



THE JAPAN-IFAD PARTNERSHIP



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

Japan is a strong advocate of “human security”, a principle that is embodied in its commitment to support the most vulnerable people while addressing broadly all dimensions of poverty and is at the core of Japan’s G7 Presidency in 2023. Japan’s vision is shared by IFAD, whose mandate is to economically and socially empower the poorest rural people in remote areas of developing countries. IFAD’s strategic focus is closely aligned with Japan’s official development assistance priorities, including promoting food security and nutrition.

Japan is a globally recognized leader on nutrition and in December 2021 hosted the Nutrition for Growth Summit, where IFAD has expressed its commitment to improve nutrition through better production systems that can increase the availability, affordability and consumption of diverse, safe, nutritious foods. IFAD organized four side events in collaboration with partners and joined other organizations in endorsing the Summit declaration – the Tokyo Compact on Global Nutrition for Growth.

In November 2021, IFAD established a Liaison Office in Yokohama, its first in Asia. The IFAD Liaison Office in Japan has engaged with many partners, including ministries, the City of Yokohama, universities, research institutes and private companies, as well as other international organizations in Japan. IFAD looks forward to working with more partners to advocate for investment in small-scale producers and long-term support to enhance global food security.

JAPAN'S TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND VOTING POWER

CONTRIBUTIONS

IFAD12: **US\$57.3 million**

TOTAL: **US\$619.4 million**

SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDS

TOTAL: **US\$10.5 million**

VOTES

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL: **3.91%**

PERCENTAGE OF LIST A: **7.85%**

PARTICIPATION IN IFAD'S GOVERNING BODIES

Executive Board, Consultation on the Thirteenth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources and Co-Convenor for List A

FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN JAPAN AND IFAD

The Japan-IFAD partnership will foster public-private rural investments with the leadership of Japan under the G7 Presidency

From 2022 to 2024, 100 per cent of donor contributions go to low-income and lower-middle-income countries and 50 per cent to sub-Saharan Africa

The aim of the JPO programme is to provide guidance and supervision so that the JPO benefits from the professional development opportunity represented by working at IFAD

IFAD is the first United Nations fund and the only United Nations body and specialized agency other than the World Bank Group to enter the capital markets



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June 2023

TACKLING POVERTY AND HUNGER TOGETHER

ENHANCING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Japan and IFAD are committed to enhancing the sustainability of agricultural value chains and contributing to global food security. IFAD is the implementing partner for Japan's flagship initiative "Enhanced linkages between private sector and small-scale producers (ELPS)", presented at the G7 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting in Miyazaki. The objective of the ELPS initiative is to transform small-scale producers' farming in a sustainable manner, and to improve productivity and market access by catalysing private sector engagement and investment in food systems. It has a specific focus on connecting small-scale producers and private companies. It enables the producers to benefit from the expertise of the private sector in enhancing their productivity. In turn, the companies will have opportunities to engage in local farming communities that are supported by IFAD-financed projects and to procure agricultural products produced with due diligence.

TOWARDS A VIBRANT AFRICA

Both Japan and IFAD have made a special commitment to the poorest regions of the world, including sub-Saharan Africa. Japan launched the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), a major event promoting high-level policy dialogue between African leaders and development partners. IFAD has collaborated with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to contribute to several initiatives launched through TICAD, such as the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa and the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion (SHEP) approach. In 2022, IFAD organized three side events at TICAD8 with Japanese partners. One event, co-organized with JICA, focused on how to adapt the SHEP approach in African countries, where the two organizations have reconfirmed their commitment to strengthening their partnership in promoting market-oriented agriculture.

COLLABORATION ON HUMAN RESOURCES

IFAD also engages with Japan through the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) and Special Programme Officer (SPO) programmes. Currently, there are three Japanese JPOs and one Japanese SPO at IFAD, based in Rome, Dhaka and New Delhi. To raise awareness of career opportunities at IFAD among talented Japanese nationals, IFAD organizes career seminars and special lectures in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and several universities.

INNOVATIVE FINANCING BY JAPANESE INVESTORS

In June 2022, IFAD issued its first-ever bond in Asia with a US\$50 million investment from Dai-ichi Frontier Life Insurance Co., Ltd, a Japanese life insurance company. The investment comes at a time when millions of rural people are at risk of falling into hunger and poverty due to skyrocketing global food, energy and fertilizer prices, and more frequent and extreme weather shocks driven by climate change. In recent years, IFAD has been exploring new funding models to channel more resources into empowering vulnerable rural populations and meeting the changing needs of developing countries.