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Enabling the rural poor  
to overcome poverty

## **2006 Grants under the global/regional and country-specific grant windows approved by the President**

Executive Board — Ninetieth Session  
Rome, 17-18 April 2007

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For: **Information**

## **Note to Executive Board Directors**

This document is submitted for the information of the Executive Board.

To make the best use of time available at Executive Board sessions, Directors are invited to contact the following focal point with any technical questions about this document before the session:

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## **2006 Grants under the global/regional and country-specific grant windows approved by the President**

1. At its eightieth session held on 17-18 December 2003, the Executive Board authorized the President to approve, on behalf of the Board, grants not exceeding the equivalent of US\$200,000 for each proposal, and to report annually to the Executive Board on the use of such authority.
2. A description is attached of 75 grants approved under this agreement in 2006, up to and including 31 December 2006. The grants are listed and described by relevant division. The grants were subject to the criteria and approval process presented in the IFAD Policy for Grant Financing, which was approved in December 2003 (EB 2003/80/R.5/Rev.2 and EB 2003/80/C.R.P.1).

<i>Originating department/division</i>	<i>Grant title</i>	<i>Benefiting institution</i>	<i>Amount (United States dollars)</i>	<i>Scope of the grant</i>
EC	Advocacy for Rural Poor Affected by Desertification and Land Degradation	PANOS Limited	150 000	The Sudan and Ethiopia are the participating countries. The goal is to increase understanding and awareness of the impact of land degradation and desertification by amplifying the voices of the rural poor who live in desert environments in Africa. The problem of desertification is currently being neglected by the media at the national level both in the Sudan and Ethiopia and in developed countries. The current debate on desertification does not include the voices and experiences of those living in desert environments. The grant addresses these two problems through the following objectives: (a) improve the quality and quantity of national and international media coverage on desertification during the 2006 International Year of Deserts and Desertification by building the capacity of African print and photo-journalists through provision of editorial and technical support and mentoring from international print and photo-journalists; (b) make the voices and experiences of those living in desert environments heard in order to present the human face of desertification. Journalists from African countries, in particular from the Sudan and Ethiopia, and community development workers are being trained in oral testimony methodology to help them record and transcribe in-depth interviews with poor men and women living in desert environments; and (c) encourage inclusive and informed debate on desertification in the Sudan and Ethiopia, and also in the international sphere. A series of print and photo features by mainstream media on desertification in the Sudan and Ethiopia will be produced. The programme will also develop a website to promote testimonies, photographs and features to a large international audience including the media, policymakers, NGOs and researchers/academics.
EC	Advocacy for Rural Poor Through Inter Press Service	Inter Press Service International Association (IPS)	100 000	Countries from Africa and Latin America are participating in the programme. The target group consists of rural communities affected by land degradation and desertification, and journalists from developing countries. The goal of the programme is to raise awareness of the impact of desertification and land degradation on poor rural communities. The programme aimed to build momentum during the International Year of Deserts and Desertification 2006 to include the issue of desertification on the international agenda. Programme activities comprise: (a) gathering of information and preparation of media materials on rural poverty and desertification in Africa and Latin America. The information will focus on innovative approaches to tackle land degradation and promote biodiversity/natural resource conservation in rural areas. The material produced will be circulated through various channels, including website posting and IPS publications/newsletters, to major stakeholders (governments, institutions, NGOs, etc.) in developing and developed countries; (b) one training workshop in Africa or Latin America as agreed by IPS and IFAD, of at least two days, on the impact of desertification and land degradation on rural poverty. Approximately 15 journalists from a wide variety of developing countries in Africa or Latin America will participate. Training will take the form of sharing experiences of innovative approaches to tackle land degradation and of the impact of desertification on rural poverty. Resource persons with relevant expertise, along with

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				IPS media experts, will assist journalists in enhancing their knowledge of land degradation and desertification and in upgrading their reporting skills; (c) launch of an international journalistic award on the issue of desertification. The award will be announced during the training workshop. In addition, the award will be promoted by issuing a press release and web postings to reach out to potential participants and attract further media attention.
EC	Highlight Challenges and Opportunities for Rural Women in LDCs to Access Markets	UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLS)	20 000	Rural poor women in least developed countries (LDCs) will be the primary beneficiaries of this grant. They will be given a platform from which to tell their stories and raise awareness of their needs. The goal is to generate a better understanding of their situation and needs with regard to access to markets. One of the eight Millennium Development Goals calls for achieving gender equality and empowering women. Unless the obstacles that prevent women from realizing their potential are removed, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Rural women in LDCs need greater access to and control over income through improved market linkages, entrepreneurial skill training, and access to land and credit. The objective of the programme is to promote access to and exchange of information and knowledge on market access for rural poor women in LDCs. Critical issues including fair trade, niche products, and indigenous knowledge will be identified. Effective field practices will be shared.
EC	Influencing the Global Debate on Rural Poverty	Television Trust for the Environment (TVE)	150 000	Initial global broadcasts to nearly 200 countries is the primary target. Second, targeted distribution will be achieved through web-based broadcasts and TVE partner organizations and networks in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The programme goal is to organize and film a global debate that focuses attention on the key issues that have an impact on the reduction of rural poverty. The programme's objectives are to promote discussion, debate, policy dialogue rural poverty, and to raise awareness, share knowledge, build capacity and encourage partnerships that might contribute to its reduction.
EC	Enabling Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and Southern Africa to Use Strategic Communication Skills to Reduce Poverty in their Communities	International News Agency (IPS)	145 000	Countries from Latin America and southern Africa will participate, including: Argentina, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Lesotho, Mexico, Namibia, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa and Swaziland. The goal of this grant is to raise awareness about poor rural communities of indigenous peoples in Latin America and southern Africa during the Second International Decade for Indigenous Peoples, and to generate action for pro-poor policies and development investments targeted at poor indigenous communities in rural areas. This grant also aims to build the capacity of local journalists in Latin America and southern Africa to advocate on behalf of indigenous peoples by providing them with the necessary knowledge and skills to do so. The objectives are: (a) build momentum during the Second International Decade for Indigenous Peoples to place the issues of indigenous peoples on the development agenda of governments

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				and development organizations. This will be done by disseminating information that illustrates the value of the knowledge and skills of indigenous peoples in natural resource management and the unfavourable conditions under which they live; (b) promote pro-poor research by gathering and sharing first-hand experiences of indigenous communities in innovative approaches to tackling indigenous rural poverty; (c) build the capacity of the pro-poor organization IPS to influence pro-poor policies; and (d) help local journalists in developing countries of Latin America and southern Africa gain the skills and knowledge they need to report on indigenous peoples issues.
EC	Capacity-building of Indigenous Peoples in Rural Areas of Madagascar	PANOS Limited	145 000	The goal is to increase understanding of the knowledge and experiences of indigenous peoples in rural Madagascar in relation to environmental change and to build their capacity to make their development needs known to policymakers and those who influence policies. Policymakers are unaware of the complex and deep relationship that indigenous peoples have with their environment. As a result, many development and environmental policies fail to acknowledge or respond appropriately to the expertise, needs and concerns of indigenous peoples. The grant will address these problems by allowing PANOS to: (a) increase awareness and understanding throughout the development community and across national governments of the importance of indigenous peoples' environmental knowledge and priorities and their development needs in general; (b) build the capacity of indigenous peoples in Madagascar and the groups that work with them to document their experience and knowledge and help them gain the skills to communicate this to external audiences; (c) improve national media coverage on issues that affect indigenous communities in Madagascar through a series of in-depth and well-researched print and photo features; (d) amplify the voices and experiences of indigenous peoples living in rural Madagascar by training members of several communities in oral testimony methodology and participatory video skills; and (e) develop a website to promote the testimonies, photographs and video clips to a large international audience including the media, policymakers, NGOs and researchers/academics.
EC/EAD	Communication for Development and Indigenous Peoples: Support to the Mainstreaming of Communication for Development Into Policies and Programmes	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	50 000	The goal is to enable indigenous groups and communities to communicate their development principles, concepts and practices more effectively. The objectives of the project are to: (a) promote mainstreaming of the communication of development policies, programmes and services to foster the sustainable development of indigenous communities through the first World Congress on Communication for Development (Rome, 25-27 October 2006); (b) enhance the capacity of indigenous peoples to communicate for development; and (c) identify key communication-for-development methods, tools, strategies and projects to support indigenous peoples' livelihoods. Project activities include: (a) organization of a special session of the World Congress on Communication for Development, on indigenous peoples and communication for development that will provide recommendations to the plenary for mainstreaming into development projects and programmes; (b) support for the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives from different regions in the congress, especially in the special session; and

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				(c) display of multimedia materials prepared by indigenous people at the congress. The expected project outputs are: (a) a declaration and recommendations from the special session on how to mainstream communication for development into indigenous peoples policies and programmes. These will inform the official declaration and reports of the congress; (b) a report on approaches and policies to promote communication for development for indigenous peoples that will be presented as part of the 2007 report of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; (c) a platform/community of practice dealing with communication for development established among indigenous peoples' practitioners and projects; and (d) multimedia materials collected and shared at the congress and through the platform.
EC	Advocacy for Rural Poverty in Kenya through PANOS Limited	PANOS Limited	50 000	The target group comprises journalists from Africa, although rural poor people in Africa are the ultimate beneficiaries. The goal is to heighten awareness of the individual experience of rural poverty by amplifying the voices of the poor and marginalized and ensuring that their experiences and perspectives are part of the poverty debate. The objectives are to: (a) improve the quality and quantity of media coverage on rural poverty in Africa by enhancing the capacity and experience of Kenyan print and radio journalists and community workers in terms of interviewing the poor and marginalized and reporting on poverty; (b) give those living in rural poverty in Kenya a greater voice in both national and international audiences. The project will train about six journalists and four community workers from Kenya in oral testimony methodology and support them in recording and transcribing in-depth interviews with poor men and women living in rural areas; and (c) encourage inclusive and informed debate on rural poverty in Africa at the local, national and international level by increasing the understanding of individual experiences and the daily reality of poverty. The project will develop a series of print/audio features on rural poverty issues within national mainstream media and will launch a website to promote the testimonies to a large international audience of media, policymakers, NGOs and researchers/academics.
EC	Advocacy for the Rural Poor in Latin America During the International Year of Deserts and Desertification	Fundación del Sur	30 000	The poor rural communities affected by desertification and land degradation in Latin America will be the ultimate target group. In support of the International Year of Desert and Desertification, the goal is to generate information and raise awareness on the linkages between land degradation and rural poverty in Latin America. The specific objective of the programme is to generate information, raise awareness and involve stakeholders – such as national and regional government representatives, media, NGOs and civil society – in order to improve the public policy framework in relation to desertification and land degradation. In particular, the grant aims to promote the implementation of the National Action Programme to Combat Desertification in Latin American Countries. Throughout the exchange of relevant information on combating desertification, the objective will be to assist poor rural communities affected by desertification in the region by contributing to an enabling environment in which additional resources can be mobilized and strategic alliances developed to improve living conditions in remote and marginalized agro-ecological areas.

