



FAO-EUFF PROGRAMME RESULTS



EMERGENCY OPERATIONS AND REHABILITATION DIVISION



Introduction

- The combined effect of the high food prices crisis of 2007-2008 and the global financial crisis of 2009 strongly affected Global Food and Nutrition Security.
- The EU has been at the forefront of the response to the crisis by allocating one billion Euros through the European Union Food Facility (EUFF) established in December 2008.
- Within the EUFF framework, FAO has been responsible for implementing 31 projects in 28 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.
- Interventions targeted the transition period from emergency aid to longer-term development.



EUFF Programme Strategy

The Programme objectives were to improve food security of vulnerable households by boosting agricultural production. The strategy adopted by most of the FAO-EUFF interventions consisted in the implementation of a mix of synergic actions including:

- Distribution of Agricultural Inputs
- Promotion of Seed Multiplication programmes and support to the development of national seed industry
- Rehabilitation of Rural Infrastructure and Mechanization
- Capacity Development and extension services

Programme Financial Performance

FAO was responsible for an overall budget of €232 million

- 21 projects ended by 31 August 2011 (18 on 31 July and 3 on 31 August).
The average delivery of these projects is: 96%
- 10 projects will end by 31 December 2011. The average delivery of these projects is: 91%



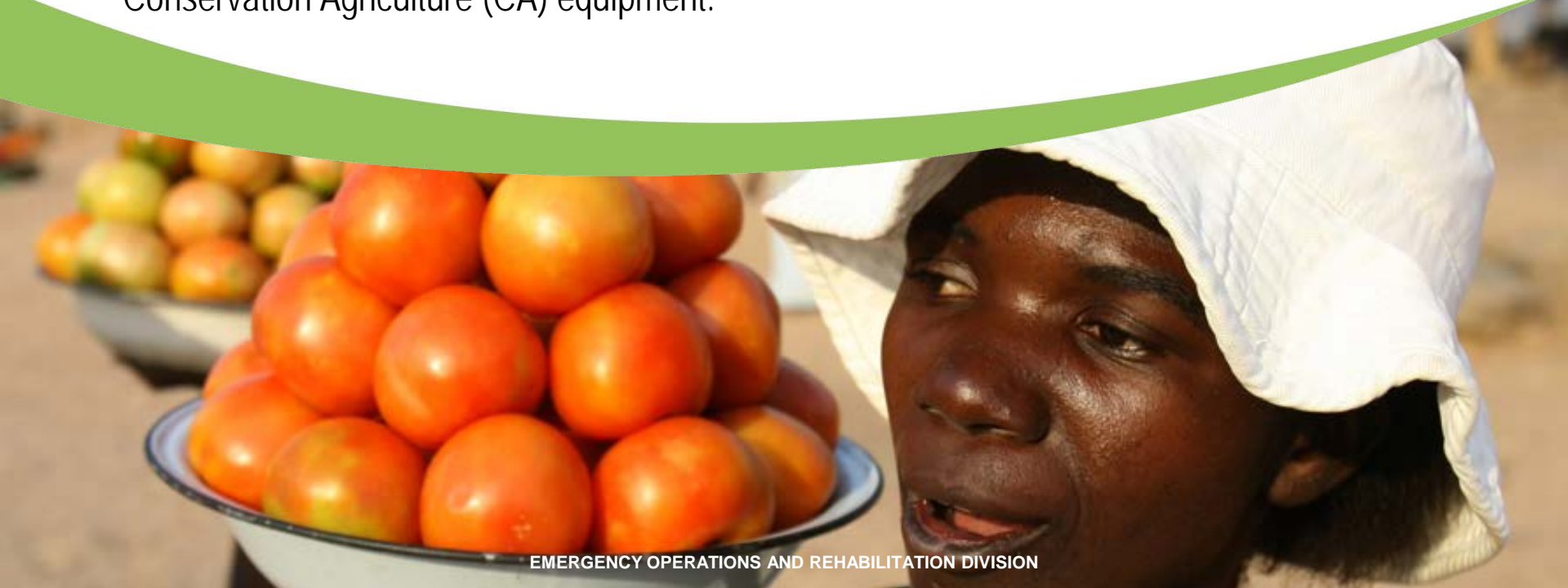
EU / FAO Programme Impact and Outcomes

- The FAO-EUFF aimed to improve food security of vulnerable populations through boosting agricultural production and productivity
- Pakistan - the EUFF directly contributed to significant increases in major crops yields (Wheat +59%; Maize +16%), which produced an average food self-sufficiency level increase from 6.5 months to 7.5 months between 2009 and 2011. The available food stock increased by more than 100%, ensuring a duration of 230 days. The food intake diversity increased by 25%.
- Guatemala - increase in maize yields (148% in Alta Verapaz, 19% in Baja Verapaz, 45% Quiché). 83% of assisted beneficiaries reported an improvement of food availability, exceeding the project target of 70%.
- Zimbabwe - support to 189 000 households resulted in 100% increase in maize production and 60% increase in sorghum production. This contributed to a 30% reduction in the number of food insecure people between 2009 and 2011 (from 1,497,000 to 1,026,000 people).

