

SEEDS OF SUCCESS:

Empowering farmers' organizations through the FO4 programmes



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List of acronyms

AFA-LVC	Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development – La Via Campesina
APFP	Asia-Pacific Farmers' Programme
ARISE-Farmers	Assuring Resiliency of Family Farmers
COPROFAM	Confederación de Organizaciones de Productores Familiares del Mercosur Ampliado
CSO	Civil society organizations
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EAFF	Eastern Africa Farmers' Federation
FAFO	Farmers' Forum
FAO RLC	FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
FO	Farmers' organization
FO4	Farmers' organization programmes
FO4A	FO4 Asia
FO4ACP	FO4 Africa, Caribbean and Pacific
FO4LA	FO4 Latin America
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
LFO	Local farmers' organization
NFO	National farmers' organization
PAFO	Pan-African Farmers' Organization
PIFON	Pacific Island Farmers' Organisation Network
PROPAC	Plateforme Sous-Régionale des Organisations Paysannes d'Afrique Centrale
RFO	Regional farmers' organization
SACAU	Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions
SFOAP	Support to Farmers' Organizations in Africa Programme
UMNAGRI	Union Maghrébine et de l'Afrique du Nord des Agriculteurs

About farmers' organizations

Smallholder farms, which cover less than 2 hectares of land, make up 84 per cent of the world's 570 million farms and produce one third of the world's food. Despite their significance in the global food system, many smallholder farmers face rural poverty and food insecurity, with limited access to markets, financial resources and agricultural training.

Farmers' organizations (FOs) – cooperatives, unions and associations that represent and support farmers – have emerged as collective groups of farmers united to address these challenges. FOs are increasingly recognized as key representatives of the farming community, playing a vital role in amplifying farmers' voices, shaping agricultural policies, fostering sustainable development, integrating smallholders into markets, creating employment opportunities, and improving food security and nutrition.

Definition of farmers' organizations:

FOs are autonomous, membership-based organizations of smallholders, family farmers and rural food producers, including pastoralists, artisanal fishers, landless people and Indigenous Peoples who are organized at the local, provincial, national, regional and global levels, on either a commodity or a territorial basis. They include all forms of producers' associations, cooperatives, unions, federations and platforms. They exist in all countries and in most rural areas, although at different levels of development and capacity. Farmers create organizations to work together in areas where collective action improves economies of scale, bargaining power, solidarity, and social and environmental benefits.



FOs have made significant strides in gaining international recognition for their vital role in strengthening local food systems and reducing poverty. This has been highlighted through key global initiatives, including:

The United Nations International Year of Cooperatives (2012) and the International Year of Family Farming (2014), both of which highlighted the significance of farmers' collective action;

The United Nations Decade of Family Farming (UNDF) (2019–2028), which was proclaimed following a campaign largely driven by FOs, emphasizing their crucial role in global food systems; and

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas (UNDROP), adopted in 2018, which marked a major step in recognizing the rights and contributions of rural populations.

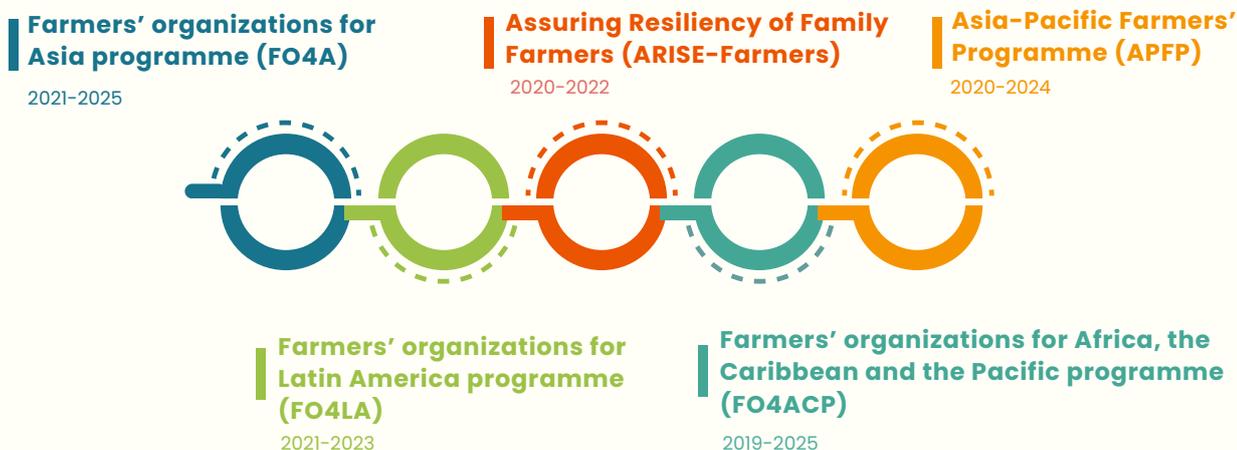
The Farmers' Organizations Programmes - an overview

