



Twelfth Replenishment

**RURAL**  
**PROSPERITY.**  
**FOOD.**  
**RESILIENCE.**

# CASE FOR INVESTMENT



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# ACTION TO MEET GLOBAL GOALS STARTS IN RURAL AREAS

Today we stand at a critical juncture – historic progress in reducing hunger has stalled and the successes of recent decades are being reversed. At the same time, poverty remains stubbornly entrenched in some areas, and inequality is rising.<sup>1</sup> This cannot be allowed to continue.

While the number of people living in extreme poverty fell from nearly 2 billion in 1990 to 736 million in 2015,<sup>2</sup> and hunger declined for decades,<sup>3</sup> **the poorest and most marginalized people continue to be left behind.** More than 820 million people go hungry every day, and the wealth gap is widening.

At the same time, climate change is an existential threat to our food systems, and food is our most basic need. The frequency and intensity of extreme weather events continues to increase,<sup>4</sup> and the costs of these disasters are spiralling.<sup>5</sup> Rural people, especially small-scale farmers, are among those suffering most.<sup>6</sup> Up to 1 billion people could be forced to migrate because of environmental pressures.<sup>7</sup> Rising hunger is also linked to conflict, fragility and economic slowdowns. The growing cost of humanitarian aid points to the need for longer-term investments and solutions.

While these challenges are daunting, we also have **a historic opportunity to reignite progress towards the elimination of extreme poverty and hunger** (Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 2). Official development assistance for food security has hovered at 6 per cent of total assistance for 20 years. We can, and we must, do more – not just with more funding but with new partnerships, new instruments, better models and more inclusive approaches.

Poverty, hunger and inequality can strike anywhere but they are concentrated in rural areas, where most of world's poorest and hungry people live. **That's why the road to the SDGs runs through rural areas.**

Rural people bear the brunt of these challenges yet they are also essential partners in the solutions. An estimated **63 per cent of the world's poor people work in agriculture, the overwhelming majority on small farms.** Small-scale farmers produce 50 per cent of all food calories on 30 per cent of the world's agricultural land.<sup>8</sup> **Rural development with agriculture at its centre can radiate prosperity through communities and societies.** Prosperous small farms can not only provide food but can also create jobs, and raise demand for locally produced goods and services. This in turn spurs opportunity, economic growth and more stable societies.

In fact, economic growth in agriculture is two to three times more effective at reducing poverty and food insecurity than growth generated in other sectors.<sup>9</sup> To meet the global goals of ending extreme poverty and hunger requires stepping up targeted investment in rural areas.

**IFAD has a key role to play, because it is the only multilateral development institution exclusively focused on transforming rural economies and food systems to make them more inclusive, productive, resilient and sustainable.**



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# IFAD'S ROLE IN ENDING POVERTY AND HUNGER

**IFAD invests in the millions of rural people who are most at risk of being left behind: poor small-scale producers, women, young people, indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups living in rural areas.** IFAD tailors its approach to country needs and focuses on low-income countries and lower-middle-income countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. But it also provides support to address stubborn pockets of poverty in upper-middle-income countries. Around the world, IFAD is working in remote areas, and in difficult contexts experiencing food insecurity, environmental stresses and fragility.

**IFAD's comparative advantage lies in this dedicated focus on extremely poor and food-insecure people in rural areas.** It both helps to create new economic opportunities for them to exploit and builds their capacity to do so, providing finance, training and greater access to resources and markets.

**With 40 years of experience working in remote rural areas, we know the last mile can be the hardest.** But that's where the development community now needs to concentrate its efforts in order to reach those who are most in need and most in danger of being left behind. IFAD's unique mandate and expertise can enable it to play a special role in getting back on track to achieve SDGs 1 and 2.

**IFAD's goal is to double its impact over the next ten years, with a programme of work of about US\$30 billion. With increased support from our Member States, these expanding investments could:**