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EO	Support to World Development Report (WDR) 2008: "Agriculture and Development"	World Bank	200 000	The World Development Report (WDR) 2008 will provide an in-depth review on the theme of Agriculture and Development (the last WDR on Agriculture was published in 1982), which is deemed to be important and topical for the development agenda for the next decades. IFAD's support to the 2008 WDR is part of its targeted approach to policy development and policy change at global level. IFAD's support will be focused on including rural poverty and agricultural development on the international development agenda and fostering a global policy process that addresses the needs of rural poor people. The WDR directly targets the whole development community, and indirectly, poor groups in developing and middle-income countries whose livelihoods are largely derived from production and rural income-generating activities. The goal of the programme is to create new knowledge in the area of agriculture. The overall objective is to steer policies and policymakers in both developed and developing countries towards the promotion of agricultural development and recognize its potential as a major force in reducing poverty. The specific objective of IFAD support is to help the 2008 WDR move beyond a narrow perception of agriculture as physical production processes to embracing the governance agenda putting the development of smallholder institutions, and more broadly empowerment processes, at the heart of the agenda for the agriculture sector.
EO	Mobilization of Agricultural Producers and Other Stakeholders in Africa for EPA negotiations	West African Network of Farmers' Organizations and Agricultural Producers (ROPPA)	180 000	The target group consists of farmers of Africa (both men and women) represented by the members of the four regional networks of African farmers' organizations. The direct target group will be made of the leaders of the Network of Peasant Organizations and Producers in West Africa, the Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Credit Unions, Eastern African Farmers Federation, and Plateforme sous-régionale des organisations paysannes d'Afrique Centrale (PROPAC). The goal is to ensure that the interests of African family farms are represented at the negotiations under way for the signing of an economic partnership agreement (EPA) between the European Union and the group of African, Caribbean and Pacific states (ACP). The overall objective is to enable farmers in ACP countries to share their views and perceptions on EPAs with negotiators from ACP countries and other civil society stakeholders. More specifically, the objectives are to: (a) organize a consultative process among relevant countries to agree on a common position and propose alternatives; (b) mobilize public opinion in favour of these proposals; and (c) share the countries' position and proposals with negotiators and other stakeholders in Africa and Europe.
EO/EAD	Strengthening of Rural Organization for Policy Dialogue in the Context of South America and MERCOSUR FTA.	Federación Agraria Argentina (FAA)	150 000	The target group is composed of over 300 family farm organizations in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. These organizations are members of COPROFAM (Coordination of Family Farms of MERCOSUR), and are affiliated through their respective national farmers' organizations. The direct target group is composed of leaders of farmers' organizations affiliated to COPROFAM and their professional teams, which are responsible for managing the network. The overall goal of this grant is to promote a process of regional integration that responds to the needs of family agriculture by promoting the institutional development of



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				COPROFAM as the regional platform for national family farm organizations. During the implementation period, the objectives will be: (a) establishing COPROFAM as the legal entity representing smallholders' organizations, so that it can participate in two major events: the Farmers' Forum and the Commission on Family Farming (REAF) of the Southern Cone Common Market (MERCOSUR); (b) Support the strategic development of COPROFAM; and (c) enable COPROFAM to assess the capacity-building needs of its members.
EO	Nyéleni 2007 – World Forum on Food Sovereignty (WFFS)	Coordination Nationale des Organisations Paysannes du Mali (CNOP) - Mali	150 000	<p>The direct target group of the grant will be the 600 representatives of organizations of small farmers, landless peasants, fishers, pastoralists, indigenous peoples. These will be principally, but not exclusively, from developing countries, especially from Africa. As a global policy event, the broader target group consists of the millions of rural poor people represented by the participating organizations.</p> <p>The goal of the grant to CNOP is to help strengthen the capacity of a broad alliance of organizations of poor rural producers to advocate for food sovereignty and more specifically for policies and investments in support of smallholder and family agriculture. The objectives of the programme are: (a) raise awareness on the "food sovereignty" concept as a basis for the articulation and implementation of pro-poor agricultural and rural poverty reduction policies and investments, in line with the concrete realities of poor people, their needs, challenges and opportunities; and (b) in so doing, build the capacity of organizations representing the interests of poor rural people to debate on and campaign for food sovereignty and for pro-poor policies and investments in support of smallholder family agriculture.</p> <p>The WFFS will provide the opportunity to strengthen the dialogue among farmers' organizations and rural workers' trade unions from both the South and the North and consumer organizations from the North to reach a greater collective understanding of the dimensions and the economic, social and policy implications of food sovereignty at the local, national and regional/international levels. The choice of Mali as the venue of the WFFS is, in itself, a strategic choice serving the goal of the forum, given the importance assigned to food sovereignty in the Government's new agricultural framework law. The countries of the Economic Community of West African States are increasingly referring to food sovereignty as a guiding principle for their strategies. Other countries, such as the Group of 33 countries, are developing policies that promote the principles of food sovereignty.</p> <p>The role of civil society organizations in promoting this trend is an important one and needs to be enhanced so that policies and investments focus on the economies of small farmers and family agriculture.</p>

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EO	Empowering Smallholder Farmers in Markets	European Consortium for Agricultural Research in the Tropics (ECART)	150 000	The overall goal is to strengthen the capacity of small farmers' organizations in developing countries to empower their members to participate in the market, via an enabling policy environment and effective economic organizations. This will be done through a research partnership initiated by this grant between the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)-ECART-IFAD. The objectives of the inception phase are: (a) to develop a shared body of knowledge, by carrying out several studies to prepare the way for the choices to be made for the full programme; (b) to develop an analytical framework and a research methodology; and (c) to make a selection as to which countries will be incorporated in the full programme. This phase will also seek to build a partnership among the parties involved, and test the ability of ECART to manage this in a participatory way. The benefits of the inception phase will be reaped during the full research programme. The ultimate target group will be national farmers' organizations in developing countries that make a special effort to include smallholder farmers in a pro-poor development process by empowering them to participate in markets. The full proposal should involve from 10-15 countries.
EO	Support to Central Africa Farmers' Organizations (PROPAC) for the Midterm Review of the Preparation of EU-ACP Economic Partnership Agreements	Subregional Platform for Farmers' Organizations of Central Africa (PROPAC)	62 000	<p>The target group consists of Central African farmers (both men and women) represented by 8 (of the 11) member organizations of PROPAC, specifically those members affected by economic partnership agreement (EPA) negotiations between the Economic and Monetary Union of Central Africa (CEMAC) and the European Union. The direct target group consists of the leaders of these eight member organizations and farmers' organizations in the region which may be involved in the programme, and also leaders of farmers' organizations and other non-governmental stakeholders from CEMAC countries and from Sao Tome and Principe and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, governmental authorities and CEMAC authorities in charge of the negotiations.</p> <p>The goal is to promote the effective participation of Central African farmers' organizations negotiating in trade and economic partnership agreements and the official inclusion of the concerns of non-governmental stakeholders in the mid-term review of such agreements, in order to bring about a sustainable improvement in living conditions for the populations of Central Africa. The objectives are to: (a) ensure that the interests of agricultural and rural producers are taken into account in international negotiations; (b) exchange information, experiences and analyses on the implications and challenges of the EPAs; (c) strengthen the communication surrounding the EPA negotiations; (d) improve the visibility of farmers' organizations so that their concerns inform the process and they become involved in establishing monitoring mechanisms; (e) attract the attention of public authorities and decision-makers to the opportunities offered by the EPAs in terms of social change in their countries and the need to involve non-governmental stakeholders, particularly rural dwellers, through the organization (PROPAC), at all stages of negotiation; and (f) identify agricultural products with a high value added that lend themselves to protection. A sub-objective is to help PROPAC improve its financial governance, particularly by finalizing its procurement guidelines.</p>

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EO	Support to Eastern Africa Farmers Federation in the Mid Term Review of the EU-ACP Economic Partnership Agreements	Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF)	61 000	The ultimate target group consists of (predominantly small) farmers (both men and women) of East Africa represented by the nine member organizations of EAFF. The direct target group will consist of the leadership of these nine organizations and other farmers' organizations in the region which might be included in the programme. The goal is to enhance the participation of East African smallholder farmers' organizations in and their effective contribution to the mid-term review of economic partnership agreements. The objectives are: (a) to sensitize farmers, particularly smallholder farmers, to the impact of economic partnership agreements on farming and related issues; (b) to evaluate the impact of these agreements on small-scale agriculture; (c) to develop a position for farmers' organization for and economic partnership agreement for East Africa; and (d) to facilitate EAFF engagement in policy dialogue with COMESA counterparts about the agreement process and its mid-term review.
EO	Support to Southern Africa Farmers Organizations for the Mid Term Review of the EU-ACP Economic Partnership Agreements	The Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)	60 000	The ultimate target group consists of farmers (both men and women) of southern Africa represented by the ten member organizations of SACAU. The direct target group will consist of the leadership of these ten organizations and other farmer organizations in the region which might be included in the programme. The goal is to enhance the participation of farmers' organizations in and their effective contribution to the mid-term review of the negotiation of an economic partnership agreement involving COMESA, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries and the European Union. The objectives are: (a) to sensitize farmers' organizations to the impact of economic partnership agreements on farming and related issues; (b) to develop a position for farmers in response to the impact of economic partnership agreements and related issues; and (c) to facilitate SACAU engagement in policy dialogue with COMESA and SADC counterparts about the economic partnership agreement process and its mid-term review.
EO	Conference on the Governance of Natural Resources in the Near East and North Africa, Alexandria, 3-5 July 2006	Bibliotheca Alexandrina	50 000	The conference targets policymakers, researchers and civil society representatives of the poor involved in the governance of natural resources in the countries of the Near East and North Africa (NENA) region that are eligible for IFAD loans and/or grants: Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Gaza and the West Bank, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. The goal of the conference financed by the grant is to provide policymakers with knowledge based on field research and the tools to empower the rural poor to overcome their poverty. This will be achieved through the promotion of a policy environment conducive to allowing them to access and manage the natural resources their livelihoods depend on, in a sustainable manner. While the policy framework focuses on institutions as the core element of empowerment, other determinants of rural poverty – such as land degradation (in the various forms of soil, water and biomass erosion), drought management and conflict over resources – are beyond the scope of this grant.

