



Evaluating country-level results: a qualitative approach

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Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD (IOE)

- ➔ Special unit of IFAD that reports to the Executive Board of IFAD
- ➔ IOE conducts evaluations of IFAD-financed policies, strategies and operations to promote accountability and learning
- ➔ Two main principles: accountability and learning

Country strategy and programme evaluations (CSPEs)

- Assess the **results and performance** of the IFAD-financed strategy and programmes in Georgia;
- Generate findings and **recommendations** for the future partnership between IFAD and Georgia for enhanced development effectiveness and rural poverty eradication; and
- Inform the preparation of the new COSOP in 2018.

Sources of evidence

- Field visits
- Web surveys, phone interviews
- Stakeholder meetings and interviews
- Thematic focus groups
- Project evaluations and impact assessments
- Official statistical data
 - Often inconsistent or not disaggregated
 - Egypt CSPE: good data quality and availability at governorate level

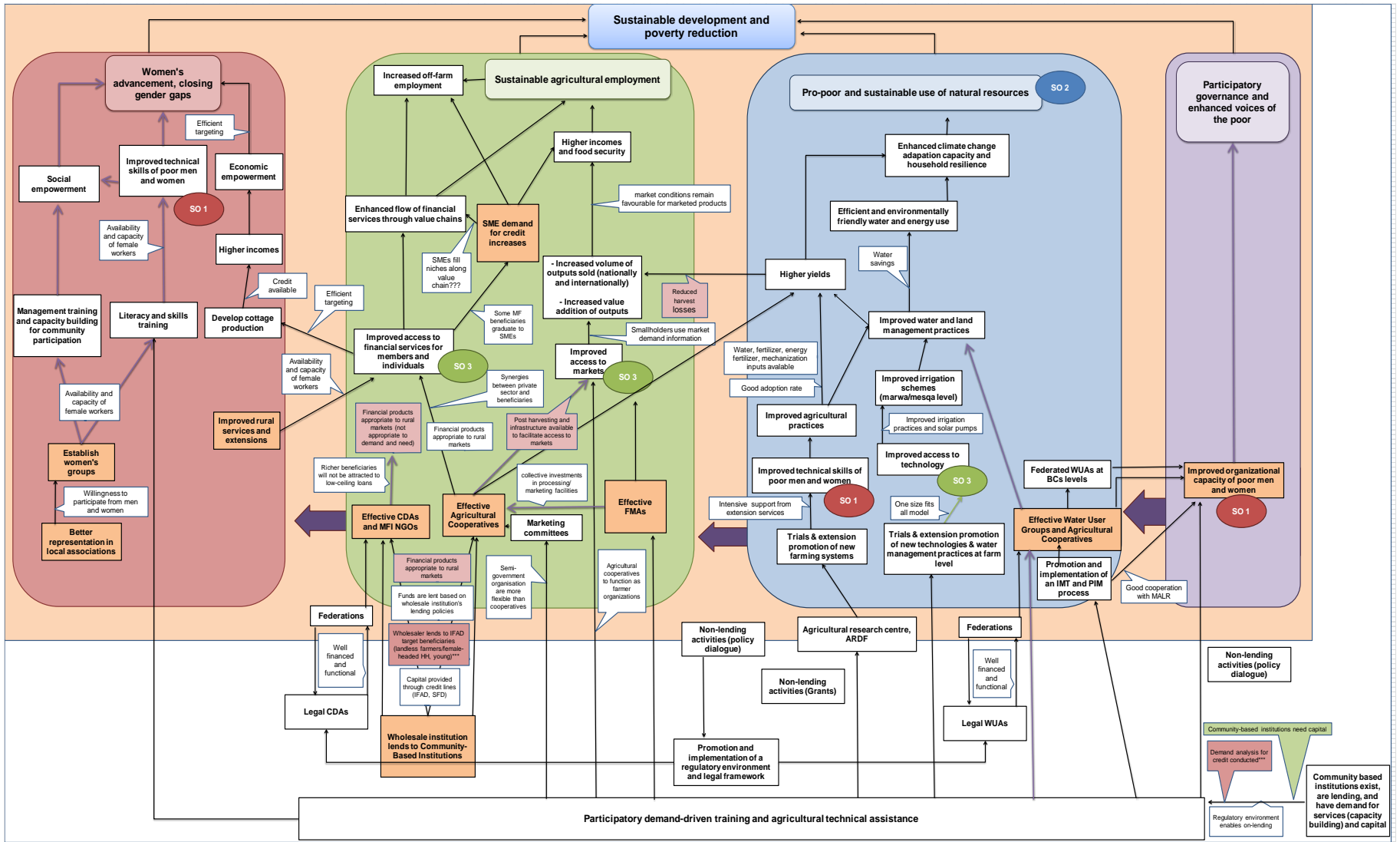


METHODOLOGY USED IN EGYPT CSPE

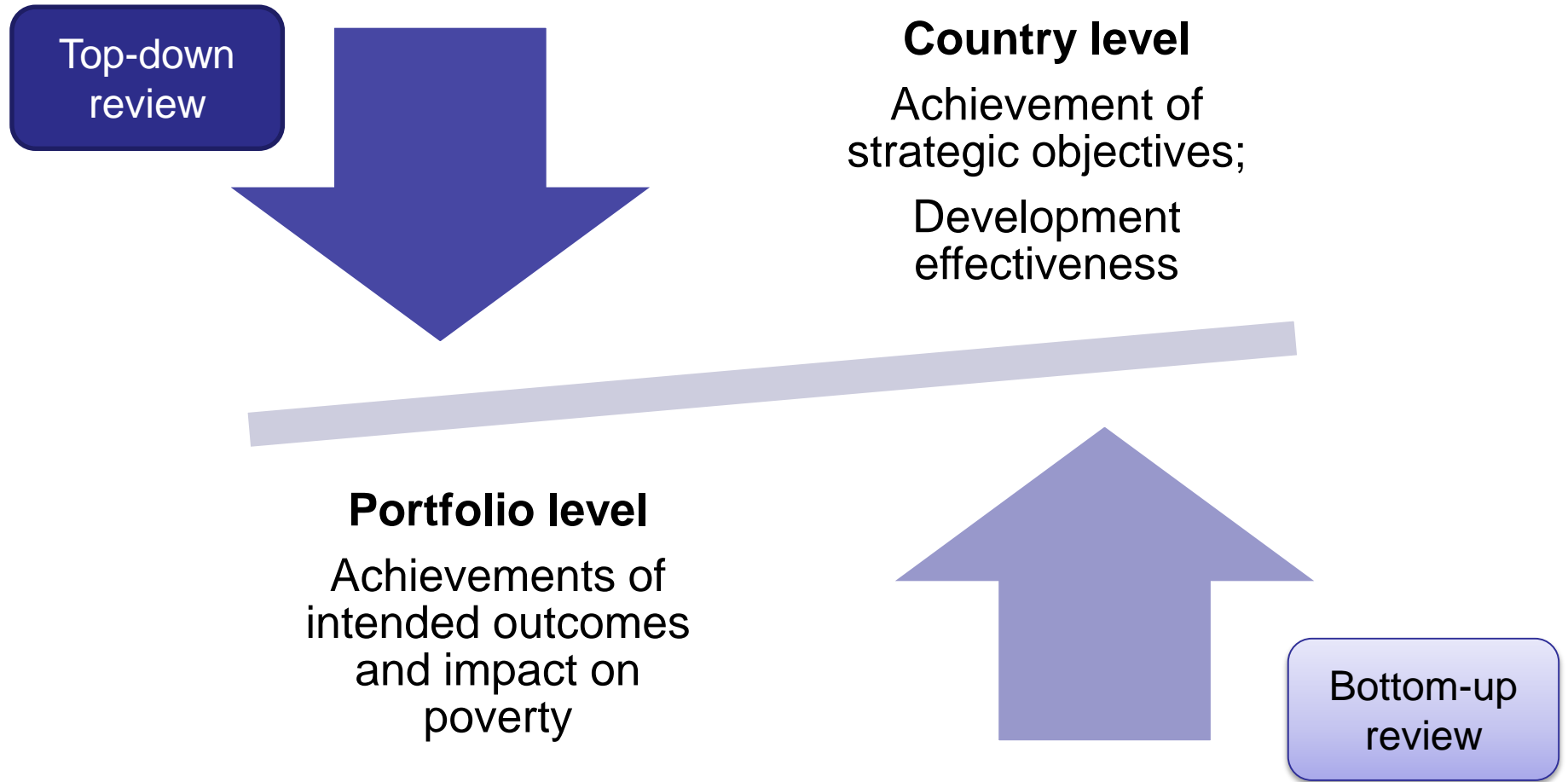
Egypt Country Strategy and Programme Evaluation

