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Investing in rural people

## **Update on Implementation of the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility and IFAD's Wider Response to COVID-19**

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**For: Information**

1. At the 130<sup>th</sup> session of the IFAD Executive Board in September 2020, a first update was provided on the implementation of the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility (RPSF) and IFAD's wider COVID-19 response.<sup>1</sup> That report provided details of how the RPSF was designed and launched, and gave an overview of the approved financing and resources mobilized up to that point. This second update provides the latest details on these items, and clarifies how supplementary funds will be allocated moving forward. As the RPSF is moving fast, an addendum to this report will be issued shortly before the start of the 131<sup>st</sup> session of the Board with the latest figures on approved financing and resources mobilized.

## I. Update on implementation of the RPSF

### A. Financing approved so far

2. Since the first call for proposals in June, 41 proposals worth US\$30 million have been approved through the RPSF (see annex I for summaries of each proposal). This consists of the US\$5.5 million for the four multi-country initiatives detailed in the previous update, and US\$24.5 million for 37 single-country initiatives. Seven more single-country proposals have been reviewed and recommended for approval, amounting to an additional US\$4.5 million.
3. Funding from other sources – including implementing partners, governments and beneficiaries – amounts to an additional US\$7.1 million for the approved proposals and US\$0.6 million for the pipeline proposals. The governments of recipient countries represent the main contributor of cofinancing.<sup>2</sup> The World Food Programme (WFP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) are providing cofinancing for RPSF projects in Djibouti and Sao Tome and Principe, and FAO is cofinancing another RPSF project in Afghanistan. FAO is also an implementing partner for a digital cash transfer project to support input access in Pakistan, and for another input support project benefiting crop and livestock producers in Afghanistan. For a pipeline project in Zambia, IFAD will work with WFP to help establish a livestock insurance index.
4. The table below shows the spread of the approved RPSF funds (including the US\$4.5 million in the pipeline) across regions and income categories. The focus is predominantly on low-income and lower-middle-income countries, and approximately US\$16.4 million (48 per cent) has gone to countries in fragile situations.<sup>3</sup>

Table 1

#### Approved RPSF financing, by income category and region

(Millions of United States dollars out of a total of US\$34.5 million)

<i>Income classification</i>		<i>Region</i>	
Low-income	17.3 (50%)	Asia and the Pacific	9.0 (26%)
Lower-middle-income	15.4 (45%)	East and Southern Africa	8.7 (25%)
Upper-middle-income	1.8 (5%)	Latin America and the Caribbean	2.3 (7%)
		Near East, North Africa, and Europe	3.1 (9%)
		West and Central Africa	11.4 (33%)

5. Of the US\$34.5 million approved and in the pipeline, US\$14.6 million (42 per cent) has been allocated to addressing urgent input access issues to ensure that farmers are prepared for the upcoming planting seasons. US\$7.7 million (22 per cent) has gone to measures for improving market access, including support for storage and transportation, and US\$3.1 million (9 per cent) to rural finance. An amount of

<sup>1</sup> See document EB 2020/130/R.14 and document EB 2020/130/R.14/Add.1.

<sup>2</sup> Including those of Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Palestine, Senegal, Sudan and Uganda.

<sup>3</sup> Based on World Bank FY21 List of Fragile and Conflict-affected Situations: [http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/888211594267968803/FC\\$List-FY21.pdf](http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/888211594267968803/FC$List-FY21.pdf).

US\$9.1 million (26 per cent) has been allocated for digital services, including support for e-training, advice and money transfers through mobile phone applications. Approximately 29 per cent of the projects (33 per cent of approved financing) will be implemented under existing IFAD projects and project management units, while the rest will be for stand-alone initiatives implemented through other partners, including research institutions, NGOs and associations of farmers' organizations.

