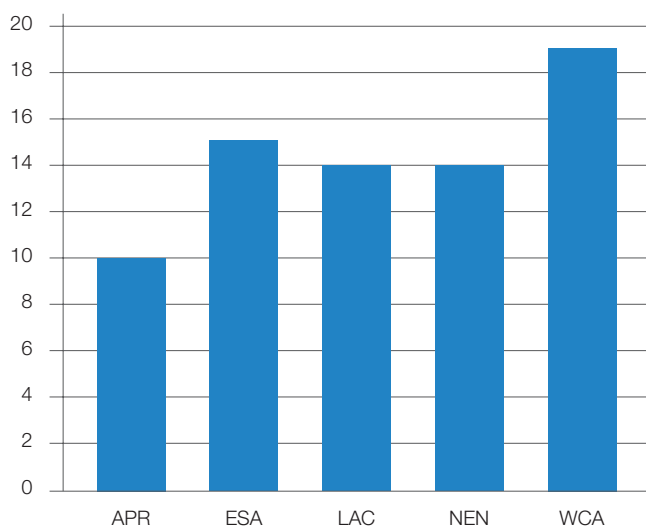


Figure 2: Number of projects by year at closing

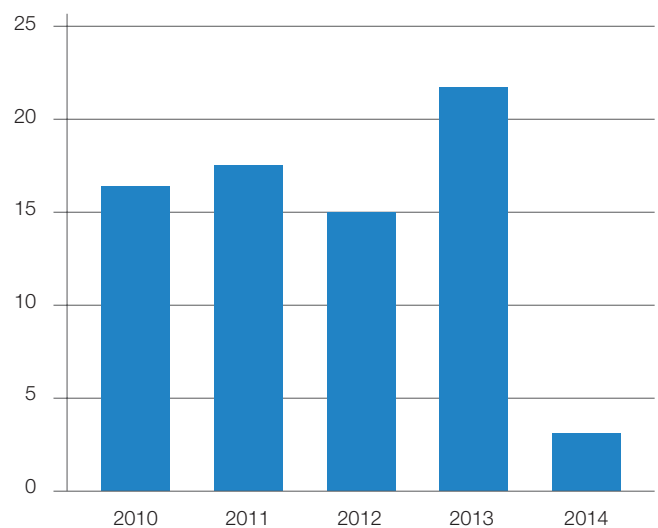
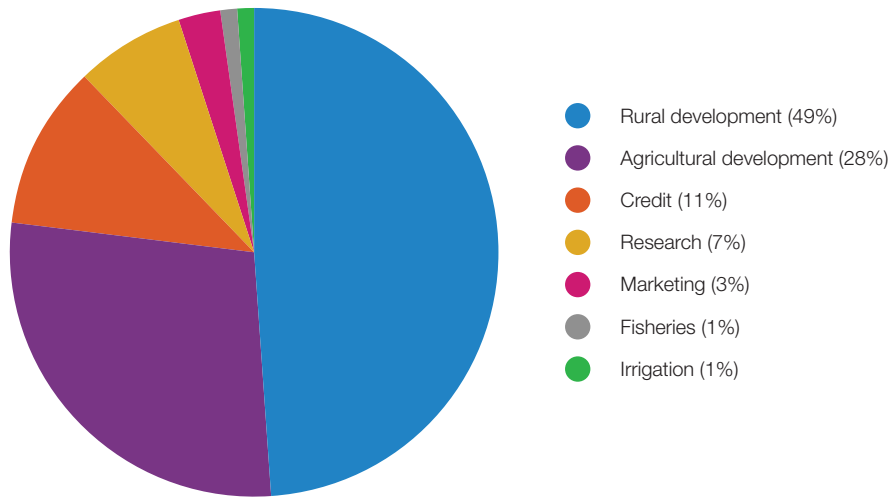


Figure 3: Sample projects by the Project Portfolio Management System project type



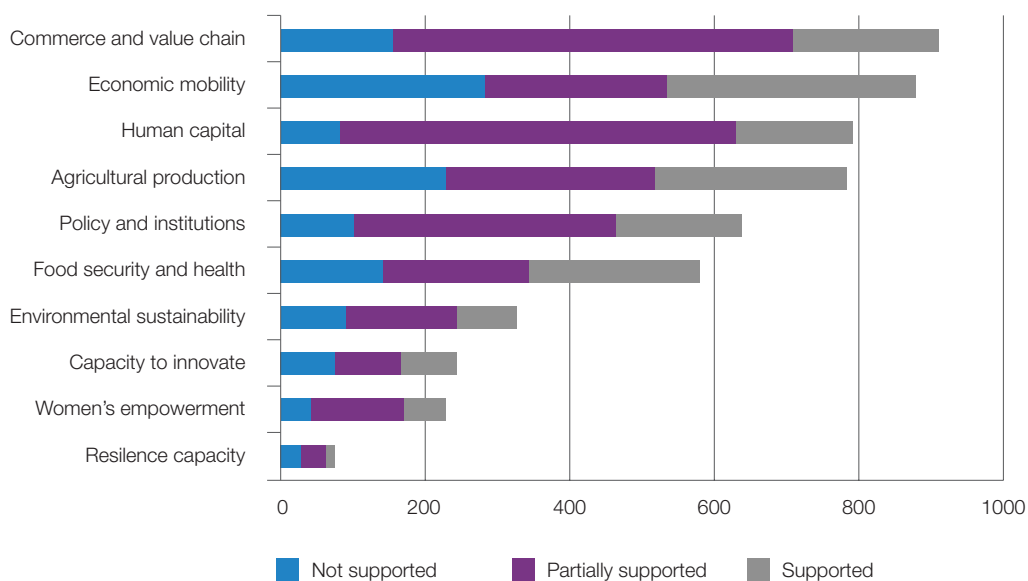
Results

Almost 4,000 unique claims were coded across the sample of 72 projects. By crossing the findings from thematic coding with the descriptive indicators of case coding, these claims tell an interesting story about the types of results reported by IFAD-funded initiatives and how they are presented, which in turn have implications for the integration of project documentation into development effectiveness frameworks. Figure 4 demonstrates the frequency of claims within each main theme. The claims are also disaggregated by degree of evidentiary support. Just as there is considerable variation in reporting across themes, the degree of evidence support varies as well. Overall, 71 per cent of claims across the sample were not explicitly supported by a source of evidence.

The theme “commerce and value chain”, which includes investments in infrastructure and uptake of rural financial services, tallied more claims than any other category, a result that reinforces IFAD’s market-oriented strategy. “Economic mobility” is a close second, which, despite reflecting the projects’ alignment with IFAD’s poverty reduction goals, encompasses sparse mentions related to longer-term impacts such as moving people out of poverty. The theme “human capital”, which captures outputs related to various training efforts, as well as demonstration and model farming, was the third most frequent, though the midterm outcomes of such capacity-building initiatives that were grouped within the theme “capacity to innovate” received significantly fewer claims, emphasizing a lack of reporting on the application of skills learned throughout the extensive training offers.

At the bottom of the list, representing just 1.5 per cent of claims, the least mentioned theme was “resilience capacity”, which encompassed several impact-level indicators related to the ability of individuals, households and communities to react and/or endure shocks. “Women’s empowerment”, another theme that pertained to less immediate results, was mentioned in just 6 per cent of all claims. The subthemes for this category sought to select indicators that went beyond gender disaggregation in order to measure women’s empowerment and were defined based on the Food Security Learning Framework theme on improving gender equality (M&E Harmonization Group of Food Security Partners, 2013). However, the majority of

Figure 4: Claim frequency by theme and support

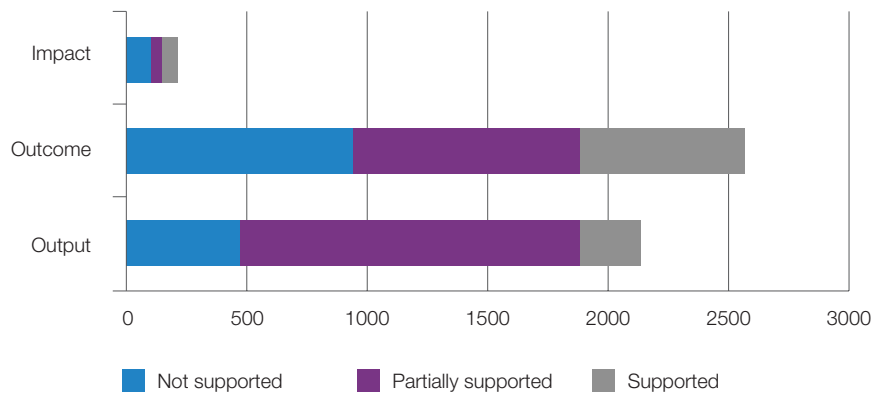


claims in this category still presented disaggregation of female to male participation in project activities rather than other indicators that could point to how women were permanently empowered by project activities.

