

STEP 3: MONITORING PROGRESS TARGETING IN M&E AND LEARNING SYSTEM

Addressing targeting in M&E and learning system enable the project to:

- monitor who is participating in and benefiting from project activities, who is not, and why this is so;
- learn and share lessons learned with relevant partners and knowledge networks.

In order to put in place an effective system to monitor targeting performance, the following activities are key:

A: Integrating into IFAD's Operational Results Management System (ORMS), indicators for outreach, outcome and outputs disaggregated by target groups.

B. designing a participatory and learning oriented monitoring system

C. monitoring the risks associated with poverty targeting

D. Plan for specific thematic study

A. Integrating into IFAD's Operational Results Management System – indicators for outreach outcome and outputs disaggregated by target groups

The logframe and M&E system should include **clear poverty and/or socio-economic classifications for outreach, output and outcome**. For example, in the absence of monetary and/or multidimensional poverty indicators, socio-economic classifications or government poverty-ranking tools can be used to classify target groups according to their poverty level. It is important that indicators for different categories of poor people, are developed, by for example disaggregating the poor and the poorest. Indicators and targets disaggregated by sex, age, ethnicity, disability and other relevant categories, should also be included.

The Belize Rural Finance Programme made use of government poverty classifications to target and monitor outreach to *“the poor”* and the *“very poor”*, along with women and youth. Completion report shows that the project benefitted; 35 per cent of extremely poor; 57% of women and 17% of youth.

B. Designing a participatory and learning-oriented monitoring system

Participatory and learning-oriented monitoring provides a space for the poor to voice their needs and concerns during implementation. It is a key instrument to monitor the project targeting performance and to learn how to adjust the course of the project based on feedback from local stakeholders. More in details, participatory monitoring entails the systematic recording and periodic analysis of information and feedback provided by local communities with the support of the project. Indicators for participatory monitoring are generally defined in consultation with local participants.

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Investing in a participatory and learning-oriented monitoring system, contributes to create a dynamic system, whereby lessons from the field are continuously captured and used to consolidate and/or improve pro-poor approaches. This also involves the organization of regular knowledge sharing meetings as well as consultations and workshops with a broad range of stakeholders. Appropriate measures should be taken to enable the poorest and other vulnerable groups, including women, young people etc. to participate actively in the process. These might include, the provision of: transportation to attend meetings and workshops; child care services to enable women participate; special facilities for people with disabilities etc.

Under **READ-SI in Indonesia** the M&E includes:

- **weekly dashboard** that shows progress on key outputs and objectives
- Household level analysis of **poverty impact**
- Regular **knowledge sharing** meetings and workshops
- **social media** to support knowledge management

C. Monitoring the risks associated with poverty targeting

The M&E and KM system should incorporate attention and monitor project-specific targeting related risks. Risks associated with targeting should be identified during SECAP preparation, and mitigation measures should be included in the SECAP review note and project design. Some of the key risks associated to targeting include:

- Under-coverage:** this refers to low take up among the target groups. Therefore, it is important that communities and local stakeholders are properly sensitized, and self-targeting measures are put in place to incentive the target groups to participate in the interventions.
- Leakage and excessive elite capture:** strong monitoring system should enable PMU to detect excessive elite capture and introduce more stringent criteria for limiting the participation of the better off and enhance a more equitable distribution of project's benefits. This should be particularly the case in value chains, access to markets and broader infrastructure interventions, whereby strong mitigation measures should be put in place.
- Social exclusion and conflicts:** In some contexts, such as in the case of demand-driven projects implementation arrangements and delivery mechanisms are built on local/indigenous social structures and owned by local communities. Therefore, the use of exclusionary criteria might contribute to create social tensions. For instance, in some indigenous communities, social cohesion might be an important cultural value. In those particular cases, it is advisable to always consult with local leaders and community representatives on the implementation of eligibility conditions.

D. Plan for specific thematic studies

It is important to plan for specific thematic studies to be conducted during implementation, if needed, to gather in-depth qualitative and/or quantitative data. This is particularly important, in those cases in which data gaps are identified during the design process. Studies on specific thematic issues might also be carried out to gain a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of outcomes and results with regard to targeting specific segments of rural societies.