

29 April 2020

Distinguished Representative,

On behalf of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, I invite you to join us for a series of virtual events to be held within the framework of the Consultation on the Twelfth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic will be particularly devastating for the health and economies of the world's most vulnerable people: rural communities in developing countries. The virtual events will examine the immediate and longer-term impacts of the crisis on rural people and small-scale agriculture and will explore how to ensure recovery, build resilience and get back on track for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The first event of the series – "Farmers on the Frontline: Building Resilience in a post-COVID-19 World" – will take place on Friday, 8 May, from 3 to 4 p.m. (Central European Summer Time). In this event, we will look at how poor rural communities that have already benefited from IFAD's resilience-building projects are better placed to cope with the impacts of COVID-19. A panel composed of IFAD partners and experts from Africa, Asia and Latin America will discuss the importance of supporting production and marketing in rural communities and establishing crisis-resilient mechanisms to enable these communities to withstand shocks.

The discussion will be held in English and is open to Member State representatives, development partners and the media. The audience will have the possibility to ask questions online. More information regarding the first event is available [here](#).

At this challenging time, a strong global multilateral system has never been more important. IFAD needs your continued support as we seek to ensure that, in our collective global COVID-19 response, rural people are not left behind. We would therefore be honoured if you could join us for this series of IFAD Virtual Events, which promises to be stimulating and highly relevant.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marie Haga".

Marie Haga
Associate Vice-President
External Relations and Governance Department

Representatives of the International
Fund for Agricultural Development
and respective recipients of
copies for information