## **B. Expected results of projects approved so far**

6. While it is too early to report results from project implementation, some initial insights can be drawn, based on the targets outlined in the approved proposals. The 41 proposals approved so far, plus the seven in the pipeline, are expected to reach 1.5 million households, with all proposals adhering to the target of 50 per cent of beneficiaries being women and 25 per cent youth. In terms of impact, if these projects reach their target of maintaining or improving the incomes of 75 per cent of beneficiaries, this would result in incomes being protected from COVID-19, or enhanced, for 1.2 million households.
7. While projects are required to have at least an equal focus on men and women, a number of approved projects are expected to have a larger impact on women beyond the core indicators of the RPSF results measurement framework (RMF). For example, proposals for Guinea and Togo are both targeting a reduction in gender-based violence as an additional outcome, reflecting concerns globally that COVID-19 has increased the incidence of such violence. In delivering training sessions on adapting production practices to respond to COVID-19, these projects will also provide workshops on preventing gender-based violence, as well as messages on nutrition. Other proposals have a dual focus on both gender empowerment and climate resilience. For example, a project in Benin will target woman-headed households and women's farmers' organizations with climate-resilient seeds, while a project in Zambia will establish a livestock index insurance scheme for which woman-headed households are a key target group.
8. Table 2 shows the projected number of households to be reached for each of the core outcome indicators under the four pillars of the facility. Using digital technologies allows for a large number of people to be reached at a relatively low cost, meaning that, despite comprising only a quarter of RPSF financing so far, these activities are expected to benefit almost one million households. Around half a million households are expected to benefit from input support – the main focus of RPSF financing – through the proposals approved so far, while a quarter of a million households are also expected to be reached with marketing support and access to financial services. These figures represent the lower bound of beneficiaries expected to be reached by the facility, with this figure rising as more projects are approved with financing from supplementary funds.

Table 2

### **Number of households targeted under each pillar for approved and pipeline proposals**

(Categories are not mutually exclusive)

<i>Pillar and RMF indicator</i>	<i>Number of households</i>
<b>Pillar 1.</b> Number of rural producers accessing production inputs and/or technological packages.	510 000
<b>Pillar 2.</b> Number of rural producers (and producers' organizations, if applicable) supported to collect, store, transport and/or sell their products.	225 000
<b>Pillar 3.</b> Number of rural producers benefiting from new loans or improved terms for existing loans through supported rural financial service providers, or other financial services.	230 000
<b>Pillar 4.</b> Number of persons provided with remote training in production practices and technologies or in other income-generating activities, or access to other e-platforms.	925 000

9. Based on the projections in these proposals, the RPSF implementation arrangements are likely to benefit from considerable cost efficiencies that will help to maximize the facility's outreach and results. In addition to the benefits of using digital services, cost efficiency is also high because many projects are being implemented through the already established infrastructure of ongoing IFAD projects, which will lower start-up costs considerably. In addition, many of the activities are highly targeted, focusing mainly on quickly solving one or two specific livelihood challenges faced by beneficiaries in relation to COVID-19. This applies in particular to input support, which often involves providing simple, inexpensive inputs so that beneficiaries can meet timelines for an upcoming planting season.

### **C. Resource mobilization and allocation**

10. The supplementary funding committed to the RPSF now stands at US\$48.6 million, thanks to generous contributions from the Governments of Canada, Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden. A further amount of approximately US\$2 million is expected to be announced by early December, and an additional US\$20 million, currently being negotiated, is expected to be announced by the end of the year.
11. The facility began with US\$40 million in seed funding provided by IFAD, of which US\$6.5 million will remain once the pipeline projects have been approved. Teams from the remaining eligible countries are currently preparing proposals for these remaining funds, and close to the full amount of US\$40 million will be committed imminently. The second call for proposals will be conducted imminently in order to allocate both supplementary funds mobilized and any funds still remaining from the US\$6.5 million. For the sake of efficiency, all supplementary funds will be grouped together in a single new allocation round.
12. In response to the discussion held at the last Executive Board session, an analysis has been conducted of the ways in which up-to-date data on COVID-19 risks could be incorporated into the allocation process for the upcoming allocation round. The outcome of the investigation was that, although possible, this approach is not advisable given that data on COVID-19 cases and testing are not available in around one third of the countries eligible for RPSF funding, and may not be reliable even where they are available. Accordingly, it was decided to maintain the original allocation mechanism so as to avoid distorting allocations by using potentially unreliable and incomplete data. Although this means that some countries with high exposure to COVID-19 risks will not see an increased allocation, efforts will be made with funding from the multi-country pool (to which 15 per cent of funds are allocated) to reach these severely affected countries.

### **D. Measuring impact and results**

13. The strategy for monitoring all of the indicators in the RMF for the RPSF<sup>4</sup> has now been established. In order to measure the tier of indicators relating to impacts, these will be measured for a subsample of RPSF projects with a representative spread of projects across both regions and activities/pillars. Data collection will be supported by IFAD's Research and Impact Assessment Division and will likely employ mobile phone-based data collection in many cases. The tier of indicators relating to outcomes and outputs will be monitored for all RPSF projects by the implementing agency through their monitoring and evaluation systems. Finally, the tier of indicators relating to operational effectiveness will be monitored by IFAD at the corporate level.
14. The RMF for the RPSF sets a target of 100 per cent of approved projects being classified as gender-sensitive and 50 per cent youth-sensitive. Since the update presented at the 130<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board, IFAD's Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion Division have helped to establish a robust system for assigning these ratings for gender and youth sensitivity. To assess what

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<sup>4</sup> As outlined in the report presented at the 130<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board.

was actually implemented, rather than what was planned at design, the assessment will be conducted upon completion of the RPSF project. In alignment with IFAD's Policy on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and the Rural Youth Action Plan (2019-2021), the assessments will be based on a specifically tailored matrix of categories covering the domains of economic resilience, voice and well-being. As well as allowing IFAD to report on the RMF indicators, the assessment will provide additional insights and data on the specific impacts of the RPSF on women and youth that will enhance the final report on the overall performance of the RPSF due in 2022.

