



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Towards zero hunger and sustainability

The FAO Multipartner Programme Support Mechanism

AN UNEARMARKED FUND TO TACKLE HUNGER, POVERTY AND SUSTAINABILITY

The Multipartner Programme Support Mechanism (FMM) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is an innovative fund for partners willing to contribute to FAO's work through unearmarked or slightly earmarked funds. The funds are used strategically to support progress towards a world without hunger or poverty, and where natural resources are used sustainably.



The FMM is unique as it enables FAO to allocate resource partners' funds where the Organization believes they are most needed and effective to achieve zero hunger and sustainability in food and agriculture, reduce rural poverty and enable inclusive and efficient agrifood systems.

Daniel Gustafson, FAO Deputy Director-General for Programmes



Supporting FAO Strategic Objectives and 2030 Sustainable Development Goals

The FMM is a pool of unearmarked or slightly earmarked funds provided by resource partners to support the delivery of the approved and integrated Programme of Work and Budget.

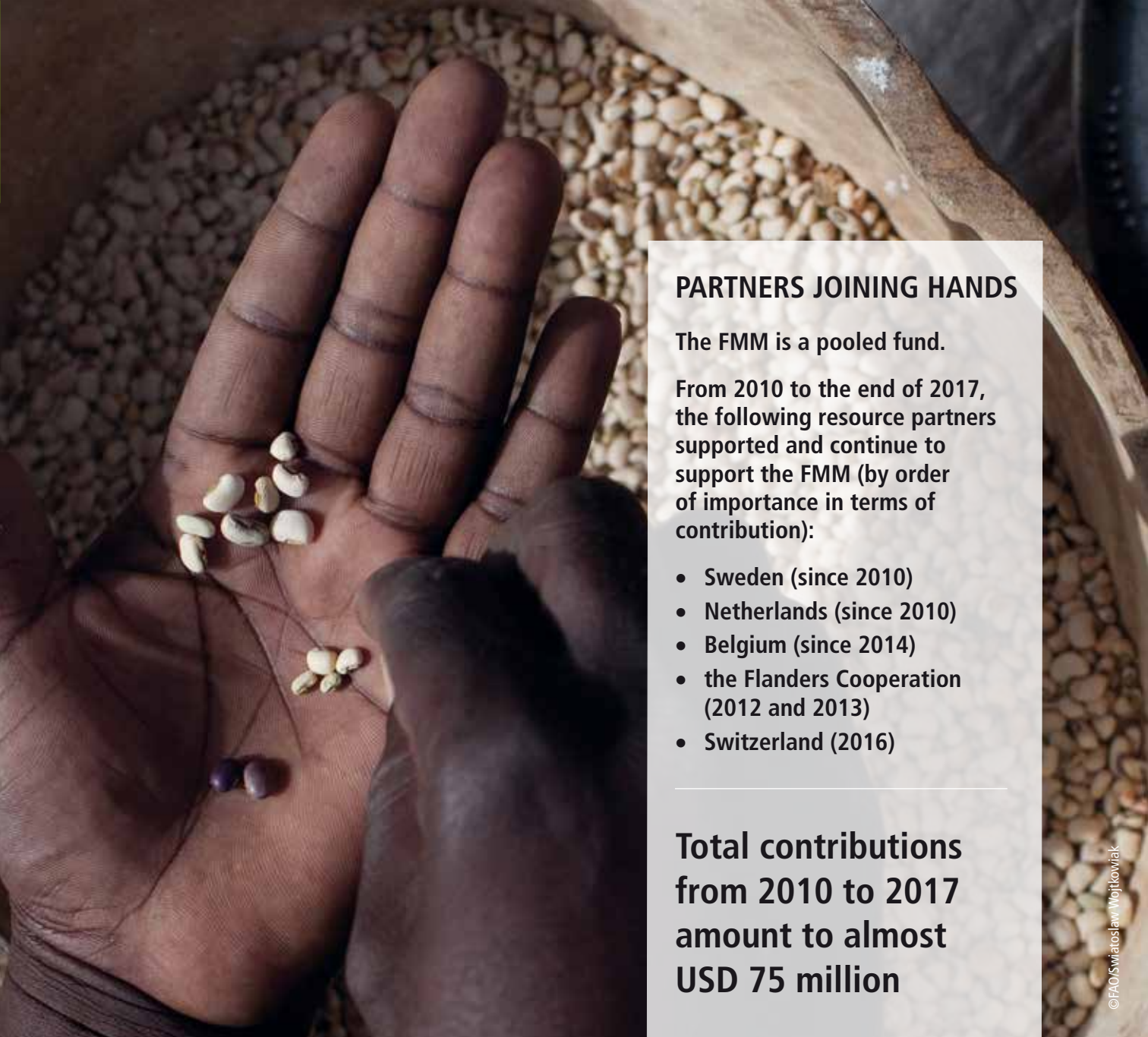
The flexibility offered by pooled and unearmarked funding facilitates the alignment of resources to FAO's strategic priorities and work areas, and contributes to achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Enabling effective action

