

US\$1,947.8 MILLION
INVESTED BY IFAD IN THE
REGION'S ONGOING PORTFOLIO

EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

US\$298.1 MILLION
IN IFAD FINANCING
APPROVED IN 2022

44 ONGOING PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH 17 COUNTRIES IN THE REGION
AT THE END OF 2022

4 NEW PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS APPROVED IN
2022 IN ETHIOPIA, MADAGASCAR, RWANDA AND
ZIMBABWE

4 NEW COUNTRY STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
PROGRAMMES APPROVED IN BURUNDI, ESWATINI,
MALAWI AND THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

22 COUNTRIES

Angola 2
Botswana
Burundi 3
Comoros ■ 1
Eritrea 2
Eswatini 2
Ethiopia ■ 3
Kenya ■ 4
Lesotho ■ 3
Madagascar ■ 4
Malawi ■ 4
Mauritius
Mozambique 3
Namibia
Rwanda 4
Seychelles
South Africa
South Sudan 1
Uganda ■ 3
United Republic of Tanzania 1
Zambia 2
Zimbabwe 2

Numbers indicate ongoing
projects and programmes
■ Countries with ongoing
ASAP grants



HIGHLIGHTED PROJECT

MADAGASCAR

The Vocational Training and Agricultural Productivity Improvement Programme aims to improve agricultural productivity, and therefore rural livelihoods and resilience, through training. The project has a particular focus on youth with little education and on young women. Complementary support to further boost productivity and marketing is being provided through investments in agricultural, storage and marketing infrastructure, plus support for accessing rural finance.

TOTAL OUTREACH IS EXPECTED TO BE CLOSE TO 500,000 PEOPLE

96 PER CENT OF THOSE REACHED SO FAR ARE YOUTH

MORE THAN 1,500 HECTARES OF LAND HAS IMPROVED WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

During 2022, small-scale rural producers across East and Southern African countries faced many challenges, both global and local. These have included recovering their livelihoods after the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, new threats to food input supply and affordability caused by the war in Ukraine, and intensifying climatic shocks and stresses. These threats are making small-scale agriculture increasingly challenging, and have contributed to a rise in food insecurity across the region, after 20 years of improvement. Significant local shocks include the ongoing internal conflict in Ethiopia, and poor rains for yet another rainy season in Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan and Uganda.

IFAD has responded by scaling up its support in the region. IFAD financing for the East and Southern Africa investment project portfolio was expected to reach US\$1,947.8 million by the end of 2022, compared with US\$1,891.5 million at the end of 2021, an increase of 26 per cent. These investments are intended to help build resilience to the growing threats and shocks by investing in small rural businesses involved in producing and distributing foods to make them more efficient, inclusive and robust.

IFAD is also emphasizing innovation as a means of building resilience into the rural transformation process. This includes investing in digital technologies that allow small-scale farmers to access markets, information and financial services, and investing in innovative models for agricultural insurance, for example for crops in Kenya and livestock in Zambia.



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“I am glad that we are being compensated because the drought affected our crops. This will be the first time I am compensated through the insurance and I am happy because I will benefit from it.” Mwararo, a farmer benefiting from crop insurance under the Kenya Cereal Enhancement Programme Climate Resilient Livelihoods Window

FOCUS ON MADAGASCAR: SUPPORTING RURAL PEOPLE DURING CHALLENGING TIMES

We have scaled up our investments in the most vulnerable places. One country where rural people faced particularly severe challenges in 2022 is Madagascar. While it suffered from its worst drought in 40 years in the south, six tropical storms hit the country between January and April, affecting an estimated 960,000 people and resulting in the loss of food and cash crops worth around US\$140 million.

IFAD's portfolio of four ongoing investment projects in Madagascar, totalling US\$456.5 million, is supporting small-scale producers to adapt to these threats and to continue producing and selling now and into the future. The focus of IFAD's investments across the country is promoting climate-resilient production and ensuring farmers have the inputs, infrastructure and services they need.

Through the US\$250 million Inclusive Agricultural Value Chains Development Programme, for instance, IFAD is investing in rehabilitating 135 kilometres of road to strengthen transportation of farm inputs and produce. In addition, 2022 saw the completion of the US\$1.8 million COVID-19 response grant, financed through the Rural Poor Stimulus Facility, which reached an estimated 18,000 households with investments in local storage and market infrastructure. These investments helped project participants to navigate COVID-19-related restrictions, and improved marketing channels for small-scale producers.

As a response to the drought crisis, IFAD has scaled up its support by investing a further US\$11 million in the project Recovery and Resilience of Rural Households in the South. The project, which began implementation during 2022, is a three-year response initiative to provide recovery kits to the households most affected by the drought.

Finally, the Vocational Training and Agricultural Productivity Improvement Programme is a cross-cutting initiative that aims to support the government in rolling out its nationwide training strategy for rural people.

FOCUS ON MALAWI: RESPONDING TO CRISES WITH CLIMATE-RESILIENT AGRICULTURE

Malawi is another of the countries most severely impacted by climate change, in particular floods, cyclones and prolonged dry seasons. Combined with the effects of the Ukraine crisis on food and input prices, this has left 13 per cent of the population of Malawi experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity, a number that is predicted to rise to 20 per cent by the first quarter of 2023. IFAD continues to focus on promoting climate-resilient production in the country to overcome these threats.

Managing and regenerating natural resources is a key aspect of our approaches to building climate resilience in rural communities. For example, in Kenya, regenerating forests through the Upper Tana Catchment Natural Resource Management Project is regulating the local climate and stimulating greater rainfall, which in turn helps farmers produce more for their families.

“There is a major difference since the trees grew. These trees attract rain so even if the sun is hot, we still get food to eat.” Margaret Wanjeru wa Kiragu, farmer and participant in the Upper Tana Catchment Natural Resource Management Project

Through the US\$84 million Programme for Rural Irrigation Development, IFAD is supporting approximately 20,000 small-scale producers to improve the climate resilience of their production by building climate-proofed irrigation. So far, the irrigation schemes currently cover 1,000 hectares out of the final target of 3,115 hectares, and the project is also providing training in good agricultural practices to 13,660 farmers. To respond to the severe food and nutrition challenges in the country, the project has also provided 9,604 households – more than half of them headed by women – with nutrition-related support. This has included nutrition messaging, training in integrated homestead farming, and a pass-on scheme for small livestock to increase consumption of animal-source foods and supplement household incomes.