**INCREASE THE PRODUCTION OF  
201 MILLION** SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS

**IMPROVE THE RESILIENCE OF  
111 MILLION** PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

**RAISE THE INCOMES OF  
264 MILLION** RURAL WOMEN AND MEN  
BY AT LEAST **20 PER CENT**

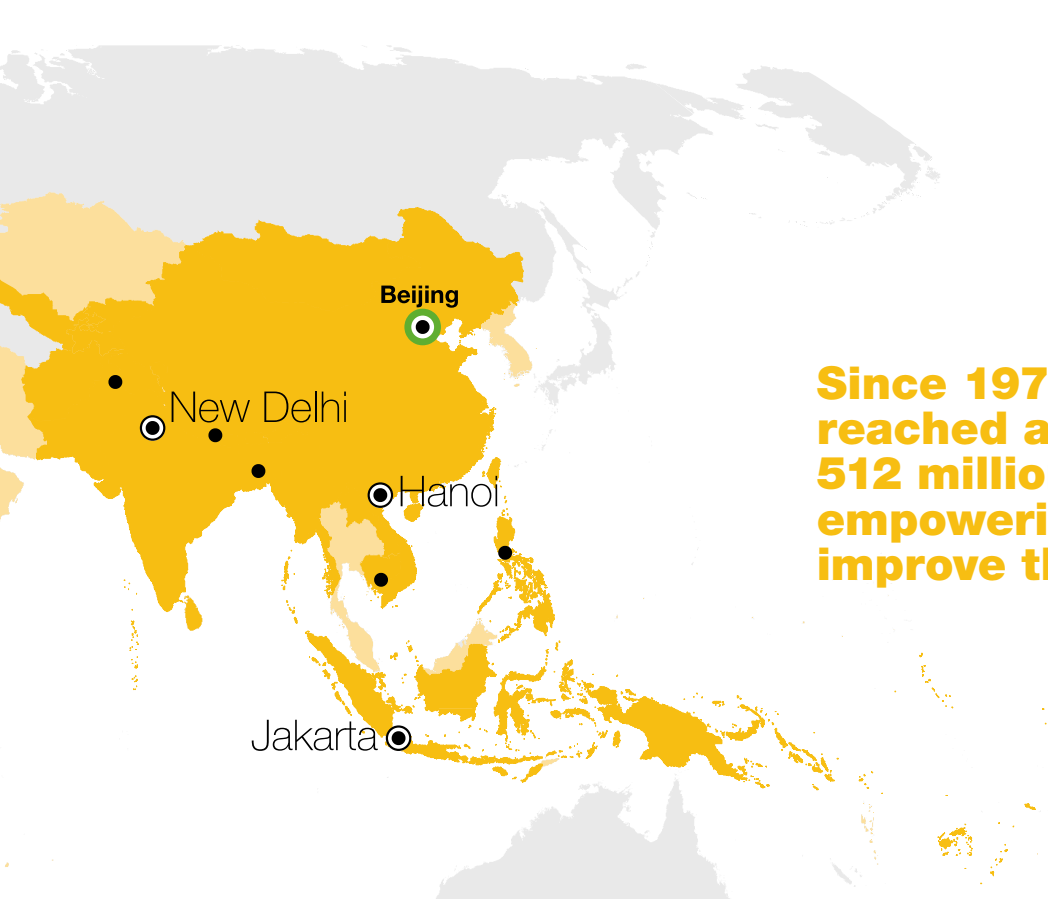
## IFAD'S GLOBAL OPERATIONS



Current efforts to support developing countries will not be enough to realize the 2030 Agenda, unanimously adopted by all 193 United Nations Member States in 2015. In particular, **reaching SDGs 1 and 2, the elimination of extreme poverty and hunger, will be difficult without more investment in rural areas.**

**IFAD's role in the global development architecture is unique, and its proven impact can be further expanded and enhanced.** The World Bank and regional development banks fund larger projects, often at sectoral level, while IFAD specializes in activities that promote inclusive, productive, resilient and sustainable rural transformation and food systems. **It complements the investments of larger institutions by ensuring the inclusion of the most vulnerable groups and those most in need.**

The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Global Climate Fund (GCF) and Adaptation Fund (AF) are important financiers with which IFAD collaborates. IFAD brings a particular focus and expertise in the design and support for rural investment projects, its field presence and in-country partnerships, and track record of demonstrated results. Its portfolio is anchored in **strong relationships with national governments and local communities in nearly 100 countries where it currently has investments** (see map).



**Since 1977, IFAD has reached an estimated 512 million people, empowering them to improve their livelihoods.**

**IFAD takes a programmatic approach. Projects are not one-offs but are aligned with government development strategies,** aim for scalability and durable long-term results, and include not just financing but policy support and the transfer of knowledge and technology. Its **Strategic Framework (2016-2025)** is tightly focused on the achievement of **SDG 1 and SDG 2** through three objectives: increasing rural people's productive capacity, enhancing their access to markets and strengthening the environmental sustainability and climate resilience of their economic activities. It is particularly relevant to SDG target 2.3, to double smallholders' productivity and incomes, and target 2.4, development of sustainable food production systems.

