Sofala Bank Artisanal Fisheries Project - Mozambique

**Impact Evaluation**

**Project area**

- Total population of Mozambique: >24 million
- 70% of population living under poverty line ($1.90 US/day)
- Population of the Sofala Bank: 11 million
- 80-90% of Sofala Bank population living under poverty line ($1.90 US/day)

**Coverage**

Targeted 500,000 people, including 26,000 direct beneficiaries located in 290 fishing communities in six concentration areas along the coast.

**Development objectives**

Sustained improvement in the social and economic conditions of the artisanal fishers communities in the project areas.

1. Community development
2. Fisheries development
3. Markets
4. Financial services
5. Policy, legal and institutional support

**The SBAFP impact evaluation**

Ex-post evaluation assessing the impact of the IFAD-funded programme in the Sofala Bank in Mozambique...

...using quantitative techniques and combining them with the qualitative component of the evaluation (mixed-method approach)

...and conducting a "with or without" and a "before and after" the project analysis.

The project was assessed against a set of internationally recognized performance criteria and IFAD specific evaluation criteria.

- Relevance
- Effectiveness
- Efficiency
- Sustainability
- Impact
- Innovation and scaling up
- Gender equality and women's empowerment
- Performance of partners
### Key findings

#### AREAS OF STRENGTHS

**ENABLING POLICY ENVIRONMENT: PESPA**
The Plano Estratégico para o Sector da Pesca Artisanal (PESPA) promoted three key sub-sector policies: three mile exclusion zone, differentiated closed fishing seasons, and minimal mesh size.

**ACCESS TO MANAGEMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES**
Co-management approach to small scale fisheries resulted in better uptake of new practices.

**PRODUCTION**
Expansion of fishing area and diversification of fishing gears lead to higher fish production.

**INCOME AND ASSETS**
Improved access to informal microfinance and markets lead to better income and physical assets.

**STRENGTHENED HUMAN AND SOCIAL CAPITAL**
Positive impact of investments into social infrastructures and community mobilization and empowerment.

#### AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

**FORMAL MICROFINANCE AND PRIVATE SECTOR**
There were poor linkages with the formal financial sector and the private-sector.

**MARKETS ACCESS**
Support to market access confined to infrastructure development and improvement of post-harvesting practices.

**POLICIES**
No policies on microfinance and markets were promoted by PESPA.

**GENDER EQUALITY**
Gender mainstreaming not secured by an adequate implementation strategy.

**MONITORING AND EVALUATION**
Shortcomings in M&E, data quality and availability, to attribute impact.

### Recommendations

1. **Institutional framework and policies**
   IFAD should work with the Government of Mozambique and the World Bank to ensure artisanal fishers’ access to markets and finance are duly considered in the revised PESPA.

2. **Private sector engagement**
   Project design should include attention to gender mainstreaming, and include initiatives to empower women and involve them in productive activities.

3. **Gender equality**
   IFAD and the Government should ensure that private-sector stakeholders are clearly identified as key partners in fisheries development.

4. **Measuring and evaluation**
   M&E should be better leveraged for promoting greater development effectiveness.