- Evaluation period: 2005 – 2016
- Lending portfolio: 8 projects (4 closed, 4 ongoing)
- Portfolio value over CSPE period US\$580,2 million)
- Portfolio composition: rural credit (42%), irrigation (20%), rural infrastructure (14%); technology development (7%)
- Strategic threads:
 - Strengthening **agricultural productivity in the old lands** through improved farming systems and more efficient use of land and water resources
 - Improving **settlements in the new lands**, through provision of comprehensive infrastructure and sustainable land and water management practices
 - Supporting **economic diversification and employment generation** through rural finance and capacity-building

Theory of change



Top down and bottom up





BOTTOM-UP REVIEW - PORTFOLIO

Impact pathways

(1) Increase agricultural productivity and more efficient use of land and water

More productive cropping systems ↑

Adoption of new farming systems ↑

Adoption of modernized irrigation technology ↑

Integrated farming systems research, extension, farmer field schools ↑

(2) Economic diversification and employment

Access to markets ↓

Vocational training ↓

Loans for small and medium enterprises, to increase productive assets ↓

(3) Improved living conditions

Social infrastructure ↑

Irrigation, drainage, potable water ↑

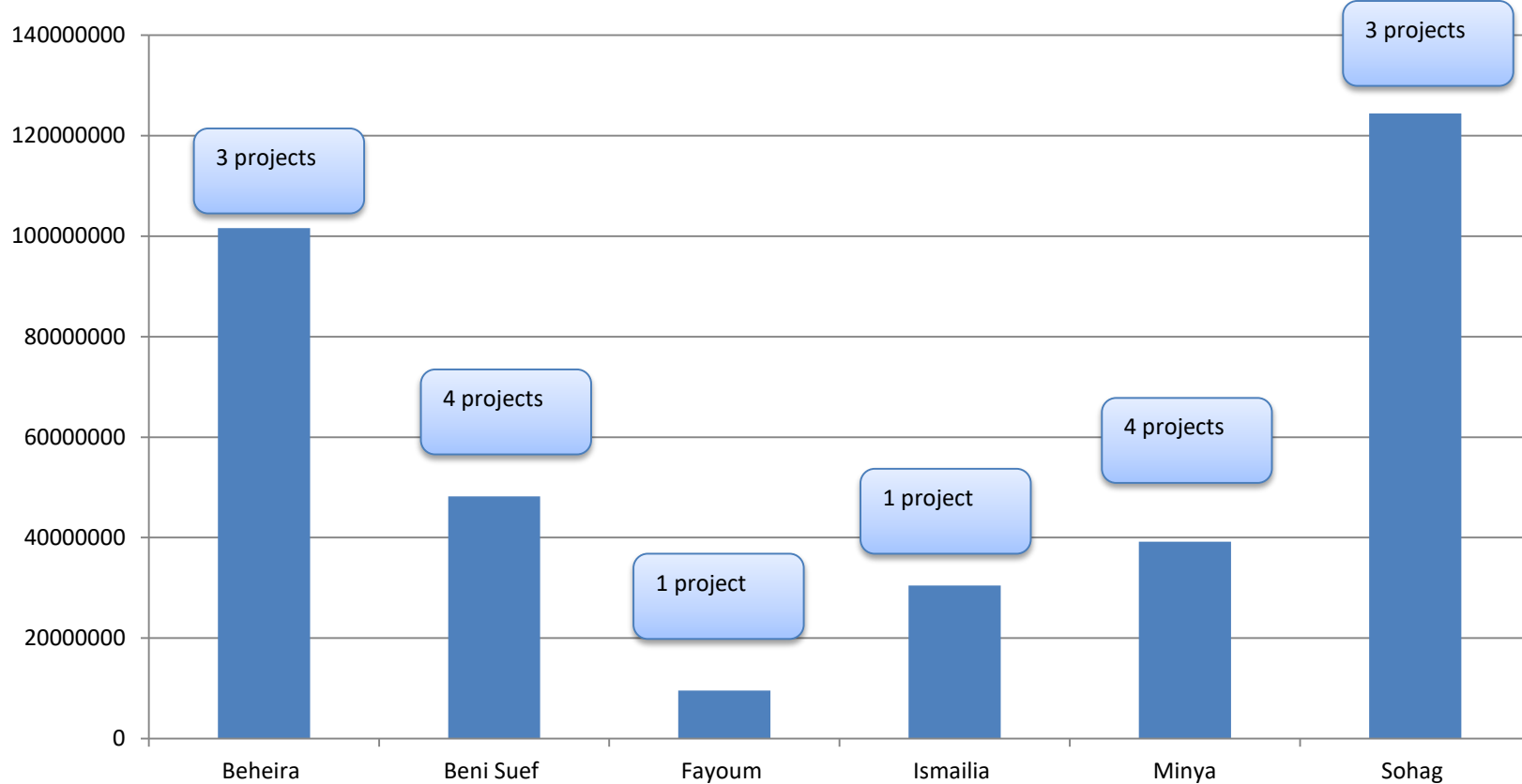
Community organisations ○

Poverty impact at project level

- For project beneficiaries
 - Household incomes increased as a result of new cropping systems and livestock
 - Impact on food security limited
 - Human and social capital: effectiveness of community organisations limited
- BUT: overall poverty situation has worsened
 - Poverty rates increased
 - Food poverty increased

