



THE IRELAND-IFAD PARTNERSHIP



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ABOUT IFAD

An international financial institution and a United Nations specialized agency, IFAD is dedicated to eradicating rural poverty and hunger in developing countries. The Fund is one of the largest sources of financing for agriculture and rural development in the world's poorest countries.

Total IFAD loans and grants*
US\$24.6 billion

Total domestic contributions
US\$20.3 billion

Total cofinancing
US\$15.1 billion

Total programme and project cost
US\$60 billion (1978-2022)

*Includes Debt Sustainability Framework grants but excludes other grants and some special initiatives

Ireland and IFAD share a commitment to empower rural people to overcome poverty and hunger through sustainable development. Ireland's strategic focus on food and nutrition security and sustainable food systems development, linked to strong commitments to address climate change, protect the environment, and place women, youth and vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, at the centre, is closely aligned with IFAD's mandate.

IFAD strongly supports Ireland's commitment to "reach the furthest behind first" and aims to deliver on this promise through IFAD's work to generate improved and more resilient livelihoods for all poor rural people.

Through its core contributions to IFAD, Ireland demonstrates its commitment to aid effectiveness and multilateralism, and supports IFAD's overall work programme. During 2021, the Fund's operations reached over 90 million poor rural people, with women making up more than half of IFAD's total beneficiaries.

IFAD's recent impact assessment, focusing on 96 projects implemented during IFAD11 (2019-2021), has shown significant results, such as:

- 77 million rural people with increased incomes
- 63 million people with improved market access
- 38 million people with greater resilience.

Ireland is a founding member of IFAD and has pledged a total of US\$63.6 million to the Fund's regular resources since it was established in 1977. In addition, Ireland has provided over US\$15 million in supplementary funds.

IRELAND'S TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND VOTING POWER

CONTRIBUTIONS

IFAD12: **EUR 12.5 million**
(US\$14.3 million)

TOTAL: **US\$63.6 million**

SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDS

US\$4.7 million to ASAP+

US\$1 million to the Crisis Response Initiative

VOTES

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL: **0.60%**

PERCENTAGE OF LIST A: **1.19%**

PARTICIPATION IN IFAD'S GOVERNING BODIES

Consultation on the Thirteenth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources, Alternate Member of the Executive Board, and Evaluation Committee

IRELAND SUPPORTS IFAD'S WORK ON CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND ENABLES IFAD TO DEVELOP INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

US\$1 MILLION
to protect livelihoods and build resilience in rural communities through the Crisis Response Initiative in response to the war in Ukraine

US\$4.7 MILLION
to support IFAD's work on climate adaptation through ASAP+



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TACKLING POVERTY AND HUNGER TOGETHER

IFAD has ongoing total investments of US\$2.7 billion in Irish Aid's partner countries. The following examples of results were achieved in some of these countries with Ireland's core funding to IFAD:

- In **Kenya**, the Smallholder Dairy Commercialization Programme addressed constraints in the smallholder milk sector. Through training and technical support, the project reached over 120,000 beneficiaries, of whom approximately 60 per cent were women. The project increased milk production by 37 per cent and significantly improved market access, leading to a 43 per cent increase in the value obtained for milk sold.
- In the **United Republic of Tanzania**, the Agricultural Sector Development Programme and the Agriculture Service Support Programme focused on contributing to the government's efforts to increase agricultural productivity and profitability, generate employment in rural areas, and ensure national and household food security in Zanzibar. Through capacity-building and training the programmes were able to reach over 28,000 beneficiaries. Livestock and crop revenue increased by up to 106 and 111 per cent per year, respectively.

Through its contributions to ASAP+, **Ireland supports IFAD's work on climate adaptation** and enables IFAD to develop innovative solutions that will create additional impact for small-scale agricultural producers. One of the projects in the pipeline for ASAP+, for example, the Programme for Participatory Agriculture and Climate Transformation (PACT) in Ethiopia, will promote climate-smart agriculture approaches, water resources development, watershed management activities, agricultural productivity enhancement and the creation of green jobs.

IFAD also **works with a number of Irish partners**. Since 2014, the Irish League of Credit Unions International Development Foundation has supported IFAD-financed projects in Belize, Ethiopia and the Republic of Moldova. Between 2016 and 2020, the Foundation, together with the Canadian Co-operative Association and the African Confederation of Cooperative Savings and Credit Associations, implemented an IFAD grant of US\$2.7 million to improve financial inclusion of poor rural people in Ethiopia, Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania through strengthened financial cooperative networks.

Between 2016 and 2019 Self Help Africa (SHA) led the implementation of an IFAD-financed project in Zambia in partnership with McGill University and the University of Zambia. In Ethiopia, SHA also supported over 1,400 members of Bako Bore Farmers Cooperative Union to build supply chain links with portfolio companies of the African Agriculture Fund with support from the IFAD-led Technical Assistance Facility.

IFAD has been a regular participant in the Irish Forum for International Agricultural Development in Dublin since its launch in October 2016. In 2021, IFAD and Sustainable Food Systems Ireland established a partnership. IFAD also partners with Irish universities, both through joint research activities and by offering internships to students.

In addition, there are currently nine Irish staff members at IFAD, filling key positions within the organization.