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				The objectives of grant support are to: (a) disseminate the findings of the 2004-2005 International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) research project (financed by technical assistance grant 635) on empowering the rural poor under volatile policy environments in the NENA region; (b) define a comprehensive policy framework for empowering the rural poor in natural resource management that could guide donors and governments in their policy dialogue and operations in the region; and (c) provide strategic recommendations on how a multidonor partnership could improve the effectiveness and impact of their operations in the region.
GEF/PT	Network Enhancement for Sustainable Pastoral Land Management	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	200 000	<p>The target group will include project planners, government representatives, policymakers, front-line staff (not from IFAD) involved in the design and implementation of livestock projects throughout the world. Communication among these actors and across disciplines is surprisingly weak and made even more difficult by the numerous websites and networks dedicated to issues surrounding mobile pastoralism. A central repository of useful data from a variety of contexts and projects is a step towards orchestrating concerted effort to achieve sustainable pastoralism and land management. By sharing results and feeding them into the Livestock and Rangeland Knowledgebase (LRKB), significant progress will be made in promoting partnerships for initiatives to maximize developmental impact. Similarly, pastoral communities will be encouraged to extrapolate and replicate data, lessons and best practices for local use, thereby progressively reducing dependence on foreign assistance and expertise.</p> <p>The goal is to ensure that the right policies, legal mechanisms and support structures are in place to ensure that pastoralism can evolve into an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable livelihood system. The immediate objectives of the grant will be to strengthen the existing LRKB and relevant networks by including information on pastoralism. This will contribute to their sustainable development and create a viable and comprehensive global partnership through which countries can share experiences at the local, national, regional and global levels.</p>
PA	Support to Pro-Poor Agricultural and Rural Development Policies and Advocacy	Ministry of Agriculture Ghana	200 000	<p>The goal is to increase the effectiveness of rural development interventions and their impact on poverty. The overall objective is to improve agricultural and rural development policies in terms of coordination, harmonization, synchronization and prioritization. The specific objective is to align IFAD's strategies and programmes more closely with national policies and strategies affecting the agricultural and rural sectors. This will increase the effectiveness of poverty reduction interventions in addressing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This programme will support the main national policy framework for the agricultural and rural sector, the Food and Agricultural Sector Development Policy. It will also highlight pro-poor policies that have had a proven catalytic impact on poverty reduction in the community and will seek to build advocacy support for: (a) discussing these policies in policy dialogue forums; (b) sharing knowledge generated at the field level with other partners (for replication) and integrating this into national policies (systematization); and (c) including these pro-poor policies in a revised set of strategic documents (e.g. the Ghana-Joint Assistance Strategy and a partnership strategy).</p>

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				<p>The main strategic documents outlined above will be revised on the basis of the work of the programme and the alignment of their key strategic elements pursued. This will take place in a participatory manner, through a series of analytical endeavours that will be couched in simple and accessible language, through academic and stakeholder consultations, and through specific policy dialogue forums and workshops.</p> <p>The programme will support the District Planning Coordinating Unit (DPCD) in disseminating up-to-date information to policymakers and civil society groups and organize a number of events aimed at sharing analytical findings and progress made, discussing recurring and newly emerging policy issues and involving all parties in the quest to bring pro-poor policies into the mainstream of current thinking on agricultural and rural development. In addition, the programme will support the DPCD indirectly in carrying out its regular activities.</p>
PA	Support to Productivity and Production Increase of Cassava in the Republic of the Congo	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	190 000	<p>The goal is to increase the ability of farmers to produce cassava in the face of the continued presence of Cassava Mosaic Disease (CMD) and with the advent of new, more virulent forms of the disease spreading into the region from East Africa. Achieving this goal will significantly improve food security and income-generating opportunities for the majority of the rural population (especially poor people and women) for whom cassava is the main source of livelihood. The specific objectives of the programme are to: (a) strengthen the capacity of small producers, their organizations and associations, and of public sector agricultural extension agents; (b) train farmers in methods of multiplying cassava in order to increase the availability and supply of CMD-resistant varieties in the Niari, Lékoumou and Bouenza regions of the Republic of the Congo; (c) develop distribution systems for disease-free CMD-resistant cassava cuttings in the three regions.</p>
PA	Strategic Partnership between IFAD and the African Union Commission to Support the Implementation of Major African Union Policy and Strategic Initiatives for Improving Rural Livelihood Systems	African Union Commission	170 000	<p>This multiple regional project seeks to develop the capacity of the African Union (consisting of 52 member states), by helping to develop the African Union Commission (AUC) policy frameworks in the areas of agricultural and rural development. The active target group is comprised of a number of key stakeholders at the regional and national levels in the member states, all of whom are working together in a coherent and focused manner to fight against rural poverty and contribute to sustainable agricultural and rural development for improved livelihoods. To this effect, grant support will reach all member states and regional economic commissions (RECs) and as a consequence, will be of enormous benefit to the population of Africa, in particular, the rural population. At the regional level, the RECs are a major target group since they play a critical role in implementation, coordination, and advocacy with regional stakeholders. Flanked by the RECs are the horizontal and vertical partners – civil society and non-governmental organizations, regional farmers' organizations/networks, the private sector, regional specialized institutions/organizations and intergovernmental agencies – all of whom are focused on reducing rural poverty and hunger. At the national level, member states are the key players and beneficiaries of the AUC and New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) initiatives.</p>

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				<p>African governments are responsible for demonstrating the importance of agriculture and rural development in their national budgets. Furthermore, national governments in Africa can play a key role in the establishment and assurance of good governance at the national level and in forging horizontal partnerships among the public and private sectors, civil society, NGOs, community-based organizations, farmers' organizations (including women's and young peoples' organizations) and also vertical partnerships at the national, regional and international levels. Links to national programmes will facilitate the exchange of information and coordination of initiatives.</p> <p>The overall goal is to provide assistance to the AUC to develop and operationalize policy frameworks and mechanisms in the following priority areas: food security, member states' financing of agriculture/rural development to at least 10 per cent of their national budgets, rural finance, shared water resource management and use, and strengthening the capacity of rural farmers. The programme activities are strategically oriented towards reducing rural poverty and food insecurity in Africa and the creation of wealth through improved sustainable agricultural productivity, water management and improved livelihood systems.</p> <p>The objectives are to: (a) facilitate the development of strategic policy frameworks and mechanisms in the following priority areas: food security, rural finance, shared water resource management and use, and strengthening the livelihoods of rural farmers through increased allocations in national budgets; (b) assist in the preparation of business plans to elucidate the sequence of actions needed to realize the intended outcomes of the policy frameworks in the priority thematic areas and to mobilize technical and financial support from key stakeholders and relevant institutions and development partners; (c) help organize validation forums and meetings where stakeholders can discuss the relevant issues; and (d) facilitate coordination and information sharing and networking so as to promote best practices in the priority thematic areas.</p>
PA	Support Capacity Strengthening of the National Counsel of the Farmers' Organisations (CNOP) in Republic of Guinea	Conseil National des Organisation Paysanne de Guinée (CNOP)	170 000	<p>The target group comprises farmers' organizations and their unions. The goal is to increase the ability of the National Council of Farmers' Organizations to influence national policy so that pro-poor needs are reflected in government strategies for rural and agricultural development. Achieving this goal will significantly improve the position of farmer's organizations in the government arena, and contribute to rural poverty alleviation. Grant support will strengthen the CNOP to serve as an entry point and undertake policy dialogue with the Government for the promotion of pro-poor policies, including the implementation of its rural and agricultural production policy in which farmers' organizations play a critical role.</p> <p>The specific objectives are to: (a) strengthen the managerial and technical capacity of farmers' organizations; (b) train members of the CNOP executive office, including its leaders; and (c) strengthen the institutional capacity of CNOP.</p>

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PA	Mainstreaming the Linkages Between HIV / AIDS in Rural Poverty Reduction in West and Central Africa	Africa Rice Center (WARDA)	165 000	The goal is help mitigate the negative impact of HIV/AIDS on rural communities and livelihoods in Western and Central Africa. The objectives are (a) identify and describe the linkages between the effects of chronic illness and agricultural production; (b) assess the knowledge and perceptions held by young people and adults of HIV/AIDS and its effect on livelihoods; (c) identify the options available to farming households with recent adult-mortality or chronic morbidity in maintaining income streams and consumption levels; (d) determine the criteria that guide rural people affected by HIV/AIDS in their selection of productive activities; and (e) assess the impact of adult mortality – chronic illness on household agricultural production.
PA	Strengthening National Poverty Alleviation Programme; Implementation through Innovative Approaches to Decentralize Cooperation and Solidarity-Building	Associacao Internacional Para a Cooperacao e o Desenvolvimento de Comunidades Rurais (ACVER) (Internacional Association for Cooperation and Development of Rural Communities)	150 000	The rural poor of Cape Verde form the target group. They will be reached through: (a) community development associations; and (b) regional partner commissions. The goal is to improve the social capital of the rural poor by strengthening regional partner commissions. The objective is to foster innovative approaches to decentralized cooperation and solidarity building by mobilizing a broader spectrum of international, national and local actors in their respective communities, territories and institutions.
PA	Support Programme to Strengthen the Technical, Policy-Making and Economic Capabilities of the Leaders and Members of the National Council for Rural Consultation and Cooperation (CNCR)	Conseil national de concertation et de coopération des ruraux (CNCR)	135 000	The goal is to strengthen the voice of small-scale producers of goods and services in rural Senegal in the policymaking, planning, implementing and monitoring associated with agricultural and rural development. The objectives are to build up the capacity of CNCR and its member federations of farmers' organizations to represent and defend the interests of the small farmers of Senegal by: (a) improving the governance of the member federations and hence the base of the CNCR; (b) building the ability of the federations to master the workings of markets upstream and of small-scale family-run farms downstream (in terms of input supply, marketing and financial services); and (c) strengthening the capacity of CNCR leaders and staff to participate substantively in defining development strategies at the regional and national levels.