## **II. Other COVID-19 response activities**

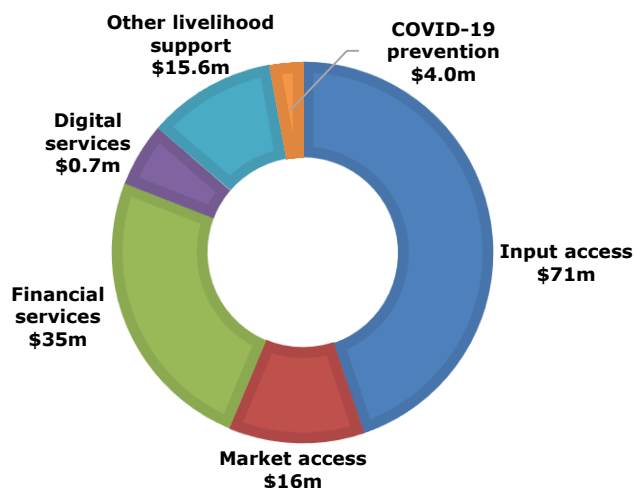
### **A. Repurposing of project funds**

15. At the time of the previous report presented at the 130<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board, IFAD had approved repurposing of US\$107 million across 41 projects in 30 countries, while a further US\$83 million across 50 projects in 40 countries was then in the pipeline. This has now increased to US\$142 million across 54 projects in 32 countries approved, and US\$46 million across 12 projects in 12 countries currently in the pipeline. IFAD continues to process the remaining amount in the pipeline with utmost speed so as not to miss the most crucial window of need. The delays are mainly due to ongoing discussions with governments, which IFAD Country Teams hope to resolve soon.
16. Reports from the field indicate that much of this repurposing has already generated results, the most common of which being that project beneficiaries were able to meet the planting season thanks to support financed by repurposed funds. In Cambodia, for example, repurposed funds helped to establish a new mobile phone application to enable project beneficiaries to access virtual markets and information, helping them to overcome movement restrictions. In Cameroon, a project focused on supporting entrepreneurship among young agropastoralists repurposed funds to ensure that the businesses of beneficiaries could survive the pandemic. Through support for access to inputs, markets and digital information services, beneficiaries have been able to continue to trade and, just as importantly, have been able maintain the quality of their produce despite the constraints they are facing.
17. The repurposing activities have also opened up opportunities for further collaboration with governments and key development partners. One example of this is in Tunisia, where US\$1.2 million was repurposed to fund COVID-19 response activities through the Siliana Territorial Development Value Chain Promotion Project. As well as providing livelihood support, some of these funds were used to support a nutrition programme in collaboration with WFP for children who are unable to partake of school meals due to school closures. Over the course of two months, the repurposed funds helped provide food to more than 500 families and 700 children.
18. In addition to these initial insights, project teams are required to capture results as part of the project monitoring and evaluation systems and to report on outcomes at project completion. In the meantime, IFAD will continue to draw and share lessons from these repurposing efforts through knowledge management activities at the project and corporate levels.

19. The distribution of this financing by activities is presented in the pie charts below.

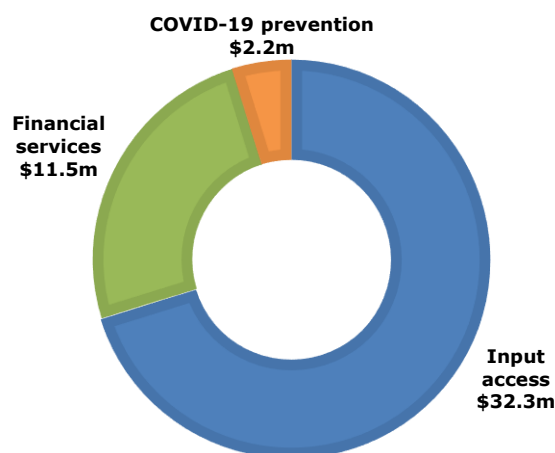
#### Approved repurposing

Countries: 32  
Projects: 54  
Total amount: US\$142 million



#### Pipeline

(under discussion with government/awaiting approval)  
Countries: 12  
Projects: 12  
Total amount: US\$46 million



