

Republic of Mozambique
Impact Evaluation of the Sofala Bank Artisanal Fisheries Project
Approach Paper

Contents

Abbreviations and acronyms	ii
I. Background	1
II. Context	2
III. Key programme information	3
IV. Programme's evaluability assessment	4
V. Methodology	7
VI. Evaluation timeframe, process and key products	11
VII. Core-learning partnership	12
VIII. Evaluation team	13
IX. Communication and dissemination	13

Annexes

1. Main criteria for the selection and prioritization of impact evaluations by IOE
2. Sofala Bank socio-economic indicators
3. Fishery sector and human development in Mozambique
4. Key programme dates of the Sofala Bank Artisanal Fisheries Project
5. Definition and rating of the evaluation criteria used by IOE
6. Overview of the SBAFP theory of change
7. Evaluation framework

Abbreviations and acronyms

AFCs	Artisanal fishery communities
ESA	East and Southern Africa Division
CLP	core learning partnership
CSPE	country and strategy programme evaluation
CPM	country programme manager
EC	Evaluation Committee
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IOE	Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD
MFI	micro-finance institution
M&E	monitoring and evaluation system
NAFP	Nampula Artisanal Fisheries Programme
SBAFP	Sofala Bank Artisanal Fisheries Project
RIMS	Results and Impact Management System
SF	Selectivity Framework
ToC	Theory of Change
USD	United States Dollar

Impact evaluation of the Sofala Bank Artisanal Fisheries Project

Approach Paper

I. Background

1. In line with the IFAD Evaluation Policy¹ and decision of the IFAD Executive Board, the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE) first undertook an impact evaluation in 2013. So far, IOE has completed two impact evaluations, respectively in Sri Lanka (2013) and India (2014/2015²).
2. In 2015/2016, IOE is undertaking its third impact evaluation, as approved by the Executive Board in December 2014. The programme selected for the second impact evaluation is the IFAD-supported Sofala Bank Artisanal Fisheries Project (SBAFP) in Mozambique.
3. The SBAFP was selected for impact evaluation using a comprehensive selectivity framework (annex 1) agreed with the Board. In particular, the SBAFP was selected, inter-alia, to enhance the evidence base of the Mozambique Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation (CSPE) that IOE will conduct in 2016 and the planned evaluation synthesis report on fisheries and aquaculture in 2017.
4. IOE has conducted a number of evaluations in Mozambique in the past which will be used to inform the impact evaluation of the SBAFP, including a country programme evaluation in 2010, the completion evaluation of the Niassa Agricultural Development Project in 2007, and an interim evaluation of the Nampula Artisanal Fisheries Project in 2000.
5. **Objectives.** The objectives of impact evaluations by IOE are to: (i) assess impact of the project in a quantitative manner, while also paying due attention to qualitative aspects; and (ii) generate findings and recommendations for the design of future and implementation of ongoing operations in the country and elsewhere.
6. **Lessons learnt from previous impact evaluations by IOE.** The SBAFP impact evaluation will also build on IOE's previous experience in conducting impact evaluations in Sri Lanka and India. Impact evaluations in both these countries revealed a number of lessons learned concerning evaluation methodology and processes as summarized in Box 1.

¹ <http://www.ifad.org/pub/policy/oe.pdf>

² The project selected for the impact evaluation in Sri Lanka was the Dry Zone Livelihood Support and Partnership Programme and it was completed in end-2013. The project selected for the impact evaluation in India was the Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Programme and it was completed in June 2015. The final evaluation reports may be seen at the following web link: http://www.ifad.org/evaluation/public_html/eksyst/doc/impact/index.htm.

Box 1 - Lessons learnt from impact evaluations undertaken by IOE

- Undertaking an in-depth technical evaluability assessment at the outset of any impact evaluation is fundamental. Among other issues, it allows evaluators to select appropriate methods and instruments for data collection and analysis, taking into account the findings from the evaluability assessments.
- The absence of or poor quality baseline surveys pose major challenges, particularly to ex post impact evaluations. Under such circumstances, specific methods must be deployed to reconstruct baseline situations at the time of the evaluation, allowing for a more rigorous assessment of the changes induced by the operation being evaluated.
- IOE adopted a quasi-experimental mix-methods approach (i.e. propensity score matching), allowing the assessment of impact in a quantitative manner while also paying attention to qualitative aspects of IFAD operations. At the same time, IOE also assessed other key evaluation criteria (e.g. project efficiency and sustainability) in the context of its impact evaluations, providing a more comprehensive assessment of project results.
- Impact evaluations take time and careful ex ante planning is essential to ensure timely completion of the exercise. In particular, within the IFAD context, hiring a company to collect primary data requires competitive bidding, which is labour and time intensive. To overcome this challenge, for its second impact evaluation in India, IOE recruited a national company for the collection of primary data through a closed bidding process, thus reducing the costs for data collection as well as time taken for the competitive process.

II. Context

7. **National socio-economic situation.**³ Since the end of the two-decade long civil war in 1992, Mozambique was able to implement a market oriented economy, effective economic policies, as well as commitments to alleviate rural poverty, which have contributed to encourage growing foreign investment, significant donor support and economic performance. As a result, the country witnessed a sustained economic expansion with the GDP growing at an average of seven per cent per year for the last two decades. The largest contributor to the GDP is the services sector (50.2 per cent), followed by the agricultural sector (28.6 per cent), and the industrial mining and energy sectors (21.2 per cent). The fisheries sector contributes with a three per cent.
8. Annex 2 provides a snapshot of the fishery sector and of the human development situation in the country.
9. **Overview of the socio-economic situation in the programme area.** The Sofala Bank is the narrow strip off the coast of Mozambique from the southern Sofala province, covering the Zambezia province, to halfway up the Nampula province, as well its fishing waters to a distance of some 20 kilometers from the coast. This area of around 950 kilometers has a large diversity of ecosystems with, among others, many sandy beaches and dunes, mangrove forests, bays and widespread wetlands.
10. The three provinces count a population of over 11 million people, out of which two third are concentrated in the coastal areas. The artisanal fishery represents a major source of employment, food and income for the rural communities along the Sofala Bank, which has the largest numbers of artisanal fishery communities in Mozambique. In the provinces of Nampula and Zambezia, the population living below the poverty line is close to the national average of 70 per cent, however in Sofala, this percentage increase to between 80-90 per cent. An overview of the main socio-economic indicators for the project area is contained in annex 3.

³ Data from the Intelligence Unit of the Economist, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and UNDP.