The extent of evidentiary support for claims varied significantly across themes. Claim support was relatively weak in the two predominant themes, “commerce and value chain” and “economic mobility”, where the majority of claims were either not supported or partially supported by evidence. Even though most output claims were still coded as “partially supported” as they were considered to be implicitly supported by project M&E data, PCR authors commonly described project outputs without providing a source of evidence. The most frequent theme, “commerce and value chain”, was also the one with the least explicitly supported claims, for which 77 per cent were either partially supported or not supported at all. Conversely, “food security and health” had the largest share of supported claims, 41 per cent. Yet, its impact-level subthemes represent only 9 per cent of the claims and, of these, less than half were identified as having been supported by an impact survey.

This issue is further highlighted when claims are aggregated by the result level (Figure 5). Perhaps as a consequence of the availability or quality of evidence, PCRs are seldom reported on long-term impacts, while more immediate outputs and outcomes comprise close to 96 per cent of all claims. On the other hand, despite such a negligible presence across PCRs, 49 per cent of impact claims are supported by a source of evidence compared to 36 per cent of outcomes and 22 per cent of outputs. Medium-term changes account for the largest level of claims, with more than 930 outcome-level claims backed by direct evidence and a similar figure for “partially supported” results. Across the sample, outputs were rarely supported by direct evidence, with more than 1,400 claims, or 66 per cent, at this result level coded as “partially supported”. For instance, 80 per cent of claims in the “commerce and value chain” theme were related to changes at the output level, such as infrastructural investments or

Figure 5: Claim frequency by result level and support



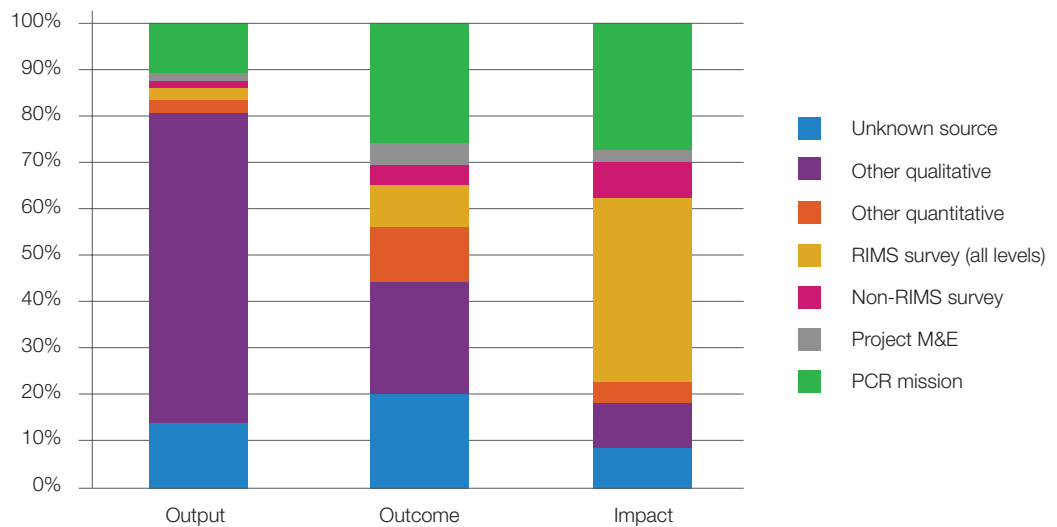
access to financial services. Of these, less than a third were explicitly supported by evidence. Interestingly, the “economic mobility” theme was contradictory with regard to evidentiary support, as it presented both the most number of “supported” and “not supported” claims of any category. This contradiction was apparent within its largest subtheme, “income generated”, where 42 per cent of all income-related claims were directly supported and 39 per cent were not supported by evidence at all (see Table 2).

Besides assessing the degree of evidentiary support to claims, the sources of evidence were also coded. Thirteen distinctive types of evidence sources were identified and separated into quantitative (large-n) and qualitative (small-n) categories. Assigning a source of evidence to claims enabled the quantification of the frequency with which various sources were used. Figure 6 presents the findings regarding the sources used to support claims by year of PCR publication. The graph demonstrates how the relative influence of various sources of evidence changed over time. For example, as projects began implementing IFAD’s mandatory RIMS guidelines for project completion surveys, the percentage of claims supported by RIMS data collection efforts increased from 2 per cent in 2010 to 32 per cent in 2014. Despite a drop of 7 per cent in the percentage of claims supported by RIMS in 2013, it is likely that more projects did actually implement RIMS data collection efforts, but were not identified as such in the reports. However, in spite of RIMS surveys integrating projects’ overall M&E strategies and taking on a more prominent role among possible references, their low incorporation into PCRs highlights the limited reference to IFAD’s own impact data within project assessment initiatives, especially considering that, comparatively, external non-RIMS surveys served as sources of evidence almost as frequently as RIMS data until 2013. Over the study’s time frame for analysis, reliance on PCR missions for data collection decreased ten percentage points, from 20 per cent in 2010 to 19 per cent in 2014, which could point to improved attempts to collect data throughout the life of the projects rather than relying on end-of-programme support. The fluctuation in the percentage of claims with unknown evidence sources is also remarkable: it peaked at 30 per cent of claims in 2013, but then dropped significantly to 9 per cent in 2014. Yet, it is important to note that 21 documents from 2013 were examined compared with only 3 from the following year due to the availability of reports at the time of the study’s execution.

Figure 6: Evidence sources by year published

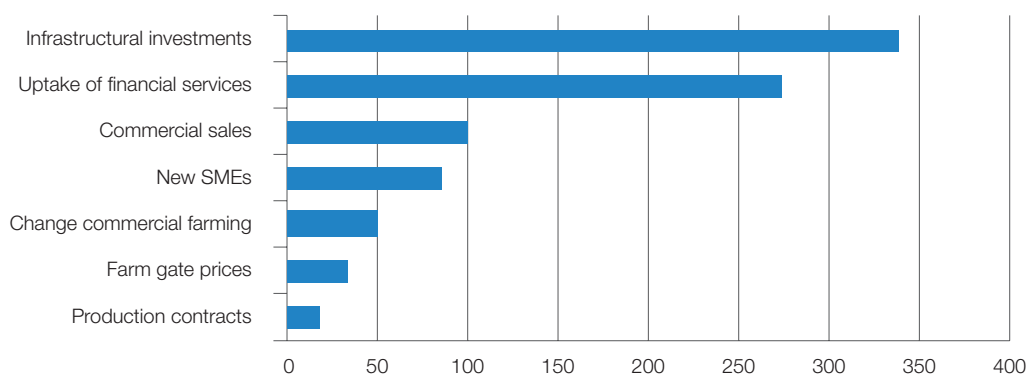


Figure 7: Evidence sources by results level



As Figures 6 and 7 show, PCRs overwhelmingly rely on project M&E data for reporting. While this seems reasonable for presenting project inputs and outputs, many of IFAD’s project M&E systems were not designed to support reporting further down the results chain. PCR authors described project M&E processes as limited, dispersed and not fit for purpose, while frequently stressing the lack of capacity surrounding data collection methods among local M&E teams, as well as logical frameworks that are too broad for the development of robust M&E systems. Additionally, further analysis of the result level of claims supported by project M&E data reveals that 66 per cent of them are related to outputs, 24 per cent to outcomes, and 9 per cent to impacts. Such findings problematize the current over-reliance on project M&E data for reporting across results levels.

Figure 8: Commerce and value chain – claim frequency by subtheme



Lastly, with regard to claim direction, while 84 per cent of claims were positive, a lack of neutral claims (5 per cent of the total) indicates insufficient reporting on any indicators that have not been impacted by IFAD initiatives. Approximately 11 per cent of claims were negative. The overwhelming majority of positive claims is indicative of a reporting bias that inherently reduces the transparency of project results and hinders any effective learning arising out of project completion reviews.

The following paragraphs explore findings within the two most frequent theme categories – “commerce and value chain” and “economic mobility” – and the least frequent theme – “resilience capacity” – in greater detail.

Reporting on smallholder “commerce and value chain” was dominated by the two subthemes of “infrastructural investments” and “uptake of financial services” (see Figure 8), both of which represent output-level results and account for 38 per cent and 31 per cent of the theme’s claims, respectively (69 per cent in total). Although the percentage of credit projects according to the Project Portfolio Management System project type was only 11 per cent, microfinance-related results were present in 53 out of the 72 projects. Likewise, investments in infrastructure were found nearly ubiquitously across the sample, in 61 documents.

Even though farm gate prices represent a potential indicator of smallholder integration into productive value chains, reporting on this subtheme was minimal. Only 17 of the 72 projects mentioned farm gate prices in 36 different claims. Even less common were statements regarding production contracts between producers and sellers, which were found in only 10 documents and coded 21 times in total. These findings reveal that some crucial indicators that could verify a successful transition from subsistence to commercial farming remained considerably underreported.

Figure 9 reinforces the positive reporting bias that prevailed across themes, as well as the lack of clear source referencing when making result claims, as a visible majority (60 per cent) of positive claims within the “commerce and value chain” theme are only implicitly supported by evidence. In congruence with the same patterns detected overall, neutral claims are nearly non-existent and very few negative claims were reported. In total, only 24 per cent of the claims coded to the theme were supported, while 63 per cent were partially supported and 17 per cent not supported. The concentration of “partially supported” claims is likely due to the number of output-level subthemes in this category. As outputs were often presumably supported by project M&E data, PCR authors rarely expressly stated the specific sources that supported their analysis.