Result 1 – Distribution of Agricultural Inputs

The FAO-EUFF projects have provided critical inputs to smallholder farmers (e.g. locally adapted quality seeds, fertilizers, tools, small irrigation pumps, animal feed, veterinary medicines and services to poor smallholder farmers)

- Zambia - the EUFF successfully introduced electronic vouchers as a means of providing quality agricultural inputs to farmers on time and at minimum transaction cost. About 7,950 Lead Farmers were supplied with electronic vouchers for purchasing seeds, fertilizers, tools and Conservation Agriculture (CA) equipment.



Result 2 – Seed Multiplication and Development of Seed Industry

Many FAO-EUFF projects included seed multiplication components aimed at providing small farmers with the quality and quantity of seed required to ensure good production yields.

- Afghanistan - focused on strengthening the national seed industry and increasing certified seed production. Of the 95 private seed enterprises in operation in the country, 20 were established by the project and 57 existing were strengthened (training, machinery, equipment). These are expected to produce about 3,000 tones of certified wheat seed in 2011, accounting for 10% of the total national supply.
- Lesotho - successful implementation of 135 Input Trade Fairs.
Support to 48 seed producers and 20 extension staff who received training.
As result, 55 tons of certified maize and bean seeds were produced, sufficient to plant over 3,400 hectares of land.

Result 3 – Mechanization and Rehabilitation of Rural Infrastructure

Mechanization of farming can increase planted area and boost crop yields. Crop productivity can also be increased through investments in irrigation small-scale infrastructure, post-harvest drying, storage and market facilities, and better road networks.

- Somalia - 1,749,922 USD injected into the community as cash for work for rehabilitation of 75 km main canals and 907 km of secondary canals, improvement of 67 km of roads, construction of 15 market sheds, 73 canal intake gates and improvement of 465km of feeder roads .
- Democratic Republic of Congo - the rehabilitation of 265 irrigation channels and 203 water harvesting facilities allowed efficient irrigation of additional 22,381 acres in the target areas. 38 post-harvest facilities, 12 markets and 267 km of rural roads rehabilitated.
- Infrastructure works were also carried out in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Haiti, Cambodia, Sierra Leone, Burundi, Niger, Afghanistan, Central African Republic.