III. Key programme information

11. **IFAD and the artisanal fisheries sector in Mozambique.** IFAD has addressed the sustainable social and economic development of fishers communities in Mozambique through three projects since 1996:
 - i. the Nampula Artisanal Fisheries Project (NAFP) (1996-2000), which was the first integrated fisheries IFAD-funded project in Mozambique;
 - ii. the SBAFP (2001-2011), which is based on the experience of NAFP; and
 - iii. PROPESCA, the successor project of the SBAFP, which is currently on-going (2012-2018).
12. **Background of SBAFP.** The Sofala Bank Artisanal Fisheries Project (SBAFP) was IFAD's seventh project in Mozambique. The project was initially designed by the Institute for the Development of small-scale fisheries (IDPPE) in 2000, which is one of the four organizations under the Ministry of Sea, Interior Waters and Fisheries with administrative autonomy⁴, and responsible for supporting artisanal fisheries and fishing communities. In 2001, the project was appraised by IFAD and thereafter approved by the Executive Board.
13. **Key Programme dates.** Annex 4 summarizes the key programme dates of the SBAFP.
14. **Project area.** The project is implemented in the Sofala Bank,. This area of around 950 kilometers has a large diversity of ecosystems with, among others, many sandy beaches and dunes, mangrove forests, bays and widespread wetlands. Because of this large surface area and variation in landscape, six concentration areas were chosen along the coast in which "project activities could be implemented most cost-effectively and achieve the greatest impact". These concentration areas consist of 17 project districts with most villages 3-5 kilometers inland, which were selected on: (i) accessibility; (ii) the concentration of fish resources; (ii) the number of artisanal fishers and fishing centres; and (iii) level of linkages to markets and commercial activity.
15. **Target group.** At design, the target group consisted of around 500,000 people encompassing both fishing families and non-fishing families (aiming to support the community as a whole. Within this target group, the primary beneficiaries consist of 290 fishing communities in the above described six concentration areas along the coast encompassing 26,000 fishers and their families. The secondary beneficiaries consist of (i) an estimated 2,300 fish traders, fish processors, boat builders, craftsmen, artisans and other economically active groups within the coastal communities; and (ii) families that provide labour along the access roads rehabilitated by the project belong to the secondary beneficiaries.
16. **Project development goal.** The project's development goal as stated in the President's Report was to: "attain a sustained improvement in the social and economic conditions of artisanal fishing communities in the project area".
17. **Objectives.** To achieve this goal, the project sought to: (a) empower and create capacity in fishing communities to take increased responsibility for local development initiatives, including implementing social infrastructure and service activities, and sustainably managing marine resources; (b) improve the access of artisanal fishers to the fish resources of the Sofala Bank, and promote their sustainable and commercially viable use; (c) improve the linkages of artisanal fishing communities to input and output markets;(d) increase the availability of savings facilities and small loans to artisanal fishers, increase business opportunities for traders with linkages to fishing centres, and improve services to

⁴ The other three are: (i) the fisheries research institute (IIP) which provides advice on the state of fish stocks; (ii) the fisheries development fund (FFP), which manages public sector budgets on its behalf; and (iii) the fisheries school.

fishers through access to finance by small-scale enterprises in the project area; and (e) improve the enabling environment for promoting and supporting artisanal fisheries development.

18. **Components.** At design, SBAFP comprised of five project components:
- Support to artisanal fisheries development (e.g., technical assistance, provision of new gears, trainings to improve quality and reduce losses, diversification of products, awareness raising, co-management and resource assessment);
 - Support to provision of financial services development (e.g., technical assistance, trainings for rotating saving and credit groups, financial services to market town traders, enterprise credit to fishing centers);
 - Access to inputs/outputs markets (e.g., promotion of linkages with the private sector, support to information services, infrastructures);
 - Support to an enabling policy environment (e.g., adoption and enforcement of policies and strengthening of institutions);
 - Support to community development and mobilization (e.g., creation of social infrastructures – in particular health posts and safe water points – capacity building and mobilization through the creation of co-management committees and village committees).
19. **Implementation arrangements.** The official executing agency of the project is the Ministry of Sea, Interior Waters and Fisheries (MSIWF). It comprises four organizations with administrative autonomy, namely:
- (i) the Small-scale Fisheries Development Institute (IDPPE) – focussing mostly on research and technical inputs;
 - (ii) the Fisheries Research Institute (IIP) – providing advice to the Ministry on the state of stocks and the exploitation in close cooperation with IDPPE;
 - (iii) the Fisheries Development Fund (FFP) – managing public sector budgets, financial services to the fisheries sector and receiving all donor/external funding for the Ministry and subsequently transmitting them to the project; and
 - (iv) the Fisheries School.
20. MSIWF is overall responsible for the project and the related policy and institutional environment, while the organization and management of the project lays with IDPPE through its headquarters in Maputo and three Provincial Project Coordination Units (PCUs). The PCU consists of a project coordinator which reports to the National Director of IDPPE. They are assisted by (i) an M&E specialist; (ii) three Provincial financial/contracts officers, (iii) a logistics/administrative officer; (iv) sector specialists and (v) support staff.
21. Other national authorities involved in project activities were: (i) The Maritime Administration under the Ministry of Transport and Communications which provides support to the fisheries sector and is responsible for fisheries regulations, licensing for artisanal fisheries and the safety at sea; and (ii) The National Roads Authority (ANE) within the Ministry to Public Works and Housing (MOPH) which is responsible for planning and financing national and regional roads and facilitating rural water activities.

IV. Programme's evaluability assessment

22. At the outset of every impact evaluation, IOE conducts a thorough *evaluability assessment*. The aim of the assessment is to: (i) generate a comprehensive picture of the availability and quality of data collected and documentation produced throughout the project's life; and (ii) evaluate the programme's intervention logic with a particular focus on its results framework at design. The evaluability assessment of the programme will be further fine-tuned as appropriate during the

- impact evaluation process, and a comprehensive review included in the final impact evaluation report.
23. The evaluability assessment at the outset of the process is critical to have a thorough understanding of how evaluable the programme is as designed, and what data is available and what can actually be used in the impact evaluation. This is necessary for selecting the most suitable methodological approach for the impact evaluation, in particular in determining the additional primary data that will need to be collected to ensure a rigorous assessment of results and impact.
 24. The next paragraphs provide a summary of the results of the evaluability assessment of the SBAFP, conducted by IOE in October 2015. The evaluability assessment was informed by interactions with key stakeholders in the country, and the full evaluability assessment report can be made available by IOE upon request.
 25. Based on a thorough research, the following key documents have been collected and will be used in the impact evaluation:
 - Appraisal report;
 - President's report, containing the programme's design and logical framework;
 - Baseline survey (2002) and subsequent impact surveys (2005, 2007 and 2011);
 - Supervision reports;
 - Tri-term review reports;
 - The SBAFP impact assessment conducted in 2010 by IFAD's East and Southern Africa regional division;
 - Project Completion Report (PCR), including RIMS indicators; and
 - The SBAFP project completion report validation by IOE.
 26. In addition to the above and in consultation with project authorities, IOE has collected data from the project's M&E system during the impact evaluation preparatory mission conducted by IOE in October 2015. The data and document collected include:
 - List of districts, administrative posts, localities, villages for each province;
 - Number of direct and indirect beneficiaries in each province;
 - List of associations, co- management committees and savings and credits groups (ASCAS) in each province;
 - Mapping of the beneficiaries in each province, with GPS coordinates; and
 - Baseline survey in 2002 and subsequent surveys done in 2005, 2007 and 2011.
 27. **Project monitoring and evaluation system (M&E).** IDPPE was able to set up a M&E system and team, which has been the same for the NAFF, SBAFP and PROPESCA. This is an advantage for the SBAFP impact evaluation as data and institutional knowledge is still available in the field and will provide IOE with the opportunity to better understand the overall approach to the sustainable and inclusive development of the fisheries sector in the country.
 28. The M&E system was based on a manual, which provided guidance for the planning of M&E and the collection of data. The data are stored in an excel database, which contains for each province the list of the districts and villages, administrative posts, localities, associations, co-management committees, savings and credit groups (ASCAS), and GPS coordinates of villages, associations, health centres, community

councils, schools, water points, hospitals, infrastructure, toilets, offices and fishing centers in the Sofala Bank project area.