Figure 9: Commerce and value chain – claim direction and support

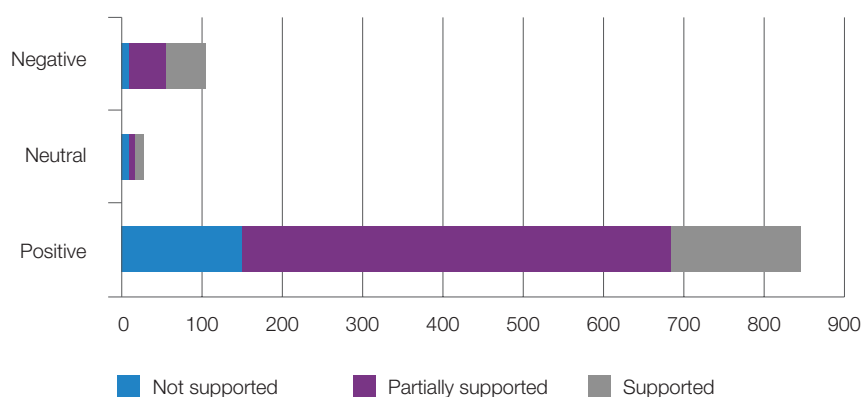


Table 1: Commerce and value chain – subtheme claim frequency by case coding

	Total claims	Direction			Support			Quantification	
		+	=	-	Not sup.	Part sup.	Sup.	Quant.	Qual.
Commercial farming and sales	157	0.86	0.04	0.13	0.32	0.39	0.34	0.40	0.65
Uptake of financial services	274	0.84	0.05	0.11	0.13	0.62	0.26	0.66	0.36

Note: Values are rounded to nearest whole per cent of total claims. Commercial farming and sales combines claims from “change to commercial farming” and “commercial sales”.

Table 1 shows that the “commercial farming and sales” subtheme captured claims indicating farmers’ transition away from subsistence farming and expansion into agricultural markets. Both the degree of commercialized production and revenues from the sale of commercial production were coded within the subthemes of “change commercial farming” and “commercial sales”. When analysed together, researchers found evidence for both successes and failures regarding market integration across the project sample. For instance, an impact study for the South Kordofan Rural Development Programme in Sudan revealed that the portion of households relying on farm-generated incomes rose from 60 per cent in 2004 to 77 per cent by 2008. Similarly, the PCR mission for the Agricultural Marketing Systems Development Programme project in the United Republic of Tanzania found that one farmers’ cooperative achieved a 40 per cent increase in the price of 6 tonnes of bean production by accessing a more distant market. By contrast, in Georgia, an impact survey for the Rural Development Programme for Mountainous and Highland Areas that sampled project beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries found not only that commercial sales had declined across both groups, but also that, comparatively, beneficiaries had commercialized 23.5 per cent less of their production than the control group. Supported, negative claims on commercial farming and sales were limited to only five documents, while positive, supported claims were found in 20 out of 72 projects.

From credit, to savings and business banking, IFAD beneficiaries reportedly gained access to a host of financial services. According to claims across 53 PCRs, such services enabled them to purchase assets to improve farming practices, save earnings for improvements to their homes, and embark on new business ventures. In Mauritius, a United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) supervision mission for the Rural Diversification Programme found that rural fishers had not only increased their savings, but 54 per cent were able to buy new engines for their commercial fishing boats. Project data for the Sustainable Development Project for Agrarian Reform Settlements in the Semi-Arid North-East, in Brazil, found that more than half of the beneficiaries who took up loans increased their herd size and reported increased production as a result.

Claims on financial services were generally well quantified, at 66 per cent, probably due to the availability of financial data; however, there was surprisingly little evidence to explicitly support these claims. Over 170 claims related to microfinance were classified as partially supported despite the likelihood that such claims could have been explicitly supported by financial records, as part of the commitments made for accessing loans include tracking of how the money lent is spent. PCR authors may not have had access to these data in order to investigate further on the outcomes of accessing credit and utilizing other financial services.

“Economic mobility” constituted a key impact indicator within IFAD’s 2013-2015 Results Measurement Framework. This theme was the second in terms of number of claims coded, with 851 claims that represented 16 per cent of the total. The theme has the highest ratio of supported claims, at 42 per cent. Within the category, output subthemes “income generated” and “job creation” were the two most prominent, while the “household asset index” and “lifted out of poverty”, both impact-level subthemes, were the least coded with 9 and 41 claims, respectively. “Durable index on assets” did not receive any mentions. Higher order indicators on impact received fewer claims, highlighting the difficulties that projects face in measuring and reporting longer-term poverty reduction within their target population.

Figure 10: Economic mobility – claim frequency by subtheme

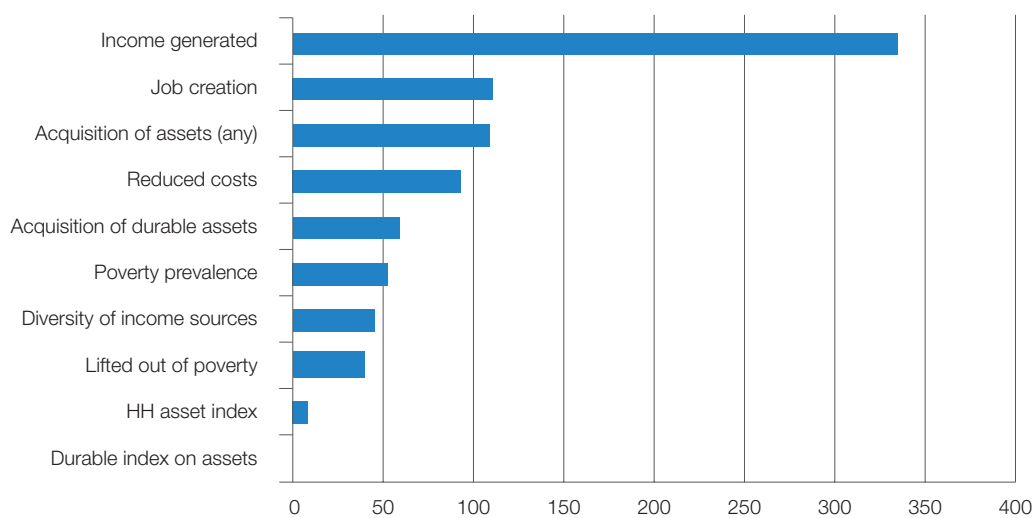
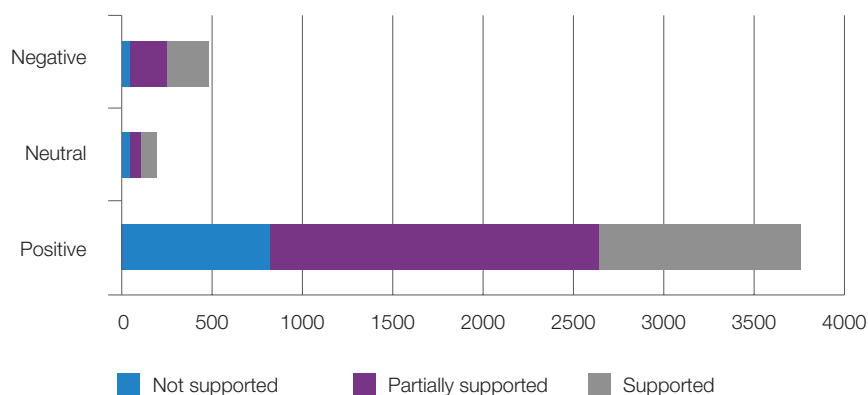


Figure 11: Economic mobility – claim direction and support



As a direct consequence, few PCRs contained claims specifically mentioning the number of people lifted out of poverty or measurable changes to poverty prevalence. Due to the complexity of multidimensional poverty, researchers found that specific, evidence-based reporting on poverty reduction was regularly replaced by qualitative statements. PCR authors described how poor people tended to adopt many different strategies to meet their livelihood needs, such as exploitation of common properties, seasonal employment, small income-generating activities, temporary migration, utilization of non-timber forest products, and so on; however, often due to a lack of baseline data or appropriate mechanisms for assessment, PCR authors were also challenged with the question of contribution or attribution of poverty reduction by the project.

As mentioned above, just under half of the PCRs reviewed (32 out of 72 projects) made statements on poverty reduction in terms of prevalence or number of people lifted out of poverty. The number of mentions regarding the two indicators combined adds up to only 90 claims from a total of almost 4,000 cumulative claims related to economic mobility. Although positive claims represent 87 per cent of the subthemes' total, there is a visible contradiction in the level of support, with 43 per cent "supported" by evidence and 42 per cent "not supported" by any source of evidence. The latter case of unsupported claims comprises many general statements on poverty reduction, such as "the project had significantly reduced the poverty in Tuyen Quang province by increasing household income from farming activities" (Rural Income Diversification Project in Tuyen Quang Province, Viet Nam), or "poverty rates in the target region have reduced compared to the national rate" (Sustainable Rural Development Project for the Semi-arid Zones of Falcon and Lara States, Venezuela). As shown in Figure 11, while an overwhelming majority of claims in this theme are positive, less than 30 per cent are explicitly supported by evidence.