Background

Under the framework of the above-mentioned global initiatives, international institutions – including the European Union, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the Swiss and French development agencies – have funded programmes to strengthen FOs and enable them to better support smallholder farmers. Some key initiatives include:



Building on the successes and impacts of these programmes, as well as the lessons learned, the farmers' organization programmes (FO4) were launched from 2019 to 2025. These are a series of interconnected initiatives that include:



The FO4 programmes align with the principles of the UNDFP and the Farmers' Forum (FAFO), ensuring that the voices of farmers remain central to all processes, from programme design to implementation. Through the FO4 programmes IFAD, the European Union, and other like-minded donors collaborate with FOs to strengthen their institutional capacities, enabling them to better serve their members and ultimately improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers globally.

The Farmers' Forum

FAFO is a permanent and well-established framework of collaboration between IFAD and FOs that was created in 2005 to facilitate structured consultation and dialogue between smallholder farmers, rural producers' organizations, IFAD and governments, focusing on rural development and poverty reduction. FAFO is guided by global and regional steering committees, composed of representatives from global/continental and main regional FOs and IFAD. FAFO meetings are held globally every four years, with regional meetings in between that serve for stock-taking, sharing experiences and assessing progress in IFAD's partnerships with FOs. Progress in IFAD's engagement with FOs is summarized in the [Partnership in Progress report](#).

Overall and strategic objectives

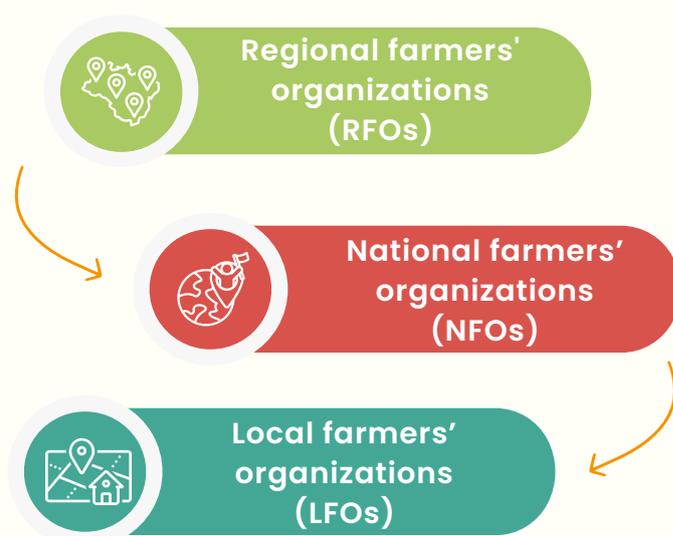
The joint overall objectives of the FO4 programmes are to enhance income, improve livelihoods and strengthen food and nutrition security for smallholder family farmers and their organizations across targeted countries.

The programmes' strategic objectives focus on building capacity, improving service delivery and enabling policy influence in the regions where the programmes are being implemented. The four objectives are as follows:



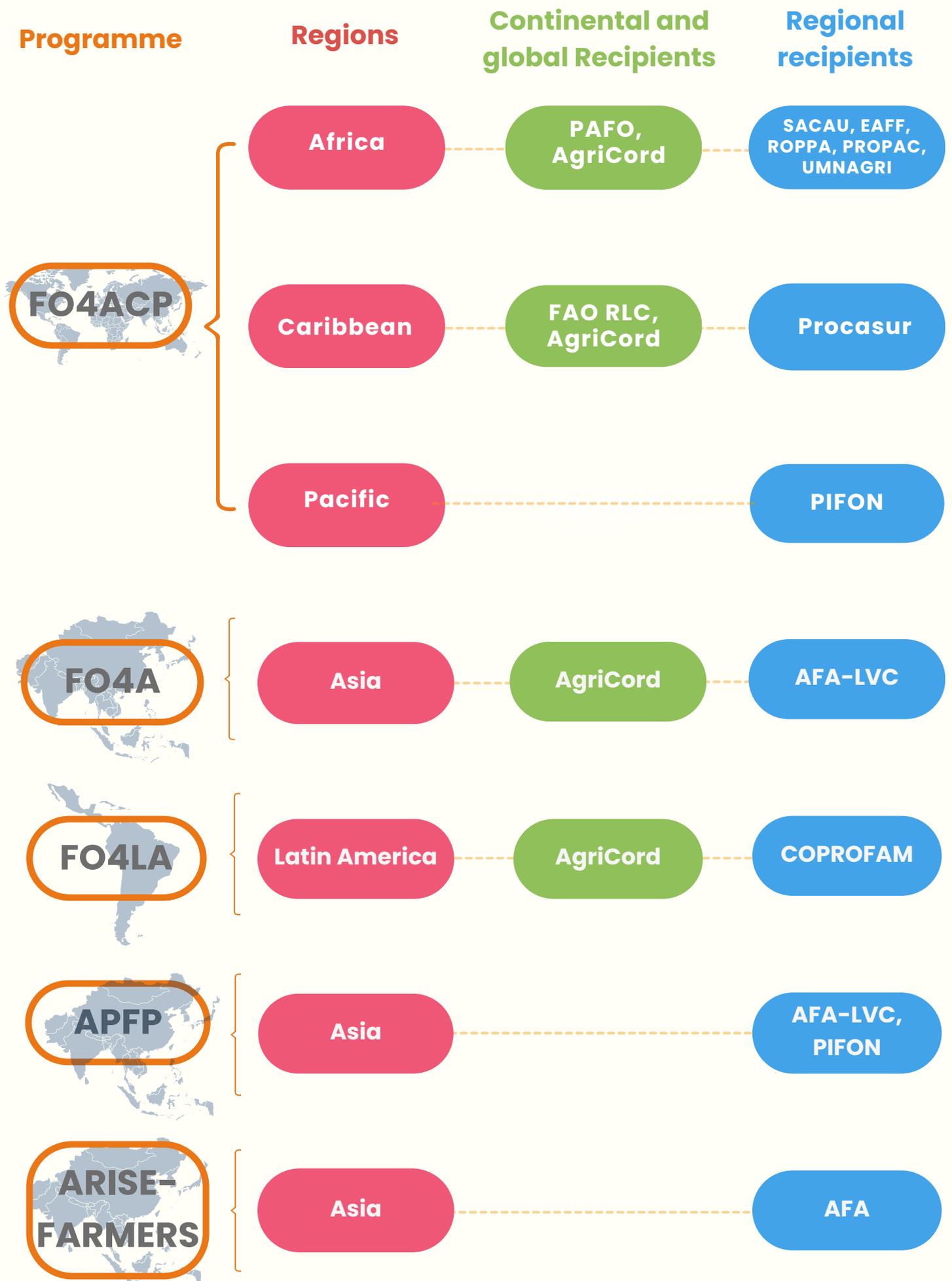
Programme recipients

The FO4 programmes follow the “subsidiarity principle”, with funds flowing from continental and regional farmers' organizations (RFOs) to national farmers' organizations (NFOs) and local farmers' organizations (LFOs). This principle also shapes programme implementation by assigning responsibilities across the different levels to maximize synergies and complementarity. Ongoing coordination and consultation between local, national, regional and continental levels ensure coherence and a stronger impact throughout the programmes.



Under this principle, funds are channelled down through the various levels by the direct recipients of the FO4 programmes. The figure and table below introduce the FOs, along with AgriCord, which received direct funding from the FO4 programmes. A full list of NFOs benefiting from the programmes is available in annex 2.

Figure 1. Regional, continental and global programme recipients

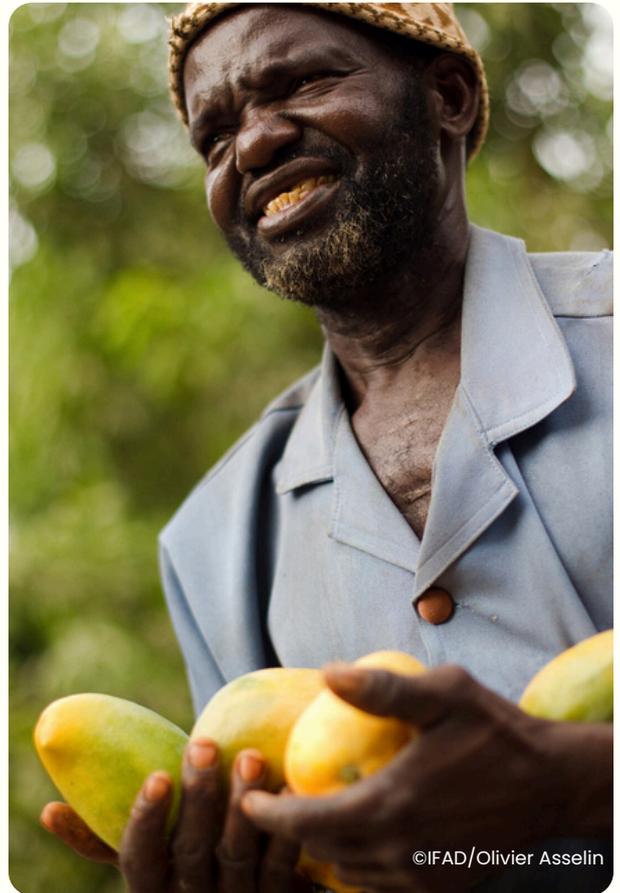


Africa - continental recipient

The Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO)



PAFO was created in 2010 as the fruit of the discussions of the five RFOs in Africa to create a platform that would unite their efforts and harmonize their advocacy. PAFO's mission aims to defend the social and economic rights and interests of African farmers and their organizations at the continental and international levels. PAFO strives to build common views on the main challenges in the agriculture sector and to influence agricultural policies and strategies for a better consideration of the interest of African farmers. PAFO plays a key role as a knowledge broker, sharing information, experiences and knowledge on all aspects of agricultural and rural development.