29. **Usability of available data.** The technical assessment on the usability of baseline data revealed that the 2002 baseline study covered only 373 households, while the sample size of the subsequent surveys is larger (over 1500 households). However, in none of the surveys there is mention of considerations for sample size decision such as key indicators to be estimated, level of significance, power etc. and most importantly none of them identified and collected data on comparison groups. Therefore, the usability of available data for any statistically robust impact evaluation is considered poor.
30. Along the same lines, the usability of the data collected on the RIMS indicators is also limited, as the data were not entered in the system regularly and many information are missing (e.g., on third level indicators - such as child malnutrition, household assets, etc. - and on gender disaggregated data). However, the reports from the surveys and other impact assessments will be used given that they contain information on possible causal relations in the programme's results chain and lessons.
31. **Logical framework.** The log-frame at design is structured according to the components as listed in paragraph 18. Each component in the log-frame comprises the "purpose" to be achieved, the indicators to measure it and the outputs. There is no reference to baselines and targets for the indicators.
32. The project purposes and objectives overlap in most cases with the exception of the component on financial services. To better visualize the above, table 1 summarizes the objectives, components and related purposes:

Table 1
Project objectives, components and purposes

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Components</i>	<i>Purposes</i>
Empower and create capacity in fishing communities to take increased responsibility for local development initiatives	Community development	Empower fishing communities
Improve the access of artisanal fishers to the fish resources of the Sofala Bank, and promote their sustainable and commercially viable use	Fisheries development	Improve access to and the sustained use of the Sofala Bank fish resources by artisanal fishers
Improve the linkages of artisanal fishing communities to input and output markets	Markets	Improve economic and physical linkages of artisanal fishing communities to input and output markets
Increase the availability of savings facilities and small loans to artisanal fishers, increase business opportunities for traders with linkages to fishing centres, and improve services to fishers through access to finance by small-scale enterprises in the project area	Financial services	Increase commercial and economic activity in the artisanal fisheries sector
Improve the enabling environment for promoting and supporting artisanal fisheries development	Policy	Improve the enabling environment for promoting and supporting artisanal fisheries development

33. There are three additional limitations in the programme's logical framework. First, the log-frame does not include the intermediate steps and causal linkages guiding the programme logic from outputs to purposes. Second, although the SBAFP was supposed to be implemented following an integrated approach, the log-frame treats the components separately and therefore it does not clearly show their synergies and how they mutually reinforce each other to achieve overall programme objectives. Third, the assumptions, which identify what is necessary for the causal links to work, are general and mainly linked to the economic context and do not, for example, cover institutional or policy aspects.

34. There are two main interrelated consequences of the above: (i) the log-frame does not clearly identify for the different components the pathways of change (or impact pathways) which are the sequence of steps in getting from inputs and activities to impact; and (ii) the impact that the project should have on the beneficiaries in terms of incomes and assets, which is key for the project to fulfil its development objective, is missing in the results chain.
35. In order to overcome the above limitations and to get a better understanding of the causalities and linkages in the results chain, the impact evaluation developed ex-post the programme's theory of change which unfolds the different impact pathways and describes the causal assumptions behind the links in the results chain. The theory of change is described in the next section on methodology.

V. Methodology

36. **Evaluation criteria.** The impact evaluation of the SBAFP will follow the key criteria for project-level evaluations contained in the second edition of the Evaluation Manual of IFAD,⁵ namely: rural poverty impact, project performance (including relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of benefits), other performance criteria (including gender equality and women's empowerment, innovation and scaling up, environment and natural resources management, adaptation to climate change), overall project achievement and performance of partners (IFAD and Government).
37. While the focus of the evaluation is decisively on the impact criterion, the performance of the project will also be assessed across all other criteria. This allows the impact evaluation to provide a more strategic and holistic assessment of the SBAFP's performance. In particular, in line with IOE's methodology, impact is assessed across four specific domains. These include: (i) household income and assets; (ii) human and social capital and empowerment; (iii) food security and agricultural productivity; (iv) institutions and policies. The main evaluation criteria used by IOE and their definitions are shown in annex 5.
38. In line with the IFAD Evaluation Manual, all the criteria will be rated on a scale from 1 to 6, with 6 representing the best and 1 the worst score. Moreover, project ratings falling into the three higher ratings (4-6) will be classified as "satisfactory" while the three lower ratings (1-3) as "unsatisfactory". The ratings from this impact evaluation will inform the 2017 Annual Report on Results and Impact of IFAD Operations (ARRI) by IOE.
39. **Impact.** IOE defines impact as "the changes that have occurred – as perceived at the time of evaluation – in the lives of the rural people (whether positive or negative, direct or indirect, intended or unintended) as a result of IFAD interventions".⁶ In particular, the impact evaluation will determine, using extrapolation techniques, the number of people moved out of poverty using the internationally recognised indicator of USD 1.25/d as well as the national poverty line in Mozambique.
40. This evaluation will not only assess "if", but also "how" and "why" the project has, or has not, had an impact on selected households and communities in the project area. To this end, IOE developed and discussed with key stakeholders during the preparatory mission an ex-post theory of change (ToC), which underpins the intervention's logic as described in the next paragraphs.
41. **Theory of change.** The theory of change of the project is contained in annex 6. As already mentioned, the project is expected to have adopted an integrated and participatory approach, which consists in the implementation of the components (or project inputs) listed in paragraph 18.

⁵ The evaluation manual will be published at the end of 2015.

⁶ http://www.ifad.org/evaluation/process_methodology/doc/manual.pdf.