Still, some projects did report interesting figures on poverty changes. In the United Republic of Tanzania's Rural Financial Services Programme, basic needs poverty (head count) of the members of a microfinance institution (MFI) decreased by 52 per cent compared with a decrease of only 18 per cent for non-members during the period of the project. Similarly, food poverty among MFI members decreased by 68 per cent, whereas the decrease was only 24 per cent for non-members. In Senegal, a RIMS survey in the Promotion of Rural Entrepreneurship Project (Phase II) demonstrated that the improvement of the socio-economic situation of the

Table 2: Economic mobility – subtheme claim frequency by case coding

	Total claims	Direction			Support			Quantification	
		+	=	-	Not sup.	Part sup.	Sup.	Quant.	Qual.
Poverty	90	0.87	0.10	0.03	0.42	0.20	0.43	0.47	0.46
Household assets	174	0.94	0.06	0.04	0.14	0.28	0.64	0.55	0.51
Income generated	335	0.96	0.02	0.03	0.39	0.24	0.42	0.42	0.62

Note: Values are rounded to nearest whole per cent of total claims. “Household assets” combines claims from the following subthemes: “household asset index”, “durable index on assets”, “acquisition of durable assets”, “acquisition of assets (any)”.

households supported by the project resulted in an apparent reduction of absolute poverty. The percentage shares of the two lowest income quintiles were reduced from 54 per cent in 2008 to 19 per cent in 2012, while the percentage share of the richest households increased from 14.5 per cent to 20 per cent during the same period. On the other hand, authors of the PCR for the Rural Communities Development Project in the Poorest Areas of the State of Bahia in Brazil questioned whether reduced poverty among project beneficiaries was in fact due to the intervention or stimulated by the overall economic growth the country was experiencing at the time.

In Table 2, “household assets” combines the results of four separate subthemes: “household asset index”, “durable index on assets”, “acquisition of durable assets” and “acquisition of assets (any)”, which together represent a total of 174 claims. As expected, the direction of the claims is overwhelmingly positive, corresponding to 94 per cent of the mentions found in 53 PCRs that claimed projects improved their beneficiaries’ level of assets, of which 64 per cent of the claims are supported by a source of evidence. In Mozambique, for instance, impact studies for the Sofala Bank Artisanal Fisheries Project conducted in 2005, 2008 and 2011 using representative samples registered increases in family assets compared with a baseline survey conducted in 2002. For example, the proportion of people owning a motorcycle reportedly increased from 1 to 6 per cent among the respondents, bicycles from 23 to 49 per cent, radios from 60 to 70.5 per cent, and fishing gear from 30 to 33 per cent.

“Income generated” was the most mentioned indicator within the “economic mobility” theme, with 335 claims. It appears as a key indicator for IFAD-funded projects, mainly because it reflects the degree of success of many activities that the Fund promotes, such as the support of commercialization of agricultural products, increases in yields, livestock and fisheries, and the promotion of access to financial services. “Income generated” claims were found in all projects assessed, in comparison with other subthemes, such as “acquisitions of assets (any)”, which only had 108 mentions in 48 projects. Even though 96 per cent of

income-related claims were positive, the recurring issue with regard to evidence support is observed: 63 per cent are not explicitly supported. Furthermore, the PCRs generally lacked rigour when discussing income, as 36 per cent of the claims in this matter classified as “supported” or “partially supported” failed to clearly identify a source of evidence (unknown evidence). Those that do relied mainly on evidence from PCR missions (17 per cent) and non-RIMS household surveys (16 per cent). Project M&E systems support 9 per cent of claims. Also noteworthy is the finding that, despite the relative ease with which income can be quantified in monetary terms, the majority of claims were qualitative. The related subtheme of “diversity of income sources”, which tracked any changes to the variety of sources of household and personal income generated by project interventions, was almost not captured in the PCRs, with only 45 claims (see Figure 10).

Finally, “resilience capacity” combined claims within four subthemes that assess changes at different levels: “agricultural resilience to shocks”, “community resilience to shocks”, “household resilience to shocks”, “personal resilience to shocks” and “vulnerability to shocks”, amounting to a total of 63 claims (see Table 3). Claims were mostly qualitative (73 per cent) and barely supported by a source of evidence (only 19 per cent of the claims are explicitly supported). The main source of evidence, if any, was PCR mission data (38 per cent), indicating that few statements originated from survey results. These findings highlight the lack of attention to resilience as an outcome of interest in IFAD projects. As this theme is currently rarely captured in the PCRs, IFAD could potentially miss important learning opportunities from projects that have improved on the resilience of beneficiary populations rather than on other traditional indicators of outcome and impact. Claims in this subtheme were primarily associated with post-disaster or post-conflict interventions. For example, the PR3DMT Project in Burundi supported more than 33,000 households with production kits, which helped half of them recover their preconflict production capacities. In China, after the 2008 earthquake in Sichuan, an official statistics office released data in 2012 indicating that agricultural and livestock production in the area where the Sichuan Post-Earthquake Agricultural Rehabilitation Project had been implemented had been restored to the predisaster level, specifying that some indicators had even outperformed the pre-earthquake situation.

Table 3: Resilience capacity – subtheme claim frequency by case coding

	Total claims	Direction			Support			Quantification	
		+	=	-	Not sup.	Part sup.	Sup.	Quant.	Qual.
Resilience capacity	63	0.89	0.02	0.19	0.44	0.52	0.19	0.35	0.73

Note: “Resilience capacity” combines claims of the following subthemes: “agricultural resilience to shocks”, “community resilience to shocks”, “household resilience to shocks”, “personal resilience to shocks”, and “vulnerability to shocks”.

Conclusion

While there is no doubt about the significance of PCRs as a critical element within development effectiveness strategies, the results of this analysis highlight a significant need to improve end-of-project reporting processes through evidence-based results, especially regarding a lack of clear evidence – as only 34 per cent of claims were explicitly supported – and an unbalanced focus on immediate results. The sources of evidence used to support project claims are overly reliant on project M&E systems that are ill-equipped to provide data on outcomes and impacts. In spite of the availability of RIMS as a standardized – and mandatory – tool for impact reporting, compliance with its procedures remains low, which in turn affects the quality of reporting.

Relating back to the hypotheses presented earlier, such evidence inefficiency poses a challenge in gauging the successes and achievements of projects from their own PCRs. Even though these documents often compile the full extent of project reporting, including thematic and impact studies when available, their findings are considerably opaque and significant results or learning are sometimes obscured by the large amounts of unclear information. Additionally, the transparency of project results is confounded by the inherent positive reporting bias. This bias is structural to internal project-reporting processes, as PCR authors are more likely to exaggerate positive results while overlooking neutral and negative ones for fear of losing subsequent funding. Consequently, learning from project success is not balanced with learning from project failures. Such a bias could be minimized through the use of objective indicators.

Nevertheless, end-of-project reporting issues are not unique to IFAD, and other development agencies encounter similar challenges in their processes (see, for instance, Crespo et al., 2013). The findings in this particular study illustrate a broader need for evidence-based measurement of project results and for reporting on longer-term impacts of project outcomes. As the quality of reporting largely depends on the quality of data available – which in turn depends on the capacity of the project management team – agencies would benefit from encouraging the incorporation of robust impact evaluation strategies into project design. The development of logical frameworks with measurable indicators, coupled with an effective M&E system built into the project since the beginning, along with adequate human and financial resources, are essential elements for rigorous measurement of project performance, results and impact not only during the life of the project, but also at its completion.

Throughout the 72 projects analysed, mentions of poor monitoring systems were frequent. Either due to the overwhelming size and complexity of logical frameworks, which are not conducive to the effective development of an M&E system, or to capacity gaps of the underlying monitoring unit at the country level, this remains a constraint that hinders evidence-based

reporting. In Bolivia's Management of Natural Resources in the Chaco and High Valley Regions Project, the M&E unit was described as the project's "most problematic", with late implementation, unsatisfactory monitoring processes, and unable to capture end-of-project indicators. While, generally, the follow-up on project outputs is well done, at the outcome level results are already not systematically captured by M&E systems; results higher up in the causal chain are even more rarely correctly seized. In Rwanda, the PCR for the Rural Small and Microenterprise Promotion Project (Phase II) states that "the project records and M&E systems had concentrated almost exclusively on the delivery of inputs and the achievements of quantitative targets set out in the AWPBs with very little attention paid to project outcomes in the upper parts of the logical framework matrix". Conversely, the PCR of the Smallholder Cash and Export Crops Development Project in that same country underlines that "M&E has been confined almost completely in logging inputs and quantifiable results". Also, the PCR for Brazil's Sustainable Development Project for Agrarian Reform Settlements in the Semi-Arid North-East stated that M&E was "particularly worrisome" as it focused so much more on inputs rather than on "developing adequate impact indicators" or on gathering information that could generate significant learning. In order to encourage the development of good M&E practices, projects should be launched only when an appropriate system is in place, with an objective list of indicators, predefined periodicity of data collection, clearly assigned staff roles and responsibilities.

