Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness

Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022

CABI

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from the British people

Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness

CASA aims to drive global investment for inclusive climate-resilient agri-food systems that increase smallholder incomes.

The programme makes the case for increased agribusiness investment by demonstrating the commercial and development potential of sourcing models involving empowered smallholder producers and by tackling the information and evidence gaps holding back investment.

This paper is funded with UK aid from the UK government (FCDO). The opinions are the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the UK government.

Table of contents

List of tables

List of figures

List of abbreviations and acronyms

AECF	Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund
AgDevCo	Africa Agricultural Development Company
APRA	Agriculture Policy Research in Africa
ASAP	Adaptation for Smallholder Agricultural Programme
CAP	Commercial Agriculture Portfolio
CAPR	Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review
CASA	Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness
CCAFS	CGIAR Research Programme on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security
CSA	Climate-Smart Agriculture
CSAZ	Climate Smart Agriculture Zambia / Conservation Agriculture Programme in Zambia
DFID	Department for International Development
ESG	Environmental, Social and Governance
EDiaI	Global, Enhancing Digital and Innovations for Agri-Food Systems and Livelihoods
FAiR	The Future of Agriculture in Rwanda
FCDO	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
FSN	Food Security and Nutrition
GAFSP	Support to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme
GAIN	Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GHGs	Greenhouse Gases
ICF	International Climate Finance
ICRG	Infrastructure for Climate Resilient Growth
IMSAR	Improving Market Systems for Agriculture in Rwanda
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KPIs	Key performance indicators
LAN	Linking Agri-business and Nutrition in Mozambique
LINKS	Powering Economic Growth in Northern Nigeria
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MREL	Monitoring, Reporting, Evaluation and Learning
MTIP	Malawi Trade and Investment Programme
NbS	Nature Based Solutions
NU-TEC	Northern Uganda: Transforming the Economy through Climate Smart Agribusiness
ODA	Official Development Assistance
PCR	Programme Completion Review
Propcom Mai-karfi	Rural and Agriculture Markets Development programme for Northern Nigeria
SIIMA	Strengthening Impact Investment Markets for Agriculture
SITA	Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SMEs	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
SRO	Senior Responsible Officer
ToR	Terms of Reference

TZAW	Tanzania Agribusiness Window
VfM	Value for Money
WEE	Women's Economic Empowerment

Executive Summary

This is the fourth iteration of a regular process reviewing the performance of programmes in FCDO's Commercial Agriculture Portfolio and making recommendations for improvement. This review compiles information published on FCDO's DevTracker up to June 2022, assessing programme performance against 20 general indicators (related to overall reach, productivity, improved income, enterprises, and employment) and thematic indicators related to climate change, women's economic empowerment (WEE) and nutrition.

Some key highlights of the portfolio include:

- The portfolio currently includes 32 programmes (20 focused solely on Africa), with a combined budget of nearly £1.7bn and an average duration of 7 years. By comparison, the 2020 portfolio contained 42 live programmes, with a combined budget of £2.8bn.
- Programmes mostly focus on a combination of agribusiness investment, access to finance, value chain development, and enabling environment. The largest delivery mechanism is through grants, closely followed by provision of loans and equity.
- Overall, programmes are reaching over 24.5m smallholder farmers (83% of the target total, 40% women), working with almost 17,500 Small and Medium Sized Enterprises and stimulating half the target amount of investment of £1bn.

General findings from the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review

- Most portfolio programmes are making positive efforts to ensure value for money, proactively reduce costs and improve effectiveness, with many examples of good practice that could be more broadly disseminated across FCDO.
- The portfolio has made progress in embedding FCDO thematic priorities and targets in the programme design phase – and as a result, for example, reach to women smallholder farmers (which was a major concern in the previous Review) appears to have improved. However, some programmes have struggled to deliver on these priorities and targets during implementation.
- However, self-reported information by FCDO programmes often lacks consistency and rigour. British Investment International (BII), the largest recipient of funding in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio, does not report on most Review metrics.

Key thematic findings

Climate change

- Positively, there is increased ambition to address climate change at policy level. This hasn't yet been fully reflected at programme level, with a decreased proportion of programmes receiving International Climate Finance (ICF) since the last review and ICF funded programmes having performed variably.
- Although there have been improvements in emissions reductions and leveraging private finance, integration of climate change mitigation and adaptation into programming is lower than in 2020.
- The quality of measuring and reporting on climate indicators varies across the portfolio, making aggregation and comparison across programmes challenging. Systems for reporting outcomes on nature and biodiversity are still being developed, despite FCDO having a target to spend a quarter of ICF on these issues by 2026.

Nutrition

- Overall, the portfolio's performance against nutrition indicators is similar to the 2020 review, with only a quarter of programmes designed to achieve nutrition outcomes, a quarter having potential, and half being nutrition blind.

- The introduction of nutrition markers in FCDO reporting in 2022 along with new training tools has the potential to further support the integration of nutrition if these are systemically used.
- Global conferences in 2021 have provided further impetus for nutrition outcomes in development, with increased awareness and tools available to mainstream nutrition. This is likely to lead to greater focus on nutrition and food security in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio in future years.

Gender

- Overall, although 61% of programmes are rated 'gender responsive' or 'gender responsive plus' and areas of good practice have been identified, the proportion of gender responsive and gender aware programmes has decreased compared to 2020, while an increasing number of programmes (particularly new programmes) are rated gender blind.
- More than half of portfolio programmes were designed to be gender inclusive, however newer programmes are less responsive to gender considerations and some programmes have not maintained a deliberate strategy to promote women's participation once they start.
- Generally, approaches and targets relating to gender could be more ambitious, both in terms of how many women are being reached but also in bringing about systemic changes to address the underlying causes of gender inequality (less than 10% programmes are doing this).

Key recommendations for FCDO

1. FCDO should incentivize the mainstreaming of climate change, gender, and nutrition in programme design and, crucially, implementation; encourage programmes to set thematic objectives; and facilitate closer collaboration between technical and operational teams to support this.
2. FCDO should focus interventions on lowering the cost of credit and explore blended and concessional finance arrangements to increase uptake of climate smart agriculture among smallholder farmers and agribusinesses, and disseminate lessons learned. This is a major barrier to further programme success and impact.
3. FCDO should develop detailed guidance for programmes on best practices they can adopt to advance women's economic empowerment beyond sex disaggregated target setting and data collection. All ICF programmes in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio should have gender action plans developed.
4. FCDO should introduce the OECD-DEC Nutrition Policy Marker to support the systematic measurement of nutrition in all FCDO commercial agriculture programmes.
5. FCDO should address the quality and availability of data, in particular the use of global standard measurement approaches for key metrics (such as jobs created or emissions mitigated), to enable aggregation and comparison across programmes.

Origins and Acknowledgements

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No responsibility is accepted for use of any part of this report in any other context or for any other purpose or by third parties. This report does not purport to give legal advice. Legal advice can only be given by qualified legal practitioners.

The views expressed in the report are entirely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent FCDO's own views or policies. Comments and discussion on items related to content and opinion should be addressed to the authors, via email to Mathias Hague m.hague@casaprogramme.com.

This report has been authored by Mathias Hague, Jonathan Casey, Bethel Terefe, Joe Beeken and Adewale Ogunmodede. In addition, QA support was provided by Alvaro Valverde. Several staff from FCDO have reviewed the report and provided input. The authors acknowledge in particular the support of Radio Save, Christina Connolly and Doreen Hashemi. In addition, the authors acknowledge the input of senior responsible officers (SROs) who provided qualitative responses for the analysis via interviews and email communication.

1 Introduction

The FCDO Agriculture Policy Framework (DFID, 2015) and Economic Development Strategy (DFID, 2017) identify commercial agriculture as a key part of their approach to agricultural development and inclusive growth. In particular, the economic development strategy commits FCDO to taking an increasingly commercial approach to agriculture by:

- Boosting agribusiness investment, financing agriculture infrastructure, and supporting smallholder farmers' access to markets.
- Providing farmers and their families with opportunities and jobs outside of their farms, scaling smallholder subsistence towards commercial production and supporting the growth of SMEs in rural areas.
- Supporting subsistence farmers without other economic opportunities, to avoid hunger, malnutrition and extreme poverty.
- Encouraging commercial approaches that reduce the cost of nutritious diets.

To better identify, understand and report on the contribution made by FCDO investment in Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes, a regular review process of all FCDO programmes contributing to commercial agriculture was established in August 2017 (Grant et al., 2017). It was repeated in 2018 (Cantrill et al., 2019) under the aegis remit of FCDO's CASA programme, with a commitment to be replicated regularly throughout the life of the CASA programme. The third iteration of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review was prepared in 2020 and published in early 2021.

1.1 Conceptual framework for the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review

FCDO recognizes that the agriculture and agri-food sector is important for most countries in the developing world as a key driver for economic development, income generation, formal and informal employment, and for improving household resilience. It boosts food security and nutrition and is a potential sink of carbon emissions, while also being one of the sectors most vulnerable to climate change and one of the biggest emitters of greenhouse gases (GHGs). FCDO's current and future primary focus is therefore on promoting the sustainable growth of the agriculture sector for developing countries to contribute toward global poverty reduction (DFID, 2015).

The FCDO is pursuing two main approaches to achieve its primary goal: investments that create long-term pathways out of poverty, and interventions that enable the rural poor to make better use of their existing assets and income earning potential in agriculture and in the informal sector, until sufficient productive off-farm jobs can be created. To achieve this, FCDO has adopted a twin strategy, which, on the one hand, promotes agricultural transformation (so-called 'stepping up') and on the other facilitates a long-term rural transition from subsistence agriculture to off-farm job opportunities as these emerge (from 'hanging in' to 'stepping out') (DFID, 2015).

This agricultural transformation pathway focuses on commercialization and agro-industry development to create jobs, raise incomes and lower food prices. FCDO's agricultural transformation approach focuses on market and value chain development with the aim of helping smallholder farmers to become sustainably profitable and to enable them to respond effectively to market demand.

FCDO's Conceptual Framework for Agriculture also outlines three cross-cutting priorities for investments and interventions in the agriculture sector:

1. **Inclusion and Women Economic Empowerment (WEE):** for agricultural transformation to be inclusive, interventions should create equal opportunities for women and men and ensure marginalized groups and hinterland zones do not get left behind.

2. **Production of nutritious and safe food:** policy and programmes to promote agricultural transformation should seek to increase nutritional benefits and food security and at the very least, the agri-food sector must avoid a direct negative impact on health outcomes.
3. **Environmental sustainability and Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)**: Climate change, rising and changing food demand, and natural resource scarcity present significant challenges and require difficult trade-offs between raising productivity to promote growth and poverty reduction, building resilience to climate risks, and reducing agriculture's impact on the environment.

1.2 Objectives and scope of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022

1.2.1 Objectives

This fourth review seeks to update earlier Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Reviews by analysing the composition of FCDO's Commercial Agriculture Portfolio and reviewing the performance of individual programmes using published information, to provide a high-level understanding of whether FCDO is delivering on its commercial agriculture and economic development strategies.

This review has been conducted using a mixed methods approach, combining quantitative analysis of programme performance and qualitative inputs from SROs implementing FCDO programmes, as well as from implementing partners. Specifically, this included the following scope of work:

- Updating the programme sample to take account of new programmes and changes in existing ones.
- Verifying and revising data relating to targets, results, and budgets for each programme to enable them to be reported externally.
- Assessing all new programmes against the 'gender responsive' and 'gender responsive plus' frameworks used in previous reviews.
- Analysing the climate change dimensions to understand the consideration of climate change adaptation and resilience across the entire portfolio.
- Analysing the potential for nutrition outcomes from the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio and also identifying specific programmes where nutrition outcomes can be enhanced by remedial actions to their design.
- Identifying emerging trends and lessons from the portfolio and making recommendations for how FCDO should further develop its work in this area.

Annex 1 provides the detailed ToR for this third Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, while Annex 4 contains the detailed methodological approaches to the thematic areas of climate change, women's economic empowerment, and nutrition.

1.2.2 Scope

To be included in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, programmes need to meet the following three criteria:

- **Technical scope**: programmes should have a significant component of work – and spend at least 25% of their budget – on "commercial agriculture", as interpreted using the FCDO Conceptual Framework for Agriculture.[1]
- **Timing**: programmes are excluded if they closed before November 2020, or if they were not approved and visible on DevTracker by 30 June 2022.
- **Documentation**: All programmes with at least a summary page on DevTracker (and that fulfil the other two criteria) are included.

[1] FCDO define commercial farmers as those who choose to sell at least half of their production.

Using the above criteria, 32 programmes are included in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022. This includes 21 live programmes and 11 programmes that have closed since the cut-off date of the previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review (end November 2020).

Table 1: Programme summary

Number of programmes	Definition
21	Programmes in implementation (cut-off date: 30/06/2022)
11	Programmes that closed between 30/11/2020 and 30/06/2022

1.2.3 Methodology

This portfolio review has reviewed all ongoing FCDO commercial agriculture programmes (following the various cut-off dates outlined above) using publicly available information on the UK Government DevTracker website. This includes business cases, annual reviews and log-frames, along with other public documents such as evaluations and reports. Where documentation was missing from DevTracker, a limited number of interviews were held with SROs.

An existing list of the programmes from the previous portfolio review was updated to define three categories (see Annex 2):

- Programmes that are live and currently in implementation
- Programmes that closed since the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review
- New programmes that commenced after the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review

Extensive efforts have been made to ensure all relevant data has been included, and to check the accuracy of the data. Where data was not identified in documents available on DevTracker or on official programme websites, requests have been made to specific programme SROs responsible for those programmes. For information that remains unavailable, two different categorizations have been used in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review database:

- 'NO DATA' – this is used when data that was expected to have been reported by a programme has not been identified in the documentation (e.g. a programme has a log-frame indicator with a target, but there is no data in recent annual reviews or in the log-frame of progress against this target).
- 'N/A' (not applicable) – this is used when an indicator is not considered to be relevant for reporting by a programme. For example, if a programme does not receive ICF funding, then indicators for all ICF KPIs will be treated as 'N/A.'

A number of metrics, such as 'other benefits' included in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review have been excluded from the current Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review due to difficulties in identifying data or in credibly analysing it. Whilst attempts have been made to include a more limited set of systemic metrics, the smaller portfolio size and lack of standard reporting metrics and approaches has also made it difficult to complete rigorous data collection on some of the metrics. In these instances, further analysis has not been undertaken.

As part of this report a database has been made publicly available, which can be accessed here: www.casaprogramme.com/donor-data/

Furthermore, analysis of the thematic fields of climate change adaptation, women's economic empowerment and nutrition were carried out following the methodologies outlined in the inception report (Annex 4). This also contains an overview of all the methodological amendments from the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review.

1.2.4 Limitations

The lack of data in this review has the potential to skew the results and therefore constrain conclusions in some instances. Other limitations include outliers and the limited number of programmes reporting against some of the indicators collected. Many programmes included in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio do not only contribute to commercial agriculture objectives and these benefits are not captured by the review. In most cases the disaggregation of those components that are directly related to commercial agriculture must be estimated. It is sometimes difficult to clearly disaggregate programme performance against individual indicators within the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. Validation of reported data is not possible, although high level figures and trends have been discussed with FCDO during the drafting of the review. Similarly, many programmes are funded by multiple donors and whilst efforts have been made to disaggregate the FCDO contribution this must sometimes be estimated. The lack of common indicators means that it has sometimes been difficult to fit the available data into the indicators used in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review.

Budget amendments

FCDO has been going through an extended period of institutional restructuring, resulting in revised budgets for many of the programmes included in this review. This is due to broader policy changes within the UK government and its need to react to emerging global challenges. The Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review makes no comment on this fundamental redrawing of the basis under which all UK Aid was conceived and attempts to capture all the financial and operational changes that have had to be made as a result. Given the ongoing nature of these changes, it remains possible that some of the figures in the report may quickly become outdated. In some cases, programme Annual Reports (such as LINKS Powering Economic Growth in Nigeria) reflect original budget figures in the programme summary but mention in the text budget reductions that will affect the programme in the future. In these instances, the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review makes use of the programme summary budgets and not the projected budget reductions.

1.2.5 Structure of the report

This introductory section (section 1) provides an overview of the objectives of the review, FCDO's conceptual framework governing commercial agriculture, the definitions and criteria for inclusion and/or exclusion of programmes from the scope of the review, and summarizes the methodology adopted.

- Section 2 provides a detailed overview of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio, with a focus on funding and sources of funding and geographies and markets.
- Section 3 presents the analysis of the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, its use of indicators and targets and results, and a discussion around Value for Money (VfM) examples.
- Section 4 includes an analysis of women's economic empowerment and an update on how Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) has been integrated into the programmes in the portfolio.
- Section 5 provides an update on the more comprehensive climate change analysis undertaken in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020.
- Section 6 reviews the portfolio against an assessment framework for nutrition and food security to identify areas where potential nutrition outcomes could be improved.

- Section 7 sets out conclusions and recommendations, with some recommendations relating to the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio more broadly and some specific to the thematic focus areas of women's economic empowerment, climate change and nutrition.

The annexes are as follows:

- Annex 1: Inception Report, which was submitted and approved by FCDO in the early stages of this review, including thematic approaches and methodological updates from the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020
- Annex 2: List of Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 commercial agriculture programmes
- Annex 3: List of commercial agriculture programmes with ICF funding
- Annex 4: Detailed thematic methodology
- Annex 5: Key definitions
- Annex 6: Climate change scorecard
- Annex 7: Review of progress made on the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020 recommendations
- Annex 8: Reported performance on key indicators for Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020

2 Overview of the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio

2.1 Summary of the scope

The 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio consists of 32 programmes (see Annex 2 for full list of programmes in the portfolio) with a total FCDO budget of £1,797m The majority (21 programmes with a total FCDO budget of £1,371m) are ongoing programmes, with status as 'in implementation' on DevTracker. Across the whole portfolio, 21 programmes have ICF funding (see Annex 3 for the list of programmes with ICF funding).

The Commercial Agriculture Portfolio 2022 is smaller than in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio 2020 because programmes that were closed before the cut-off date of the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review are not included.

Figure 1: Number of programmes in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio REVIEW

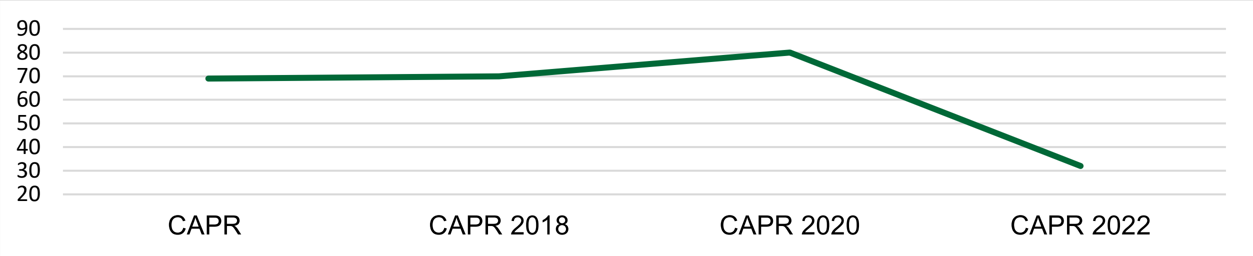
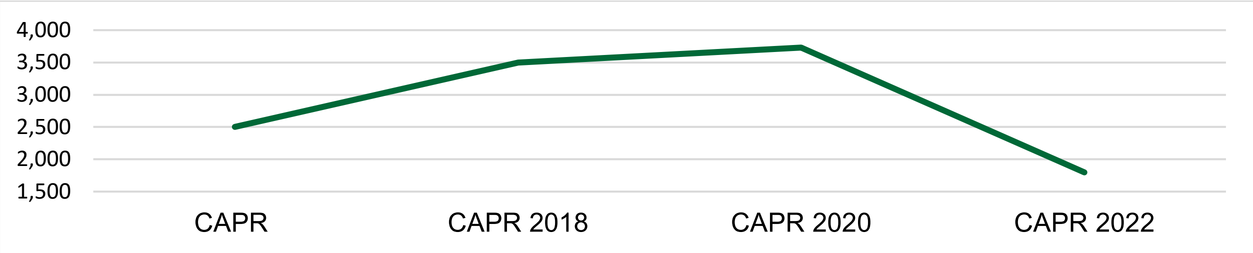


Figure 2: Amount of FCDO budget in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio (£m)



2.2 Geographic and market focuses

20 programmes in the portfolio focus solely on Africa (half of the total budget). Since the last Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review there has been a reduction in budgetary commitments to programmes in Asian countries due to the closure or exclusion of large multi-sectoral programmes in Afghanistan. A significant proportion (one third of programmes and total budget) of the overall portfolio covers more than one global region. By bringing together stakeholders, important cross learning opportunities between regions are generated. This is amplified by the focus of these programmes on learning, research and innovation for technologies that can impact on smallholders in a range of geographical contexts.

Table 2: Summary of distribution of programmes by region and budget

	No. of programmes	FCDO budget (£m)	Percentage of total budget
Africa	20	904.5	50.3%
Asia	2	23.8	1.3%
Global	1	186	10.3%
Multi-Regional	9	683.5	38.0%
Total	**32**	**1,797.8**	**100%**

Figure 3: Number of programmes by geography

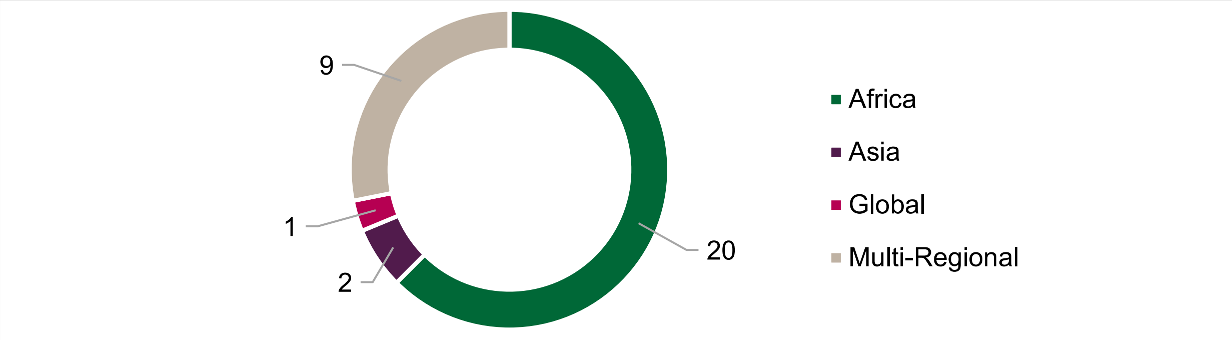
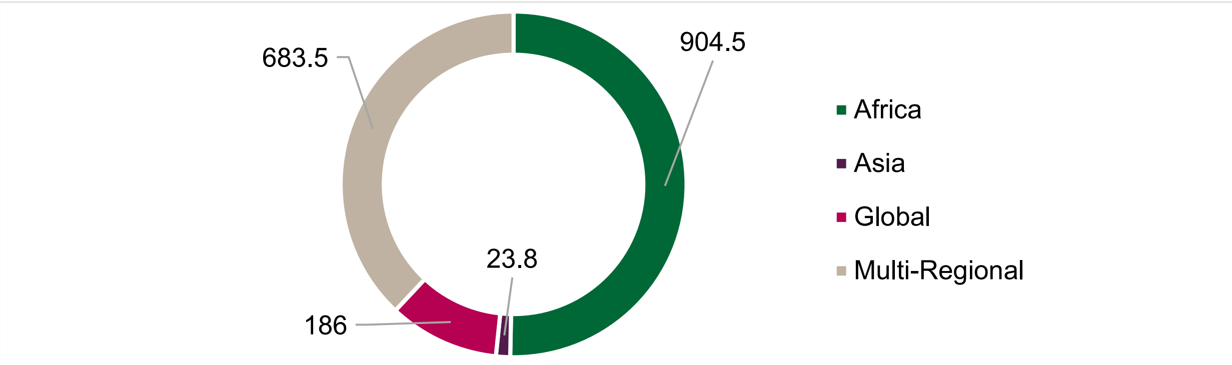


Figure 4: FCDO budget by geography (£m)



The portfolio is skewed by a small number of larger programmes which takes the mean to £56m from a median of £35m, with five programmes larger than £100m. These are formed generally by multiple commitments to single organizations over a long period of time (GAFSP, AgDevCo and CDC/BII) rather than individual initiatives. It should be noted that the trend to repeatedly fund institutions over time is not fully captured in this reporting as other funding for individual institutions of a similar scale has been provided through sources not reported here. For example, £20m of funding is recorded under this Commercial Agriculture Portfolio for the Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund (AECF), which has received more than £100m of FCDO funding through a range of budget lines, including historical funding under Commercial Agriculture Portfolio as well as under renewable energy programmes.

Africa

Almost all the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio in Africa (85% of programmes and 78% of funding) is directed at the individual country level, up from 79% in the previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. There is also an increasing focus on a few countries including Rwanda, Malawi, Nigeria, Somalia and Tanzania. Compared to the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020, there is one additional programme and an additional £40m of budget for the region.

Table 3: Budget summary of programmes – Africa

Country	Number of programmes	FCDO budget (£m)	% of total FCDO budget
Regional level funding[2]	3	201.9	22.3%
Democratic Republic of Congo	1	102.5	11.3%
Malawi	2	113.4	12.5%
Mozambique	1	39.8	4.4%
Nigeria	2	115.7	12.8%
Rwanda	4	74.8	8.3%
Somalia	2	75.8	8.4%
Tanzania	2	54.8	6.1%
Uganda	1	48.0	5.3%
Zambia	2	77.7	8.6%
Total – Africa	**20**	**904.4**	**100%**

Asia

In Asia, there are no regional programmes and only two, relatively small, country programmes in Bangladesh and Indonesia.

Table 4: Budget summary of programmes – Asia

	Number of programmes	FCDO budget (£m)
Bangladesh	1	18.8
Indonesia	1	5
Total – Asia	**2**	**23.8**

Multi-regional

The number of multi-regional programmes has tripled from three in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review to nine in this report. This is partially due to new programmes being included in the review and partially due to recategorization by CASA of existing programmes from a global to a multi-regional perspective to better reflect their real scope. As such it should not necessarily be considered reflective of a broader policy shift on the part of FCDO.

Table 5: Budget summary of multi-regional programmes

	Number of programmes	FCDO budget (£m)
Total – Multi-Regional	**9**	**683.5**

Global

Global programmes are those that provide services that are geographically agnostic although will benefit those living within the countries where FCDO provides development assistance. Due to a recategorization for this Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, there is only one programme that has a truly global reach, GAFSP. This programme is a World Bank led initiative offering diverse solutions with numerous donors channelling more than ten times the budget of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio covered by this review. FCDO programmes have a more limited geographical focus in line with the UK government's policy to target UK aid on specific countries and challenges.

[2] Regional level funding considers programmes that target more than one country rather than the continent as a whole.