## B. Emergency operations

20. At the 130<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board, an emergency loan to Ghana to support the country's COVID-19 response was approved. The initiative will be financed by a US\$20 million loan from IFAD, plus \$11.2 million in beneficiary contributions, US\$5.2 million in contributions from the recipient, US\$2.6 million from the Government of Canada, US\$2 million from WFP and US\$0.4 million from FAO. The key focus of this emergency operation will be to ensure that smallholders have the available inputs in time for the upcoming planting seasons, and to enhance their market linkages. As well as serving as cofinancing partners, IFAD, FAO and WFP will collaborate closely on several of the planned support activities with regard to providing inputs and supporting market linkages.
21. In total, support will be provided to 50,000 direct beneficiaries in 25,000 households, in equal proportions for women, men and youth, and 5 per cent of the beneficiaries will be persons with disabilities. Key expected outcomes are that 35,000 beneficiaries will be trained in COVID-19 focused production practices through e-extension services, 35,000 will access improved production inputs and/or technological packages to diversify incomes and help with short term cash crops to help address income issues caused by COVID-19, and 25,000 will be exposed to environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient technologies and practices. In terms of impacts, the target set for the initiative calls for 70 per cent of beneficiaries reporting that their income was either maintained or improved compared to the situation before the start of the pandemic.

## C. Engagement with the United Nations COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund

22. IFAD is working closely with governments, United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) and Resident Coordinators for consistent, timely and demand-driven responses. IFAD is also continuously exploring opportunities to engage with the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), as a financier and as a grant recipient. So far, IFAD has been part of one approved proposal from the COVID-19 MPTF. This initiative will address COVID-19 threats to livelihoods in subsectors of informal economies, creative industries and agriculture in Fiji, Palau, Tonga and Vanuatu. The International Labour Organization (ILO), the United

Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will be the recipient organizations and IFAD will serve as the implementing agency, while also contributing US\$1 million of cofinancing in kind. For the upcoming round of financing, IFAD will submit a joint proposal with FAO for an initiative in Brazil, and another with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) for an initiative in Viet Nam.

23. In addition, a joint proposal for US\$10 million prepared by IFAD, FAO, ILO and UNIDO has been submitted for funding from the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Fund for an initiative to improve access to financial services in Mexico as part of a COVID-19 response. The proposal is being developed with initial funding from the Fund to advance the design.

#### **D. Policy and analytical support**

24. IFAD has now provided policy and analytical support to 38 countries (see annex II for summaries for each country). These analyses have helped to inform activities both within and outside IFAD, have resulted in a range of publications, and have created space for extensive collaboration with the Rome-based agencies (RBAs), other United Nations agencies and the World Bank.
25. In terms of informing the activities of IFAD and others activities, several of the proposals approved so far for the RPSF have been shaped by the rapid impact assessments conducted by country teams in collaboration with key partners. Externally, a key example is in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, where IFAD conducted a diagnostic analysis of the impact of COVID-19 on agrifood systems in collaboration with the RBAs and private sector actors. The analysis enabled the Plurinational State of Bolivia to be one of the first countries in the world to have a diagnosis and recovery plan in place. Another example is the policy support provided to the Pacific region, which helped to inform COVID-19 response strategies and also pioneered the use of innovative digital technologies to assess COVID-19 impacts. These technologies included a crowdsourcing application for collecting information on food prices sold in different formal and informal market outlets. Through this application, 30,184 market price data points and 3,761 photos were collected within one month, helping to identify changes in prices, as well as practices of customers and vendors, which could then help inform the design and targeting of response activities. Finally, in Turkey, a rapid impact assessment by IFAD is feeding directly into an upcoming e-marketing project based on a mobile and public blockchain, which will aim to address market distortions by bringing together suppliers and buyers of agricultural products.

