



Partnership between FOs and IFAD in West and Central Africa



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In this issue...

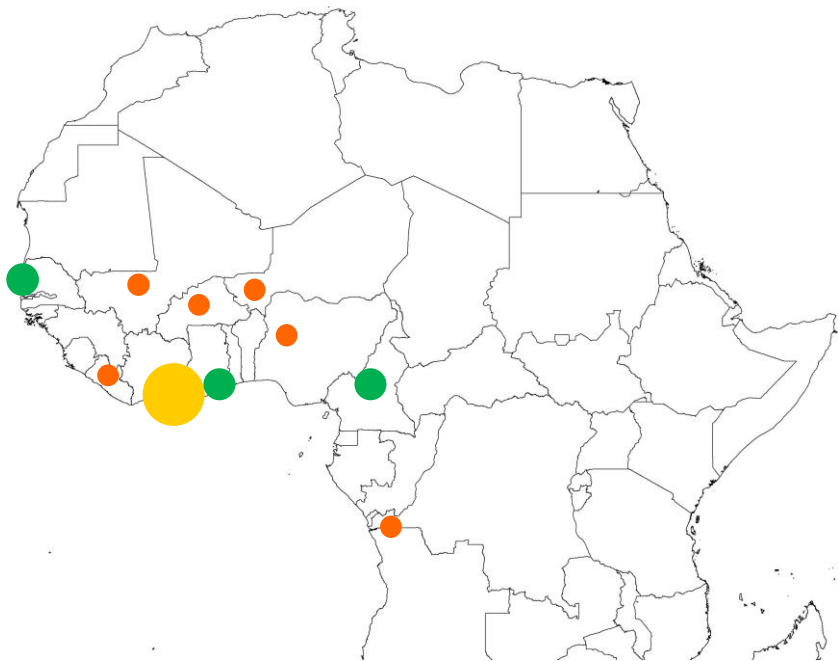
1. Context of the decentralization of the Forum and IFAD
2. FO-IFAD Partnership: Key figures
3. Direct funding to POs and regional partnership
4. Qualitative review of the collaboration
5. Conclusions and perspectives



1/ Context of decentralization Forum & IFAD



Decentralization of IFAD and FAFO



- ➔ 1st edition Nouakchott 2018
- ➔ 2020 last Global FAFO

R-FAFO AOC Steering Committee

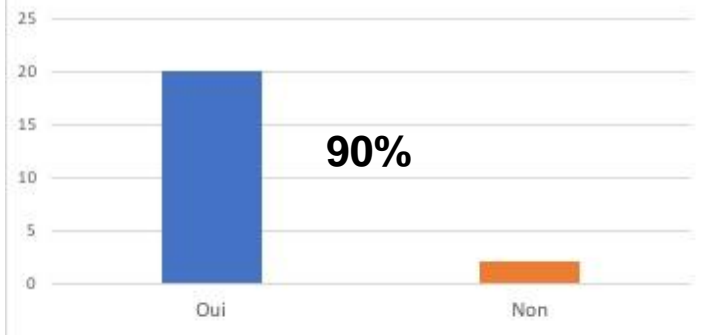
- ROPPA
- PROPAC
- APSS
- RBM
- LVC
- INOFO
- OMA
- WFF