Table 6: Budget summary of global programmes

	Number of programmes	FCDO budget (£m)
Global	**1**	**186**

2.2.1 Programme duration

The portfolio consists of a diverse range of programmes with an average duration of seven years and ranging from three to sixteen years – although as programmes are ongoing those programmes with currently short durations are expected to continue. The smallest budget for an FCDO programme was £5m and the largest £291m, showing a wide range although average programme size was above £50m. Programmes were ongoing and had consumed an average of 73% of their funding at the time of the review. This is similar to findings in previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review and the longer-term nature of most programmes means that it is not expected that there will be any drastic changes in portfolio structure over the short term, even with the exclusion of high budget programmes such as those in Afghanistan.

Table 7: Portfolio overview – budget and spending (32 programmes)

	Duration (years)	FCDO budget (£)	FCDO spend – to date (£)
Total		**1,797.8**	**1,312.3**
Average (mean)	7	56.2	41
Median	6	35	17.8
Max	16	291	289
Min	3	5	4.4
Range	13	286	285

Figure 5: Distribution of Commercial Agriculture Portfolio by FCDO budget

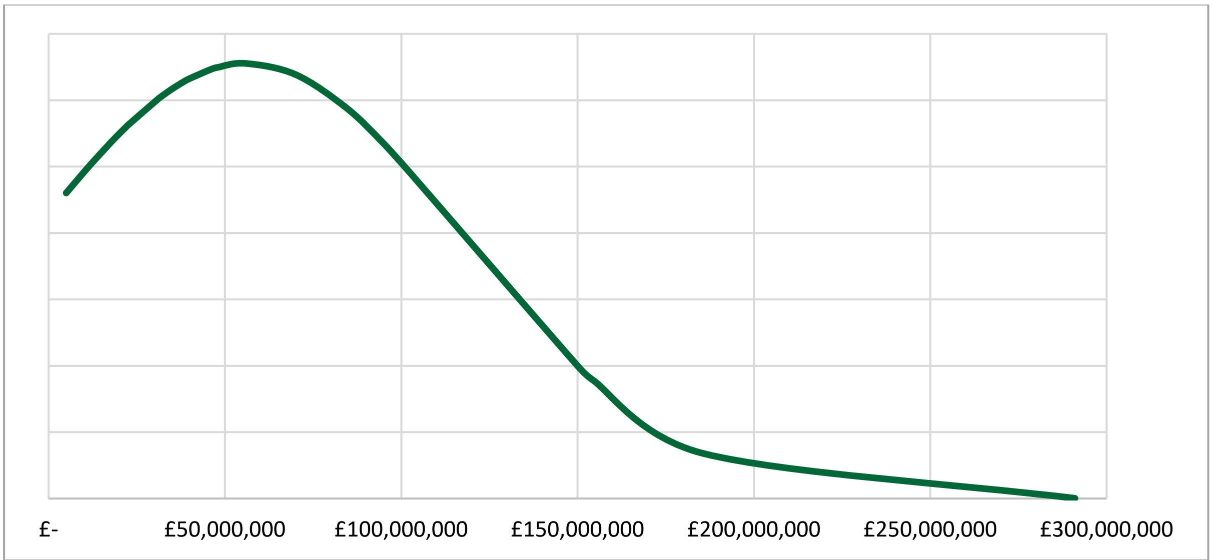
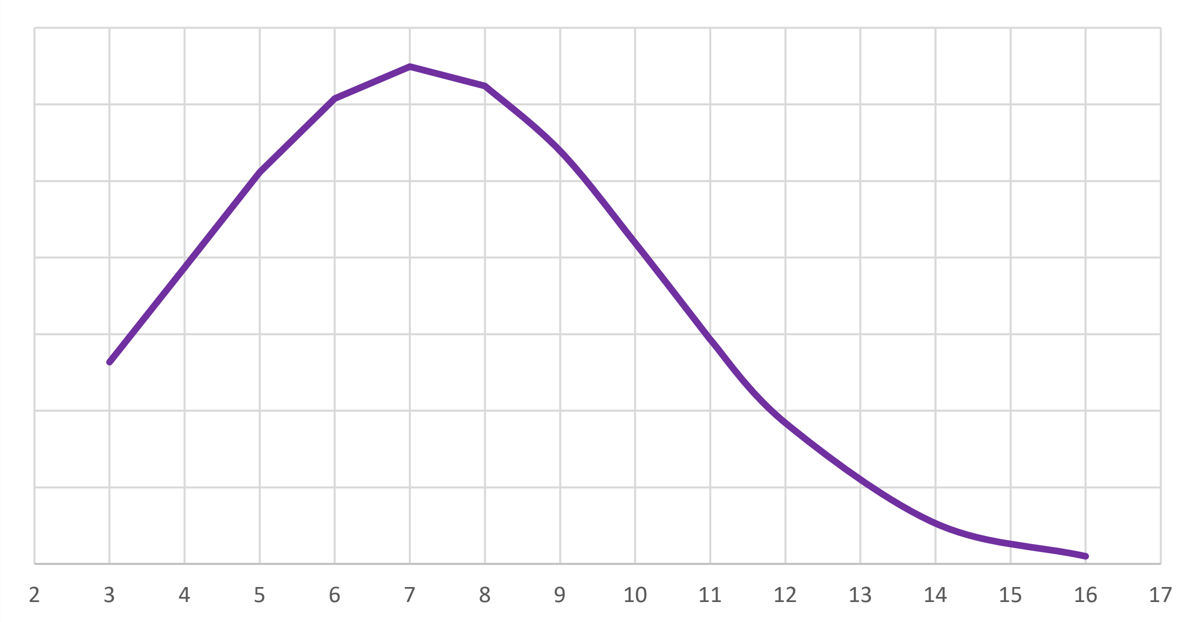


Figure 6: Distribution of Commercial Agriculture Portfolio by programme duration in years



2.2.2 Focus of the programmes

The previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review looked at categorizing programmes by a primary focus, but as they are generally diverse, this had limited merit. In this iteration of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, programmes were reviewed to try and identify their contribution to five key focus areas:

- agribusiness investment
- enabling environment
- access to finance
- value chain development – inputs
- value chain development – downstream

31 of the 32 programmes were categorized, with the support to British International Investment (BII) excluded because granular information on specific spending is not available.

Treatment of BII in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review

BII is a major recipient of funding from UK Aid but the proportion allocated to its Commercial Agriculture Portfolio is difficult to determine because the funding comes from various sources, including grant funds, equity capital and re-invested profits and the investments include businesses that fall into a number of categories. The 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review has agreed a figure of 7% of total BII investment for agriculture (£291m). Similar to other global level impact investors and development finance institutions, BII uses an impact measurement mechanism integrating IFC ESG standards and 2X Challenge that use IRIS+ metrics. This allows investment performance measurement, aggregation and reporting of some key metrics, such as jobs but not others such as reach to smallholders. The scale and complexity of BIIs portfolio, including through intermediary funds that will also report impact, means that comparable sector specific information that could be aggregated into the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review is not available

Table 8: Focus areas of COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE PORTFOLIO programmes

Focus of programmes	Number of programmes	Percentage of Portfolio	Average of total focus (%)		Range (%)	
			Mean	Median	High	Low
Agribusiness Investment	13	42	33	25	90	10
Enabling Environment	19	61	22	20	94	4
Improving Access to Finance	17	55	41	25	100	15
Value Chain Development - Inputs	18	58	26	20	100	6
Value Chain Development - Downstream	16	52	30	20	75	10

Whilst most programmes were multifocal, the lowest number focused on agribusiness investment specifically. This also reflects a move by FCDO away from the provision of direct concessional capital to enterprises through a programmatic approach and towards an institutional focus on BII. Funding is moving towards an emphasis on strengthening the enabling environment and other intermediaries to impact on market systems as a more efficient approach. The enabling environment itself is the most common focus area but tends to make up a small proportion of individual programme budgets. This again supports the narrative that this area is seen as being a regular but complementary intervention in support of programmes, rather than a main objective. Access to finance is the predominant focus of the portfolio, which aligns with the general objective of commercialising smallholder farming.

2.2.3 Primary tool

The multi-faceted nature of most programmes means that they utilize a range of financing tools, but there is insufficient data to analyse this further. In terms of the primary tool, the following summary can be provided:

Table 9: Primary tool

Primary tool	No. of programmes	FCDO budget (£m)			
		Total	Mean	Mode	% of total budget
Provisions of loans and equity	4	500.6	125.2	96	28%
Grants	9	560.6	62.3	42.7	31%
Funding to multilateral agencies	7	267.3	38.2	36.1	15%
Policy change	1	102.5	102.5	102.5	6%
Research	2	128.2	64.1	64.1	7%
Technical Assistance	6	167.7	28	22.7	9%
Challenge Funds	3	70.9	23.6	20	4%

As can be expected, the largest delivery mechanism was through grants, closely followed by provision of loans and equity (mostly to CDC/BII and AgDevCo). Together these elements make up more than half of the total portfolio budget. Challenge Funds and some of the grants elements will also provide direct funding to the private sector and it is clear that whilst direct engagement may be reducing, it still represents a significant part of the overall portfolio. A further interesting observation is the significant proportion of funding to companies in the form of less concessional capital[3] rather than grants.

[3] Returnable capital that is closer to commercially costed but still subsidized.

3 Key findings

This section contains an analysis of the performance of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio against core indicators (set out in table 11 below). Programme performance is assessed by comparing targets with actual results achieved and identifying key trends for the main categories of programmes.

3.1 Programme measurement indicators

This Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review collected information on 20 general performance indicators, categorized according to five themes and disaggregated by gender. It also collected information on gender inclusion and women's economic empowerment, climate change and nutrition, the results of which are presented in section 4 of this report.

The following table presents the five indicator themes and notes the number of programmes targeting them and the number reporting. This is intended to give an understanding of the confidence with which subsequent conclusions can be made. These indicators have been selected as they follow the review methodology defined in the previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review and will allow some comparison between reports over time. However, care should be taken in the utilization of these findings, given the changing nature of the portfolio over time and limitations in the data from varying measurement approaches.

Table 10: Programme measurement indicators [4]

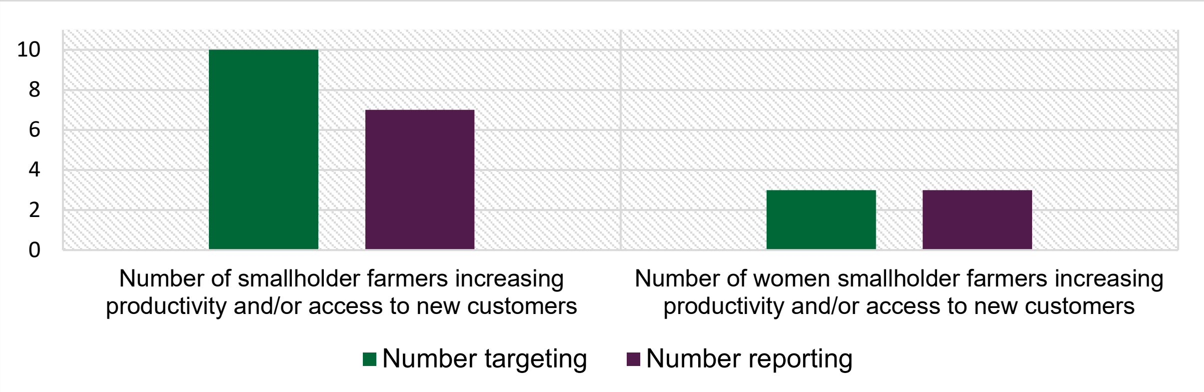
No.	Theme	Indicator	Programmes targeting	Programmes reporting
1	**Overall reach**	Total number of smallholder beneficiaries	24	22
2		Total number of women smallholder beneficiaries	9	9
3		Proportion of women smallholder beneficiaries	37.5%	41%
4	**Productivity**	Number of smallholder farmers increasing productivity and/or access to new customers	10	7
5		*Number of women smallholder farmers increasing productivity and/or access to new customers*	*3*	*3*
6		Proportion of women smallholder farmers	33%	43%
7	**Improved income**	Net attributable income changes for smallholders	8	7
8		Total number of smallholder farmers increasing income as a result of the programme	10	8
9		*Total number of women smallholder farmers increasing income as a result of the programme*	*3*	*4*
10		Proportion of women smallholder farmers	33%	50%

[4] Metrics in italics have data sufficiency issues and have not been subjected to further analysis. This is often due to insufficient reporting of gender disaggregated information.

11	**Enterprises**	*Agricultural linked SMEs that have increased productivity and/or access to new customers and/or access to finance*	*8*	*9*[5]
12		*Number of new businesses created*	*2*	*1*
13		Amount of investment stimulated	14	13
14		*Net attributable change to agribusiness*	*1*	*1*
15		*Total value of increased agricultural production*	*1*	*2*
16	**Employment**	Number of new jobs created	15	15
17		Number of new jobs created for women	8	11
18		Number of people supported with training	7	11
19		*Number of women supported with training*	*3*	*4*
20		Proportion of women jobs	53%	73%

Figure 7: Programmes reporting on overall reach

Figure 8: Programmes reporting on productivity increases



[5] Some programmes report on metrics that are not targeted, largely because of changed reporting demands from when the programme was designed.

Figure 9: Programmes reporting on improved income

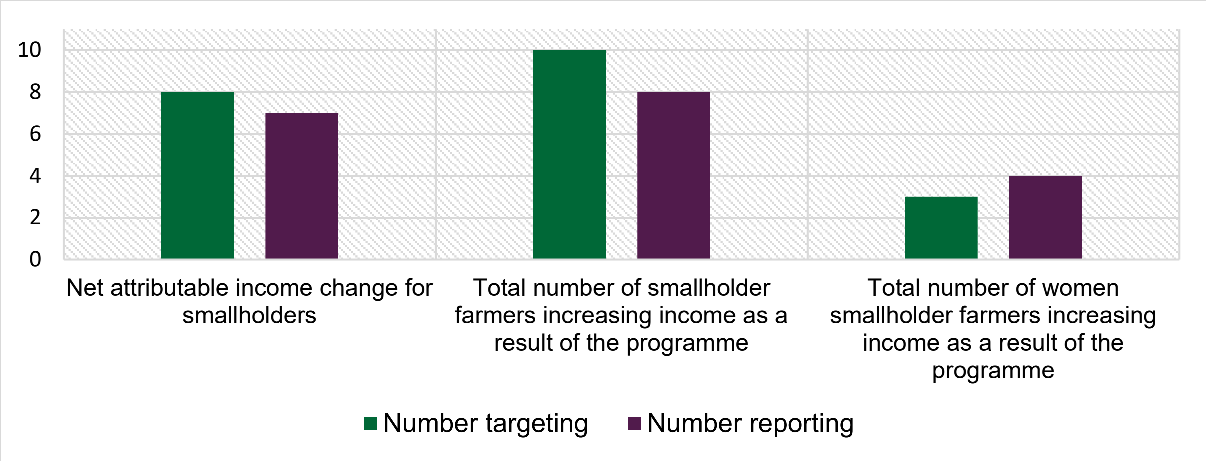


Figure 10: Programmes reporting on enterprises

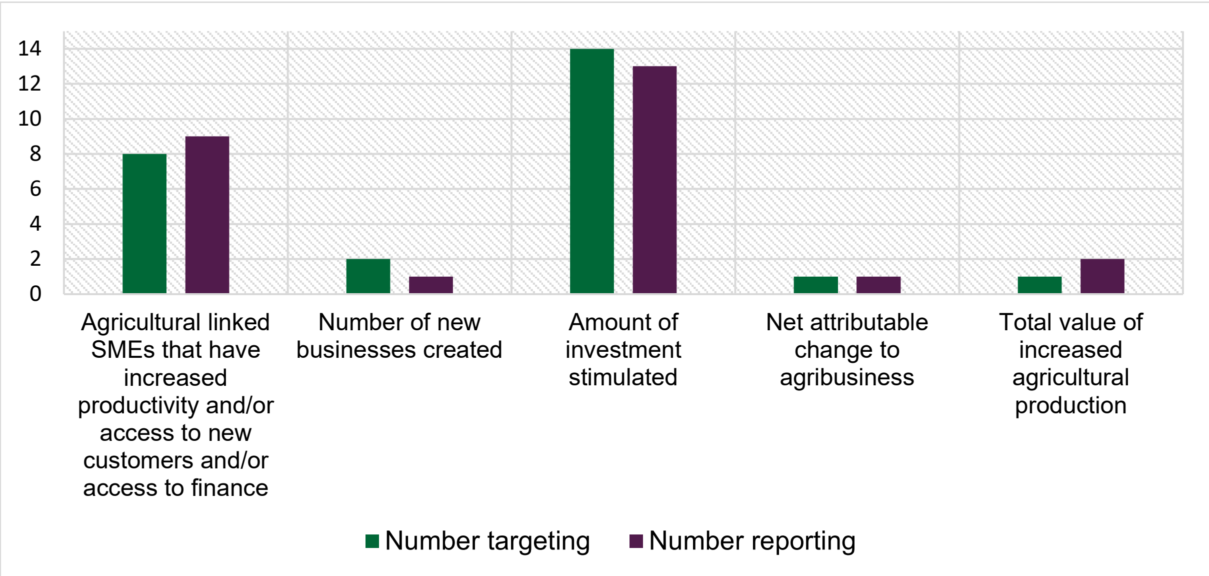
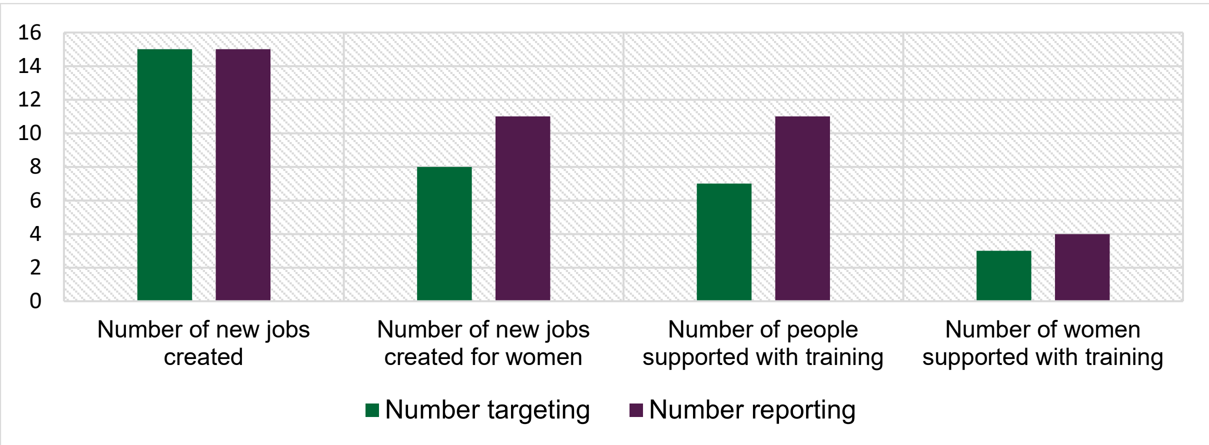


Figure 11: Programmes reporting on employment



3.1.1 Challenges with data quality

Some of the indicators have been difficult to interpret from the available documentation alone. In addition to the above 20 target indicators, all programmes have indicators and targets that can't be clearly captured in the portfolio dataset because they are specific to the programme or because they do not follow a common standard definition. Where information cannot be clearly extracted it is not included in the analysis and this may lead in some instances to under-reporting.

Commercial agriculture is also only one aspect of most programmes[6] rather than the entirety, but data reported here covers the whole programme because it is usually not possible to disaggregate specific figures for agriculture activities from wider programme activities. Therefore, the totals for smallholders benefiting from commercial agriculture interventions should be seen as indicative, rather than as definitive.

A significant number of indicators did not have data available where it was expected ('no data') and this affects, in some instances, the quality of the analysis given. This suggests issues with the collection of data in reports, its recording in DevTracker or the ease with which it can be extracted for analysis.

3.1.2 Challenges with data sufficiency

The metrics collected in this Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review have been revised to remove those metrics where it was difficult to obtain clear data in the previous report. This principally meant excluding metrics reported under the broad term 'other benefits' as the breadth of impacts included in this aggregation made any analysis meaningless. Data on land reform was excluded as this was limited to a few programmes.

New metrics were targeted to be reported on with the intention of acquiring information more relevant to the programme. Specifically, metrics on the number of people supported with training and the value of increased agricultural production were included. Training is a key component of capacity building and increasingly provided alongside concessional capital in market systems programmes. The value of agricultural production is a good measure of the extent to which value is added as a result of interventions. However, neither of these metrics were substantively gathered by programmes in their reporting. This is likely due to qualitative factors such as the length of training provided or the type of crops produced, which reduce the relevance of the metric overall. It has also proved difficult to disaggregate the financial benefit generated by individual agribusinesses, although most market making programmes will have access to this information. Better understanding of these outputs is important for overall programme success and could be more systematically measured by programmes.

In addition to these three metrics, the number of new businesses created is also reported by too few programmes to make further analysis meaningful. This should also be a key target of programmes seeking to scale smallholder farmers from subsistence to small scale commercial agriculture in line with the 2015 FCDO policy on commercial agriculture.

Indicators for tracking climate change, nutrition and women's economic empowerment are discussed in the respective sections of this report.

3.2 Programme performance

The five categories of indicators are presented below, against which the portfolio is analysed to generate the key findings for this part of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review[7]. A number of programmes report on other metrics that are not included here, largely because the reporting demands have changed from when the programme was designed or where

[6] Disaggregation by other components is not recorded and so a clear perspective on the percentage of commercial agriculture within individual programmes is often not possible.

[7] Target figures are the number of smallholders or amounts of money that are included in programme documents as the intended reach. Actual figures are those reported by the programmes against these targets. As noted above, not all programmes report against all indicators. Where proportional analysis is provided, this uses the total number of programmes that report on the indicator, not the total population of programmes.

there is insufficient use of the metric of across the portfolio to make aggregation worthwhile. This includes for example number of households with improved land tenure, which was an important element of earlier programmes but is not included in more recent funding.

Value for money in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review is considered in the form of anecdotes or examples in the context of the four 'E's (efficiency, effectiveness, economy and equity) approach adopted by FCDO because programmes are mostly on-going. Almost all programmes make some attempt to include statements on each of these criteria, but it is not possible to make a meaningful portfolio level analysis. This is because programmes have not been completed and most will see their highest performance in the latter stages of implementation when the greatest proportion of this budgets have been consumed.

3.2.1 Overall summary performance

Table 11: Summary of portfolio performance by key metrics

Indicator	Target		Actual	
	All	Women	All	Women
Total number of smallholder beneficiaries, which:	29,186,711	10,471,294	24,510,698	9,712,644
Are increasing productivity and/or access to new customers	4,129,564	1,209,337	5,525,499	2,037,197
Are increasing income	1,621,291	141,320	623,567	76,061
Agricultural linked SMEs that have increased productivity and/or access to new customers and/or access to finance	505,097		17,492	
Amount of investment stimulated (£)	1,068,862,048		590,395,257	
Number of new jobs created	681,047	113,685	949,501	439,059

3.2.2 Reach

Table 12: Reach indicators

Indicator	Target	Actual	%
Total number of smallholder beneficiaries *24 targeted; 22 reported*	29,186,711	24,510,698	83
Total number of women smallholder beneficiaries *9 targeted; 9 reported*	10,471,294	9,712,644	92
Proportion of women smallholder beneficiaries	36%	40%	

This indicator is the main performance measure for the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio, although data is not available from BII, which is the recipient of the largest single budgetary commitment from FCDO and which can be expected to have a significant impact on smallholders. The reporting also makes no differentiation between direct and indirect reach[8], which has important ramifications for value for money conditions as well as overall reach performance. Only two thirds of the portfolio report against this metric.

In absolute terms, progress appears to have been made in improving the proportion of the programmes that reached women. However, the profile of the portfolio is very different between the two Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Reviews and so variation in reported performance is due to a different portfolio structure rather than improved performance. The reach to women is still likely to be under-reported due to the low number of programmes that

[8] Direct beneficiaries receive benefits from the project; indirect beneficiaries receive benefits from sources other than the project whether they are eligible or not.

report gender disaggregated data. For more detailed commentary on the engagement of women by the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio, please see the section on Women's Economic Empowerment below.

3.2.3 Productivity

Table 13: Productivity indicators

Indicator	Target	Actual	%
Number of smallholder farmers increasing productivity and/or access to new customers	4,129,564	5,525,499	134
10 targeted; 8 reporting			
Number of women smallholder farmers increasing productivity and/or access to new customers	1,209,337	2,037,197	168
6 targeted; 5 reporting			
Proportion of women smallholder farmers	29%	37%	

Productivity indicators are reported by a third of the portfolio. GAFSP makes a disproportionate contribution of two thirds of the total target reach and even more (88%) of the achieved reach. The low levels or non-contribution by many of the other programmes that could be expected to provide this kind of benefit is due to the lack of indicators for this in programme documentation. Programmes that look to make market systems work for the poor (such as AgDevCo or Tanzania Agribusiness Window) will directly or indirectly improve farmer productivity and greater research would be expected to uncover a more substantial contribution than reported.

3.2.4 Improved income

Table 14: Improved income indicators

Indicator	Target	Actual	%
Net attributable income change to smallholders	£208m	£332m	160
8 programmes targeted; 7 reported			
Total number of smallholder farmers increasing income as a result of the programme	1,621,29`	623,567	38
10 programmes targeted; 8 reported			
Total number of women smallholder farmers increasing income as a result of the programme	141,320	76,061	53
3 programmes targeted; 4 reported			
Proportion of women smallholder farmers	8%	12%	

Of the 10 programmes with targets to increase smallholder farmer incomes, the top two programmes generate half of the target reach. The largest by far, at one third of the total target reach, is the Africa Food Trade and Resilience programme, but data on its actual performance is not available. In addition, GAFSP in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review was one of the larger reporting programmes, but did not report on this metric for this review.

As with the previous review, there is a very low level of gender disaggregation in the documents available on DevTracker, with only one third of the programmes targeting increased incomes including figures for women. Data extraction may be an issue with some of the remaining programmes that do not report – AECF's Tanzania Agribusiness Window (TZAW) does collect and report gender-disaggregated performance figures, even though this could not be identified from documents on DevTracker.

3.2.7 Enterprises

Table 15: Enterprise indicators

Indicator	Target	Actual	%
Agricultural linked SMEs that have increased productivity and/or access to new customers and/or access to finance *8 programmes targeted; 9 reported*	505,097	17,492	3
Amount of investment stimulated *15 programmes targeted; 12 reported*	1,068,862,048	590,395,257	55

Although eight programmes target improving the productivity of SMEs, most make very limited contributions. Stripping out the 500,000 target from eDIAL[9] leaves a much more modest target. Most programmes that do set targets are reaching less than ten companies. Two programmes – Promoting Conservation Agriculture in Zambia and Malawi Trade and Investment Programme – contribute 95% of actual reach. This highlights the challenges of measuring this metric with investment focused market systems programmes such as Tanzania Agribusiness Window providing very high levels of financial benefit and engagement to very few companies.

Investment facilitation is becoming an increasingly important part of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio, with half the programmes reviewed reporting on it. Aspirations at the programme level are generally high, with a third of those targeting investment looking to raise more than £100m of investment each. One third of the programmes in early stages of implementation have already exceeded their investment expectations (although in three of these five, only by a small margin).

