IFAD and Norway share a vision of a world without poverty and hunger. IFAD works on supporting small-scale farmers to improve their livelihoods through the establishment of inclusive, resilient and sustainable local agrifood value chains, along with its focus on results. This plays an important role in the achievement of Norway’s priorities in the context of the complex and overlapping crises relating to food, energy and finance.

Since the establishment of IFAD, Norway has provided key leadership, in particular, on prioritizing low-income and lower-middle-income countries, gender, disability, nutrition, environmental sustainability and climate, in addition to strategic directions on risk management, decentralization, transparency, value for money and impact.

IFAD focuses exclusively on poverty reduction in rural areas, where 80 per cent of the world’s poorest people live. The Fund’s investments empower and help 120 million rural people every year produce more food, start businesses and sustainably manage natural resources. Of these, 51 per cent are women, 22 per cent are youth and 27 per cent are indigenous peoples. Every US$1 million Norway provides to IFAD, combined with domestic and international cofinancing and reflows on IFAD’s ongoing portfolio, results in a US$6 million investment benefiting poor people in rural areas.

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)

NORWAY’S TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND VOTING POWER

CONTRIBUTIONS
IFAD12: US$68.2 million
TOTAL: US$435.26 million (including a complementary contribution for climate adaptation in IFAD9)

SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDS
TOTAL: US$88.65 million

VOTES
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL: 2.7%
PERCENTAGE OF LIST A: 5%

PARTICIPATION IN IFAD’S GOVERNING BODIES
Executive Board and Consultation on the Thirteenth Replenishment of IFAD’s Resources
TACKLING POVERTY AND HUNGER TOGETHER

ENABLING SMALL-SCALE FARMERS TO ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE
Mainstreaming climate adaptation is a strategic priority for Norway and IFAD. With Norway’s financial support, strategic guidance and policy support to ensure focus on countries with the most fragile situations, some 38.2 million rural people increased their resilience between 2019 and 2021. In addition, with an overall US$32.3 million in climate finance channelled as complementary contributions to IFAD9 (US$11.6 million) and IFAD Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP)’s three phases, Norway has supported mainstreaming climate adaptation across IFAD’s entire portfolio and bringing innovations to poor people in rural areas who rely on natural resources to make a living.

PARTNERSHIP FOR NUTRITION-SENSITIVE, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD VALUE CHAINS
In the context of IFAD’s Nutrition Action Plan 2019-2025, Norway supports IFAD with supplementary funds in improving local food systems through diversification of food production, behaviour change communication, nutrition education, and empowerment of women in Benin, Burkina Faso, Madagascar, Malawi, Sao Tome and Principe, Sudan and Zimbabwe. In addition, in Kenya, Mozambique and the United Republic of Tanzania, specific focus is placed on smallholder aquaculture.

BRIDGING THE HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT AID DIVIDE
Under IFAD’s Facility for Refugees, Migrants, Forced Displacement and Rural Stability (FARMS), Norway and IFAD have joined forces to address the ongoing refugee crisis in the Lake Chad basin. Norway is contributing significantly with supplementary funds to ensure sustainable incomes for family farms, climate change adaptation and more, reaching about 160,000 refugees in host communities.

Norway is also a top donor to the Crisis Response Initiative – IFAD’s programme to address the impact of the war in Ukraine in the most affected low-income countries and enable small-scale farmers’ access to productive inputs, credit and rural infrastructures.

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL WOMEN
Since 2008, Norway has contributed to the mainstreaming of gender equality in the Fund’s investments. Norway has supported the Rome-based agencies (FAO, WFP and IFAD) and the UN Women Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women (JP RWEE) since its launch in 2014. This initiative builds on each agency’s comparative advantages and strengths to achieve lasting, real improvements in the status of women in rural areas in Ethiopia, Guatemala, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Nepal, Niger and Rwanda. Over seven years and with a total of US$50 million, the programme has reached more than 80,000 women and 400,000 members of their families through a comprehensive package of sequenced interventions to support women’s empowerment and increase their resilience in the face of external shocks.