



**Mobilizing resources for
food and agriculture**
FAO TRUST FUNDS



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Over 800 million people around the world struggle with hunger and extreme poverty. About 70 percent of these people live in rural areas and depend in some way on agriculture. Achieving food for all is at the heart of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' efforts since its founding in 1945. For more than sixty years FAO has been focusing on combating hunger and raising levels of nutrition, improving agricultural productivity, ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources, bettering the lives of rural populations and contributing to the growth of the world economy.

Its outreach is global, bringing together developing countries with donor governments and aid agencies in joint efforts to achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, specifically the goal of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger.

Responding to the challenges of the 21st century

The beginning of the twenty-first century has been marked by increasing urbanization and corresponding pressure on land and water resources; greater demand for food quality and safety; climate change and the erosion of biodiversity; forest loss and overfishing; transboundary pests, plant and animal diseases and natural and human-induced disasters.

FAO has the capacity to respond to these challenges. From working with farmers in their fields to policy-makers in their ministries, FAO has a strong comparative advantage and a wealth of accumulated knowledge and experience.