3.2.8 Employment

Table 16: Employment indicators

Indicator	Target	Actual	%
Number of new jobs created *15 programmes targeted; 14 reported*	681,047	949,501	140
Number of new jobs created for women *8 programmes targeted; 10 reported*	113,685	439,059	388
Proportion of women	17	46	
Number of people supported with training 7 programmes targeted; 11 reported	1,172,598	521,395	44
Number of women supported with training 3 programmes targeted; 4 reported	881,800	261,675	30
Proportion of women	75%	50%	

The Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review calculates BII's actual jobs created as a proportion of the overall jobs reported by the institution relative to the budget allocated for agriculture (7%). No jobs targets can be identified, which underestimates the overall targets for the sector. There is lack of gender disaggregation on key contributing programmes to the jobs metric – particularly FAiR in Rwanda and BII.

Training performance is heavily skewed by Linking Agribusiness and Nutrition in Mozambique, which reports three quarters of the total reach. The relative benefits of training vary significantly between programmes and with no common standard for reporting on

[9] Enhancing Digital and Innovations for Agri-food Systems and Livelihoods (eDIAL) Programme.

training, care should be taken when using this narrative. In addition, many of the market systems programmes include training but do not report on it and therefore the contribution of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio to broader capacity building could be significantly higher than reported.

3.2.9 Value for Money

The diverse range of thematic content within individual programmes and the difficulties in disaggregating programme components, coupled with the different use of metrics between programmes makes analysing value for money challenging. However, most programmes make a specific effort to identify ways in which they have achieved efficiency, effectiveness, equity or economy.

Efficiency

Around one third of programmes have specific efficiency targets that could be identified, such as PrOpCom Mai-karfi in Nigeria, which had cost targets for reaching smallholders and rural entrepreneurs. These have not considered the benefit per farmer reached, which would have deepened the analysis. BII also has specific financial performance targets including crowding in private capital and financial returns. Similarly, GAFSP reported on the improved quality of its portfolio as it matured, and ASAP and many other market system programmes that target investing track key metrics such as disbursements, which is something that could be more consistently tracked and compared across programmes to understand portfolio quality and fund management capacity.

Other programmes, such as AgResults, look to operational analysis for efficiency such as internal learning, use of lower-paid staff, and improved procurement. Examples of efficiency include working with partners rather than in-house staff (Msingi), use of mobile banking to distribute cash (PPEPP in Bangladesh), raising matching funds (SIIMA, NU-TEC, ELAN & eDial) and using farmer union staff and farmer co-ordinators to deliver training (Promoting Conservation Agriculture in Zambia). Leveraging matching funds from partners is an important measure of efficiency that has been implemented well across a number of programmes. This is not only about sharing the financial burden but shows broader endorsement of programme approaches and greater potential for wider dissemination and sustainability.

Effectiveness

Most programmes attempt to provide commentary on cost-effectiveness, sometimes using comparison of performance with a baseline or expectation in the business case. There are no cross-sectoral comparisons which would improve validity by considering the FCDO's performance against its peers. The use of common benchmarks is challenging because donors tend to measure effectiveness in different ways, but this could be gradually improved as partners increase their use of globally accepted metrics such as IRIS+.

Reporting varies between specific analysis of metrics to more general statements on the extent of progress but tends to be largely positive. For example, LINKS in Nigeria provides a specific cost per job created and Private Enterprise Programme Zambia Phase II notes that SMEs can access new sources of finance, grow their business and create paid jobs. Linking Agribusiness and Nutrition in Mozambique provides data from end beneficiary research showing that 70% of supported companies reported that their businesses had improved as a result. These forms of direct interrogation of beneficiaries, while they can be costly, provide powerful evidence to complement programme generated data. It is particularly important in building evidence that interventions are leading to improved welfare and lifestyles.

Equity

As noted elsewhere in this report, the performance of equity in the portfolio reporting is mixed. Programmes that were unable to report gender disaggregated metrics remain and the proportion reporting has even declined from almost half to under a third, despite significant work over recent years to mainstream this into all programmes. There is evidence that new metrics are being introduced to existing programmes to measure equity (Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa) or have been revised where they are too low (Promoting Conservation Agriculture in Zambia).

Equal access to the benefits of programmes is frequently included as a performance target. These can be readily measured when programmes directly impact on individuals, but where this happens indirectly – which is common for programmes taking a market systems approach – then broad estimates of the proportion of access have to be made and this introduces some concern over quality. For example, AFR Phase II in Rwanda assumes that access to finance is broadly equal and whilst this is evidenced, the programme itself raises concerns that men and women access financial services differently and this can affect equity. An important consideration from many programmes (for example, ASAP) was limitations in the understanding of the equity scenario beyond simply gender disaggregated performance numbers, with some programmes (such as that supporting AgDevCo) elaborating on the impacts of Covid-19, which disproportionately affected women.

Economy

Keeping costs within budget parameters and providing evidence of cost saving measures is readily measurable as it relies entirely on programme accounts. Key aspects quoted by programmes include administrative costs from overall programme costs (e.g. Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa, P4P, eDial, SIGS and NU-TEC along with others). Here the emphasis is on finding ways to increase the proportion of funding that flows to operations and most programmes report positively in this report.

Other important elements affecting economy were depreciating local currencies, adoption of remote working, benchmarking and renegotiating of consultants’ fees and improved procurement. One programme (Private Sector Development Programme in Malawi) benchmarked their costs of delivery against peers in the challenge fund space for a positive outcome.

4 Women's Economic Empowerment

4.1 Overview and approach

The purpose of the women's economic empowerment review of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio is to provide a broad assessment of how Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) has been integrated into the programmes in the portfolio. Like the previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review conducted in 2020, this review follows the Bishop Framework which uses eight indicators with different gender dimensions[10] to gauge the integration of GESI in programme design, implementation and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) processes. Scores are given to programme performance against each of the eight indicators and the aggregate sum of the scores is used to categorize programmes on a ladder of achievement. The framework is described in detail in Annex 4 of this report.

The desk review mainly focused on Business Cases, Logical Frameworks and Annual Review documents published on DevTracker. Nine of the programmes are new and were not included in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review women's economic empowerment review. Out of the 32 programmes included in the current review, one programme, 'Private Enterprise Programme Zambia phase II', did not have any annual reviews published in DevTracker, which made it difficult to get information about its implementation. Therefore, it hasn't been included in the scoring and categorization of programmes based on their women's economic empowerment score.

4.2 Summary of findings

The business cases of all the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes reviewed state that gender and social inclusion were considered in the programme design. The gender dimensions review of the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review shows lower performance on GESI compared to the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. In this year's review, the proportions of 'gender responsive' and 'gender aware' programmes have decreased, while the proportion rated 'gender blind' has increased from none in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review to five.

39% of the programmes are 'gender responsive', which indicates that they meet the basic criteria for gender integration in at least six of the eight gender indicators assessed. All of the programmes in this category have set targets for women's engagement in log-frames, almost all have a gender strategy and collect sex-disaggregated data. Most of the programmes also have a gender specialist supporting the implementation and demonstrate some mainstreaming of gender in programme activities. Some programmes have also developed learning products on GESI.

23% of the programmes fall under the 'gender aware' category, which shows that the programmes pay limited attention to gender integration, although they fail to meet the basic criteria for integration in three to five gender indicators used in the review. While almost all the programmes in this category collect sex disaggregated data, most do not have a gender strategy and sex disaggregated targets in their log-frames. Half of the programmes in this category have a gender expert and include programme delivery approaches that help to reach women. Very few have developed knowledge products on gender.

22% of programmes are 'gender responsive plus', which means that they go beyond the basic level in most of the gender indicators, have a clear women's economic empowerment

[10] The eight gender dimensions used in the review are: gender strategy; setting targets for women's engagement in programme's log-frame; M&E; presence of gender expertise in project management and staff; partners' commitment to integrate gender; mainstreaming in field activities; progress in reaching targets on GESI; and knowledge management and sharing on gender.

target from the outset, collect data on women's empowerment beyond sex disaggregation, build the capacity of staff and partners on gender, adopt innovative and transformative gender approaches, while also generating evidence and advocate on gender.

16% of the programmes are 'gender blind', which implies that they fail to meet the basic gender integration requirement in at least three of the gender indicators. None of the programmes in this category show any evidence of mainstreaming gender in their programme implementation. Most do not have a gender strategy or targets set for women's engagement in their log-frame. Very few collect sex disaggregated data and have a gender expert supporting implementation. Three out of the five gender blind programmes[11] are new and were not included in the previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, and two[12] were rated as 'gender aware' in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review.

Figure 12: Programmes by gender integration status in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022

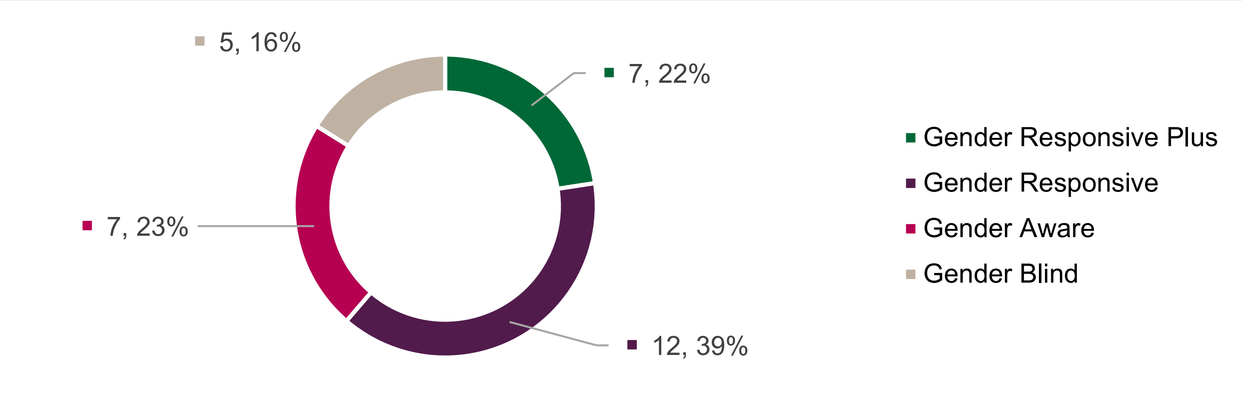
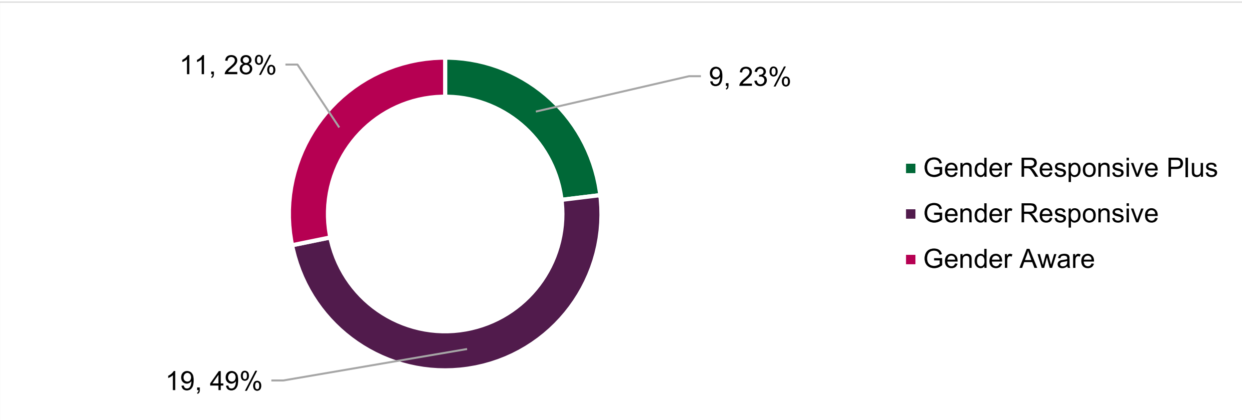


Figure 13: Programmes by gender integration status in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020



Similar to the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, programmes with a primary focus on agribusiness investment and enabling environment performed lower on the gender integration ladder, while those with a primary focus on value chain development performed better. Some of the reasons for low performance on gender integration of programmes that scored 'gender blind' and 'gender aware' are listed below.

Failure to address the underlying causes of gender inequality, such as social norms that restrict women's economic participation in conservative societies. For example, the Supporting Inclusive Growth in Somalia (SIGS) programme aimed to bring about

[11] Malawi Trade and Investment Programme; Strengthening Impact Investment in Markets for Agriculture (SIIMA); Strengthening Palm Oil Sustainability in Indonesia.
[12] The Future of Agriculture in Rwanda (FAiR); Sustainable Inclusive Livelihoods through Tea Production in Rwanda.

inclusive growth in high value sectors by supporting Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) to access finance, technology and markets. One of the programme outputs was achieving transformational change, which included the acceptance of businesses owned by women and women having a voice in existing and new economic governance structures. However, the activities implemented by the programme were not sufficient for shifting the social norms that restrict women's participation.

Failure to incorporate a deliberate or intentional women's economic empowerment approach in the programmes. The SIGS programme in Somalia only achieved 15% of women owned MSMEs accessing finance compared to a 40% target, because it did not intentionally address barriers for women to participate, such as, lack ownership of land to use as collateral for loans. The annual review recommended designing innovative approaches to enable women owned MSEMEs to access loans, such as looking at other tangible and intangible assets to serve as collateral or using group guarantee systems.

Entry to the Sustainable Inclusive Livelihoods through Tea Production programme requires being able to convert 0.3-1 hectare of land for tea production. The criteria can be restrictive to women given their lack of land ownership, although they are involved in family farms and engaged in the production activities. It is not clear if women were targeted by the extension advisory services and participated in farmers' field schools, as the programme did not collect sex disaggregated data on these activities.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and shifting programme priorities. In some cases, the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in shifting previously planned interventions, while in one case, it led to a reduction of programme activities that had a strong women's economic empowerment focus in the business case. The Malawi Trade Investment Programme business case intended to promote economic development opportunities for women cross border traders and women owned enterprises in regional and international value chains and to open up opportunities for women suppliers to supply large firms. Most of the women's economic empowerment related interventions in the business case were not implemented due to the shift in the programme priorities following COVID-19. The revised log-frame for the programme, which is devoted to mitigating the impact of COVID-19 in Malawi, does not have any women's economic empowerment related interventions.

Businesses owned by women were disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The LINKS - Powering Economic Growth in Northern Nigeria programme conducted an online survey which recorded that COVID-19 led to business closures, especially women owned businesses. The 2021 annual review of BII's Programme Support in Africa and South Asia attributed the decline in the proportion of jobs supported by the programme for women in South Asia to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Similarly, AgDevCo's annual review in 2021 stated a higher proportion of women than men lost their jobs in 2020, because of the increased burden of unpaid care work following measures taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as closure of schools and childcare facilities. In addition, as investee companies reduced the number of seasonal labourers they hired in 2020, women's jobs were more affected.

Increased use of digital technologies for agricultural transactions, which was introduced to overcome movement restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, in some contexts helped to improve women's access to agricultural inputs, services and markets. The GAFSP programme annual review showed that in Bangladesh, National Call Centres were established with the support of FAO to help small scale farmers connect with input suppliers, traders and service providers, facilitating the sale of goods and commodities and agricultural inputs. About 30,000 smallholders, 46% women, benefited from the call centres.

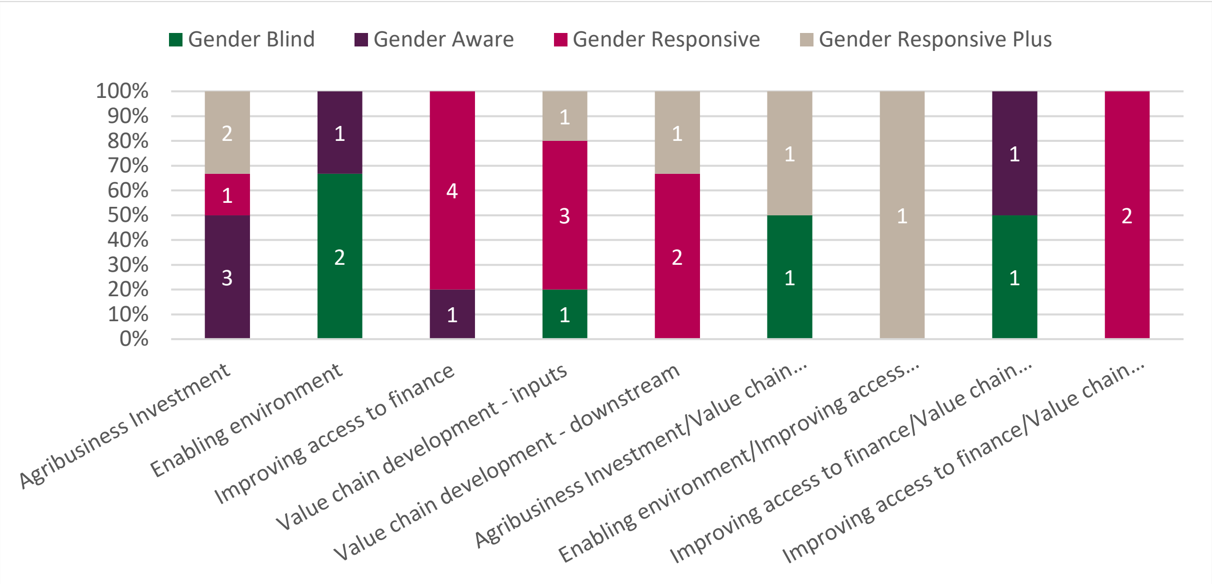
Budget cuts from FCDO affected the achievement of women's economic empowerment in some programmes. LINKS – Powering Economic Growth in Northern Nigeria programme had a strong gender integration component in its business case. A GESI team was recruited to support the programme's various intervention teams to prioritize value chains where women are key players. However, the budget cuts led to a reduction of the programme components and staff. As a consequence, the programme has not been able to conduct surveys to collect gender disaggregated data and monitor impact on job creation, achieve incomes targets for women or to prioritize value chains where there are greater opportunities for women. The programme's annual review in 2021/22 mentioned that it will not be able to achieve its target of 'jobs created for women' because it does not have the scale or choices of projects to work with.

Programme implementation does not reflect the extent of gender integration stated in the design documents. Some programmes have well-articulated women's economic empowerment related objectives and strategies in the business case, but these are not reflected in log-frames and annual reviews. For example, the business case for Strengthening Palm Oil Sustainability in Indonesia stated that gender assessments would be carried to understand the risks and opportunities of the policies and measures introduced on gender equality, also on women's ability to access economic gains secured through improvement in productivity, and their ability to participate in consultation and dialogue processes supported by the programme. Annual reviews of the programme did not show if the gender assessments were carried out or how they informed the programme implementation. Sex disaggregated data on various outputs of the programme, such as smallholder growers trained or smallholder traders reached by the programme, were not reported.

The business case of Future of Agriculture Programme in Rwanda (FAiR) included measuring women's empowerment using the Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) measurement and the intention to collect sex disaggregated data on a range of metrics. However, no sex disaggregated targets were set in the programme log-frame on these indicators and the annual reviews did not show gender disaggregated targets and data collection or gender mainstreaming actions taken during implementation.

Strengthening Impact Investment Markets for Agriculture programme aimed to take a gender lens in investing approach, look at the role of gender in decision making on technology uptake, develop gender disaggregated impact measurement and build the capacity of businesses owned by women. The log-frame developed has no gender disaggregated targets set at output or outcome levels. The annual review conducted did not show gender disaggregated reporting on achievement against output indicators.

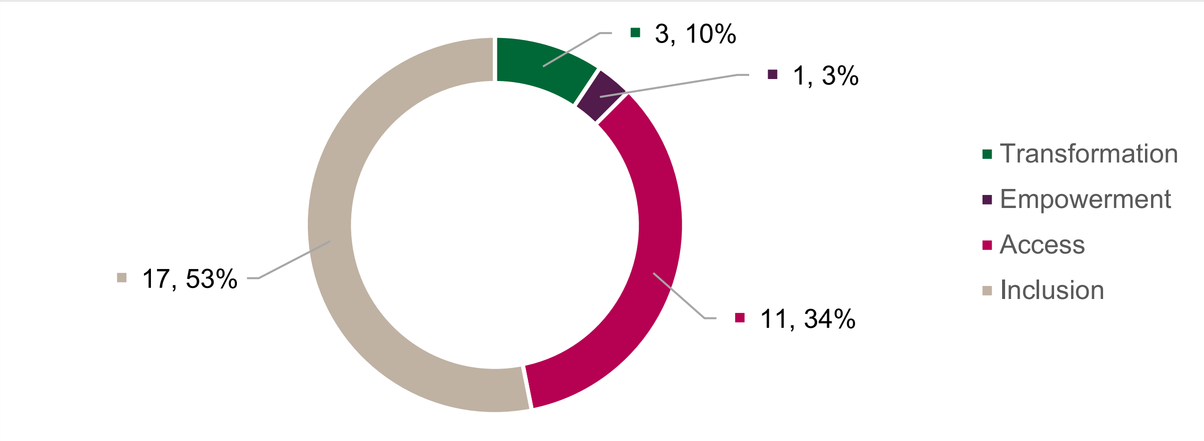
Figure 14: Gender integration of programmes disaggregated by primary focus area[13]



[13] Some programmes have similar level of focus on two or three thematic areas.

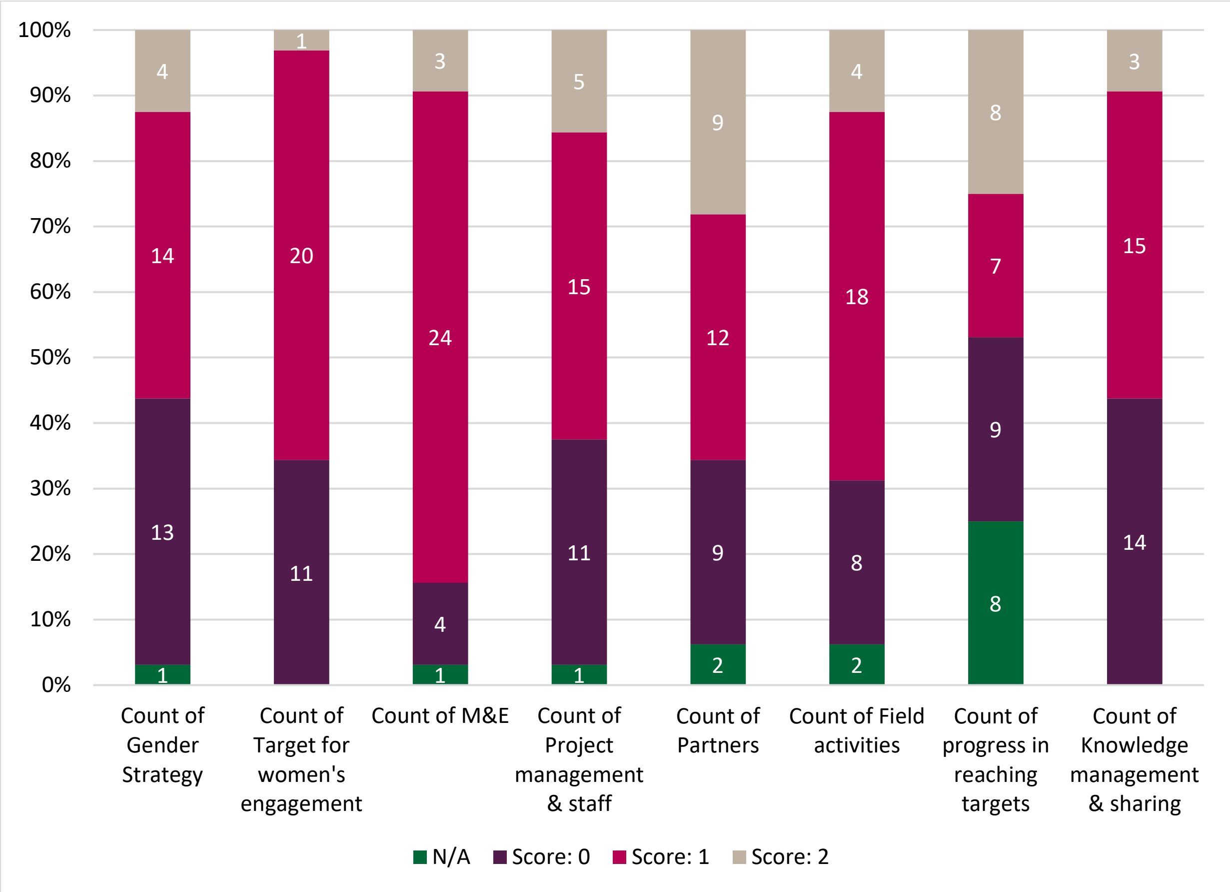
The findings on GESI approaches used by programmes is similar to the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. The majority of the programmes (53%) focused on 'Inclusion', an approach which is limited to making sure women participate in programme activities and access programme services. About 34% of the programmes aimed at improving women's 'Access' to assets and resources by generating employment for them, making inputs and financial services accessible and enabling their participation in non-traditional sectors. One programme had an 'Empowerment' approach that aimed to build women's agency and decision-making power. Only 10% of the programmes adopted a gender 'Transformative' approach addressing the underlying causes of inequality through institutional and social change. Some of the programmes that adopted a 'Transformative' approach also included strategies that empower women. Most of the new programmes which came into implementation after the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review focused on 'Inclusion', while a few have adopted 'Access' and one has employed an 'Empowerment' approach.

Figure 15: Programmes with social and gender inclusion elements



Programmes have low scores on some specific gender dimensions, indicating areas where more effort is needed to improve gender integration. Over half of the programmes did not meet targets they have set to reach women or did not have sex-disaggregated targets in their log-frames at output and outcome levels, which prevented measuring progress of programme objectives related to women reached or benefiting from the programme. Several programmes, such as, P4P, ASAP and Private Development programme in DRC, had set very low targets for women (15-30% of total beneficiaries). Additionally, 44% of the programmes in the review did not have gender strategies. Half of these are new programmes that were not included in the previous 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. Also 44% of the programmes did not conduct gender related studies or produced knowledge products on GESI. However, there is improvement on this indicator compared with the results of the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, where 75% of the programmes did not conduct studies on GESI. Five out of the nine new programmes included in this review period have conducted gender related studies. 75% of the programmes are performing well by at least collecting sex disaggregated data for reporting.

Figure 16: Score of programmes on gender integration dimensions



14

Comparing gender integration ratings in the current review with the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review showed that two programmes[15] are given lower ratings and three others[16] improved where they had taken actions to improve their approach to GESI following recommendations provided in programme annual reviews and mid-term evaluations. The changes made by these programmes are described below.

- Enhancing Digital and Innovations for Agri-food systems and Livelihoods (EDALI) improved gender disaggregated data collection and incorporated gender targets in the log-frame. It supported its innovation fund agribusiness grantees to integrate gender and equity in their strategy and day to day work through conducting capacity building workshops and introduced a gender target for the innovation fund. The programme invested in new approaches and strategies to reach and benefit women, which resulted in improved outcomes for women. The Ethiopian Digital Agricultural Advisory Services (EDAAS) component of the programme formed women only groups in parallel to existing development groups for a video-enabled extension system that helped it to increase adoption of improved farming practices among female farmers. The

[14] N/A refers to unavailability of data to give a score to the indicator; 0 score indicates failure to meet the minimum basic requirement; 1 score indicates meeting the basic criteria; 2 score indicates progressive actions taken by the programme on that indicator beyond meeting the basic criteria. More information on the interpretation of the scores for each indicator is given in Annex 4.