Africa - regional recipients



Union Maghrébine et de l'Afrique du Nord des Agriculteurs (UMNAGRI)



Réseau des Organisations Paysannes et de Producteurs de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (ROPPA)



Plateforme Sous-Régionale des Organisations Paysannes d'Afrique Centrale (PROPAC)

Eastern Africa Farmers' Federation (EAFF)



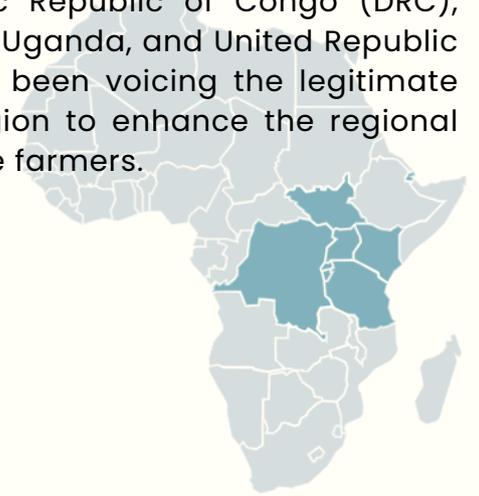
Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)



Eastern Africa Farmers' Federation (EAFF)



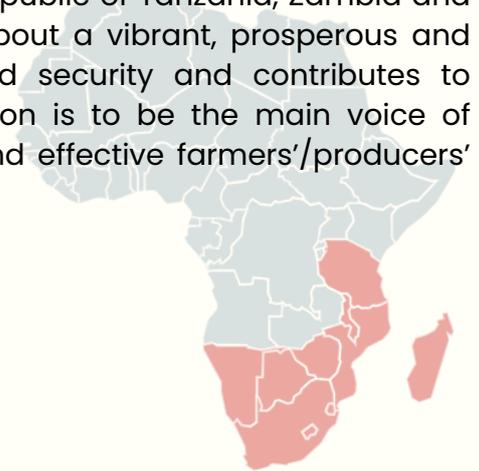
EAFF is an RFO with a membership comprising 23 apex FOs in 10 countries in Eastern Africa (Burundi, Djibouti, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, and United Republic of Tanzania). It was formed in 2001 and has been voicing the legitimate concerns and interests of farmers of the region to enhance the regional cohesiveness and socioeconomic status of the farmers.



Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)



The core membership of SACAU consists of national general interest apex FOs. Membership currently stands at 20 FOs in 13 countries in Southern Africa (Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe). The vision of SACAU is to bring about a vibrant, prosperous and sustainable farming sector that ensures food security and contributes to economic growth in Southern Africa. Its mission is to be the main voice of farmers and to promote and ensure strong and effective farmers'/producers' organizations in all countries in Southern Africa.



Réseau des Organisations Paysannes et de Producteurs de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (ROPPA)



ROPPA is an RFO representing agricultural producers in West Africa. It brings together 13 member NFOs (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo) and associated member FOs (Cabo Verde and Nigeria). Since its creation in June 2000, in Cotonou, ROPPA has positioned itself as a tool for the defence and promotion of family farms, which constitute the main production system in West Africa.



Plateforme Sous-Régionale des Organisations Paysannes d'Afrique Centrale (PROPAC)



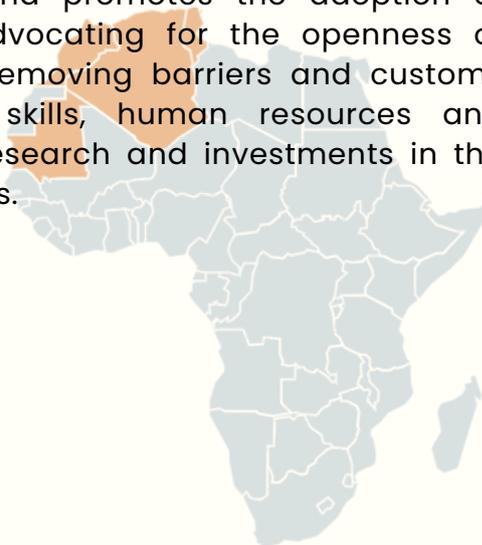
PROPAC is an RFO founded in 2005 that brings together 10 FOs in the countries of the Economic Community of Central African States region: Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Sao Tome and Principe. PROPAC has a vision of “family farming being enterprising, sustainable and modernized in order to ensure the economic, social, cultural and ecological functions for food security and sovereignty.” Its purpose is to harmonize the strategies and actions of Central African NFOs to address their concerns in the development, implementation and evaluation of policies and strategies for agricultural and rural development at all levels.