**IFAD partners not only with governments but with other financial institutions, the private sector, NGOs, producer organizations and civil society** – as well as actively involving project participants in directing and investing in their own development. Participants themselves have contributed over US\$2 billion to IFAD-supported projects. **IFAD cultivates not just partnership but real ownership, by governments and participants alike.**

IFAD also acts as an assembler of development finance. **Each US\$1 of Member State replenishment contributions to IFAD supports the delivery of around US\$8.4 of overall programme of work** when cofinancing from governments and other development partners is factored in.

IFAD takes a **comprehensive and quantifiable approach to measuring results.** IFAD is committed to conducting impact assessments on a sample of 15 per cent of its portfolio and aggregating impact estimates **to determine the overall impact of its entire portfolio.** This is an approach unique among international organizations.

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IFAD concerning the delimitation of the frontiers or boundaries, or the authorities thereof.

## PUTTING RURAL PEOPLE IN CHARGE OF THEIR OWN DEVELOPMENT

Rural people in the Ethiopian highlands depend mainly on rainfed subsistence farming for their livelihoods. The unreliable rainfall and frequent droughts affecting the area can often prevent them from improving their crop yields and therefore their household income. The Participatory Small-Scale Irrigation Development Programme, a US\$57.7 million project financed by IFAD, the Government of Ethiopia and participants themselves, was designed to exploit the potential of irrigated agriculture to improve the food security, family nutrition, and incomes of poor rural households in four states of Ethiopia. Small-scale irrigation systems were constructed on about 12,000 hectares of land to bring water to farms throughout the year. Access roads connecting people to local markets were improved to increase the opportunity for farmers to sell more and earn more. Farmers also received training to improve productivity, including through seed production, post-harvest management and water conservation. The project's participatory approach aimed at having community members take charge of the development process. It also encouraged women to join the decision-making bodies of water users' associations, and helped them plant home vegetable gardens. Local



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communities owned and managed the irrigation systems through their water users' associations, and were trained in how to manage and distribute water efficiently. The project underwent a rigorous impact assessment using high-frequency data collected from 1,033 households across four seasons over 12 months. It found that more than 300,000 farmers benefited from the irrigation systems, allowing them to grow crops throughout the year and increase revenue from crop sales, particularly in the dry season.<sup>10</sup>

These impact assessments show that each year, IFAD's investments raise the production of **15 million small-scale producers** and **increase the value of sales of 16 million**, improve the resilience of **9 million project participants**, and raise the income of **20 million rural women and men** by at least 20 per cent.

With the adoption of its Development Effectiveness Framework in 2016, IFAD has fostered evidence-based decision-making, strengthened the focus on results throughout the project cycle, and promoted a culture of results-based management. Going forward, IFAD plans to improve its focus on learning from evaluations and ensuring that the knowledge gained is relevant, timely and easily accessible to teams.



# FOSTERING INCLUSIVE GROWTH

To make good on the central pledge of the 2030 Agenda to “leave no-one behind” means not only investing in rural communities but connecting them with the world at large, opening them to new markets and technologies. Without this, **rural communities will not be able to offer a future of employment, personal growth and prosperity to their young people**, with predictable impacts on economies, societies and global food security.

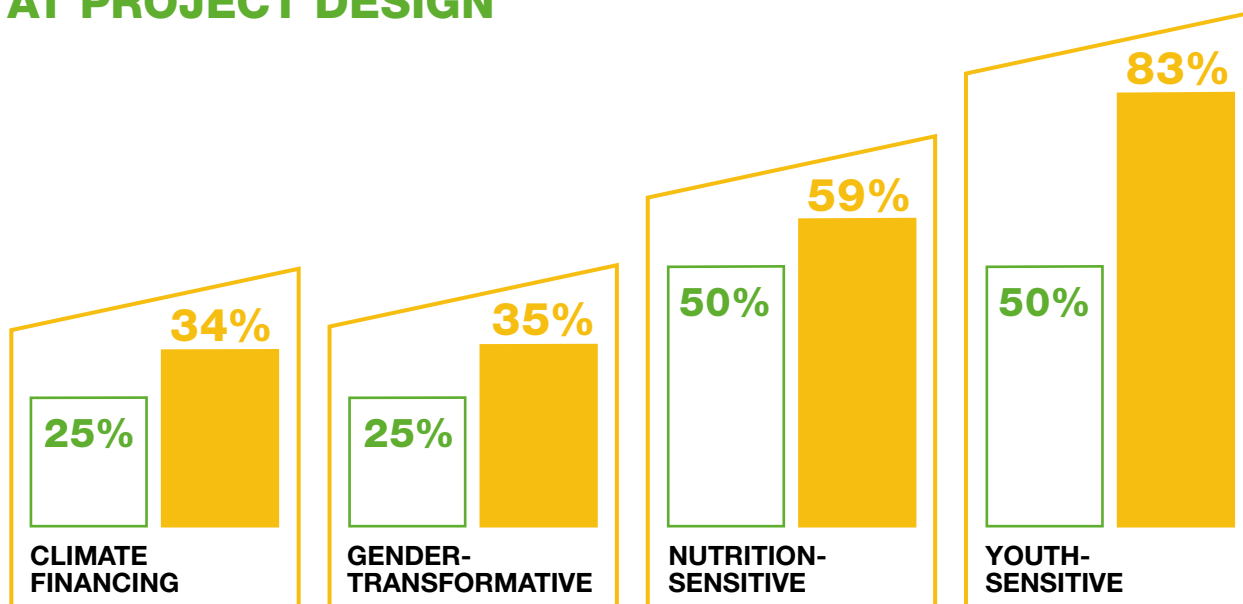
**Food insecurity and poverty are most severe among rural marginalized groups, including women and youth.** For growth to reach these rural people, larger investments in areas such as major infrastructure have to be complemented with efforts to spur “growth from below” – investments at the community level in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), in small-scale producers and in the rural non-farm economy. This growth from below **has been found to be the most effective way of enabling people to escape poverty.**<sup>11</sup> **IFAD specializes in these kinds of investments, and was a pioneer in community-driven development.**