2/ FO-FIDA partnership: Key figures

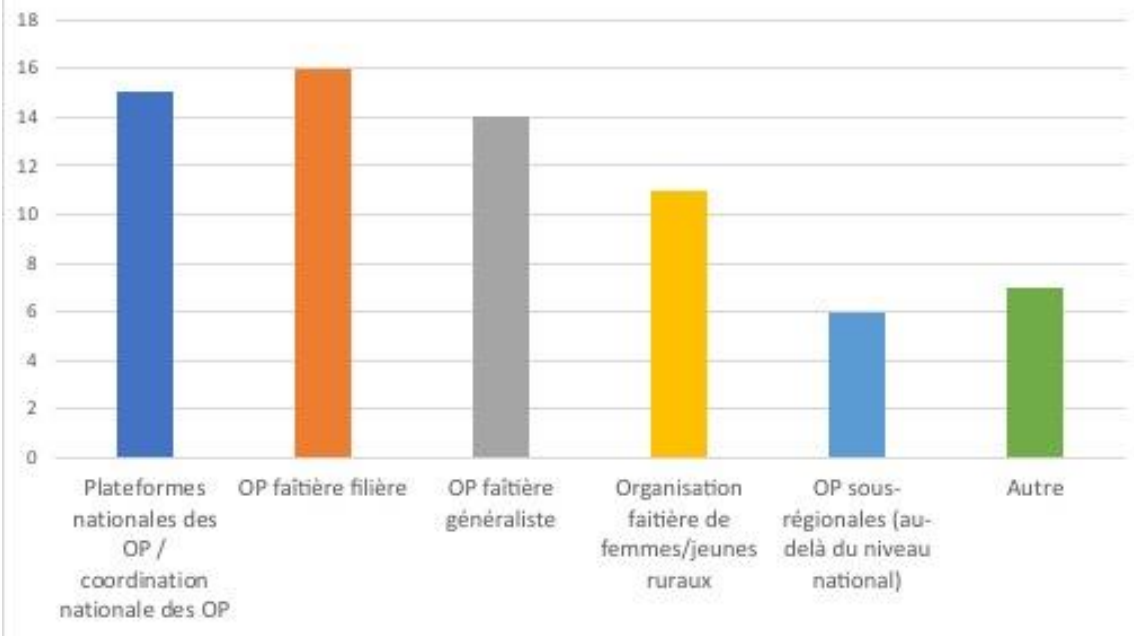


Importance of collaboration and nature of FOs (1/2)

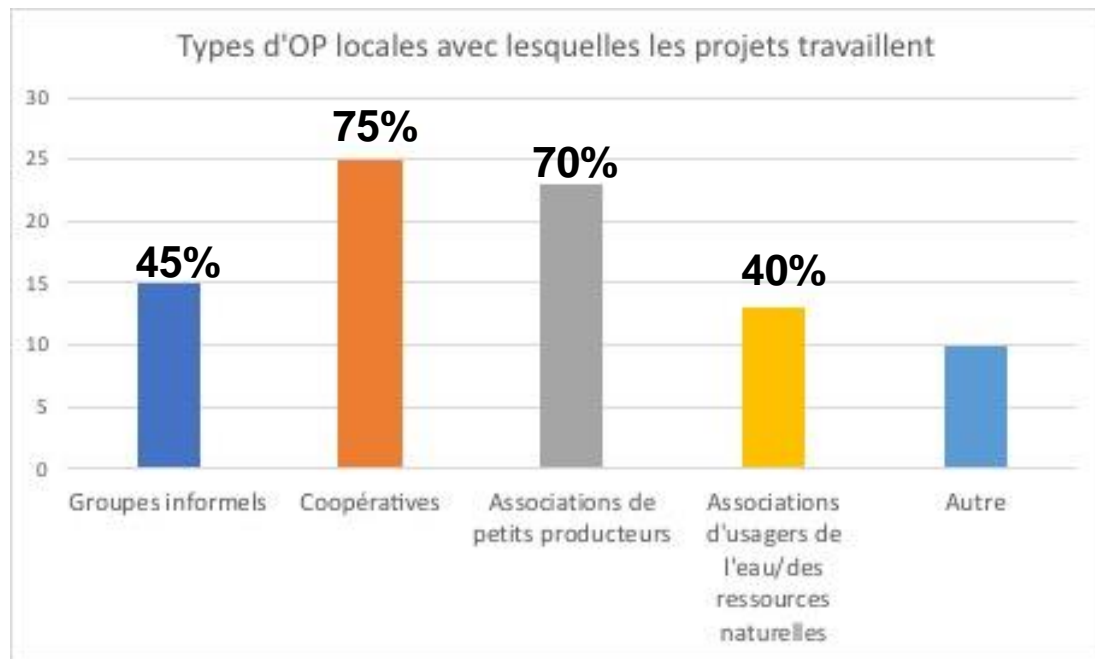
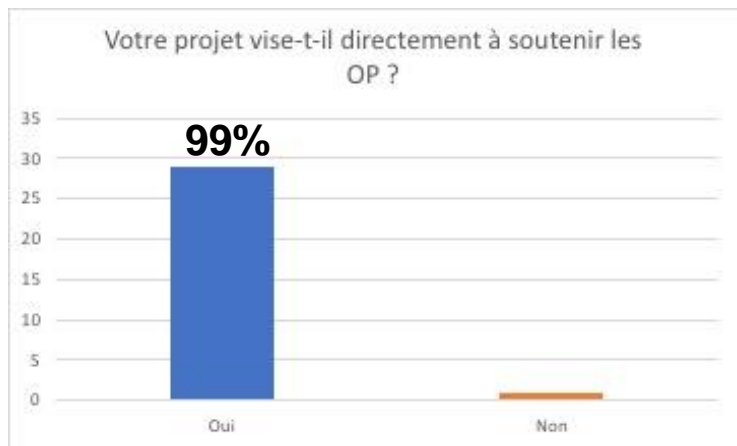
Existence de collaborations entre le programme pays FIDA et les OP faitières