Effective impact reporting is also hindered by a lack of baseline data, which makes it very difficult to conduct robust impact assessments down the line, not only because of unavailable information, but also because the lack of a baseline can lead to poor choices of measurement indicators. For instance, in Pakistan's South Fata Development Project, "no baseline survey was conducted at any stage of project implementation". In Rwanda's Umatara project, in the absence of a baseline survey, the impact assessment study had to resort to recall questions. Sometimes, baseline and completion surveys are only implemented two years apart, whereas indicators tracking impact are not sensitive to short-term changes. In Djibouti, the baseline survey of the Microfinance and Microenterprise Development Project was conducted three years after the project's start and the completion survey carried out one year after the project's completion. As a result, many of the results claimed by projects cannot be clearly attributed. An incentive to ensure baseline surveys are conducted on time would be conditioning disbursement in the initial stages of the project to the completion of a baseline.

Finally, guidelines for PCR writing should include requirements regarding source citations. As seen from the large percentage of "partially supported" claims in this study, it is evident that most PCR authors do not properly cite their sources, which makes it difficult for the reader to gauge the origin and quality of the information. Therefore, PCR authors should always clarify the sampling strategy that has been used by a survey they intend to mention in order for the reader to understand the value underpinning a particular set of results. Approval of the final report should only be attained if all results are clearly referenced.

As a thorough document that integrates several pieces of data about a project's evolution in order to extract learning, PCRs should play an essential role in informing broader programme decisions. To effectively play that role, they need to be evidence-based, with findings presented in a scientific manner that is credible and reliable, so that clear and useful knowledge about the prospects, challenges and expected outcomes of different types of projects is generated.

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Appendix 1: Codebook

	Thematic coding	Benefit direction	Result level	Category description
1	Human capital			
2	Service provider training	↑	Output	Training of service providers, such as veterinarians, health-care providers and extension workers
3	Literacy	↑	Outcome	Changes to literacy in a given area, sometimes actual literacy training is included
4	Cultivation training	↑	Output	Training in the cultivation of any crop, including farmer fields schools, demonstrations, etc.
5	Livestock training	↑	Output	Training in the rearing of livestock, including husbandry, feeding, etc.
6	Business development training	↑	Output	Training in the development of a business, including legal matters, accounting, etc.
7	Financial training	↑	Output	Training in the management, uptake and utilization of financial services as well as personal finance
8	PMU training	↑	Output	Any training of PMU employees
9	Government staff training (non-PMU)	↑	Output	Any training of government employees not employed by the PMU
10	Marketing training	↑	Output	Training in the methods and requirements for marketing of harvested produce or livestock for commercial sale
11	Irrigation training	↑	Output	Training in the application of irrigation on-farm
12	Fishery training	↑	Output	Training in the maintenance, management and development of fisheries

	Thematic coding	Benefit direction	Result level	Category description
13	Processing training	↑	Output	Training in the methods of processing or any form of produce post-harvest
14	Storage training	↑	Output	Training in the storage of produce post-harvest
15	Research staff training	↑	Output	Training of any staff who undertakes research
16	Other technical and extension training	↑	Output	Any other form of training offered by a project, including gender sensitivity, income-generating activities, etc.
17	Commerce and value chain			
18	Infrastructural investments	↑	Output	Investment in any form of public infrastructure such as roads, excludes irrigation and public facilities
19	Uptake of financial services	↑	Output	The utilization of financial services by customers of financial organizations/institutions, includes credit and savings
20	Job creation	↑	Outcome	Changes to number of jobs in a given area, preferably permanent positions
21	New SMEs	↑	Output	Changes to number of small- and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) in a given area
22	Commercial sales	↑	Outcome	The change in or quantity of produce sold commercially, preferably specific price and/or volume of sales
23	Change commercial farming	↑	Outcome	Quantity or percentage of agricultural production commercialized and not consumed for subsistence
24	Farm gate prices	↑	Outcome	Price paid to a farmer by a buyer when produce or livestock is purchased on-farm, not the market price
25	Production contracts	↑	Output	Agreements for the production of a specific quantity and/or quality of any given crop(s)

26 Agricultural production				
27	Yield per hectare	↑	Outcome	All other or unspecified reasons for changes in agricultural yield not related to research or irrigation improvements
28	Crop or livestock quality	↑	Output	Changes to the health, immunity and/or marketability of crop and livestock for improving quality
29	Input use	↑	Output	Utilization/purchase of and access to pesticides and fertilizers for improving agricultural production
30	Irrigation infrastructure	↑	Output	Investments in infrastructure for expanding or improving agricultural irrigation
31	Herd or fishery size	↑	Outcome	The size (headcount) of a herd of livestock or school of fish under agricultural production
32	Agricultural land coverage	↑	Output	The quantity of land that is under agricultural cultivation. Does not necessarily include rangelands
33	Crop diversity	↑	Outcome	Both the variety of crops cultivated during one harvest season and the frequency of cropping
34	Irrigated land coverage	↑	Output	The quantity of land that can be irrigated
35	Yield per hectare (irrigation)	↑	Outcome	Changes in agricultural yield as a result of the application of improved or increased water from irrigation
36	Gross margin per hectare	↑	Outcome	The profit of a hectare of land, preferably in comparison to alternative planting options
37	Post-harvest loss	↓	Outcome	Change in the quantity of harvest lost without being consumed or sold
38 Economic mobility				
39	Income generated	↑	Outcome	Income acquired or produced as a result of some other outcome
40	Reduced costs	↓	Outcome	Changes to the opportunity cost, price or potential expense of any activity or form of consumption

	Thematic coding	Benefit direction	Result level	Category description
41	Acquisition of assets (any)	↑	Outcome	Acquiring any household assets (could include livestock)
42	Acquisition of durable assets	↑	Outcome	Acquiring durable household assets such as vehicles and appliances (does not include livestock)
43	Poverty prevalence	↓	Impact	Changes to the percentage of people living in poverty in a given area
44	Diversity of income sources	↑	Outcome	Changes to the variety of sources of household and personal income
45	Lifted out of poverty	↑	Impact	Statements of individuals, households, groups or areas that are no longer in poverty
46	Household asset index	↑	Impact	Composite index on any household assets
47	Durable index on assets	↑	Impact	Composite index on durable household assets
48	Resilience capacity			
49	Vulnerability to shocks – subtheme	↓	Outcome	The potential degree to which a shock might impact a particular outcome
50	Household resilience to shocks subtheme	↑	Impact	A household's ability to bounce back after a shock to the household
51	Agricultural resilience to shocks subtheme	↑	Impact	A farm's ability to bounce back after a shock to production
52	Community resilience to shocks subtheme	↑	Impact	A community's ability to bounce back after a shock to the community
53	Personal resilience to shocks subtheme	↑	Impact	An individual's ability to bounce back after a shock to the individual
54	Food security and health			
55	Access to safe water	↑	Outcome	Ability to acquire non-contaminated water for drinking and cooking
56	Public facilities built	↑	Output	Construction of any facility for public use such as health centres, schools and community centres
57	Household health	↑	Outcome	Household health conditions, including local incidence of disease

58	Access to sanitation	↑	Outcome	Ability to utilize sanitation facilities such as piped water, flush toilets and soap
59	Access to safe food	↑	Outcome	Ability to acquire good quality food
60	Length of hungry season	↓	Impact	Both the presence and duration of a season where food is extremely scarce
61	Weight for height (wasted)	↓	N/A	Prevalence of wasted children
62	Dietary intake (Kcal)	↑	Outcome	Quantity of food consumed by households, preferably expressed in terms of caloric intake
63	Changes to household diet	-	Outcome	Changes to the quantity and quality of food consumed in a household. Direction of benefit depends on the change.
64	Weight for age (underweight)	↓	Impact	Prevalence of underweight children
65	Height for age (stunted)	↓	Impact	Prevalence of stunted children
66	Policy and institutions			
67	Organizational sustainability	↑	Outcome	The long-term sustainability of an organization, association or group. Sometimes indicated by the group's maturity.
68	Farmers' organizations	↑	Output	Groups of farmers, suppliers and/or processors that organize for collective action
69	Changes to policy and regulation	-	Outcome	Changes to public policy related to a project's efforts; direction of benefit depends on the policy
70	Resource management organizations	↑	Output	Groups responsible for overseeing the management and/or long-term maintenance of local resources
71	Membership in organizations	↑	Output	The number of members in any organization, association or group
72	Organizational contracts	↑	Output	Contractual arrangements made by organization with any other party
73	Infrastructure management organizations	↑	Output	Groups responsible for overseeing the construction and/or long-term maintenance of infrastructural investments

