

IOE



Investing in rural people

Independent Office of Evaluation



Evaluation
Committee

124th session

Republic of Rwanda: Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation

Key findings and recommendations

22 March 2024

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Agenda

Introduction

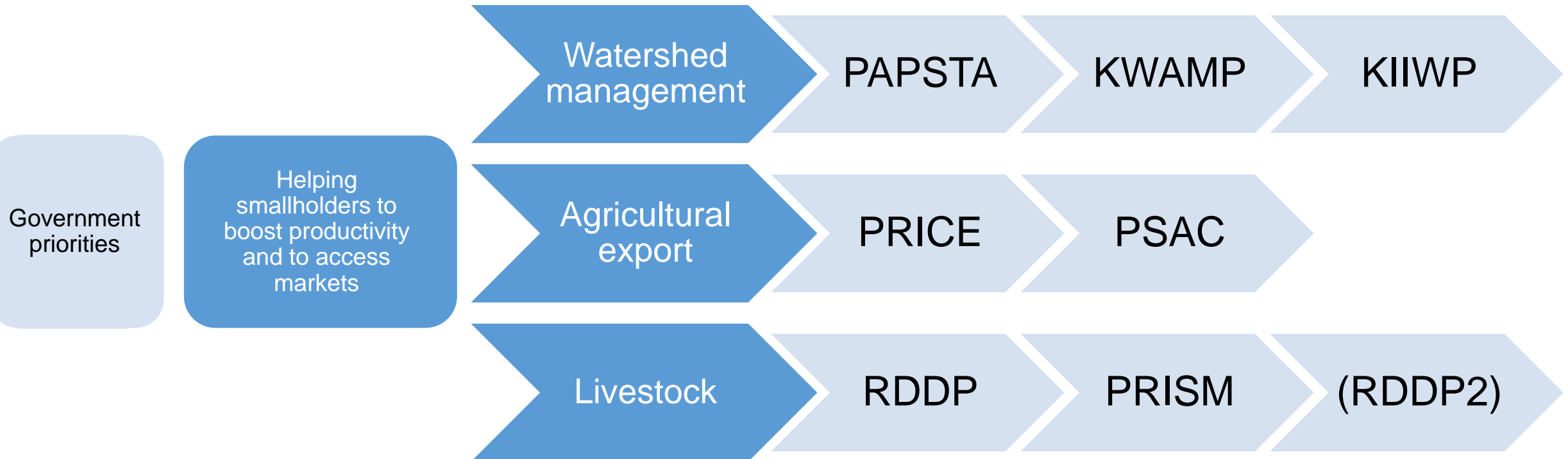
Key findings

Conclusions

Recommendations

- The third country-level evaluation in Rwanda
- Evaluated period: 2013-2022
 - COSOPs 2013-2018 and 2019-2024
 - Portfolio: 9 projects, 4 completed and 5 on-going
 - US\$509.6 million, of which US\$280.1 million IFAD financing
- Theory-based and mixed-methods approach
 - Desk review
 - Stakeholder interviews
 - Mission









Projects contributed to increased households' **income** and improved **food security**, but had limited impact on **malnutrition**

Community-level organisations contributed to **human and social capital**, while the business-orientation of cooperatives remained weak

Women were increasingly involved in agri-food value chains, yet faced challenges in terms of workload

Strong **government ownership** helped to ensure sustainability

Projects contributed to a more efficient use of **water** and preventing **soil erosion**

The application of IFAD's climate and environmental **safeguard** requirements needed more attention

Scaling up beyond replication in subsequent IFAD-funded projects was limited



Country programme showed continuity in terms of strategic themes and some progression

Various innovations introduced and significant results in terms of increased production and productivity

Youth outreach was significantly below expectations

Mixed results in terms of embedding a market orientation

Projects did not address the underlying causes of malnutrition

Limited engagement in KM, partnership-building, and policy engagement

The SPIU allowed for efficiency gains and cross learning, but also faced challenges

Recommendation 1 : Sharpen the thematic focus, with a greater reliance on markets and private initiative

Recommendation 2 : The next COSOP should clearly state a focus on environment and natural resources management and climate change and addressing malnutrition

Recommendation 3: Refine the targeting strategies to sharpen the poverty focus and increase attention to youth inclusion

Recommendation 4: Articulate a coherent action plan for non-lending activities that allows to increase IFAD's scale of impact and influence

Recommendation 5: Make sure the SPIU is fit-for-purpose