The flexibility offered by the FMM allows for investments in new methodologies and practices and the development of innovative solutions for countries and vulnerable populations. It also enables the development of technical expertise in new areas to help women and men in rural communities respond to emerging challenges.

The FMM facilitates cross-sectoral work that simultaneously addresses the environmental, social and economic dimensions of today's challenges.

The FMM can support specific components of larger programmes that are funded by different sources and operate in many different countries.



PARTNERS JOINING HANDS

The FMM is a pooled fund.

From 2010 to the end of 2017, the following resource partners supported and continue to support the FMM (by order of importance in terms of contribution):

- Sweden (since 2010)
- Netherlands (since 2010)
- Belgium (since 2014)
- the Flanders Cooperation (2012 and 2013)
- Switzerland (2016)

**Total contributions
from 2010 to 2017
amount to almost
USD 75 million**

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A constantly evolving mechanism

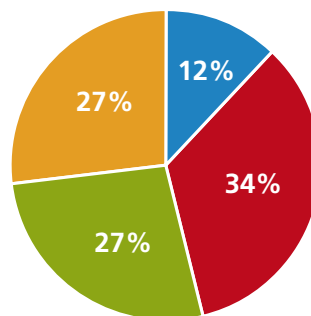
Since its creation in 2010, the FMM has been an innovative mechanism. It was the first instrument for truly programmatic support to FAO's Programme of Work and Budget.

The FMM has evolved alongside major changes within FAO since 2012, in particular the adoption of the FAO Strategic Framework and Objectives, results-based management and an integrated budget.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- From 2010 to 2016, more than 30 FMM-supported projects delivered tangible results in more than 70 countries.
- Since 2010, the FMM has been crucial to advance work in areas at the heart of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, such as hunger eradication, poverty reduction, women's empowerment, sustainability in production and natural resources management and food loss and waste reduction.
- Since 2014, the FMM has supported four FAO Strategic Objectives (SOs), with an emphasis on making agriculture more productive and sustainable (SO2), reducing rural poverty (SO3) and enabling more inclusive and efficient agrifood systems (SO4).
- As of 2016, FMM projects are related to ten SDGs (see graphic below).

Percentage of funds allocated per Strategic Objective for 2014-2016



- Help eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition (SO1)
- Make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable (SO2)
- Reduce rural poverty (SO3)
- Enable inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems (SO4)

Sustainable Developments Goals supported by FMM projects



FMM functions (refer to the period from 2014 to 2016)

Strengthened capacities	Policy advice	Partnerships	Catalytic effects
<p>Capacity strengthened in more than 40 countries in various areas, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Aquaculture ■ Agroforestry and sustainable wood and water practices ■ Innovative agricultural practices ■ Agribusiness set-up and management ■ Food insecurity measurement ■ Land management techniques ■ Child labour prevention ■ Financial services for agriculture ■ Climate forecasts and climate change impact analysis ■ Large-scale surveys ■ Gender-sensitive value chains ■ Food loss assessments 	<p>Delivery of policy advice in more than 12 countries, resulting in the adoption of policies and programmes and the creation of policy platforms in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Agro-ecology ■ Contract farming ■ Child labour ■ Blue growth ■ Sustainable food and agriculture ■ Youth employment ■ Forestry ■ Women's empowerment along value chains ■ Forest and land restoration 	<p>Partnerships established with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Research centres and academia ■ Private sector ■ Civil society organizations ■ International organizations ■ Financing institutions ■ Global alliances 	<p>FMM projects generated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Over USD 25 million of additional funding for complementary or upscaled projects ■ Large number of country requests for support to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) implement new methodologies, particularly in the areas of food security measurement; 2) include agriculture in national adaptation plans; and 3) scale up successful practices and approaches, especially in the areas of sustainability and community empowerment (Dimitra Clubs)



We need new and innovative financial instruments to finance actions to achieve our goal of zero hunger and other SDGs. FMM is one of these.