## Overview of approved RPSF proposals

<i>Multi-country</i>		
Asia and the Pacific (20 countries)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Provide agricultural inputs and support marketing through public-private-producer partnerships brokered or implemented by farmers' organizations.	US\$2.0 million
East and Southern Africa, and West and Central Africa (22 countries)	<b>Pillars 1-4:</b> Work through farmers' organizations to adapt and restore food production by supporting access to inputs, information, markets and liquidity and disseminating information on food availability and safety.	US\$1.5 million (plus US\$2.2 million in cofinancing)
Plurinational State of Bolivia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Peru (stand-alone project implemented by Agriterra, an NGO)	<b>Pillar 4:</b> Establish wide-ranging digital services, with activities including provision of related equipment and training, connecting producers' organizations with private sector buyers and increasing their e-commerce capacity, helping groups to establish certified procedures and protocols on biosafety and risk management, and equipping local financial service providers with digital technologies to ensure business continuity.	US\$2.3 million (plus US\$0.1 million in cofinancing)
Kenya, Nigeria and Pakistan	<b>Pillar 4:</b> Deliver personalized agricultural advice through a mobile phone application, establishing a two-way information channel for farmers to receive low-cost advice to improve on-farm practices and access to markets.	US\$2.0 million (plus US\$0.9 million in cofinancing)
<i>Country-level</i>		
Afghanistan (a stand-alone project implemented by the project management unit of the IFAD-funded Community Livestock and Agriculture Project)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide inputs and basic assets for production and additional support through veterinary field units, fodder banks and ongoing IFAD investments in dairy value chains.	US\$0.9 million (plus US\$0.3 million in cofinancing)
Bangladesh (implemented through the Smallholder Agricultural Competitiveness Project)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Quick-impact provision of inputs and capacity-building support for high-value and nutrient-rich home vegetable gardening in coastal areas.	US\$0.9 million
Benin (implemented through the Agricultural Development and Market Access Support Project) *	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Support rice value chains by providing inputs and machinery for production, tricycles for transporting goods to markets and machinery for post-harvest processing.	US\$0.4 million
Burkina Faso (implemented through the Agricultural Value Chains Promotion Project)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide subsidized inputs (including climate-resilient seeds), equipment, training and extension for digital information services for market gardens during the dry season. Establish a digital marketing platform and market information call centre and promote partnerships along vegetable value chains.	US\$0.7 million
Burundi (implemented through the Value Chain Development Programme, Phase II)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide input kits containing hybrid seeds, fertilizer and plant protection products across the next two seasons, as well as training on production practices and weather and market information.	US\$0.7 million (plus US\$0.1 million in cofinancing)
Cambodia (implemented through the Agricultural Services Programme for Innovation, Resilience and Extension)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide inputs and e-training and accelerate the ongoing roll-out of a multipurpose mobile phone application for small-scale producers.	US\$0.5 million (plus US\$0.2 million in cofinancing, and US\$0.5 million from regular grants)
Cameroon (implemented through the Youth Agropastoral Entrepreneurship Promotion Programme)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Deliver inputs, machinery and technical assistance for crop and livestock production. Support market access by setting up temporary markets, assisting with storage, and connecting with buyers through digital platforms.	US\$0.5 million
Central African Republic (implemented through the Project to Revitalize Crop and Livestock Production in the Savannah) *	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide input kits for crop producers and animal kits (consisting of small ruminants) for agropastoralists, and assist in hiring tractors. Also support farmer groups to engage in collective production and provide e-training on adapted production practices.	US\$0.6 million (plus US\$0.2 million in cofinancing)