Types d'OP impliquées dans les activités du portefeuille

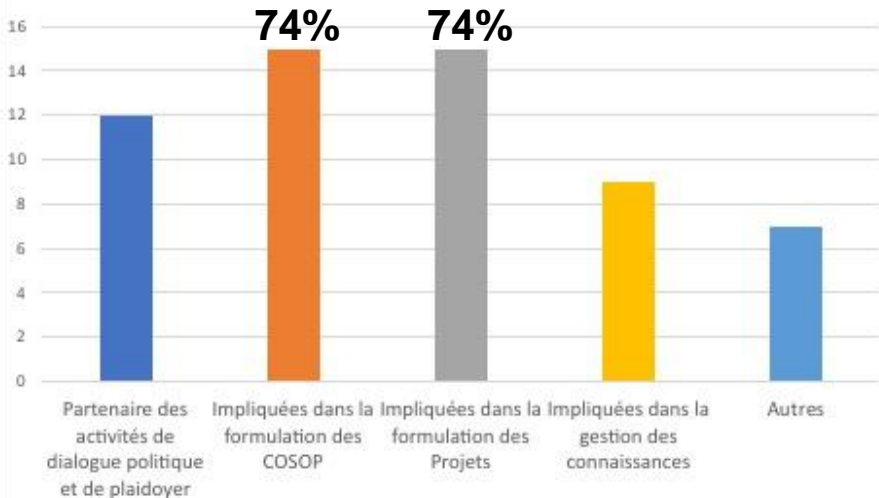


Importance of collaboration and nature of FOs (2/2)

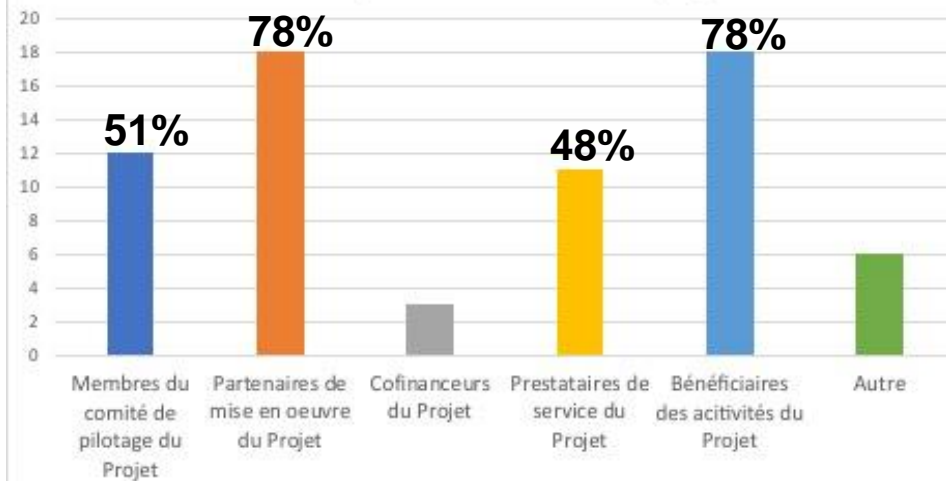


Involvement at national level / in projects

Modalités d'implication des OP faitières dans les activités financées par le FIDA au niveau national