Hans Hoogeveen, Ambassador,
Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



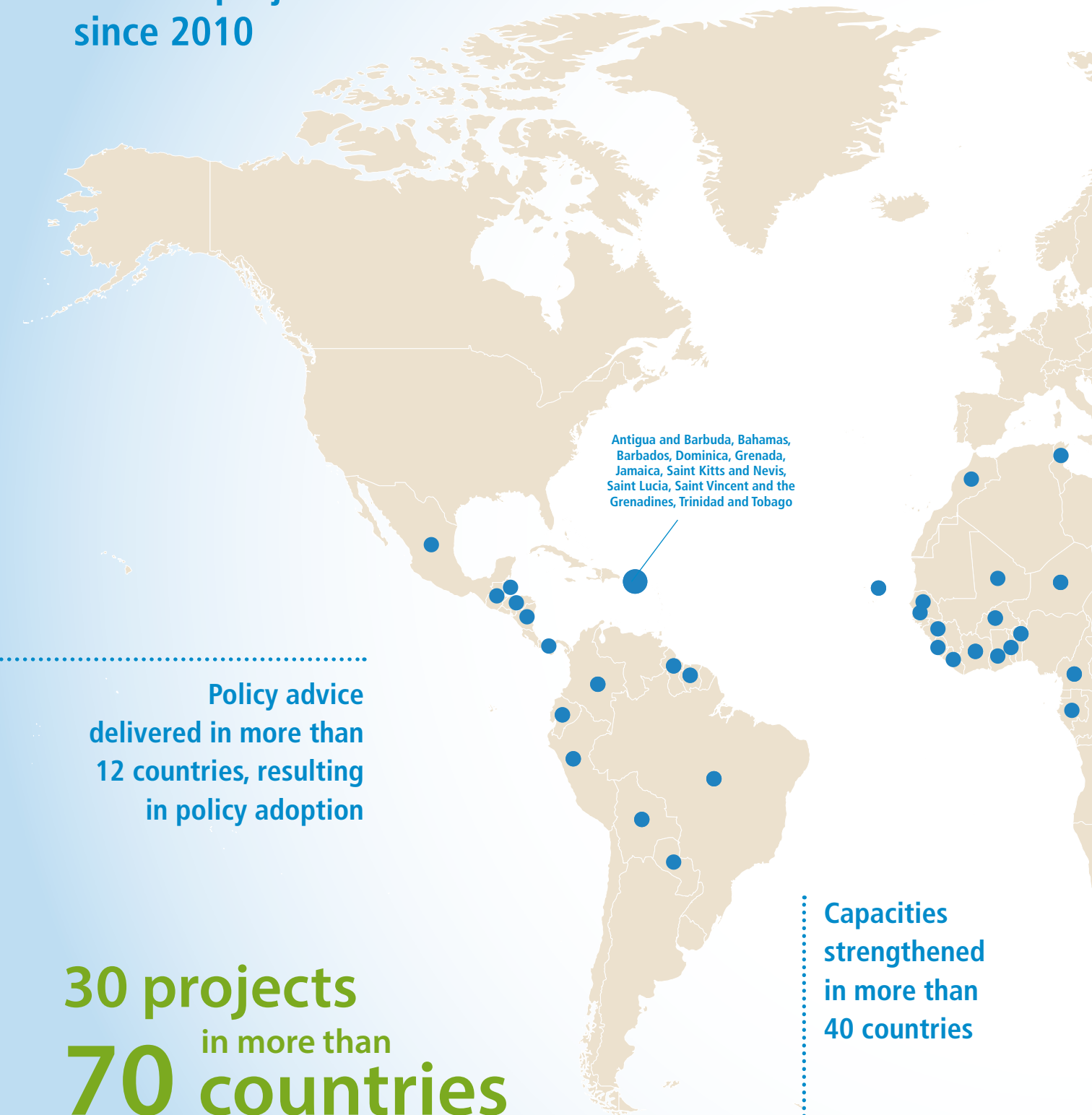
Beneficiary countries of FMM projects since 2010