Chad (implemented through the Strengthening Productivity and Resilience of Agropastoral Family Farms Project)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide inputs, training and equipment for crop producers, seed farmers, livestock producers and young rural entrepreneurs along selected value chains. Also offer logistical support for the transportation of agricultural products to grouping centres and markets, support for the organization of group sales and provide technical information and training to improve storage, packaging and marketing capacities.	US\$0.8 million (plus US\$0.1 million in cofinancing)
Congo (implemented through the Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Project)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Work through producers' organizations to support crop, livestock and aquaculture sectors by providing inputs (including climate-resilient vegetable seeds, fingerlings, chicks, feed and veterinary products), climate-smart weather readers and training in adapted production practices.	US\$0.4million (plus US\$0.1 million in cofinancing)
Democratic Republic of the Congo (implemented through the North Kivu Agriculture Sector Support Project)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Work through farmers' organizations to provide inputs and training on adapted production practices. Will also support market access by providing means of transportation and improving price and market information systems.	US\$1.2 million (plus US\$0.2 million in cofinancing)
Côte d'Ivoire (implemented through the Agricultural Value Chains Development Support Programme)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide production and post-harvest equipment including mini tractors, and support transportation for farmers' organizations of rice producers. Also provide livestock inputs including a large vaccination campaign.	US\$0.6 million
Djibouti (implemented through the Soil and Water Management Programme)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Provide various inputs for crop, livestock and fish producers, including seeds (forage seeds for plant cover regeneration and vegetable seeds for backyard farming), fertilizers and crop protection products, licking stones for livestock, veterinary products and fishing nets.	US\$0.2 million
Eritrea (implemented through the National Agriculture Project)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Distribute seeds and equipment, including water pumps for irrigation, along with livestock inputs and training in adapted production practices. Support marketing by providing storage sacks, milk churners and transport assistance.	US\$0.4 million
Ethiopia (implemented through the Participatory Small-scale Irrigation Development Programme, Phase II)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 3:</b> Provide a range of support, including input vouchers, cash-for-work schemes, support for storage and transport of goods, and provision of protective equipment and awareness training.	US\$1.0 million
Gabon (implemented through the Agricultural and Rural Development Project, Phase II)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Support chicken cooperatives and pig and sheep farmers with inputs (including feed, housing and other equipment) and training in adapted production practices and financial management.	US\$0.2 million (plus US\$49,000 in cofinancing)
The Gambia (implemented through the Resilient Organizations for Transformative Smallholder Agriculture Programme)	<b>Pillars 1-4:</b> Focusing on women and youth working in vegetable gardens, provide crop and livestock inputs and digital cash transfers; support safe and hygienic transportation to markets and provide equipment to ensure that all market actors can continue to operate. Establish a multi-purpose mobile phone application for market information, training and other uses.	US\$0.3 million
Guinea (implemented through the Family Farming, Resilience and Markets Project in Upper and Middle Guinea)	<b>Pillars 1-3:</b> Working through farmers' organizations, provide production kits in partnership with private suppliers, along with production and protective equipment, technical assistance and training in adapted production practices and marketing, and market information. Provide transport equipment and inject money into local financial service providers.	US\$0.5 million
Guinea-Bissau (implemented through the Economic Development Project for the Southern Regions)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide inputs, technical assistance, training, and protective equipment and hygiene kits, and establish national radio broadcasts to provide information on market prices and supply and demand for specific value chains.	US\$0.4 million
Lebanon (stand-alone project implemented through the Climate Smart Agriculture: Enhancing Adaptive Capacity of the Rural Communities in Lebanon project, funded by the Adaptation Fund and supervised by IFAD)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Provide inputs for greenhouse producers, including plastic sheeting covers for rainwater harvesting.	US\$0.2 million
Liberia (implemented through the Tree Crops Extension Project)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Provide inputs, equipment and training for rice, cassava and vegetable production.	US\$0.5 million (plusUS\$0.1 million in cofinancing)

Madagascar (stand-alone project implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries)	<b>Pillars 2 and 4:</b> Enhance post-harvest warehouses and marketing facilities, and establish a revolving fund for farmers' organizations to enable them to make collective sales to urban and peri-urban areas, as well as set up a digital platform for information on prices and market opportunities.	US\$0.8 million (plus US\$0.6 million in cofinancing)
Malawi (implemented through the Sustainable Agricultural Production Programme)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide agricultural inputs in collaboration with a private supplier, e-extension services and support to the Government for the certification of seeds produced by farmers' organizations involved in seed multiplication using a digital system to increase efficiency. Provide market information, assist in identifying markets for crops and transporting products to market and for aggregation. Implement a livestock pass-on programme.	US\$0.6 million (plus US\$69,000 in cofinancing)
Mali (implemented through the Rural Youth Vocational Training, Employment and Entrepreneurship Support Project)	<b>Pillars 1-4:</b> Provide support to young people working at small and medium-sized enterprises, including subsidizing costs for rescheduling interest on loans provided by microfinance institutions and providing three months worth of inputs. Will also provide market information by promoting communities of practice and sharing information on marketing opportunities and technical advice through WhatsApp.	US\$0.4 million
Niger (implemented through the Family Farming Development Programme in Maradi, Tahoua and Zinder Regions)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide inputs including seeds and water pumping equipment, along with processing and conservation equipment for agricultural products.	US\$0.7 million
Nigeria (implemented through the Climate Change Adaptation and Agribusiness Support Programme)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Deliver packages through farmers' organizations containing tailored inputs and products, including climate-resilient, high-yielding, short-duration and high-nutrition seeds.	US\$0.9 million (plus US\$1.3 million in repurposed funds from the Climate Change Adaptation and Agribusiness Support Programme)
Nepal (stand-alone project, implemented by the Agriculture Development Bank Limited)	<b>Pillars 3 and 4:</b> Support local banks to expand their digital services, implementing a new credit card and mobile phone application for money and information transfers and automated loan processing.	US\$0.5 million (plus US\$0.3 million in cofinancing)
Pakistan (stand-alone project implemented by the Ministry of National Food Security and Research)	<b>Pillars 1, 3 and 4:</b> Provide cash transfers for inputs through e-wallets that are programmed so that they can be used only for inputs from selected suppliers.	US\$1.1 million
Palestine (implemented through the Resilient Land and Resource Management Project)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Distribute seed and fertilizer to small-scale producers, and support clustering of crops and connecting farmers with buyers.	US\$0.3 million (plus US\$27,000 in cofinancing)
Papua New Guinea (stand-alone project implemented by the Fresh Produce Development Agency and Department of Agriculture and Livestock)	<b>Pillars 1, 3 and 4:</b> Provide free inputs at the farm gate, cover the 10 per cent contribution required to access a loan from the ongoing Market for Village Farmers Project, provide working capital to local transport operators to maintain their service and facilitate access to a digital market price platform.	US\$0.4 million
Rwanda (stand-alone project implemented by the Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide seeds for maize, beans and potatoes along with fertilizer, and support market access by providing guaranteed purchase for grains plus storage facilities.	US\$0.6 million
Sao Tome and Principe (implemented through the Commercialization, Agricultural Productivity and Nutrition Project)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide production and post-harvest inputs and training for crop, livestock and fish production, and support for e-marketing and e-commerce.	US\$0.2 million (plus US\$0.3 million cofinancing)
Senegal (implemented through the Rural Youth Agripreneur Support Project [Agrijeunes Tekki Ndawñii])	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide subsidized inputs and small equipment for potato and watermelon producers, and provide capacity-building and advisory support for producers' groups on adapted horticultural production practices and how to access digital services for market information and input suppliers.	US\$0.5 million (plus US\$0.5 million in cofinancing)
Sierra Leone (implemented through the Agricultural Value Chain Development Project)	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide inputs (including fast-germinating and high-yielding seeds) and land preparation machinery, support the improvement of collection centres and establish a digital platform to serve as a repository for extension and market information.	US\$0.5 million

