NOW IS THE TIME TO INVEST IN A RESILIENT FUTURE.

Climate change, war and a pandemic are causing growing hunger and poverty. Supply chains and food systems are disrupted, interest rates are rising, and inflation is surging.

In every crisis, it is the poor and vulnerable who suffer the most.

Crisis also expose and are worsened by long-standing systemic problems. Right now we can lay the foundations to achieve greater resilience – especially for those who have been left behind. But only if we make the right choices and the right investments in local food systems. Every US$1 we spend now on future resilience can save up to US$10 in emergency aid in the future.

It all starts with food, our most basic need.

Today’s food systems have failed to make nutritious diets accessible or affordable for all. At least three billion people are unable to afford healthy diets. Eighty per cent of the world’s extremely poor people reside in rural areas and mainly rely on food systems for their livelihoods and food security.

Small-scale farmers, who produce up to 70 per cent of the food consumed in low- and middle-income countries, are often cut off from financing, social services, electricity and even paved roads, and are on the front lines of climate change. But with the right investments rural people can feed themselves, their communities and countries, contributing to food sovereignty and global food security – and creating a future in rural areas for the next generation.

IFAD is stepping up.

IFAD is the world’s fund for transforming agriculture, rural economies and food systems, and targets its investments to the most vulnerable rural populations. For over 40 years, IFAD’s model of locally led development has empowered rural people to take charge of their own futures.

IFAD leverages contributions to assemble more finance for rural transformation. Since 1977, IFAD has turned every dollar of core contributions from Member States into six dollars of investment on the ground.
Why agriculture and food systems?

Food systems provide the majority of the world’s jobs. In some African countries, agriculture alone accounts for two thirds of jobs.

The most direct investment in a sustainable future.

IFAD’s investments change lives and promote a more sustainable, resilient and secure future. IFAD13 is the opportunity to scale up these investments.

- 100 per cent of IFAD investments are directed toward the poorest and most marginalized people.
- In 2021, IFAD was rated the most effective and efficient multilateral development organization globally.
- Building on its AA+ credit rating, IFAD has been able to mobilize further funds through private borrowing and connecting with global capital markets, the first UN specialized agency to do so.
- IFAD is a partner of choice and assembler of finance to benefit smallholders and the rural poor, selected to lead initiatives such as the US$3.5 billion food and agriculture pillar of Egypt’s Nexus on Water, Food and Energy (NWFE) programme and the Great Green Wall, as well as sustainable production pillars of global coordination initiatives.
- In 2021, IFAD’s ongoing portfolio had reached about 100 million of the world’s poorest and most marginalized rural people, helping them to increase their resilience and protect their livelihoods.

A new day.

Time is running out to deliver on the SDGs and address climate change. Small-scale farmers receive on average about 6 cents for every dollar’s worth of food they produce. Donor support for agriculture has been stagnant at just 4-6 per cent of total ODA for at least two decades. The time has come to change this trend. Transforming food systems to be more equitable, inclusive and sustainable is key to achieving global development goals.

Scaling up support for IFAD is among the most efficient and direct means of empowering the most vulnerable people and investing in a resilient future.

WE WON’T GET REAL CHANGE UNTIL WE GET REAL ABOUT CHANGE.

During its Thirteenth Replenishment, IFAD is calling for a coalition between Member States, IFAD and its partners to increase investments in food systems and rural livelihoods.

Find out more here.

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