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas,
Barbados, Dominica, Grenada,
Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis,
Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the
Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago

Policy advice
delivered in more than
12 countries, resulting
in policy adoption

30 projects
in more than
70 countries

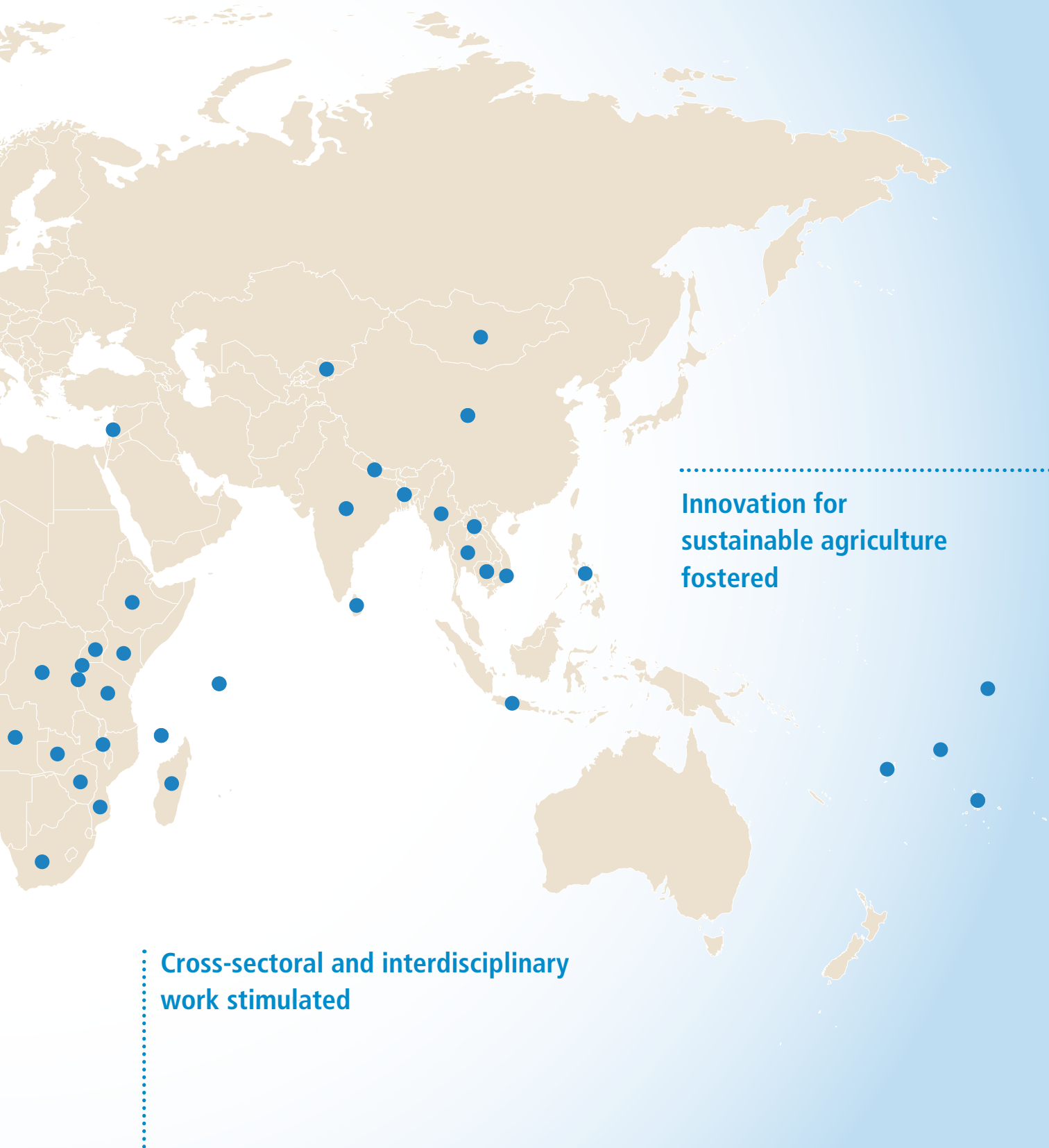
Capacities
strengthened
in more than
40 countries



Over USD 25 million of additional
funding generated by FMM projects

Innovation for
sustainable agriculture
fostered

Cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary
work stimulated



RESULTS TOWARDS ZERO HUNGER AND SUSTAINABILITY

Since 2010, the FMM has supported more than 30 projects contributing to progress towards zero hunger, sustainability in food and agriculture, rural poverty reduction and efficient and inclusive agrifood systems.