**Stepping up investments to reach the most marginalized people is urgent. Right now, additional targeted actions need to be taken in those countries where poverty and food insecurity remain significant and may even be getting worse.**

**These actions must be carried out at the grass-roots level**, if they are to stand a chance of reaching the poorest and most marginalized people with the resources and skills they need to improve their lives, adapt to climate and environmental effects, and contribute to solving wider problems, including a move to more sustainable food systems.

**Small-scale producers play a key role** in achieving these goals – if they receive greater support to increase their resilience and improve their livelihoods.

## TARGETS FOR MAINSTREAMING THEMES AT PROJECT DESIGN



### ALL AREAS ARE AHEAD OF TARGETS FOR 2019

**IFAD is expanding its work on climate and environment, as well as on gender, youth and nutrition, and integrating them together for more impact.** IFAD increasingly approaches agricultural development within a broader food system framework – from inputs and production to processing, marketing and consumption. IFAD also seeks to promote women’s empowerment and decision-making, diversity in farming and diets, and employment opportunities for rural youth.

**A key component of rural transformation is innovation and technology, particularly to increase access and participation in markets for most marginalized groups, such as women and youth.** Research also plays an important role. Since 2007 the European Union has channelled 248 million euros through IFAD to support agricultural research. Activities include developing and testing innovative approaches that improve the livelihoods, nutrition or resilience of pilot rural communities and generate lessons for scaling up.

The need for new technology and knowledge to transform rural areas is also seen in the rising demand for **South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC)**. IFAD has strengthened its engagement in SSTC through initiatives such as the China-IFAD SSTC Facility, which has approved 15 projects with a total value of nearly US\$7 million.

## PROMOTING RESILIENCE AND IMPROVED NUTRITION IN THE SAHEL

The remote region of Guéra, Chad, is prone to drought and conflict, posing constant threats to food security and livelihoods. The Rural Development Support Programme in Guéra (PADER-G), a US\$20 million project supported by IFAD and the Government of Chad, constructed or rehabilitated 66 community cereal banks where farmers could store crops during the harvest season and borrow during the lean season, when prices tend to be higher and grain less available. Crops include sorghum, millet, berebere, groundnuts, sesame and maize. Community committees of farmers were trained to manage and maintain the cereal banks. By reducing post-harvest losses, the banks enable farmers to diversify diets and even out their grain consumption over the year. Food security increased by 37 per cent and dietary diversity by 23 per cent. The project also improved social cohesion, which led to a 33 per cent increase in resilience, the capacity to recover from civil unrest, and greater participation in agricultural and social groups. Durable assets increased by 9 per cent, livestock assets by 17 per cent, and total assets by 14 per cent. Training in maintenance and management of the cereal banks was key; in some areas outside the project area cereal banks were poorly managed and infrastructure deteriorated. PADER-G benefited 119,710 people.<sup>12</sup>



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## INVESTING IN RESILIENCE AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN BANGLADESH

