Sharing a vision on the importance of achieving a world without hunger and poverty – and the sustainable development interventions needed to get there – the United States and IFAD have been working together since IFAD’s inception in 1977. Consistent with its longstanding leadership role in food and nutrition security, the United States holds the largest voting share among IFAD Member States, with 6.93 per cent. The United States has been instrumental in promoting institutional reform within IFAD, leading to more effective and efficient programs and enhanced results and impact.

The United States’ global hunger and food security initiatives – including the approach codified in the Global Food Security Act of 2016, the USAID Climate Strategy 2022-2030 and the Feed the Future Initiative – closely mirror IFAD’s mandate and strategic priorities. Both the United States and IFAD recognize that with the right investments, policies and programs, smallholder farmers have enormous potential to contribute to greater global food security and to reduce poverty and fragility. Both also see equal opportunities for rural women and girls as key to success, together with the need to protect natural resources and ensure sustainability.

IFAD’s work complements the United States’ own assistance efforts. Through Feed the Future, the United States invests in more than 40 countries, including 20 priority countries, to improve inclusive agriculture-led growth, resilience and nutrition, especially for women and girls. IFAD currently has projects in 93 countries and promotes capacity-building and credit and savings programs, in addition to value chain development. Through its support for IFAD, the United States further advances the broad partnership approach that is needed to address the root causes of global hunger and poverty.

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.

THE UNITED STATES’ TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND VOTING POWER

CONTRIBUTIONS
IFAD12: **US$129 million**  
TOTAL: **US$1.203 billion**

SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDS
TOTAL: **US$11.48 million**, including  
US$10 million for the Crisis Response Initiative

VOTES
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL: **6.9%**  
PERCENTAGE OF LIST A: **13%**

PARTICIPATION IN IFAD’S GOVERNING BODIES
Consultation on the Thirteenth Replenishment of IFAD’s Resources, Executive Board and Audit Committee

*Includes Debt Sustainability Framework grants but excludes other grants and some special initiatives.
IN 2021, IFAD’S US$8 BILLION ONGOING PORTFOLIO REACHED ABOUT 100 MILLION OF THE WORLD’S POOREST AND MOST MARGINALIZED RURAL PEOPLE TO INCREASE THEIR PRODUCTIVITY, INCOMES AND ACCESS TO MARKETS, AND BUILD RESILIENCE TO SHOCKS

TACKLING POVERTY AND HUNGER TOGETHER

Every US$1 spent on resilience now saves up to US$10 in emergency aid in the future, not to mention avoiding hardship for millions of people the world over. IFAD is preparing to ramp up its investments to sustain a just rural transition by protecting and supporting development impact gains and progress in building resilience at both the operational and strong collaboration with relevant stakeholders, with the United States among its main partners.

The United States is the largest single contributor to the Fund’s resources since its founding. Both IFAD and the United States prioritize inclusive and sustainable agricultural and rural development to enable rural women and men to move out of poverty and hunger. Each of the IFAD projects cited below is operating in target countries for the United States’ Feed the Future initiative.

MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE AND BUILDING RESILIENCE

In Ethiopia, IFAD is scaling up sustainable soil practices in collaboration with local farmers and authorities, who together have developed an integrated pest management approach through farmer field schools. Through this participatory project, farmers are now using efficient and ecologically responsible methods to make sure infestations become a thing of the past, without harming the environment and jeopardizing their futures. Today these practices are being shared and scaled up across four regions of Ethiopia, targeting 108,750 poor rural households.

In Rwanda, IFAD is empowering rural women to become more resilient to climate shocks through a series of climate-smart projects. In the Ngoma district, years of unpredictable weather and insufficient rainfall led to poor harvests and crop failure. IFAD promoted solar-powered irrigation systems by distributing solar panels and pumps and training to 20 women’s cooperatives involved in the project. In 2022, each of these cooperatives has seen an increase in fruit and vegetable production, from an average of 1 ton to 15 tons of green peppers per hectare. The yield from their lands more than quadrupled within a year, bringing crops back to life in Rwanda, and empowering rural women and their communities with an increase in income, nutritious diets and resilience to climate change.

MARKET ACCESS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY FOR RURAL SMALLHOLDERS

Using mobile banking, the Kisan credit card was developed in Nepal through IFAD’s Rural Poor Stimulus Facility to help rural people get through the COVID-19 pandemic and access subsidized loans to grow their businesses. In Nepal, a woman named Lilawati used this loan to buy more buffaloes and goats, renovate her cowshed and build a storeroom for fodder. With this investment, her family’s income has almost tripled from 15,000 rupees (US$113) a month to 40,000 rupees a month. From Nepal to Nigeria, IFAD is expanding digital inclusion and financing projects that empower women with digital tools so they can build successful businesses and in turn, stronger communities.

In Bangladesh, IFAD is using technology to empower smallholder farmers by providing them with tulip bulbs and helping with online marketing. In less than a year, they have made close to US$9,000 in profits. Through social media, tourist numbers have reached 600 a day, increasing the farmers’ income and generating business for the region.