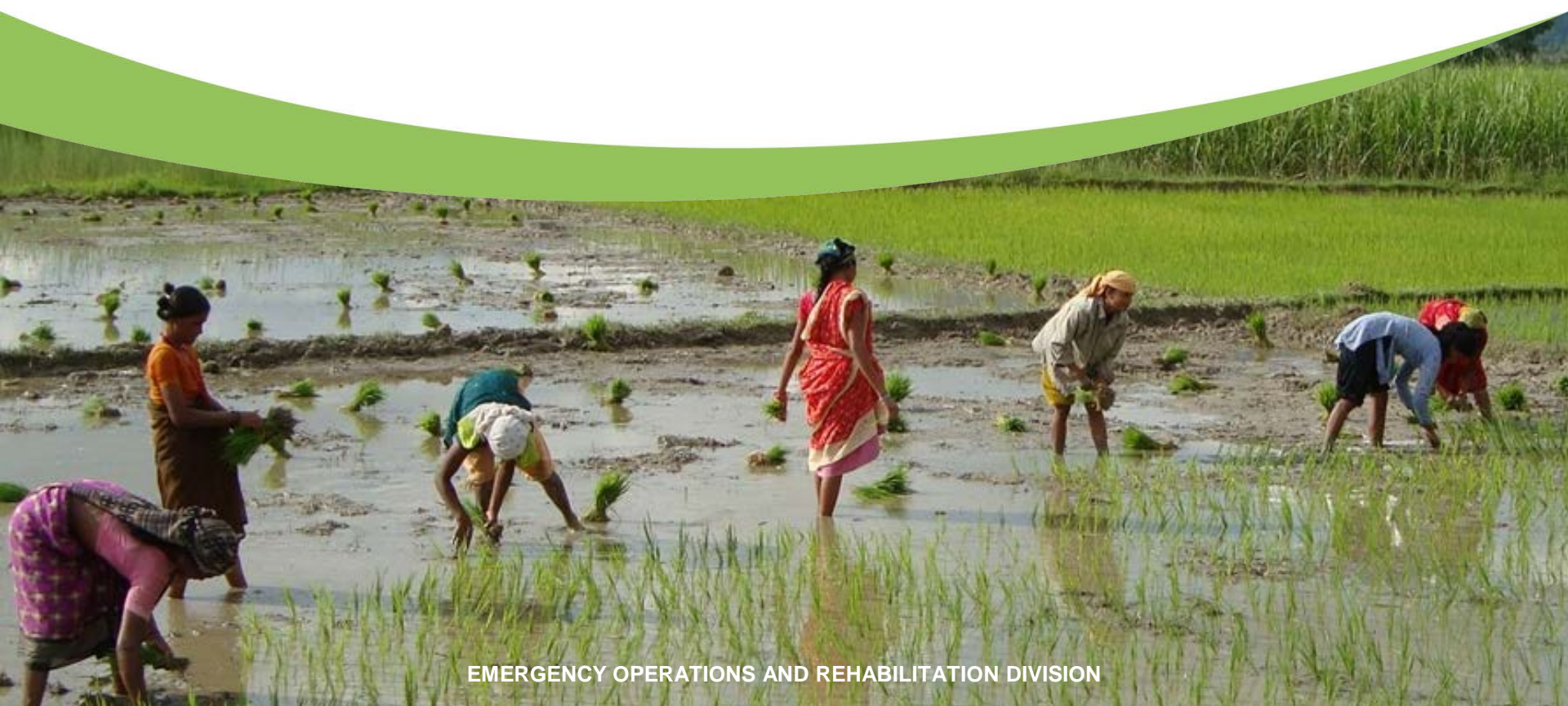
Result 4 – Capacity Development and Training Activities (1)

Most of the EUFF projects included a capacity-building component for boosting agricultural production, i.e. direct training of farmers in agricultural production techniques, agricultural processing, enterprise management and marketing of goods, as well as strengthening existing government institutions to deliver better services to farmers.

- Sierra Leone - 378 Farmer Field Schools, involving 11,340 farmers, were implemented throughout the country resulting in the establishment of 490 Farmer Based Organizations with capacity to operate the 138 Agricultural Business Centers developed by the project.
- Cambodia - Extensive training programme on Complementary feeding for Children (6-24 months) resulted in 32% of beneficiary households adopting improved complementary feeding recipe and improved nutrition practices.

Result 4 – Capacity Development and Training Activities (2)

- Nepal - 51,000 farmers received training on Good Agricultural Practices for rice, vegetable and potato production through different modalities. FFSs involved 5,982 farmers in ten project districts. Cascade Training was conducted by 615 selected farmer leaders who, after training, established demonstration plots and facilitated technical assistance and training to more than 45,000 farmers.



Visibility

In line with FAFA obligations and following the EC's *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions*, FAO's communication division designed a global visibility strategy for the EUFF, concentrating on country-specific communication and outreach to global audiences on cross-cutting communication issues.

Communication products included: local multi-media products, technical and awareness brochures, public events (including on the Declaration of Global Rinderpest Eradication).

Coverage includes:

- BBC documentary on rinderpest eradication, may 2011
- Euronews "Reporter" on EUFF Zimbabwe, October 2009
- BBC World feature on EUFF Pakistan, November 2009
- TV Española on EUFF Nicaragua, in Telediario 1 and Telediario 2, July 2010
- *Le Monde* on EUFF/Burkina Faso, October 2010

All EUFF communication material is presented online on the FAO EU website:

<http://www.fao.org/europeanunion/eu-in-action/eu-food-facility-details/en/>

Lessons Learned and Best Practices from Programme activities (1)