Union Maghrébine et de l'Afrique du Nord des Agriculteurs (UMNAGRI)



UMNAGRI is a Tunis-based RFO with a professional vocation, benefiting from legal and financial autonomy and constituted of members from NFOs in Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia. UMNAGRI defends the interests of its members and promotes the adoption of harmonized agricultural policies while advocating for the openness of markets between member countries by removing barriers and customs duties. It promotes the exchange of skills, human resources and technologies, and encourages scientific research and investments in the agriculture sector among member countries.



Asia and the Pacific – regional recipients



Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA)



AFA is an Asian alliance of NFOs established in 2002, composed of smallholder family farmers, fishers, Indigenous Peoples, forest users, herders and pastoralists. AFA's goal is to strengthen the capacities of the leaders and technical staff of NFOs, leading to the eradication of poverty and hunger, and increased resilience and well-being of family farmers in Asia. AFA works with other civil society organizations (CSOs) in facilitating the formation of NFOs and cooperatives, continuously building their capacities.

Pacific Island Farmer Organisations Network (PIFON)



PIFON serves as an umbrella organization for NFOs in the Pacific region to coordinate capacity-building, share success stories and lessons learned, and support regional exchanges of expertise between FOs and their associated private sector partners. Officially registered as a not-for-profit company in 2013, today PIFON represents a vibrant and growing network of NFOs in the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Hawaii, Kiribati, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Vanuatu. The network is increasingly changing the face of agriculture in the region.

Latin America and the Caribbean – continental recipients

The Food and Agriculture Organizations of the United Nations (FAO)



FAO is a specialized agency that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. Its goal is to achieve food security for all and ensure that people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives. With 195 members (194 countries and the European Union), FAO works in over 130 countries worldwide. The FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean supported the implementation of the FO4ACP programme in Belize, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica and Santa Lucia, in collaboration with Procasur.

Latin America and the Caribbean – regional recipients

Confederation of Family Producer Organizations of the Expanded Mercosur (COPROFAM)



COPROFAM is comprised of 10 NFOs from seven countries: Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. It also comprises 97 affiliates, including federations and confederations, and 4,750 grassroots organizations (e.g. unions, associations). COPROFAM represents about 4 million family farmers, peasants and Indigenous Peoples. Its objectives are to: represent the interests of its member organizations in the countries of the expanded Mercosur; develop and support actions that generate better living and working conditions in rural areas; participate in the preparation and implementation of sustainable rural development projects for its member countries; strengthen the capacity of the organization and its members to intervene in dialogue with government; and train family, peasant and Indigenous farmers to intervene in the negotiation processes of the expanded Mercosur and its member countries.

Procasur



Procasur is a global organization established in 1996 that specializes in the development and dissemination of tools and methodologies for effective knowledge management, building the capacity of public and private sector actors involved in the fight against rural poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean. By linking international institutions and regional organizations with local governments, talent and rural communities, Procasur seeks to identify, nurture and share rural innovations and good practices in areas such as market access, financing, natural resource management, environment and technology, empowerment, inclusion and citizenship.

Global recipient operating in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean

AgriCord

AGRICORD



AgriCord is a non-profit global alliance of 13 agri-agencies mandated by FOs in Africa, Asia, Canada and Europe. Agri-agencies provide specialized services, tools and approaches to respond to the different needs of FOs. Initiatives implemented by FOs at the local, district or provincial level receive technical support from AgriCord through its agri-agencies and national FOs.

Implemented across 76 countries, with 57 covered through FO4ACP, 15 through FO4A and four through FO4LA, the programmes amount to EUR 73 million of shared investment from IFAD and the European Union.



