

Consultation on the 12th Replenishment of IFAD's Resources Second Session – part 2

Closing Statement by
Gilbert F. Houngbo
President
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IFAD headquarters, Rome, Italy 23 July 2020 Distinguished delegates,

First, let me thank you for the strong support you have expressed for IFAD and its mission.

Our Chair has already summarized what we have accomplished in the last two days -- and what our next steps are. But let me draw your attention to what I see as three key elements.

Firstly, delegates have expressed widespread support for the IFAD12 Business Model. This provides a solid basis for the mutual trust and understanding necessary for a successful Replenishment. The messages are clear on the pathway for IFAD to double and deepen its impact, building on the expanded mainstreaming themes and undertaking ambitious commitments for IFAD12.

Secondly, over the coming months, we agreed to make progress on many fronts, including on the transition/graduation process, on allocation modalities but also on making sure IFAD12 targets and expected pledges can be fulfilled.

While uncertainty lies at the heart of development work, experience, evidence and ongoing efforts under IFAD11 make us confident that our level of ambition is realistic and that we will be able to deliver. I urge all of us to keep this in mind during forthcoming deliberations across and within lists.

Thirdly, core contributions are the bedrock of IFAD's financial model, and they will remain so. Additional contributions from members and non-members to ASAP+ under the Rural Resilient programme and the PSFP under the integrated Business Model and Programme of Work will expand our resource base for IFAD to double its impact by 2030.

Regarding the financial scenarios, let me once again emphasise that only scenarios D and E are consistent with accelerating global momentum towards the 2030 Agenda by building resilience and creating opportunities for rural populations - who are increasingly vulnerable to pandemic, climate shocks, and the effects of debt distress.

Ladies and gentlemen,

This replenishment is not about mobilizing resources for the sake of mobilizing resources. It is to amplify global action to end poverty and hunger. Every dollar invested in IFAD helps to advance the fight against rural poverty and hunger around the world.

Before we leave, I would like to say goodbye to several dear colleagues.

This includes Karl Backeus, who has played such an important role in setting IFAD's strategic direction on financial innovation and mainstreaming themes, and solidifying our partnership with Sweden. IFAD's greater concentration on climate and biodiversity as mainstreaming themes will be part of his legacy.

Victoria Jacobsson, for her dedication and strong support in EB discussions, especially on IFAD's work on climate. I am glad we will be able to continue to work together through the Friends of IFAD network in Sweden.

And from Norway, Ambassador Brun, who has only been with us a short time but whose contribution has been valuable and impactful.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have now reached the halfway point of the IFAD12 replenishment process. The decisions made during this Replenishment will also determine IFAD's contribution to the 2030 Agenda. This has been a productive and useful meeting from management's perspective.

I am confident we will achieve consensus on key building blocks that will shape IFAD's work over the three years of IFAD12.

Thank you very much and back to you Mr Chair.