The State of Qatar is one of the founding members of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Qatar’s support to IFAD is critical to combatting poverty and strengthening development in developing countries. While Gulf countries do not borrow, they have an interest in agricultural development around the Arab world and many of their financial institutions partner with IFAD as cofinancers. IFAD serves as an instrument for Qatar to channel resources to developing countries’ agriculture, as well as a global forum on agriculture and food security in which Gulf countries play a key role.

Qatar has incorporated the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into Qatar’s National Development Strategy 2018-2022. IFAD welcomes a stronger partnership with Qatar on issues such as fragility, water, migration and youth employment.

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$20.8 billion
Total domestic contributions US$18.1 billion
Total cofinancing US$13.3 billion
Total programme of work US$52.9 billion (1978-2019)

QATAR’S TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND VOTING POWER

CONTRIBUTIONS
TOTAL: US$39.98 million in core contributions

VOTES
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL: 0.5%
PERCENTAGE OF LIST A: 4.3%

PARTICIPATION IN IFAD’S GOVERNING BODIES
Executive Board, Consultation on the Twelfth Replenishment of IFAD’s Resources
TACKLING WORLD POVERTY TOGETHER

High rates of youth unemployment are one of the biggest challenges that Arab countries currently face. Young people (between the ages of 15 and 24) are estimated to total 1.2 billion – the largest number the world has ever seen. It is projected that the youth population in sub-Saharan Africa alone, estimated at 150 million in 2010, will more than double to 350 million by 2035. IFAD’s strategy is to focus on youth and rural employment.

In Morocco, for example, IFAD-supported projects have been training young rural entrepreneurs (women and men) in production and processing skills, including livestock production, beekeeping and tree cropping. As a result of these innovative efforts, outmigration of rural youth to urban areas and to other countries has declined, and many young men are now returning to rural areas to benefit from the IFAD-supported activities. Qatar’s contribution to IFAD12 can further support the Fund’s work and its contribution to harnessing the potential of the rural youth to foster rural transformation, which is essential to poverty eradication today and for the foreseeable future.