2023 EPE Event

Evaluating Sustainable Pathways to Climate Resilience:

Recent experiences from evaluations of IFAD, FAO, and GEF

29th of March 3 PM-4 PM (CET)

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SESSION OVERVIEW

Lessons from a major Climate Adaptation Evaluation (IFAD)
Considerations for assessing climate adaptation solutions in agricultural sector and their environmental sustainability

Mainstreaming climate change into evaluations of agri-food systems interventions (FAO)
OED guidelines to integrate climate action into FAO evaluations

Application of Spatial Science to Evaluate Interventions at the Nexus of Climate Change, Environmental Conservation, and Development (GEF)

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Lessons from a major Climate Adaptation Evaluation (IFAD)
Considerations for assessing climate adaptation solutions in agricultural sector and their environmental sustainability

Nanthikesan, Suppiramaniam- Lead evaluation Officer

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BUILDING AN EVALUATIVE EVIDENCE BASE FOR CLIMATE RESPONSE

Why Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) interventions for rural agricultural sector?

- Increasing frequency and intensity of catastrophic events
- Disproportionate burden on smallholder farmers
- Weak database of working climate adaptation solutions

Evaluations critical for evidence-based knowledge base of CCA solutions.

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EVALUATION APPROACH

- Measuring/Assessing resilience outcomes: No conceptual framework to assess climate resilience

  Approach:

  - Context specific
  - Goal Free evaluation – Need to develop resilience measures
  - Significance of unintended consequences (see below)

- Assessing environmental sustainability of agricultural solutions: Human system -Eco system nexus

  - (IFAD's) Project level analysis inadequate to understand the effects at the landscape levels: The need to understand the human system-ecosystem nexus.

  - Seek when feasible Climate , environment and development resilience together

EVALUATION METHODS

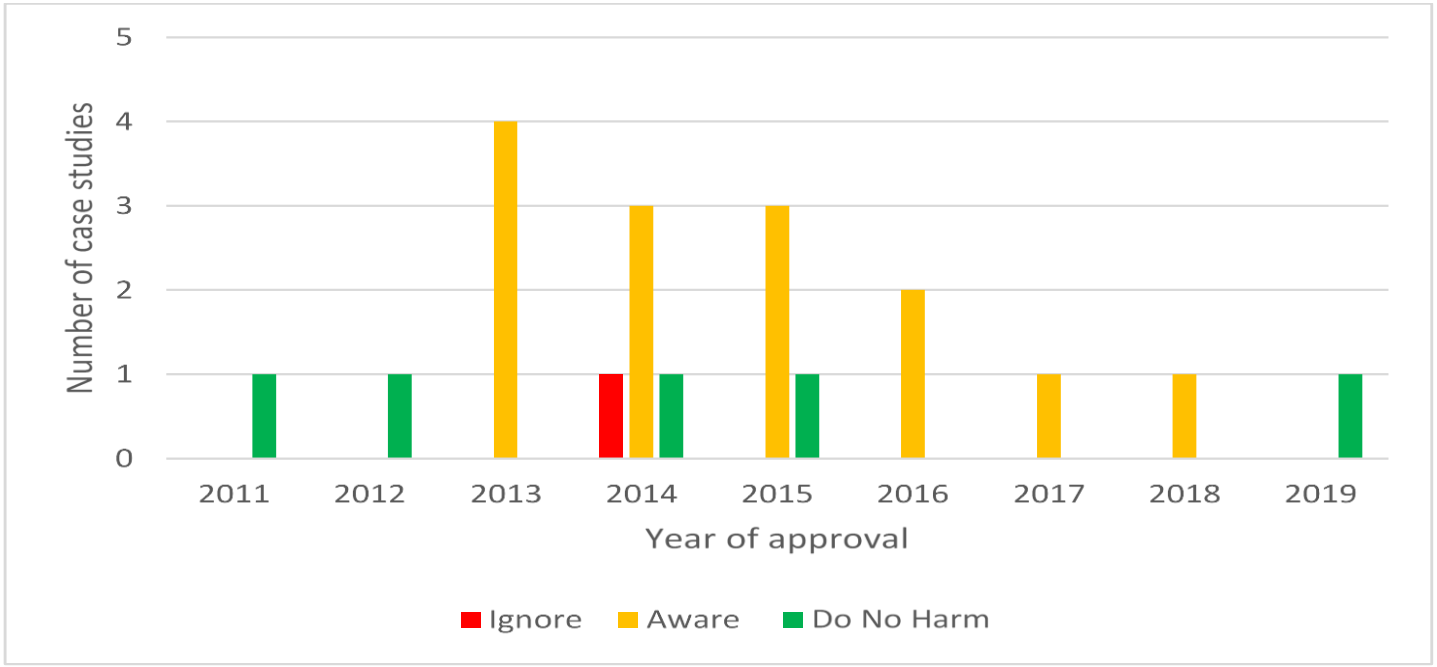
- Measuring/Assessing resilience outcomes:
  - Many approaches exist.
  - Chose a framework tested in IFAD country offices and tried in other Agencies (World Bank, Rome-based agencies – WFP, FAO and IFAD)
  - Climate resilience: Absorptive capacity, adaptive capacity and transformative capacity. Developed qualitative estimates to identify changes in each capacity

- Human system -Eco system nexus (Qualitative Approach)
  - Considerations – impact of agricultural (climate adaptive) solutions on bio diversity, soil health, land use, water and air quality (landscape level), and offsets
  - Consequences – (intensity of impact) Restoration/Do No Harm:
  - Techniques to assess: Ignore, Aware, Do No Harm, Restore

APPLICATION OF NEXUS APPROACH

Thematic Evaluation of IFAD support to Smallholder Farmers' Adaptation to Climate Change
(20 case studies, 35 projects)

Stance towards the environment 2011-2019



Source: IOE elaboration

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KEY TAKE AWAYS

Evaluations critical evidence-based knowledge base. Need for joint

1. Era of business-as-usual (= anthropocentric) approach to Climate Adaptation is over.
   - "Good is not Good enough" – to achieve CCA related SDG targets by 2030 and to avoid catastrophic consequences. TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGES are needed.
2. Agriculture is essential for human life: It could be a perpetrator and a victim!.
   - Climate adaptation responses must 'do no harm' or better:

     Environmental Sustainability is key!
3. Many governments face significant challenges to incentivize sustainable climate adaptation response.
   - Ensure adequate climate finance & knowledge base of holistic CCA solutions

Thank you

s.nanthikesan@ifad.org

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