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PA	Support to the Government of Guinea – Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock– to tackle desert locust invasion	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	100 000	Target groups include: (a) rural groups in affected areas of the northern regions of Fouta Djallon and Lower Guinea; (b) the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock; and (c) Guinean partners that contribute to the fight against desert locust swarms. The goal is to enhance the capacity of the relevant authorities in Guinea to deal with locust attacks, and thus improve the food security of the affected rural populations in the Fouta Djallon region. The objective is to provide funding to strengthen the capacity of Ministry of Agriculture – particularly the Directorate of Plant Protection – and of farmers’ organizations to tackle locust invasion.
PA	Pilot Initiative - Financial Services Associations in Sierra Leone	K-Rep Development Agency	90 000	K-Rep Development Agency supports grass-roots microfinance organizations and disseminates information on microfinance and the development of microenterprises and small businesses. It seeks primarily to increase the knowledge base of these enterprises and develop new means through which financial services can reach disenfranchised low-income groups. The goal is to promote the adoption of best practices for rural microfinance associations (as a tool for poverty alleviation in West Africa in general, and in Sierra Leone in particular). The K-Rep group’s mission is “to empower low-income people, promote their participation in the development process and enhance their quality of life”, for instance through effective financial service associations (FSAs). The overall objective is to establish four such associations in Sierra Leone and manage them for a minimum of two years. Recipients will carry out a feasibility study in the areas identified by IFAD. Based on the results, a comprehensive and viable plan will be formulated to implement the FSA programmes, entailing capacity-building of FSA staff, the boards of directors and communities. A clear exit strategy to ensure sustainability of processes after the two year pilot period will be discussed and agreed upon during inception.
PA	Support to the Ongoing Rural Land Tenure Policy Dialogue Process	Government of Burkina Faso – Ministry of Agriculture	90 000	The goal is to promote efforts to increase land security and equitable access to land among agricultural producers and to encourage investments and efficient management of land in order to contribute to poverty reduction and sustainable rural development in Burkina Faso. Given that land tenure issues occupy a centre-stage position in the livelihoods of rural Africans, the programme will help sustain the huge consensus-building effort needed for this highly sensitive and challenging issue. It will also build coalitions, partnerships and trust among IFAD and farmer organizations, rural organizations, traditional authorities, NGOs, advocacy groups, and project stakeholders, while increasing the Fund’s visibility at the national and regional levels. This visibility will enhance the process-orientation of current activities concerning the preparation of the new country strategic opportunities programme for Burkina Faso. The objective is to support the Government in elaborating a land tenure policy document and eventually a new land law aimed at increasing land tenure security in rural areas in order to facilitate and guarantee access to land by all stakeholders, including the rural poor. The land tenure policy document will : (a) identify major trends that are transforming land tenure relations in the countryside; (b) provide a stakeholder analysis that differentiates degrees of tenure



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				security; (c) produce an action plan for the Government covering an intermediate time horizon; (d) outline a consensus regarding the basic objectives of the policy or policies aimed at increasing land tenure security; (e) articulate clear, precise and concise principles for the draft policy; and (f) propose a short- and medium-term implementation strategy underpinned by a selection of possible approaches that seek to maximize opportunities and minimize risks.
PA	Projet de Renforcement des Capacites Institutionnelles et Operationnelles de la Confederation Paysanne Du Faso (CPF) – Burkina Faso	<b>Faso Farmer's Federation, (CPF)</b>	80 000	The goal is to reinforce the institutional and operational capacity of the Confédération Paysanne du Faso (CPF) to enable it to contribute to: (a) the fight against poverty; (b) better food security; (c) good governance in agriculture including a greater role for producers' organizations in public sector resource allocation, priority setting, strategy formulation, etc. The specific objectives are to reinforce the CPF in terms of: (a) visibility, capacity of communication, and democratic internal process of decision-making; (b) active participation in civil society forums concerning public funding of the agricultural sector with respect to priority setting, strategy formulation, resource allocation, etc; and (c) capacity to undertake action research, facilitate access to services and improve outreach to rural poor farmers.
PF	Institution Building for Farmer Organizations	Kenya National Federation of Agricultural Producers (KENFAP)	200 000	IFAD support to KENFAP will assist smallholder farmers and strengthen the organizational capacity of KENFAP itself. Work under the grant is aimed at empowering farming communities in focal areas to avail themselves of agri-business opportunities, when these are enterprise-based, market-oriented and income-driven. Various types of farmers' organizations exist in IFAD's project areas, for instance self-help groups, common interest groups, cooperative societies and commodity associations. As these groups participate in project activities, they are viewed as business entities and not just extension groups. Grant support will be targeted at groups of poor farmers that would benefit from consolidation and federated services. Particular attention will be given to the engagement of women and young people in grant-financed activities. It is estimated that the grant could reach 20,000 members of organizations, through KENFAP. The overall goal is to contribute to the federation's strategic plan and build KENFAP into a stronger farmers' apex organization that can provide effective leadership, representation and services to its members to empower them to make informed choices for improved sustainable livelihoods. Specific objectives include: (a) support to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of KENFAP; (b) strengthening KENFAP to provide capacity-building for enhanced governance and accountability to its member organizations; and (c) enhancing the capability of KENFAP and its member organizations to express their interests and influence overall policy dialogue relative to the agricultural sector.

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PF	Support to the Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU) for Capacity Building of National Farmers' Organizations in Southern Africa	Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)	200 000	<p>The ultimate target group consists of smallholder farmers (both men and women) in southern Africa who will benefit from the increased capacity of farmers' organizations at the national level to provide relevant services and represent and lobby for their interests. The direct target group consists of national smallholder farmers' organizations from the region, either current or potential members of SACAU, which will receive capacity-building support from SACAU.</p> <p>At present, SACAU comprises eleven members from six countries: Madagascar (Fédération Chrétienne des Paysans Malagasy, and Coalition Paysanne de Madagascar; Malawi (Farmers Union of Malawi and the National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi); Namibia (Namibia Agricultural Union and Namibia National Farmers Union); South Africa (Agri South Africa and National African Farmers Union); Zambia (Zambia National Farmers Union); Zimbabwe (Zimbabwe Farmers' Union and Commercial Farmers' Union). All these farmers' organizations will of course be potential beneficiaries. However, other organizations from the six countries specified as well as from other countries in the region will be eligible for support. The activities envisaged for financing include self-targeting mechanisms for farmers' organizations. As these organizations are predominantly composed of smallholder farmers, the needs of this group will be well represented, given that support for capacity-building and organizational development is widely perceived as top-priority among smallholder farmers. The overall goal is to empower farmers in the southern Africa region and strengthen their voice – through the development of their own membership-based organizations – so that they can set and pursue their own agenda and interests. Consistent with the first two goals of the SACAU Strategic Framework 2006-10, the objectives of the grant are: (a) to strengthen SACAU to play a proactive role in facilitating the capacity-building of its current and future members, i.e. national farmers' organizations with a large proportion of smallholder farmers; (b) to widen the geographical representation and broaden the membership of SACAU, in particular increasing the presence of farmers organizations that have a strong representation of smallholders; and (c) to strengthen the capacity of national farmers organizations (actual and future SACAU members) to effectively represent, serve and advocate for the needs of their members.</p>
PF	Strengthening Small Producers' Organizations' Capacities to Access Quality and Remunerative Markets Through Fair Trade in Comoros	Agronomes et Vétérinaires sans Frontières (AVSF)	200 000	<p>The Comoros is a small archipelago of four islands that covers a land surface of less than 2,000 km<sup>2</sup> and has a population density of more than 400 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>. About 85 per cent of the country's population is rural. Direct beneficiaries are rural organizations that wish to improve marketing conditions for their produce. More than 75 per cent of these producers live below the poverty threshold. Standard smallholder farm size is less than a half hectare, on which families of 6-7 members cultivate food crops and own between one and two animals (cows or goats). The target group is composed of 5,000 families (direct beneficiaries) and an additional 10,000 families who will indirectly benefit through the National Programme for Sustainable Human Development. Producers of vanilla, ylang-ylang and spices will indirectly benefit by obtaining fair trade prices at local markets. The goal is to promote a durable increase in the incomes of smallholders</p>

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				(members of farmer organizations) through access to quality markets, particularly with fair trade conditions. The objectives are: (a) increase in the long-term the incomes of rural organization members; (b) identify the general constraints on access to the targeted markets; (c) facilitate the access of members of the targeted rural organizations and producers to remunerative markets; and (d) duplicate experiences and serve as a model for other organizations and producers.
PF	Small and Microenterprises and Rural Financial Services Development in Swaziland	Ministry of Finance	200 000	The goal is to reduce rural poverty by increasing incomes and creating employment through the development and establishment of rural microenterprises and small businesses and improved access to rural finance. The objectives are: (a) training of potential microentrepreneurs and small entrepreneurs; (b) improvement of the training capacity of business development service providers so that they can respond to the needs of the entrepreneurs; and (c) to improve the access of entrepreneurs to credit by linking them to microfinance institutions. This will be piloted in three constituencies, using two different microfinance approaches.
PF	Capacity Building for Outreach to and Targeting of Poor Orphan and Vulnerable Children Households	Uganda Women's Effort to Save Orphans (UWESO)	200 000	The project will target the country's most vulnerable orphans and children. The core target group of the savings and loans associations are households that take care of several orphans and that are headed either by an older child, a grandparent, a single mother or a female relative. Other orphan families could be targeted based on socio-economic conditions. The goal is to enhance the capacity of poor rural households and communities to meet the socio-economic needs of orphans and other vulnerable children. The objectives are to: (i) build the capacity of UWESO to target and strengthen very poor rural households taking care of vulnerable children; and (ii) support – as a vehicle for economic development – the formation of 180 sustainable savings and loans associations in three of UWESO's regional branches.
PF	Angola: Community Land Mapping and Conflict Mitigation in the Central Highlands	Development Workshop	149 000	Target group is made up of smallholders in Katchiungo, Huambo Province, especially highly vulnerable groups including women, internally displaced persons and demobilized soldiers. The goal is to reduce the vulnerability of rural communities in the Central Highlands through improved access to land, recognition of traditional land rights and use of improved agricultural techniques in one commune in the Katchiungo municipality. The project will involve community land mapping and work within the new land law framework to regularize tenure rights. The project aims to identify land needs and potential local land conflicts, particularly between smallholders, returning internally displaced persons, demobilized soldiers and commercial farmers. The second component, linked to the Quissala research centre, will focus on disseminating appropriate farming techniques to returning internally displaced persons and vulnerable groups.