The FMM has supported the development of innovative solutions for farmers and food producers and assisted them in tackling emerging priorities. FMM-funded projects have also leveraged additional funding, fostered cross-sector visions and stimulated new partnerships – three necessary conditions for progress in achieving the SDGs.

This section presents a selection of emblematic projects supported by the FMM. This list is not exhaustive. The results quoted stem from FAO monitoring and reporting processes.

FOSTERING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR FARMERS

Innovation plays an increasingly important role in ensuring global food security, poverty reduction and agricultural sustainability. The FMM supports the development of innovative solutions, helping farmers and food producers adapt to changes linked to climate change, rural transformation and globalization.

Re-shaping the way food insecurity is measured

Efficient food security and livelihood programmes that address the needs of the hungry require an accurate understanding and monitoring of the food security situation. The FMM supports the development of the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES), a new global standard for measuring the severity of food insecurity, focusing on access to food. Used in combination with other tools, the FIES contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of the

causes and consequences of food insecurity, and it informs more effective policies and interventions in countries. This innovative tool also produces direct, reliable and comparable measures of the severity of food insecurity across countries in a cost-effective and timely manner. The FIES is an indicator to measure global progress towards zero hunger.¹ It is also one of the 20 SDG indicators for which FAO is the custodian agency.

Piloting innovative agricultural and aquaculture practices in Burundi

In Burundi's Mwaro province, farmers have begun integrating aquaculture, livestock and agricultural practices in order to sustainably intensify agricultural production. Livestock manure fertilizes the ponds, improving fish production and reducing feed requirements. At the same time, the cultivation of perennial forage grasses for goats prevents soil erosion. The integration has enhanced production, resulting in a more efficient use of resources, better soil conservation and improved livelihoods and food security among farming families. These practices can now be replicated in similar agronomic settings.

Exploring new knowledge on climate-smart agriculture

In Malawi and Zambia, FAO is conducting innovative research to identify the best climate-smart agriculture options for smallholder farmers and livestock keepers. The research focuses on ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while also diversifying crops, intensifying livestock production and understanding the trade-offs and synergies. The project also explores the economic feasibility and socio-economic impact of possible climate-smart agriculture options.

- 1 SDG 2, Target 2.1: "By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round."

The FMM leverages FAO's normative work and global public goods to promote innovative solutions to help countries eradicate hunger, make agriculture more productive and sustainable and reduce rural poverty.

Boyd Haight, Director,
Office of Strategy, Planning and
Resource Management



HELPING COUNTRIES AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES ADDRESS EMERGING CHALLENGES

In a fast-changing and complex world, being at the forefront of emerging challenges is a necessity. The FMM helps countries address emerging priorities. In recent years, two areas have gained prominence: agriculture's role in adapting to and mitigating climate change and the importance of decent employment to fight rural poverty and distress migration.

Pioneering the integration of agriculture into national adaptation plans

The farming and pastoralist communities that produce most of the planet's food are hit hard by climate change. For them, adapting to climate change is a matter of survival. In Malawi and Uganda, FAO is providing technical support and policy advice to identify agricultural vulnerabilities to climate change and relevant action for adaptation. FAO is also assisting these countries in integrating agriculture into their national adaptation plans – an experience that has sparked a wider partnership with the United Nations Development Programme to help other countries do the same.



Developing and upscaling climate-smart practices

In the Dry Corridor of Guatemala and Honduras, the FMM has supported farmers to implement climate-smart agroforestry systems through a farmer field school approach. The Kuxur rum and Quesungual systems, which are an alternative to slash and burn agriculture, were developed based on traditional farming practices. Their implementation has led to increased productivity and food security, improved soil and water conservation and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

More decent employment

To fight rural poverty and the expanding phenomena of distress migration, more decent jobs are needed.

