ADAPTATION FUND

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7-8 April 2026

Adaptation Fund Board
Ethics and Finance Committee
Thirty-seventh Meeting
Bonn, Germany

# AF-TERG LESSONS LEARNED FROM EX POST EVALUTIONS OF ADAPTATION FUND PROJECTS, 2021-2026

## INFORMATION NOTE

## 1 Background

1. At the twenty-eighth meeting (October 2016), the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) decided to request the secretariat to:

> *[….]*
> *Propose, at the twentieth meeting of the PPRC, options for how post-implementation learning and impact evaluation could be arranged for Adaptation Fund projects and programmes, taking into account ongoing discussions on the evaluation function of the Adaptation Fund, as well as Phase II of the evaluation.*

**(Decision B.28/32)**

2. Pursuant to the Board Decision B.28/32, the secretariat developed a document (AFB/PPRC.20/30), which presented three options for how ex post evaluations of Adaptation Fund projects and programmes could be arranged. The three options presented in the document were as follows:

> *I. The Evaluation Function of the Adaptation Fund would conduct the ex post assessments.*
> *II. The ex post evaluation would be conducted by independent evaluators but selected by the Implementing Entity (IE).*
> *III. An external third party selected by the Adaptation Fund could perform the ex post evaluation.*

3. With consideration to the Board decision to approve the option of re-establishing a long-term evaluation function for the Fund through a Technical Evaluation Reference Group (AF-TERG) (Decision B.30/38), and to the comments and recommendations of the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC), the Board decided:

> *a) To convey the assessment of the two options to the Technical Evaluation Reference Group of the Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG), once it is operational, which will subsequently report to the Board on its preferred option; and*
>
> *b) To request the AF-TERG to take into account the above discussion in the PPRC.*

**(Decision B.31/24)**

4. The Board approved the Strategy and Work Programme document (AFB/EFC.26.a-26.b/3)[1] of the AF-TERG between the first and second parts of the thirty-fifth meeting (Decision

[1] Available at: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/strategy-and-work-programme-of-the-adaptation-fund-technical-evaluation-reference-group-af-terg-2/

B.35.a-35.b/29), which includes ex post evaluations during the indicative three-year evaluation work programme.[2]

5. The AF-TERG provided the Ethics and Finance Committee (EFC) with a progress update on ex post evaluations at its twenty-eighth meeting (AFB/EFC.28/Inf.4)[3] in October 2021 and at its twenty-ninth meeting (AFB/EFC.29/Inf.4) in March 2022, to update the Board on ex post evaluation progress and future piloting. The most recent update was provided in at thirty-fourth meeting of EFC on October 2024.

## 2 The Ex Post Evaluation Story

"What do we know about the Adaptation Fund's projects after they close?" This question from the Board served as a starting point for what the ex post evaluation (ex post) initiative is now. Six years ago, the AF-TERG began to develop a pilot methodology for returning to Fund projects after closure to determine what remained and why. At present, the AF-TERG has completed six ex posts, two ex posts are underway in Cuba and Ghana, and tendering for four new ex posts is getting underway.

These lessons learned note provides a brief explanation of why evaluators return to projects that have been completed, how these evaluations work, and what we have learned over the course of the six ex post evaluations conducted to date.

Ex post evaluations are important because project timelines and real-world adaptation timelines are not necessarily the same. Many results, like restoring ecosystems, recharging groundwater, planting forests, and helping people start using early warning information - take longer than a typical 3-5-year project. That's why AF-TERG carries out ex post evaluations of Adaptation Fund projects to learn from what worked over the longer term.

[2] The original Terms of Reference (ToR) for ex post evaluations provide more details on the background for the ex post work and can be found in the Phase one report for ex post project sustainability evaluation. This report is available on the AF-TERG website at: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/about/evaluation/publications/evaluations-and-studies/ex-post-evaluations/ .

[3] Available at: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/progress-update-on-ex-post-evaluations-af-terg/


*Figure 1 Project and evaluation timeline*

When a project ends, evaluators usually can't yet tell whether the medium to long-term results have truly happened. Sustainability means the project's benefits keep going after funding ends and can withstand risks over time.[4] If no one returns later to check, we can't know how good those estimates were, and whether projects are leading to lasting change.

Ex posts also provide a different angle for evaluating the Fund's progress towards its objective of helping the most vulnerable communities adapt to climate change by examining how long project benefits last and why. We know a lot about the types of adaptation measures communities can use, but far less about how long those benefits endure in real life.

For the AF-TERG, the ex posts support our mandate of providing oversight, guidance, learning by providing a unique window into the Fund's portfolio. More broadly, ex posts provide value in four ways:

- Smarter learning: identify what works to inform future projects
- Stronger accountability: build trust with donors and project stakeholders
- Seeing true impacts: capture slow-onset benefits, scaling, and unintended consequences
- Better global reporting: provide insights and evidence for countries and the adaptation community.

[4] OECD (2019), Better Criteria for Better Evaluation: Revised Evaluation Criteria Definitions and Principles for Use, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/15a9c26b-en


## 3 How Ex Posts Work

How do evaluators pick up where the final evaluation left off? The AF-TERG Ex Post Evaluation Toolkit for Adaptation Projects describes both the methodology and the procedure in extensive detail. This section provides a brief introduction to both.

### *The Approach*

The AF-TERG defines its ex post evaluations as evaluations that take place 3-5 years after project completion.