[15] Sustainable Inclusive Livelihoods through Tea Production in Rwanda; The Future of Agriculture in Rwanda (FAiR).

[16] Enhancing Digital and Innovations for Agri-food Systems and Livelihoods (eDIAL) Programme; Rural and Agriculture Markets Development programme for Northern Nigeria (PrOpCom Mai-karfi); Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa.

programme is also developing evidence and learning on the impact of gender composition in farmers' groups on knowledge, adoption and intrahousehold decision making, as well as on the impact and effectiveness of 'interactive voice response digital extension' among women and men farmers. It's GESI rating improved from gender aware in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review to gender responsive in the current review.

- Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa started a targeted approach to reach and support women owned enterprises through access to finance and coaching that helped it exceed its targets for women's engagement. The programme has improved from 'gender aware' to 'gender responsive'.
- Rural and Agriculture Markets Development programme for Northern Nigeria improved its GESI performance in its second phase between 2018-2021, with highest achievements recorded in the final year of the programme. It conducted a study on the socio-cultural context affecting women's participation in economic activities in North Eastern part of Nigeria that enabled targeting sectors where women are highly represented. The programme also tackled attitude-based constraints for women in the market system by investing in proofs of concept and evidence with private sector partners that encourage outreach to women. At the end of its second phase in 2021, the programme exceeded its targets related to women and its rating improved from 'gender responsive' in 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review to 'gender responsive plus'.

Factors contributing to greater gender integration in programmes rated gender responsive plus

Programmes that are rated 'gender responsive plus' have taken additional steps towards gender responsiveness beyond meeting the basic gender integration criteria on at least two of the gender dimensions assessed in this review. This section provides examples of such actions taken by these programmes, which can provide some lessons to similar programmes in the portfolio on how to incorporate more progressive gender integration approaches.

Adoption of innovative gender transformative approach in programme implementation:

Pathways to Prosperity for extremely Poor People in Bangladesh (PPEEPP) included behaviour change communication activities to tackle social norms and exclusionary practices that affected women, people with disability and other social minority groups, limiting their voice and control over resources. The programme also built women's agency by providing training to micro-enterprises on leadership and negotiation skills.

Tanzania Agri-business Window – AECF used a Gender Lens in Investing (GLI) approach that involves integrating a gender analysis into investment decisions to achieve better social and financial outcomes. GLI specifically includes: investing in women led companies, companies that innovate products and services to women, companies with gender diverse management team and employees and industries or sectors where women are significant participants as employees, producers, distributors and retailers.

BII Programme Support in Africa and Southern Asia brought transformative change in its wider engagement with the international finance development system, working with other Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) to promote investing that advances gender equality. In 2020, the programme published a gender smart investing guide for fund managers which is now taken up by other DFIs. The programme has made an investment of 200 million USD, which met the criteria of

2Xchallenge[17] to mobilize investment that supports women's economic empowerment.

Northern Uganda: Transforming the Economy Through Climate Smart Agri-business (NU-TEC) programme used innovative approaches to reach women. The programme introduced the 'commercial agent' model in partnership with processors, off-takers, inputs suppliers and service providers. A third of the commercial agents trained by the programme were women, which contributed to the programme's reach of women farmers. It provided co-investment to production of Quality Declared Seeds (QDS)[18] by local seed producers – the majority of whom are women - to stimulate supply of QDS and link local seed producers with commercial agents and larger off-takers enabling them to transition into a commercially viable business model. Both the 'commercial agent' and 'QDS' models created business opportunities for women.

Africa Division Funding to AgDevCo has promoted decent work conditions in businesses supported by the programme. Some of the private companies supported by the programme in Zambia, Uganda and Malawi implemented measures that support women employees, such as, on-site childcare facilities for breast feeding mothers and women with young children, special leave days for women taking care of sick children and additional maternity leave days. A qualitative impact assessment undertaken in Uganda showed these measures contributed to the empowerment and wellbeing of women employees and to their continued participation in the labour force, given the additional unpaid care work burden caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Monitoring qualitative change in gender equality and women's economic empowerment, going beyond collection of sex disaggregated data:

The PPEEPP programme in Bangladesh monitored the proportion of programme participants demonstrating increased empowerment in household decision making and control over resources.

NU-TEC programme in Uganda collected qualitative data in its programme M&E to capture how women have benefited from the programme, what has changed for women in the intervention markets and the extent to which these changes positively affected women.

Linking Agri-business and Nutrition in Mozambique programme collected data on women's role in decision making in the household on nutrition, health and agriculture. The programme's mid-term review and qualitative assessments carried out showed improvement in women's decision-making ability as a result of the programme's social and behavioural change communication interventions.

Setting clear objectives on women's economic empowerment in programme design

The PPEEPP programme in Bangladesh primarily targeted women, girls, people with disability and ethnic minorities and over 90% of its target beneficiaries where vulnerable women.

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[17] The 2Xchallenge is a commitment launched by the G7 summit in 2018 to inspire DFIs and private sectors to invest in women. https://www.2xchallenge.org/criteria.

[18] QDS is a model that aims to increase access to affordable quality seed of preferred variety by smallholder farmers, achieved through training of entrepreneurial farmer groups to become sustainable local seed businesses that can meet local demand of quality seed by producing and marketing quality seed at a profit. http://issduganda.org/our_projects/quality-declared-seed-qds/.

5 Climate Change, Nature and Biodiversity

The analysis includes a review of Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes receiving International Climate Finance (ICF) funding. ICF is a UK Government commitment to support developing countries to respond to the challenges and opportunities of climate change through Official Development Assistance (ODA) spending (UK Government, 2020).

Data reported by programmes against each of the eight selected ICF key performance indicators (KPIs) has been used to analyse the integration of climate action in ICF programmes, their performance against targets, and the quality of reporting. This section could usefully be read in conjunction with the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review where a much greater detailed analysis was provided and which included recommendations that remain valid.

Table 17: ICF KPIs

ICF KPI	Name
KPI 1	Number of people supported to adapt to the impacts of climate change
KPI 4	Number of people with improved climate resilience
KPI 6	Tonnes of CO_2 (equivalent) reduced or avoided
KPI 8	Hectares of deforestation reduced or avoided
KPI 11	Public climate finance leveraged
KPI 12	Private climate finance leveraged
KPI 15	Extent of transformational change
KPI 17	Area of land under sustainable management

Programmes were also categorized in more meaningful ways in relation to climate change and Climate Smart Agriculture approaches in the portfolio database, as well as two additional fields for areas of focus on both adaptation and mitigation.

In addition to this ICF KPI reporting data, a scorecard system has also been used, building on a similar methodology to the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020. The aim of the scorecard is to provide a high-level, comparable and rapid view on the level of integration of climate change adaptation, as well as mitigation into programming and programme reporting.

The scorecard uses information from publicly available documents on the DevTracker website, including annual reviews, evaluation reports, business case documents, log-frames, annual reports and programme completion reviews (PCRs). In some cases, additional information was obtained from reports published on official programme websites.

Two key changes have been made to the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 version of the scorecard. Categories on Climate Smart Agriculture and Partnerships have been removed, as information is captured in the main database, and there was insufficient information related to partnerships to do a useful analysis. An additional category on Biodiversity and Nature has been added, to capture the degree to which ICF programmes are meeting UK Government ambitions on safeguarding nature and biodiversity and contributing to the goal of £3 billion of ICF spending being targeted at nature and biodiversity outcomes by 2026.

The full climate change scorecard results are presented in Annex 6.

Table 18: Climate change scorecard

Scorecard category	Description	Markers
ICF KPI reporting	Considers the quality of ICF reporting	• Publishes targets for ICF indicators • Reports results for ICF indicators • Includes details of relevant activities and their success/challenges
GHG emissions (design)	Considers how potential GHG mitigation impacts are included in the programme design in the initial business case, log-frame and other relevant documents; or considered after programme initiation	• Potential GHG mitigation impacts considered in programme design • Opportunities for low-carbon development activities identified • Objectives for GHG mitigation stated
GHG emissions (M&E)	Assesses if GHG mitigation impacts are included in programme M&E documents, including log-frame, annual reviews and evaluations	• Relevant targets and indicators included in log-frame/reporting • Narrative information on GHG mitigation activities included in reporting • Estimated GHG mitigation targets and impacts reported
Adaptation (design)	Assesses if potential climate resilience or adaptation intervention opportunities and impacts were assessed and included in the programme design in the business case, log-frame and other relevant documents, or considered after programme initiation	• Potential resilience/adaptation impacts included in programme design • Opportunities for resilience/adaptation interventions identified • Objectives for resilience/adaptation stated
Adaptation (M&E)	Assesses if adaptation or resilience impacts are included in programme M&E documents, including log-frame, annual reviews and evaluations	• Relevant targets and indicators included in log-frame/reporting • Narrative information on resilience/adaptation activities included in reporting • Includes details of relevant activities and their success/challenges
Biodiversity & nature	Assesses how nature and biodiversity issues are considered in programme design, objectives, reporting, and activities	• Nature/biodiversity impacts considered in programme design • Specific nature/biodiversity activities included in programme • Data on nature/biodiversity impacts included in reporting • Future nature/biodiversity interventions considered

Unlike the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, which included in-depth, semi-structured interviews with 25 programmes to contribute to its climate analysis, the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review draws only on publicly available data and information. Any data inconsistencies were cross-checked with relevant FCDO staff.

5.1 ICF Funding

A total of 21 of the 32 programmes (66%) were classified as receiving ICF funding. Of these, 13 are under implementation, while eight are closed. 62% of all programmes in implementation receive ICF funding, compared to 73% of all closed programmes. ICF funding represents 35% of the total of all FCDO budget across the 32 programmes included in The Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. This is an increase from the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review portfolio, where ICF funding was 28% of the total FCDO budget across the 80 programmes.

In absolute monetary terms, there has been a reduction in ICF funding between the 2020 and the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review portfolios – in 2020 total ICF funding was just over £1 billion (£0.7 billion for projects in implementation), while in 2022 it amounts to £625 million (£430 million for projects in implementation). This is mostly due to the reduced sample of projects included in the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, compared to the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review.

Three programmes receive 100% of their budget from ICF funding, while the others receive a range from 3% to 94% of their budget from ICF funding, with a mean average level of 46% ICF funding. The programme with the largest volume of ICF funding is the Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP), which has 100% of its £150m budget from ICF sources. The programme with the smallest volume of ICF funding was the Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa (SITA), which was 3% ICF funded, just under £0.7m.

ICF funding made up a greater proportion of the budget of the closed ICF programmes (55%) than of those in implementation (40%). This demonstrates that, although programmes in implementation have a higher total ICF budget overall (£430 million across the 13 programmes in implementation, versus £195 million across the eight closed programmes), there are both a lower proportion of programmes in implementation receiving ICF funding, and they have smaller proportions of ICF funding as part of their budgets.

Table 19: ICF funding summary

	CAPR 2022	CAPR 2020
Total ICF budget	£624,855,332	£1,038,977,035
ICF funding as a % total Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review budget	35%	28%
ICF funding – programmes in implementation	£429,951,499	£740,418,826
Number of ICF programmes in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review	21/32 (66%)	31/80 (39%)

The UK Government has set out its ambition to ensure that all ODA funding is aligned with the Paris Agreement, as well as increased ambitions on ICF spending of £11.6 billion to 2025 with an equal split between adaptation and mitigation funding. However, with several Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes in implementation not addressing climate change issues sufficiently to receive ICF funding, and the proportion of funding marked as ICF lower for current programmes compared to those that have recently closed, it would appear that the increased ambition on climate action is not yet being reflected in Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes.

5.2 Overall climate scorecard results

Among all 21 ICF programmes in the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review portfolio, three programmes (14%) achieved an average rating of ‘Good’ across all climate scorecard categories: ASAP, GAFSP, and the Rural and Agriculture Markets Development programme for Northern Nigeria (PrOpCom Mai-karfi). This is lower than the six programmes (19%) that achieved an average rating of ‘good’ across all categories in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. The programme with the highest score is ASAP, as was also the case in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review.

The best performing bilateral programmes are the Private Enterprise Programme for Zambia Phase II, and the Sustainable Inclusive Livelihoods through Tea Production in Rwanda programme.

On the other end of the scale, three programmes (14%) achieved an average rating of ‘Poor’ across all categories: the Future of Agriculture in Rwanda (FAiR), Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness (CASA), and Access to Finance Rwanda (AFR) Phase II. This compares to four ICF programmes (13%) achieving an average rating of ‘poor’ in in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. The programme with the lowest score is AFR Phase II, achieving a ‘poor’ rating in every category. However, it also received the second lowest volume of ICF funding, at just 9% of the programme budget. The BII programme had the lowest score in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review (at 37%), but has now improved this to 56% in the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review.

The thematic category with the highest number of programmes rated ‘good’ is adaptation and resilience – programme design, with six programmes rated ‘good’, representing 29% of all programmes. The category with the highest number of programmes rated as ‘poor’ was nature and biodiversity, with 15 programmes (71%) rated ‘poor’; while no programmes are rated ‘good’ for GHG mitigation M&E.

Figure 17: Average programme scores, 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review

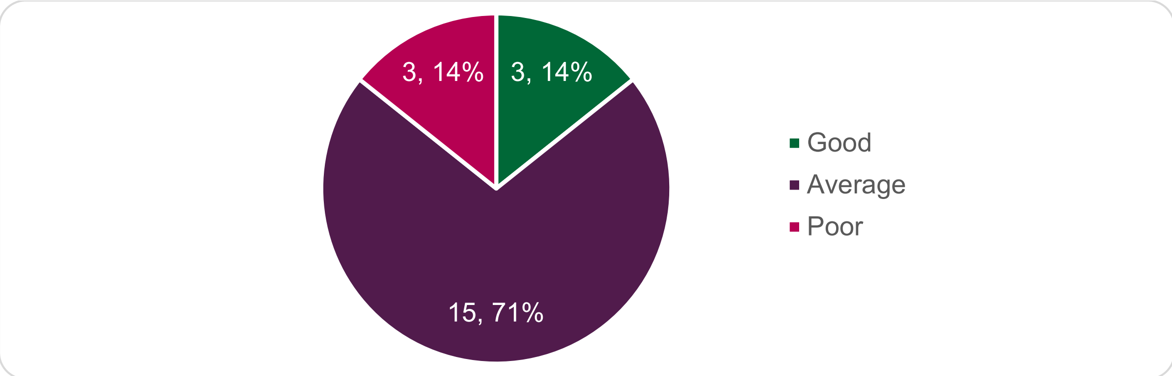
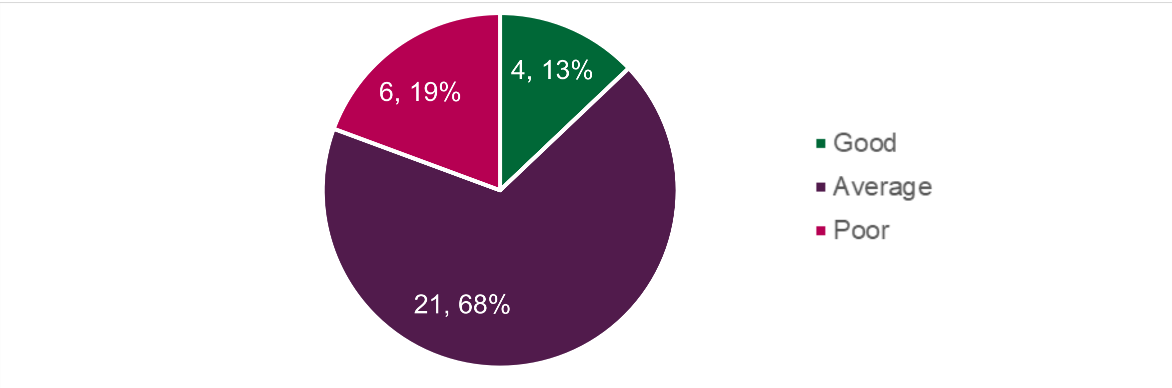


Figure 18: Average programmes scores, 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review



5.3 Adaptation and resilience

Just two programmes in implementation (15%) are rated ‘good’ for integration of resilience and adaptation approaches in the programme design and primary aims, compared to 50% of all closed programmes. This also compared unfavourably to the 48% of all ICF programmes which scored green in this category in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. Moreover, 31% of programmes in implementation are rated 'poor' in this category, significantly higher than the 13% of closed programmes, and just 6% of ICF programmes in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review.

The two programmes in implementation that scored green are the ASAP[19] and GAFSP programmes – both multilateral funds that were not designed exclusively by the UK Government. These are also the only programmes in implementation to score green on the adaptation and resilience M&E category. This marks a significant deterioration in addressing adaptation and resilience across the portfolio. Although it is difficult to unpack precisely, the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review can identify only £200m out of the £4.5bn budget of BII as being allocated to adaptation and resilience. It seems that investments are heavily weighted towards mitigation, which follows a similar trend across climate investing. As the UK Government has committed to spending at least half of ICF funding on climate adaptation and resilience, evidence from the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review does not demonstrate that this objective is being reflected in commercial agriculture programming.

Reporting from closed programmes also reflects findings and recommendations from the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review that adaptation and resilience objectives and approaches need to be clearly defined and included from the outset in programme design. The NU-TEC programme states that, *""the climate adaptation and mitigation impact of the programme was not fully understood or visible*" – despite 'climate smart' being in the title of the programme.

Table 20: Adaptation and resilience summary

	CAPR 2022	CAPR 2020
Adaptation and resilience scorecard results – design (number & %)	Green: 6 (29%) Amber: 11 (52%) Red: 4 (19%)	Green: 15 (48%) Amber: 13 (42%) Red: 2 (6%)
Adaptation and resilience scorecard results – M&E (number & %)	Green: 5 (24%) Amber: 10 (48%) Red: 6 (29%)	Green: 14 (45%) Amber: 8 (26%) Red: 8 (26%)
ICF KPI 1 totals	Total: 13,738,519 Women: 4,141,315 % Women: 30%	Total: 31,740,716 Women: 8,109,553 % Women: 26%
ICF KPI 4 totals	Total: 1,899,858 Women: 394,843 % Women: 21%	Total: 17,667,604 Women: 3,280,456 % Women: 19%
ICF KPI 17 total (ha)	3,357,631	N/A

Commercial models for adaptation and resilience

The level of detail in reporting on climate adaptation and resilience approaches and results is very uneven across the portfolio. Some projects simply state this has been achieved through increased production of crops such as soybeans and sorghum, or access to climate-tolerant seeds, while others provide details on specific commercialization approaches.

While activities to support increased production of climate-tolerant seeds is considered a means of supporting climate adaptation in ICF reporting, this alone would appear to be a limited and insufficient means of enacting a transformative shift from vulnerability to resilience. As noted by the Improving Market Systems for Agriculture in Rwanda (IMSAR) programme in its PCR when discussing outputs related to the uptake of livelihood diversification opportunities, *"future programmes should also measure to what extent*

[19] FCDO funding for this, the only highly performing programme in the portfolio, ended in early 2023.

beneficiaries actually became more resilient to climate change", which is the main aim of ICF KPI 4, which this programme did not report against. Few other commercial agriculture programmes are reporting against this indicator.

The PrOpCom Mai-karfi programme provides some pertinent insights in its PCR on the challenges of commercial models for Climate Smart Agriculture, noting:

> *"Facilitating adoption of relatively expensive climate smart technologies such as solar driers and solar irrigation pumps, requires an acceptance of longer timescales for return on investment because initial purchase costs are generally significantly higher than conventional equipment. As such, subsidies and sufficient timelines should be considered or different business models, as well as attention to the functionality of the market for finance as well as service and repairs."*

Access to affordable finance was also a major barrier for other programmes, such as Climate Smart Agriculture Zambia (CSAZ) and NU-TEC, which both highlighted in final programme reporting that wider scale provision of Climate Smart Agriculture services was limited by the high cost of finance and the limited market incentives to undertake significant transitions to sustainable and climate resilient agriculture production.

The CSAZ programme also noted the challenges of private sector provision of advisory services on Sustainable Land Management practices (in this case conservation agriculture practices), noting that, *"While private sector companies do engage in farmer outreach, there is little financial incentive for this to be blanket coverage and it is unlikely to reach the poorest farmers".*

The Private Enterprise Programme for Zambia Phase II is showing early promising signs of commercial models for climate-smart post-harvest storage and processing technologies, which has already seen an expansion of smallholders benefiting from recent investments.

In addition, the programme appears to have built on key lessons learned regarding access to affordable finance, with *"a funding model that aims to provide concessional finance to climate-smart projects that are too early-stage or risky for traditional commercial finance".* The BII programme of support has recently launched a new blended finance Climate Innovation Facility, which will focus on investments including drought-tolerant agriculture and sustainable forestry and more broadly on adaptation and resilience. Whether these efforts ultimately translate into lower cost of credit for smallholders and small agribusinesses remains to be seen.

Sustainable land management

A new area of reporting for the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review is on how commercial agriculture programmes are supporting the increased uptake of sustainable land management (SLM) practices among their beneficiaries and partners. Programmes are now able to report their progress in this area against ICF KPI 17 – area under sustainable land management.

ICF KPI 17 is a relatively new indicator and as no programmes were reporting against it in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review there is no comparison possible. As was noted in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, several programmes were already working towards increased uptake of Sustainable Land Management practices, and reporting against the indicator was actively being trailed by some programmes.

Eight of the 21 ICF programmes in the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review portfolio now report against this indicator, with current progress demonstrating 3.4 million hectares of land being sustainably managed, against a target of 1.4 million ha. There are caveats to this though – the P4F programme reported 2.2 million ha to date, ten times the end-line programme target, and substantially higher than the 4,222 ha reported the previous year in the programme log-frame; while two closed programmes only set targets in their final year of reporting, and recorded results exactly equal to the target; and three programmes in implementation published no targets.

There have been mixed results in the commercialization of Sustainable Land Management practices. The Future of Agriculture in Rwanda (FAiR) programme highlighted that although it exceeded its target area of land under Sustainable Land Management (92% versus 73%), *"the effectiveness of SLM practices in place should be further assessed"*. Moreover, it highlighted that the commercial models for increased irrigation and terracing supported have not attracted the levels of private sector investment envisaged to make them financially sustainable. The 'private partners' that have engaged in the scheme have been the beneficiary cooperatives, who have not directly invested into the infrastructure. Additionally, the target for use of improved climate-resilient seeds and associated Climate Smart Agriculture practices was not met due to lack of commercialization and private sector engagement.

Elsewhere, the GAFSP programme's results of 400,000 hectares under Sustainable Land Management were entirely from the public sector support projects, while none of the 20,000 hectares of land under 'improved land management' in the private sector support projects was found to meet the requirements for the ICF KPI 17. This may suggest that there are insufficient incentives for private sector actors to work towards high quality outcomes in Sustainable Land Management, or a lack of understanding of how to translate good intentions into strong and verifiable outcomes.

Similarly, the CSAZ programme faced challenges with the commercialization of Sustainable Land Management practices and services. Many tillage service providers defaulted on their loans, including one equipment leasing scheme which saw almost all its recipients default on loans. In many cases, loan approvals were as low as 10%, limiting the uptake of Sustainable Land Management practices.

These examples demonstrate the challenges of making sustainable, climate-smart farming a financially attractive, commercially viable opportunity. Incentives are not currently sufficient to drive farmers and service providers towards changes in farming practice.

However, this is somewhat countered by the PrOpCom Mai-karfi programme, which found that *"actions around mechanization seem to have proved that mechanized Climate Smart Agriculture (minimum tillage using special ploughs) is possible and scalable"* and recommended further exploration of this in future programming. Unfortunately, detailed evidence from the programme could not be explored as it appears the website is no longer live, despite project documents stating it would be kept live for at least 2 years after the completion of the programme.

Transformative approaches

No programmes reported evidence for ICF KPI 15 and only one programme – Sustainable Inclusive Livelihoods through Tea Production in Rwanda – has a published target, in this case Level 4. It is therefore not possible to prove analysis of successful approaches for transformation. Although the ASAP programme does not currently report against KPI 15 nor use the Level 1-4 framework it sets out, it does include evidence of change which could be considered transformational in narrative descriptions in reporting documents, including the mid-term evaluation.

Other projects have noted the limitations of incremental adaptation activities – the CSAZ programme highlighted that its interventions only led to a 2-6% increase in the ability of farmers to cope with droughts, and highlighted in reporting the challenges faced by farmers due to extreme weather conditions during the implementation period, despite the 'climate smart' interventions promoted by the programme. Similarly, the ASAP programme noted that a programme in Laos underperformed in commercial aspects due to *"extreme weather conditions, including severe drought and flooding"*.

As noted in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, the ICF KPI 15 Methodology Note largely consists of guidance for considering different aspects of transformation a programme may achieve. It is difficult to compare the likely transformational impact of policy briefs developed by one programme with the externally assessed impact of another. Determining the attribution of a programme to long-term transformational change may also be challenging, as it is likely to be just one of several programmes working in the sector in any given country, with many endogenous and exogenous factors influencing change within relevant political, economic and social systems. Programmes under the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio are likely to still have technical challenges with understanding, implementing, and evaluating what 'transformational change' looks like in commercial agriculture programming.

Gender equality

This review has observed a modest improvement in the percentage women supported to adapt to climate change (ICF KPI 1) at 30% in 2022 versus 26% in 2020. However, two projects provide no gender-disaggregated data on this indicator, so the absolute and percentage numbers are likely a moderate under-reporting. However, the level of ambition remains the same between the 2020 and 2022 portfolios, with just 27% women targeted for KPI 1. In part this is due to two live and two closed programmes providing no gender-disaggregated targets. But given at least 50% of farmers are women, and the UK Government has had long-standing commitments, laws, and targets on gender equality through ODA spending, this level of ambition and achievement is relatively poor.

The targeting of women beneficiaries for ICF KPI 4 was even worse, at just 13% across all programmes; although actual numbers of those supported was moderately better, at 21%. However, only three programmes provide results data for KPI 4, and the one with the largest target, (Climate Smart Agriculture) provided no gender-disaggregated data for this indicator, so the absolute and percentage numbers are likely a moderate under-reporting.

There is very limited information in reporting documents about approaches to improve inclusion, particularly in relation to commercial elements related to Climate Smart Agriculture uptake among women farmers and issues of inequality such as access to finance. While there may be concerted and targeted efforts in ICF programmes to improve gender inclusion and equality outcomes, this is not being reflected in reporting information and data.

Hence, the issues on both the actions being taken to address gender inequalities in climate change programming and reporting issues highlighted in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review persist in the current portfolio of programmes.

In the most recent FCDO Annual Report, a section highlights the UK Government's commitment to *"developing gender-responsive approaches to climate financing work",* as part of its priorities during its G7 Presidency. This was further reinforced by the announcement of £165m of funding at COP26 on Gender Day: "*to tackle climate change and gender inequality hand-in-hand [and] will be achieved by empowering grassroots women's groups to challenge gender inequalities and adapt to the impacts of climate change"*. It would appear additional focus and action is required in Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes to ensure these policy ambitions are met across ODA funded activities.