The seven-month monsoon season in Bangladesh brings devastating, heavy rains that flood the roads, making it nearly impossible for farmers to reach community markets to sell their crops. The Coastal Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Project improved coastal roads and market structures so that they could better withstand the water. It was financed with a US\$60 million loan from IFAD and cofinancing from the government, the Asian Development Bank, the Strategic Climate Fund, and the German Credit Institution for Reconstruction. The project trained labour-contracting societies (LCS) of 5,000 members to construct 355 km of raised roads using flood-resistant materials. Raised platforms and flood-preventing drainage trenches protected the markets themselves, and management committees learned how to maintain the new infrastructure. The project had a specific focus on women as well: LCS members were primarily rural women and sections of the community markets were reserved for women to rent at affordable rates. As a result of these actions, incomes from crop sales rose 70 per cent during the monsoon season, and annual income was 104 per cent higher.<sup>13</sup>



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# BUILDING RESILIENCE

**Today's paramount challenge is the environmental threats that imperil the livelihoods of small-scale producers and other rural people**, and undermine both global food security and stability. The World Bank estimates that climate change will push more than 100 million people into poverty, with half of this poverty increase due to its effects on agriculture.<sup>14</sup> Gains made in ending hunger and malnutrition are increasingly eroded by climate variability and exposure to more complex, frequent and intense climate extremes. Hunger is significantly worse in countries where the livelihood of a high proportion of the population depends on agriculture.

Ongoing loss of plant genetic diversity is also a threat as it reduces soil fertility and leaves cropping systems more vulnerable to epidemics caused by pests and disease. Rural people are custodians of plant, animal and insect biodiversity, on which the future of our food systems depends. **Support for greater on-farm diversity is essential to increase the resilience of small-scale farmers.**

IFAD has been a leader in helping small-scale farmers adapt to climate impacts. **Even before climate change adaptation became a major topic of international debate, IFAD was supporting investment programmes in drought- and flood-prone areas, promoting adaptive technologies such as agroforestry and water harvesting.** In 2012, IFAD created the Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP), the first initiative of its kind. Since then, ASAP has been implemented across 41 countries, helping rural people build their resilience through grants totalling US\$298 million. For the period 2019-2021, IFAD has raised its ambition by setting an explicit target of devoting 25 per cent of the Programme of Loans and Grants for climate-focused investments.

IFAD was accredited to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in 2002. The **Resilient Food Systems Programme** is one of the three integrated approach pilots funded by the GEF. Implementation is led by IFAD, in collaboration with 12 African countries and several regional partners. The five-year programme aims to promote a paradigm shift in the continent's agriculture, emphasizing the importance of natural capital and ecosystem services to enhance agricultural productivity.

## SUPPORT FOR ADAPTATION THROUGH ASAP

**3,127,000 PEOPLE**

have been reached by the programme

**760,000 HECTARES**

have been brought under climate-resilient agricultural techniques

**82,000 HOUSEHOLDS**

have an improved access to water for production and processing

**11,300 COMMUNITY GROUPS**

are supported to manage climate risks

**US\$22 MILLION**

invested in climate-resilient infrastructure

**17 POLICY DIALOGUES**

have addressed key issues such as the need for new building codes for climate-resilient infrastructure, mainstreaming of climate change in extension systems, and pastoral laws

# LEVERAGING RESPONSIBLE PRIVATE INVESTMENT

IFAD's expertise in transforming agriculture, rural economies and food systems can facilitate action by others that support the same goals. **The private sector** can be a powerful engine of inclusive growth. **Small farms are themselves part of the private sector, though often cut off from the resources they need, as well as markets.**

**Public-private-producer partnerships – the 4Ps approach – can lead to expanded and improved services and market access for poor small-scale producers.**

This approach uses public funds provided by governments and IFAD to leverage financing and investments from private agri-business, the financial sector and producers themselves. IFAD-supported projects help finance public goods and services, including research and extension services, infrastructure such as rural roads and markets, while also building the capacity of farmers' organizations to aggregate produce.

Demand for financing for small-scale producers remains immense – estimated at US\$200 billion in sub-Saharan Africa, South and South-East Asia, and in Latin America. Credit currently available only totals an estimated US\$50 billion. But small-scale producers, SMEs and aspiring agripreneurs fall into a “missing middle” between large-scale farmers who can access commercial banks and small-scale producers who can access small or informal loans.

To help fill this gap, **IFAD designed and sponsored the Agri-Business Capital Fund to crowd-in financing for the rural agri-business “missing middle,” focusing on youth and women.** The ABC Fund, an independent impact investment fund, helps to de-risk that sector through a “first-loss” equity structure, targeted technical assistance and strong pipeline development.