42. The theory of change illustrates the main sequential steps from activities to impact of the five project components, their linkages and the main causal assumptions, which as mentioned above are missing in the project log-frame. The components are coded with different colors in the chart: red for community development and mobilization, purple for policies, blue for fisheries development, orange for financial services and black for market access.
43. Impact pathways. Four impact pathways can be discerned in the chart for the project to successfully fulfil its development objective:
- improved income and assets for the AFCs, which is the key impact to be achieved by the project and, linked to it, better productivity of the artisanal fisheries sector and better food security and nutrition of AFCs;
 - strengthened human and social capital of the poorest AFCs;
 - improved environmental management of the Sofala Bank; and
 - enabling policy environment.
44. In order to achieve improved income and assets and improve the productivity, food security and nutrition of the poorest AFCs, the project shall first achieve the following outcomes:
- (i) diversified and increased volume and quality of the artisanal fishery produce, through the use of new sustainable technologies that are tailored to the needs of the beneficiary group and which allows the artisanal communities to engage in alternative income generating activities (e.g., high value fish). This in turn leads to the diversification and increase in the quantity and value of the production;
 - (ii) Increased economic activities in target areas, which are triggered by an increase in sectoral investments (for example for the acquisition of new fishing gears) and trading. The investments by the artisanal communities increase if the interest and capacity of micro-finance institutions (MFIs) to provide services targeted to the artisanal communities enhance and if the communities are willing to use these services. The enhanced capacity and greater interest of the MFIs in serving the artisanal sector would result in greater access by the AFCs to long and short term financial credit that can be invested by the fisher communities to improve their productivity, meet the technical standards to market their products and increase incomes;
 - (iii) Improved commercialization of the produce through better access to markets. This entails on one hand the strengthening of market linkages with the private sector and the inclusion of AFCs in the fishing input supply chain (to access inputs such as boats, gears, ice). On the other hand, AFCs can play a better role in output markets if their products are more diversified (e.g., fresh and frozen fish – shrimps - and improved quality of cured fish) and if their knowledge of markets dynamics and prices improve. Finally, in order to better access the inputs/outputs market, the AFCs need better infrastructures and facilities, including roads access to markets, ice production and freezing facilities along the market chain and transportation facilities.
45. The above described processes shall be accompanied by interventions aimed at strengthening the human and social capital of the AFCs and inducing a behavioural change in the way targeted communities use and access the marine resources of the Sofala Bank. The SBAFP shall have improved the living conditions and strengthened the social capital of the AFCs by constructing safe water points and health posts. The improvement in health conditions would in turn further boost the development process.

46. Moreover, the project is expected to have supported the creation of grassroots institutions, such as village and co-management committees, to raise the AFCs awareness on environmental issues and ensure that the AFCs are mobilized and actively participate in the sustainable development process of the sector. In this context, only if the co-management committees are institutionalized they could play a key role in representing the interest of the fishermen and in mitigating the conflicts on marine resources with the industrial sector, in liaising with private sector for the provision of inputs and ensuring the enforcement of laws and the use of more sustainable technologies.
47. Finally, the impact pathways leading to the creation of an enabling policy environment and the better management of the resources of the Sofala bank cut across the different components. In fact, the project is expected to have promoted policy interventions aimed at (i) supporting market based and uniform financial services (ii) strengthening sectoral institutions at provincial and central levels, (iii) facilitating the adoption of sectoral laws related to fishing limits and exclusive access rights to the AFCs, and (iv) institutionalizing the co-management committees.
48. The effective enforcement of the policies combined with the use of sustainable technologies and increased environmental awareness prevent the overexploitation of natural resources and favour a better environmental management of the Sofala Bank.
49. **Use of the ToC.** The ToC guides the preparation of the evaluation framework (draft contained in annex 7) and the design of the impact survey for the collection of primary quantitative and qualitative data impact indicators. Also, the theory of change will inform the analysis in the evaluation report.
50. **The Impact Survey.** The main aim of the impact survey is to collect primary data on the impact of the project, and in particular on the number of people moved out of poverty. The results of the survey will inform the overarching impact evaluation report, once the impact survey data and analysis is available. The survey will cover the four impact domains in the IFAD Evaluation Manual plus environment and natural resources management and climate change, given the focus of the project on the sustainable use of environmental resources (especially marine resources).
51. Mix-methods approach. Efforts will be made to gain a thorough appreciation of impact in each area based on both a quantitative and qualitative analysis, as appropriate. To this end, the evaluation will use a mix-methods approach applying quantitative quasi-experimental and qualitative participatory methods. It is expected that some impact domains may be better explored through quantitative analysis, others through qualitative, and some through a combination of the two. The impact survey will however be designed mainly with a focus on quantitative analysis.

52. Quantitative part of the survey. Primary data will be collected and analysed on socio-economic indicators from the treatment group (e.g., beneficiary group) and the comparison group. Provided that treatment and comparison samples have similar salient characteristics, by comparing these two samples, the evaluation will measure and attribute the changes induced by the project through a thorough analysis of the situation of both groups **“before and after”** and **“with and without”** the intervention. Due to the weak quality of the baseline survey, the before and after analysis will be challenging. Nevertheless, efforts will be made to reconstruct the baseline situation (e.g., through recall methods), at least for few key indicators, to allow a before and after analysis.
53. The data collected will be analysed through quasi-experimental methods (e.g., propensity score matching, instrumental variables, etc.). Particular attention will be paid to spill over and contamination effects and other potential bias in the selection of the comparison group, as described in the next session on opportunities and challenges.
54. Qualitative part of the survey. The qualitative component of the survey will provide information and analysis on topics for which the quantitative analysis is not suitable (e.g., in particular on impact on social capital, institutions and policies, gender) and will help probe into issues that emerge from a detailed review of existing SBAFP documentation. As highlighted by the theory of change, the project is expected to have had an impact on gender equality and women empowerment. Therefore, the data collection and analysis will also include specific subcomponents of the programme dedicated to women clients, and will explain the factors that contributed to or hampered their performance⁷.
55. Qualitative data collection will be conducted at the same time as the quantitative survey on a sample of households participating in associations, groups and committees set up by the project, as well as on a sample of households in the comparison group.
56. Data collection may take the form of a combination of participatory techniques (focus group discussions, individual interactions and other techniques that are deemed appropriate). Given that the project closed 4 years ago, the qualitative part of the survey will be key to identify confounding factors at play which are challenging to control with a single post-treatment survey data collection.
57. Sampling framework for the impact survey. The sampling strategy, including the total sample size, will be confirmed at the time of the survey design, using information or estimates on the population’s statistical characteristics (e.g., their levels of income, literacy, land holding, etc.). Based on previous similar studies, it is anticipated that the minimum total representative sample size consists of about 3 000 households, including comparison groups, across the three provinces. As mentioned above, spill overs/ contamination/sample bias that could occur while targeting marginal groups must be taken into due account in the sampling phase.
58. **Opportunities and challenges.** This impact evaluation represents an opportunity for IOE to gain deeper experience with mixed evaluation methodologies and sharpen its capabilities in assessing impact through greater reliance on quantitative approaches. IOE’s growing experience in conducting impact evaluations will also benefit IFAD as a whole, for example, as it will contribute to strengthening the internal debate on impact evaluations.