	Thematic coding	Benefit direction	Result level	Category description
74	Financial organizations	↑	Output	Financial institutions that offer financial services
75	Benefits of membership	↑	Outcome	The benefits of being a member in any organization, association or group
76	Credit or savings groups	↑	Output	Groups organized to facilitate uptake of financial services related to savings or credit
77	Public spending on agriculture	↑	Output	Public expenditure on agricultural development
78	Environmental sustainability			
79	Protected land and water	↑	Output	Changes to the areas of land/water under protection or land/water protected as the result of a project
80	Water points	↑	Output	Points for accessing water, including wells, boreholes, etc. Not necessarily potable water.
81	Soil quality	↑	Outcome	Status of soil, including fertility, degree of erosion, etc.
82	Energy system diversity	↑	Outcome	Diversification of the generating sources, utilization systems and consumption systems of energy
83	Pesticides or fertilizer use	↓	Outcome	Utilization of inorganic, harmful and potentially dangerous pesticides and fertilizers
84	Biodiversity	↑	Outcome	The quantity and quality of the diversity of plant and animal life, more species is “better”
85	Carbon reduction	↓	Outcome	Effective reductions in carbon emissions
86	Climate mitigation	↑	Impact	Planning, actions or project results aimed at mitigating the effect of climate change
87	Capacity to innovate			
88	Adoption of technology	↑	Outcome	Utilization of any improved technology relative to the status quo, improves “what” is used
89	Adoption of practices	↑	Outcome	Utilization of any improved practice or method relative to the status quo, improves “how” something is done
90	Public sector R&D funding	↑	Output	Public expenditure on research and development of improved technology or practices

91	Private sector R&D funding	↑	Output	Private expenditure on research and development of improved technology or practices
92	Yield per hectare (research)	↑	Outcome	Changes in agricultural yield as a result of the application of improved technology or practices
93	Women's empowerment			
94	Women in leadership	↑	Outcome	Women assuming leadership roles in the community, local organizations, etc.
95	Control of decision-making	↑	Outcome	Independent authority to make decisions without approval of men
96	Control of assets or benefits	↑	Outcome	Independent access and/or authority of women over any assets
97	Girl versus boy school enrolment	↑	Outcome	The difference in enrolment between girls and boys, girls' enrolment in general
98	Women's labour force participation	↑	Outcome	Women's participation in income-generating activities outside the home
99	Asset ownership differential	↑	Outcome	The difference in ownership of any assets between men and women

	Case coding	Abbreviation/ group	Category description
1	Claim direction		The direction of the stated change of a claim
2	Positive	+	Claims where the stated change is beneficial according to the benefit direction of the theme
3	Neutral	=	Claims that state no change has occurred
4	Negative	-	Claims where the stated change is not beneficial according to the benefit direction of the theme
5	Claim quantification		The expression of a claim in numerical or non-numerical terms
6	Quantitative	Quant.	Claims where the claim itself is expressed with a numerical change
7	Qualitative	Qual.	Claims where the claim itself is expressed with a non-numerical change

Case coding	Abbreviation/ group	Category description	
8	Claim support	The presence of a source of evidence for a given claim	
9	Supported	Sup.	Claims explicitly supported by a source of evidence
10	Partially supported	Part sup.	Claims implicitly supported by a source of evidence
11	Not supported	Not sup.	Claims not supported by a source of evidence
12	Quantitative evidence	Large sample data sources (n > 40)	
13	Project M&E	Project M&E	Data collected and maintained by the Project Management Unit itself
14	Household survey (non-RIMS)	Non-RIMS survey	A household survey that does not use the RIMS methodology
15	RIMS completion	RIMS survey	A RIMS household survey collected at the end of a project
16	RIMS midterm	RIMS survey	A RIMS household survey collected near the middle of a project
17	RIMS baseline	RIMS survey	A RIMS household survey collected at the beginning of a project
18	Government data	Other	Data collected by the government at any administrative level (i.e. CPI – Consumer Price Index)
19	Secondary survey	Other	Household data from a third party's survey not directly related to the project (i.e. LSMS – Living Standards Measurement Study)
20	Community survey	Other	Community data collected by the project or by a third party
21	Qualitative evidence	Small sample data sources (n < 40)	
22	PCR mission	Other	A data collection effort implemented in conjunction with the writing of the PCR
23	Community interviews	Other	Community data collected by the project
24	Qualitative data collection	Other	Observational data collected by the project
25	Secondary interviews	Other	Household data from a third party's interviews not directly related to the project
26	Unknown source	Unknown source	Data source is unknown or too little information is available to assign to another category

Appendix 2: Project descriptions

Region	Country	Project name	Project type	Objectives	Components	Target beneficiaries (households)	Time frame
APR	Cambodia	Community-Based Rural Development Project	AG	To reduce rural poverty in the targeted rural households in the project area.	Community development; agricultural development; rural infrastructure development; women's and veterans affairs; support to institutional development.	49 600	2001-2010
APR	China	Sichuan Post-Earthquake Agriculture Rehabilitation Project	RU	To re-establish rural people's physical assets and ensure the rapid and well-balanced recovery of rural living standards and the agricultural sector.	Sustainable rural livelihoods; project management.	64 200	2009-2012
APR	India	Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Programme	RU	To empower tribal people to participate in their own development through local self-government.	Beneficiary empowerment and capacity-building; livelihood-systems enhancement; and programme management.	74 000	1999-2010
APR	Pakistan	Southern Federally Administered Tribal Areas Development Project	IR	To improve living conditions and incomes for small-scale farmers, landless farm labourers, tenant farmers and women.	Community and women development; agricultural and livestock development; irrigation development; improved feeder road access; rural financial services; project management.	35 600	2002-2011
APR	Pakistan	Community Development Programme	RU	To improve the well-being of poor rural people in a mountainous area where settlements are remote and scattered.	Gender-sensitive community development; community development fund; natural resource management; programme management.	123 000	2004-2013
APR	Pakistan	Project for the Restoration of Earthquake-affected Communities and Households	RU	To enable rural households to rebuild livelihoods and reduce vulnerability in earthquake-affected areas.	Restoring permanent shelter (housing); access to water and economic means to survival (community physical infrastructure); livestock replacement.	8 000	2006-2010

APR	Sri Lanka	Dry Zone Livelihood Support and Partnership Programme	AG	To help poor rural people improve their incomes and living conditions sustainably through increased access to land and water resources, services, technologies and market linkages.	Rainfed upland agricultural development; marketing and enterprise development; irrigation rehabilitation; microfinance and income-generating activities; priority community infrastructure development; programme management.	80 000	2005-2013
APR	Sri Lanka	Post-Tsunami Livelihood Support and Partnership Programme	RU	To assist communities in recovering essential physical and social infrastructure destroyed by the calamity, including housing, settlement infrastructure, community centres, day-care facilities, clinics and fisheries roads.	Priority infrastructure development.	4 342	2006-2010
APR	Viet Nam	Rural Income Diversification Project in Tuyen Quang Province	RU	To improve the socio-economic status of upland ethnic minority groups and women.	Food security and income diversification; gender mainstreaming and Women's Livelihood Fund; Village Infrastructure Development Fund.	49 000	2002-2010
APR	Viet Nam	Programme for Improving Market Participation of the Poor in Ha Tinh and Tra Vinh Provinces	RU	To raise the incomes of poor rural people in 50 communes in Ha Tinh province and 30 communes in Tra Vinh province by improving their access to labour, finance, commodities and service markets.	Commune Market Opportunities Support.	50 000	2007-2012
ESA	Burundi	Rural Recovery and Development Programme (PROMR)	RU	To reduce rural poverty and promote sustainable market led-growth.	Community development; on-farm agriculture support; natural resource development and conservation; socio-economic infrastructure development; support to local initiatives; programme coordination.	40 000	1999-2010

Region	Country	Project name	Project type	Objectives	Components	Target beneficiaries (households)	Time frame
ESA	Ethiopia	Rural Financial Intermediation Programme	CR	To benefit poor people who have no access to basic financial services because of limited outreach and because they have no collateral.	Institutional development within the microfinance and cooperative subsectors; improved regulation and supervision of microfinance institutions (MFIs); equity and credit funds for MFIs and rural savings and credit cooperatives (RUSACCOs); programme coordination and management.	1 500 000	2003-2011
ESA	Kenya	Central Kenya Dry Area Smallholder and Community Services Development Project	AG	To help reduce mortality and disease, and improve the living conditions of rural poor people in the arid and semi-arid lands of the Central Province in the districts of Kirinyaga, Maragwa, Nyandarua, Nyeri and Thika.	Primary health care and domestic water supply; water development services; agricultural services; group development services; Poverty Alleviation Initiative; project management and coordination.	36 400	2000-2011
ESA	Kenya	Mount Kenya East Pilot Project for Natural Resource Management	RU	To promote environmental conservation as a means to ensure sustainable livelihoods for poor rural people.	Water resources management; environmental conservation; Global Environmental Facility Grant.	60 000	2002-2013
ESA	Mauritius	Rural Diversification Programme	AG	To help stimulate livelihood opportunities for disadvantaged households in Mauritius by developing microenterprises and diversifying food production.	Investment opportunities available in irrigated agriculture development; microenterprise and microfinance; development of fish aggregating device fishing; community development initiatives.	15 180	2000-2011
ESA	Mauritius	Marine and Agricultural Resources Support Programme (MARS)	AG	To improve the livelihoods of the most vulnerable households in Mauritius, particularly those dependent on marine resources, sugar cane production and employment in the textiles industry.	Support for pro-poor reform and institutional change; marine resource management; diversification of rural incomes and employment.	3 120	2009-2013