5.4 Greenhouse gas emissions reductions

There has been a marked improvement in the reporting and results in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions and removals between the 2022 and 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Reviews. A total of 17.6 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent (tCO_2e) were reported in the current portfolio, compared to 10.2 million tonnes in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. There are now four programmes reporting results for ICF KPI 6, compared to just one (ASAP) in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review.

Nonetheless, only one programme, ASAP, reported a target for GHG emissions reductions and removals, so it is difficult to assess the results across the portfolio against expected outcomes. In addition, 56% of the total reported GHG emissions reductions are attributed to a single programme, ASAP. This programme has also not provided an updated figure for GHG emissions reductions since the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, although it has recently published a report on Nature Based Solutions (NbS) solutions in the programme which includes an analysis of a sample of how four projects deploying NbS are contributing to GHG mitigation and carbon removals.

Three programmes provide details of the methodologies used to determine the reported results, and the elements of the programmes which contributed positively and negatively to them. For example, the GAFSP programme notes that its methodology includes avoided emissions from minimising food waste through programme support, and the ASAP programme highlights that some livestock programmes have led to moderate increases in GHG emissions.

The results from the GAFSP programme could be questioned as almost half the reported reductions arise from soil carbon sequestration in crop farming. This is despite scientific uncertainty over the permanence and stability of soil carbon sequestration in such settings.[20] Although, as noted in the FCDO Best Buys for Nature paper, *"even temporary carbon sequestration benefits from NbS can be valuable."*

The only bilateral programme reporting GHG emissions data is the Private Sector Development for the Democratic Republic of Congo (PSD-DRC) programme. However, the quality of reporting on GHG emissions reductions was more limited that the other three programmes. It provides no details of how the results are determined, nor which aspects of the programme contributed positively or negatively to these outcomes; only that *"a standard methodology was used*".

Results from the climate scorecard on climate change mitigation in programme design show a moderately lower performance compared to ICF programmes in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, with no programmes in the current portfolio achieving a 'good' rating. There is a slight improvement in reporting scores, as reflected in the analysis above, but only 13% of all 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review programmes report GHG emissions reductions results, despite commitments from the UK Government that all ODA spending will be aligned with the Paris Agreement and to limiting the average global temperature increase to 1.5°C.

It appears that the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review programmes have not built on the work and recommendations from the CCAFS report in 2020 commissioned by the FCDO on improved GHG emissions reporting in commercial agriculture programmes. Commercial agriculture is one of the main sources of GHG emissions in sub-Saharan countries, guidance is available and this is a strategic priority yet programmes are not integrating reporting and are not held to account by FCDO for this. This likely means an under-reporting of results and represents a continued lack of specific and concerted action on reducing GHG emissions from commercial agriculture programme interventions.

Some programmes have made efforts to increase work in this area, such as the LINKs programme in Northern Nigeria, which has integrated the UK PACT pilot project work on carbon reduction initiatives in agriculture into the programme, which has shown promising results so far. Nevertheless, this programme, like many others, has faced severe budget cuts during this reporting period, having its budget reduced by 94%, therefore there has been limited capacity to integrate more detailed reporting.

[20] Poulton, P., (2018), https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.14066.
Allison, R., (2022), https://www.fwi.co.uk/arable/soil-carbon-targets-and-how-to-store-it-in-arable-fields.

Table 21: GHG mitigation summary

	CAPR 2022	CAPR 2020
ICF KPI 6 results	17.62 million tCO_2e	10.22 million tCO_2e
ICF KPI 8 results	0 ha	626,108 ha
Scorecard results: GHG mitigation – design (number and %)	Green: 0 (0%) Amber: 12 (57%) Red: 9 (43%)	Green: 3 (10%) Amber: 18 (58%) Red: 9 (29%)
Scorecard results: GHG mitigation – M&E (number and %)	Green: 3 (14%) Amber: 6 (29%) Red: 12 (57%)	Green: 2 (6%) Amber: 4 (13%) Red: 24 (77%)

No programmes have published reporting data for ICF KPI 8 on avoided deforestation. Only one programme, the recently started Productivity for Prosperity (P4P) programme, includes a target. The two deforestation-focused programmes – Partnerships for Forests (P4F) and Strengthening Palm Oil Sustainability in Indonesia (SPOSI) have no data or targets for this outcome. P4F includes KPI 8 indicators in its updated log-frame, but provides no targets or means of measurement.

Given the importance of avoiding deforestation from agricultural activities and cropland expansion, and the positive nature, biodiversity, climate resilience, and GHG mitigation benefits maintaining tree cover provides, it is surprising that no ICF programmes report on this critical area of climate action.

5.5 Public and private finance leveraged

Over £150 million of public finance for climate action was reported for ICF KPI 11 in the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. This is more than double the £68.75 million reported in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. However, in the current portfolio, only two programmes (ASAP, PSD-DRC) reported results for this indicator, and more than 70% of the total is attributed to the ASAP programme, which did not have published results for this indicator in the previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review report.

No narrative information on approaches and barriers to leveraging public finance are detailed in reporting documentation, so it is difficult to analyse portfolio performance on this indicator in detail. Given the UK Government's ambitions for leveraging additional climate finance from ODA spending in its Green Finance strategy, it is surprising that more Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review programmes are not actively aiming to achieve this through leveraging public finance.

For ICF KPI 12 on leveraging private finance for climate action, the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 shows significant improvement on the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review results. The total private finance leveraged was £1.46 billion, substantially higher than the cumulative target of £146 million, and 72% higher than the £851 million leveraged in total in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. This is despite the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review covering a larger portfolio of programmes, and 77% of its total coming from closed programmes.

The total for the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review is somewhat skewed by the P4F programme reporting over £256 million leveraged – two-thirds of the total – despite the end-line programme target being £33 million, and reporting only £4.7 million in the previous reporting year. In addition, the ASAP programme, which reported over £1 billion in private finance leveraged, has no published target figure, skewing cumulative performance against the cumulative target.

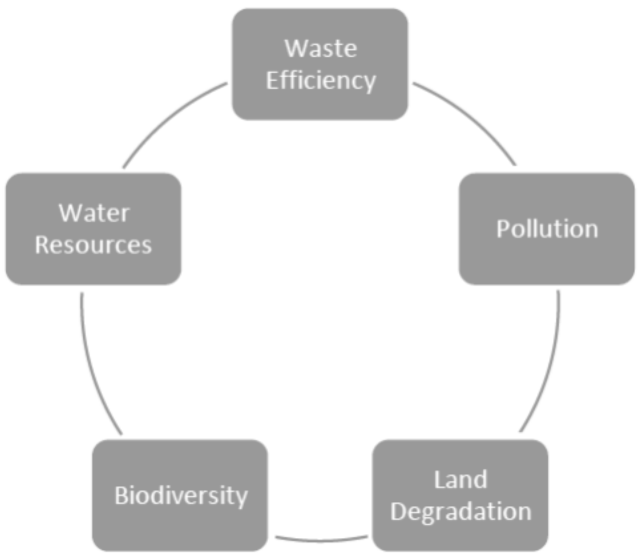
Despite the skewing of the total figures by two programmes, the portfolio as a whole has still significantly increased performance in this area and is aligning closely with UK Government objectives on leveraging green finance. Specific activities to address the knowledge needs of public and private investors in programmes appears to be an effective means of mobilising and leveraging additional climate finance in the agriculture sector.

5.6 Nature and biodiversity

A new area of analysis in the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review is on the degree to which ICF programmes are addressing nature and biodiversity conservation in their strategies and outcomes. The UK Government has committed to spending at least £3 billion in ICF funding on nature and biodiversity conservation, more than a quarter of the total £11.6 billion planned ICF funding by 2026.

The first step towards this aim is for programmes to consider how they can support nature protection by considering five core areas: waste efficiency, pollution, land degradation, biodiversity and water resources, as outlined in Figure 7 below. This is considered to be the foundation of FCDO programming. All ODA programmes should adopt a 'do no harm' approach as a mandatory minimum, while further areas of environmental risk should be considered at all stages of programme design and implementation, taking a sector-relevance approach. In the agriculture sector, land degradation, biodiversity, and water resources are considered high priority areas for analysis, with pollution and waste efficiency considered additional areas.

Figure 19: Five categories of environmental protection



Source: FCDO Smart Guide - Safeguards

The UK Government defines action on nature and biodiversity in ICF programming as:

> ***Nature for Climate and People:*** *enabling and accelerating a just transition to systems which manage land and marine resources sustainably; critical in mitigating and building resilience to climate change. This will enable the protection and enhancement of the most biodiverse ecosystems on our planet while ensuring the sustainable production of enough nutritious food for a growing population.*

This definition makes clear the links between climate resilience and the proper functioning and protection of nature and biodiversity, and their role in ensuring good agriculture outcomes for nutrition and food security.

Three areas of action are prioritized for ICF funding for nature outcomes in the ICF for Nature Guidance Note, these are:

- Forests
- Sustainable agriculture and food systems
- Sustainable water use, management, and water security

For the sustainable agriculture and food systems priority area, the Guidance Note defines the range of relevant programme interventions and impacts as:

> *Activities that support a just transition to more sustainable agriculture and food systems, designed to deliver nutritious food; adapt and build resilience to climate shocks and stresses; and reverse the negative impact of food value chains on climate and the environment (including food production, storage, transport, and loss and waste which applies to both urban and rural areas).*

A number of example interventions and approaches are provided in the document to outline how ICF programmes may respond to these priorities. These examples are rated by their potential for impact in the FCDO Nature Best Buys report. This finds that in the agriculture sector, reducing fertilizer over-use and intercropping are the 'best buys', with six other activities rated as showing 'high potential' for impact.

No specific reporting data was identified for any of the 21 ICF programmes in the current Commercial Agriculture Portfolio. But systems for reporting nature and biodiversity outcomes are still being developed by the FCDO and the current means of identifying a programme as 'Nature ICF' is for it to be tagged as 'Principal' for Biodiversity against the Rio Markers, which is unlikely to be recorded in reporting data. This was not identified in any Business Cases, however all but one business case (P4P) pre-dates the Nature for ICF guidance, and this programme has no published business case on DevTracker.

Analysis on this thematic area is therefore reliant on narrative data included in reporting documentation among the programmes, and any objectives identified in programme business cases. This formed the basis for the Biodiversity and Nature category in the Climate Scorecard, the results of which are outlined in Table 22. As can be seen, 71% of ICF programmes in the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio demonstrate little to no integration of nature and biodiversity objectives, interventions or reporting. This target was announced in 2019, reiterated in 2020, included in the ProF C&E guidance of May 2021, and reiterated again at COP26 in Nov 2021, and repeated again by the government in early 2022.

Although most programmes pre-date the announcement of the £3bn ICF funding for nature and biodiversity objectives, many programmes have since undergone changes in strategy, funding, and business case addendums which would have offered the opportunity to further integrate nature and biodiversity objectives. Although Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes only represent a portion of all ICF programmes, it does appear that insufficient progress is being made in integrating clear and targeted action on nature and biodiversity to meet HMG's targets.

Table 22: Nature and biodiversity summary

	CAPR 2022
Scorecard results – nature and biodiversity: Good (number and %)	2 (10%)
Scorecard results – nature and biodiversity: Average (number and %)	4 (19%)
Scorecard results – nature and biodiversity: Poor (number and %)	15 (71%)

There are some programmes that provide information on biodiversity-focused activities. The P4F programme is providing finance to two biodiversity focused initiatives which aim to demonstrate commercially viable approaches to biodiversity restoration and protection, and to develop market demands for ecosystem services. The Seed Paths Initiative aims to promote a forest restoration technique that uses a mixture of wild native seeds within defined ecological roles, to deliver natural forest regeneration.

The Terrasos Habitat Banks project leverages Colombia's habitat compensation framework to develop 'biodiversity credits' – effectively an offsetting scheme for biodiversity loss. Terrasos is a company that creates habitat banks from private investments and sells these biodiversity credits to developers. However, this is a controversial practice. Indeed, the FCDO Climate and Environment Programme Operating Framework Guide makes clear that such activities should be a last resort, should only be deployed as a 'residual activity', and that *"its effectiveness is questionable"*. In the P4F programme, it is not clear that it is being promoted as either a last resort or residual activity, but rather a primary means of aiming to address biodiversity and nature objectives.

Another agro-forestry focused programme, SPOSI, states that the programme is *"principally designed to promote positive impacts for forests and biodiversity by attempting to reduce deforestation risks and improve environmental practices"*. This is the only programme where biodiversity aims are set out in such a clear and purposeful manner. The project has a pillar focused on supporting the development and implementation of supports an Indonesian-led initiative, Jangka Benah, which is *"an agroforestry approach to restoring damaged forest ecosystems. It involves planting native species of tress alongside palm oil to reforest areas and bring back biodiversity to the land, whilst simultaneously improving palm oil production through improved soil quality and input application."*

The ASAP programme has made specific efforts to increase action on nature and biodiversity outcomes from its portfolio of projects, and provides a summary of those interventions in *Table 23: ASAP nature-based solutions interventions summary* below taken from a recent report on NbS in ASAP programmes. While this gives a useful oversight of how the programme's portfolio of projects are supporting nature and biodiversity outcomes, it does not provide a detailed assessment of the effectiveness of these interventions nor the commercial opportunities they may present. In addition, 87% of ASAP projects include core elements on promoting agroecological farming practices and principles, according to a recent review of IFAD programmes.

Elsewhere, the PrOpCom Mai-karfi programme found that supporting reforestation of native species can gain considerable traction if it is combined with income generating value chains such as gum arabic production. This demonstrates that there are commercially viable approaches to nature and biodiversity outcomes, where specific market opportunities can be identified, targeted, and enhanced.

This positive experience is reflected in the Supporting Indian Trade and Investment in Africa programme, where successful models for promoting agro-forestry practices, diversification of crops to promote agro-biodiversity, and the adoption of intercropping practices with native legumes which had an identified market demand. This demonstrates that when programmes and partners actively seek locally-relevant market opportunities, nature and biodiversity co-benefits can be realized.

The CSAZ programme primarily focused on increasing the uptake of conservation agriculture practices to improve soil health. While analyses undertaken by the programme showed moderate success in this objective, it faced challenges in the commercialization of the underpinning systems to deliver the change at scale, and was unable to create sufficient market incentives. Similarly, the NU-TEC programme faced challenges in creating scalable, commercially viable systems for conservation agriculture practices and technologies due to insufficient market incentives, and high costs of credit for agribusiness and farmers to finance the transition.

Table 23: ASAP nature-based solutions interventions summary

ASAP PROJECT/COUNTRY	NbS	NbS CATEGORY	MAIN SUB-CRITERIA ADDRESSED ≤ (AND SECONDARY ONES*)
Livestock and Pasture Development Project (LPDP) Tajikistan	Pasture rotation (or rotational grazing)	Grassland management/optimal grazing intensity	Enhancement of biodiversity 3a /preservation of freshwater resources 3b /soil conservation and improvement 3c [Improvement of carbon and other GHG pools 2b / improvement of food production 4a /improvement of incomes 4b]
Butana Integrated Rural Development Project (BIRDP) Sudan	Natural resources governance framework	Grassland and natural forest management	Improvement of land access 5a /capacity-building 5b /social cohesion and inclusion of marginalized groups 5c /gender equality and women's empowerment 5d [Improvement of carbon and other GHG pools 2b / soil conservation and improvement 3c /improvement of food production 4a]
National Agricultural Land and Water Management Development Project (Nema-Chosso) The Gambia	Mangrove restoration	Coastal wetland restoration	Improvement of food production 4a /improvement of incomes 4b [Resilience to climate-related shocks 1b / improvement of carbon and other GHG pools 2b / enhancement of biodiversity 3a]
Adapting to Markets and Climate Change Project (NICADAPTA) Nicaragua	Shade trees in diversified croplands	Trees in cropland	Adaptation to the long-term trends and effects of climate change 1a /improvement of carbon and other GHG pools 2b /enhancement of biodiversity 3a [Soil conservation and improvement 3c / improvement of food production 4a /capacity-building 5b]
Southern Laos Food and Nutrition Security and Market Linkages Programme (FNML) Lao People's Democratic Republic	Effective micro-organisms	Soil fertility and pest management	Improvement of food production 4a /capacity-building 5b [Improvement of incomes 4b]
Participatory Small-scale Irrigation Development Programme phase II (PASIDP II) Ethiopia	Watershed management	Watershed management	Adaptation to the long-term trends and effects of climate change 1a /resilience to climate-related shocks 1b /preservation of freshwater resources 3b / soil conservation and improvement 3c /improvement of food production 4a /capacity-building 5b [Improvement of carbon and other GHG pools 2b / enhancement of biodiversity 3a /improvement of incomes 4b /gender equality and women's empowerment 5d]
Family Farming Development Programme (ProDAF) in the Maradi, Tahoua and Zinder regions Niger	Land restoration	Cropland and grassland restoration	Adaptation to the long-term trends and effects of climate change 1a /resilience to climate-related shocks 1b /improvement of carbon and other GHG pools 2b /preservation of freshwater resources 3b / soil conservation and improvement 3c /improvement of food production 4a /capacity-building 5b [Enhancement of biodiversity 3a /improvement of incomes 4b /local job creation 4c /gender equality and women's empowerment 5d]

*Secondary benefits are those that are achieved through the NbS but to a lesser extent than the main benefits.

6 Nutrition

6.1 Categorization of programmes

Nutrition

The list of programmes in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022, nutrition rating and justification for the rating are included in Annex 1. The summary of findings compared to those in the 42 programmes reviewed under 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review are set out in the table below[21]. The nutrition assessment methodology outlining the definitions of the various categories is available in Table 45.

Table 24: Nutrition assessment 2020 versus 2022[22]

Nutrition category		Number in CAPR 2020	Percentage	Number in CAPR 2022	Percentage	Percentage by budget
Nutrition blind	a	3	7%	5	16%	20%
	b	17	40%	11	35%	23%
Nutrition aware	a	5	12%	2	6%	4%
	b	7	16%	6	19%	27%
Nutrition sensitive		5	12%	5	16%	11%
Nutrition specific		1	2%	0	0	0
Nutrition sensitive and specific		2	5%	2	6%	15%
No data		2	5%	0	0%	
Total		42		31		

The portfolio performance on nutrition in Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 is broadly in line with Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020. The programmes included are similar and whilst there are variations in scoring in a limited number of cases, this is mostly due to additional information becoming available. The assessment methodology has a certain degree of subjectivity that may particularly affect scoring on boundaries between categories. It has been updated since the previous CAPR to bring it into line with the FCDO's agreed position. The important aspect of the review is to provide a broad overview of the direction of travel in terms of how nutrition has been included in FCDO programmes rather than focus on specific issues or examples.

Of the 32 programmes reviewed, a quarter have nutrition embedded into their design and are seeking to measure nutrition outcomes for end beneficiaries. The remaining three quarters either have no inclusion of nutrition at all (half of the portfolio overall) or have the potential to reach nutrition outcomes but insufficient inclusion of either significant nutrition objectives or indicators to be able to make an objective assessment (a quarter of the portfolio overall). The proportion in each cohort aligns by both number of programmes and their budgets.

The specific makeup of the various categories is elaborated below:

[21] Percentages do not sum due to rounding.
[22] Categories in grey are those that have an impact on nutrition.

Table 25: Nutrition blind – a programmes:

Programme	FCDO budget	% budget consumed
Productivity for Prosperity (P4P)	34,999,995	1%
Malawi Trade and Investment Programme	95,000,000	3%
Partnerships for Forests (P4F)	84,400,000	27%
LINKS – 'Powering Economic Growth in Northern Nigeria'	69,999,994	12%
Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa	22,699,998	96%

Programmes that have no inclusion of nutrition at all focus on the enabling environment or sectors outside of food production or making food available. As FCDO programmes move towards working more at the level of the enabling environment or through market intermediaries as a more efficient use of taxpayer funds than directly investing in market actors, it will be increasingly difficult to credibly identify impacts on end beneficiaries. Even though these programmes have been rated as nutrition blind, they are likely to have at least some impacts on nutrition through strengthening the broader market systems for increasing food production and making it more available for low-income households. Productivity for Prosperity for example provides finance for Aceli Africa to stimulate local financial intermediaries to loan to agri-SMEs. Whilst some of these SMEs are likely to be making contributions to food production and processing that increase the availability and affordability of safe and nutritious foods as well as increase farmer incomes, measuring this is difficult because of the arm's length relationship between Aceli and the people benefiting from the activities of the SMEs.

Table 26: Nutrition blind – b programmes:

Programme	FCDO budget	% budget consumed
Supporting Inclusive Growth in Somalia (SIGS)	38,000,000	7%
Strengthening Impact Investment Markets for Agriculture (SIIMA)	19,500,000	39%
Tanzania Agribusiness Window - Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund	19,799,992	98%
Strengthening Palm Oil Sustainability in Indonesia	5,000,000	88%
Sustainable Inclusive Livelihoods through Tea Production in Rwanda	11,800,000	78%
Improving Market Systems for Agriculture in Rwanda IMSAR	17,200,000	100%
Northern Uganda: Transforming the Economy through Climate Smart Agribusiness (NU-TEC)	48,000,000	91%
Africa Division funding to the African Agriculture Development Company (AgDevCo)	154,400,000	93%
Msingi – building East Africa's industries of the future	12,499,999	82%
Private Sector Development Programme in Malawi	18,355,889	100%
UK Support to Access to Finance Rwanda (AFR) Phase II Operations (2016-2020)	9,758,770	100%

Programmes in the nutrition blind b cohort are mainly focused on FCDO's efforts to support direct investment in innovative agricultural enterprises to stimulate market system change. These programmes have the ability to generate transformative change in nutrition, when target companies are involved in food production and processing for domestic consumption. However, with concessional finance increasingly requiring financial as well as development returns, many of the individual investments in a portfolio will be into commodity crops or food crops for export. These programmes are almost all in their final stages and many have been running for more than a decade, making it difficult to introduce new concepts such as nutrition into their design.

Table 27: Nutrition aware – a programmes:

Programme	FCDO budget	% budget consumed
Rural and Agriculture Markets Development Programme in Nigeria (PrOpCom Mai-karfi)	45,746,593	100%
Promoting Conservation Agriculture in Zambia (aka Climate Smart Agriculture Zambia) (CSAZ)	21,812,400	100%

Eight programmes overall are considered to be nutrition aware – they include nutrition as an objective through identified pathways but do not include nutrition as either a significant objectives or indicator. This is an area of the portfolio as whole where there is perhaps the greatest opportunity to improve measurable nutrition outcomes by making relatively minor adjustments to the way in which programmes are monitored. Of the eight, two are categorized as nutrition aware a – they have nutrition as a programme objective and clear pathways to achieving nutrition outcomes.

Table 28: Nutrition aware – b programmes:

Programme	FCDO budget	% budget consumed
Enhancing Digital and Innovations for Agri-food Systems and Livelihoods (eDIAL) Programme	37,800,000	25%
Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness (CASA)	31,600,000	41%
Adaptation for Smallholder Agricultural Programme (ASAP)	150,024,100	99%
Private Sector Development programme in the Democratic Republic of Congo	102,500,000	88%
Private Enterprise Programme Zambia Phase II	55,899,978	17%
The Future of Agriculture in Rwanda (FAiR)	36,100,000	100%

The largest cohort by value is for nutrition aware – b programmes, which have clear nutrition objectives and pathways but which still do not have these nutrition ambitions included as significant objectives or specific nutrition indicator. These programmes typically include more holistic interventions to improve market engagement for smallholders, covering both concessional capital to companies that support the production of nutritious foods for low income consumers but also support to the broader enabling environment, sectors beyond directly agriculture and the provision of capacity building. Half of the programmes are essentially completed but the remainder offer the opportunity to more specifically integrate nutrition into their measured outcomes.

Table 29: Nutrition-sensitive programmes

Programme	FCDO budget	% budget consumed
Africa Food Trade and Resilience programme	35,000,000	25%
Pathways to Prosperity for Extremely Poor People in Bangladesh (PPEPP)	18,800,000	61%
AGRI- TECH CATALYST- Supporting Agricultural Innovation for International Development	20,000,000	71%

AgResults: Innovation in Research and Delivery	31,131,029	77%
Development and delivery of new biofortified crops at scale	33,150,000	77%

A quarter of the portfolio tackles nutrition, primarily through the design and implementation of new technologies for food production, processing and accessing markets. This will improve affordability of food by reducing prices and increasing incomes, increase availability by opening up new trade routes and production techniques and strengthen acceptability through better processing. The nutrition sensitive cohort seeks to develop targeted solutions to nutrition problems, alongside broader agricultural development agendas. They are heavily focused on research, development of innovative tools and solutions and operationalising them in the market.

Table 30: Nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific programmes

Programme	FCDO Budget	% budget consumed
Support to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP)	185,999,999	99%
Linking Agri-business and Nutrition in Mozambique (LAN)	39,780,000	88%

A significant proportion of the overall portfolio by value (15%) is focused on programmes that are both nutrition sensitive and specific. They are engaged not only in developing nutrient pathways but are specifically targeting nutrition challenges faced by low-income households. GAFSP for example is a major, multi-donor initiative that is one of the leading global initiatives to source innovations, use the market to power their validation and scaling and apply significant political weight to bring partner governments in to achieve broad nutrition objectives at a country and regional level.

Food security

Food security is a broader aspect of nutrition and can be defined as 'when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life' (1996 World Food Summit). At the programme level, the main difference is that food security programmes focus on making staples or nutritious foods more available (including through improved income pathways) whereas nutrition programmes must focus on making nutritious food but can also include staples. The summary of the ratings for food security largely follows the ratings for nutrition, with two thirds of the portfolio having limited to no direct impact on food security and one third having food security as a fundamental part of their outcome:

Table 31: Food security scoring

Food security category	# of programmes in CAPR 2022[23]	Percentage
0 – None	12	38%
+ - Potential impact	8	25%
++ - Impact on household	4	13%
+++ - Impact on households and broader economy	7	23%

The methodology for assessing food security is included in Annex 4. Food security is entirely invisible in only a third of programmes, mostly because of programmes targeting the enabling environment with no clear link to improving the availability and acceptability of food. It also includes programmes with no clear direct link to food security, such as forestry. These programmes are however likely to have some connection to food security (both positively and negatively). For enabling environment programmes, it is usually too difficult and costly to

[23] BII has been excluded to the lack of information on the granularity of the investments made.

develop the evidence to support credible pathways but for other programmes it may not only be possible but also important. Programmes supporting land use efforts that reduce production (such as forestry but also commodity crops) as well as programmes that redirect production to different downstream uses (such as industrial processing from local village scale processing) have the potential to negatively impact on food security at both local and regional levels. The potential impacts of this need to be identified and measured.