⁷ The impact evaluation survey will collect data on gender equality and women’s empowerment to provide quantitative and qualitative data and information on the three objectives set the 2003 Gender Plan of Action, which articulates IFAD’s main operational objectives for promoting and mainstreaming the gender dimension across IFAD operations: (i) expand women’s access to and control over fundamental assets – capital, knowledge and technologies; (ii) strengthen women’s agencies – their decision-making role in community affairs and representation in local institutions; and (iii) improve women’s well-being and ease their workloads by facilitating access to basic rural services and infrastructures.

59. The main challenge in conducting this impact evaluation is related to the identification of a comparison group and attribution of impact to a project that completed four years ago. With regard to the identification of a suitable comparison group, the evaluability assessment of the project revealed that five districts in the three provinces were not covered by the project and therefore the comparison group will be sampled from them.
60. In addition to the above, the evaluability assessment also mapped potential confounding effects from other interventions by Government and international organizations⁸ inside or outside the programme area as well as unplanned events (e.g. natural disasters) or general changes processes, that might have interacted with the SBAFP as described in the evaluability assessment report. Therefore, the observed changes might be only partly caused by the programme.
61. As described in the above paragraphs, IOE will try to address this problem by applying quasi-experimental mix-methods to compare the situation with the intervention to the counterfactual (e.g. situation without the intervention). Also, in order to avoid to the extent possible contamination from other interventions, the beneficiary group will be sampled from the villages in the six concentration areas covered by the SBAFP. Finally, the impact survey includes several tagging questions that allow the identification of project beneficiaries, thus reducing the risk of interviewing households that benefitted from other programmes.
62. With regard to the “evaluability” of impact, the review of available documents suggests that in a large number of programme sites, programme implementation targets were completed by project completion for most of the components and may have contributed to generating impacts in the last four years. Also, as mentioned in paragraph 27, the institutional memory and knowledge is still available in the field and the interviews with key informants will be crucial to confirm the above and review the progress for the sub-components for which information are missing in the project documentation.
63. With regard to the geographic spread of the operation, due consideration will be given during the design of the impact survey (e.g., in terms of budget allocation, timelines for data collection and analysis and overall report preparation, and sampling strategy), to ensure that the three provinces are properly covered and that the sites are accessible and respondents available.
64. Finally, the SBAFP impact evaluation will draw on IOE’s previous experience in addressing the above challenges in undertaking impact evaluations. In particular, IOE mobilized through a competitive bidding process the support of the University of Maputo Eduardo Mondlane to develop and administer the impact survey for primary data collection, under the overall direction of IOE.

VI. Evaluation timeframe, process and key products

65. The evaluation will be undertaken from June 2015 to June 2016. The evaluation results will be presented to the Evaluation Committee (EC) of the Board in October 2016. Table 3 provides the timeframe for the impact evaluation with expected key products. In particular, the draft evaluation report will be shared simultaneously with the IFAD Management and Government of Mozambique at the beginning of June 2016 for comments.
66. Once Management and Government comments are considered and the report finalised, the IFAD Management will prepare a written response to the impact evaluation, which will include their agreement or otherwise to adopt and implement the recommendations specifically addressed to the Fund in a timely manner. The

⁸ IOE met during the preparatory missions to Maputo in October 2015 with other institutions (i.e. African Development Bank, the World Bank, FAO and bilateral agencies) that have been active in the programme area during the SBAFP period. This has facilitated the identification of overlaps among development interventions during implementation and will help address the impact attribution issue.

IFAD Management Response will also be shared with the EC at the same time when members discuss the final impact evaluation report. The implementation of the agreed recommendations will be tracked through the President’s Report on the Implementation Status and Management Actions (PRISMA) on evaluations recommendations, presented to the EC and the Board annually.

67. A learning event will be organized in Mozambique in June 2016, in order to engage multiple stakeholders, concerned partners, the IFAD Country Director and other staff within and from outside IFAD in sharing knowledge and lessons learnt around key topics of interest deriving from the impact evaluation. The learning event will be organized in conjunction with the main mission of the Mozambique CSPE.

Table 3

Evaluation timeframe

<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Key products</i>
October 2015	IOE Preparatory mission to Mozambique	BTOR and TOR for the selection of the national institution for primary data collection in the field
November 2015	National institution hired	ToRs and contract
December 2015	Approach paper and methodology developed, including sampling strategy and impact survey	Approach paper
February 2016	IOE field mission to pilot and fine tune the research instruments and conduct interviews with key informants	Back to Office Report
February-April 2016	Field survey conducted and data analysed	Paper containing the analysis of impacts by selected indicators and a description of the proximate causes that have contributed to the achievement of impacts
End-May 2016	IOE internal peer review	Draft evaluation report
Beginning-June 2016	Evaluation report share with IFAD management and Government of Mozambique for comments	Draft evaluation report
End-June 2016	Final report available	Impact evaluation report
End-June/beginning July	Learning event in Mozambique	Workshop report, news pieces etc.
July 2016	Learning event in Rome to share key lessons learned	Workshop report, news pieces etc.
13 October 2016	Evaluation report presented to the Evaluation Committee	

VII. Core-learning partnership

68. Stakeholders’ participation is crucial for successfully conducting evaluations in general, and in particular impact evaluations. This will ensure that the key concerns of the stakeholders are taken into account, that the evaluators fully understand the context in which the programme was implemented, and that opportunities and constraints faced by the implementing institutions are identified.
69. In accordance with the Evaluation Policy, a core-learning partnership (CLP) will be established to enhance the quality of the impact evaluation as well as to build ownership among key partners in the evaluation process and its outcomes. The CLP will comprise the following members:
- i. **Representatives of IFAD management**

- The Country Programme Coordinator and Country Programme Director for Mozambique
- Programme Management Department, front office
- Strategic and Impact Assessment Division
- ii. **Government authorities at national level**
 - Director and Deputy Director of Treasury in the Ministry of Economy and Finance
 - Director, IDPPE
- iii. **Government authorities at provincial level**
 - IDPPE provincial branches
- iv. **IOE**
 - Deputy Director, A. Muthoo
 - Lead Evaluation Officer, F. Felloni

VIII. Evaluation team

70. The impact evaluation team will be composed of:
- i. Ms Simona Somma, IOE Evaluation Officer, who is the lead evaluator for this impact evaluation. She will work under the immediate supervision of Mr Fabrizio Felloni, IOE lead evaluation officer;
 - ii. Ms Renate Roels, IOE Evaluation Research Analyst, will provide technical support; and
 - iii. Ms Chabana Bagas, IOE Evaluation Assistant, will provide administrative support.

IX. Communication and dissemination

71. Once finalized, the report will be made available on the evaluation section of the IFAD website and through international evaluation networks (e.g. the Development Assistance Committee, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; the United Nations Evaluation Group; and the Evaluation Cooperation Group). Presentations on the findings and methodological issues will be made at IFAD and for national stakeholders in Mozambique. IOE may also present the evaluation findings at international forums such as the Evaluation Cooperation Group of the MDBs, the United Nations Evaluation Group and other platforms.

