



Investing in rural people

Facility for Refugees, Migrants,
Forced Displacement
and Rural Stability (FARMS)

Addressing forced displacement:
Investing in agriculture and rural people

FARMS SUCCESS STORIES



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Forced displacement has become a global problem of unprecedented proportions in recent years, fuelled by conflict, violence, persecution and human rights violations. The number of displaced persons and refugees reached an all time high of nearly **100 million** at the end of 2022. People in crisis not only need relief and emergency services but development strategies that solve underlying problems over the long term. What often is not recognized is that forced displacement has a substantial rural dimension, with large numbers of displaced persons from rural areas now living in rural host communities inside or outside their home countries, causing the degradation of agricultural land, the collapse of food production in the abandoned areas and heightened pressure on natural resources, food security and agricultural systems in the host communities.

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About FARMS

IFAD created the Facility for Refugees, Migrants, Forced Displacement and Rural Stability, or FARMS, in 2016 recognizing the rural dimensions of the displacement crisis. The facility has mobilized US\$40 million (including unused funds) and implemented projects in Jordan, Somalia, Niger, Djibouti and Yemen. Its goal is to ensure that poor rural people get out of poverty through remunerative, sustainable and resilient livelihoods. Its specific objectives cover both host areas that receive migrant or displaced populations and origin or sending areas that migrants, refugees or displaced persons leave. In host areas, it has tackled the issue of livelihoods for host communities and displaced persons and in sending areas, it has created economic opportunities to encourage people who have left to return and give those who have remained a chance to rebuild their livelihoods. So far, FARMS supported **74,000** refugees and internally displaced people.

Why IFAD

Investing in agriculture and rural people is critical to sustainably addressing forced displacement, poverty and food insecurity. It helps increase the self-reliance of displaced persons and the resilience of host communities. It also contributes to providing lasting solutions to situations of protracted displacement and helps rural returnees rebuild their livelihoods and agricultural production. With almost half of IFAD's ongoing operations in countries marked by fragile situations and conflict, the Fund has decades of experience working with displaced persons, host communities and returnees. IFAD is well-positioned to be a key partner in bridging the gap between humanitarian and sustainable development responses in rural areas and is already actively engaged in many of the most-affected regions. The 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda recognized IFAD as a major investor in poor rural people.



Small Ruminants Investment and Graduating Households in Transition Project (SIGHT) Jordan



The SIGHT development goal is to contribute to the reduction of poverty and the improvement of national food security in Jordan by boosting small-ruminant productivity and helping Syrian refugees and host communities graduate out of poverty through a package of livelihood support.

The project received a grant of over **US\$9 million** from FARMS, thanks to contributions from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the European Union, the Open Society Foundation and IFAD.

In all, the project reached **35,431 households** and improved the livelihoods of both Syrian refugees and Jordanian host communities.





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It reached **31,229 persons** through the COVID-19 response plan, providing emergency humanitarian support to the most vulnerable Jordanian host communities and Syrian refugees at the onset of the pandemic.

Of the **31,229 beneficiaries** who received food packages, **7,030 (23%)** were Syrian refugees, while **24,199 (77%)** were Jordanian host communities. Women, youth, poor people and extremely poor people accounted for 30%, 23%, 63% and 37%, respectively.

So far, under the graduation approach, the project has selected **2,005 beneficiaries** to receive seed grants for a microbusiness activity. Of the 2,005 seed capital recipients, **1,100 (55%)** are Syrian refugees and **905 (45%)** are Jordanian host communities.

Women and youth accounted for **54%** and **44%**, respectively, while poor and extremely poor people accounted for 70% and 30%, respectively.

In addition, **167 beneficiaries**, 40% of them Syrian refugees and 60% of them Jordanian host communities, were successfully matched with job opportunities under the job placement activity, with women, youth, poor and extremely poor people accounting for 17%, 93%, 77% and 23%, respectively.

SIGHT also provided **2,856 beneficiaries** with core skills training, **2,234 beneficiaries** with micro and small business training and 351 beneficiaries with job placement training.



Improving Dryland Livelihoods through Productivity-enhancing Technologies (PET) Djibouti and Somalia



The project's goal is to improve the livelihoods of pastoralist and agropastoralist households in the areas of previous IFAD-financed projects in Djibouti and Somalia through higher productivity from the adoption of improved farming technologies and sustainable management of water, watersheds, rangelands and small ruminants.

The project received **US\$2.95 million** from the FARMS facility, which included contributions from the OPEC Fund for International Development and IFAD.

At completion, the project's total outreach was **7,050 households**.





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The project successfully created revolving seed banks and facilitated the participation of **2,750 farmers** in them.