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Programme budget

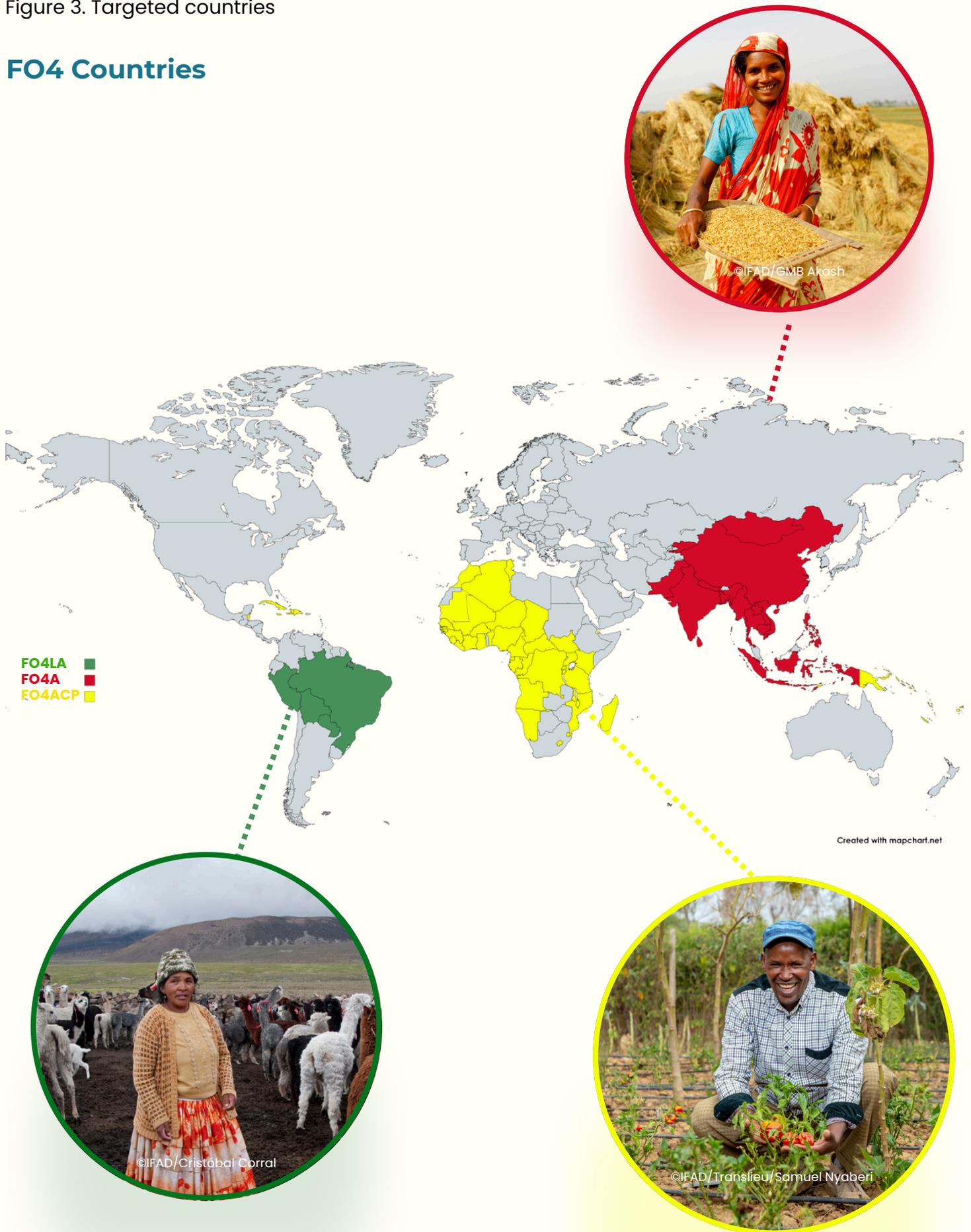
The total budget allocation for the FO4 programmes amounts to EUR 73.5M, the distribution by region is presented in figure 2.