Modalités d'implication des OP faitières dans les activités financées par le FIDA au niveau des projets

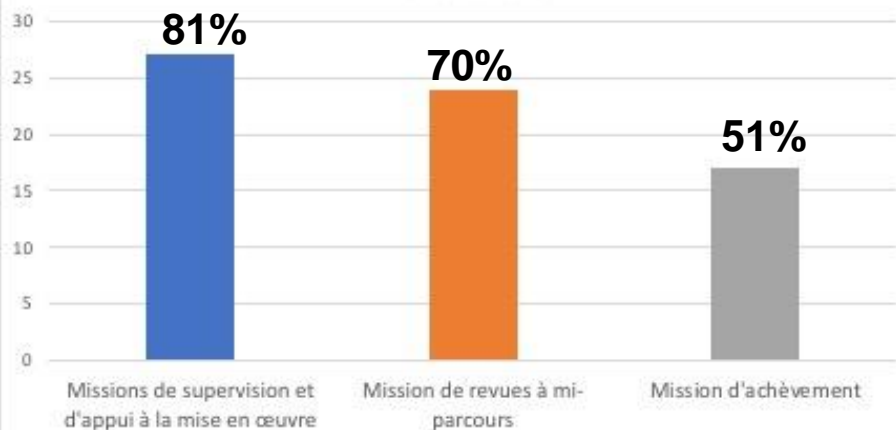


No involvement in **COSOP** -> no involvement in **project formulation** => FOs not involved as implementing partners

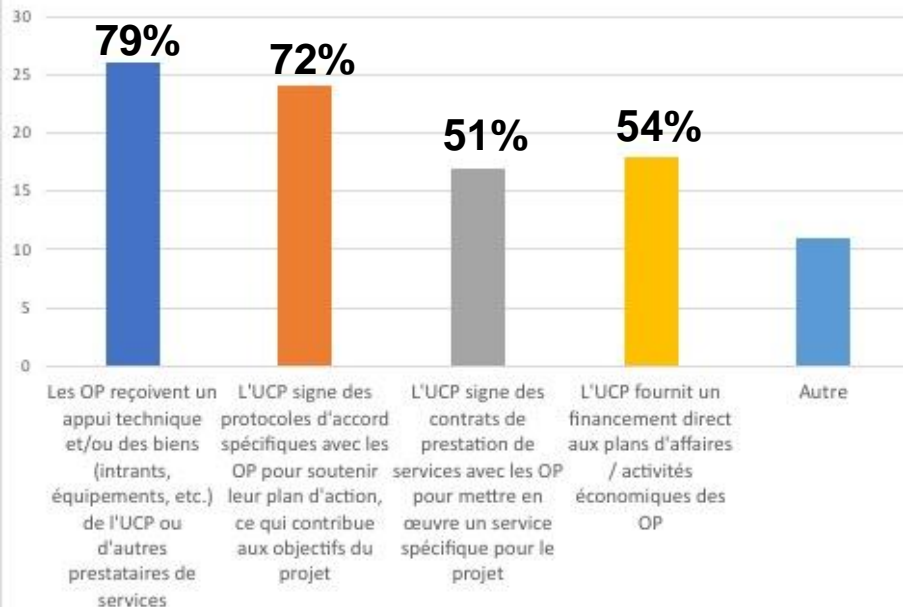
Less developed countries: GB, Mauritania, Ghana, Nigeria, Cape Verde, BF