## PARTNERING WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO CREATE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH

In Nigeria, the IFAD-supported Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP) is addressing productivity, infrastructure, market access and social inclusion, and is one of the first public-private-producer partnerships (4Ps) in Nigeria's agriculture sector. VCDP has helped over 53,000 rural households raise their incomes by at least 25 per cent and created over 6,000 jobs for women and young people. The project's Commodity Alliance Forum allows farmers to engage with both the private sector and the government. Among the partners is Olam Nigeria Limited, a company chosen by the farmers themselves for its capacity and terms – including establishing digital credit, enabling online payment at the point of paddy purchase, cofinancing extension services and creating nearby collection centres for small farm production clusters. The project is helping reduce food imports and promoting sustainability and food security. VCDP also supports secure land tenure, high-quality seed production, better processing techniques, and new technologies, such as hand-driven mini-tractors that reduce drudgery and create jobs for young people interested in a modern, profitable agriculture. One young man who benefited from VCDP is Sumaka Japhet. In 2017 the project gave him a start-up kit that changed the way he cultivated rice. Fertilizer, herbicide and pesticide, as well as quality, certified seed, made the difference. The first year, Sumaka harvested more than 2.5 metric tons per hectare – almost three



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times more than his father typically harvested using traditional methods. In 2019 Sumaka sold his seed harvest of 3.5 metric tons per hectare to the project for 1.2 million Nigerian Naira (about US\$ 3,000). He says, "What I can earn in three months is more than what young people working in offices in government jobs earn in a year. Here I can spend time in the village with my family and that is important to me." Now slated to run through 2024, VCDP aims to reach 135,000 small-scale producers and is being scaled up to more Nigerian states. The total value of the project is now US\$330 million.

As well as sponsoring its establishment and providing grant financing of US\$3.5 million, IFAD mobilized a first loss commitment of approximately EUR 50 million from its partners – the European Union, the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa and the Government of Luxembourg. IFAD has assembled a further EUR 9 million in funding from the Swiss Development Corporation. This initiative **demonstrates IFAD's catalytic role as an assembler of development finance to build sustainable, inclusive rural economies.**

# ACCELERATING PROGRESS IN IFAD12

**During the period of its Twelfth Replenishment (2022-2024), IFAD is seeking to dramatically increase its impact to accelerate progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda. There are 31 countries that are severely off track for achieving SDG 1.**<sup>15</sup> IFAD is transforming its financial model to expand its capacity to assist those countries most in need.

IFAD has a solid foundation and is well equipped to make such a move. The **Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN) 2017-18 report** on IFAD called it “an agile, responsive and well-performing organization,” noting that it “consistently contributes positively to reduce rural poverty and continues to deliver results that are highly relevant to its Member States’ needs and priorities.”

Based on recent reforms in its business model IFAD has the capacity to deliver much greater impact by enabling the scaling up of successful rural development interventions. Decentralization has brought IFAD closer to its clients, enabling it to be more responsive to their needs and furthering policy support.

At the end of the IFAD10 period (2016-2018), **impact assessments demonstrated that IFAD is delivering on its core mandate and strategic objectives and achieving impact.** Over the IFAD10 cycle, 62 million people reported increased economic mobility, 47 million improved production, 50 million improved market access and 26 million improved resilience. These results exceeded the ambitious impact targets set for the Fund for the IFAD10 period.

**A new financial architecture underpins IFAD’s efforts to double its impact by 2030 and puts IFAD on a sustainable and sound financial footing.** Several new key elements are aimed at strengthening risk management, capital planning and the efficient use of different types of resources.

**With an expanded mix of financial instruments, IFAD will be better able to support countries as they transition from low income to middle income status, thereby strengthening its country-level programmatic approach.**



## INCREASING LIVELIHOODS THROUGH KNOWLEDGE AND EMPOWERMENT

Rising demand for food offers farmers increased income opportunities and an incentive to improve efficiency and productivity. But often they lack access to appropriate technologies and markets – rural people need both opportunity and capacity. This is the situation facing potato farmers in Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru, who rely on this tuber as their main source of food and income. IFAD and the International Potato Center (CIP) launched a project in 2015 to increase the incomes, food security and climate adaptation of poor farm families with cultivation systems based on potatoes (native and improved varieties). The project was funded with a grant of US\$1.4 million from IFAD and US\$235,000 from CIP. Gaby Quispe of the Yanahaura community in Patacamaya, Bolivia, was one of the participants. Through her local farmers' organization she participated in the training activities provided by the IFAD-CIP Andes project. She found internships and became responsible for transferring the knowledge she gained to other growers in her community, especially other women.



