

Impact evaluation of Fadama II project in Nigeria: Lessons learnt

Ephraim Nkonya, IFPRI

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Outline of presentation

- Program description
- Focus areas for the evaluation
- An ideal evaluation strategy & constraints that led to the adoption of the chosen evaluation strategy
- Other implementation challenges
- What did we learn from the evaluation about the program?
- How has this informed policy?

Fadama II project

- Fadama II was a community driven development (CDD) project, whose effective implementation started in 2005. Project designed to run for 6 years (2004 – 2009)
- Covered 12 states, supporting six components
- Project achieved significant progress in the first three years and was therefore elevated to the third phase three years ahead of time.
- Fadama II targeted the poor, vulnerable (women, people living with HIV/AIDS, the elderly, people with disabilities, the youth, etc)
- The project supported: productive asset acquisition, rural infrastructure development, demand-driven extension services, natural resource conflict resolution

Focus area of evaluation

- Quantitative methods to conduct impact of Fadama II on:
 - Household income
 - Productive asset acquisition
 - Rural infrastructure
 - Demand-responsive advisory services
- Using qualitative and simple statistical methods, conducted impacts of Fadama II on:
 - Conflict resolution
 - Communication
 - Capacity building

Ideal evaluation strategy & constraints that led to an alternative method

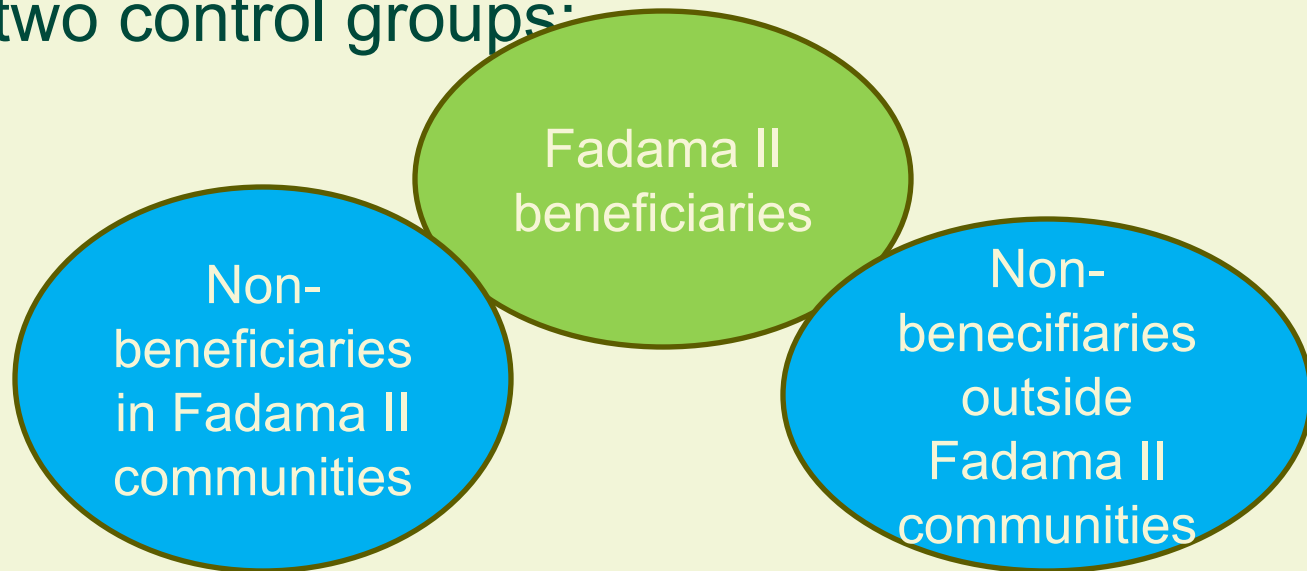
- As observed in previous presentations, social experiment is the ideal strategy.
- We could not use the social experiment approach outlined above due to the following constraints:
 - Project placement was already determined before impact assessment was done.

Constraints that led to using alternative method

- Baseline data collected before the project started did not cover the control group and lacked key data required to measure some outcomes
 - Hence conducted only one survey, after the project implementation has started. Used recall memory to collect baseline data
- To overcome the selection bias and placement bias), we used matching methods and double difference (difference-in-difference) approaches
- Took a large sample size **3756 but only 50%** of these matched

Measuring spillover

- Due to development of rural infrastructure and other services that can be used by non-beneficiaries, Fadama II project had significant spillover to non-beneficiaries.
- To capture spillover, we took two a sample of two control groups:



What have we learnt from Fadama II project? Some key results

- Targeting of the poor and vulnerable was successful for asset acquisition component :
 - Women private asset value increased 32% and group assets increased by 1565%. Value of men's private asset increased by 75% but the value of their group assets increased by only 331%
 - Value of asset acquisition of the poorest increased more than any other poverty group
- Well-targeted and involvement of people reveals the potential that the CDD have

What have we learnt from Fadama II impact assessment?

- The impact of the project on the income of the poorest and women was not significant – due to the large investment that the beneficiaries had to commit to participate in the project.
- The lagged impact of the productive asset acquisition will be larger – hence the need to do a follow up impact assessment.
- There was spillover of Fadama II to non-beneficiaries
 - Income of non-beneficiaries in Fadama II communities increased by 6% compared to non-beneficiaries outside Fadama II communities

How has Fadama II impact evaluation informed policy?

- Design of Fadama III was based on Fadama II evaluation. Following are the key elements that used the impact assessment:
 - The outcome indicator adjusted from 20% increase for 6 years for 50% of beneficiaries to 40% increase for 75% of beneficiaries
 - Credit provision is one of the Fadama III services to ensure sustainability of the project
 - Government investment in Fadama III scaled to cover all states – to replicate the success story reported in the impact evaluation
 - Food security strategy is using Fadama II results