Somalia (stand-alone project implemented by the Somalia Development and Resilience Institute)	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide inputs and minor equipment for crop, livestock and fish production, and equipment and training to minimize post-harvest losses and add value. Organize local purchases from smallholder farmers' groups.	US\$0.6 million (plus US\$0.1 million in cofinancing)
Sudan (stand-alone project implemented by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources)	<b>Pillars 1-3:</b> Provide production inputs to smallholders, including vegetable seeds for women to be used for home gardens, plus training on adapted production and post-harvest practices and financial management. Provide hermetic storage bags and support for collection centres, and distribute production and market information via SMS and radio. Inject money into local financial service providers to increase credit access and ability to send and receive money.	US\$0.7 million (plus US\$32,000 in cofinancing)
United Republic of Tanzania (stand-alone project implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture) *	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Support pre-season planning meetings of smallholder farmer organizations to establish input requirements and seasonal marketing objectives. Also support the purchase of maize grains from smallholders by the Government, link farmers' organizations with buyers, and establish a mobile phone application for market information for inputs, sales and training.	US\$0.9 million
Togo (implemented through the Shared-risk Agricultural Financing Incentive Mechanism Support Project)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Support vegetable gardeners with inputs (including irrigation kits) and training.	US\$0.5 million
Uganda (stand-alone project implemented by the management unit of the Project for Financial Inclusion in Rural Areas)	<b>Pillars 3 and 4:</b> Support local credit and savings groups by providing cash grants combined with capacity-building support on management and extension on digital technologies (plus Internet costs).	US\$1.0 million (plus US\$53,000 in cofinancing)
Yemen (stand-alone project implemented by the Social Fund for Development)	<b>Pillar 1:</b> Depending on need, provide free inputs and assets for horticulture and livestock production combined with training in adapted production practices.	US\$0.8 million
Zambia (implemented through the Enhanced Smallholder Livestock Investment Programme) *	<b>Pillars 1, 2 and 4:</b> Provide remote veterinary training and COVID-19 messaging, along with other veterinary services. Also establish a web-based surveillance and information-sharing platform for livestock disease prevention, along with livestock packages of rabbits, chickens and goats, solar-equipped boreholes for hand washing and rabbit cages. Will also support the development of a livestock index insurance scheme.	US\$0.6 million (plus US\$0.3 million in cofinancing)
Zimbabwe (implemented through the Smallholder Irrigation Revitalization Programme) *	<b>Pillars 1 and 2:</b> Provide a nutrition-dense input package, along with basic personal protective equipment. Also establish farmers' linkages to reliable markets and off-takers and promote adoption of post-harvest technologies.	US\$0.7 million (plus US\$0.1 million in cofinancing)

\* These projects have been reviewed and recommended for approval, and are expected to receive final approval shortly.