ESA	Mozambique	Sofala Bank Artisanal Fisheries Project (PPABAS)	RU	To improve social and economic conditions for poor fishing communities in the project area.	Community development; fisheries development; market support and access; financial services; policy, legislative and institutional support.	26 000	2001-2011
ESA	Rwanda	Umutara Community Resource and Infrastructure Development Project (PDRCIU)	AG	To help poor farmers in Umutara Province overcome local constraints, improve their living conditions and raise their incomes.	Capacity-building; infrastructure development; on-farm productive investments; financial services; institutional support.	51 000	2000-2011
ESA	Rwanda	Smallholder Cash and Export Crops Development Project (PDCRE)	RS	To increase incomes for poor rural families in the Eastern, Southern and Western provinces by improving their cash crop yields and sales.	Coffee diversification; tea development in Gikongoro; development of new cash and export crops; guaranteed credit scheme for smallholder tea and coffee growers; project coordination.	28 000	2003-2010
ESA	Rwanda	Support Project for the Strategic Plan for the Transformation of Agriculture (PAPSTA)	AG	To support the Government of Rwanda in implementing its strategy to effect a gradual shift from prevailing subsistence agriculture to market-based farming.	Institutional support for the agricultural sector; pilot actions through innovative models; project coordination and management.	10 000	2006-2013
ESA	United Republic of Tanzania	Rural Financial Services Programme	CR	To further rationalize and strengthen grass-roots microfinance institutions, to improve rural poor people's access to their services.	n/a	55 000	2001-2011
ESA	United Republic of Tanzania	Agricultural Marketing Systems Development Programme	AG	To improve the income and food security situation of the rural poor in the northern and southern marketing zones of Tanzania.	Agricultural marketing policy; producer empowerment and market linkages; financial market support services; agriculture, marketing infrastructure development; programme coordination.	25 000	2002-2010
ESA	Uganda	Vegetable Oil Development Project	AG	To increase cash income among smallholders by revitalizing and increasing domestic vegetable oil production.	Oil palm development; sector development; institutional support.	7 500	1997-2010

Region	Country	Project name	Project type	Objectives	Components	Target beneficiaries (households)	Time frame
ESA	Uganda	National Agricultural Advisory Services Programme	RS	To make rural livelihoods more secure, and to achieve sustainable improvements in agricultural productivity and household incomes.	Advisory and information services to farmers; technology testing and market-linkage development; regulation and technical auditing of service providers; private-sector institutional development; programme management and monitoring.	533 000	2000-2010
LAC	Argentina	North Western Rural Development Project (PRODERNOA)	RS	To reduce poverty and promote rural development in the provinces of Catamarca, Jujuy, Santiago del Estero, Tucumán y La Rioja, improving the socio economic situation of the poor population.	Technical assistance services (TAS); financial assistance services (FAS); a special programme focused on vulnerable groups; project management, monitoring and evaluation (M&E).	6 000	2003-2012
LAC	Argentina	Rural Areas Development Programme for Patagonia	RU	To improve income-generating opportunities of the rural poor by transforming low-performing economic activities into small profitable rural businesses.	Strengthening organizational capacities; rural business development.	3 000	2006-2014
LAC	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Management of Natural Resources in the Chaco and High Valley Regions Project (PROMARE-NA)	RS	To reduce rural poverty and to revert natural resource deterioration and desertification.	Management of natural resources; development of rural non-financial services.	100 000	2003-2011
LAC	Brazil	Sustainable Development Project for Agrarian Reform Settlements in the Semi-Arid North-East (Dom Hélder Câmara)	CR	To introduce sustainable improvements in income and living conditions for poor agrarian reform settlers and neighbouring smallholders.	Capacity-building; productive development and marketing; financial services.	15 000	2001-2010

LAC	Brazil	Rural Communities Development Project in the Poorest Areas of the State of Bahia (Gente de Valor)	RU	To improve living conditions and raise incomes for rural poor people through an environmentally sustainable development strategy.	Human and social capital development; productive and market development.	10 100	2006-2012
LAC	Ecuador	Development of the Central Corridor Project (PDCC)	RU	To contribute to strengthening a sustainable social and economic system of a strategic corridor linking the coast with the mountains and the Ecuadorian Amazon, from the province of Manabi to Pastaza.	Participatory planning and capacity-building; development of rural businesses; sustainable management of natural resources; local knowledge and cultural diversity.	36 000	2007-2014
LAC	El Salvador	Reconstruction and Rural Modernization Programme	AG	To help the El Salvadorean Government rebuild the region devastated by the 2001 earthquakes.	Reconstruction; rural modernization; institutional strengthening of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock; programme coordination.	4 280	2002-2012
LAC	Guatemala	Rural Development Programme for Las Verapaces (PRODEVER)	RU	To reduce poverty among the poorest rural families in the area by reactivating the regional economy, creating employment opportunities and increasing the productivity of smallholdings.	Local institutional strengthening; sustainable productive development; rural financial services; socio-economic investments; programme administration and coordination.	16 000	2001-2012
LAC	Haiti	Food Crops Intensification Project – Phase II	AG	To make sustainable improvements in rural people's incomes and welfare and foster their participation in development.	Strengthening of community organizations; support to community initiatives; support to decentralized financial services; project coordination and management.	16 000	1998-2011
LAC	Mexico	Project for the Rural Development of Rubber-Producing Regions of Mexico	AG	To achieve the sustainable improvement of economic and social conditions of poor farmers who live in the rubber-producing regions.	Human resource development; production-processing-commercialization development; management.	20 000	2001-2010

Region	Country	Project name	Project type	Objectives	Components	Target beneficiaries (households)	Time frame
LAC	Nicaragua	Technical Assistance Fund Programme for the Departments of León, Chinandega and Managua	RS	To improve the productive and marketing capacity of rural small- and medium-scale producers and entrepreneurs to help increase income and improve the living conditions of their families.	Promotion and organizational development; preinvestment financing; technical assistance services; capacity-building support; technology adoption through small-scale investments; information campaign and gender focus; management, monitoring and evaluation.	15 000	1999-2011
AC	Uruguay	National Smallholder Support Programme – Phase II (PRONAPPA II) and Uruguay Rural Project (PUR)	RU	To create and build capacity in the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries (MGAP) so that it can take part in designing and implementing sector policies to serve the most vulnerable rural sectors and ensure greater coordination with other MGAP projects and programmes.	Organizational strengthening and participation; smallholder support services; rural financial services; and programme management and M&E/learning.	10 000	2001-2011
LAC	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Sustainable Rural Development Project for the Semi-Arid Zones of Falcon and Lara States (PROSALAF II)	RU	To strengthen the capacity of participants and their organizations, and to promote conservation of the natural resource base, with a special focus on soil and water conservation.	Human and social capital development; natural resource rehabilitation; management and conservation; production development; rural financial services.	4 000	2003-2014
NEN	Albania	Programme for Sustainable Development in Rural Mountain Areas (SDRMA)	RS	To mobilize additional resources in Albania's mountain areas, to accelerate economic growth and poverty reduction, and to strengthen the capacities of local institutions and organizations to influence and support private and public sector investment.	Regional programme development; private-sector development; field implementation and testing of investment approaches; conversion of the Mountain Area Finance Fund into a fully fledged rural commercial bank.	24 700	2007-2013

NEN	Armenia	Rural Areas Economic Development Programme	CR	To increase incomes on a sustainable basis for rural people in mountain zones in the provinces of Aragatsotn, Gegharkunik, Lori, Shirak, Syunik, Tavusgh and Vayots Dzor.	Rural enterprise finance; rural business intermediation services; commercially derived infrastructure; programme analysis and administration.	n/a	2005-2010
NEN	Djibouti	Microfinance and Microenterprise Development Project	AG	To reduce rural poverty by increasing household incomes through enhanced access to financial and business development services.	Microfinance and microenterprise development; institutional capacity-building; project management and organization.	8 000	2004-2013
NEN	Georgia	Rural Development Programme for Mountainous and Highland Areas	AG	To improve living conditions and raise incomes for mountain communities in a way that is sustainable, while helping protect and restore the environment.	Promotion of participatory development; support for income generation; pilot community environmental improvement activities; programme management.	26 850	2001-2012
NEN	Georgia	Rural Development Project	CR	Sustained growth of rural incomes and employment, and reduction of poverty.	Agricultural supply chain; rural financial services; institutional modernization; project management.	6 000	2006-2012
NEN	Republic of Moldova	Agricultural Revitalisation Project	CR	To improve the quality and quantity of agricultural production, increase incomes and foster a transparent, replicable governance process.	Participatory community development; institutional capacity-building; community economic investments; project management.	42 000	2006-2013
NEN	Republic of Moldova	Rural Business Development Programme	CR	To help reduce poverty in rural areas nationwide.	Rural enterprise intermediation services; rural financial services; market-derived infrastructure investment.	n/a	2006-2012
NEN	Morocco	Rural Development Project for Taourirt-Tafouralt	RU	To improve the incomes and living conditions of the rural populations, especially women through activities aiming at improved natural resources management and protection, increased agricultural production and profitability, and sustainable rangeland development.	Land development; intensification of agricultural production; socio-economic development; project management.	14 000	1998-2010