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PF	Rural Poverty Study - Angola	Centro de Estudos e Investigaçao Cientifica (CEIC)	100 000	The ultimate beneficiaries are the rural poor in Angola, who will benefit from informed pro-poor policies based on a greater knowledge of rural poverty. The goal is improved knowledge of rural poverty in Angola. The objectives are: (a) to gather and disseminate up-to-date information about rural poverty and promote public debate; (b) to understand the relationships between the various stakeholders in rural areas; and (c) to evaluate gender issues in relation to social organization structures and the means of production.
PF	Cooperative Development Project - Angola	Cooperative League of the USA/National Cooperative Business Association (CLUSA/NCBA)	100 000	The target group consists of smallholder farmers, who would benefit from a favourable legal framework for cooperatives. Grant support will directly benefit those farmers already working with CLUSA in agricultural development projects, which includes both smallholders and a small number of farmers already producing surpluses for local markets. In previous IFAD grants to CLUSA, working with women farmers and women's groups was a key objective in terms of supporting them to access financial services. Some of the lessons learned (such as the fact that women may request credit only to hand the money to their husbands later) will be extremely useful in ensuring that new legislation on cooperatives is gender-sensitive. The goal is to improve the legal and administrative framework for the legalization and functioning of farmers cooperatives in Angola. The objectives are: (a) to improve the legal framework for cooperatives in Angola; (b) to assist in the implementation of the new cooperative law and the legalization of ten agricultural service cooperatives over two years and in four provinces (Bengo, Huila, Benguela and Kwanza Sul).
PF	Angola: Participatory analysis of lessons-learned in community development initiatives in the Central Highlands	Angolan Non-Governmental Organizations Forum (FONGA)	50 000	The target group includes rural communities in the central highlands of Angola with whom FONGA members (community-based organizations [CBOs], local NGOs and local authorities) work. FONGA has over 100 members. Those involved in community development activities in the central highlands will participate in the project. FONGA will need to do some preparatory work to establish the exact number of participants in the study and will address, where possible, the social and gender representativeness of the CBOs participating in this learning exercise. The goal is to increase the development impact of the community-based activities of NGOs and donors working in the central highlands, by collectively identifying successful, participatory, impact-oriented, methodologies on which to base project design, by learning about processes that have enabled the poor to engage in local development processes and by using this learning to inform policy debates and create a sound knowledge base for future investments. The objectives of the project are to: (a) identify and learn from the models of intervention that have positively and demonstrably contributed to rural poverty reduction, community ownership of development processes, decentralization of decision-making, participation in policy debates and empowerment of marginalized groups (of women, for example) in the central highlands; (b) assess the level of participation of communities in local decision-making processes and in local development projects, including an analysis of the participation of women; and (c) strengthen the capacity of FONGA to help promote a network of NGOs and CBOs that are

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				representative of the rural poor, particularly of more vulnerable groups. Supporting FONGA in leading this learning process will also increase its legitimacy and visibility in the wider donor community.
PF/PA/PT	Proposal for Africa Fertilizer Summit: "Meeting Africa's Fertilizer Challenge: Agenda for Action"	International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC)	190 000	The target group comprises heads of state, ministers of agriculture, senior policymakers and government officials from all African countries, who are invited to the Summit. The purpose of the summit is to determine the most promising ways to rapidly increase efficient fertilizer use by poor smallholder farmers in Africa. These farmers are the ultimate target group of the grant support. The goal of the summit is to build consensus around the key issues that constrain increased fertilizer use in Africa and to agree on a strategy to accelerate the process of providing millions of poor farmers access to fertilizer and other complementary inputs, to help them increase agricultural production and achieve food security. The specific objectives of the summit are to: (a) affirm the critical importance of fertilizer in contributing to rapid and sustainable pro-poor growth in agricultural productivity in Africa. Increased fertilizer use is seen as a component of a holistic strategy that simultaneously improves access to and affordability of all inputs while promoting sound policies and creating the necessary incentives in output markets; (b) review evidence on the use of fertilizer in African agriculture and identify the major policy, institutional, financing, infrastructural and market constraints that limit poor farmers' access to fertilizers; (c) assess innovative approaches that have been used to build rural input markets while improving output markets for the rural poor; and (d) agree on a strategy for developing an Africa fertilizer action plan to accelerate the access of millions of poor farmers to inorganic fertilizers and other complementary inputs, while stimulating output markets to improve demand for farmers' produce.
PF/PA/PT	Support for Regional Assessments and Consultations in the Development of Land Policy Guidelines for Africa	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UN-ECA)	200 000	The target group consists of the key stakeholders at the regional and national levels – particularly member states of the African Union, representatives of the regional economic commissions and representatives of civil society (including representatives of the rural poor and small-scale farmers) – working together to agree on the elements of the land policy framework and its modalities. The ultimate beneficiaries will be the inhabitants of member states of the African Union, above all the rural poor, who will benefit from pro-poor land policies that address their concerns and mitigate their problems concerning land issues. The overarching goal is to contribute towards protecting land rights, increasing productivity, securing livelihoods, and promoting broad-based economic growth and sustainable development in Africa by supporting the development and implementation of a land policy and land reform network in Africa. The objectives are: (a) to assess the critical land tenure issues and the status of land policy formulation and implementation in all countries in Africa; (b) to undertake regional consultations with stakeholders from government and civil society on the key elements required for land policy guidelines; and (c) to endorse a set of draft land policy guidelines for Africa drawn up by African governments and civil society organizations at regional level.

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PI	Improving Understanding of Cognition and Institutions for Poverty Alleviation Programmes and Human Security	Washington University	200 000	Generally, traditional economic models of behaviour that provide the basis for policy and programme recommendations do not consider decision-making involving risk, intertemporal choices, fairness, imperfect information and decision heuristics, yet these elements are vital for the economically vulnerable and disadvantaged. Research to understand such decision-making considerations of the target group would lead to innovative approaches and technological options to enhance field-level impact. Therefore, the goal is to improve the probabilities of success in poverty reduction and risk management initiatives (i.e. technology adoption, insurance mechanisms, programme participation, decentralized decision-making and market access) for the economically vulnerable and disadvantaged.
PI	Strategies and Options for Integrating Biofuel and Rural Renewable Energy Production into Rural Agriculture for Poverty Reduction in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS)	Asian Development Bank (ADB)--GMS Working Group of Agriculture (WGA)	200 000	The goal is to ensure that rural poor households in the countries of the Greater Mekong Subregion reap the benefits of the growing market for biofuels. The aim is to enhance performance of the biofuel subsector in the subregion, which will benefit rural poor households in remote and ecologically fragile areas, where the pressure on natural resources is high and land is degraded. The project will promote understanding of structural shifts, and the social and environmental impacts of the development of biofuels. It will also seek to develop pro-poor strategies and strategic options for rural bioenergy and biofuel development in a range of different agro-ecosystems in the subregion. The project responds to the specific need to build the pro-poor capacity and awareness of ministries and support from governments in the subregion for cross-learning and networking. The project will seek to build national-level capacity for future strategy development by ensuring greater involvement by national stakeholders in the subsector.
PI	Rural Livelihood Improvement Programme (RLIP) in Attapeu and Sayabouri Province, Lao PDR	Ministry of Finance Government of Lao PDR	200 000	The goal is to increase the farm gate prices of the market opportunities identified (e.g. crops, livestock, non-timber forest products and off-farm income-generating activities) for target group households of the Rural Livelihood Improvement Programme. The grant builds capacity to use an approach that ensures participation of the poor in market chains based on improved transport, market information and connectivity, while not losing a poverty focus. Grant resources will promote pro-poor marketing, private sector and microenterprise development, corridor approaches while also providing support to food-for-work initiatives for road building.
PI	Strengthening Pro-Poor Capacity by Supporting Gewog Renewable Natural Resource Centres in Bhutan	Ministry of Agriculture, Bhutan	200 000	The goal is to support the decentralization process and strengthen local institutional capacities in Bhutan, through enhancing extension centre facilities for renewable natural resources and improving extension services for isolated communities. The creation of integrated development hubs at the grass-roots level – i.e. at the level of <i>gewogs</i> (groups of villages) – serves to support the ongoing constitutional reform as part of decentralization. In addition to housing the elected <i>gewog</i> bodies, the hubs aim to enhance the access of remote communities/rural poor to social and developmental services. The approach will promote integration of services provided by Government agencies for various sectors in a more cost-effective and efficient manner. There will

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				be significant potential for replication, as this grant represents the first external support to the Government's endeavour to create multipurpose rural development hubs at the grass-roots level.
PI	Income Diversification and Remittances for Livelihood Security and Rural Development (Nepal, Philippines, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka)	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	200 000	Recognizing that international remittances are now an important source of finance in many developing countries in Asia, the goal of this research programme is to identify key policy steps that will lead to fuller integration of remittance flows into domestic financial systems, such that their contribution to poverty alleviation and broader rural development is significantly enhanced. While the programme will be implemented in Bangladesh, Nepal, the Philippines and Sri Lanka, and will primarily address policies in these countries, there remains adequate scope for generalization of the broader findings to other countries in south and south-east Asia as well.
PI	Development of Regional Certification Standard and Strategy for Organic Agriculture in the Pacific Island Countries and Territories	Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)	200 000	The goal is to establish locally owned processes in order to have Pacific Regional Certification Standards accepted and a strategy for organic agriculture developed and endorsed by local stakeholders. The grant will promote organic agriculture as a pro-poor technological option. It will also develop capacity of partner institutions such as CBOs and NGOs. The project is closely aligned with the objectives of IFAD's strategy for rural poverty reduction in Asia and the Pacific, which envisions a catalytic role for IFAD by intervening in niche areas and promoting the adoption of sustainable or regenerative agricultural technologies. The project is also in line with the subregional strategic opportunities paper (SRESOP) for Pacific Island Countries (December 2004). The SRESOP highlights the role of organic agriculture as an untapped resource, recognizing that most of the subregion's agricultural practices are organic de facto but not adequately certified because of the high costs required.
PI	Integrating Safe and Off-season Vegetable Production With Market through Information, Education and Training In Ha Tinh and Tra Vinh Provinces, Viet Nam	Asian Regional Center (ARC), Bangkok, of the Asian Vegetable Research and Development Center (AVRDC)	199 991	The goal is to contribute to the sustainable improvement of rural poor people's incomes in the provinces of Ha Tinh and Tra Vinh in Viet Nam by developing and testing innovative approaches in safe, and off-season vegetable production, and providing market information, education and training with concomitant organizational support that can be replicated and scaled up by governments and other donors elsewhere in Viet Nam and in the Greater Mekong Subregion. Contamination of vegetables with pesticides, fertilizers, and wastewater is often a worry to consumers, which limits marketability. With increasing awareness among consumers, the demand for safe vegetables in Viet Nam is creating an opportunity for farmers to earn a higher profit. However, poor farmers are failing to benefit from this emerging market opportunity because they are not integrated with markets and they lack necessary skills, technologies and resources to produce safe and off-season vegetables. Therefore, the project will promote pro-poor research on innovative approaches and technological options by providing information, methods of organization and technology to produce safe and off-season vegetables using participatory approaches to small farmers in Ha Tinh and Tra Vinh provinces. The pro-poor capacities of partner institutions will be enhanced during implementation by linking them with the Commune