## Overview of policy and analytical support

<i>Country</i>	<i>Activities</i>
Bangladesh	In collaboration with FAO, completed two rounds of rapid assessments on the impact of COVID-19 on the nationwide food and agrosystems.
Plurinational State of Bolivia	Prepared a diagnosis of the impact of COVID-19 on agrifood systems, their production systems, based on a sectoral segmentation, to design a strategy for the recovery of the country's agrifood systems in the medium and long term.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	In collaboration with FAO, prepare a study on the effects of COVID-19 on the agriculture sector.
Brazil	Series of studies to test remote technical assistance approaches, digital inclusion and marketing during the pandemic that will feed into policymaking.
Burundi	RBAs in Burundi prepared a joint assessment on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as recommendations.
Côte d'Ivoire	Analysis to help ensure COVID-19 does not exacerbate the meat price crisis in the country.
China	In collaboration with the UNCT, rapid assessment of the socio-economic impact of COVID-19.
Djibouti	Forthcoming RBA study and assessment of COVID-19 impacts will be informed by data from IFAD projects.
Egypt	IFAD, FAO, WFP, UNIDO and the International Food Policy Research Institute conducted a rapid assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on the agriculture sector. Also participating in several national COVID-19 policy response groups and contributing to several other ongoing analyses.
Eritrea	FAO and IFAD provided support to the UNCT "Rapid Assessment: The Socio-economic Impacts of COVID-19 in Eritrea".
Ethiopia	IFAD contributed to a common country analysis with FAO, WFP, ILO, UNIDO and UNDP, feeding into the United Nations "Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19 in Ethiopia".
Fiji	Conduct impact study in collaboration with Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) and Pacific Islands Farmer Organization Network (PIFON).
Guatemala	Leading the preparation of a policy brief titled: "Family Farming and School Feeding, an Effective Synergy for Local Development and Instrument to Respond to the COVID-19 Situation in Guatemala".
Guinea-Bissau	In collaboration with FAO, WFP and UNDP, developed three chapters of the United Nations assessment of the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.
India	In collaboration with FAO, assessment of the impact of COVID-19 in a post-lockdown setting.
Iraq	In collaboration with RBAs and the World Bank, produced a series of publications on the impact of COVID-19 on food security.
Jordan	In collaboration with RBAs and the World Bank, produced a series of publications on the impact of COVID-19 on food security.
Kenya	Assisted the UNCT in conducting a rapid assessment of the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.
Lao People's Democratic Republic	In collaboration with FAO and WFP, rapid assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on food security and livelihoods.
Lesotho	Assisted the UNCT in conducting a rapid assessment of the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.
Morocco	In collaboration with FAO, economic study on the impact of COVID-19 on the agriculture sector.
Mozambique	Multiple studies to inform the response effort in the areas of market access and production of fish, small stock and poultry in rural and peri-urban areas.
Myanmar	In collaboration with UNCT, rapid assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on food security and livelihoods.
Namibia	In collaboration with WFP, Fill the Nutrient Gap analysis to inform the country analyses of UNCT and government efforts to support the agriculture sector and national development goals.
Nigeria	In collaboration with FAO and WFP, rapid assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on Nigeria's agriculture-based livelihoods, food security and nutrition levels.
Peru	Prepared a diagnosis of the impact of COVID-19 on agrifood systems, their production systems and policy recommendations for the Ministry of Agriculture.

Philippines	In collaboration with FAO, WFP and UNICEF, rapid assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on rural livelihoods, agricultural market chains and food security.
Samoa	Data-driven impact study in collaboration with CTA, PIFON, the Samoa Bureau of Statistics and FAO.
South Africa	Assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on rural households and smallholder farmers, for the purpose of informing the work of the Government and UNCT.
South Sudan	Rapid assessment of the impacts of COVID-19 on food security and agriculture.
Tajikistan	In collaboration with FAO, prepared the pre-Common Country Assessment (CCA) in the rural sector, to inform the multisector CCA that will lead to the country's new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.
Tonga	Study to assess the vulnerability of food and seed supply for target group of the Tonga Rural Innovation Project - Phase II.
Tunisia	Two studies in collaboration with FAO, WFP and the World Bank of the impact of COVID-19 on small-scale producers and strategic agricultural value chains.
Turkey	Assessment with FAO and the UNDP on the impact of COVID-19 on the rural sector to feed a broader UNCT multisector impact assessment.
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Develop policy and programme briefs, using FAO's monitoring, anticipation and assessment guidelines, to inform COVID-19 response activities of the government and development partners.
Viet Nam	In collaboration with the Asian Development Bank, assist the Institute for Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in conducting a countrywide survey on COVID-19 impacts to smallholder farmers.
Pacific Region (Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu)	Collaborate with WFP on mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping, through review of technical tools and engagement of key informant groups to address the longer-term economic impacts of COVID-19. Also, in collaboration with CTA and the TraSeable Solutions company in Fiji, Samoa and the Solomon Islands, conduct a pilot study of an application for crowdsourcing data on the impact of COVID-19 on key commodities.