It effectively implemented land protection interventions, with **6,350 ha** of land protected by moisture-conserving earth banks, enabling **3,006 farmers** to work land improved by soil and water conservation.

It trained **648 pastoralists** from technology dissemination platforms, other community-based organizations and local authorities in holistic natural resource management.

The number of communities implementing grazing plans as a standard management practice for sustainable rangeland rehabilitation reached 102, with **1,250 pastoralists** adopted value-added production packages.

It protected **2,763 ha** of land with stone contour lines and/or tree basins and **12,119 ha** with moisture-conserving earth banks, potentially enabling **840 women** to engage in income generating activities.

It trained **643 men** and **287 women** in technical and management skills and formed **352** special-interest technology dissemination groups.



Food Security and Sustainability in Fragile Situations (FSSFS) Somalia and Yemen



The project's overall goal is to sustainably enhance food security and livelihoods in extremely fragile contexts.

The development objective is to boost agricultural production in Somalia and Yemen. The project received **EUR 7.19 million** from the FARMS facility, which includes contributions from the Italian Development Agency for Cooperation, IFAD and the Netherlands.

So far, the project has reached **7,920 households**, between Somalia and Yemen, through activities in irrigation and climate-smart agriculture, sustainable agriculture and livestock production and knowledge sharing and capacity building.





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Construction and rehabilitation of irrigation infrastructure at **16 sites** to benefit **55 date palm farmers**, with 2,647 date palm farmers trained in irrigation infrastructure management and maintenance and good agronomic practices and **36 students** provided with on-the-job training.

Installation of off-grid boxes that integrate water treatment (capacity 3,000L/day) and power supply, benefiting some **350 people**.

Building gabion walls on **10 hectares** of agricultural land in Al-Dahrah area and Bani Ma'ans in Yemen for the purpose of soil stabilization and flood protection.

Nutrition-sensitive agriculture **training for 1,600** internally displaced persons.

Importation and distribution of **11,628 date palm seedlings** to improve date palm production, and the establishment of **3 pilot farms** for demonstration purposes to build capacity among date palm farmers.

Construction of **3 infrastructure projects** (slaughter slab, village milk collection centre and milk sales post).

Mobilization of **450 members** and their involvement in mapping of the current and post status of natural resource management practices, including priority community plans for rehabilitating degraded rangelands and water infrastructure in **10 target locations**.

Creation of the E-fop digital platform with **110 registered users**, **315 posts**, **643 files uploaded**, **328 meeting rooms hosted** and **6 peer-to-peer learning events** held.



Family Farming Development Programme (ProDAF) Niger



The project's general goal is to sustainably ensure food and nutrition security and the resilience of some **23,735 rural households (160,000 people)** in the Diffa Region.

Its development objective is to sustainably increase the income, adaptation to climate change and market access of family farms and promote the social and economic integration of refugees, returnees and displaced populations into the receiving communities.

The project received **US\$ 10.3 million** from the FARMS facility, which includes contributions from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation and IFAD.





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2,325 ha of dunes stabilized around basins and **400 ha of degraded land restored**; **99.2 km of crossing corridors** constructed and signposted to secure livestock mobility with 100 km of fire breaks opened and 5,000 linear meter of hedgerows planted.

6 livestock watering stations built, and **36 pastoral** wells built or rehabilitated to improve access to water for production, with social engineering arrangements made and **36 community** management committees created and strengthened.

375 ha of land rehabilitated and maintained for small-scale irrigation around lake Chad for small community land use, the building of dams around the irrigated land to protect production against flooding of the Komadougou River (between Nigeria and Niger).

290 rainfed agriculture- and **76 market-oriented** gardening farmer field schools established in irrigated areas, benefiting **10,000 producers**; **166 rural microenterprises** focused on receiving communities, refugees and youth funded.

20 improved seed multiplication sites set up and at least 10 tons of improved seed produced and distributed in the form of agricultural kits to **260 vulnerable female-headed households**.

789 kg of cowpea, **1,419 kg of sesame** and **1,867 kg groundnut** seeds; **380 farm equipment** input kits distributed to **150 women**, in addition to **70 tons of seed potatoes** and **605 kg of market gardening seeds** distributed to vulnerable households as part of a COVID-19 emergency plan.

1,985 livestock kits distributed under the livestock reconstitution policy, with **6 veterinary health clinics built** to expand the regional animal health programme. Construction of **3 animal feed stores** and supply of an opening inventory of **90 tons of wheat bran** and **pressed cakes**.





IFAD invests in rural people,
empowering them to reduce poverty,
increase food security, improve nutrition
and strengthen resilience.

IFAD is an international financial institution
and a specialized United Nations agency
based in Rome, the UN food and agriculture hub.



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