A further quarter of the programmes have the potential to have a positive impact on food security but there is not enough evidence in the programming documents to make a more objective assessment. This category is mainly made up of market systems programmes that seek to commercialize agriculture by providing concessional capital and other support to agribusinesses. The ability to impact positively on food security is substantially dependent on the companies that are invested in under these programmes. With an increasing emphasis on returnable capital and supporting blended financing instruments that provide concessional capital but need a financial as well as a development return, many of these businesses will be focused on the production and processing of commodity and other non-food crops for export. This would have limited positive outcomes for food security as even income uplift is largely captured by market intermediaries. Indeed, the diversification away from subsistence production could have negative consequences for food security as farmers direct more land towards these crops and away from food production.

More than a third of programmes have a significant focus on food security at either the household or the community level, and mostly both. A quarter of programmes overall have high expectations of positive impact in food security and include measurable targets in programme documents. These include a wide range of programmes from improving how markets work to provide specifically solutions in food availability and accessibility to focused interventions building the technical solutions to impacting on food security.

7 Conclusions and recommendations

7.1 Conclusions

Information reported by programmes shows that the FCDO's Commercial Agriculture Portfolio continues to have a **significant impact on the poorest across the globe**, although more recent budget cuts are only just starting to filter into programme reporting and impact. Indeed, impact is certainly significantly higher than reported as much of BII's performance – the largest recipient of FCDO funds in the sector by far – cannot be assessed.

The current Commercial Agriculture Portfolio has, to date, reached a reported **30 million smallholder farmers through 32 programmes, providing them with £331m cumulative additional income.** This is around the same level of increased income that was reported in the previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, despite this Review covering less than half the number of programmes, as a small number of investment-focused programmes reached maturity.

The thematic priorities of **gender, climate change and nutrition** are increasingly being integrated into programme design, creating the basis for the Portfolio to make important contributions to broader UK government policy objectives. Reach to women smallholder farmers, which was a major concern in the last Review, appears to have improved when looking at reported performance - but this is due to a small number of programmes reaching a high number of women. Women continue to be under-represented in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio and low targets on inclusion and underachievement of targets, as well as different approaches to measuring common metrics, are challenges that need to be addressed.

The structural and budget revision process that has been ongoing at FCDO since the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review was produced has had a negative effect on some programmes. Whilst this could have offered the opportunity to integrate recommendations from the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review if there had been guidance and incentives to do so, there is little evidence that this has occurred. Design changes appear to be driven principally by the need to cut budgets rather than redirect design for improved development outcomes. The quite fundamental changes that the FCDO has experienced in the past two years have at least provided first-hand experience at adaptive programming across the institution. This has the potential to help break down traditional barriers between design and implementation mindsets that has historically limited the extent to which new concepts can be introduced to programmes once they are underway.

7.1.1 Summary conclusions on women's economic empowerment

Since the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, the proportion of programmes with 'gender responsive' and 'gender aware' ratings has decreased, while the proportion of 'gender blind' programmes has increased. That said, 61% of the programmes are rated 'gender responsive plus' or 'gender responsive'.

The programmes rated 'gender blind' began implementation from 2019 and 2020, indicating a need for FCDO to provide support to new programmes to integrate Gender, Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) approaches in their work. Like the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio, programmes with a primary focus on enabling environment and agribusiness development (which typically work through intermediaries) have lower gender integration ratings, while value chain development programmes that work more directly with beneficiaries have higher ratings. This shows the **need for continued, tailored support and guidance on GESI for different types of programmes**.

The review identified some factors that have contributed to low performance on gender integration in programmes. These include programmes failing to implement deliberate strategies to remove barriers to women's inclusion and failures to address social norms that are important to improve women's economic empowerment in some contexts. Women's economic empowerment related outcomes were also affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, as business closures and job losses disproportionately affected women. Outcomes for women were further affected by FCDO budget cuts and shifts in programme priorities to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 in some areas. Gender priorities appear to lack resilience in programming, requiring ongoing effort to maintain them as a priority.

A little over half of the programmes (53%) in the 2022 Portfolio focus on 'inclusion', limited to ensuring the participation of women in programme activities and their ability to access services provided by the programmes. A third (34%) employed strategies designed to improve women's access to assets and resources (by creating new opportunities and removing barriers that limit women's access). Only a small proportion (10%) used strategies intended to build women's agency or bring about systemic change to address the underlying causes of inequality. Better outcomes for women's economic empowerment would be achieved if more programmes in the portfolio adopted 'access', 'empowerment' and 'transformation' approaches to GESI.

Performance has improved on some gender indicators, but there remain substantial gaps to achieving others. However, there has been improvement in knowledge management - 56% percent of the programmes have generated and shared evidence on GESI compared to 25% in 2020. Successfully embedding learning should lead to improved GESI outcomes for women in the longer-term.

Three programmes in the Portfolio have received improved GESI ratings in the current review compared to the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review following progressive actions taken to integrate gender. These actions include: conducting gender analysis to inform programme implementation; setting sex-disaggregated targets in programme logframes and collecting sex disaggregated data; building the capacity of private sector actors on GESI; and investing in innovative programme approaches that help to reach and benefit women. The actions were taken following recommendations in programme annual reviews and mid-term evaluations.

Finally, the review identified some good practices for gender integration from programmes rated 'gender responsive plus'. These include social and behavioral change communication approaches to shift social norms affecting women's economic participation; the 'Gender Lens Investing' approach that guides investment to support women's economic empowerment; and actions to promote decent work conditions and redistribute unpaid care work to support women's participation in the labor force. Setting women's economic empowerment objectives in programme logframes and theories of change and collecting data on women empowerment indicators were also identified as good practices.

7.1.2 Summary conclusions on climate change, nature and biodiversity

Challenges with the consistency, quality, accuracy, and detail of reporting remain the main limitation to providing more detailed insights on performance against climate change targets and UK Government policy objectives in the 2022 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. This also **limits the ability to provide detailed insights** on topics such as successful commercial approaches to scaling the uptake of Climate Smart Agriculture practices and technologies, as well as ways of meaningfully integrating positive nature and biodiversity outcomes into programme design.

In part, the challenges in reporting are due to the period being covered by this review (mid 2020 to late 2022) coinciding with the Covid-19 pandemic, which severely restricted both programme implementation and the ability for annual reviews to be conducted in-person and in detail. This period has also seen a considerable reduction[24] and reprioritization in ODA spending by the UK Government, and some programmes have experienced budget cuts of up to 94%.

While there have been **noticeable improvements in GHG emissions reductions and leveraging private climate finance**, there has not been a marked increase in climate action in other areas. Scores across the Scorecard were on average lower than in 2020.

High cost of credit for both smallholder farmers and agri-businesses remains a major barrier to further programme success and impact, particularly on the uptake of CSA practices and technologies and Sustainable Land Management approaches. Targeted work on lowering the cost of credit through concessional and blended finance mechanisms is likely necessary to stimulate and grow markets in very low-income settings. This appears to be the main barrier holding back further success on a range of outcomes across the portfolio.

Action on nature and biodiversity is at a nascent stage in Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review programmes, but there is significant scope (and a £5bn UK budget) for this to be a **core thematic area of focus** in the coming years to achieve HMG objectives[25], and with the added impetus of the recently signed Kunming-Montreal biodiversity agreement at CBD COP15.

7.1.3 Summary conclusions on nutrition

Nutrition has been brought increasingly into focus in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio over the past three years, partly due to increased attention and resourcing within programme design and management teams, but also due to the much greater focus on nutrition and food security in the wider development ecosystem. Global conferences in 2021 have given a significant impetus to more intentionally seeking nutrition outcomes in development interventions. They have stimulated the development of more awareness and tools that offer the **potential to mainstream nutrition**. Whilst it is difficult to retrofit nutrition concepts into existing programmes, the imposition of OECD DAC Nutrition Policy Markers in FCDO reporting is a positive step alongside the development of training tools[26].

This is likely to see the increasing engagement of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio with nutrition and food security in the future, but the current portfolio looks very similar to the previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review. Half the programmes are substantially nutrition blind, a quarter have good potential for nutrition outcomes with some improvement in measurement and minor changes in intentionality and a quarter are specifically designed to achieve nutrition outcomes for key target groups. Integrating design changes into ongoing programmes to promote nutrition **requires tools and champions within operations teams** and this is difficult to achieve. However, the budget cuts and associated programme redesign being experienced by FCDO may offer the potential to introduce more of a nutrition focus.

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[24] The International Development Committee in its report to the UK Parliament noted that the period 2019 – 2022 saw cuts in the agriculture sector by UK Aid of 62%, the highest of any developmentally relevant sector Extreme poverty and the Sustainable Development Goals - International Development Committee (parliament.uk).
[25] Outlined in documents such as Smart Guide: Safeguards - Climate & Environment - Programme Operating Framework.
[26] FCDO Food Systems Guidance.

7.2 Recommendations

The following thematic and operational recommendations have been developed from the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review.

Programme management recommendations

1. Previous recommendations in at least the last two iterations of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review on the quality and availability of data for the analysis remain valid (see Annex 7). FCDO should begin at a programme level to **include global standard measurement approaches** for a very limited number of key metrics to enable aggregation and comparison across programmes and with peers.
2. There is limited evidence that recommendations (annex 7) from the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review have been applied by FCDO. FCDO could include a **review of Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review recommendations as part of annual reviews** at the programme level or as part of a formal management response.
3. On the assumption that some degree of operational and financial stability may now be achieved, FCDO should **rebuild the thematic learning architecture** to help ensure that emerging knowledge of what works on climate change, gender and nutrition in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio is not only integrated into current and future programme design, but also contributes externally to sector development. New areas of focus such as nature and biodiversity offer good potential for FCDO to lead global discussions, if evidence can be effectively gathered and disseminated.
4. Mainstreaming the thematic concepts used in this review is essential but expertise often remains siloed into technical specialist units. FCDO should build on the work already undertaken to embed technical specialists in operational units, or at the very least **formally facilitate collaboration** between technical and operational units. A key element of mainstreaming is for FCDO to review how the inclusion of these thematic objectives is incentivized and supported in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes and how Centres of Expertise can support programmes in this.
5. Better ways need to be found to **integrate the performance of BII** into the overall CAP reporting as they are by far the largest beneficiary of FCDO funding in this sector yet their impact is almost completely invisible in the CAPR. This substantially under reports the benefit of UK aid in the agriculture sector and undermines efforts to secure further government support for the sector.

Recommendations towards Climate Change and Biodiversity

Recommendations have been divided into thematic issues related to the integration of climate and biodiversity into Commercial Agriculture Portfolio and specific programme remated issues.

Thematic recommendations:

6. The **Climate Change Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) paper[27] should be revisited** and support should be provided to ICF programmes in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio to improve GHG reporting. This should include a clear, standardized approach to GHG mitigation reporting for programmes along with an improved means of determining which programmes should be actively targeting emissions reductions.
7. **Climate Smart Agriculture will not be mainstreamed without further de-risking and support for the development of sustainable profitable business models**. It

[27] https://cgspace.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10568/110575/WP%20331%20CCAFS%20Review%20of%20DfID-FCDO.pdf.

remains nascent in the private sector and will require further, specific support at all levels. FCDO should:

a. **Explore blended and concessional finance** arrangements in current and future programmes to make uptake of climate smart agriculture more viable and large-scale. The early-stage nature of Climate Smart Agriculture means that grant-based financing will be needed for surfacing innovations along with less concessionally costed capital for technologies moving to scale. Funding for technical assistance and farmer advisory tools is likely to be more important than investments in technologies for smallholder agriculture.

b. With much practical experience already available in existing and completed programmes, **detail and disseminate lessons learned on routes to commercialization** for climate smart agriculture technologies and services.

c. Focus on interventions to **lower the cost of credit for SHFs and agri-businesses** to increase Climate Smart Agriculture uptake, including results-based financing subsidy schemes for financial intermediaries and for value chain actors such as offtakers; transition schemes for farmers; research to understand resilience impacts on farmer risk; and capacity building of existing financial intermediaries to understand the reduced risk of financing farmers implementing Climate Smart Agriculture.

Climate specific recommendations:

8. Programmes with specific aims on deforestation and those with potential to take effective action on reducing deforestation should be provided with targeted support by FCDO to increase ambition and reporting in this area.

9. Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes should be supported in actively targeting ICF KPI 11[28] outcomes.

10. Guidance on ICF KPI 15 should be developed by FCDO.

11. Now that several programmes are working and reporting on Sustainable Land Management approaches, FCDO should **undertake an evidence review of emerging good practices and critical barriers** from these programmes with a view to contributing to a broader external understanding of emerging good practice.

Recommendations towards women's economic empowerment

12. FCDO should **develop GESI guiding tools for programmes** specifically working in agri-business development and enabling environment on good practices they can adopt to better integrate gender.

13. Annual reviews by FCDO should focus on programmes rated 'gender blind' and 'gender aware' and **make programme level recommendations to improve their GESI performance**.

14. Women-owned businesses and jobs have been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional attention should be given by FCDO to women in interventions designed for recovery from COVID-19.

15. Most programmes in the portfolio need to be more intentional in their approach to women's economic empowerment, **going beyond sex disaggregated target setting and data collection**. In future programming, FCDO should include interventions that help remove barriers for women's participation, creating new opportunities and shifting social norms and institutional practices affecting women's economic empowerment.

[28] For a full list of ICF KPIs, see Table 18: ICF KPIs.

16. Efforts by FCDO should continue around sex disaggregated target setting and data collection given many programmes still do not collect sufficient information. Programmes should also **set more ambitious targets on the number of women** they plan to reach and benefit.
17. All ICF programmes in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio should have gender action plans developed.

Recommendations towards Nutrition

18. FCDO should use the opportunity of UK's Nutrition for Growth commitment to introduce the OECD-DEC Nutrition Policy Marker.
19. FCDO management should review recommendations from the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review for ongoing relevance, particularly around preparing case studies and lessons learned from 'nutrition sensitive' and 'nutrition specific' programmes.

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Annexes

Annex 1: Inception report

Introduction

The Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 has been commissioned by the Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness (CASA) programme, in particular under Component C of the programme (led by CABI). Component C makes the case for increased agribusiness investment in climate change adaptation by tackling the information and evidence gaps holding back investment.

The purpose of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review is to improve understanding of the FCDO's Commercial Agriculture Portfolio by consolidating and validating key performance metrics, identifying trends and drawing findings, as well as providing recommendations for FCDO further programming in the agriculture sector. It is a review of existing data and information, not an evaluation product.

This inception report includes:

- Revised set of programmes to be included in The Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review
- Revised range of indicators to be included in the analysis
- An agreed list of programmes to be contacted for interview for the thematic analysis section
- Assessment on the existing availability of data and analysis of potential implications of limited data availability for the analysis
- An agreed format for publication of the findings, including a presentation to FCDO staff, and a short 'Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review Digest' for wider circulation within the FCDO.
- An updated timeline for the delivery of the report
- Details from FCDO of International Climate Finance (ICF) funding provided to each of the programmes, and the ICF key performance indicators they are to report against, are still awaited.

Key definitions and limitations

FCDO defines commercial farmers as those farmers who sell at least 50% of their output, with the 2015 Agriculture Policy Framework identifying the promotion of agricultural transformation as a key pillar to generating sustainable growth and reduction in poverty. For the purposes of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022, CASA considers programmes to be commercial agriculture if they have a substantial proportion of their effort targeting these smallholders.

FCDO programmes typically include a wide scope, with a broad range of interventions, intermediate objectives and tools. It is often difficult to accurately disaggregate the various programme components, especially by the results that have been achieved. This is additionally complicated by different programmes using different definitions for key metrics which impacts on aggregation and analysis.

Programmes proposed for inclusion in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022

The Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 includes the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio database with the exclusion of programmes that had closed by November 2020 and also with the removal of those programmes included in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review which has little direct connection to commercial agriculture. It also includes programmes that have started since November 2020 and for which at least a business case, a log-frame, and an annual report have been included.

The intention of including newer programmes is, at least in part, to determine whether changes proposed in the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review that was published in early 2021, and the two earlier Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review reports in 2017 and 2018, have been integrated into FCDO processes. These early programmes have been affected by the significant budget and policy changes at FCDO over the past year, which has led to delays and changes in design in some instances. However, only one programme included in the list in Table 1, Productivity for Prosperity (P4P), started since the publication of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020.

The following list of 33 programmes are proposed to be included in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022:

Table 32: Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 programme list

Programme title	Start date	Total budget
Productivity for Prosperity (P4P)	11/08/2021	£34,999,998
Supporting Inclusive Growth in Somalia (SIGS)	21/08/2020	£37,069,998
Malawi Trade and Investment Programme	08/05/2020	£82,000,000
Strengthening Impact Investment Markets for Agriculture (SIIMA)	29/03/2019	£18,535,350
Enhancing Digital and Innovations for Agri-food Systems and Livelihoods (eDIAL) Programme	22/03/2019	£37,799,998
Development and delivery of new biofortified crops at scale	22/03/2019	£25,828,000
The Future of Agriculture in Rwanda (FaiR)	11/01/2019	£28,805,829
Africa Food Trade and Resilience programme	28/09/2018	£35,199,995
Pathways to Prosperity for Extremely Poor People in Bangladesh (PPEPP)	06/08/2018	£18,909,240
Partnerships for Forests (P4F)	01/08/2017	£18,130,000
Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness	14/06/2017	£35,000,000
Improving Market Systems for Agriculture in Rwanda IMSAR	23/10/2015	£17,185,781
Northern Uganda: Transforming the Economy through Climate Smart Agribusiness (NU-TEC)	03/11/2014	£43,851,865
AGRI- TECH CATALYST- Supporting Agricultural Innovation for International Development	08/08/2014	£17,223,773
Africa Division funding to the African Agriculture Development Company (AgDevCo)	24/09/2013	£152,313,492
Adaptation for Smallholder Agricultural Programme (ASAP)	27/11/2012	£149,704,888
AgResults: Innovation in Research and Delivery	13/07/2012	£31,131,029
Private Sector Development programme in the Democratic Republic of Congo	04/07/2012	£101,667,353
Tanzania Agribusiness Window – Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund	01/11/2010	£19,799,992
Strengthening Palm Oil Sustainability in Indonesia	27/06/2019	£5,000,000
Msingi – building East Africa's industries of the future	21/04/2015	£12,499,999
Support to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP)	02/10/2012	£185,999,999

Rural and Agriculture Markets Development programme for Northern Nigeria (PrOpCom Mai-karfi)	27/03/2013	£45,746,593
Private Sector Development Programme in Malawi	2502/2013	£18,355,889
Promoting Conservation Agriculture in Zambia (CSAZ)	17/06/2016	£24,999,993
UK Support to Access to Finance Rwanda (AFR) Phase II Operations (2016-2020)	03/03/2016	£9,758,770
CDC Programme of Support in Africa and South Asia (2015-2023)**	21/07/2015	£4,273,828,983
Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa	27/03/2014	£22,699,998
Linking Agribusiness and Nutrition in Mozambique	08/08/2013	£35,380,761
Sustainable Inclusive Livelihoods through Tea Production in Rwanda	24/08/2016	£11,825,972
LINKS – 'Powering Economic Growth in Northern Nigeria'	01/03/2018	£69,999,995
Private Enterprise Programme Zambia Phase II	07/04/2020	£55,899,986
Total		**£1,789,049,361**

*ARCAN – Africa Regional Climate and Nature Programme does not have an annual review yet but we can include it in the semi-structured interviews section due to its high relevance to thematic topics. It is also important to test newer programmes to determine how 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review recommendations have been integrated into programme design.

**The full budget for CDC (now British International Investment) is £4.2bn, however only the components of this funding related to commercial agriculture will be included in the analysis. In Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020, this was 7.7% of the overall budget.

This list represents a smaller portfolio than that covered by the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review because that review included a significant proportion of closed programmes. Eight programmes in the above list are marked as closed on DevTracker at the time of writing:

- NUTEC
- Msingi
- PrOpCom Mai-karfi
- Private Sector Development Programme in Malawi
- CSAZ
- AFR Phase II
- Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa
- Linking Agribusiness and Nutrition in Mozambique.

These programmes ended after the data gathering stage of the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, so have been included to ensure data made available since then is captured, and lessons learned from their implementation to inform future programming.

The 33 programmes included in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 have a combined budget of £1.8 billion, assuming a similar proportion of CDC funding is allocated to Commercial Agriculture Portfolio as in Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020. This is significantly smaller than the 80 programmes included in The Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020, which had a combined budget of just under £3.8 billion.

Metrics to be included in the analysis

The following list of metrics has been developed that builds on those used in the previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review to enable broad comparison between years – recognising that the composition of the Portfolio changes year to year, as new programmes are introduced, and older, closed programmes are removed, which substantially precludes direct comparisons.

Building on the experience of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020, the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 removes a number of metrics for which information is typically not available, or for which analysis is unlikely to be particularly meaningful or relevant. Additional metrics have been added to the data collection for the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 to introduce additional clarity in the analysis.

General Programme information

The list of metrics to categorize the programme has been clarified and simplified. A specific issue from the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review is that most programmes contain a range of different areas of intervention and an attempt has been made to capture a broader range of detail at the individual programme level.

Additionally, the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 will look to identify the budget split between the major components of the programmes for the first time, to give a much more granular breakdown and analysis of focus within the portfolio, and more relevant programmatic insights.

Table 33: General programme metrics

Metric	Description
Geographical Region	Broad regional
Geographical Focus Specific	Specific location
Start Date	
Original End Date	
Most recent end date	
Extension	Difference between original and most recent end dates
Duration	Length of programme
Status	Operational status (Implementation / Closed)
ICF funding	Yes/No
ICF funding %	As a proportion of total FCDO commitment
Source of funding	FCDO only / FCDO + others
FCDO budget (£)	Only includes the FCDO element
FCDO spend to date	To the most recent available data
FCDO budget attributed to ICF	Disbursements to date attributed to ICF
% focus on agribusiness investment	Identify the specific budget commitment
% focus on enabling environment	Identify the specific budget commitment
% improving access to finance for agri-SMEs and farmers	Identify the specific budget commitment
% value chain development – inputs	Identify the specific budget commitment
% value chain development – downstream	Identify the specific budget commitment
Primary Crop	Select the most significant crop type
Primary Tool	Select the most significant intervention type

Commercial agriculture reach

The key metrics are based around reach to smallholders and agribusinesses from FCDO ODA funding. It is important that programmes follow consistent, common approaches to measuring reach, which was a challenge identified in the earlier Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review reports.

A simplified list of metrics has been developed that removes a number of unclearly defined indictors or others where there was a very low reporting rate (such as improved access to land). At the same time, new metrics have been introduced that are more specifically linked to the kind of commercial agriculture work FCDO has been funding, such as people supported with training.

Table 34: Commercial agriculture reach metrics

Metric	Description
# smallholder beneficiaries reached	Target and achieved, by gender. Total sum of all smallholder-related metrics
# of smallholders benefiting from increased income	Target and achieved, by gender
# of smallholder farmers who increase productivity and/or access to new customers	Target and achieved, by gender
Net attributable income change for smallholders	Target and achieved, in GBP
Net attributable income change to agribusinesses	Target and achieved, in GBP
# of agri-SMEs who increase productivity and/or access to new customers and/or access to finance	Target and achieved
# of smallholders supported with training	Target and achieved, by gender
Value of increased agricultural production	Target and achieved, in GBP
# of new jobs created	Target and achieved, by gender
# of new businesses created	Target and achieved
amount of investment stimulated	Target and achieved, in GBP, for enterprises. Separate from amount of investment stimulated reported against ICF KPIs 11 and 12.

Climate change, biodiversity, nature-based solutions, and nature-positive agriculture

The 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review included a deep dive analysis on climate adaptation and climate-smart agriculture (CSA) from a sub-set of programmes, and the contribution of Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review programmes to selected ICF KPIs. The 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review also included a scorecard review of the whole Portfolio against climate metrics. For the data Capture aspects of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022, the metrics remain substantially unaltered from the previous report, with the addition of ICF KPI 17, which was introduced since the publication of the previous report. All programmes will also be subjected to the enhanced thematic assessment methodology used under Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020, but without the in-depth interviews and other analysis, because there is not expected to be a significant variation in the 18 months since the last report.

The Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 will also build on the initial analysis of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reporting and recommendations made by CCAFS in a separate report analysing a sub-set of Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review programmes in 2020, to review if Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review programmes have utilized this analysis for improved measurement of GHG emissions in programme activities.

Table 35: Climate change metrics

Metric	Description
Climate Change focus	Mitigation, adaptation, both, NbS, Regenerative Agriculture, N/A
CSA Category	Select the most significant category

CSA Type	policy, technology, communications, business model, other, N/A
Climate other – resilience	Insurance, DRR, infrastructure, finance, alternative livelihoods, value chain resilience
Climate other – mitigation	other mitigation activities in agriculture not considered ‘CSA’
Biodiversity and nature-positive agriculture	Details of actions taken to protect and enhance biodiversity
KPI 1 people supported to cope with climate change	Target and achieved, by gender
KPI 4 people with improved resilience	Target and achieved, by gender
KPI 6 tCO2e	Target and achieved
KPI 8 hectares of deforestation avoided	Target and achieved
KPI 11 Public Finance leveraged	Target and achieved
KPI 12 Private Finance Leveraged	Target and achieved
KPI 15 Extent of ICF transformational change	Target and achieved
KPI 17 Ha land with sustainable management practices	Target and achieved

Nutrition

There have been significant policy changes in FCDOs approach to nutrition over the past two years, with commitments of increased finance in 2021, mainstreaming of nutrition across FCDO programmes, and the introduction of OECD nutrition policy markers into FCDO reporting. From August 2022, all programmes will be obliged to report on nutrition. Therefore, it can be expected that the level of information should be greater for the portfolio as a whole than under Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020, where half the programmes had evidence of nutrition effects. As in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020, the nutrition information captured in the main data sheet focuses on the nutrition pathways with a summary of the rating given in the detailed analysis. All programmes will be reviewed again the thematic nutrition analysis developed for the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020.

Table 36: Nutrition and food security metrics

Metric	Description
Nutrition	List of nutrition pathways
Nutrition Category	Nutrition scoring based on methodology
Food Security	Narrative

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

The principle scope of the review of gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) is on the gender disaggregation of key performance metrics on reach and in the thematic assessment where all programmes are reviewed against the same assessment methodology used in Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020. As with other thematic assessments of climate change and nutrition, significant change for established programmes is not expected but it is hoped that newer projects will have been able to reflect findings from 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review to improve the measurement quality for results.

Table 37: GESI metrics

Metric	Description
Social and Gender Inclusion	Yes/no
Social and Gender Inclusion elements	Scoring on assessment
Gender Strategy	Scoring on assessment

Target for women’s engagement	Scoring on assessment
M&E	Scoring on assessment
Project management & staff	Scoring on assessment
Partners	Scoring on assessment
Field activities	Scoring on assessment
Progress in reaching targets	Scoring on assessment
Knowledge management & sharing	Scoring on assessment
Sum of gender dimension scores	Sum of scores
Gender integration status	Definition following methodology
Gender Rating (2020 CAPR)	Historical rating if available
Gender Rating (2018 CAPR)	Historical rating if available

Value for Money

The 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review included an analytical component of value for money (VfM) for completed programmes, but the robustness of the methodology was limited by the availability of consistent, common measurement and data availability. For Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022, the VfM considerations will focus on identifying the different indicators used across the “four E’s” (efficiency, effectiveness, economy, and equity) in programme’s Annual Review reporting, and will generate more of a qualitative review.