The methodology used has three steps:

1) Assess project outcomes: Evaluate whether outcomes were maintained, how these outcomes have evolved over time, whether unexpected outcomes–positive or negative–appeared over time.
2) ID conditions: Analyze factors that enabled or hindered sustainability.
3) Analyze impact: Explore how outcomes enhance broader system resilience.

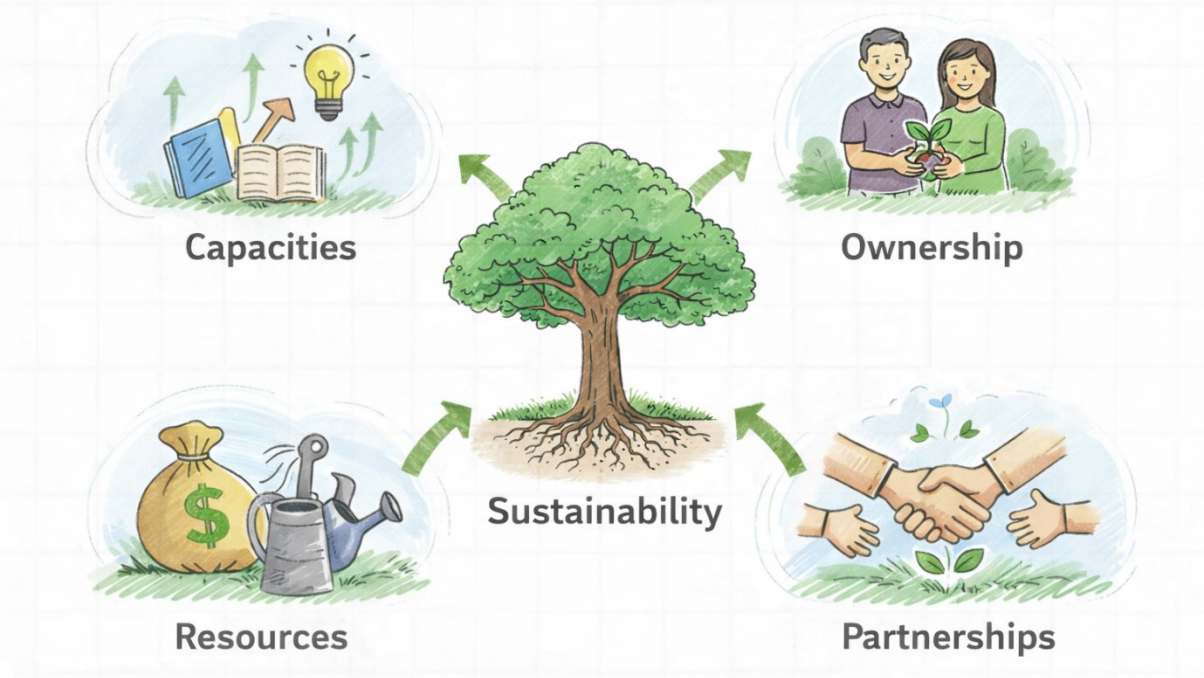



*Figure 2 Factors contributing to outcome sustainability*

It is important to remember that ex posts do not revisit the effectiveness or efficiency of projects; they exist to look at outcomes that have or haven't been sustained and to seek to understand why. These may be outcomes that were listed in the project proposal, or they may be outcomes that have emerged after the end of the project (see Text Box below).

**Unexpected Outcomes**

Unexpected outcomes are outcomes that were not included in the original project design. The following observations from two ex posts illustrate that these unexpected outcomes can be positive or negative.

***Positive**:* "In Dionaba, where market gardening is still functioning, women have developed new practices to enhance the resilience of their gardens. They use cloth to protect their crops from the sun, and collect seeds from varieties that they find to be more resistant to local conditions for future use." (Ex Post 5: 48).


***Negative**:* "It was reported from both key informant interviews and fieldwork, that wave breakers at Manase accelerated erosion on the adjacent beaches due to re-directing of waves to the west. Field observations and satellite images confirmed severe sand erosion following construction of the wave breakers." (Ex Post 1: 7).

