



Investing in rural people

IFAD14

Investing in rural people

Driving food security,
economic growth
and stability

IFAD14 LAUNCH
12 February 2026



Why action is urgent



80% of the world's poorest people **live in rural areas**.



70% of acutely food-insecure people live in **fragile and conflict-affected settings**.



Climate shocks, food price volatility and exclusion are **driving conflict and forced migration**.



Political instability translates into **global food price volatility** and food insecurity.

The cost of inaction is high:
instability spreads and rural
potential is lost.

**Investing in rural people
delivers food security, jobs,
resilience and stability.**



Why investment pays off

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Global **food demand** projected to **rise by up to 56%** by 2030.



Sustainable food systems could generate up to **US\$4.3 trillion in health, economic and environmental benefits** by 2030.



Agrifood systems already **employ 39% of the global workforce** (over 64% in Africa).



Targeted rural investment could create more than **120 million decent jobs**.

Why IFAD?

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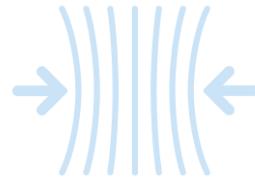
Investment, aligned with first-mile delivery, unlocks rural opportunity at scale.

Relevance



Investing where **poverty, fragility and food insecurity are highest**

Reach



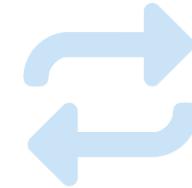
Investing at the **first mile** where others don't operate

Results



Delivering proven **impact at scale**.

Resources



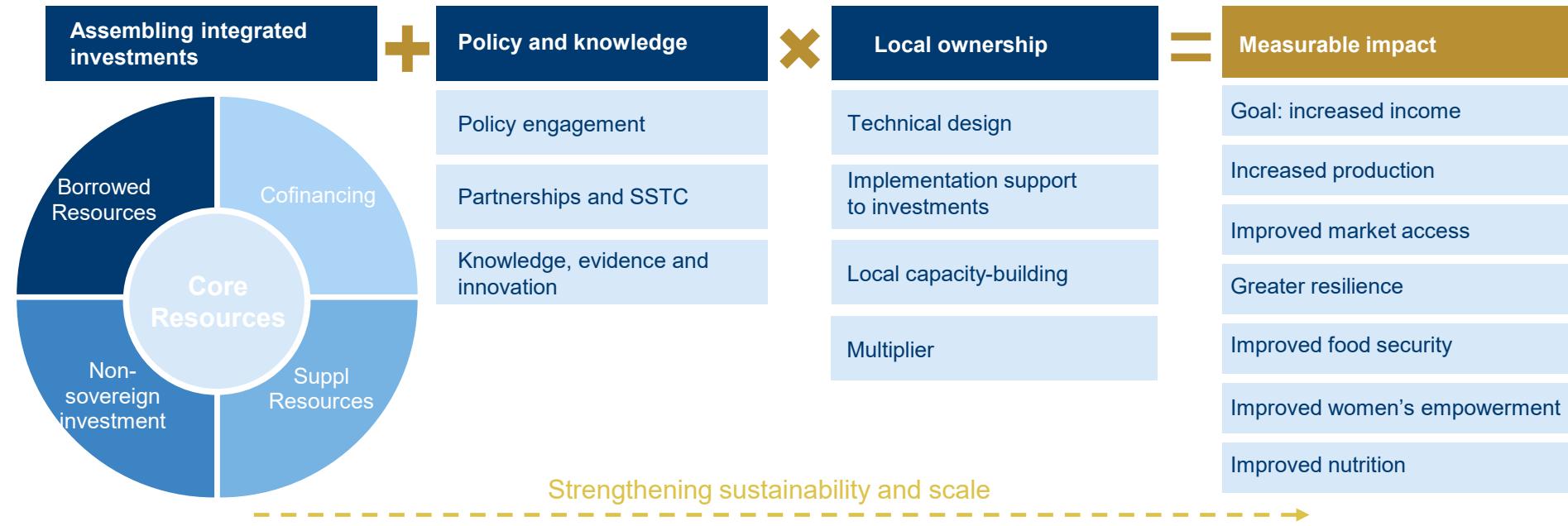
Translating every dollar contributed by Members into **US\$6 dollars of investment on the ground**.