Figure 2. Budget allocation by region



Figure 3. Targeted countries

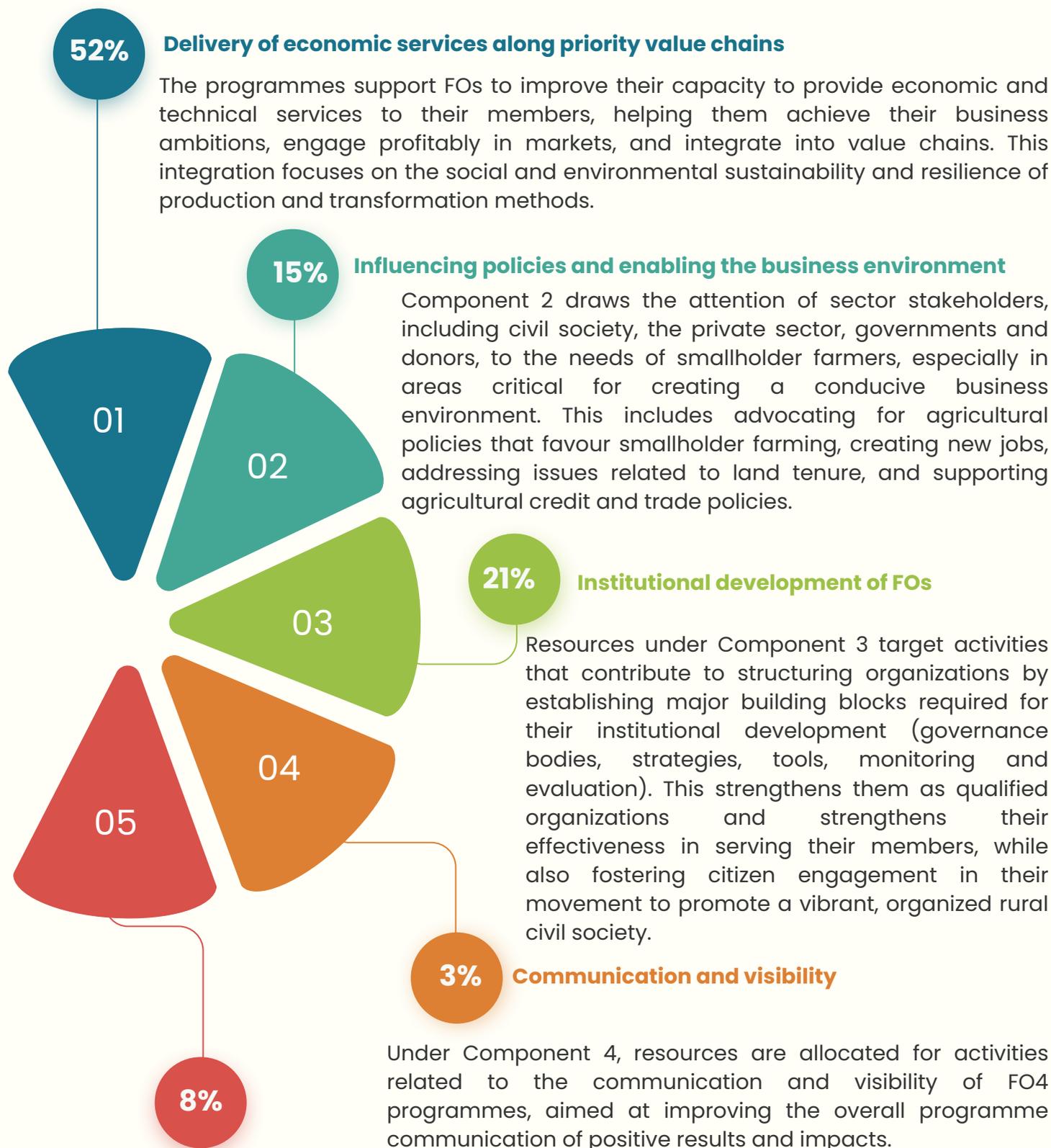
FO4 Countries



Programme components

The FO4 programmes comprise five major components around which activities are organized.

Figure 4. Budget allocations by component



IFAD programme coordination

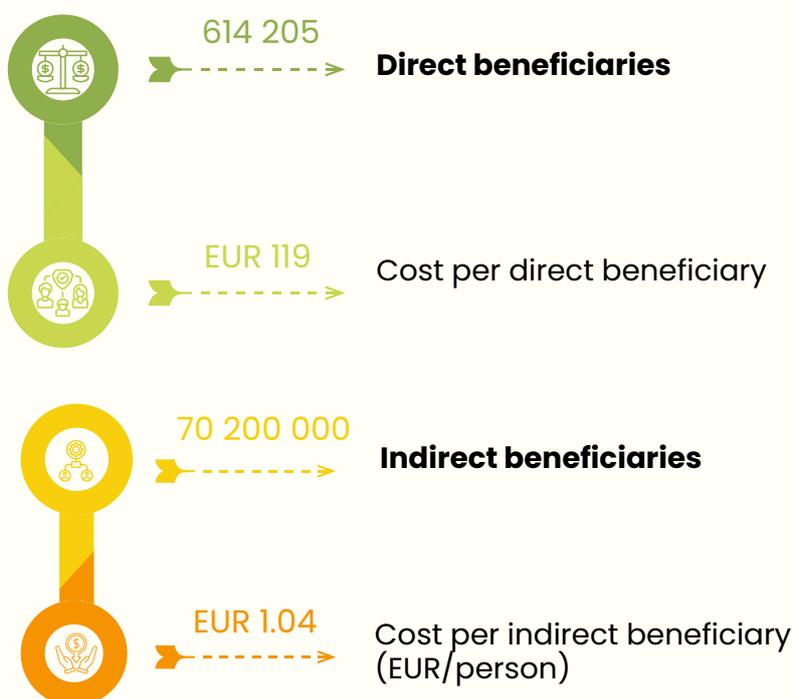
IFAD ensures the overall coordination and day-to-day management of the programmes, including supervision, implementation support, monitoring and evaluation, and knowledge management. Under this component, IFAD also supports global knowledge management.



FO4 Programmes' results

The FO4 programmes and associated projects have demonstrated strong value for money, leveraging a EUR 73.5 million investment from the European Union, the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States, and IFAD to reach 12 per cent of the world's family farmers. At a cost of just EUR 119 per direct beneficiary, these initiatives have delivered transformative outcomes – strengthening farmers' organizations, enhancing economic participation, and advancing advocacy and policy influence across regions.