### *The Process*

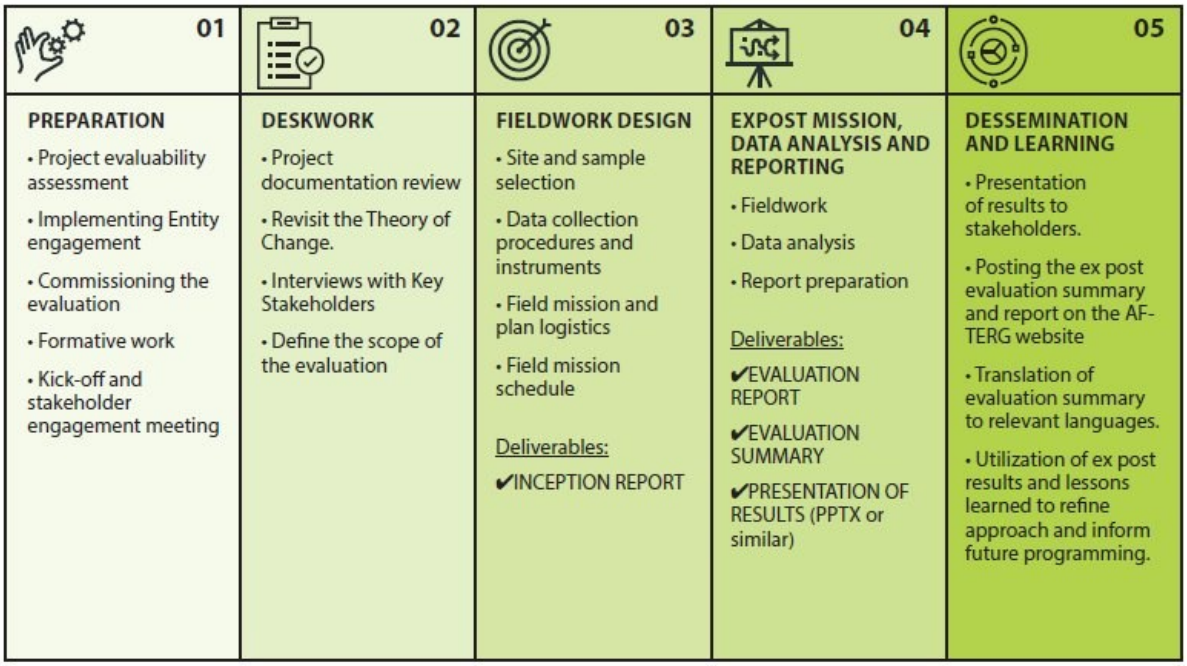



*Figure 3 Steps for co-creational approach in ex post evaluations*

### *Workflow*

The current workflow was developed by the AF-TERG to support consistency across the evaluations.

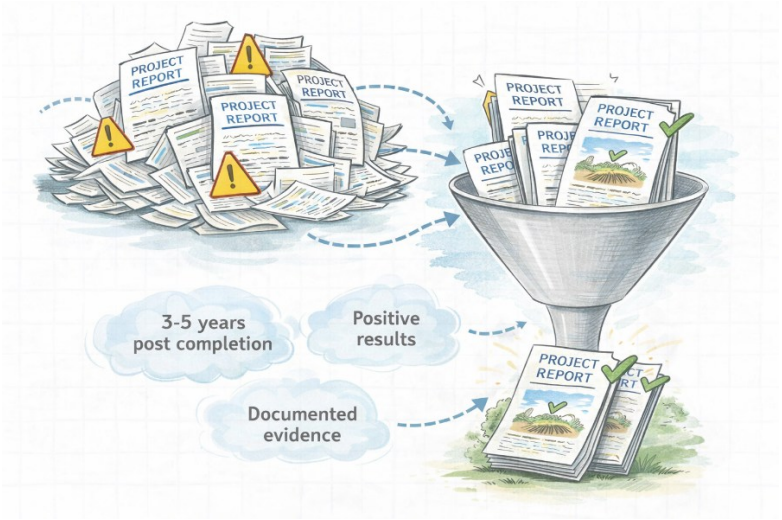
Co-creation is something that ex post evaluations aim for, but it is an approach that has also shaped the ex post process itself. That process has evolved over time in response to different stakeholders, including the

Board. The AF-TERG has replaced initial training materials with an Ex Post Evaluation Toolkit[5], which was informed by an open peer review period and can be used by any interested organization. In response to Board feedback, the scope of the ex posts has expanded over time from its original focus on a single project outcome to all project outcomes, and ex posts now include a sustainability rating for their outcomes. Other feedback has led to the development of visual notes in multiple languages to communicate evaluation results to a broader audience, a guidance note to support Implementing Entities that have agreed to "host" an ex post, and preliminary guidance on evaluation in fragile and conflict affected situations.

When reviewing the lessons learned in this report, it is important to remember that projects selected for ex posts are *not* selected at random. They are selected for their potential for learning. Each year, the AF-TERG identifies all projects that are 3-5 years post-completion. It then reviews the projects for evaluability, or the extent to which the project can be evaluated

[5] Available at: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/toolkit-for-the-ex-post-evaluation-of-adaptation-interventions-2/

in a reliable way, looking at measurable results and data quality and availability. As the AF-TERG explains to implementing entities that are approached about participating in an ex post evaluation, the selection of a former project for this level of attention is a positive acknowledgement.




This approach helps the AF-TERG to generate a high level of learning from the projects it chooses, but it also introduces selection bias. These projects are not representative of the portfolio as a whole, and a different selection process might generate different learning.

## 4 Lessons Learned

When looking for lessons learned, the AF-TERG has identified the following four lessons that emerged across the six project types and locations: 1) Sustained outcomes mean sustained buy-in (ownership); 2) Sustainability means keeping things running (maintenance); 3) Expect the unexpected (climate hazards); and 4) Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) today shapes learning tomorrow (data quality and availability).

### *Lesson 1: Sustained buy-in is important for sustained outcomes*

Across ex post evaluations, the outcomes sustained over time shared a common trait: strong ownership by project stakeholders and participants. These groups showed ownership in several ways: 1) Volunteer labor and training; 2) Financial contributions and re-investment; and 3) Integration of project activities into government plans, budgets and programs.

Ownership was visible in the first pilot ex post. In Viala, Samoa, a seawall constructed in 2015 was visited by the ex post evaluator in 2021. The community reported that the 660-meter wall provided adequate protection against storms that had occurred after the project ended. They also reported that the wall served as a recreation area for the larger Apia area. Although the project had not included a post-project plan on maintenance, government agencies at the time of the ex post were providing lawn trimming and waste collection at the site (Ex Post 1).

