

Mandate

The Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE) is responsible for conducting independent evaluations of IFAD-financed policies, strategies and operations to promote accountability and learning. The main purpose is to contribute to improving IFAD's and its partner's performance in supporting rural transformation in recipient countries.

In identifying key insights and recommendations drawn from evaluation findings, IOE is also concerned, in accordance with IFAD's disclosure policy, with communicating and sharing IFAD's knowledge and experience of rural and agricultural development with a wider audience.

Project performance evaluations

Project performance evaluations (PPEs) are generally based on the project completion report validation and additional information and data collection by IOE at the country level through a short mission. PPEs focus on identifying the proximate causes of good or less good performance and contain recommendations addressed to IFAD Management and the concerned governments.

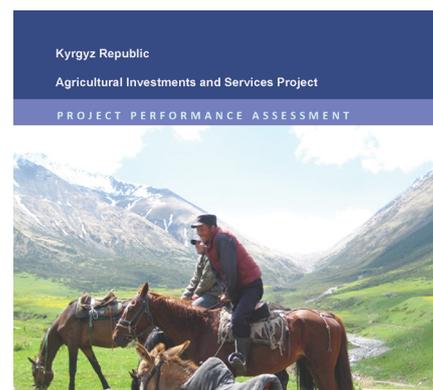
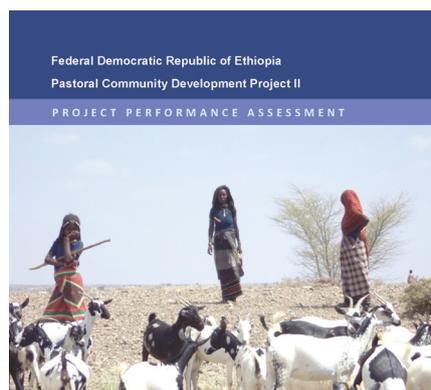
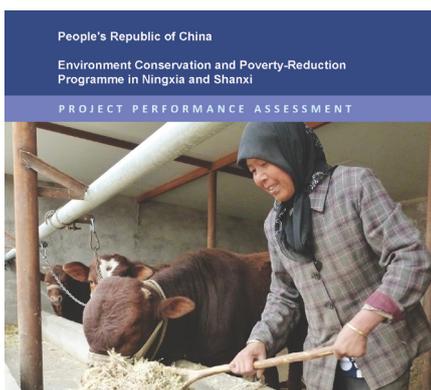
Objectives

The main objectives of a PPE are to:

- Assess the results of the project under consideration;
- Generate findings and recommendations for the design and implementation of ongoing and future operations in the country involved; and
- identify issues of corporate, operational or strategic interest that merit further evaluative work.

Methodology

PPEs are conducted in accordance with the directives of IFAD's Evaluation Policy¹ and follow the core methodology and processes outlined in IOE's Evaluation Manual,² following internationally-agreed evaluation criteria such as relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability of benefits and rural poverty impact. They include findings on performance and ratings across the evaluation criteria adopted by IOE and evidence-based conclusions and recommendations.



Process

Preparation and desk review phases, which requires developing the approach paper. The paper specifies the evaluation objectives, methodology, process, timelines, and key questions. During this stage, a desk review is conducted examining available documentation. The desk review informs further work, which identifies a list of issues and questions to be further analysed during the field mission, as well as the availability of data and any information gaps that need to be filled in by the evaluation.

Field mission, data collection and analysis phases.

The PPE field mission will last from seven to ten days in the country, including meetings in the capital and the project area to collect primary data through qualitative and quantitative techniques. A wrap-up meeting must be held with the government counterpart and other concerned authorities at the end of the mission, to share the emerging findings from the PPE and provide a briefing about the next steps.



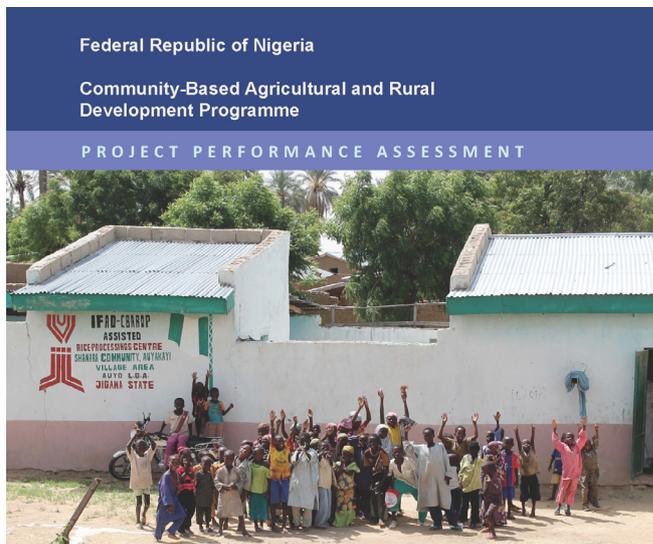
Once the field mission is over, data and information collected from the field are analysed, as well as feedback from key informants at the country level, including beneficiaries.

Report writing, comments and communication phases. During this phase, IOE prepares the draft final report, and shares it with IFAD's regional division. PPEs are also shared with the government, and other partners for review and comments. Upon receipt of

such comments, IOE finalizes the draft report and a learning event may be organized within IFAD to share and discuss findings and their possible implications for future assistance in the same country or thematic area.

Expected results

Promote accountability and learning for better development effectiveness; feed into and inform the design of new projects as well as the implementation of ongoing projects; contribute to enhancing the quality of IFAD's operations; constitute an important building block for the preparation of other key IOE evaluation products, such as the Annual Report on Results and Impact of IFAD Operations (ARRI), evaluation synthesis reports, and other evaluations such as country strategy and programme evaluations and corporate-level evaluations.



¹ www.ifad.org/en/evaluation/policy_and_methodology/tags/2085763.

² www.ifad.org/en/evaluation/policy_and_methodology/tags/5702569.