Region	Country	Project name	Project type	Objectives	Components	Target beneficiaries (households)	Time frame
NEN	Morocco	Rural Development Project in the Mountain Zones of Al-Haouz Province	AG	To contribute to the social and economic development of poor people in the mountainous zones of Al-Haouz Province.	Capacity-building and promotion of local development; implementation of local development programmes; support to rural financial services and to microenterprise development; institutional support and project coordination and management.	8 500	2002-2011
NEN	Sudan	South Kordofan Rural Development Programme	RU	To improve the incomes of the poorest people in the state – smallholder and herder families, particularly those headed by women – and to provide them with access to social services.	Agricultural extension and smallholder services; livestock production and range management; community support services; rural financial services; institutional strengthening.	26 000	2000-2014
NEN	Syrian Arab Republic	Badia Rangelands Development Project	AG	To rehabilitate an area totalling about one third of the Badia rangelands and re-establish its productive capacity.	Rangeland development; livestock development; rural infrastructure; community development; project management.	16 800	1998-2011
NEN	Turkey	Sivas-Erzincan Development Project	RU	To address the main constraints on the sustainable development of subsectors of particular relevance to rural poor people.	Community and cooperative development; agricultural development; Project Management Unit.	5 000	2005-2013
NEN	Yemen	Al-Mahara Community Development Project	AG	To improve the well-being of smallholders and rural communities by encouraging them to take an active part in managing their needs and to use the natural resource base more productively and in a sustainable way.	Community development; support services; rural credit; Project Management Unit.	6 750	2000-2010
NEN	Yemen	Community-Based Rural Infrastructure Project (CBRIP)	RU	To improve the living standards of poor rural people in remote highland communities.	Upgrading of village access roads; development initiative facility; capacity-building and policy dialogue; project management.	60 000	2006-2013

WCA	Benin	Participatory Artisanal Fisheries Development Support Programme	FS	To alleviate the poverty of fishing communities considered among the poorest in the country by helping them to develop alternative income sources and to adopt sustainable fisheries management practices with the purpose to reduce the pressure on fishing resources and to reverse the negative effects of overfishing.	Strengthening of institutional capacities; rehabilitation of wetlands and waterbodies, especially in the south; rationalization of the fisheries subsector.	120 000	2003-2011
WCA	Benin	Rural Development Support Programme	RU	To increase rural household incomes.	Support to rural income-generating activity groups and microbusinesses; access to rural microfinance; support to village-level institutions; coordination and strategic partnerships.	11 200	2007-2012
WCA	Burkina Faso	Community Investment Programme for Agricultural Fertility	AG	To increase agricultural productivity through the implementation of soil and water conservation techniques, restoration of soil fertility, agroforestry and improved livestock management.	Strengthening of local capacity; support to and financing of micro-programme development; enhanced value of agriculture and livestock commodities, and development of income-generating activities; promotion of an institutional and economic environment conducive to sustainable development; programme management.	12 000	2004-2012
WCA	Cabo Verde	Rural Poverty Alleviation Programme (PLPR)	RU	To improve the living conditions of the rural poor; to establish effective and sustainable policy and institutional instruments for rural poverty reduction.	Financing of the local poverty alleviation plans and the regional partners' commissions; demonstration activities; training and capacity-building; programme management.	20 000	1999-2012
WCA	Cameroon	Roots and Tubers Market-Driven Development Programme (PNDRT)	RU	To improve the food security and livelihoods of rural people, especially vulnerable groups such as women and young people, through the development of the roots and tubers subsector.	Support for capacity-building and for farmer organizations; support for marketing and market development; support for processing, post-harvest and production; programme coordination and management.	120 000	2004-2013

Region	Country	Project name	Project type	Objectives	Components	Target beneficiaries (households)	Time frame
WCA	Chad	Food Security Project in the Northern Guéra Region Phase II	RU	To promote rural grass-roots institutions in the Northern Guéra Region, allowing their members to improve in a sustainable way their well-being, food security and nutritional status, and to undertake their own development.	Development of rural organizations; rural development fund; promotion of microfinance services; project management.	15 000	2001-2010
WCA	Chad	Kanem Rural Development Project	RU	To improve incomes and food security for households in the region, and especially for the most disadvantaged people.	Support for rural community development; Kanem Development Fund; development of financial services; project management and coordination.	18 000	2005-2010
WCA	Chad	Batha Rural Development Project	RU	To improve incomes and food security for poor rural households in the Batha region.	Support to rural capacity-building; support to rural investment; development of financial services; project coordination and management.	11 000	2006-2014
WCA	Congo	Rural Development Project in the Plateaux, Cuvette and Western Cuvette Departments	RU	To reduce market inefficiencies and high transaction costs; to increase the incomes and food security of the target groups, particularly women and young people, in a sustainable way, and to improve poor people's living conditions.	Opening up agricultural production zones; local capacity strengthening; support for agricultural and fishery production; financial services development; project management and coordination.	50 000	2004-2012
WCA	Côte D'Ivoire	Small Horticultural Producer Support Project	RU	To build the institutional, organizational and technical capacities of farmers' groups, the private sector, NGOs and public agencies to develop irrigation on a small scale.	Grass-roots participatory planning and capacity-building; irrigation development for valley bottom (bas fonds) and small vegetable plots; horticultural subsector development support; project coordination.	5 800	2000-2010
WCA	Ghana	Northern Region Poverty-Reduction Programme	RU	To strengthen government institutions and promote a more participatory approach to local development.	Operational support and capacity-building; Community Development Fund.	280 000	2004-2010

WCA	Guinea	Programme for Participatory Rural Development in Haute-Guinée	RU	To improve the incomes and the living conditions of the target group.	Support to local capacity-building; support to local initiatives and agricultural development; rural financial services; programme coordination and management.	32 000	2001-2010
WCA	Guinea-Bissau	Rural Rehabilitation and Community Development Project	RU	To tackle rural poverty by improving the livelihoods and incomes of the target populations.	Social services and road infrastructure rehabilitation; build capacity; recovery and development of the rural economy; project management.	13 000	2007-2013
WCA	Mauritania	Maghama Improved Flood Recession Farming Project – Phase II	RU	To contribute to achieving the country's Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper objectives of reducing the incidence and severity of rural poverty, and improving the human development indicators and the institutional capacities of the rural population.	Development of local capacities; promotion of economic activities; rural roads and basic infrastructure; project coordination.	15 000	2003-2011
WCA	Niger	Agricultural and Rural Rehabilitation Development Initiative	RU	To improve the income, food security and the living conditions of the poorest rural populations of the Maradi region.	Sustainable agrosilvopastoral development; infrastructure and easier access to basic social services; reduction of vulnerability of the poorest households; project management and regional coordination.	68 000	2006-2010
WCA	Niger	Project to Promote Local Initiatives for Development in Aguié	AG	To improve incomes, food security and living conditions for poor rural communities in Aguié Department and the neighbouring communes of Saé Saboua and Giratawa.	Support to local innovation; capacity-building of rural entities and organizations and other partners; establishment of a local innovation and initiatives support fund; strengthening of local service-delivery capacity; project management.	30 000	2005-2013
WCA	Nigeria	Community-Based Agricultural and Rural Development Programme	RU	To help the most vulnerable groups improve their incomes and living conditions.	Awareness and capacity-building; community development.	400 000	2003-2013

Region	Country	Project name	Project type	Objectives	Components	Target beneficiaries (households)	Time frame
WCA	Senegal	Agricultural Services and Producer Organizations Project – Phase II	RS	To develop and reform the institutional landscape of the agricultural sector in Senegal.	Support for agricultural research; support for agricultural advisory services; support for farmers' organizations; sectoral coordination and M&E.	n/a	2007-2011
WCA	Senegal	Promotion of Rural Entrepreneurship Project – Phase II	CR	To promote the diversification of rural incomes and livelihoods in a gender-sensitive way by developing local entrepreneurship in areas with strong economic potential.	Access to non-financial business development services; promotion of rural financial services; strengthening of professional organizations and political, legal and institutional environments; development of business information services; coordination and management.	7 000	2006-2013

Notes: Project types: AG = agricultural; RU = rural; RS = research; CR = credit; MK = marketing; FS = fisheries; IR = irrigation.

Sources: Project Completion Reports, Project Completion Report Digests, IFAD.

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