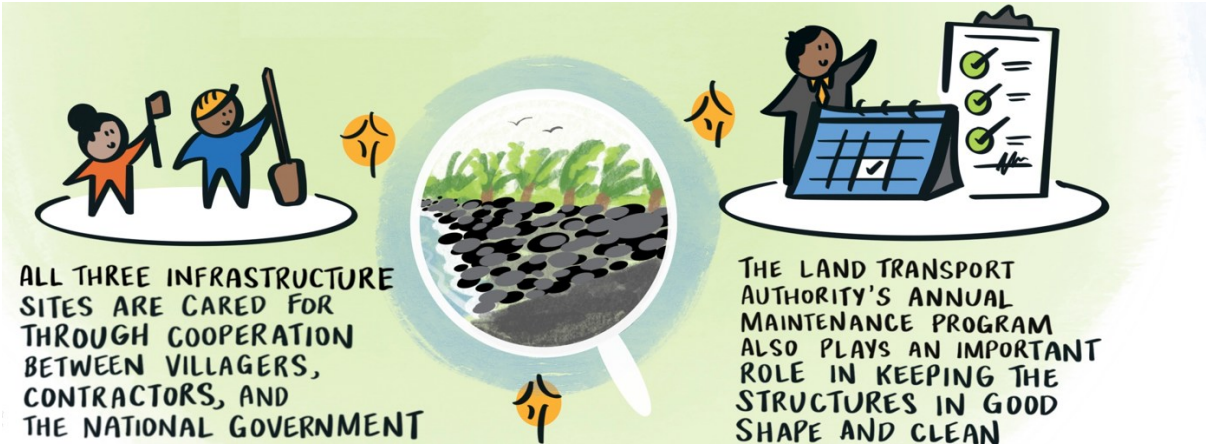



*Figure 4 Excerpt from the visual summary of ex Post 1 in Samoa depicting a sustained outcome of the project.*

In the most recent ex post in Eritrea, ownership was also evident at the three sites where evaluators observed continued use of the Minimum Integrated Household Agricultural Package (MIHAP), which was introduced in the project. Drought-resistant seeds, livestock, and fruit trees were visible in the two project sites visited. They were also visible at a third site, which had benefited from the program's expansion to a neighboring area. The Ministry of Agriculture continued to be actively involved in the program, using its extension agents to introduce and support climate-sensitive practices. The evaluators also spoke with participants who confirmed drought-resistant seed multiplication and livestock sharing among farmers.

These and other ex posts provided an opportunity to compare interventions both within projects and across projects. In Northeastern Argentina, for example, water tanks for rural households were adopted by pilot households and viewed as effective. The project also included skills training, and evaluators found that the producer associations formed by trainees were still in place. Furthermore, evaluators visiting projects sites reported that 48% of farmers interviewed indicated that they had built new tanks after the project ended. Of the 11 who had constructed new tanks, 9 were women (Ex Post 4).

In a different ex post in Argentina, evaluators found a different level of ownership between the two participating government agencies. The National Institute of Technology (INTA) continued to operate the weather stations under its authority after the project closed, and all five of their stations visited by the ex post evaluators were working observed in 2023 (Ex Post 3). The six weather stations operated during the project by another government agency located 600 km away with a limited budget for field surveys, however, were no longer working. One of the observed stations had had its protective fencing damaged by cattle, and the team observed overgrown vegetation (Ex Post 3).

In addition to ownership by individuals or institutions, ex post evaluators observed the benefits of using women's cooperatives in Mauritania to sustain capacities for income-generating activities. In 2025, the evaluators found that 96% of women interviewed who said that they were still involved in these businesses reported that their income had increased. However, ownership varied across project activities and interventions. Some of the same communities that had sustained income-generating activities had not sustained dune stabilization interventions.

| *Income Generating Activities* | Kewalla | | Moyasser 2 | | Dionaba | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Operational in 2019 | Sustained in 2025 | Operational in 2019 | Sustained in 2025 | Operational in 2019 | Sustained in 2025 |
| **Market gardening (with investment in irrigation)** | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| **Butcher's shop** | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | |
| **Grain mill** | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| **Arboriculture** | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | ■ |
| **Craftsmen for improved stoves** | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■? | ■? |
| **Traditional aviculture** | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| **Semi-intensive aviculture** | | | | | ■ | ■ |
| **Community shop** | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |

**Legend:** ■ Not operational / ■ Operational / ■ Partially operational / **?** Could not be validated

*Figure 5 Status of PARSACC income generating activities in 2019 and 2025*

Overall, ownership of project outcomes during the project was highly context-specific and did not necessarily depend on the type of stakeholder. Tangible benefits that appeared over a short time horizon appeared to be the common underlying factor.

### *Lesson 2: Sustainability means keeping things running (maintenance)*

Ex post evaluations found that maintenance was key to sustaining project assets and infrastructure after project closure. Sustained maintenance was closely intertwined with ownership. When participants feel ownership, they often mobilize local resources, such as volunteer labor for repairs, small funds for parts and materials, and support from government or non-governmental organizations. In some cases, the participants leading maintenance efforts were individuals.

For example, in Northeast Argentina, individual households consistently maintained the water tanks that provided them with water (Ex Post 4). In other cases, institutions expressed ownership that led to sustained support. In Buenos Aires Province, the National Institute of Technology (INTA) used own budgetary and human resources to maintain five weather stations after the Adaptation Fund project that installed them ended (Ex Post 3).