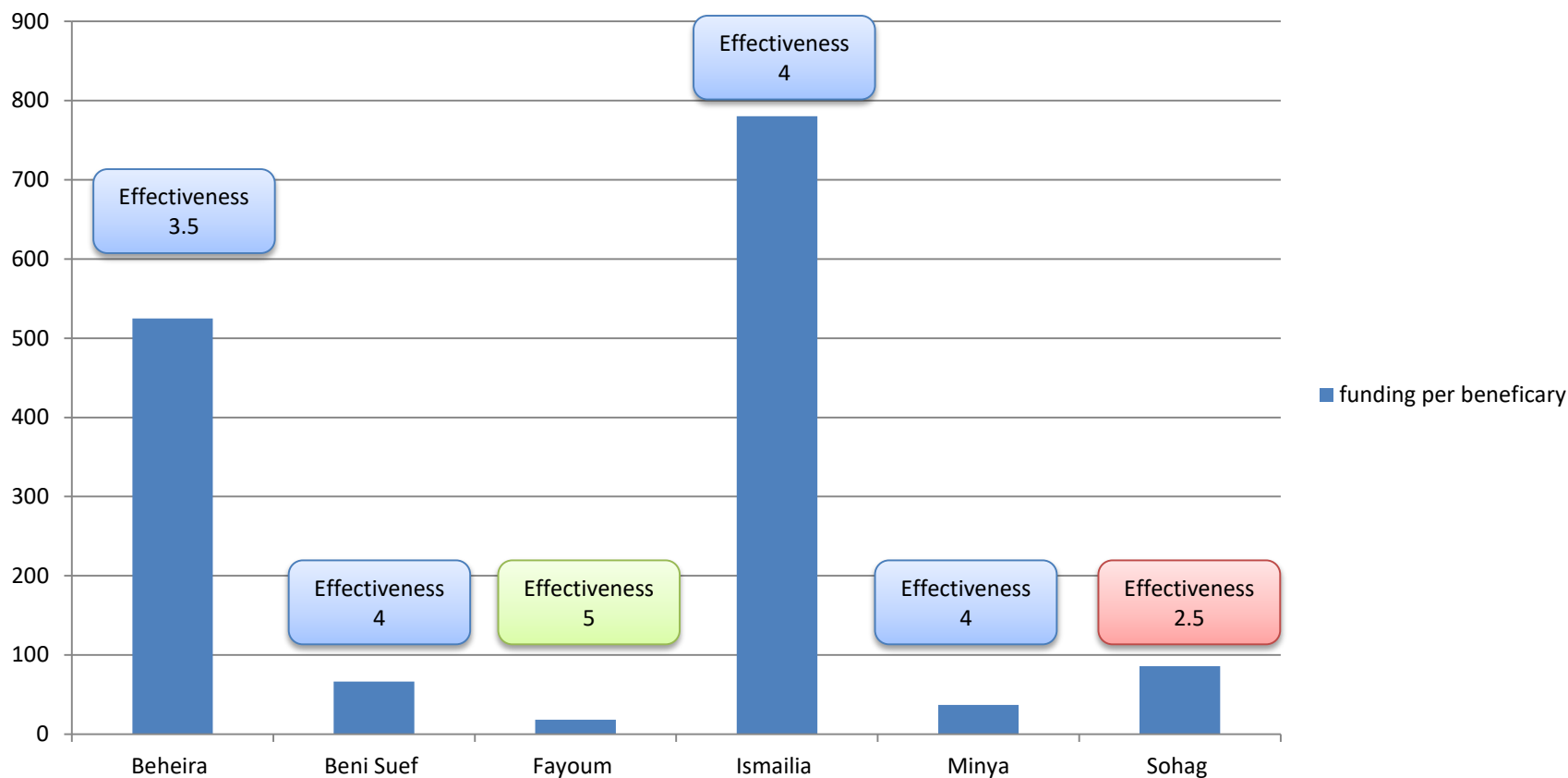
Aggregate funding and support

Allocated project funding over evaluation period



