

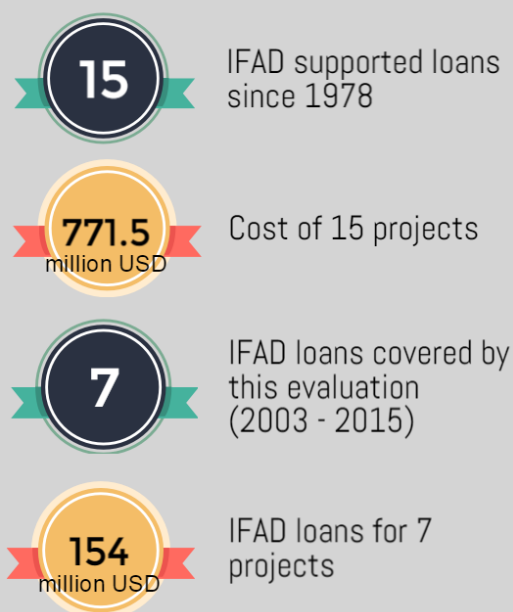
COUNTRY STRATEGY AND PROGRAMME EVALUATION REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES 2003-2015



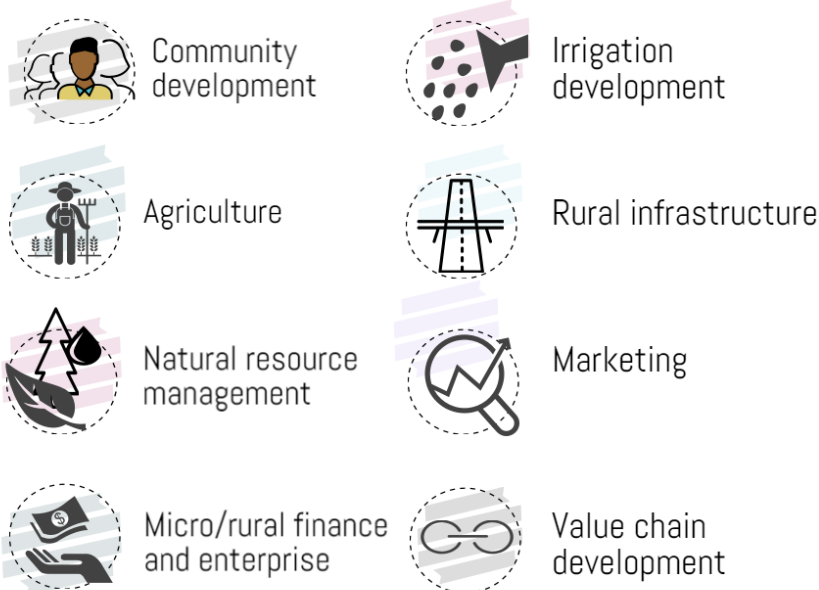
Population	100.7 million (2015)
Rural population	56 million (2015)
GDP growth	5.8% (2015)
Poverty headcount ratio	13.1% (2012)
Human development index	0.668 (2014) - Ranking: 115 out of 188 countries
Life expectancy at birth	68.27 (2014)

Source: United Nations Development Programme; World Bank.

IFAD OPERATIONS



MAIN AREAS



STORYLINE

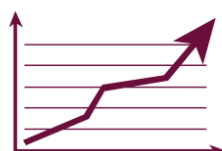


Over the period of the evaluation, IFAD's support to the Philippines changed primarily in two ways

- 1) A shift from area-based interventions with participatory planning approach to a more mixed portfolio with more sectoral focus
- 2) Adoption of a more knowledge-driven partnership strategy with the Government to deliver innovative programmes targeted at poor rural communities

Over the past decade, the Philippines has experienced steady economic growth and is now classified as a lower middle-income country

However, poverty has persisted, especially in rural areas, and further efforts are needed for broader-based and inclusive growth



Good performance in knowledge management but this should be upgraded for more effective linkage and engagement with policy issues

This should be accompanied by improved portfolio performance and monitoring and evaluation

KEY FINDINGS

Areas of strength

Achievements in irrigated agriculture, rural infrastructure, participation of communities in development planning and implementation and strengthening their organizations, and greater involvement of indigenous peoples in local governance

Significant achievement in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment

Good prospects for sustainability of benefits due to overall supportive policy, legislative and institutional framework.

Knowledge management was successful thanks to the country presence, which enabled close follow-up on the country programme and excellent networking with partners

Extensive partnerships with a large number of Government agencies and contribution to "convergence" of partners and initiatives

Areas for improvement

There were considerable time lags between conceptualization/inception to effectiveness, and delays in disbursement and implementation

Lack of clarity in the target group in some cases

Project monitoring and evaluation under-performed, hampering evidence-based analysis

Knowledge management was more about activities and tactics than results and strategic and policy issues

Partnership with other bilateral and multilateral development agencies was less than planned, and little has materialized with the private sector

RECOMMENDATIONS

1

Carefully reflect on IFAD's comparative advantage relative to the country's needs in the new country strategy

2

Enhance diagnostic analysis of the potential target group and targeting

3

Strengthen partnerships with other development partners in the rural sector to support the new Government

4

Strengthen leverage for policy engagement by improving the quality of knowledge and evidence