Table 38: VfM metrics

Metric	Description
Efficiency	Narrative description
Effectiveness	Narrative description
Equity	Narrative description
Economy	Narrative description

Thematic Analysis

In addition to the cross-programme metrics that will be gathered on all programmes included in the review, the three thematic sectors of climate change and biodiversity; GESI; and nutrition will each be subjected to the ratings methodologies developed under the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review to capture both changes in performance since the last review for existing programmes and adding new programmes into the assessment.

Gender Empowerment and Social Inclusion

The Bishop Framework categorizes all programmes into four groups: gender neutral/blind; gender aware; gender responsive; and gender responsive plus. The categorization is made based on an assessment of indicators on the level of gender integration in a project’s design, implementation and M&E processes.

Programmes are considered **gender neutral or blind** if they do not include any specific intervention or mechanism to promote women’s economic empowerment (WEE). Programmes are **gender aware** if they pay modest attention to address women’s economic empowerment by focusing on inclusion only, in pursuit of productivity and efficiency. Programmes classed as **gender responsive** are defined as those that mainstream gender across the programme structure and field activities to ensure women’s inclusion and empowerment. **Gender responsive plus** refers to those that go beyond mainstreaming and try to address underlying causes of inequality, which includes building women’s agency and adopting transformative strategies.

The methodology uses an assessment of programmes’ performance in the following eight gender dimensions in order to categorize programmes in the gender integration framework:

1. Availability of a gender strategy that is developed based on a gender analysis and informs development of programme objectives and targets.
2. Existence of programme targets on gender equality objectives, which can range from ensuring women's engagement and participation in a sector to targets that move beyond that to addressing gender inequalities.
3. Integration of gender considerations in programme M&E, ranging from collecting gender-disaggregated data to measuring qualitative change in shifting norms, decision-making and other empowerment elements
4. Existence of gender expertise within the programme management and staff, by looking at existence of a gender women's economic empowerment specialist in the programme management team and efforts made to build the capacity of programme staff on gender.
5. Partners' commitment and capacity to mainstream women's economic empowerment by looking at their willingness to invest in inclusive programme delivery approaches that help to reach and benefit women and their support to private sector and other actors to mainstream gender and promote women's economic empowerment.
6. Implementation of field activities that help to reach, benefit and/or empower women, such as activities that help to reinforce positive messages on women's economic roles, create opportunities for new private investment in products and services that are accessible to and meet women's needs and activities that result in systemic and sustainable change.
7. The programme's progress in meeting targets by looking at percentage of women reached out of those planned to be reached, and proportion of women reached out of the total people (men and women) reached by the programme. Scoring on this gender dimension will also consider women's role and presence in the sector in which the programme is being implemented.
8. The programme's knowledge management and learning activities, ranging from conducting studies on specific barriers and constraints faced by women in the programme area and generating evidence for learning on gender from the programme to using networks and platforms to actively share lessons and engage in advocacy.

Programmes will be scored on each of the eight gender dimensions described above, based on the criteria given in table below. Scores from 0–2 are given to each gender dimension. Score 0 is given to programmes that do not meet the basic position, score 1 to programmes that fulfil the basic condition and score 2 to programmes that have taken additional steps toward gender responsiveness. Then, the gender dimension scores for each programme are aggregated to assess where the programme falls in terms of gender responsiveness.

Programmes with an **aggregate score of 3 and below** are considered **gender blind**, while programmes with an **aggregate score between 3 and 5** are categorized as **gender aware** (meaning that they pay modest attention to women's economic empowerment). Programmes with an **aggregate score between 6 and 9** are considered as **gender responsive**, meaning that they mainstream gender across the programme structure and field activities. Programmes that **score over 10 points** are **gender responsive plus**, and as such go beyond mainstreaming gender and have innovative elements to address the underlying causes of inequality.

Table 39: Criteria for rating gender dimensions of programmes

#	Gender dimension	Basic position	Additional steps toward gender responsiveness
1	Gender strategy	Gender analysis/context Gender strategy	Clear objectives on women's economic empowerment from the outset
2	Targets for women's engagement	Targets for women's engagement in log-frame at output, outcome and/or impact level	Targets for women's engagement that go beyond the current engagement of women in a specific sector or activity
3	M&E	Sex-disaggregated data collected in ongoing monitoring Baseline survey includes sex-disaggregated data and a gender perspective	Further M&E work to capture outcome/impacts on women's economic empowerment
4	Programme management staff	Presence of gender specialist/gender focal point in team	Staff skills on women's economic empowerment developed in order to strengthen their ability to mainstream gender and promote women's economic empowerment across programme components
5	Partners	Partners' commitment to women's economic empowerment	Capacity development of private sector and other actors to mainstream gender and promote women's economic empowerment
6	Field activities	Examples of gender mainstreaming in programme activities	More innovative gender transformative approaches
7	Progress on reaching targets	Targets met in numerical terms	Targets met in percentage terms as well as absolute numbers
8	Knowledge management and sharing	Specific studies undertaken with gender focus	Sharing of evidence, advocacy and networking

Climate change

The climate change analysis involves reviewing the data from across all Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes using a scorecard rating, as set out below. The aim of the scorecard is to provide a high-level and comparable view of the entirety of the portfolio, enabling a rapid overview of how climate change is being considered and addressed across the portfolio, covering both mitigation and adaptation. The scorecard employs a simple red, amber, green rating for each dimension:

- Grey (0) – not applicable (this may not be needed if all programmes are funded from ICF budgets)
- Red (1) – not yet present
- Amber (2) – issue considered / partially addressed
- Green (3) – issue clearly integrated into the programme

The dimensions of the scorecard are set out below:

Table 40: Dimensions of the climate change scorecard

Area of review	Description	Markers
ICF funding and KPIs	Assesses if the programme receives ICF funding and which ICF KPIs it reports against	• Programme is on the ICF funding list and has evidence of receiving ICF funding • Results reports from ICF funded programmes
Impact on GHG emissions considered in design and implementation	Assesses if potential mitigation impacts (or GHG increases) were assessed in the programme design in the initial business case, log-frame and other relevant documents, or considered after programme initiation	• Potential mitigation impact included in business case, or later on • Opportunities for GHG mitigation identified • Objectives for mitigation included
GHG mitigation impacts included in programme MREL	Assesses if GHG mitigation impacts are included in programme MREL documents, including log-frame, annual reviews, evaluations and other reports	• Relevant targets / indicators included in log-frame • GHG mitigation considered in annual reviews, evaluations or other documents • Estimated mitigation impacts reported
Impact on climate change resilience and/or adaptation needs considered in design and implementation	Assesses if potential climate resilience or adaptation intervention opportunities and impacts were assessed and included in the programme design in the business case, log-frame and other relevant documents, or considered after programme initiation	• Potential resilience/ adaptation impact included in business case or later on • Opportunities for resilience/adaptation interventions identified • Objectives for resilience/ adaptation included
Resilience and/or adaptation impacts included in programme MREL	Will assess if resilience/ adaptation impacts are included in programme MREL documents, including log-frame, annual reviews, evaluations and other reports	• Relevant targets, indicators included in log-frame • Resilience/ adaptation considered in annual reviews, evaluations, or other documents
Implementing partner ToR or MOUs include climate change considerations	Assesses if climate change impacts (mitigation or adaptation) are included in partnership agreements to ensure climate is sufficiently prioritized in implementation	• Climate mitigation, resilience or adaptation issues highlighted in ToR • Capacity included in partner selection criteria • Objectives for climate change impacts included in objectives and reporting • Climate change explicitly mentioned as part of the implementation organization objectives

The Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review will include a case study on how Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes are integrating nature-positive interventions, sustainable agriculture, and supporting nature-based solutions in current work. As there are not yet clear definitions of these terms or obligations to report against clear metrics representing them, this element of the work will be necessarily qualitative, but it has the potential to give a useful perspective on how Commercial Agriculture Portfolio are addressing the issues.

Nutrition

The measurement framework review all programmes in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio and defines four categories:

1. **nutrition blind** – there is no consideration of nutrition in either the design or implementation of programmes
2. **nutrition aware** – there is a basic understanding of nutrition pathways and inclusion of nutrition objectives and/or relevant activities but there is not an inclusion of either a significant objective or measurement as required to be nutrition-sensitive (per UN SDN methodology)
3. **nutrition sensitive** – programmes specifically aim to improve the underlying determinants of nutrition
4. **nutrition specific** – programmes directly address the immediate causes of malnutrition of inadequate dietary intake or disease

The definitions of **'nutrition-sensitive'** and **'nutrition-specific'** (see below) are based on the agreed 2013 UN Scaling Up Nutrition Donor Network (SDN) Methodology that has been used by the FCDO/DFID to identify nutrition-related programmes and calculate FCDO/DFID's total nutrition-related spend from 2010 onwards.

Table 41: Dimensions of nutrition analysis

Nutrition category		Summary description
Nutrition blind	a	The programme does not include nutrition in its design or reporting documents and has no expectations of nutrition effects
Nutrition blind	b	The programme does not include nutrition in its design or reporting documents but could have the **potential** for positive nutrition outcomes because it includes relevant activities to make nutritious foods more available, affordable and accessible to target groups
Nutrition aware	a	The programme includes nutrition as an objective and analysis identifying pathways to positive and/or negative nutrition outcomes AND it targets interventions that have the **potential** to improve nutrition outcomes **such as women's economic empowerment or improvements in income for low-income people assuming that at least some of this will be spent on nutrition** BUT the programme does not include either a significant objective or measurement as required to be nutrition-sensitive (per UN SDN methodology). It MAY have a customer feedback mechanism that can be adapted to nutrition
Nutrition aware	b	The programme includes nutrition as an objective and analysis identifying pathways to positive and/or negative nutrition outcomes AND it targets improving the availability, accessibility, affordability or acceptability of nutritious foods **but does not include** nutrition as either a significant objective or indicator as required to be nutrition-sensitive (per UN SDN methodology. It MAY have a customer feedback mechanism that can be adapted to nutrition
Nutrition sensitive		The programme must meet three of the following criteria. The programme must: • be aimed at individuals (specifically women, adolescent girls or children) • include nutrition as a **significant** objective or indicator • be aimed at individuals (specifically women, adolescent girls or children) • include nutrition as a **significant** objective or indicator

Nutrition specific	The SDN methodology defines all programmes recorded under the 'basic nutrition' CRS purpose code (12240) as 'nutrition-specific'. this code captures reported spend on (OECD, 2021): Micronutrient deficiency identification and supplementation, Infant and young child feeding promotion, including exclusive breastfeeding, Non-emergency management of acute malnutrition and other targeted feeding programmes (including complementary feeding), Staple food fortification, including salt iodization, Nutritional status monitoring and national nutrition surveillance, Research, capacity building, policy development, monitoring and evaluation in support of these interventions.

Other assessment themes

The ToR for the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 include the intention to undertake semi-structed interviews with a sub-set of more recent programmes to understand the degree to which findings from previous 2018 and 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review reports have informed new programme design and identify the most effective means of communicating Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review report findings within the FCDO. However, whilst the list below includes all programmes which have started recently, only P4P has started since the last Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review.

Table 42: Programmes to be contacted for semi-structured interviews

Programme	Start date	Budget
Productivity for Prosperity (P4P)	11/08/2021	£34,999,998
Supporting Inclusive Growth in Somalia (SIGS)	21/08/2020	£37,069,998
Malawi Trade and Investment Programme	08/05/2020	£82,000,000
Strengthening Impact Investment Markets for Agriculture (SIIMA)	29/03/2019	£18,535,350
Enhancing Digital and Innovations for Agri-food Systems and Livelihoods (eDIAL) Programme	22/03/2019	£37,799,998
Development and delivery of new biofortified crops at scale	22/03/2019	£25,828,000
The Future of Agriculture in Rwanda (FaiR)	11/01/2019	£28,805,829
ARCAN – Africa Regional Climate and Nature Programme*	12/01/2022	£99,999,995
Private Enterprise Programme Zambia Phase II	07/04/2020	£55,899,986

*The ARCAN programme is not part of the main Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review list as it does not yet have a published annual review nor log-frame, but as it has high thematic relevance to the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, we will include it in the list of programmes for a semi-structured interview, to understand if/how previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review recommendations have been considered in the programme's design.

Outputs and timeframe

The key outputs of the assignment the timelines remain unchanged and are as follows. Any slippage in reporting will be compensated in subsequent phases as work continues whilst reports are drafted:

- Within 4 weeks: Inception report
- Within 12 weeks: Draft Portfolio review Report
- Within 17 weeks: Final Portfolio review Report approved by FCDO
- Within 20 weeks: Presentation of the report to FCDO staff

The draft outline of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 is provided below:

Introduction
Conceptual framework for the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022
Objectives and scope of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022
Overview of the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio
    Summary Scope
    Geographic and market focus
Key findings
    Programme measurement indictors
    Programme performance
        Reach to households
        etc
Women's Economic Empowerment
    Overview and approach
    Summary of findings
Climate Change
    Overview and approach
    Summary of findings
Nutrition
    Overview and approach
    Summary of findings
Other analysis
Progress on recommendations from Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020
Conclusions and recommendations
A summarized five-page free standing executive summary will also be created, alongside a Powerpoint presentation for internal dissemination at the FCDO.

Annex 2: List of Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 commercial agriculture programmes

Programmes currently in implementation – 21 programmes

#	Programme name	Completion date
1	Strengthening Palm Oil Sustainability in Indonesia	31/12/2022
2	Sustainable Inclusive Livelihoods through Tea Production in Rwanda	31/3/2025
3	Pathways to Prosperity for Extremely Poor People in Bangladesh (PPEPP)	31/3/2023
4	Strengthening Impact Investment Markets for Agriculture (SIIMA)	28/3/2025
5	Tanzania Agribusiness Window – Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund	30/9/2022
6	AGRI- TECH CATALYST- Supporting Agricultural Innovation for International Development	31/12/2024
7	AgResults: Innovation in Research and Delivery	31/3/2029
8	Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness (CASA)	29/4/2024
9	Development and delivery of new biofortified crops at scale	31/3/2023
10	Productivity for Prosperity (P4P)	31/12/2027
11	Africa Food Trade and Resilience programme	31/3/2023
12	Enhancing Digital and Innovations for Agri-food Systems and Livelihoods (eDIAL) Programme	30/4/2026
13	Supporting Inclusive Growth in Somalia (SIGS)	31/3/2027
14	Private Enterprise Programme Zambia Phase II	1/1/2027
15	LINKS – ‘Powering Economic Growth in Northern Nigeria’	15/9/2026
16	Partnerships for Forests (P4F)	1/3/2023
17	Malawi Trade and Investment Programme	31/12/2026
18	Private Sector Development programme in the Democratic Republic of Congo	31/3/2024
19	Adaptation for Smallholder Agricultural Programme (ASAP)	31/12/2023
20	Support to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP)	31/12/2026
21	CDC Programme of Support in Africa and South Asia (2015-2023)	30/3/2024

Programmes in post-completion (programmes closed since 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review cut-off date)[29] – 11 programmes

#	Programme name	Completion date
1	UK Support to Access to Finance Rwanda (AFR) Phase II Operations (2016-2020)	28/6/2021
2	Msingi – building East Africa’s industries of the future	31/1/2021
3	Improving Market Systems for Agriculture in Rwanda IMSAR	29/6/2022
4	Private Sector Development Programme in Malawi	19/5/2021
5	Promoting Conservation Agriculture in Zambia	29/9/2021
6	Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa	24/3/2022
7	The Future of Agriculture in Rwanda (FaiR)	29/6/2022

[29] Programmes closed after 30/11/2020.

8	Linking Agribusiness and Nutrition in Mozambique	3/3/2022
9	Rural and Agriculture Markets Development programme for Northern Nigeria (PrOpCom Mai-karfi)	24/3/2022
10	Northern Uganda: Transforming the Economy through Climate Smart Agribusiness (NU-TEC)	6/6/2022
11	Africa Division funding to the African Agriculture Development Company (AgDevCo)	28/9/2022

Annex 3: List of commercial agriculture programmes with ICF funding (2019)

ICF funding based on data provided by FCDO.

Programmes currently in implementation

1. Sustainable Inclusive Livelihoods through Tea Production in Rwanda
2. Pathways to Prosperity for Extremely Poor People in Bangladesh (PPEPP)
3. Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness (CASA)
4. Productivity for Prosperity (P4P)
5. Africa Food Trade and Resilience programme
6. Private Enterprise Programme Zambia Phase II
7. LINKS – 'Powering Economic Growth in Northern Nigeria'
8. Partnerships for Forests (P4F)
9. Private Sector Development programme in the Democratic Republic of Congo
10. Adaptation for Smallholder Agricultural Programme (ASAP)
11. Support to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP)
12. CDC Programme of Support in Africa and South Asia (2015-2023)

Closed programmes

1. UK Support to Access to Finance Rwanda (AFR) Phase II Operations (2016-2020)
2. Msingi – building East Africa's industries of the future
3. Improving Market Systems for Agriculture in Rwanda IMSAR
4. Private Sector Development Programme in Malawi
5. Promoting Conservation Agriculture in Zambia
6. Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa
7. The Future of Agriculture in Rwanda (FaiR)
8. Linking Agribusiness and Nutrition in Mozambique
9. Rural and Agriculture Markets Development programme for Northern Nigeria (PrOpCom Mai-karfi)
10. Northern Uganda: Transforming the Economy through Climate Smart Agribusiness (NU-TEC)
11. Africa Division funding to the African Agriculture Development Company (AgDevCo)

Annex 4: Detailed thematic methodologies

Women's economic empowerment

The Bishop Framework was applied for the women's economic empowerment evaluation, as described by Clare Bishop in the 2018–2019 final report of the DFID Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review – the Women Economic Empowerment (WEE) analysis. The framework categorizes programmes into four groups: gender neutral/blind; gender aware; gender responsive; and gender responsive plus. The categorization is made based on an assessment of indicators on the level of gender integration in a project's design, implementation and M&E processes.

Programmes are considered **gender neutral or blind** if they do not include any specific intervention or mechanism to promote women's economic empowerment. Programmes are **gender aware** if they pay modest attention to address women's economic empowerment by focusing on inclusion only, in pursuit of productivity and efficiency. Programmes classed as **gender responsive** are defined as those that mainstream gender across the programme structure and field activities to ensure women's inclusion and empowerment. **Gender responsive plus** refers to those that go beyond mainstreaming and try to address underlying causes of inequality, which includes building women's agency and adopting transformative strategies.

The methodology uses an assessment of programmes' performance in the following eight gender dimensions in order to categorize programmes in the gender integration framework:

1. Availability of a gender strategy that is developed based on a gender analysis and informs development of programme objectives and targets
2. Existence of programme targets on gender equality objectives, which can range from ensuring women's engagement and participation in a sector to targets that move beyond that to addressing gender inequalities
3. Integration of gender considerations in programme M&E, ranging from collecting gender-disaggregated data to measuring qualitative change in shifting norms, decision-making and other empowerment elements
4. Existence of gender expertise within the programme management and staff, by looking at existence of a gender women's economic empowerment specialist in the programme management team and efforts made to build the capacity of programme staff on gender
5. Partners' commitment and capacity to mainstream women's economic empowerment by looking at their willingness to invest in inclusive programme delivery approaches that help to reach and benefit women and their support to private sector and other actors to mainstream gender and promote women's economic empowerment
6. Implementation of field activities that help to reach, benefit and/or empower women, such as activities that help to reinforce positive messages on women's economic roles, create opportunities for new private investment in products and services that are accessible to and meet women's needs and activities that result in systemic and sustainable change
7. The programme's progress in meeting targets by looking at percentage of women reached out of those planned to be reached, and proportion of women reached out of the total people (men and women) reached by the programme. Scoring on this gender dimension will also consider women's role and presence in the sector in which the programme is being implemented
8. The programme's knowledge management and learning activities, ranging from conducting studies on specific barriers and constraints faced by women in the programme area and generating evidence for learning on gender from the programme to using networks and platforms to actively share lessons and engage in advocacy

Programmes were scored on each of the eight gender dimensions described above, based on the criteria given in Table 33 below. Scores from 0–2 were given to each gender dimension. Score 0 is given to programmes that do not meet the basic position, score 1 to programmes that fulfil the basic condition and score 2 to programmes that have taken additional steps toward gender responsiveness. Then, the gender dimension scores for each programme were aggregated to assess where the programme falls in terms of gender responsiveness. Programmes with an **aggregate score of 3 and below** are considered **gender blind**, while programmes with an **aggregate score between 3 and 5** are categorized as **gender aware** (meaning that they pay modest attention to women's economic empowerment). Programmes with an **aggregate score between 6 and 9** are considered as **gender responsive**, meaning that they mainstream gender across the programme structure and field activities. Programmes that **score over 10 points** are **gender responsive plus**, and as such go beyond mainstreaming gender and have innovative elements to address the underlying causes of inequality.

Table 43: Criteria for rating gender dimensions of programmes[30]

#	Gender dimension	Basic position	Additional steps toward gender responsiveness
1	Gender strategy	Gender analysis/context Gender strategy	Clear objectives on women's economic empowerment from the outset
2	Targets for women's engagement	Targets for women's engagement in log-frame at output, outcome and/or impact level	Targets for women's engagement that go beyond the current engagement of women in a specific sector or activity
3	M&E	Sex-disaggregated data collected in ongoing monitoring Baseline survey includes sex-disaggregated data and a gender perspective	Further M&E work to capture outcome/impacts on women's economic empowerment
4	Programme management staff	Presence of gender specialist/gender focal point in team	Staff skills on women's economic empowerment developed in order to strengthen their ability to mainstream gender and promote women's economic empowerment across programme components
5	Partners	Partners' commitment to women's economic empowerment	Capacity development of private sector and other actors to mainstream gender and promote women's economic empowerment
6	Field activities	Examples of gender mainstreaming in programme activities	More innovative gender transformative approaches
7	Progress on reaching targets	Targets met in numerical terms	Targets met in percentage terms as well as absolute numbers
8	Knowledge management and sharing	Specific studies undertaken with gender focus	Sharing of evidence, advocacy and networking

[30] C. Bishop. 2018. Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review: WEE Analysis. Pilot 1 Final Report. Available at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876608/WOW-Helpdesk-Pilot1-Commercial-Agriculture-Portfolio-Review-March2020.pdf.

Climate change

This approach aims to understand the consideration of climate change across the entire portfolio, while providing a more in-depth analysis of those programmes explicitly aiming to change farmers' use of inputs and practices to make them more resilient to climate change.

The methodology is dependent upon the availability of data from programmes, at the level of detail required to identify trends, approaches, innovation, emerging good practice, weaknesses and opportunities. Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2018 suggests that there was only limited data on key information related to climate change.

Agriculture in ODA-eligible countries is the sector most directly vulnerable to climate change impacts, which seriously threaten the ability of farmers to 'step up' into more commercialized agricultural production and create both short- and long-term risks for commercial investments in agribusinesses throughout value chains. This means there is a clear imperative for initiatives that assist in increasing resilience and adaptation to climate change. Globally, the agriculture sector is also one of the largest contributors to GHG emissions, deforestation and water use, so there is a clear imperative for GHG mitigation actions and improved natural resource management in agriculture; these may in some cases be linked to market incentives, such as carbon offset schemes.

Therefore, while it is recognized that programmes in the portfolio that do not receive ICF funding may not have explicit climate-related targets, it is felt that it is nevertheless important to understand the degree to which climate change is considered across the whole Commercial Agriculture Portfolio.

The first stage of the climate change analysis involves reviewing the data from across all Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes using a scorecard rating, as set out below. The aim of the scorecard is to provide a high-level and comparable view of the entirety of the portfolio, enabling a rapid overview of how climate change is being considered and addressed across the portfolio, covering both mitigation and adaptation. The scorecard will use data from publicly available documents on the DevTracker website and employs a simple red, amber, green rating for each dimension:

- Grey (0) – not applicable
- Red (1) – not yet present
- Amber (2) – issue considered / partially addressed
- Green (3) – issue clearly integrated into the programme

Within the programmes that are recipients of ICF funding, the light-touch analysis will provide an analysis of which ICF KPIs are reported against for each programme and summarize the climate-related targets and results achieved by these programmes. The list of programmes reporting against ICF indicators is included in Annex 3.

The dimensions of the scorecard are set out below:

Table 44: Dimensions of the climate scorecard

Area of review	Description	Markers
ICF funding and KPIs	Assesses if the programme receives ICF funding and which ICF KPIs it reports against	• Programme is on the ICF funding list and has evidence of receiving ICF funding • Results reports from ICF funded programmes
Impact on GHG emissions considered in design and implementation	Assesses if potential mitigation impacts (or GHG increases) were assessed in the programme design in the initial business case, log-frame and other relevant documents, or	• Potential mitigation impact included in business case, or later on • Opportunities for GHG mitigation identified

	considered after programme initiation	• Objectives for mitigation included
GHG mitigation impacts included in programme MREL	Assesses if GHG mitigation impacts are included in programme MREL documents, including log-frame, annual reviews, evaluations and other reports	• Relevant targets / indicators included in log-frame • GHG mitigation considered in annual reviews, evaluations or other documents • Estimated mitigation impacts reported
Impact on climate change resilience and/or adaptation needs considered in design and implementation	Assesses if potential climate resilience or adaptation intervention opportunities and impacts were assessed and included in the programme design in the business case, log-frame and other relevant documents, or considered after programme initiation	• Potential resilience/ adaptation impact included in business case or later on • Opportunities for resilience/adaptation interventions identified • Objectives for resilience/ adaptation included
Resilience and/or adaptation impacts included in programme MREL	Will assess if resilience/ adaptation impacts are included in programme MREL documents, including log-frame, annual reviews, evaluations and other reports	• Relevant targets, indicators included in log-frame • Resilience/ adaptation considered in annual reviews, evaluations, or other documents
CSA interventions considered in programme business case;	Assesses if potential CSA interventions (including policies, investments, technologies, etc.) were considered in the programme business case	• CSA needs considered in business case documents • Opportunities for CSA interventions identified • CSA uptake included in MREL documents with relevant indicators
CSA interventions, uptake of CSA approaches and impact of CSA included in programme MREL	Where relevant, assesses if CSA approaches and impacts are included in programme MREL documents, including log-frame, annual reviews, evaluations and other reports	• Relevant targets / indicators included in log-frame • Resilience/adaptation considered in annual reviews, evaluations or other documents
Performance of programme on resilience, adaptation and CSA approaches	Provides an assessment of how the programme is performing against targets on resilience, adaptation and CSA approaches	• Programme reports on climate adaptation and resilience
Implementing partner ToR or MOUs include climate change considerations	Assesses if climate change impacts (mitigation or adaptation) are included in partnership agreements to ensure climate is sufficiently prioritised in implementation	• Climate mitigation, resilience or adaptation issues highlighted in ToR • Capacity included in partner selection criteria • Objectives for climate change impacts included in objectives and reporting • Climate change explicitly mentioned as part of the implementation organization objectives

*Source: Self-designed approach in collaboration with FCDO

Nutrition

Commercial agriculture is a key part of FCDO's approach to agricultural development and inclusive growth, with a specific emphasis on supporting subsistence farmers to avoid hunger and malnutrition and to reduce the cost of nutritious diets.