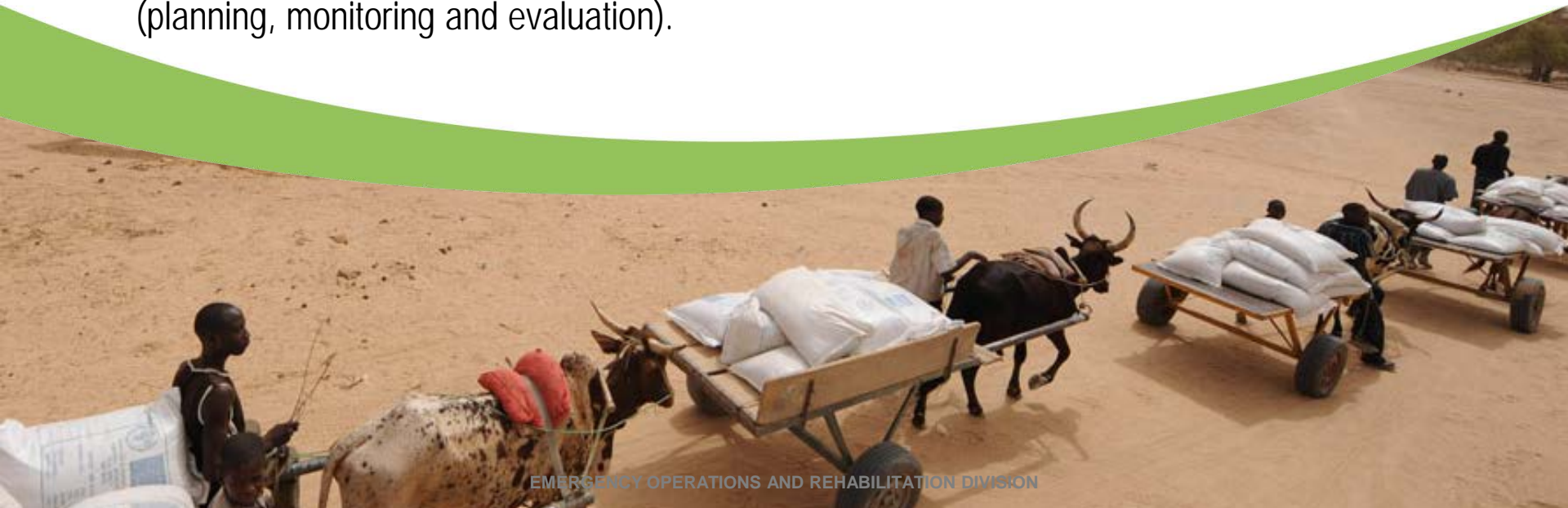
1. **The establishment of a Programme Coordination Unit** , responsible for overall management and liaison with the EUFF Task Force ensured economies of scale. This, combined with the strong presence and **capacity of FAO in the field**, allowed FAO to deliver a large and complex programme in a relatively short time frame.
2. **Collective negotiation** between **Rome-based Agencies** allowed for joint programming (mapping out comparative advantages and developing joint programmes). The role of the High Level Task Force as a leader of the UN Agencies and the World Bank group has been important.
3. **Focusing assistance on marginalized farmers with high production potential** increases food security of the poorest and most vulnerable communities.
4. **Input distribution** interventions have a greater impact when combined with strengthening **extension services** to farmers.
5. **Local seed production systems** are best supported through a holistic approach that involves all actors of the value chain (such as research institutions, seed producer farmers) and supporting the institutional/policy context.

Lessons Learned and Best Practices from Programme activities (2)

6. **Undertaking rehabilitation works of rural infrastructures** (irrigation channels, storage and market facilities, roads, etc) produces **long term impacts**. Coverage of the running costs by recipient communities (e.g. maintenance, electricity, etc) were ensured to increase sustainability.
7. **Rehabilitation** of infrastructure through **local private companies** builds up the confidence of farmers in these companies to undertake works when needed in the future, as a **multiplier effect** in the local economy
8. **Inclusion of small-scale farmers in value chains** enables them to participate in economic opportunities. FAO can play an important role in promoting effective dialogue between actors in the value chain (for example, producers, processors and traders) and facilitating partnerships between the private sector and government institutions.
9. **Dealing with communications/visibility as 'cross-cutting' issue** through a programmatic set-up and budget (as opposed to project by project) proved to be an effective strategy.

Recommendations for Future Interventions

1. **Inter-agency assessments (IAAs)** provided a useful entry point for assessing priority needs and identifying actions. For future large programmes, additional funds for the formulation phase would ensure improved design and identification of relevant, achievable and measurable results.
2. **Project timing/duration** should take into account the seasonality of **cropping cycles** in each target country.
3. The **EUFF Programme** set up the basis for a **Results-based Monitoring System** in TCE. FAO could play an important role in strengthening the capacity of local counterparts in RBM (planning, monitoring and evaluation).



THANK YOU

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