Main criteria for the selection and prioritization of impact evaluations by IOE

1. **No duplication.** No IE conducted by IFAD Management of the same operation
2. **Learning from IE.** Evidence needed on what works in a certain context
3. **Building block.** Priority for IEs that will provide an input into CSPEs, CLEs or synthesis reports
4. **Completion date.** IEs will be done within three years after completion date
5. **Baseline data.** The availability and usability of baselines is essential to determine the methodology to be applied in IEs
6. **Information gaps.** The PCR does not provide sufficient analysis of the effectiveness and impact of certain interventions
7. **Innovative approaches.** The project includes innovative approaches that merit deeper analysis and documentation

Sofala Bank socio-economic indicators

	<i>Sofala</i>	<i>Zambezia</i>	<i>Nampula</i>	<i>Mozambique</i>
Contribution to national GDP by province (2008)	11%	12%	14%	-
Total population million	1.95	4.6	4.8	24.4
Total number of men million	947 863	2 203 257	2 353 417	11.8
Total number of women	1 003 148	2 359 761	2 414 025	12.6
Approx. % people below 1.25 USD per day	80-90	70	70	70
Nr of hospital and health centers/posts	156	227	210	1,448
Road network km	2 342	4 541	4 116	30 554
Registered unemployment	7 600	3 857	3 052	28 759
% illiterates (15 years and older)	43.4%	62.5%	62.3%	50.4%
Of which men	23.0%	43.5%	46.5%	65.5%
Of which women	61.9%	79.0%	77.4%	35.9%

Source: various reports INE

Key programme dates of the Sofala Bank Artisanal Fisheries Project

<i>Year</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Occurrence</i>
2001	September	12	Approval of IFAD loan of SDR 14 million ⁹ by the Executive Board
2002	February	20	Loan signature
2002	September	02	Project becomes effective
2003	August		Supervision mission (UNOPS)
2004	September - October	20-1	Supervision mission (UNOPS)
2005	October-November		First Tri-term review
2006	November-December		Supervision mission (UNOPS)
2007	July		Supervision mission (IFAD/UNOPS)
2008	March-April		Second tri-term review
2008	September	19	First loan amendment
2008	September	30	Original completion date
2009	September-October		Country Programme Evaluation (IOE)
2009	March	31	Original loan closing date
2009	April-May		Supervision mission (IFAD)
2009	July	16	Second loan amendment
2010	May-June		Supervision mission (IFAD)
2011	January	14	Third loan amendment
2011	March	31	Actual completion of the project
2011	September	30	Actual loan closing
2012	May		Third tri-term review (Project Completion Report)
2012	November		Project Completion Report Validation (IOE)

⁹ In the loan agreement the IFAD funding is specified in SDR. 14 million SDR is equivalent to approximately 18 million USD.

Fishery sector and human development in Mozambique

1. **Fishery sector.** The fisheries sector is one of the main sources of livelihood in Mozambique, which has a 2,700 km coastline on the Indian Ocean with access to a vast fishing area with considerable resources. The Sofala Bank contains the country's richest fishing grounds. In addition, it has two large inland water bodies next to countless small rivers and lakes scattered through the country.
2. The marine fishing sector in Mozambique is characterized by industrial fishery (vessels over 20m), semi-industrial fishery (vessels between 10-20m) and artisanal fishery (vessels up to 10m). It is estimated that the country's annual marine catch is about 130,000 tones, of which the largest part comes from artisanal fishing (91 per cent) and only seven per cent and two per cent from industrial fishing and semi-industrial fishing respectively. However, in terms of value, the industrial catch represents around 52 per cent, while artisanal catch represents up to 42 per cent and semi-industrial catch the residual six per cent.
3. The industrial fishery is primarily dominated by State joined companies and production is almost entirely focused on crustaceans for the export market. The semi-industrial fishery mostly target national markets and some regional export markets, among which primarily South Africa. Most of the artisanal fishing is for domestic consumption and executed by coastal communities. Artisanal fishing is therefore very important for food security in the coastal districts, but also in the interior regions.
4. Within a population of 27.2 million in 2014, about 334.000 depend directly or indirectly on artisanal fisheries of whom the largest part are artisanal fishermen (about 70 per cent), followed by collectors and divers. This is three times as much as in 2002, when the census estimated 100,000 people directly dependent on artisanal fishing.
5. In fishing communities, men are mainly responsible for fishing as it is considered a dangerous activity that requires a lot of physical strength. Local gender norms constrain women from participating in main fishing operations, from owning a boat, fishing equipment or related resources and their mobility in general. Therefore, women tend to be primarily active in agriculture (90 per cent). To some extent they are involved in fishing supporting activities such as post-harvest activities (e.g. trade, transport and looking after the fish), selling food on the beaches and processing activities. Nowadays they tend to be increasingly involved in the collection of crustaceans along the beach. However, despite these exceptional tasks, local traditions limit the role of women in the fishing sector and constrain them from moving up the value chain.
6. The artisanal fishing families are considered among the poorest in the country and suffer from great isolation. They are often cut off from the larger economy, lack (social) infrastructure and health facilities. Furthermore, the artisanal fishermen have to compete with the (semi) industrial ones, who have better fishing techniques, equipment and preservation methods as well as a better fleet, financial resources and access to markets. This backlog prevent them from realizing the full value of their produce and from increasing the catch of high-value fish.
7. **Human development.** Despite the robust economic growth, Mozambique is classified by the World Bank as a low income country, with a per capita GNI (Atlas method) of USD 620 in 2014. The rapid economic expansion over the past 20 years had only a moderate impact on poverty reduction, and the geographical distribution of poverty remains largely unchanged with most of the poor concentrating in remote rural areas. Along the same lines, the main social indices are on the low side. In fact, Mozambique ranked 178th out of 187 countries in the

2014 Human Development Index (HDI) and 144th out of 149 for the gender inequality index¹⁰.

8. The social progress index for access to improved sources of water and sanitation ranks Mozambique 128th and 119th, respectively, out of 135 countries. The average life expectancy at birth is just 50.3 years, HIV prevalence among adults shows a downward trend, stabilizing at a relatively high rate of 11.5%. Life expectancy at birth improved only slightly over the last 15 years from 47 to 50. Food insecurity is increasing in the country and malaria remains the most common cause of death, responsible for 35% of child mortality and 29% for the general population. Literacy levels are low and remained practically stalled over time. Nowadays only half of the adults and 60 per cent of the youth are literate. Among women on the other hand, only around 30 per cent is literate. These numbers are even lower among rural and fishery communities.