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				People's Committee, farmers' unions, women's unions, and the commune-level extension service.
PI	Linking Rural Poor Households to Supermarket and other quality Chains	Centre de coopération en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD)	199 719	The goal is to improve the livelihoods of small farmers in Viet Nam and the Lao People's Democratic Republic by improving their access to new supply chains of high-value commodities in the Mekong subregion. In these two countries, access to supermarket chains (and other quality domestic chains) by smallholders, particularly rural poor households, is weak. Lack of quality certification is the major cause of exclusion of these small-scale suppliers from supermarket supply chains. The project will focus on research around innovative approaches for food safety enhancement and origin-labelling. As there has already been some progress made with regard to arrangements for commodities in peri-urban areas, the focus will be on finding commodity linkages in more remote areas for rural poor farmers. Grant activities will build the capacity of in-country CIRAD partners to improve the conditions of contract bargaining in value chains, based on respective rights and commitments, and to enhance monitoring and enforcement mechanisms. The grant will work with the Ministry of Trade of Viet Nam to promote policy dialogue on the integration of small farmers into high-value supply chains for supermarkets and on barriers of entry as regards quality and quantity requirements.
PI	Risk, Vulnerability and Poverty in Central Asia and Pacific Island Countries – Emerging Challenges and Policy Priorities	Australia South Asia Research Centre, Australian National University	162 500	The research will provide an integrated analysis of risk, vulnerability and poverty (arising from transition to market economies, extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and earthquakes, and anticipated climate change) in Central Asia and the Pacific Islands. The research will consider both idiosyncratic and aggregate shock and understand its microeconomic foundations. Based on the research findings, the goal is to provide critical inputs into the formulation of policies and programmes to manage the risks and vulnerability faced by the rural poor in selected countries of these subregions. Insights will be gained into risk prevention and mitigation at the subregional level and how the nature of policy dialogue with respective governments could be influenced. A related concern is how the research findings could be built into IFAD's portfolio and project design. A third related goal is to explore risk pooling and insurance mechanisms (e.g. weather derivatives). Furthermore, the analysis will seek to link macroeconomic shocks to vulnerability at the household or other disaggregate level, particularly in response to the further opening up of these economies that is anticipated.



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PI	Good Governance for Sustainable Natural Resource Management and Poverty Reduction in Rural Mongolia – Scaling up through Community Lead Learning	New Zealand Nature Institute - Initiative for People Centered Conservation (NZNI-IPECON)	145 000	The goal is to promote good governance for community-led poverty reduction and sustainable natural resource management in rural Mongolia. The project will build upon and enhance pro-poor capacities of partner institutions through support of community-based approaches in natural resource management and poverty reduction. It strengthens community-based organizations of poor herders through capacity-building at the community and local government levels. Furthermore this project will strengthen the role of CBOs in policy dialogue activities. Policy dialogue with provincial and national policymakers will be based on lessons related to community-led poverty reduction and sustainable natural resource management, which will be captured, discussed and disseminated.
PI	Regional Workshop on Pro-poor Agricultural Technology Choices, Coalition of the Rural Poor and Strategic Thrusts in Asia and the Pacific	National Agricultural Cooperatives Federation (NACF)	100 000	This regional workshop will focus on the debate on pro-poor agricultural research and technologies and how this debate will define the approach to pro-poor technology choices in Asia. Technology choices – low external input and sustainable agriculture, genetically modified organism, organic farming etc. – are critically important in the transformation and commercialization of agriculture in developing countries of Asia and the Pacific. The goal of the regional workshop is to strengthen the pro-poor capacities of countries and partners through sharing and exploring experiences and best practices for agricultural technology choices, forming coalitions of poor farmers, and promoting agricultural and rural development policies for rural poverty reduction. This capacity will be useful for the development of future country programmes.
PL	Sustainable Local Tourism Development in Darién, Republic of Panama	Centro de Gestión Local de Darien y Comarcas (CEGEL)	200 000	The main goal is to generate sustainable income and employment for the indigenous and afro-descendant communities of the Darién Region. This will rely on the improvement of local planning capacities for the development of the tourism industry, which will allow for the identification of community-driven initiatives in a market-oriented and coherent manner. Respect and preservation of local cultural and natural heritage are central to the programme approach. The objectives are: (a) to elaborate a development plan for the local tourism industry, based on national and international demand, in a participatory manner in consultation with sector stakeholders. Local trading authorities, and related organizations and institutions will participate in the elaboration and implementation of the plan, and CBOs will be key actors in its drafting, implementation and monitoring; (b) to strengthen local business capacity and support community-based initiatives for the development of local ecotourism; and (c) to create a communication strategy to promote local tourism initiatives and facilitate exchange with the national/international ecotourism sector.

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PL	Supporting Small-Scale Producers Accessing Dynamic Markets – A Pilot Programme in Guatemala	AGEXPORT	200 000	The goals are to assist rural smallholders in acquiring the necessary skills to establish commercial links with external purchasers and to develop new export markets for the traditional and non-traditional products of smallholders. The programme will promote new practices and experiences in the context of international trade liberalization in Guatemala and contribute to the development of the export market for the region's rural poor and indigenous populations. Activities will focus on business development and the creation of commercial opportunities for these groups. Special attention will be given to supermarkets, fair trade and mainstream commercial export markets. The principles of gender equity and sustainable natural resource management will be adhered to in all grant-supported activities. Beneficiaries will include cooperatives, a proportion of which will be run by indigenous organizations.
PL	Building Local Capacity to Monitor Social Performance and to Promote a Favourable Policy Environment in Rural Finance	Foro Latinoamericano y del Caribe de Finanzas Rurales (FORO LAC FR)	196 900	Participating countries are Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru. The goal is to promote a social performance system that adequately measures and reports the institutional mission of microfinance institutions in such a way that permits greater coverage and social support to people living in extreme poverty. The objective is to promote the measurement and monitoring of social performance and awareness about the fulfillment of the social mission of microfinance, i.e. to eradicate poverty and exclusion and to promote human development and social inclusion. The specific objective is to create and foster local capacity through national microfinance networks so that social performance can be measured and monitored in the context of financial service provision.
PL	Building Pro-poor Capacities for Local Government and Provision of Rural Financial Services	United Nations Development Programme, (UNDP, Belize)	200 000	The goal is to support the decentralization process of the Government of Belize by strengthening local institutional capacities. This will be achieved: (a) by increasing the outreach of the financial services that selected credit unions offer to low-income households and small enterprises in rural areas; and (b) by strengthening village councils, district associations and the National Association of Village Council Organizations (NAVCO) so that they can influence policymakers to foster national development, particularly with regard to rural poverty alleviation. Two institutions have been selected for grant support, on the basis of their maturity and capacity. As regards the <b>Belize Credit Union League</b> , the grant will: (a) support the development of new and improved services for the poorest rural clients; (b) develop strategic and business planning capacity in the institution and its participant credit unions; (c) strengthen the governance structure and improve quality of information for decision-making; and (d) build its capacity to be an effective advocate and a service centre for participant credit unions. In terms of the <b>National Association of Village Councils Organizations</b> , the grant assistance will: (a) increase awareness among the rural voting population of local government's role, responsibilities and required good governance practices; (b) train newly elected village councillors in (i) the knowledge and interpretation of the Village Council Act, the salient parts of the Village Councils Regulation and the three main by-laws; and (ii) their roles and responsibilities; (c) train the newly elected board of directors in

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				management, communication, networking and conflict resolution; and (d) provide rural community development officers with the skills and materials needed to enhance their capacity to address community needs, and to develop the ability of the communities to conduct their own development activities more effectively.
PL	Agricultural-Production Reactivation Programme for Mountain Smallholders	Fideicomiso de Riesgo Compartido – Trust Fund for Shared Risk (FIRCO)	200 000	<p>The target group consists of small agricultural producers from both rural and indigenous communities: rural women, young people and landless agricultural labourers, all from small rural communities affected by hurricane Stan. Mexico is the participating country. Other countries in the Latin America and Caribbean region, primarily from Central America, will benefit from experience exchange and dissemination of lessons learned.</p> <p>The goal is to contribute to improving the living conditions of the target group and thus reduce their poverty and marginality, while arresting environmental vulnerability in selected and critical areas of Chiapas, Mexico. The initiative will seek to enhance the capacity of local organizational structures for planning and action while participating in the local social and economic development processes.</p> <p>The objectives are to contribute to the production, reconstruction, rehabilitation and conservation of natural resources in the territories of the identified communities in Chiapas, Mexico through the use of improved practices, inputs and technologies in order to enhance production, income and employment while increasing the value of their productive natural assets.</p> <p>It is envisaged that this will contribute to: (a) reconstruction of the productive capacity and production reactivation of communities affected by hurricane Stan, facilitating the reestablishment of commercialization, employment and income to pre-hurricane levels; (b) the rehabilitation and conservation of soil and water in particularly eroded mountainous zones and a reduction in the vulnerability of these communities to recurrent natural disasters (based on the formulation and execution of plans for reconstruction, production and conservation within family smallholdings and their community territories); (c) the consolidation of local and municipal structures for development planning and management; and (d) the consolidation of the state-level entity responsible for the implementation and technical follow-up of the National Microwatershed Programme, facilitating both inter-institutional coordination and harmonization of investment resources, in addition to the generation, compilation, exchange and dissemination of implementation experience.</p> <p>Grant activities will be gender-sensitive and the participation of rural and indigenous women will be ensured.</p>
PN	Supply Chain Management Support in Moldova	<b>Dienst Landbouwkundig Onderzoek Foundation /</b>	200 000	The grant will finance activities in support of the IFAD-financed Rural Business Development Programme (RBDP) in the Republic of Moldova. The client group of this programme consists of the economically active rural poor and small and medium-sized entrepreneurs who provide backward and forward market linkages for the rural poor. The overall goal is to build the capacity of the consolidated programme implementation unit (CPIU) and IFAD to facilitate participation

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		<b>Wageningen International, (DLO Foundation)</b>		and access by smallholder farmers in the market within the framework of a participatory supply chain. This will enhance the field-level impact of the RBDP. The objectives are: (a) develop practical tools and instruments for the design and implementation of effective market access programmes for lasting impact on rural poverty reduction within the CPIU-IFAD institutional framework; (b) devise pilot strategic and operational plans to maximize supply chain efficiency and effectiveness in support of selected supply chain stakeholders; (c) create, on a pilot basis, the optimal conditions and enabling environment for selected supply chains to access RBDP support and mobilize additional resources for their gradual development into sustainable and market-oriented food supply chains; and (d) improve IFAD's capacity, both at headquarters and at the field level, to design and implement programmes that focus on market-driven instruments for enhanced smallholder farmers' access to markets through experience and lessons learned from programme implementation.
PN	Savings and Credit Promotion in West Bank and Gaza Strip	Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committee (PARC)	200 000	The programme targets Palestinian women, especially in rural areas based on cooperative principles and developing their skills and capabilities in cooperation with others. These women will be members of the savings and credit association (SCA) and will be participating in the activities. To date there are more than 6,000 women members of these cooperatives. These women will be direct beneficiaries of the training courses offered through out the project. Members of the administrative committees of the SCAs will also receive capacity-building support and training. The goal is to empower resource-poor Palestinian women, and improve their standard of living and income by expanding efficient sustainable programmes for smallholdings and by promoting income-generating activities. The grant objectives are to: (a) strengthen the operational management of the SCA Union; and (b) improve the financial performance of the SCAs.
PN	Rehabilitation, Conservation, and Promotion of Aromatic and Medicinal Plants (AMP) in the Matmata, South East Region of Tunisia	International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA) Regional Office Tunis	200 000	The target group comprises local rural communities, especially women, in south-east Tunisia. The goal of the project is to combat degradation of natural resources and improve incomes of rural communities through the rehabilitation, conservation and production diversification. The objective is to increase and diversify sources of income for women and men in the project area through improved AMP productivity and market linkages. The programme will consist of the following components: (a) pilot development of the AMP value chain; (b) agricultural extension for AMP production; (c) set-up of plant nurseries and pilot sites; and (d) M&E and knowledge management.