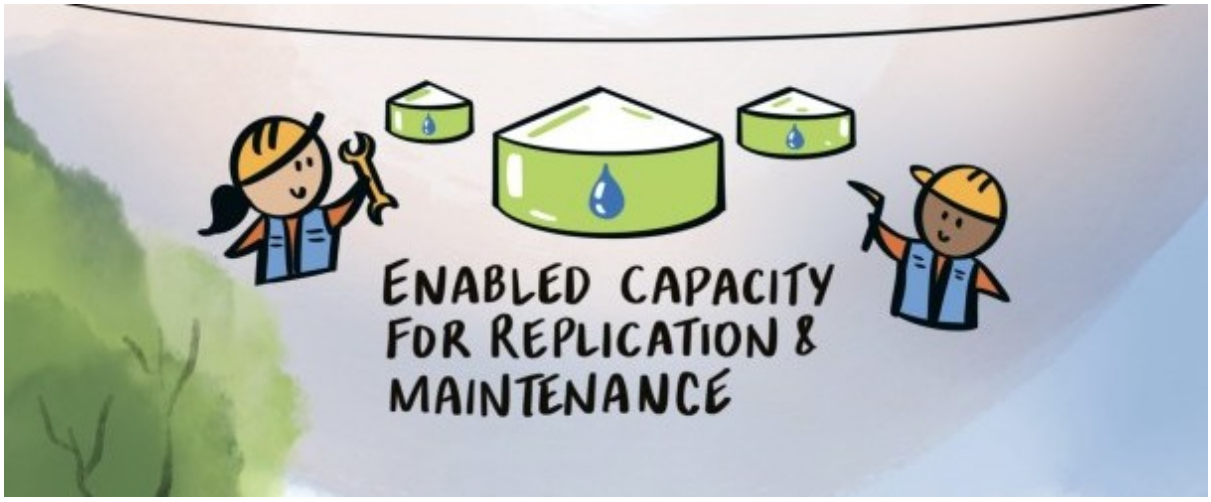



*Figure 6 Excerpt from the visual summary of ex post 4 in Argentina depicting a sustained outcome of the project.*

When individuals or organizations did not feel ownership of assets, maintenance suffered, leading to a reduction in project benefits. Yet several ex posts found that even when there was perceived ownership, infrastructure was not necessarily maintained. Reasons for these cases varied. In Northeast Argentina, the ex post observed water tanks serving households and other tanks serving schools. Teachers reported clear benefits of the tanks, pointing to improvements in students' hygiene and in the availability of drinking water at school. However, the school communities did not have the capacity to undertake maintenance on the tanks, and Ministry of Education funds did not cover this work. As a result, school water tanks showed signs of disrepair or missing materials, indicating low maintenance.

In Kewala, Mauritania, a grain mill that had been provided by the project as an income-generating activity was not sustained when evaluators visited the site in 2025. Community members reported that the cost of repairing the equipment had been too high to continue the business (Ex Post 5). In the case of a solar-powered pump for a reservoir in Fiza, Eritrea, there was a lack of consensus on who would fund repairs, leading to the pump being off-line at the time of the ex post (Ex Post 6).

Other technology transfer issues emerged in cases where parts had to be imported or, as in the case of the non-functioning weather stations in Buenos Aires Province in Argentina, when technology became obsolete. Those stations relied on 2G data when they were installed, which meant that they would have to be upgraded to be able to transmit to the regional early warning system that is in operation today (Ex Post 3).

However, maintenance problems in the projects evaluated did not necessarily mean that project-related benefits stopped altogether. In some cases, benefits continued to flow from the project's activities, but their overall effect was reduced. For example, in the Anseba region of Eritrea, the team observed reservoirs where siltation led to shallower water and a reduced supply for irrigation. However, the reservoirs still raised the groundwater table. As a result, community members noted important benefits. As the evaluation report summarized, "Improved water access has shifted responsibilities away from women and children and contributed to higher school attendance. Before the construction of dams in the community, women and children walked several km to fetch water, limiting women's available time and contributing to absenteeism among school-aged children. With water now available in the village, this has shifted the burden of responsibility of women away from fetching water and

affording them more time for household, agricultural, income-generating and other activities. Across project sites visited by the evaluation team, there are strong indications from beneficiaries that children's school attendance has improved as a result." (Ex Post 6: 47). In the case of Southwest Buenos Aires province in Argentina, a different kind of outcome–climate information for farmers–was also partially sustained despite maintenance issues. The six non-working weather stations observed during the ex post did not lead to an absence of downscaled climate information for farmers. Their absence meant that the information farmers were getting was less precise, but the overall quality of climate information remained better than it had been before the project (Ex Post 3).

Finally, maintenance issues provide a reminder of the subjective nature of the 3-5-year project window, as some problems may not appear until after that window of time. One example of this was a project activity to provide solar photovoltaic cells and batteries to several villages in the Anseba region of Eritrea. Approximately five years after the project closed, the batteries stopped working, which affected households and a school that had become accustomed to having lighting and power after sunset. Had the evaluation team conducted an ex post after 3 years, they would not have observed this issue; alternatively, had they gone after 7 years, the batteries might have been replaced.

***Lesson 3: Expect the unexpected (climate hazards)***

All projects in the pool of those considered for ex posts were screened during the application process with a view to mapping and considering climate risks, and all projects discussed climate risks and risk mitigation plans in their project documentation. However, when ex post evaluators returned after project closure, they consistently found climate hazards that were greater than anticipated or additional climate hazards that project applicants had not considered. These hazards made project improvements less effective or, in some cases, ineffective.

