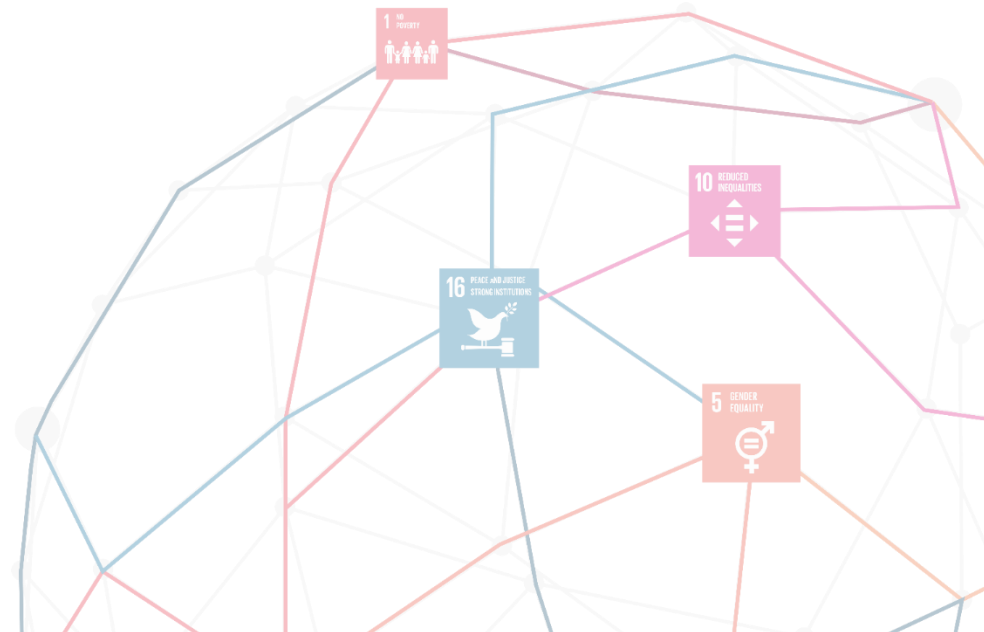


2020

Annual Evaluation Synthesis Report

A presentation to the Joint Advisory Group
By Miguel Jiménez Pont,
Head of Independent Evaluation Unit
25 November 2020



Annual Evaluation Synthesis Report

Synthesis of key evaluation messages

- Eighth edition since 2013
- Meta analysis of evaluations conducted in 2019
- Inputs of previous AESRs
- Report on the implementation of previous recommendations

Scope

- Evaluations conducted by the IEU
- Self-evaluations carried out by project managers
- External project evaluations by donors

Evaluation utility

- Perspectives of stakeholders conveyed in parallel document

Main findings

RELEVANCE

Fosters trade via nimble, adaptable and innovative approaches

EFFECTIVENESS

Builds on technical excellence in purposeful project management

IMPACT

Demonstrates results when government and business support ecosystems play their pivotal role

