



Investing in rural people

1 March 2024

Distinguished representatives,

The Rome-based Agencies cordially invite you to a joint event on Friday, 8 March from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (CET) to commemorate International Women's Day (IWD) 2024. Welcome coffee will be available from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.

In line with the United Nations theme for the observance of the IWD 2024: "*Invest in women: Accelerate progress*", the Rome-based agencies are coming together to reaffirm their commitments to women's empowerment and the advancement of gender equality. We recognize that eliminating gender inequalities is crucial in addressing poverty and food insecurity.

The celebrations, which are jointly organized with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP), will be held in a hybrid format, in person in the Italian Conference Room at the IFAD Headquarters in Via Paolo di Dono, 44, Rome, and online through Zoom. Interpretation will be provided in English, French and Spanish.

A number of experts will discuss how directing financial resources towards gender equality and women's empowerment, can unlock the full potential of women and girls, creating a ripple effect that benefits entire societies.

Your participation would positively contribute to our discussions.

Please find the concept note attached hereto.

We look forward to welcoming you at this event. To confirm your participation in-presence, please contact the IFAD Gender Team at gender@ifad.org indicating your name and title by noon on 6 March. To join the event online please register here: bit.ly/RBA-IWD-2024

Accept, Distinguished Representatives, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Claudia', is positioned above the typed name.

Claudia ten Have
Secretary of IFAD