In some cases, applicants identified climate hazards that appeared, as expected, during or after the project. However, the projects underestimated how severe they would be. In the Northeast of Argentina, water storage tanks were provided to households as an adaptive measure against drought. Project designers originally expected the tanks to provide water for household use and for watering commercial gardens. During the ex post site visits, the tanks were being used, and community members reported that they were able to provide water for household use and household gardening even during drought periods. However, the scale of drought was greater than expected, so while the tanks were effective at improving household water security, they were too small to provide water for commercial gardening (Ex Post 4). Evaluators observed a similar situation in Mauritania, where drought in Dionara led to the abandonment of gardens in order to prioritize water use for residents.

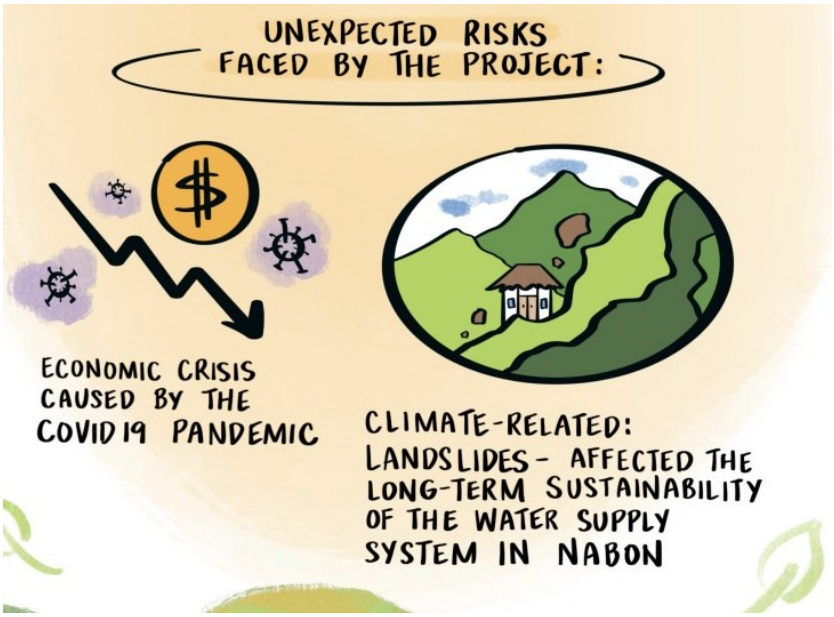



*Figure 7 Excerpt from visual summary of ex post 2 in Ecuador depicting lessons learned*

In other projects, unexpected hazards affected the sustainability of outcomes. In Nabon, Ecuador, a landslide in 2021 blocked a water channel and made the water piping infrastructure supplying water to the community useless. Community members returned to using the river water they had used before the project (Ex Post 2). In Musumusu, Samoa, a rockwall built during the project was designed to protect coastal communities from the sea and from inland flooding. However, the level of flooding had degraded the rockwall by the time of the ex post (Ex Post 1). The water on the rockwall will affect its longevity without repairs.

Evaluators also saw an example of a maintenance issue being made more serious by a climate hazard. In Mauritania, dune stabilization sites in the communities of Dionaba and Moyasser were not sustained at the time of the ex post. While the stabilization sites had not been actively maintained, the drought made the situation worse, as the vegetation did not have a chance to regenerate naturally. (Ex Post 5)

***Lesson 4: M&E Today Shapes Learning Tomorrow (Data Quality and Availability)***

Ex posts serve as a reminder that projects with good M&E at the design and implementation stage provide more opportunities to learn about sustainability and adaptation over a long time horizon. The selection method for the ex post discussed in Section 1.2 was developed in part because of uneven M&E across completed projects.

Even among the projects selected, some areas are better evaluated during the project and at project closure than others. During the pilot period of ex posts, when evaluators only looked at one outcome, there was a strong tendency to look at outcomes related to infrastructure, because final evaluations described them thoroughly. These outcomes had visible evidence that could be verified in site visits years later. Rigorous project data on capacity change is much less common. Final evaluations screened often focused on inputs or outputs (e.g. trainings provided, number of people trained) rather than on changes in capacity (changes in behavior or practices).

That said, several ex post evaluations have been able to cover sustained capacities. For example, interviews with Mauritanian women active in income-generating activities started by the project clearly demonstrated that the training they had received was still in use (Ex Post 5). In Eritrea, because of the government's continued support for the MIHAP program, evaluators saw sustained (and expanded) capacity to use drought-resistant seeds, raise livestock, and grow fruit in their discussions with farmers on their land.