Integrating smallholder farmers into commercial agriculture and formal food value chains offers tremendous potential to improve nutrition outcomes at the farmer level and also for low-income consumers. However, understanding of nutrition pathways in the design of interventions is important to ensure that factors such as control over resources or income are adequately understood in a nutrition context and that activities lead to intended intermediate outcomes in terms of making nutritious foods more available, affordable or accessible to low-income groups and in particular women and children. Commercializing smallholder agriculture comes with explicit risks to nutrition at producer and local market level by diverting production from household consumption to markets for farmers unable to access markets to purchase alternative nutritious foods, by the conversion of low-cost human food into animal feed and by the introduction of inputs and processing processes that may threaten food safety.

Since the 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review was completed there has been an increasing focus on nutrition at a global level through the Food Systems Summit and the Nutrition for Growth Summit in 2021. At the latter, the UK committed to integrate nutrition objectives and interventions into multiple sectors including agriculture, adopt the OECD Nutrition Policy Marker and report on nutrition outcomes and spend on nutrition. It also confirmed commitments to spend at least £1.5bn on nutrition objectives from 2022 to 2030. This includes addressing the nutrition needs of mothers, babies and children, tackling malnutrition in humanitarian emergencies and making sure nutrition is central to FCDO's wider work.

In addition, some countries have been classified as 'ending preventable death' EPD which means that they have to pivot food and agriculture programmes to address unacceptably high numbers of maternal, newborn and child deaths.

The Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022 follows a similar approach to the previous Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review for the categorization of individual programmes:

Framework

The measurement framework defines four categories:

1. **nutrition blind** – there is no consideration of nutrition in either the design or implementation of programmes
2. **nutrition aware** – there is a basic understanding of nutrition pathways and inclusion of nutrition objectives and/or relevant activities but there is not an inclusion of either a significant objective or measurement as required to be nutrition-sensitive
3. **nutrition sensitive** – programmes specifically aim to improve the underlying determinants of nutrition
4. **nutrition specific** – programmes directly address the immediate causes of malnutrition of inadequate dietary intake or disease

The definitions of **'nutrition-sensitive'** and **'nutrition-specific'** (see below) are based on the agreed 2013 UN Scaling Up Nutrition Donor Network (SDN) Methodology that has been used by the FCDO/DFID to identify nutrition-related programmes and calculate FCDO/DFID's total nutrition-related spend from 2010 onwards.

Table 45: Summary of nutrition approach

Nutrition category		Summary description
Nutrition blind	a	The programme does not include nutrition in its design or reporting documents and has no expectations of nutrition effects
	b	The programme does not include nutrition in its design or reporting documents but could have the **potential** for positive nutrition outcomes because it includes relevant activities to make nutritious foods more available, affordable and accessible to target groups
Nutrition aware	a	The programme includes nutrition as an objective and analysis identifying pathways to positive and/or negative nutrition outcomes AND it targets interventions that have the **potential** to improve nutrition outcomes **such as women's economic empowerment or improvements in income for low-income people assuming that at least some of this will be spent on nutrition** BUT the programme does not include either a significant objective or measurement as required to be nutrition-sensitive (per UN SDN methodology). It MAY have a customer feedback mechanism that can be adapted to nutrition
	b	The programme includes nutrition as an objective and analysis identifying pathways to positive and/or negative nutrition outcomes AND it targets improving the availability, accessibility, affordability or acceptability of nutritious foods **but does not include** nutrition as either a significant objective or indicator as required to be nutrition-sensitive (per UN SDN methodology). It MAY have a customer feedback mechanism that can be adapted to nutrition
Nutrition sensitive		The programme must meet three of the following criteria. The programme must: • be aimed at individuals (specifically women, adolescent girls or children) • include nutrition as a **significant** objective or indicator • be aimed at individuals (specifically women, adolescent girls or children) • include nutrition as a **significant** objective or indicator
Nutrition specific		The SDN methodology defines all programmes recorded under the 'basic nutrition' CRS purpose code (12240) as 'nutrition-specific'. this code captures reported spend on (OECD, 2021): Micronutrient deficiency identification and supplementation, Infant and young child feeding promotion, including exclusive breastfeeding, Non-emergency management of acute malnutrition and other targeted feeding programmes (including complementary feeding), Staple food fortification, including salt iodization, Nutritional status monitoring and national nutrition surveillance, Research, capacity building, policy development, monitoring and evaluation in support of these interventions)

With nutrition being increasingly promoted as a thematic impact across FCDO programmes and with a greater range of measurement tools and training being made available to staff and implementing partners, it is expected that there will be further progress on the treatment of nutrition in Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022.

In Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020, the key findings for nutrition were that half the programmes funded had at least some identifiable nutrition benefits with the remaining half bring nutrition blind. This does not mean that they were not necessarily generating any nutrition benefits, but that these benefits could not be reasonably deduced from the information available.

Food security

In addition to nutrition, FCDO is interested in understanding how Commercial Agriculture Portfolio contributes to increasing food security. Long established World Bank principles provide a useful reference point on defining food security beyond merely an issue of accessing sufficient calories:

- Physical availability of food: Food availability addresses the “supply side” of food security and is determined by the level of food production, stock levels and net trade.
- Economic and physical access to food: An adequate supply of food at the national or international level does not in itself guarantee household level food security. Concerns about insufficient food access have resulted in a greater policy focus on incomes, expenditure, markets and prices in achieving food security objectives.
- Food utilization: Utilization is commonly understood as the way the body makes the most of various nutrients in the food. Sufficient energy and nutrient intake by individuals are the result of good care and feeding practices, food preparation, diversity of the diet and intra-household distribution of food. Combined with good biological utilization of food consumed, this determines the nutritional status of individuals.
- Stability of the other three dimensions over time: Even if your food intake is adequate today, you are still considered to be food insecure if you have inadequate access to food on a periodic basis, risking a deterioration of your nutritional status. Adverse weather conditions, political instability, or economic factors (unemployment, rising food prices) may have an impact on your food security status.

These can be integrated into a simple rating system that can be applied alongside the nutrition assessment:

Rating	Definition
0	No food security effects can be identified
+	Programme potentially improves food security indirectly through for example improving incomes.
++	Programme directly improves food security through increasing availability and access to food at the low income household level.
+++	Programme specifically targets improving food security across society at both producer and consumer levels, including with indicators to measure change achieved.

The assessment is based on the review of programme documents contained within Dev Tracker and therefore may have some level of subjectivity. All ratings are supported with a brief narrative, included in the summary programme assessment in annex 1.

Of the 32 programmes included in the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2022, 31 were assessed under the nutrition theme. The one programme excluded is support to BII as these are not disaggregated into the various investment elements which makes understanding the details of specific actions challenging.

Annex 5: Key definitions

Where possible, definitions have been taken from those used in official FCDO or other UK Government documentation. Where definitions have not been found in UK Government documentation, those from authoritative sources such as the UN, World Bank and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have been used.

Access

A gender and social inclusion approach that focuses on building women's skills, assets and opportunities through different ways, such as employment generation, product adaptation to make inputs more accessible and affordable to women, financial services that target women's needs and supporting women to upgrade in the value chain[31].

Adaptive Capacity

The ability of social systems to adapt to multiple, long-term and future climate change risks, and also to learn and adjust after a disaster (BRACED: The 3 'A's. Quoted in the UK Government ICF KPI 4 Methodology Note)[32].

Agency

A programme approach that tries to expand women's voice and decision-making power and strengthen their organizational capacities and networks through supporting women to organize economically, build their leadership and increase their representation and decision-making in association and business organizations[44].

Climate change

A change of climate that is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere, and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods (IPCC, 2014. As quoted in the UK Government ICF KPI 1 Methodology Note)[33].

Climate change adaptation

The process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects. In human systems, adaptation seeks to moderate or avoid harm or exploit beneficial opportunities. In some natural systems, human intervention may facilitate adjustment to expected climate and its effects (IPCC, 2014. As quoted in the UK Government ICF KPI 1 Methodology Note)[46].

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[31] C. Bishop. 2018. Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review: WEE analysis. Pilot 1 Final Report. Available from https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876608/WOW-Helpdesk-Pilot1-Commercial-Agriculture-Portfolio-Review-March2020.pdf.

[32] UK Government. 2019. ICF KPI 4 Methodology Note. Available from https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/835527/KPI-4-number-people-resilience-improved1.pdf.

[33] UK Government. 2018. ICF KPI 1 Methodology Note. Available from https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/813590/KPI-1-People-supported-to-better-adapt.pdf.

Climate change mitigation

Efforts to reduce or prevent emission of GHG. Mitigation can mean using new technologies and renewable energies, making older equipment more energy efficient or changing management practices or consumer behaviour[34].

Climate change resilience

The ability of countries, communities and households to manage change by maintaining or transforming living standards in the face of climate shocks or stresses without compromising their long-term prospects (UK Government ICF KPI 4 Methodology Note)[35].

At an individual level, this is defined as "improvements in individuals' capacities to adapt, anticipate and/or absorb climate-related shocks and stresses"[48].

Climate Smart Agriculture

Climate-smart agriculture is agriculture that focuses on sustainably increasing agricultural productivity and incomes, adapting and building resilience to climate change and reducing and/or removing GHG, where possible.[36]

Gender aware

Programmes that pay modest attention to addressing women's economic empowerment in terms of programme structure and field activities[37].

Gender blind

Programmes that do not include any specific intervention or mechanism to promote women's economic empowerment[50].

Gender responsive

Programmes that mainstream gender across the programme structure and field activities in order to broaden and deepen women's inclusion and empowerment[50].

Gender responsive plus

Programmes that go beyond mainstreaming gender across programme structure and field activities by introducing more innovative elements to understand and address some of the underlying causes of gender inequality[50].

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[34] UN Environment Programme. n.d. Climate Change: Mitigation. Available from https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/climate-change/what-we-do/mitigation.

[35] UK Government. 2019. ICF KPI 4 Methodology Note. Available from https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/835527/KPI-4-number-people-resilience-improved1.pdf.

[36] FAO. Climate Smart Agriculture. Available from http://www.fao.org/climate-smart-agriculture/en/ [accessed 15 January 2021].

[37] C. Bishop. 2018. Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review: WEE analysis. Pilot 1 Final Report. Available from https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876608/WOW-Helpdesk-Pilot1-Commercial-Agriculture-Portfolio-Review-March2020.pdf.

Hardware, software and orgware

Hardware relates to physical tools; Software relates to processes, knowledge and skills to use the technology; Orgware relates to ownership and institutional arrangements pertaining to a technology.[38]

Inclusion

Programme approaches aimed at increasing women's economic participation by working in markets with high rates of female participation, incentivizing their participation or carrying out targeted outreach to overcome barriers for participation[50].

Maladaptation

Any changes in natural or human systems that inadvertently increase vulnerability to climatic stimuli; an adaptation that does not succeed in reducing vulnerability but increases it instead (IPCC AR3).[39]

Transformation

GESI approaches that try to bring social, institutional and legislative change to address gender discriminatory beliefs, norms, stereotypes and practices[50].

Transformational change

Transformational change is 'change which catalyses further changes', enabling either a shift from one state to another (e.g. from conventional to lower carbon or more climate-resilient patterns of development) or faster change (e.g. speeding up progress on cutting the rate of deforestation). However, it can entail a range of simultaneous transformations to political power, social relations, decision-making processes, equitable markets and technology.[40]

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[38] UNFCCC TEC. 2014. Technologies for Adaptation in the Agriculture Sector. TEC Brief 4. Available from https://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEC_column_L/544babb207e344b88bdd9fec11e6337f/bcc4dc66c35340a08fce34f057e0a1ed.pdf.

[39] UNFCCC NAP Central. n.d. Glossary of Key Terms. Available from https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Pages/glossary.aspx.

[40] UK Government. 2018. ICF KPI 15 Methodology Note. Available from https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/813600/KPI-15-extent-ICF-intervention-lead-transformational-change.pdf.

Annex 6: Climate change scorecard

Programme	1 - ICF reporting	2 - GHG emissions (design)	3 - GHG emissions (MREL)	4 - Adaptation (design)	5 - Adaptation (MREL)	6 - Biodiversity & Nature	In implementation (Y/N)	Total score	Score as a %	Average score
Productivity for Prosperity (P4P)	2	1	2	2	2	1	Y	10	56%	2
The Future of Agriculture in Rwanda (FAiR)	2	1	1	2	1	1	N	8	44%	1
Africa Food Trade and Resilience programme	2	1	1	2	2	1	Y	9	50%	2
Pathways to Prosperity for Extremely Poor People in Bangladesh (PPEPP)	2	1	1	2	2	2	Y	10	56%	2
Partnerships for Forests (P4F)	2	2	2	1	1	2	Y	10	56%	2
Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness (CASA)	1	1	1	2	2	1	Y	8	44%	1
Improving Market Systems for Agriculture in Rwanda IMSAR	3	1	1	2	2	1	N	10	56%	2
Northern Uganda: Transforming the Economy through Climate	3	1	1	3	3	1	N	12	67%	2
Africa Division funding to the African Agriculture Development Company (AgDevCo)	2	2	1	2	3	1	N	11	61%	2
Adaptation for Smallholder Agricultural Programme (ASAP)	3	2	3	3	3	3	Y	17	94%	3
Private Sector Development programme in the Democratic Republic of Congo	2	2	2	1	2	1	Y	10	56%	2
Strengthening Palm Oil Sustainability in Indonesia	1	2	1	1	1	3	Y	9	50%	2
Support to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme	3	2	3	3	3	1	Y	15	83%	3
Rural and Agriculture Markets Development programme for Northern Nigeria (PrOpCom Mai-karfi)	3	2	2	3	3	2	N	15	83%	3
Promoting Conservation Agriculture in Zambia	3	2	2	3	2	2	N	14	78%	2
UK Support to Access to Finance Rwanda (AFR) Phase II Operations (2016-2020)	1	1	1	1	1	1	N	6	33%	1
CDC Programme of Support in Africa and South Asia (2015-	2	2	2	2	1	1	Y	10	56%	2
Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa	1	1	1	3	2	1	N	9	50%	2
Sustainable Inclusive Livelihoods through Tea Production in	3	2	1	2	2	1	Y	11	61%	2
LINKS – 'Powering Economic Growth in Northern Nigeria'	1	2	3	2	1	1	Y	10	56%	2
Private Enterprise Programme Zambia Phase II	3	2	1	2	2	1	Y	11	61%	2

Annex 7: Review of progress made on 2020 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review recommendations

Recommendations from the performance review

1. More focus should be placed on ensuring that data on SMEs reached is included in reporting, as these represent key mechanisms for improving the efficiency of value chains and integrating farmers into particular agri-food value chains.

Remains valid

2. Commercial agriculture programmes should focus on building stronger markets with more actors and increased competition, rather than interventions which reply on support for a single market actor that may unintentionally create market dependencies.

As part of the moves towards budget efficiency and away from direct grant-based financing, more attention is being given to support to the enabling environment. This will contribute to addressing this recommendation

3. Significant improvement on creating jobs for women is required, as performance against already modest targets for this metric remains poor. Building on the successful approaches highlighted in the women's economic empowerment section of this report would be beneficial.

Employment creation for women will remain a long-term focus for the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio

4. Consider how future FCDO commercial agriculture programmes can leverage the power of 'orgware' approaches to achieve transformative, climate-resilient outcomes from their investments and interventions, i.e. consider how to bring together stakeholders across value chains to identify areas for change and interventions, institution building and organization of farmers, and collective farming practices to gain access to high-impact technologies for adaptation and improved accountability.

Remains valid

5. FCDO interventions need to consider an integrated approach that brings together the interdependent objectives of commercial success, climate resilience and poverty reduction, as well as women's economic empowerment- and nutrition-sensitive approaches.

Remains valid

7.2.2 Women's economic empowerment

6. The current strong focus given to GESI in annual reviews and mid-term evaluations should continue, as these documents are instrumental in helping programmes improve their performance in gender integration.

Remains valid

7. For programmes working in specific sectors, such as infrastructure, it could be helpful to provide sector-specific guidance on how to identify entry points and integrate gender and inclusion.

Infrastructure has been specifically excluded from the current Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review and therefore this recommendation has not been investigated

8. It would be useful if more emphasis were put on evidence generation on gender in the programmes, in areas such as identifying barriers to women's economic empowerment in different sectors and on the kind of approaches that work to empower women, and

on engaging in wider influencing across the sector based on lessons from programmes.

Remains relevant

9. Programmes that are currently rated ‘gender aware’, which make up 28% of the programmes in the portfolio, need to take progressive actions to improve gender integration. Currently, they fail to meet the minimum basic conditions to ensure gender integration in 3–5 indicators. Where these do not exist, they need to develop a gender strategy, set targets for women’s engagement in their log-frame, commit to at least collecting and reporting sex-disaggregated data, have a gender specialist or focal person in the team, take actions to mainstream gender in programme delivery activities and engage in knowledge generation on gender.

Remains relevant

10. Programme design should encourage approaches that address different dimensions of the systemic causes of gender inequality, such as social norms affecting women’s economic empowerment, restrictive legal frameworks and policies, and unpaid care work, as these often undermine women’s ability to participate in and benefit from programmes. Programme design should also encourage approaches that strengthen the collective voice and representation of women. In parallel, FCDO should review whether gender-related KPIs are being set at sufficiently ambitious levels during programme design and evaluation.

Remains relevant

11. Mechanisms that promote the exchange of evidence, shared learning and advocacy on aspects of women’s economic empowerment across the Commercial Agriculture Portfolio should be maximized to the fullest extent. These might include case studies, internal social champions’ networks and a GESI working group for programmes that facilitates experience sharing and learning.

Remains relevant

12. Those FCDO programmes ranked as ‘gender responsive plus’, which have integrated system-level approaches with individual, household and/or community approaches, should be actively championed as current best-practice approaches in order to strengthen the women’s economic empowerment objectives of future programme designs.

Remains relevant

Climate change

13. Ensure climate objectives are included in partnerships and commercial agreements with programme suppliers, to guarantee that they are held accountable for action on climate change in implementation. MOUs, accountable grants, supplier contracts and other such documentation must indicate clearly that performance on climate change objectives is regarded as part of the delivery expectations of the partner, given that “what’s not measured is not addressed”.

Remains relevant

14. FCDO should review and harmonize how the different purposes and requirements of ICF KPI 1 and KPI 4 data are understood and collated, to ensure the differential focus on outputs versus outcomes. ICF data should be Commercial Agriculture Portfoliotured in the programme log-frames, annual reviews and PCRs of all programmes with ICF KPI objectives.

Remains relevant

15. With the introduction of the new ICF KPI 17 on Sustainable Land Management in 2020, it is recommended that programmes reporting against this target check if they can update their reporting systems to align with the ICF KPI 17 methodology, and that this indicator is included in future Commercial Agriculture Portfolio datasets and reviews.

Completed

16. Lessons that build an FCDO climate champions cohort (extending beyond the existing group of climate change specialists within FCDO), who understand climate risks, vulnerabilities and opportunities, need to be shared proactively between programme managers. Clear guidance is required on how ambitious ICF indicators should be measured and reported.

Remains relevant

17. Cross-learning between complementary programmes should be championed and evidenced in the preparation of business cases and at cross-programme 'anniversaries' to ensure key findings are being shared and considered. More knowledge-sharing events and activities encouraging dialogue between the SROs of different programmes, as well as a climate knowledge hub, may be useful strategies to overcome some of the climate change knowledge management challenges.

Remains relevant

18. There needs to be greater support to programmes to better measure, monitor and understand the impact of CSA adoption within programme-specific reporting systems.

Remains relevant

19. Greater resourcing should be considered (set aside in programme funds) for *ex post* evaluations, to better understand the longer-term sustainability of commercial agriculture interventions and their impacts on climate resilience.

Remains relevant

20. Future programmes focusing on climate resilience should consider holistic system-wide design approaches that encompass the interplay between climate shocks and economic shocks. This could support the entire value chain's ability to withstand climate shocks, and may also help to engage agribusinesses further along the value chains and supply chains in the need for investing in climate adaptation measures. Wherever possible, stakeholders should be encouraged, within the programme-framing process, to commit themselves to climate adaptation measures prior to the roll-out of a new programme.

Remains relevant

21. FCDO should consider introducing toolkits designed to help identify and prioritize CSA approaches during the business development and programme inception phases, such as the participatory toolkits highlighted in the CGIAR CSA Guide.[41]

Remains relevant

22. There could be an opportunity for FCDO to undertake specific analyses of select market systems to understand the impact of COVID-19 and the linkages between building climate resilience and broader economic resilience. Not only could this provide valuable insights for understanding linkages between resilience to future climate and economic shocks, but also aim to overcome some of the methodological challenges in reporting against ICF KPI 4.

[41] See: https://csa.guide/csa/targeting-and-prioritization.

The impact of Covid-19 on market systems as well as other shocks form the basis of much ongoing analysis in the sector although the use of this to overcome the methodological challenges of ICF KPI 4 is not known

23. Having endorsed the Principles for Locally Led Adaptation (IIED, 2021), the UK Government should ensure these principles are integrated into its existing and future commercial agriculture programmes to support sustainable and equitable adaptation outcomes.

Remains relevant

24. Climate programmes should adopt the following best-practice criteria in their design and in their lifetime evaluation of progress:
    a) Political will and local ownership: Ensure the need for change is agreed locally, and the process is locally owned; ensure high-level political buy-in and broad support from across societies, cultures and interest groups to enable widespread changes to patterns of development.
    b) Capacity and ability: Support countries and communities through step-wise approaches that build their resilience, whereby farmers and agribusinesses are encouraged incrementally to adopt more resilient approaches, supported by improved access to climate and market information to help them make informed decisions.
    c) Adaptive innovation: Ensure wide and sustained change through a flexible mix of innovative technologies, demonstrated (and gender-sensitive) new methods, promoting access to knowledge on more low-tech approaches to (for example) water conservation and efficient use, and approaches supporting collective farming or shared farming on communal land that allow collective leveraging of innovations that otherwise might not be viable or affordable for individuals to access.
    d) Shared evidence of effectiveness: Widely disseminate lessons and approaches that have proven successful in one location to others.
    e) Leverage and create incentives for others to act: Quantify the costs of climate action to illustrate that acting on climate change risks and challenges is a sensible decision for public agencies, commercial firms and individuals. Help agribusinesses to understand the specific climate risks to their operations, as well as the short- and medium-term actions they can take to mitigate these risks. Share proven programme approaches where tools have been developed to help agribusinesses and farmers better understand their climate risks and how to access climate and market information.
    f) Replicability and scalability: Further encourage a learning and sharing culture where good ideas piloted by the ICF programmes are replicated by others in the same country, and more widely, while ensuring interventions (such as national, sectoral or regional programmes) have sufficient reach to achieve progressive institutional and policy reform or drive down the costs of technology deployment.
    g) Improving monitoring: It would be beneficial for programmes to ensure ‘negative impact screening’ and ESG systems are part of an ongoing monitoring process, rather than a single point in time consideration at the business case development stage.

These elements all remain relevant

7.2.4 Nutrition

25. Future Commercial Agriculture Portfolio business cases should identify how they have addressed the potential for direct or indirect nutrition effects (i.e. to be nutrition aware),

even where nutrition is not a primary goal. Annual reviews should consider whether reasonable steps could be taken during the lifetime of the reviewed programme to support even indirect nutrition effects, and lessen the likelihood of being assessed nutrition blind, albeit within the constraints of finite budgets.

Remains relevant

26. A consistent set of metrics, related to nutrition pathways, for those agri-food interventions designed to increase the availability and consumption of foods in local markets may be helpful in quantifying the intended and unintended consequences of greater commercialization of local value chains for vulnerable groups. Future Commercial Agriculture Portfolio business cases – if they do not do so already – should identify how they have considered the impact of changes to nutrition pathways upon vulnerable groups and introduce measurement of progress toward nutrition outcomes. Similarly, annual reviews should consider the related lessons learned.

Significant work has been undertaken by FCDO on adopting new nutrition reporting markers and creating training materials to improve the understanding of including nutrition in programme design

27. Programmes highlighted as 'nutrition aware' would benefit from nutrition impact assessments, to capture their qualitative as well as quantitative nutrition information, validate whether the expected nutrition pathways have in fact occurred and identify lessons learned. This will help them to maximize their evident potential to generate significant nutrition outcomes.

Remains relevant

28. High-performing nutrition-sensitive programmes would benefit from case study analysis to verify their nutrition effects as well as to promote them within the ongoing broader nutrition conversations globally. This could also help in developing a more comprehensive analysis of routes to nutrition outcomes through commercial agriculture programmes.

Remains relevant

29. FCDO should develop or adapt existing nutrition metrics for programmes in the categories 'nutrition blind b' and 'nutrition aware a / b' that can be used in mainstreaming nutrition in future programmes in such categories.

As above, FCDO has adopted Nutrition Policy Marker

7.2.5 Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review procedural and cross-cutting recommendations

30. It is clear that evidence in the public domain (e.g. DevTracker) is variable in terms of its availability for both Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2018 and Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review 2020. The reviewers' need to acquire additional information at short notice from time-poor SROs represented a burden on all sides. FCDO may wish to consider a 'materials audit' of a sample of programmes to identify whether all available knowledge has been captured and could be housed in a 'learning repository', with appropriate metadata to assist search and retrieval in time for the fourth Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review, whenever that is scheduled. At the least, to improve reporting and analysis, efforts should be made to ensure DevTracker is updated for all programmes with all relevant programme documentation.

Remains relevant

31. To maximize the opportunity to interrogate data across multiple programmes and over multiple years, FCDO should mainstream common standards for measuring indicators across the portfolio. They should also consider how best to create a pre-approved

menu of data collection requirements for women's economic empowerment, nutrition and climate change, even where the individual components are not the primary objective of a newly designed future programme; not all programmes will be able to attribute impacts during their life-span, so they should be able to select the most appropriate data metrics from the menu.

Remains relevant

32. Review the dataset for the validity of outliers and other programmes where complexity and scale make reporting challenging, but that reduce the credibility of the overall analysis, and make a decision on whether to retrospectively analyse and revise the reported indicators for particular programmes, delete them or accept them as they are.

The programme selection methodology for this Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review was revised to remove programmes that substantially did not include agriculture components

33. Provide specific feedback to SROs on programmes where key indicators are targeted but not reported to extract any evidence available.

The Commercial Agriculture Portfolio Review dataset is made available to FCDO staff (and the public)

34. Commercial Agriculture Portfolio programmes should also report on a standardized series of core metrics, even if commercial agriculture is not a substantial part of their portfolio. Gender-disaggregated reach to smallholders and improvement in income and employment should become mandatory for all programmes, and disability inclusion should form part of those core metrics, in line with FCDOs commitment to improving disability inclusion in its programming. A common methodology for measurement should be followed to ensure that 'like is compared with like', in any subsequent analysis.

Remains relevant

35. The interlinked and interdependent nature of the cross-cutting areas of nutrition, women's economic empowerment and mitigating the effects of climate change means that they should be considered together in the development of future programmes. This would enable synergies and complementarities to be maximized.

Remains relevant

Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness

www.casaprogramme.com