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PN	Commodity Chain Analysis for Selected Horticultural Exports in the NENA Region	International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA)	200 000	<p>The study is geared towards supporting small growers of horticultural commodities (particularly vegetables and fruits) in their production and marketing decisions. The study is expected to provide an inventory of problems and constraints encountered by smallholder farmers and conceivable solutions necessary for reducing risks and ensuring a fair and competitive marketing process. The study is expected to help smallholders decide what to produce and how to produce it to meet market demand in terms of quality and standards, and make profitable decisions in the short term on when and where to market produce and what price to expect. The study is also useful for aiding policy-making and institutional reform necessary to reorient the horticultural commodity sector at the country level. However, the ultimate coverage of the study is regional and two representative countries (initially suggested countries are Egypt and Morocco) will be selected as case studies from the Near East and North Africa (NENA) region.</p> <p>The development goal of the technical assistance provided under this grant is to promote and improve the competitiveness of the horticultural exports of the NENA region to contribute to increasing income of smallholder export farmers and to alleviating rural poverty. The specific objective of the technical assistance is to undertake commodity chain analysis for selected horticultural commodities (from vegetables and fruits) with comparative advantages and potentials to benefit the smallholder farmers in Egypt and Morocco. The study is expected to give strategic directions for government and private sector support to the sector, to inform and guide investment opportunities and project development possibilities, and to support policy dialogue for improving the sector.</p>
PN	Capacity Building for the Regional Centre for Plant Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology	Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture of Qatar	200 000	<p>The goal is to contribute to food security and a reduction in poverty in the Arab region and to increase agricultural production capacity in countries covered by the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC) and other Arab countries through enhanced food production and improving the nutritional quality of food while preserving and enhancing the natural resource base. The objectives of the programme are: (a) to develop and promote application of biotechnology in the agricultural sector to address issues of low productivity and enhance agricultural production in GCC and other Arab countries (biotech research); (b) to assist GCC countries in strengthening their scientific and technological capabilities in the field of biotechnology (training of biotech researchers) and put this to use in promoting agriculture growth and development in the region; (c) to serve as a forum for exchange of information, experience and know-how and to act as the focal point of a network of affiliated (national, subregional and regional) centres and research institutions in Arab countries (i.e. an information hub); (d) to develop and harmonize biosafety regulations in the GCC countries; and (e) to exploit plant genetic resources available in local gene banks and in situ collections using gene-marker-related techniques.</p>

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PN	Sustainable Use of Groundwater for the Improvement of Farmer Livelihoods and Ecological Conditions in Oasis	The Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD)	200 000	<p>The availability of adequate freshwater resources and their rational utilization is emerging as a major issue in the development activities of many countries in the NENA region. Most of the region is arid and semi-arid, with low and erratic rainfall. To ensure sustainable livelihoods for the oasis community, a people-centered and integrated water demand management approach is needed. Better management of access, use and control of natural resources will help increase productivity, save water and improve the incomes of poor farmers.</p> <p>The goal is to improve the livelihoods of vulnerable groups in the oases of southern Algeria and Tunisia. This will contribute to poverty reduction and protect the fragile oasis environment. In partnership with national agricultural research systems, farmers, and local associations the project will: (a) identify, develop and deliver improved technology that saves water, reduces costs and raises productivity; (b) identify and deliver improved agriculture practices (introduction of new crop varieties that are resistant to salinity, require less water and have a relatively high market value); and (c) identify institutional and policy improvement options (water regulations and legislation) that are socially and economically acceptable.</p>
PN	Small Farmers Capacity Building for Northern Iraq Governorates	Young Farmers' Agricultural Training Organisation (Y-FATO)	190 000	<p>The goal is to develop a cost-effective, gender-sensitive, results-oriented approach to capacity-building for farmers. The project activities will be undertaken by a target group of 200 young farmers (both men and women). Activities will consist of: (a) community mobilization to identify the information and skills needed to improve production and marketing of agricultural produce, to nominate potential trainees for the courses offered by Y-FATO, to agree on how the community will organize itself to use the knowledge and skills of the trainees to disseminate new technologies and trigger their wider adoption. Options for consideration by the communities are: (i) the farmer learning group approach; (ii) remunerating the technical advisory services that may be provided by graduates to farmers in the community; (iii) organization of competitions for best farms with awards provided by regional government, local banks, and the Y-FATO training centre; (b) organization of the community to contribute to the training of the selected candidates. Experience shows that such contributions are usually in-kind and are used to cover part of the accommodation costs of the trainees as the training programme is residential; (c) preparatory activities that include rehabilitation/construction of premises, purchase of office furniture and equipment, production of information and training materials, launching of information campaign, establishment of demonstration fields for proper farming systems in the catchment area of the training centre, including agroforestry; (d) updating the training curriculum to equip young farmers with skills in communication and participatory extension; (e) training of the young farmers selected and providing news of their performance to the community; (f) provision of inputs and kits to the graduating farmers to apply the knowledge acquired in their own fields; (g) organization of farmer learning groups, advisory services or farmer competition to promote dissemination of new technologies and their adoption. These activities will be led by the graduates and the Y-FATO will provide the required on-the-job training and technical advice; and (h) monitoring the</p>

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				<p>results and impact of the training.</p> <p>It is worth noting that the training course to be offered by Y-FATO has two interrelated dimensions: a socio-economic dimension focused on the ability to carry out community development processes and a technical dimension focused on agricultural production. With regard to community mobilization, selected community leaders will be trained in the following areas: (a) principles of community development practice; (b) broad-based participation; (c) participatory planning; (d) facilitation of group meetings; (e) community mobilization; and (f) impact-oriented participatory M&amp;E. With regard to technical training, small farmers will need to upgrade their knowledge of local agricultural production systems through intensive demand-driven training in: (a) adoption and use of high-yield varieties, use of environment-friendly herbicides and pesticides and the full range of improved cultural practices (tillage, planting, irrigation, water harvesting, fertilizer use) and new post-harvest technologies, (b) crop-livestock integration, introduction of fodder (<i>Vicia sativa</i>) in rotation with barley; (c) the use of sponges and PMSG hormone; (d) urea-treated straw; (e) agricultural by-product feed blocks; (f) early weaning of lambs; and (g) vitamin A injections. Special attention will be given to the training requirements of rural women whose preferred activities are related to animal production and apiculture.</p>
PN	Piloting Regulated Access to Range Resources in the Butana Region, Sudan	Central Coordination Unit for IFAD co-financed projects – The Republic of The Sudan	133 560	<p>The grant activities will be undertaken in the Sudan and will benefit a total of three communities. The population in the communities varies from 100 to 300 households (depending on whether their livelihoods are pastoral or agro-pastoral-based) and poverty incidence stands at an average of 80 per cent. The goal is to test the legal, managerial and operational elements of the improved governance framework for the range resources of the Butana. The objectives are to address the environmental issues undermining local livelihoods, notably range degradation and poor herd productivity in the region. This requires work on two fronts: (a) improving the carrying capacity of the range; and (b) moving from an open access regime to range resources to one of regulated access so as to re-establish smallholders' access to good quality rangelands.</p>
PT	Facilitating Strategic Partnerships for International Agricultural Research for Development: the Global Forum on Agricultural Research Triennial Conference, November 8-11, 2006 New Delhi	Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR)	200 000	<p>Country representatives of the various GFAR stakeholder groups will participate, comprising: farmers' organizations, consortium of NGOs, national agricultural research systems from developing countries, advanced research institutions from developed countries, international agricultural research systems, the private sector and members of the GFAR Donor Support Group. Participants will come from both developing and developed countries. The objectives are: (a) to formulate recommendations and guidelines to ensure the effective and efficient contribution by the agricultural sector to the MDGs through research for development activities that promote innovation and are carried out by multistakeholder groups including small and medium-sized producers working on the production-to-consumption continuum in crops, livestock, fisheries, food processing and allied sectors; (b) to add the voice and perspective of GFAR to the current global debate on achieving the MDGs. The theme of the conference implicitly questions the ability of current approaches to agricultural research to meet the MDGs, especially those of eradicating</p>

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				<p>extreme poverty and hunger, ensuring natural resource integrity and building a global partnership by 2015. The basic thesis is that there is a disconnect between agricultural research and societal development needs, especially those of the poor, less-endowed and marginalized communities which are further disadvantaged by gender, age and societal distinctions. This has led to the call for a reorientation of agricultural research for development with a pro-poor bias.</p> <p>The conference will examine (by generating documents dealing with the conference theme; key note, thematic and topical addresses; presentations and papers; holding of discussion groups on a variety of current and emerging topics on agricultural research for development, for instance, how society at large can or should go about this reorientation, by whom or with whom should it be undertaken and what concrete steps should be taken in order to devise solutions for reorienting agricultural research so that it can adopt an approach more likely to meet the needs of the poor. The strength of GFAR lies in the variety of its stakeholders. These which include farmers, NGOs and the communities they serve. This rich mix combined with the recommendations they may make on actions that need to be taken by the global community will have some impact on the commitment to successfully address the MDGs for the benefit of the poor and marginalized; (c) to raise the profile of and awareness about the contribution made by agricultural research to development by highlighting how it is helping to solve current development problems related to poverty, food security and a degraded environment.</p> <p>Evidence exists that research contributes significantly to development. In many developing countries agricultural research for development does not enjoy the policy and funding support it deserves, perhaps because even high rates of return do not demonstrate impact on the poor. An important activity of this conference is a competitive poster session on evidenced-based contributions of agricultural research to specified MDGs. The idea is to produce examples of the contribution of agricultural research for development to poverty reduction, income generation, increased livelihoods of the poor and better management of the fragile resources of marginalized communities. This evidence will then be packaged and used to raise the profile of agricultural research for development so that it can receive greater commitment and support in the future, thereby enabling agricultural research for development to better address the needs of the poor; (d) to formulate guidelines and a framework for the development of both the immediate business plan (2007-2009) and the medium-term plan (2007-2015) on which the GFAR stakeholders listed above will work in strategic partnerships in order to contribute to reaching the MDGs; (e) to enable GFAR stakeholders – jointly and through participatory processes and face-to-face dialogue – to formulate recommendations for the development of new ways of carrying out agricultural research for development so that it can contribute more effectively to the realization of the MDGs.</p>