EFFICIENCY

Creates high-value added with small resources

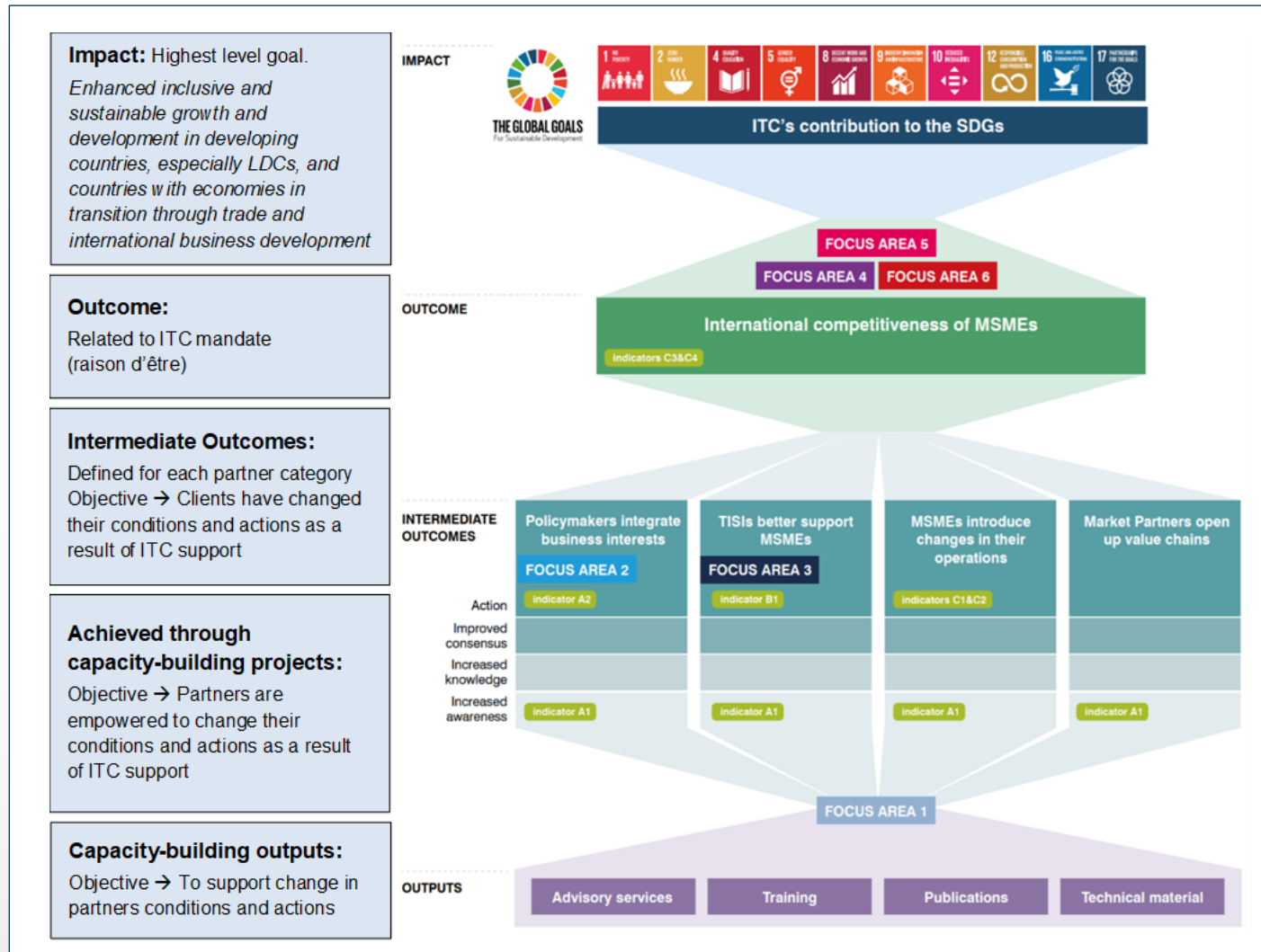
SUSTAINIBILITY

Drives sustainable development when building on local ownership

GENDER & EQUITY

Achieves gender transformation, although on a limited scale

Projects address the entire ecosystem covered by the Results Framework



ITC Intervention Model

Effective and reliable

- Interventions have had multiplier effects in terms of impact
- Support to BSOs has had significant positive effects
- Export Strategies critical in facilitating exports

Nimble, adaptable and innovative

- Strategic and developmental relevance is high
- Technical excellence and innovation confirmed
- Proven flexibility and adaptability to address complex environments
- Good practices in mainstreaming sustainable development
- Rupture in previously observed silo behavior

Countries' trust, ownership and partnership

Change a process taking time to mature and materialize

- Evaluated projects suggest the possibilities of long-lasting effects
- However, many interventions can be considered as pilots

Fostering partners' ownership and trust

- Long-term engagement
- Detailed country knowledge
- Project results scaling up and replicability
- Good exit strategies

Field management and coordination is key

Projects' geographical and technical scope and average size increased considerably

- Implementation facing challenges in the field
- Proven motivation and technical innovation
- Project management overstretch at field and HQ

- Need for stronger and better-coordinated field management
- Alignment with UN Reform at country level happening but needs more structure

More effective and simplified results-based management is key

More detailed project theories of change

- Support results-focused project management
- Monitor to provide good evidence of change
- Monitor whether the ‘theory’ translates into reality
- Report evidence of results attributable to ITC

At the same time simplified and harmonized M&E corporate system also needed

Recommendations

1. Mainstream sustainable development good practices
2. Increase capacity to utilize theories of change
3. Enhance simplification, harmonization and effectiveness of the M&E corporate system
4. Enhance project results sustainability
5. Build on good project field office performance and coordination
6. Implement corporate strategy to engage in UNSDCPs

ITC is a good investment

Across the entire ITC project portfolio

- Improved BSOs' performance and their ecosystem had a positive impact
- Work with policymakers, when partnering with BSOs, led to wealth creation for MSMEs through export diversification
- Attention to individuals and MSMEs improved confidence and their ability to connect with business ecosystem

Achieving the bottom-line

- ITC is relevant, agile and innovative
- Its niche is relevant and clear
- It creates high-value with small resources
- Indispensable attributes to meet challenges of new (post?) COVID-19 reality

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