©IFAD/ Gaby Quispe

“Before, I had never considered how the way I selected seeds was negatively affecting my yields,” she says. “Before, we would select them haphazardly. Now, we are better at seed selection. Before, one sack of seed yielded 15 sacks of potatoes; now, it yields 25. I spend less on seed.” She also learned how the pheromones of female moths can help trap male moths and keep them from ravaging her stored potatoes. She plans to improve her storage facilities and use the new techniques more effectively. Some 12,000 families living in poverty have benefited directly and some 3,000 families indirectly from this project.

IFAD’s resources will continue to be provided mainly to lower-income countries on concessional terms. But **all eligible borrowing countries will be able to obtain additional resources to do more and achieve more impact. Member contributions remain the heart of IFAD’s business model** and its financial sustainability. But these **contributions from Member States are also the fulcrum upon which leveraging – borrowing – depends.**

How does borrowing increase IFAD’s development impact? **Greater leveraging of IFAD’s core resources would enable the Fund to provide higher volumes of resources on sustainable financing conditions** to lower-middle-income and upper-middle-income countries, where significant pockets of entrenched poverty

continue to exist. Borrowing will increase gradually, allowing time to address other issues, including capacity, risk management and human resources needs.

**To speed up delivery of support to countries most in need**, IFAD will use grant financing, especially in countries exposed to **climate shocks, conflict and economic slumps**. Grants can also help jump start progress in countries in debt distress, for whom further borrowing is difficult, and many of which **face severe climate variability and food insecurity**. The number of IFAD countries in debt distress or high risk of debt distress has increased by 80 per cent since 2014.

**The updated financial model will also establish dedicated programmes to increase resilience of rural people, and enhance market access** for small-scale producers through the private sector as well as stimulate further investment. **The new ASAP+ programme would build on successful experiences with earlier ASAP phases. It will target more funding to lower-income countries** – particularly those in debt distress – and with high levels of malnutrition, situations of fragility and low levels of climate adaptation investment. It would also complement and strengthen the impact of IFAD’s regular programme of loans and grants.

In addition to the focus on climate adaptation, ASAP+ would also address the key mainstreaming issues of gender, youth and nutrition; and it will increase attention to mitigation as a major co-benefit of adaptation approaches. To ensure effective and rapid delivery, in addition to governments ASAP+ will work through NGOs, other non-state entities and civil society.

The new **Private Sector Financing Programme (PSFP)** will aim to crowd-in private sector investment and know-how for the **development of rural micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and farmers’ organizations**. The PSFP will focus on investments supporting job creation for youth, women’s empowerment and strengthened resilience. Member States as well as foundations and the private sector will be able to provide funds to the PSFP.

The PSFP takes advantage of IFAD’s role as an assembler of finance and a trusted partner with a long track record with governments and rural people themselves. The Fund already collaborates with the private sector in its loan projects, facilitating public-private-producer partnerships (4Ps). But the PSFP has the potential to draw in more investment from diverse sources.

In fragile countries with weak implementation capacity, the PSFP would help deliver impact by seeking out partnerships with strong, reputable private sector entities that share IFAD’s values and can deliver benefits to small-scale producers. PSFP projects must be commercially viable, have a positive impact on IFAD’s target groups, adhere to strict environmental and climate standards and promote good governance.

Rural people – **small-scale producers, rural women, youth, indigenous peoples** – **need support and investment now to improve their lives and to build prosperity, food security and resilience for themselves and their communities**. They play key roles in sustainably producing sufficient and nutritious

## BOOSTING LIVESTOCK PRODUCTIVITY AND INCOMES IN TAJIKISTAN

Poverty is widespread in the Republic of Tajikistan, particularly in the Khatlon region, where 78 per cent of the population lives below the national poverty line. Livestock is a major part of the agricultural sector in Tajikistan, but due to factors such as degraded land and limited feed, low meat and milk yields only worsen poverty for the rural farmers. IFAD's six-year Livestock and Pasture Development Project (LPDP), now in its second phase, aimed to create a managerial structure to manage pastureland, to improve livestock breeding practices and increase production, and to empower women by providing training and resources to female-headed households. Beneficiary households exhibited larger livestock herds and increased livestock weight resulting from better access to and lower cost of water, tractor services, and adoption of improved or controlled breeding and mating techniques. For example, the weight of sheep and cattle rose by 17 and 27 per cent, respectively. Ownership of livestock increased by 60 per cent, while income from livestock went up by 42 per cent. Productive assets increased by 115 per cent. Drought-affected households saw a 13 per cent increase in income. Young Kholikov Abdurahmon started farming when he was 15. Now 27, he had seen conditions worsen on his farm due to increasing droughts when he got involved in LPDP. With the help of the project he turned his farm into a rosehips and pistachio plantation. These plants are more tolerant of drought and because they sink deep roots into the ground, do not require irrigation. He also received training on how to maintain the plantations, rainwater harvesting and processing of dried fruits. His household's income has increased. He says, "I will be able to raise my children well, improve their nutrition, gradually multiply my rosehip and pistachio trees and ensure a great livelihood for my family in the future."<sup>16</sup>



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food for the world, while managing the world's richest sources of biodiversity and adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change.