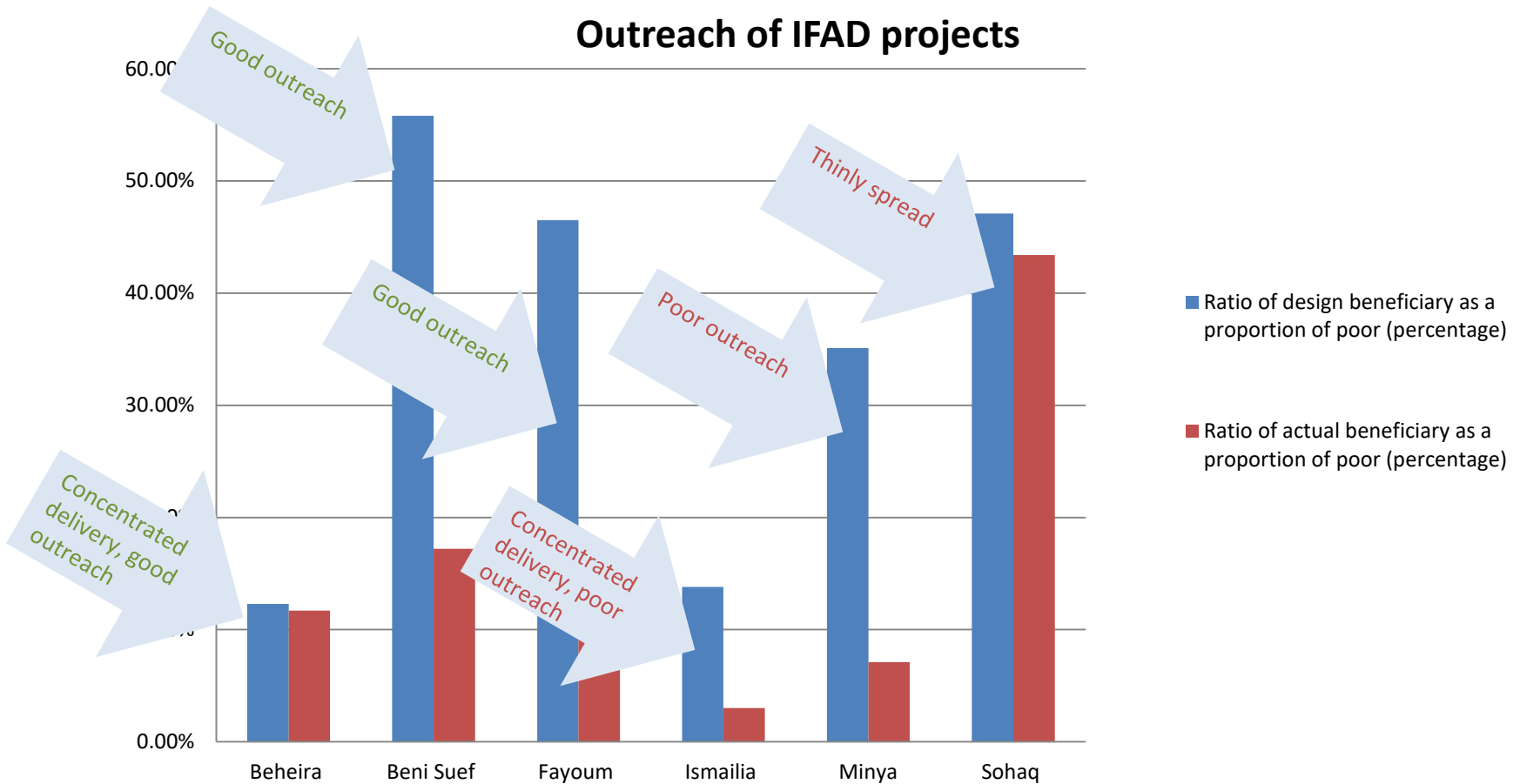
Combined project effectiveness

Project funding per beneficiary (USD)