Employment opportunities in rural areas are often informal, poorly paid and even hazardous.

FAO assists countries in creating decent rural employment opportunities, especially for youth and women, that ensure a living income, security in the workplace, access to social protection and respect for fundamental human rights.

To this end, FAO has developed an Integrated Country Approach, which combines knowledge generation, policy dialogue and advice, technical support and capacity development to stimulate the adoption of employment-enhancing policy frameworks and related programmes in the agriculture and rural sectors.

The approach has been implemented in Guatemala, Malawi, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda.



Climate change: from global knowledge to global action

Building climate-smart agriculture

Over the years, the FMM has enabled the development of a solid body of knowledge and practices on agriculture and climate change. The FMM was crucial in developing the initial concept of climate-smart agriculture, which was first presented in 2010 and has since become a full-fledged approach to help people managing agricultural systems respond effectively to climate change. Today climate-smart agriculture is the cornerstone of FAO's action on climate change and enjoys global recognition, with hundreds of climate-smart agriculture projects implemented across the world.

A global voice in climate negotiations

FAO actively contributes to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). With FMM support, FAO provides technical advice and conducts advocacy activities, successfully promoting the role of agriculture in climate change adaptation and ensuring a higher profile for agriculture and food security in UNFCCC discussions.

LEVERAGING RESOURCES TO REACH MORE COMMUNITIES

FMM-supported projects often have strong potential for scaling up. Relatively small projects often lead to complementary or wider projects, attracting additional funding from national or international sources in order to replicate and upscale successful practices and approaches.

Upscaling Dimitra Clubs to empower rural communities

Smallholder farmers – women, men, youth – need to play a central role in rural transformation to ensure that the process is inclusive and sustainable.

The FAO Dimitra project aims to empower rural populations, especially women. Through the Dimitra Clubs, members

The FMM has allowed to further develop successful initiatives such as the Dimitra Project, supporting optimal programmatic delivery and results in the fields of gender, social cohesion, rural transformation in communities, particularly in fragile countries.

Guy Beringhs, Minister Plenipotentiary and Deputy Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Belgium

The FMM project has had a strong catalytic effect. We now plan to implement Dimitra Clubs in the entire country, in collaboration with the World Bank – going from 1,000 clubs to about 2,000.

Lassaad Lachaal, FAO Representative, Niger

exchange information on the challenges they face and take action to improve their livelihoods. In sub-Saharan Africa, over 1,600 Dimitra Clubs, with about 50,000 members (two-thirds of them women), benefit more than one million people. The Clubs empower rural people, promote women's leadership and increase their access to productive resources and services, leading to concrete results in areas such as nutrition, education and resilience, climate-smart agriculture, ultimately improving livelihoods and reducing rural poverty with a strong gender-equality perspective.

A growing number of countries are requesting support to implement the Dimitra approach. Several FAO partners plan to upscale the approach to address challenges such as climate change, resilience, malnutrition and food insecurity.

Spreading advanced forest monitoring

Today, reliable forest-related information is essential for managing forests sustainably and meeting international reporting requirements such as the SDGs. FAO set up the basis of the National Forest Monitoring and Assessment Programme, dedicated to helping countries develop innovative and advanced systems to provide reliable forest resource information. The FMM initially supported nine countries. The technical expertise generated and the initial results obtained triggered the interest of many countries and additional support from many other resource partners. Today there are about 35 countries with a national forest monitoring system in place or in the process of being set up.

The seed money allocated by the FMM has had a powerful catalytic effect: thanks to the experience with the National Forest Monitoring and Assessment Programme implemented in nine countries, an increasing number of countries support improving forest data at country level.

Mats Åberg, Senior Policy Adviser, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

IMPLEMENTING CROSS-SECTORAL VISIONS AND ACTION

Farmers and food producers require solutions that address the social, economic and environmental dimensions of the challenges they face. The FMM stimulates cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary work, enabling the development of integrated visions and approaches that tackle the multiple dimensions of climate change, poverty and hunger simultaneously.