In missions & Modus operandi of the Projects

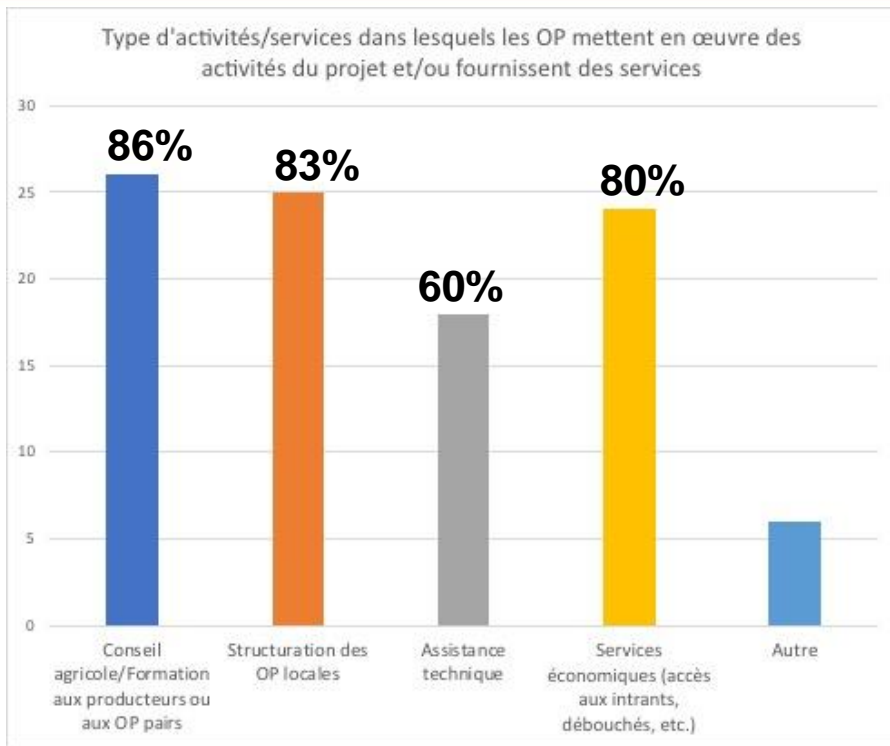
Implication des OP faitières dans les missions de supervision et d'appui à la mise en œuvre, revue à mi-parcours, et/ou d'achèvement



Modalités d'opérationnalisation de la collaboration avec les OP dans les activités des projets lors de leur mise en œuvre



What is the role of the implementing partner FOs?



Some examples

- ✓ Financial intermediation (BP, MFI) - **Togo**
- ✓ Structuring of poor women/youth groups in OHADA cooperatives - **Mali**
- ✓ Support for the securing of market gardening sites + advocacy for market gardening seeds - **Benin**
- ✓ Participation in CAFs to strengthen collaboration in the value chains - **Nigeria**
- ✓ Support for formalization/registration of FBOs - **Ghana**
- ✓ Structuring of local actors/FOs - **Cameroon/Chad**

3/ Direct funding to FOs and regional partnership



Objective of the OP programs for our operations

- Strengthen the capacities of FOs to become partners of choice in public investment projects
- Leveraging funds to mobilize larger-scale support
- Innovating through direct implementation by FOs to inspire public policies for rural development

Direct funding to POs in WCA 2018-22

Program	Specificities	USD
FO4ACP	Capacity building program (via ROPPA and PROPAC)	7.5 M
GAFSP MMI	Innovative instrument for direct financing projects to POs	
	➤ Mali CNOP Mali additional funding 2020	945.000
	➤ Senegal CNCR 2022	2.29 M
	➤ RDC COPACO 2022	1.65 M
RPSF	➤ SAFE 2020 / FO4ACP top up	0.5 M
	➤ PAS2P for pastoral resilience	1.5 M

Regional Partnership Development

Accompanying actions

- ❑ Support for FOs' Food System Summit consultations (2021)
- ❑ Support in the implementation of the UNDFF (Togo and Côte d'Ivoire) + networking
- ❑ Monitoring/evaluation/data collection to inform advocacy: ROPPA FFO, RBM impact evaluation
- ❑ Topics of strategic interest for FOs: agroecology

A permanent contact

- ROPPA roadmap, ROPPA-FIDA Whatsapp group, etc.