Aggregate outreach among the poor

Outreach of IFAD projects



Bottom-up findings

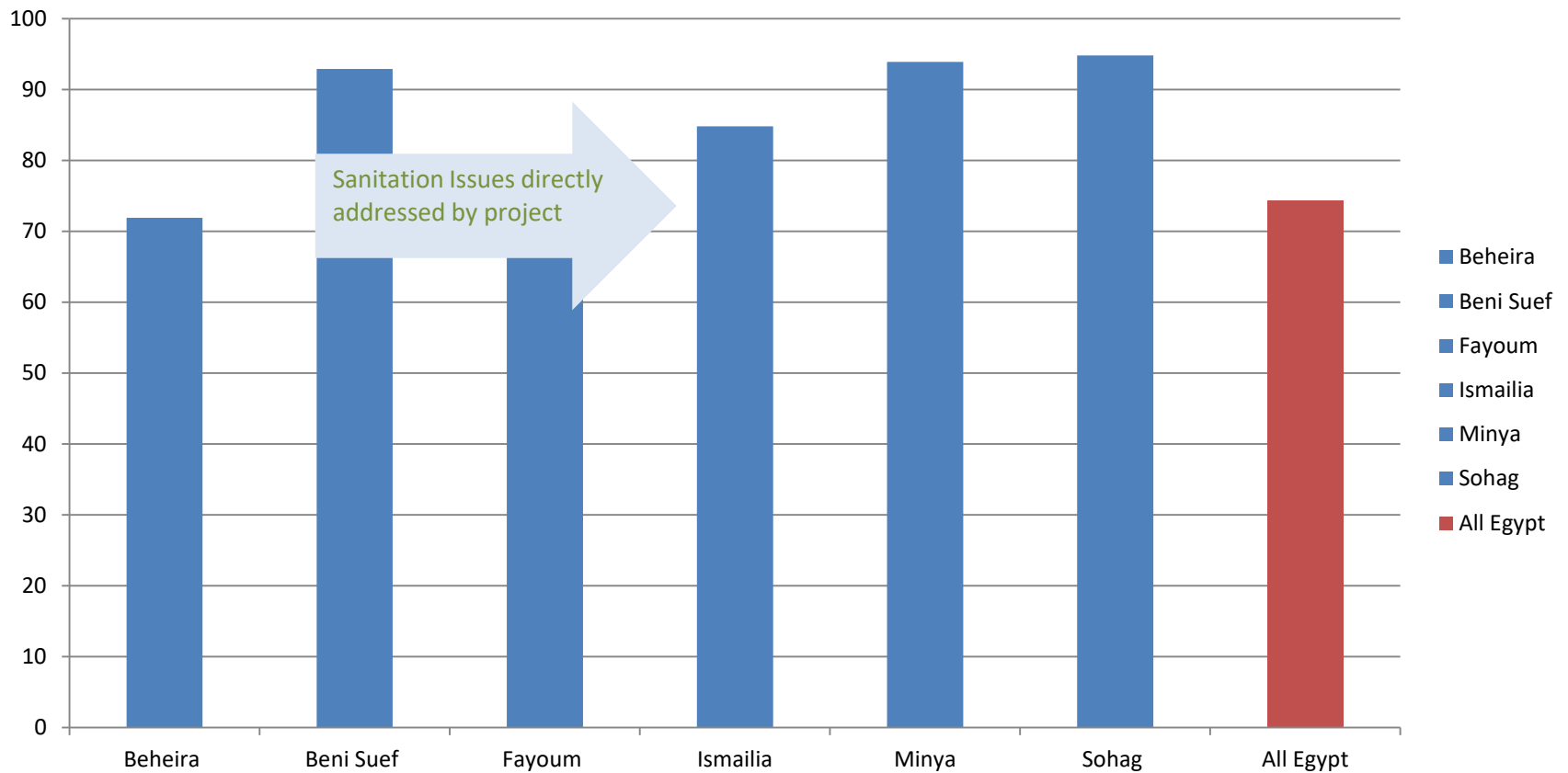
Governorate	Support	Results	Outreach	Contribution
Beheira	High	Good	Good	Possible
Beni Suef	Medium	Good	Good	Possible
Fayoum	Low	Strong	Good	Possible
Ismalia	High	Good	Low	Unlikely
Minya	Low	Good	Low	Unlikely
Sohaq	Medium	Weak	High	Unlikely



