

The enhanced Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP+)



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ASAP+ is expected to be the largest fund dedicated to channelling climate finance to small-scale producers. It is the enhanced version of the Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture (ASAP) launched by IFAD in 2012.

ASAP+ builds on IFAD's expertise in investing in rural communities and its successes and lessons learned. As a global climate change programme, ASAP+ focuses on addressing the climate change drivers of growing food insecurity by:

- i. Increasing resilience of vulnerable communities to the uncertainty caused by climate change on food security and nutrition
- ii. Reducing greenhouse gases through win-win interventions that also yield significant food security benefits, particularly for vulnerable groups.

What will ASAP+ do?

Bringing in climate finance to overcome food insecurity – transforming food systems

ASAP+ will focus on the climate change drivers of food insecurity and aims to empower the most vulnerable small-scale producers and communities, while adapting value chains to overcome the uncertainties and risks created by climate change and protecting food and nutrition security.



The focus of ASAP+

Where vulnerability to climate change and food insecurity is high

The focus of ASAP+ will be on countries where IFAD has an active portfolio and resources. However, ASAP+ will go beyond this to undertake activities in some countries without IFAD allocations or ongoing projects, but where vulnerability to climate change and food insecurity is high and support from IFAD would greatly contribute to preventing further crises. This would be most appropriate in fragile countries where IFAD investment is envisioned in the future, including small-island developing states.

To enable this type of stand-alone project, ASAP+ goes beyond working through national governments, and puts processes in place to fund projects through non-government organizations.

Projects have been approved or currently under preparation in Brazil, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, Niger, Somalia and Yemen.

How will ASAP+ work?

ASAP+ funding will primarily be tied to underlying IFAD projects, with IFAD core financing. In certain circumstances, ASAP+ could finance stand-alone projects, though this will not be the main modality. The main driving force of ASAP+ will be to bring climate finance to agricultural development projects. This is expected to influence and build-in climate concerns to consolidate and increase project impacts and their sustainability. There are various activities that will allow this, but ASAP+ will focus on multiple-benefit, community-driven approaches to effect change.

Investments will support the following activities.

- Climate services – enhancing the use of climate information for decision making and planning investments to increase resilience.
- Natural resource management and governance – strengthening the participation and ownership of smallholder farmers in decision-making processes and improving technologies for the governance and management of climate-sensitive natural resources.
- Women’s empowerment – increasing the participation of women in, and their benefits from, climate change adaptation activities.
- Nature-based solutions with high potential to decrease the vulnerability and enhance the resilience of smallholder farmers to climate change, while promoting ecosystem restoration.
- Carbon-sequestration and emission reduction, including through renewables.

How will success be measured?

The ASAP+ Results Management Framework sets out a comprehensive results logic that serves the overall goal of the programme to reduce food and nutrition insecurity by addressing the underlying climate change drivers.

A call for action

The challenge: Small-scale producers remain underserved by global climate finance. They bear the devastating consequences of a changing climate, degraded soils, food insecurity and irregular migration.

So far only about 1.7 per cent of the money invested globally in climate finance is reaching small-scale producers.

By being innovative, increasing this small amount and channelling it towards supporting small-scale producers, ASAP+ will:

1. Create additional impact, and help leverage existing, climate finance for small-scale agricultural producers
2. Increase the resilience of small-scale producers, while transforming food systems on the production and consumption side
3. Reduce threats to food insecurity exacerbated by price and market uncertainty
4. Help sequester carbon and contribute to achieving countries' nationally determined contributions to the Paris Agreement.

Resource mobilization has started for ASAP+, with a target of US\$ 500 million that is expected to benefit more than 10 million people.

This will be achieved through two overarching outcome areas:

1. Increased resilience of vulnerable households to the impacts of climate change on their food security and nutrition. **Target:** 7-10 million persons/households.
2. Reduced greenhouse gas emissions from interventions with significant development benefits. **Target:** 96-129 tons of greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂e) avoided and/or sequestered.

Interlinkages and multiple benefits across the two outcome areas on adaptation and mitigation are expected and encouraged.

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