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PT	Strengthening Capacity for Collaborative Management of Rural Innovation in sub-Saharan Africa: Exploring New Tools and Partnerships	International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)	200 000	<p>The target group comprises IFAD-financed project staff and partners operating in Senegal (in agreement with the country programme manager). The goal is to make an impact on poverty reduction through strengthening the capacities of research and development professionals and organizations from Senegal to make better use of various participatory methods for managing technical and social innovation in rural communities in a collaborative way.</p> <p>The IFAD-financed investment projects in Senegal that will initially benefit are: Agricultural Development Project in Matam – Phase I, Village Organization and Management Project – Phase II and Agricultural Services and Producer Organizations Project – Phase II, of which the second phase is co-funded by IFAD. The latter programme involves both the Agricultural Research Institute of Senegal (ISRA) and the National Agricultural and Rural Advisory Agency (ANCAR). In addition, agents from the state services of agricultural and forest management who work in partnership with these IFAD-funded projects will benefit from the grant support. The support to the Village Organization and Management Project – Phase II will be conducted in synergy with the Senegalese component of the IFAD-funded technical assistance grant to the World Agroforestry Centre (grant No. 799) in locations where this project, ANCAR and ISRA intervene simultaneously. It is foreseen that the capacity-strengthening elements will be disseminated afterwards to a large number of projects in Senegal and other countries through an expansion strategy funded through other mechanisms. This grant support aims at laying the foundations for such a strategy.</p>
PT	Assistance to the Participating Countries in the Review of the Implementation of the UNCCD at its Fifth Committee for Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC-5)	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	200 000	<p>Overall, the target groups are the rural poor in the 33 countries, who will benefit from the programmes drawn up as a result of the third national reporting process. The goal of the whole project (i.e. the IFAD grant-funded component and the Global Environment Facility (GEF)-funded component) is to facilitate implementation of the UNCCD process. The specific objective of the whole project is to support the participating countries to enhance their capacities to analyse the current status of land degradation and identify barriers to sustainable land management, as well as to assist these countries in producing national reports on the implementation of the UNCCD process.</p>
PT	Sustainable Gender Sensitive Agricultural Extension Reform to Reach Rural Women in India	Glasgow Caledonian University	198 780	<p>The goal is to enhance women's access to agricultural extension services and inputs. The objective is to implement an improved approach to agricultural extension policy on women in agriculture for the Indian Ministry of Agriculture. The programme will have the following outputs: (a) gender-sensitive approach to agricultural extension delivery assessed, refined and operationalized; and (b) new knowledge on the implications of a gender-sensitive approach to agricultural extension generated. This includes the production of a knowledge-sharing document that will be key in extending the "cafeteria approach" across India.</p>

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PT	The Gender Dimensions of Remittances: Their Flows, Uses and Development Impacts	International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW)	158 000	Target group are rural poor people globally who benefit from remittances to developing countries. This proposal forms part of a worldwide project that has the overarching goal of contributing to the efforts to increase the development potential of remittances for poor rural men and women in developing countries. The worldwide project will be funded by a variety of partners and implemented by INSTRAW in the following countries: the Dominican Republic, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala and the Philippines. The proposal will focus on the Philippines, which will serve as a pilot initiative with the specific objectives of: (a) assessing the impact of remittances sent by migrants – men and women – on household food security and community development in rural areas in the Philippines; (b) supporting capacity-building activities promoted by migrants' associations in order to improve the living conditions of Filipino men and women migrants in Italy; (c) increasing awareness among Filipino migrants of the need to promote rural development in their communities of origin and of available alternatives for sending remittances; and (d) enhancing capacity-building of key stakeholders – financial institutions, United Nations agencies, government offices, international cooperation agencies, migrants' associations, local NGOs and academic centres – in order to integrate gender into programmes, projects and other initiatives linking remittances and rural development in Philippines through the elaboration of specific guidelines, tools and other materials.
PT	Enhancing the Local Natural Resources Exploitation for Livestock Development	International Trypanotolerance Centre (ITC)	150 000	Participating countries are the Gambia, Guinea and Sierra Leone. The goal is to enhance the exploitation of local natural resources (i.e. <i>Moringa oleifera</i> and bamboo spp.) for livestock and market-oriented rural development. The objectives are: (a) test, validate and compare different local multipurpose crops (i.e. <i>Moringa oleifera</i> and bamboo spp.) as fodder in ruminant nutrition; (b) collect cases and data across the region on the use of these crops as fodder, food, fuel, fertilizer, building material and medicinal plants; (c) promote the development of <i>Moringa</i> and bamboo marketable products by involving rural women in related income-generating activities; (d) promote the use of <i>Moringa</i> and bamboo in IFAD investment projects in the region; and (e) based on the research and development results, develop technical advisory notes for IFAD's collection and for the transfer of methodologies to other regions.
PT	Building the Foundation for Pro-Poor Ecosystem Service Markets to Achieve Impacts to Scale in Africa	Forest Trends Association	150 000	The target audience includes key stakeholders involved in designing and initiating ecosystem service payment systems, in addition to service providers in Africa. These include policymakers, high-level management from national and private firms, rural development and environmental NGOs, and low-income farmer, herder, artisanal fisher and forest communities. The goal is to establish the foundations for information, leadership capacity and coordinated planning for the substantial scaling up of pro-poor payment for environmental services (PES) system in Africa. The main objective of the grant is to strengthen the foundation for the development a PES system to reduce rural poverty. The specific objectives are: (a) to create a knowledge centre for information on pro-poor markets for water, carbon, and biodiversity in Africa; (b) to build capacity for PES implementation of stakeholders in rural poor communities in Africa. The project will

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				strengthen the capacity of individuals from institutions that play key roles in developing pro-poor payment schemes such as sellers, buyers, intermediaries and policymakers, in the participating countries; (c) to share lessons learned from around the world and in Africa. The project will draw upon international experience to explore design and implementation of a range of mechanisms to reward or compensate rural communities for stewardship of ecosystem services; (d) to plan a systematic strategy for investment in pro-poor PES in Africa. The project will develop a strategy and priorities for follow-up activities to PES development.
PT	Assessing and Developing Replicable Methodologies and Approaches for Sustainable Charcoal Production for Livelihood Development, Rural Energy Security & Environmental Protection	International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR)	130 000	African countries (principally Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, and others) will be involved. Direct target groups include policymakers, researchers and technical personnel. Indirect target groups will be rural and urban communities depending on and using charcoal for income-generation and as a source of energy. The goal is to help develop charcoal production into a sustainable option for addressing rural poverty and rural energy security while contributing to environmental protection. The objectives are: (a) produce a state-of-the-art report based on data on charcoal production and its poverty and environmental impact especially in Africa, including trend analysis based on future consumption and market opportunities; (b) collection of charcoal technologies and case data across the regions; (c) hold an International Conference on Charcoal and Communities in Africa; (d) generate cutting-edge project concepts and proposals on charcoal issues, which will be initiated at the conference and continued online through the Global Non-Timber Forest Products Partnership; (e) create awareness and interest among the donor community, national programmes and technical institutions, and develop targeted practical information packages to IFAD loan projects that include charcoal in their basket of livelihood options; and (f) develop a global agenda for charcoal as an acceptable and sustainable instrument of rural poverty alleviation and energy security.
PT	Women's Leadership in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management to Support Global Advocacy and Organisational Change for Poverty Alleviation	Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (WOCAN)	84 500	Although the grant is global in focus, significant engagement in countries of the eastern Himalayas, in Cameroon and in the Lao People's Democratic Republic is envisaged. The target group are professional and rural women globally. The goal is to: (a) empower women professionals engaged in agriculture and natural resource management by improving their leadership capabilities and providing them with opportunities to share information and experiences globally; (b) establish and support platforms for women to build alliances so that they may achieve higher levels of energy and commitment for the dual causes of rural women's empowerment and agricultural and environmental sustainability; and (c) transform programmes and organizations by strengthening the position of women professionals engaged in agriculture, forestry, and other relevant sectors within their organizations and increasing the effectiveness and service of these organizations for rural women. The objective is to develop the skills, knowledge and commitment of women to act as facilitators of change within their own organizations and in the global policy arena for the

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				institutionalization of gender perspectives in organizations dealing with natural resource management (NRM) so that these organizations can more effectively address the needs of poor rural women. This will be achieved by building: (a) networks and alliances; (b) skills and knowledge of professionals and institutions for better provision of services to rural women; (c) alliances for global advocacy for gender and agriculture/NRM; (d) the institutional framework for collaboration to provide services to disadvantaged rural women; and (e) WOCAN itself as a model civil society organization.
PT	Global Microcredit Summit 2006: IFAD Support for Original Research and Scholarships for Grassroots Microfinance Leaders	RESULTS Educational Fund Inc. (REF)	35 000	<p>The target group are rural poor people, who stand to benefit from microfinancing. In support of the Microcredit Summit Campaign, the goal of this grant is to maximize the impact of the Global Microcredit Summit. This gathering of leading practitioners, donors, academics and stakeholders in microfinance is an opportunity to emphasize the importance of rural finance in the wider sector, discuss strategies that target the Fund's core group of beneficiaries, and increase the visibility of efforts and partnerships already underway. As in other rural finance initiatives, the overarching goal of this work is to contribute to the construction of inclusive financial sectors that meet the needs of the rural poor.</p> <p>IFAD proposes to contribute to the Summit to: (a) promote knowledge management and information exchange among the various actors in the microfinance industry (e.g. donors, practitioners, policymakers and academics); (b) generate feedback and debate on the issue of sustainability and impact of microfinance institutions; (c) continue the momentum produced by the 2005 Year of Microcredit; and (d) build the capacity of local partners in microfinance and facilitate their connections to resources.</p>

EAD = External Affairs Department  
 EC = Communications Division  
 EO = Policy Division  
 GEF = Global Environment Facility  
 PA = Western and Central Africa Division  
 PF = Eastern and Southern Africa Division  
 PI = Asia and the Pacific Division  
 PL = Latin America and the Caribbean Division  
 PN = Near East and North Africa Division  
 PT = Technical Advisory Division