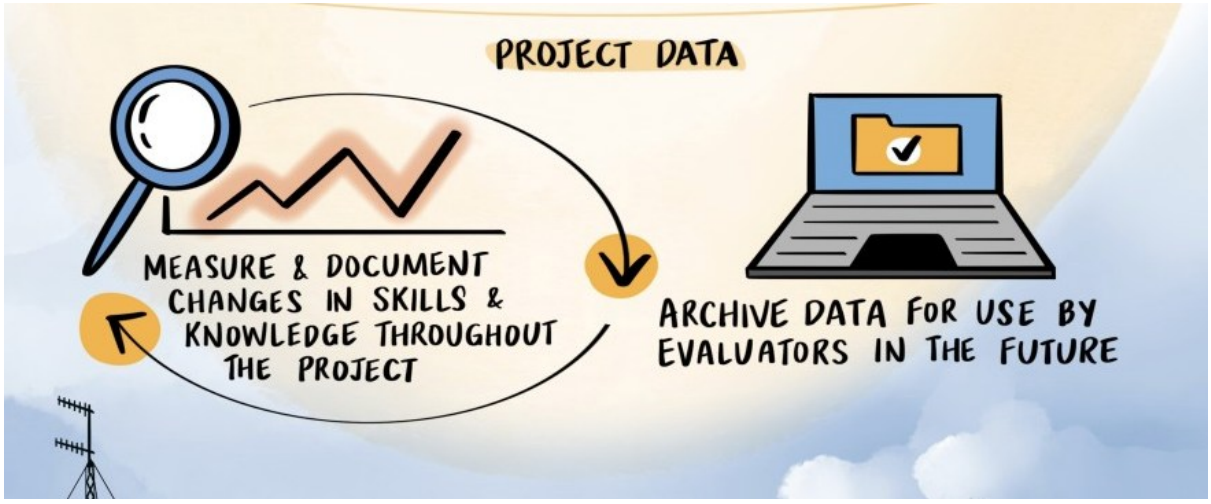



*Figure 8 Excerpt from visual summary of Ex post 3 in Argentina depicting lessons learned*

Project M&E has also varied in the frequency and extent of women's voices. Understandably, projects with activities involving women or families have shown more documentation and have been easier to follow up on when returning. Two examples would be the family-focused approach of the water tank construction in Northeast Argentina (Ex Post 4) and income-generating activities for women's cooperatives in Mauritania (Ex Post 5), as opposed to the project for commercial farmers in Southwest Buenos Aires Province of Argentina, where commercial farming was a male occupation. In other cases, ex post evaluators have been able to conduct focus groups that reveal benefits because of gender roles in areas like collecting water (Ex Post 6). In general, though, a lack of information on women's meaningful project participation in final evaluations leads to difficulty in following up.

Overall, data quality and availability are crucial to learning, as these two factors affect the evaluability of Fund projects. The learning from ex posts, and from all completed projects, could be further expanded with more support for monitoring and evaluating emerging outcomes.

## 5 Insights and Implications

The AF-TERG is already applying what is has learned from ex post evaluations. They have informed AF-TERG thinking on good M&E design and have carried over into its thinking on evaluation criteria, budgeting, Evaluation Policy guidance, and other areas. However, a great deal of what ex posts reveal is also highly relevant for other Fund stakeholders and for the adaptation community at large.

***Insight 1: Fund projects can harness good practice from "traditional" development projects to support sustainability***

This insight is directly applicable to the Fund's portfolio. The role of ownership in sustainability (Lesson 1) and the importance of maintenance (Lesson 2) are traditional development lessons that are not unique to the climate change space. Both of these project characteristics relate to how communities choose to use their assets and how they view ownership of project assets and arrangements.

As such, good practice from the development community in project design and implementation can support both improved project design and implementation in both areas. Communicating with applicants and screening projects for clear theories of change, community-centered design, identification of tangible local benefits and incentives over an initial period can all increase ownership. A clear handover plan and specific actions to engage stakeholders in maintenance, including capacities to purchase and install parts, can also support sustainability following project completion.

***Insight 2: Findings on climate hazards from ex posts can improve current and prospective Fund projects, but they are also valuable for "traditional" development interventions in climate-sensitive sectors***

Findings that climate risks are underestimated in scope and magnitude are important to the Fund's current portfolio and soft pipeline. Adaptive project management and good project design may involve revisiting standard assumptions and mapping with a view to current knowledge about climate risks and their interconnected nature.

At the same time, this knowledge is valuable for a broad variety of development interventions in climate-sensitive areas, such as agriculture, water, sanitation and health (WASH), and rural development. Ex post findings are directly applicable to projects in these areas, and the Fund can provide value added to discussions on project design and management through knowledge sharing.

***Insight 3: Putting ex post learning to work***

The first two insights point to a clear role for ex-posts after *their* completion: putting their findings to work. In addition to those areas, the AF-TERG has identified clear channels for using evidence from ex posts to support decision-making. They include:

| Audience / Channel | Potential Utilization |
|---|---|
| AF-TERG | Evidence for the Fund's Evaluation Policy Guidance Notes. |
| Board Secretariat | Support for effective project screening at the design stage and for monitoring activities. |
| Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) of the Board | Support for effective project screening at the approval stage |
| Fund applicants | Knowledge to design funding proposals for sustainability |

| | |
|---|---|
| Governments and Implementing Entitites | Knowledge to adaptively manage adaptation projects and strengthen future projects and scaling efforts |
| Broader climate adaptation community | Evidence on the kinds of interventions that succeed (or don't) and the duration of adaptation benefits |
| Communities participating in AF-TERG ex posts | Insights as to what worked and why and how to support sustain project outcomes. |

Of these seven channels, the AF-TERG currently has a formal procedure for one: reaching out to governments and IEs participating in ex posts. With its most recent ex post, it is putting a procedure in place to share results with participating communities. Information is shared with the broader adaptation community through AF-TERG webinars, external events (such as presentations at Adaptation Futures and to the UN Evaluation Group), through a mailing list, and through the Ex Post Toolkit. At present, the ex posts will inform the ongoing Comprehensive Evaluation of the Adaptation Fund. Looking forward, the AF-TERG hopes to systematize the dissemination of learning from the ex posts and close the loop, bringing learning from the portfolio back to the portfolio.