¹⁰ UNDP 2014 Human Development Report and relevant explanatory note
http://hdr.undp.org/sites/all/themes/hdr_theme/country-notes/MOZ.pdf

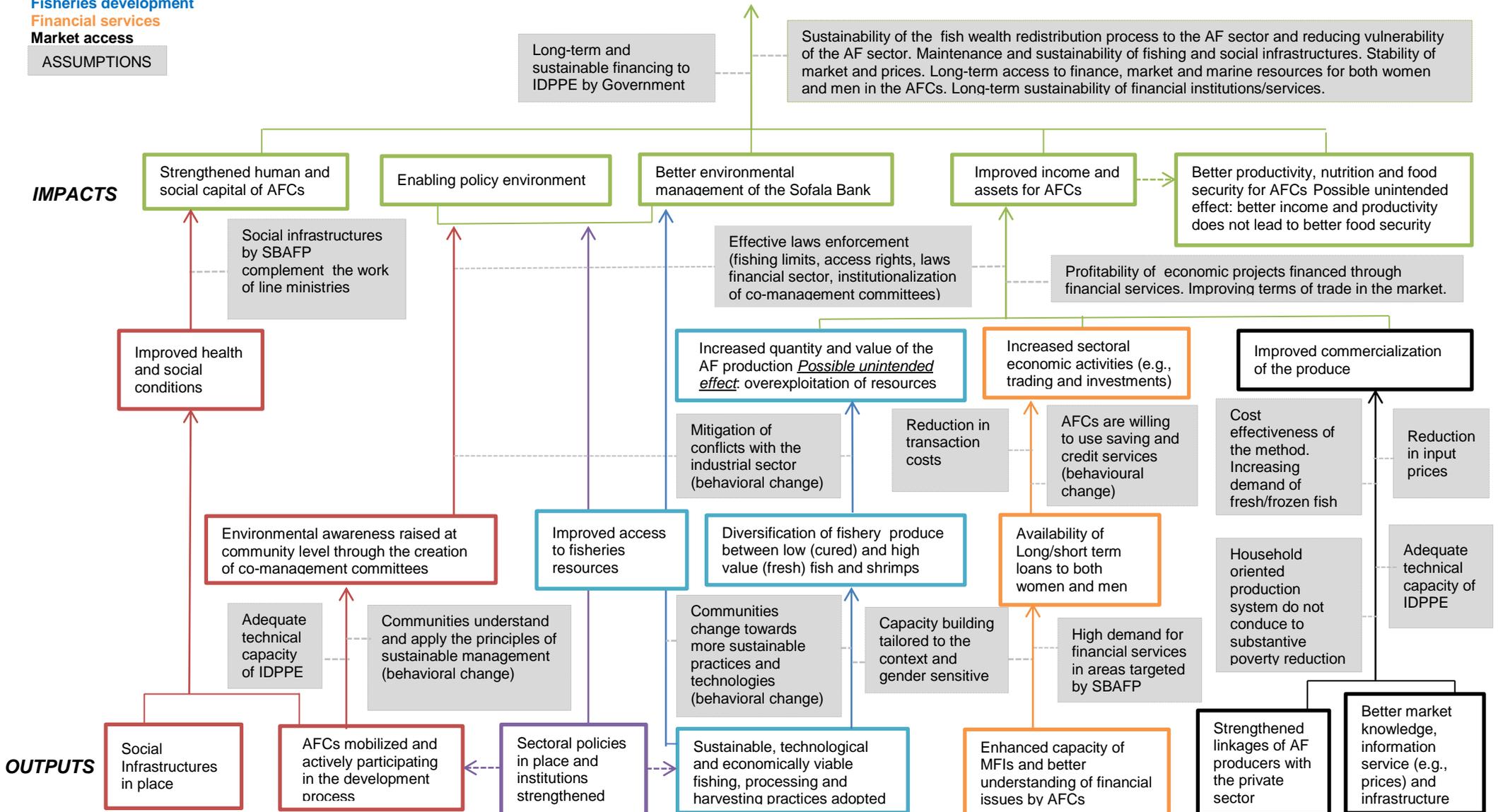
Definition and rating of the evaluation criteria used by IOE

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Rural poverty impact	<p>Impact is defined as the changes that have occurred or are expected to occur in the lives of the rural poor (whether positive or negative, direct or indirect, intended or unintended) as a result of development interventions.</p> <p><i>Four impact domains</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household income and net assets: Household income provides a means of assessing the flow of economic benefits accruing to an individual or group, whereas assets relate to a stock of accumulated items of economic value. The analysis must include an assessment of trends in equality over the time. • Human and social capital and empowerment: Human and social capital and empowerment include an assessment of the changes that have occurred in the empowerment of individuals, the quality of grass-roots organizations and institutions, the poor's individual and collective capacity, and in particular, the extent to which specific groups such as youth are included or excluded from the development process. • Food security and agricultural productivity: Changes in food security relate to availability, stability, affordability and access to food and stability of access, whereas changes in agricultural productivity are measured in terms of yields; nutrition relates to the nutritional value of food and child malnutrition. • Institutions and policies: The criterion relating to institutions and policies is designed to assess changes in the quality and performance of institutions, policies and the regulatory framework that influence the lives of the poor.
Project performance	Project performance is an average of the ratings for relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of benefits.
Relevance	The extent to which the objectives of a development intervention are consistent with beneficiaries' requirements, country needs, institutional priorities and partner and donor policies. It also entails an assessment of project design and coherence in achieving its objectives. An assessment should also be made of whether objectives and design address inequality, for example, by assessing the relevance of targeting strategies adopted.
Effectiveness	The extent to which the development intervention's objectives were achieved, or are expected to be achieved, taking into account their relative importance.
Efficiency	A measure of how economically resources/inputs (funds, expertise, time, etc.) are converted into results.
Sustainability of benefits	The likely continuation of net benefits from a development intervention beyond the phase of external funding support. It also includes an assessment of the likelihood that actual and anticipated results will be resilient to risks beyond the project's life.
Other performance criteria	
Gender equality and women's empowerment	The extent to which IFAD interventions have contributed to better gender equality and women's empowerment, for example, in terms of women's access to and ownership of assets, resources and services; participation in decision making; work load balance and impact on women's incomes, nutrition and livelihoods.
Innovation and scaling up	The extent to which IFAD development interventions: (i) have introduced innovative approaches to rural poverty reduction; and (ii) have been (or are likely to be) scaled up by government authorities, donor organizations, the private sector and others agencies.
Environment and natural resources management	The extent to which a project contributes to changes in the protection, rehabilitation or depletion of natural resources and the environment.
Adaptation to climate change	The contribution of the project to increase climate resilience and increase beneficiaries' capacity to manage short- and long-term climate risks.
Overall project achievement	This provides an overarching assessment of the intervention, drawing upon the analysis and ratings for rural poverty impact, relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, gender equality and women's empowerment, innovation and scaling up, as well as environment and natural resources management, and adaptation to climate change.

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Performance of partners	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IFAD• Government	This criterion assesses the contribution of partners to project design, execution, monitoring and reporting, supervision and implementation support, and evaluation. The performance of each partner will be assessed on an individual basis with a view to the partner's expected role and responsibility in the project life cycle.