4/ Qualitative review of the collaboration

*Selected sections
from the FO Survey*



Innovations/Advances in Partnership

National Level

- Mobilization of resources for funding of FOs consultations to prepare a COSOP **Mali**
- Mobilization of FOs to lead the process of structuring and formalization of FOs (cooperative law and structuring of the rural areas) **Central African Republic**
- Mobilization of the National Platform of FOs for the implementation of a citizen control mechanism of an IFAD Project **Senegal**
- Signature of Partnership agreement between a consortium of federations of FOs involved in the Project and the PCU to finance FOs structuring and support activities **Niger**
- Mobilize mature apex farmers' organizations to provide coaching to weaker organizations **Benin**

Regional level

- Participation of the 3 networks of regional FOs of Sahel (**APESS, ROPPA and RBM**) in the design and implementation of the SD3C
- Ease of access to vulnerable populations in areas with difficult access, under insecurity or landlocked - **RBM /PAS2P**

Challenges in IFAD-FO collaboration

1. IFAD's institutional limitations related to lack of adequate resources and/or complexity/non-adaptation of procedures

- Format/disbursement methods for FO agreements sometimes not adapted to the nature of the organizations (FOs are not simple Service Providers)
- Need to lighten/adapt the procedures of the GAFSP FO window /investment projects in particular, to avoid delays and to take into account the specificity of the FO partners

2. Fragility, capacity challenges, structuring and/or resources of FOs

- The professionalization of actors and the financial autonomy of FOs remain permanent challenges
- The sustainability of nascent/weakly mature FOs, which are still very vulnerable to socio-economic and environmental shocks;

Recommendations for improving the partnership

1. Strengthening institutional relations between IFAD and FOs

- Formalize the collaboration framework at the national level (platforms)
- The establishment of agreements with FOs must respect their structuring and strategic orientations
- Strengthen the partnership at the country level with **regular IFAD/FO bilateral meetings**
- Strengthen the participation of FOs in **completion missions to capitalize on the knowledge gained**
- Contribute to the **institutional funding of** platforms to strengthen their role

2. Promote cooperation and synergies between FOs, IFAD, and other partners

- Organize **experience sharing forums between FOs / « FO » exchange visits**
- Better support the processes of the NCFE within the framework of the UNDFE
- **Scaling up of agreements** between **IFAD** country offices and **FO platforms as** in Senegal
- Strengthen the presence of IFAD country directors at the national level (e.g. Togo)
- Strengthen links between pastoralist/pastoralist organizations and IFAD country projects

Recommendations for improving the partnership

3. Prioritize the training, structuring and professionalization of FOs

- Develop a **long-term** (10-year) approach/plan for IFAD's collaboration with FOs that will be taken up/adapted through COSOPs and CSNs
- Strengthen the capacities of FOs and their **professionalization for the provision of economic services** (advisory support, market access, access to financial services, etc.)
- Strengthen the mobilization of **technical expertise** on legislation, policies, practices, networking, etc.
- Strengthening **links between apex and grassroots FOs.**

4. Establishment of a specific permanent fund/budget to support FOs

- Creation of a **specific Project component for farmers' organizations/strengthening of local institutions** (farmers, SMEs, etc.) in IFAD project design
- In addition to project funding, **create a specific fund for the development of FO structuring / capacity building of FOs / national platforms / a fund from which local and apex FOs can draw directly to strengthen their internal governance structures**



5/ Conclusions



Decentralization of the Farmers Forum process bears its first fruits; positive overall evolution

Overall, a level of partnership maturity by country clusters

IFAD teams know little about FO4ACP or its added value

Many interesting good practices / examples of collaboration listed here

Conduct a reflection to establish a strategic regional collaboration

How do we do it in countries with low-maturity FOs?

Synergies with FO4ACP to be strengthened

Promote partnership through South-South cooperation and sustained KM & Stocktaking

Thank you very much!