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***Sources:***

Ex Post 1: Ex Post Evaluation Summary – Enhancing Resilience of Samoa's Coastal Communities to Climate Change (LINK)

Ex Post 2: Ex Post Evaluation Summary - Enhancing Resilience of Communities to the Adverse Effects of Climate Change on Food Security in the Pichincha Province and the Jubones River Basin, FORECCSA (LINK)

Ex Post 3: Ex Post Evaluation Summary - Increasing Climate Resilience and Enhancing Sustainable Land Management in the Southwest of the Buenos Aires Province (LINK)

Ex Post 4: Ex Post Evaluation Summary - Enhancing the Adaptive Capacity and Increasing Resilience of Small-size Agriculture Producers of the Northeast of Argentina (LINK)

Ex Post 5: Summary of Ex Post Evaluation #5 of AF Project MTN/MIE/Food/2011/1/Pd Enhancing Resilience of Communities to the Adverse Effects of Climate Change on Food Security in Mauritania (PARSACC) (LINK)

Ex Post 6: Summary of Ex Post Evaluation #6 AF Project ERI/MIE/Rural/2010/2 Climate Change Adaptation Programme in Water and Agriculture in Anseba Region, Eritrea (LINK)

*2025 Toolkit for the Ex Post Evaluation of Adaptation Fund Interventions*: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Ex-Post-Toolkit-Final.pdf

*2024 Evaluation Policy Guidance Note on Ex Post Evaluation*: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/AFBEFC.318Add.9-02.13.24.pdf

*2024 Evaluation Policy Guidance Note on Final Evaluations:* https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/AFBEFC.318Add.11-Final-02.13.24.pdf

***Sustainability estimate for final evaluations of Fund projects:***

| **Criteria 9: Sustainability**<br>**The extent to which the project's environmental benefits and/or benefits to community(ies) and stakeholders' livelihoods are likely to continue beyond the project's lifetime. This estimate should be based on an examination of internal factors such as resources, partnerships (including exit strategy), capacities, and ownership, as well as external risks to their continuation; i.e., sociopolitical, institutional, financial, and environmental risks.** | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Highly unsatisfactory** | **Moderately Unsatisfactory** | **Satisfactory** | **Highly Satisfactory** |
| It is unlikely that the project's net benefits to the environment and communities will persist.<br>There are insufficient resources, partnerships, capacities or local ownership of activities to sustain positive results.<br>Significant risks to the environment and/or communities have either already manifested and halted the project's benefits, or there is a high chance that these risks will materialize in the near future. | It is moderately unlikely that the project's benefits to the environment and communities will persist.<br>There are moderately insufficient resources, partnerships, capacities, and local ownership of activities to sustain positive results.<br>There are some risks to the environment and/ or communities that may have some effect on the continuation of the project's benefits if they materialize. | It is moderately likely that the project's benefits to the environment and communities will persist.<br>There are moderately sufficient resources, partnerships, capacities and local ownership of activities to sustain positive benefits.<br>Either the risk(s) to the environment and/or communities that would affect the continuation of benefits are low, or -- if there are certain risks present -- their potential impact is low. | It is highly likely that the project's benefits to the environment and communities will persist.<br>There are sufficient resources, partnerships, capacities and local ownership of activities to sustain positive benefits.<br>Either the risk(s) to the continuation of benefits to the environment and communities are insignificant, or--if there are certain risks present--their potential impact is minimal. |

*Source: 2024 Evaluation Policy Guidance Note on Ex Post Evaluation*

***Sustainability rating for ex post evaluations of adaptation Interventions:***

| Rating | Description |
|---|---|
| Highly Satisfactory (HS) | The project's contributions to adaptation benefits for the environment and/or communities exceed the initially expected outcomes. Complementary, there may be unintended benefits of the project.<br>There are sufficient resources, partnerships, capacities, and local ownership of activities that sustain positive benefits. |
| Satisfactory (S) | The project's contributions to adaptation benefits for the environment and/or communities meet the initially expected outcomes. Complementary, there may be unintended benefits of the project.<br>There are resources, partnerships, capacities, and local ownership of activities that sustain positive benefits. |
| Moderately Satisfactory (MS) | Only some of the project's adaptation benefits to the environment and communities persist. Complementary, there may be unintended positive benefits of the project for the environment and/or communities.<br>There may not be sufficient resources, partnerships, capacities, and local ownership of activities to sustain all positive benefits. |
| Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU) | Only some of the project's adaptation benefits to the environment and communities persist. Additional resources, partnerships, capacities, and local ownership of activities are needed to sustain positive results.<br>Some of the project outcomes are maladaptive - meaning they have led to unintended negative effects on the environment and/or communities, potentially increasing vulnerability to climate change, exacerbating existing issues, or creating new risks. |
| Unsatisfactory (U)* | The project's contribution to adaptation benefits for the environment and/or communities is minor. There are insufficient resources, partnerships, capacities, and local ownership of activities to sustain positive results.<br>Some of the project outcomes are maladaptive - meaning they have led to unintended negative effects on the environment and/or communities, potentially increasing vulnerability to climate change, exacerbating existing issues, or creating new risks. |
| Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)* | The project's adaptation benefits for the environment and/or communities do not persist.<br>The project has resulted in maladaptation, meaning it has inadvertently increased the vulnerability to climate change, exacerbated existing problems, or created new risks. |
| Unable to assess (UA) | The available information does not allow assessment of the sustained outcomes. |

* Note: Currently, Adaptation Fund projects with no reported results at the time of project completion are not recommended for a full ex post evaluation.

*Source: Toolkit for the Ex Post Evaluation of Adaptation Interventions*