Accelerating the transition towards sustainability in food and agriculture

Agriculture is facing an unprecedented confluence of pressures that urges for profound changes in food and agricultural systems. To accelerate the transition towards more sustainable systems, FAO has developed a common vision and a set of principles addressing the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability. FAO works with countries to implement the principles. In Morocco and Rwanda, FAO is helping to assess key sustainability issues and set up policy platforms, bringing various ministers together to address the multifaceted issue of adapting agricultural and natural resource governance and practices. The principles already provide an entry point for more coordinated and effective action in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, fostering the integrated implementation of the SDGs at country level.

FMM support was crucial in attracting much needed attention on the importance of engaging youth in the agriculture and food sectors, and opening opportunities for policy work on this emerging theme.

Alhaji M. Jallow, FAO Representative, Uganda



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Focus on gender

Unlocking women's economic potential in the agrifood sector

Women are the backbone of the rural economy. But too often they are relegated to the lowest paid and unskilled segments of value chains and the lowest value sectors. They often lack access to productive resources, education and training to develop their immense potential.

With FMM support, FAO is investing in women's capacities. In Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda and Tunisia, women working in fisheries, fruits, roots, tubers and dairy value chains are learning how to adapt their production to markets, use new equipment and develop new businesses. The project also enables the development of gender-sensitive agrifood value chains through policy advocacy and institutional strengthening. Empowering women along value chains leads to better incomes and livelihoods, ultimately improving household food and nutrition security, education and health.

ENSURING ALL VOICES ARE HEARD

Global participation for successful small-scale fisheries guidelines

In 2014, FAO adopted the *Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication* (SSF Guidelines), the first negotiated international instrument dedicated to this immensely important sector.

To ensure that the SSF Guidelines reflect the aspirations of the 100 million people who depend on small-scale fisheries and are widely applied, the FMM supported a global consultative process involving more than 4,000 representatives of governments, small-scale fishing communities, civil society organizations, regional organizations and other stakeholders from more than 120 countries.

Including vulnerable groups for a meaningful tenure debate

Ensuring the effective participation of the most vulnerable or less informed groups, such as indigenous peoples, small-scale farmers, pastoralists, fisher folks and forest communities, in the tenure debates in their countries is fundamental.

With FMM support, FAO is strengthening the capacity of civil society and grassroots organizations to contribute to policy processes on the implementation of the *Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security* (VGGT). Adopted in 2012, the Guidelines promote secure tenure rights and equitable access to these resources as a means to eradicate hunger and poverty, support sustainable development and enhance the environment. The capacity of civil society and grassroots organizations has been strengthened in Colombia, Guatemala, Liberia, Malawi, Myanmar, Mongolia, Nepal, Niger, the Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone and South Africa, with more countries to benefit in the coming years.



STIMULATING PARTNERSHIPS

Global challenges cannot be solved by one organization alone. Solutions depend on effective partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders, making use of each other's knowledge and comparative advantages.

Over the years, FMM projects have built tens of fruitful partnerships with academia, research centres, international organizations, financing institutions, the private sector, civil society and community organizations.

Multiple actors for saving food and reducing waste

Due to its complexity, addressing food loss and waste needs to be a joint effort. FAO engages with public and private partners to take action on this issue. With FMM support, FAO set up the Save Food Initiative, a unique partnership

that counts more than 500 companies and organizations active in food loss and waste reduction. Save Food aims to drive innovations, promote interdisciplinary dialogue and stimulate debates and synergies to generate solutions across value chains.

Thanks to the FMM, civil society and grassroots organizations have been able to increase their awareness of the implementation of the VGGT and participate effectively in the debate on tenure rights, which is essential for the success of the entire VGGT programme.

Diego Recalde, FAO Representative, Guatemala



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The private sector: a key partner

The private sector is a key ally in addressing global challenges that affect food and agricultural systems, as it is also a key driver of these systems' current transformation. Partnering with the private sector is essential to address food losses and waste. To this end, the Save Food Initiative encompasses key players from the food industry and packaging sector.

Partnerships with the private sector are also important to coordinate and stimulate investments in agricultural and food systems. In the Cook Islands and Samoa, the FMM partnered with the local Chambers of Commerce to foster investments in agribusinesses through the creation of a grant facility, agribusiness coaching and capacity strengthening on financial services for agriculture.

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