How IFAD delivers

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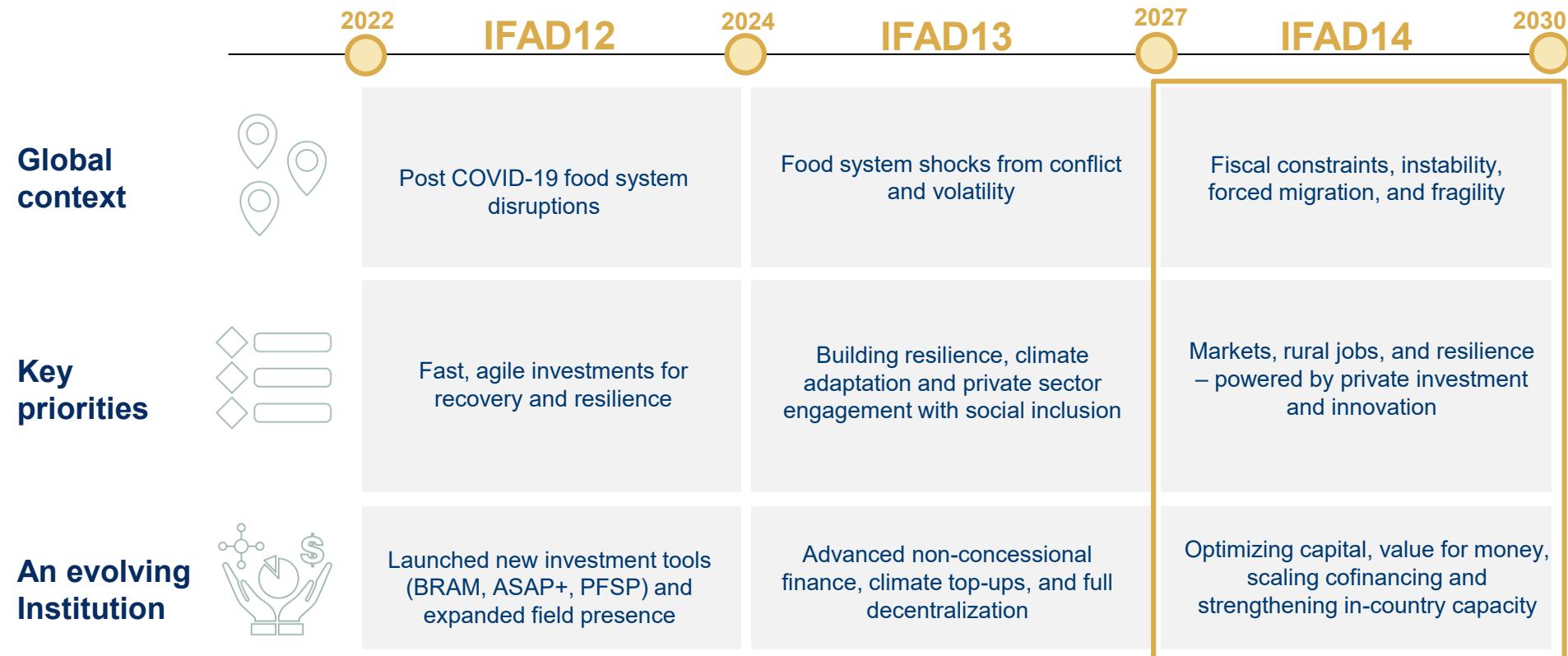
Delivering IFAD14 through an integrated country level investment platform

People-centred investment for **inclusive** rural transformation



An evolving and responsive institution

IFAD14



From priorities to delivery

The IFAD14 framework

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3 PILLARS

boost
opportunities...



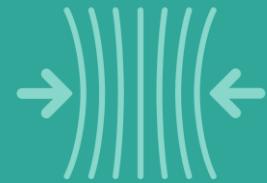
Markets

Unlocking rural potential



Rural employment

Empowering the youth



Resilience

Building peaceful,
adaptable rural
communities

2 ENABLERS

drive scale...

Private sector development and investment

Innovation

1 DELIVERY

model...

Investing in rural people for food security,
economic growth and stability

Making rural markets work for smallholders

IFAD14



WHY THIS MATTERS

Weak market access and low productivity limits returns for small-scale producers.

WHAT IFAD14 WILL DO



Invest in productivity and market access. Connecting farmers to markets to buyers, finance, storage and processing.

Support value chain development that reduces risk and attracts private investment.

Bundle investments into productivity, infrastructure, finance and market access, while targeting inclusion.

WHAT THIS DELIVERS

Higher incomes, stronger food supply chains and reduced volatility.

Employment for youth, stability for rural economies

IFAD14



WHY THIS MATTERS

Limited rural employment and business opportunities are fuelling exclusion and migration.

WHAT IFAD14 WILL DO

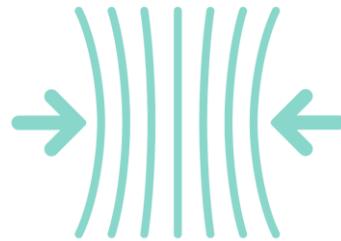
- Invest in youth employment and entrepreneurship across farm and off-farm activities.
- Mobilize agribusinesses, services and rural enterprises that create decent jobs.
- Prioritize inclusive impact, investing in women, youth and the most excluded to drive rural growth.

WHAT THIS DELIVERS

Decent employment for youth, reduced inequalities, stronger rural economies and greater stability.

Building resilience where risks are high

IFAD14



WHY THIS MATTERS

Shocks and fragility are eroding rural livelihoods.

WHAT IFAD14 WILL DO



Integrate climate adaptation, livelihood diversification and risk management into investments.

Prioritize fragile and rural areas with targeted finance addressing structural instability.

Strengthen local institutions and social cohesion through community-driven investments.

WHAT THIS DELIVERS

More resilient households, reduced displacement and greater social cohesion and stability.

Unlocking private investment for the First Mile

IFAD14



WHY THIS MATTERS

Public finance de-risks rural investment. Private capital delivers scale and sustainability.

WHAT IFAD14 WILL DO



Use public finance to **de-risk rural markets** and crowd in private capital.

Increase public-private investment by linking sovereign programmes with local MSMEs, cooperatives and financiers.

Scale impact through partnerships and direct investments with agribusinesses, investors and development banks.

WHAT THIS DELIVERS

More investment, more employment and stronger rural economies.

From pilots to systems: innovation at scale

IFAD14



WHY THIS MATTERS

Innovation must move beyond pilots to ensure proven solutions are adopted and scaled, through partnerships, within IFAD, and in delivery and financing at scale

WHAT IFAD14 WILL DO



Embed digital tools, geospatial data and climate information systems.

Promote adoption of proven agri-tech, digital finance and advisory solutions.

Use data, AI and digital platforms to improve targeting, monitoring and adaptive management.

WHAT THIS DELIVERS

Faster delivery and better access to services and markets.



Replenishing IFAD is a high-impact investment in global stability, peace and shared prosperity.

Integrated solutions are required

For markets, employment and resilience building

Scale requires concessional finance

To catalyse private and domestic investment where risk is highest

Delaying action increases risks and future costs

For food security, stability and growth



Investing in rural people

www.ifad.org