

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Multilateral Aid Review (MAR) Update 2013 progress rating:











MAR 2011: *Good Value for Money for UK Aid*

Progress assessment	
Summary	IFAD is making progress in all areas. Impact evaluation is being introduced as part of a strengthened results framework. Human resource reform and financial management are being addressed. Improving efficiency remains work in progress.
Baseline	
<p>IFAD is an international financial institution (IFI) and a United Nations (UN) specialised agency dedicated to eradicating poverty and hunger in rural areas of developing countries.</p> <p>The MAR highlighted several strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFAD’s unique mandate that is critical to reducing hunger and poverty. • IFAD has a good results framework and a commitment to improving delivery of results. • IFAD is a trusted partner of developing countries. <p>The MAR also highlighted several weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to improve sustainability of results in developing countries. • Reform needed to enhance efficiency and improve human resource management. • Financial management needs to be strengthened, processes streamlined and disbursement rates improved. <p>DFID’s reform priorities for the MAR Update were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved delivery of sustainable results in developing countries – assessed under <u>contribution to results</u>; • More emphasis on impact evaluation, mainstreaming gender and climate change – assessed under <u>strategic and performance management</u>; • Reduction of IFAD’s admin-programme cost ratio and improved efficiency – assessed under <u>cost and value consciousness</u>; • Introduction of greater flexibility and efficiency in human resources – assessed under <u>strategic and performance management</u>; • Strengthening financial management and policies, and improving disbursement rates – assessed under <u>financial resources management</u>. 	
Summary of overall progress	
<p>IFAD is strengthening its work on results and introducing impact evaluation. Independent evaluation shows that IFAD’s supervision and implementation support is helping to improve IFAD’s results. Human resource reform is now being addressed in a systematic way. Financial management has been improved. Cost savings have achieved zero growth administration budgets</p>	

while programming has increased. However, efficiency remains one of the weaker areas of performance and time will be needed to assess implementation and impact of IFAD's Action Plan to improve efficiency.

Progress against reform priorities

MAR reform component	MAR 2011 score	Progress rating	MAR Update score, if any change
<p>Contribution to results IFAD has reinforced its focus on results and impact. The Independent Office of Evaluation shows continuing improvements in delivery in developing countries. Sustainability remains a particularly challenging area.</p>		 Reasonable progress	
<p>Strategic and performance management IFAD has strengthened its results framework, introducing impact evaluation and greater focus on gender and mainstreaming climate work. Progress is being made in HR reform.</p>		 Reasonable progress	
<p>Financial resources management IFAD has created a new Financial Operations Department and introduced new financial and risk management policies. Disbursement levels are improving, and this needs to continue. Technology updates to streamline administrative processes for greater efficiency are planned for 2014 - 15.</p>		 Reasonable progress	
<p>Cost and value consciousness IFAD has maintained the same level of administration budget while increasing its programming. Time will be needed to assess progress against new indicators to measure efficiency, as well as the implementation and impact of IFAD's Action Plan to improve efficiency.</p>		 Some progress	