TOP-DOWN REVIEW – POVERTY TRENDS

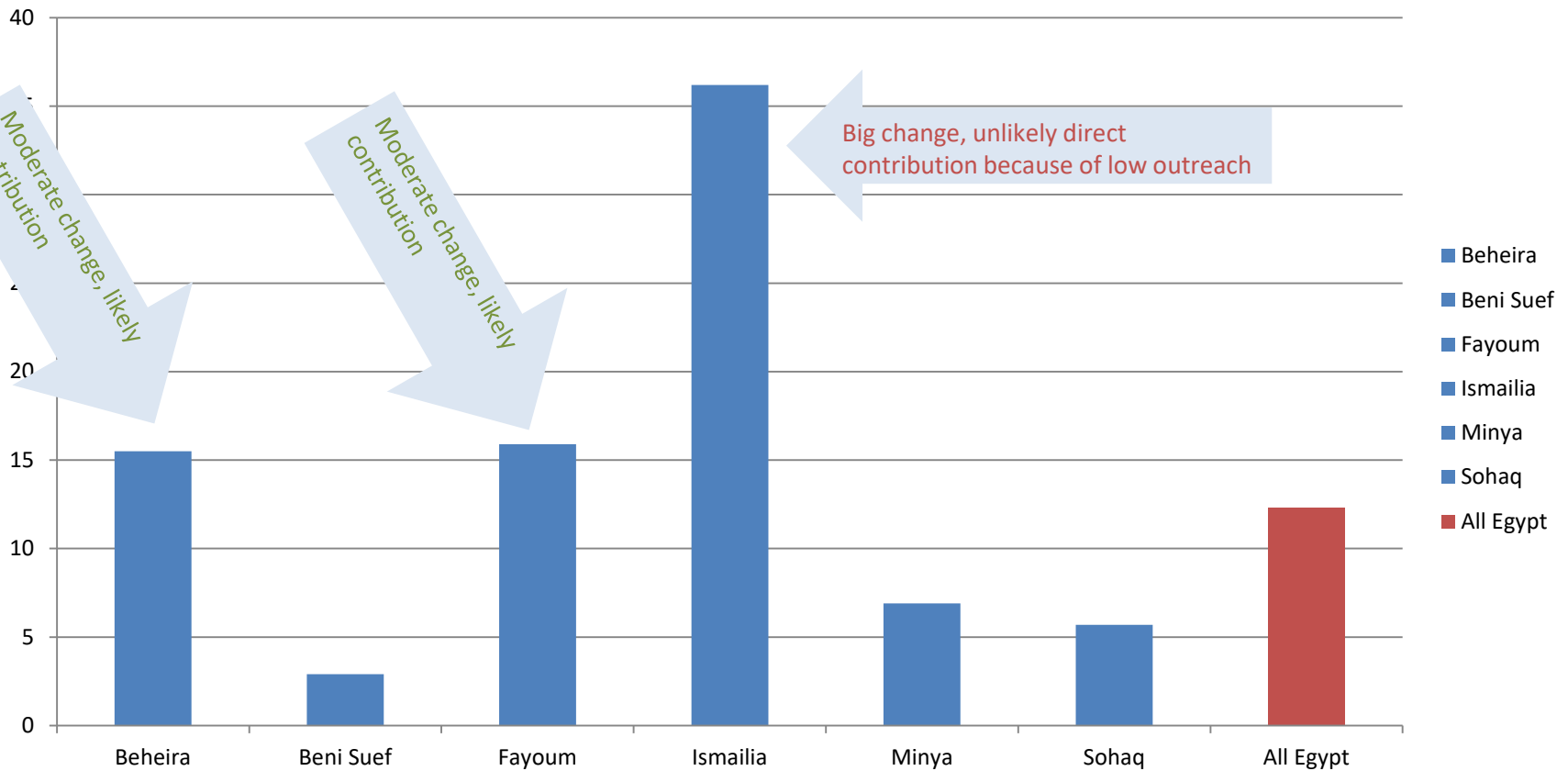
Public infrastructure

Percentage of villages without public sanitation



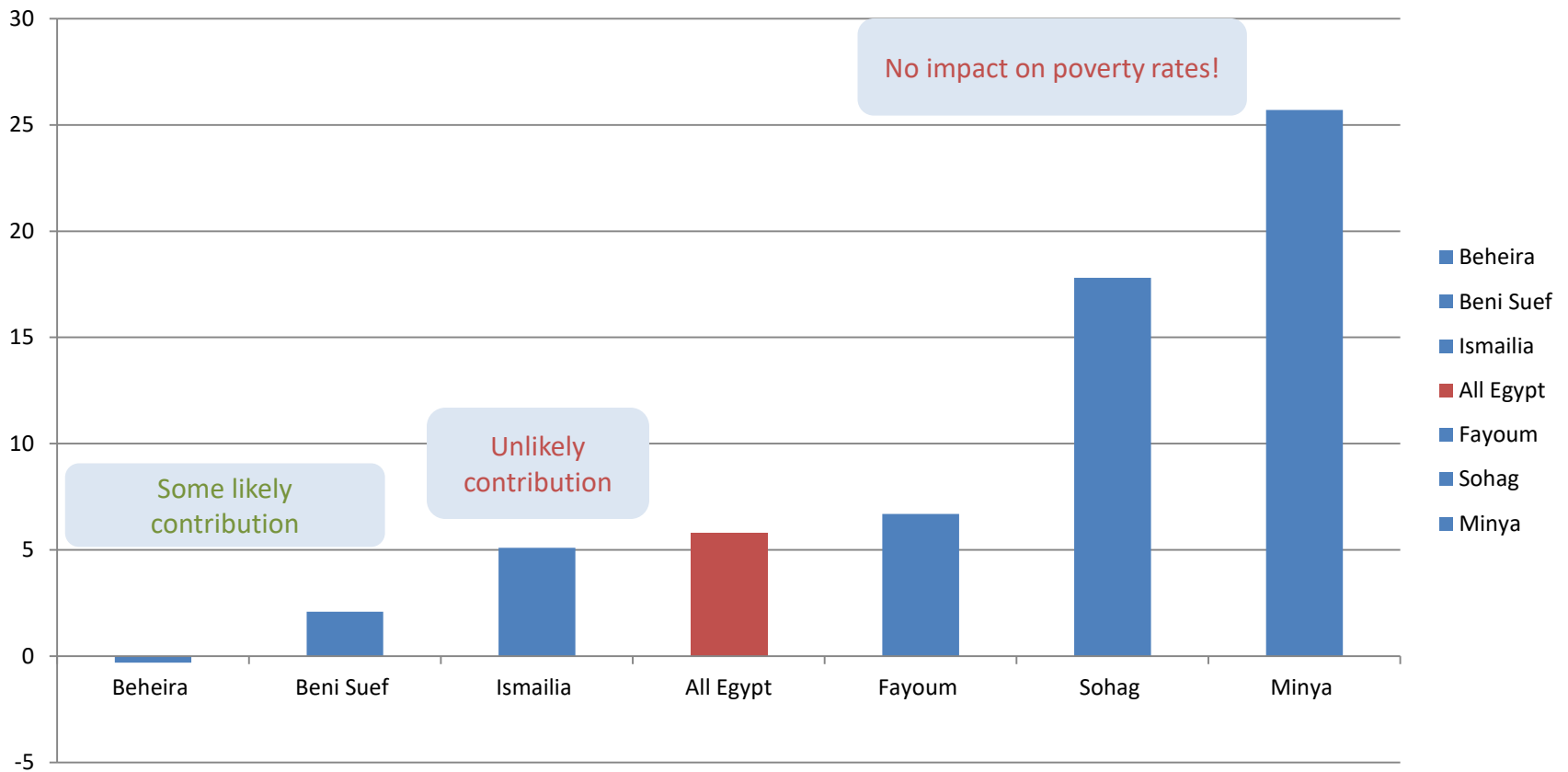
Cropping intensity

Change in cropped area (2000 - 2014)(%)



Poverty trends

Change in poverty rates (2008-2015)



Top-down findings

Governorate	Improvement of living conditions	Contribution to public sanitation	Agricultural productivity increased	Contribution to cropping intensity	Increase in poverty rates
Beheira	yes	Not directly	yes	Likely	Negative
Beni Suef	n.a.	no	yes	Limited	Below average
Fayoum	n.a.	no	yes	Likely	Around average
Ismalia	yes	Limited	yes	Limited	Below average
Minya	n.a.	no	yes	Limited	Above average
Sohaq	No	No	No	No	Above average

Conclusions

- CSPE require conclusive findings on strategic and country-level results
- Scope and nature of interventions often makes the results look insignificant
- Bottom-up review constrained by lack of impact-level data
- Project-level indicators limit possibility of aggregation
- Top-down review constrained by lack of credible and disaggregated statistics
- Food security and nutrition on consistently measured



CONCLUSIONS