



LEARNING-ORIENTED REAL-TIME IMPACT ASSESSMENT (LORTA) PROGRAMME: 2023 SYNTHESIS REPORT SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) aims to support a paradigm shift toward low-carbon and climate-resilient development. It is critical to understand if a paradigm shift is occurring and to what extent GCF is driving it. The LORTA programme aims to help GCF answer these important questions using best practices in theory-based impact evaluations and building feedback loops and measurements into GCF projects. Since 2018, LORTA has supported a range of project teams on impact assessment.

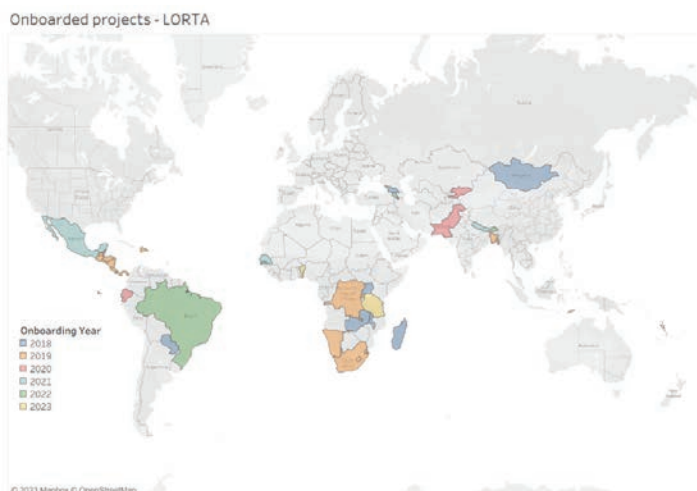
LORTA's primary objectives are threefold:

- Strengthening the capacity of accredited entities (AEs) for impact assessments
- Supporting the generation of an evidence base for the GCF about the impact and improving quality at entry for GCF investments
- Disseminating lessons learned in real-time to the GCF ecosystem

PORTFOLIO BY LORTA COHORT AND PROJECT LOCATION

Since its inception, the LORTA programme has engaged with around **50 GCF project teams** worldwide.

Figure 1. World overview of LORTA projects



LESSONS LEARNED IN 2023

1. Portfolio Level Learnings

The programme-wide lessons learned and the challenges encountered in the coordination, collaboration, and process from 2023 activities are summarized below:

1. **Broader coordination beyond accredited entities (AEs) is required:** Effective impact assessment requires engagement with various stakeholders, including executing entities and local governments, to ensure alignment and understand the feasibility of conducting an impact evaluation.
2. **Responsive implementation is essential for changing environment:** The LORTA programme adapts to project dynamics, as demonstrated by evaluating agroforestry interventions in Paraguay to address implementation (delay) challenges.
3. **High-quality data collection is a key:** Early planning and close monitoring are essential. Challenges like data collection delays in Uganda highlight the need for close coordination with the project team for timely baseline data collection before the project implementation.

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In 2023, the programme has made significant progress by onboarding four new projects as well as by collecting five rounds of household data and producing evaluation reports. As of December 2023, LORTA supports **26 projects** across regions: ten in Africa, five in Asia-Pacific, nine in Latin America and the Caribbean, and two in Eastern Europe.

2. Project Level Learnings

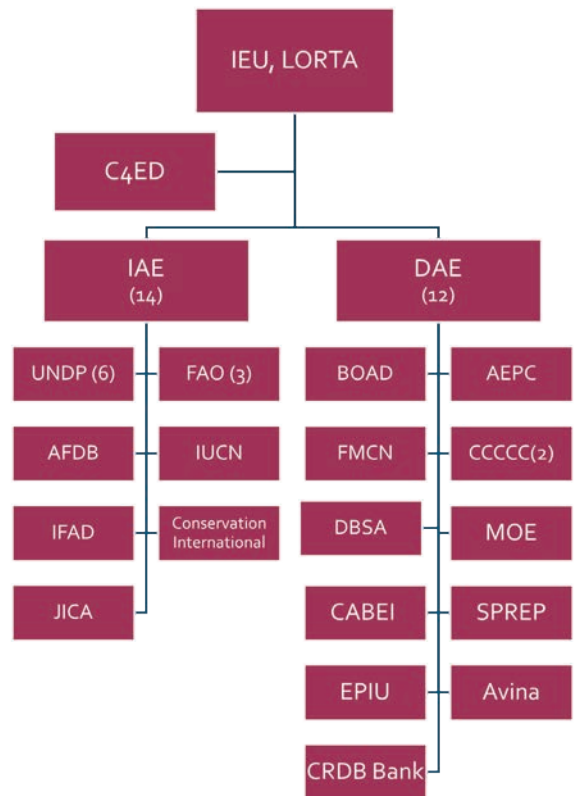
The finalized reports provide the results and lessons learned from the evaluation of three GCF-funded projects, and here is a summary of these findings gleaned from the reports of the three projects concerned.

- Bangladesh (FPo6g):** The project significantly improved food security and economic empowerment for women but had limited impact on enhancing their control over income expenditure, mainly due to the deep-rooted gender norms. Continuous engagement with the project team was crucial for evaluation success.
- Madagascar (FPo26):** Midline results showed increased adoption of conservation agriculture practices and improved food security. Gender analysis revealed that women-headed households were key drivers of certain agricultural practices.
- Rwanda (FPo73):** The midline evaluation found increased adoption of climate-resilient agricultural practices and improved food security among the project beneficiaries. However, mixed results were observed for agricultural production.

* For more information, please read the full reports on the [IEU website](#).

The LORTA portfolio has achieved a balanced representation of both IAEs and DAEs, as seen in Figure 2. This balanced distribution ensures diverse perspectives and experiences, contributing to the programme’s success and effectiveness.

Figure 2. List of LORTA working partners



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