IFAD is asking for its Members to increase their support so that it can scale up its contribution to ending hunger and poverty and achieving the SDGs, which are so vital to our collective future.

# TRANSFORMING RESOURCES INTO DEVELOPMENT RESULTS

## PROGRAMME OF LOANS AND GRANTS

COFINANCING

ASAP+

PSFP

## PROGRAMME OF WORK

## GOAL

Rural people overcome poverty and achieve food security through remunerative, sustainable and resilient livelihoods

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

SO 1  
PRODUCTION

SO 2  
MARKET ACCESS

SO 3  
RESILIENCE

5 GENDER EQUALITY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



13 CLIMATE ACTION



15 LIFE ON LAND



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



# DELIVERY

- Decentralized operations
- Programmatic approach
- Risk management, social and environmental safeguards
- Policy engagement

**SDG TARGET 1.4**  
EQUAL RIGHTS  
TO ECONOMIC  
RESOURCES

**SDG TARGET 1.5**  
RESILIENCE OF  
THE POOR TO  
CLIMATE CHANGE



# IMPACT



**SDG TARGET 2.3**  
SMALLHOLDERS'  
PRODUCTIVITY AND  
INCOMES DOUBLED

**SDG TARGET 2.4**  
SUSTAINABLE  
FOOD PRODUCTION  
SYSTEMS

# STRATEGY

## — PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

- Targeting
- Empowerment
- Innovation, learning and scaling up
- Partnerships

## — MAINSTREAMING THEMES

- Gender equality
- Youth employment
- Improved nutrition
- Climate focus

## NOTES

- 1/ World Inequality Report 2018. World Inequality Lab. <https://wir2018.wid.world/executive-summary.html>.
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- 3/ FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2019. *The State of Food Insecurity and Nutrition in the World 2019*. Rome: FAO.
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## WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT IFAD

“ [Food systems] have got to be got right and that’s where IFAD is so important, because it’s a financing institution, because it works at local level, because it’s science-based, and because it’s efficient; it needs to be empowered to do more.”

David Nabarro, Strategic Director of 4SD – Skills, Systems & Synergies for Sustainable Development

“ By focusing on rural development, you focus on a huge priority for the continent.”

Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Chief Executive Officer of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) Agency

“ We cannot be talking of moving from fragility to resilience if we have fragile institutions to do the work. If the job is to be done as it should be done, institutions like IFAD will require strong support.”

H.E. Dr Olusegun Obasanjo, former President of Nigeria and former chairperson of the African Union

“ Through the engagement of IFAD with indigenous peoples, we were able to demonstrate good practices in the implementation of free, prior and informed consent, which has resulted in better implementation of projects, better design, and has been leading to real empowerment and making indigenous peoples also at the centre of decision-making to development issues.”

Joan Carling, former Member of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

“ IFAD’s model of mutual help and partnership is very different from that of other United Nations agencies and organizations. And we sincerely believe that this ideal model will work in the promising future that is before mankind now.”

H.E. Sheikh Hasina Wazed, Prime Minister of People’s Republic of Bangladesh

“ The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) gets a boost from its core constituency of leaders in the rural development sector who view it as among the more influential and helpful donors.”

AID DATA, *Listening to Leaders 2018*

“ IFAD delivers strong results for its core target group – the rural poor – and contributes to rural poverty reduction more broadly, as well as to cross-cutting results, most notably gender... The high relevance of IFAD’s results – both to the Fund’s mandate and to its member states’ needs – is largely due to the Fund’s deep strategic consultations and its highly participative intervention design processes.”






Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN) 2017-18 report

IFAD invests in rural people, empowering them to reduce poverty, increase food security, improve nutrition and strengthen resilience. Since 1978, we have provided US\$22.4 billion in grants and low-interest loans to projects that have reached an estimated 512 million people. IFAD is an international financial institution and a United Nations specialized agency based in Rome – the United Nations’ food and agriculture hub.

During 2020 consultations will take place on the Twelfth Replenishment of IFAD’s resources (IFAD12). Every three years Member States come together to review the Fund’s performance, agree on future directions and priorities, and mobilize resources. The IFAD12 replenishment consultations will determine the Fund’s programme of work during 2022-2024, and set the foundations for IFAD to double its impact by 2030.



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