- PROJECT COMPONENTS:
 Community development and mobilization
 Policies
 Fisheries development
 Financial services
 Market access
 ASSUMPTIONS

Sustained improvement in the social and economic conditions of the artisanal fishing communities



Evaluation framework

<i>Evaluation criteria</i>	<i>Key evaluation questions</i>	<i>Impact indicators</i>	<i>Data Sources</i>
Rural poverty impact	Did the social and economic conditions of the AFCs improved? If so, why? How many people have been affected and lifted out of poverty?	Standard of Living Index Number of people moved out of poverty based USD1.25/day and national poverty line	Desk review Qualitative: Interviews Focus group discussions
<i>a) household income and assets</i>	a.1 What have been the changes on incomes and assets in the beneficiary group as compared to the non-beneficiary? In particular: What is the mean current annual income and what was 5 years ago and 10 years ago? What is the relative wealth of the HH based on the household characteristics and assets? Has SBAFP increased fishermen's income-generating capacity in targeted areas with respect to non-targeted areas? What is the contribution of the fishery production to improved incomes? How did it change over time? Did the saving capacity of AFCs improve as compared to 10 years ago? how are those savings utilized? Are the productive investments increasing in project areas? What factors caused the above changes?	Wealth index Income % of HH reporting increase in number of sources of income % of HH reporting engagement in alternative income generating activities Tot savings and credits % of productive credit and trend over time % of HHs reporting savings and credit (in ASCAs and other sources)	Quantitative: impact survey by IOE and secondary data
<i>b) human and social capital and empowerment</i>	b.1 What changes have occurred in the empowerment and quality of grass roots organizations? What factors caused the changes? In particular: To what extent the programme contributed to strengthening the role of community based organizations, inter alia, in planning and executing development activities? To what extent did the behaviour of the communities change towards the adoption of sustainable fishing practices? Towards the use of micro finance services?	% of respondents reporting participation in village and co-management committees, groups and associations in the last one year % of women of reporting participation in village and co-management committees, groups and associations in last one year % of respondents that received trainings from the project % of HH with access to education and health facilities % of HH with access to safe source of drinking water	
<i>c) food security and productivity</i>	c.1 What have been the changes in the food security of targeted communities and productivity of the fisheries sector? What were the factors triggering the changes? In particular: Did the improvement in incomes lead to better food security?	% of HHs reporting year round availability of food + other indicators on household food self-sufficiency Tot Indicators relevant to the productivity of the fishery sector (e.g. catch, tools etc.)	

	<p>What have been the changes in the average productivity of the fisheries sector in the programme's area with respect to comparison areas?</p> <p>Has the SBAFP increased on average the percentage of commercialized production of the beneficiaries with respect to non-beneficiaries?</p> <p>What have been the changes in nutrition and health conditions?</p>	Indicators on access to natural resources, including
<i>d) institutions and policies</i>	d.1 What are the changes in the quality and performance of institutions, policies and the regulatory framework that influence the lives of the poor? What has been the programme's contribution to the behavioural changes in local authorities and grass roots organizations? What were the underlying causes for the change induced?	
<i>e) natural resources, and environment</i>	<p>e.1 What has been the impact on natural resources and environment?</p> <p>In particular:</p> <p>To what extent and how did the project contribute to the sustainable use of marine resources?</p> <p>To what extent and how did the project contribute to improve the resilience of AFCs to environmental shocks?</p>	
Project performance		
Relevance	<p>Were the <u>objectives</u> of the SBAFP relevant?</p> <p>Were they relevant to: country strategies and policies? the needs of the poor? IFAD's priorities, strategies and COSOPs?</p> <p>Was the project <u>design</u> appropriate?</p> <p>In particular, was it based on a thorough socio-economic analysis of the sector which would allow an in-depth understanding of the complex dynamics characterizing the AFCs, including gender related aspects?</p> <p>Did it target the poorest artisanal fishing communities, including women?</p> <p>Was it based on development approaches tailored to the context (A5)?</p> <p>Did the project have an exit strategy at design?</p>	<p>Desk review</p> <p>Qualitative: interviews</p>
Effectiveness	<p>Was the project <u>targeting</u> approach effective?</p> <p>What was the project <u>outreach</u> at completion?</p> <p>Did the programme meet its <u>objectives</u>?</p> <p>In particular:</p> <p>Did the project succeed in mobilizing AFCs? How many associations were institutionally recognized at project completion?</p>	<p>RIMS</p> <p>Desk review</p> <p>Qualitative: Interviews</p> <p>Focus group discussions</p> <p>Quantitative: Probit analysis</p>

	<p>Did the project support the local authorities in the improvement/creation of social infrastructure?</p> <p>Did the project support the creation and adoption of sectoral policies? Are these policies known at community level?</p> <p>Did the AFCs adopt the fishing practices introduced and disseminated by the project?</p> <p>Did the AFCs production improve at project completion as compared to project design? What about the production of high value fish?</p> <p>To what extent did the capacity of MFIs improve?</p> <p>To what extent did the AFCs access to financial services and input/output markets improve?</p> <p>Did the AFCs productive investments increase at project completion as compared to project design?</p> <p>To what extent did the project contribute to set-up a functioning market information system?</p> <p>To what extent did the project contribute to improve the economic linkages between the AFCs and the private sector? What has been the change in inputs/outputs prices?</p> <p>WAS the technical capacity of IDPPE adequate to support the implementation of the project?</p>		Selected recall questions in the impact survey
Efficiency	<p>How economically resources and inputs were converted into results?</p> <p>In particular:</p> <p>How cost-effective were the development approaches adopted by the project?</p> <p>What was the cost of the project as compared to fisheries project supported by other donors in the country?</p> <p>What was the time lag between approval and loan effectiveness?</p> <p>What was the budget utilization at completion?</p> <p>Were the funds from IFAD and other partners made available in a timely manner?</p> <p>What are the project management costs at completion? And as compared to other similar projects?</p>	Proxy indicators of efficiency	<p>Desk review</p> <p>Qualitative: Interviews</p>
Sustainability of benefits	<p>To what extent the net benefits deriving from the project are continuing? To what extent did the project contribute to trigger a process of wealth redistribution towards the AF sector? To what extent did the project contribute to reduce the vulnerability of the sector? What is the sustainability of the project from a technical, institutional and social perspective?</p>		<p>Desk review</p> <p>Qualitative: Interviews</p> <p>Focus group discussions</p>
Other criteria			
Gender equality and women	<p>What has been the impact on gender equality and women's empowerment? Did the project</p>	Women empowerment index	Desk review

empowerment	expand women's access to and control over fundamental assets?	Qualitative: Interviews
	Did the project strengthen women's agencies – their decision-making role in community affairs and representation in local institutions?	Focus group discussions
	Did the project improve women's well-being and ease their workloads by facilitating access to basic rural services and infrastructures?	Quantitative: impact survey
Innovation and scaling up	To what extent did the project introduce innovative approaches that have been scaled-up by the GoM and others?	Desk review
	To what extent did the project learn from past experience and inform the design of new projects?	Qualitative: Interviews