Figure 5. Outreach to beneficiaries (and cost per beneficiary)



The transformative impact of the FO4 programmes has been consistently demonstrated through FOs' capacity-building and their strengthened engagement in economic activities (including value chains, product marketing, and fund leveraging), advocacy and policy influence as well as institutional development. Through the seed investments of the FO4 programmes, FOs were able to leverage EUR 72 million from external sources to the programmes – nearly the total value of the FO4 programmes' investment of EUR 73.5 million – in addition to tripling the volume of products marketed and quadrupling sales. Beyond the economic benefits of the programmes, over 500 policies have been influenced, and FOs' membership saw an increase of 51 per cent, including a sixfold increase in women and youth in leadership positions. These represent significant achievements reached by 2024, the midpoint of the UN Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028) and proves the realized potential of investing in FOs as key players in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Figure 6. Global overview of the key results of FO4A, FO4ACP and FO4LA (as of 31 Dec 2023)



				Total	
	Regional FOs	0	5	2	7
	National FOs	0	61	93	154
	Local FOs	65	1 429	2 584	4 078



Component 1: Delivery of economic services along priority value chains



Increased volume of products marketed



Increase in sales (achievement over target)



Value of products marketed



Leverage of funds (technical and financial partners)





Component 2: Influencing policies and enabling the business environment



Sector policies (national and regional) influenced



Policy task forces processes with FOs



Component 3: Institutional development of FOs



FO individual membership



Women / youth leadership



Total FOs audited



Tools / manuals produced



Component 4: Communication and visibility



Good practices



All media



Learning events (national, regional, continental)



CASE STUDIES BY REGION

AFRICA - FO4ACP



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Improved breeding of local breed chickens as the main sources of income for rural women and youth members of the Coalition Paysanne de Madagascar (CPM) in the Itasy region

FO4ACP

Date  2020–2022

RFO  The Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)

NFO  Coalition of Farmers Organizations (CPM) at the national level

Theme  Economic development; value chain approach; youth and women's empowerment 

CPM, an association of farmers on the island of Madagascar since 2001 and member of SACAU, was supported by the FO4ACP programme to promote breeding of improved local breed chickens as a sustainable source of income for its youth and women members in Madagascar's Itasy region.

The standard of living for rural households had significantly decreased, largely due to the adverse impacts of climate change on agriculture. Traditionally, agriculture was the primary income source for rural families, but its productivity had been severely hindered. Women, often single, widowed, or divorced mothers, and young people, especially those who have dropped out of school, are the most vulnerable. Many women do not have access to land or resources to engage in agricultural

activities, leading them to work as seasonal labourers for minimal wages. Similarly, young people face limited employment opportunities, often resulting in migration to cities or involvement in criminal activities.

In view of these circumstances, the CPM consulted its members and agreed to implement an initiative, funded through the FO4ACP programme, to empower its young and female members to engage in local chicken breeding. This initiative followed a value chain approach, supporting the product move through all stages of the value chain – production, processing, and marketing – until it reached the final customer. Under this initiative, youth and female members were provided with chickens (one rooster and four hens per beneficiary), small livestock equipment, and local foods like maize and paddy, in addition to technical support services throughout the value chain. These included training in biological control of avian diseases and in the construction and management of henhouses, as well as training in marketing. These efforts helped establish a robust and profitable breeding system that not only boosted income but also encouraged participants to diversify their sources of income through other economic activities, including the purchase of sewing machines and raw materials for handicrafts.

The project benefited 110 members and generated an annual sale of EUR 21,000. Furthermore, it contributed to the social and economic empowerment of women and youth members, fostering solidarity and cohesion. Training in improved chicken breeding practices enabled targeted members to reduce their reliance on expensive commercial feed by producing their own healthy feed using locally available materials. Partnerships with local authorities and private actors were also strengthened, supporting the growth of the chicken breeding value chain. The success of this effort has led to its replication, with the 110 original benefiting members donating chickens to an additional 110 members, thereby extending its benefits to the broader community. Additionally, the sustainability of the project is ensured by its low operational costs, promising market demand, and the opportunity for further growth, including the potential for export.



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Access to Credit for Maize Farmers through Village Savings and Credit Associations (AVEC) in North Kivu, DRC

FO4ACP - Africa

- Date**  2021
- RFO**  EAFF
- NFO**  La Coopérative Centrale Du Nord Kivu (COOCENKI)
- Theme**  Access to credit

In the territories of Lubero and Beni in the North Kivu province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the lack of access to credit has long been a significant barrier for smallholder maize farmers. To help farmers overcome this obstacle, the FO4ACP programme beneficiary, the COOCENKI farmers’ federation, a Congolese FO bringing together agricultural cooperatives in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and a member of EAFF, established AVEC in January 2021.

AVEC allows smallholder farmers to form groups of 25–30 individuals who contribute to a collective savings fund. Each group meets weekly to deposit their savings, which are then used to provide loans to members for agricultural needs. The funds are shared after a 12-month cycle, along with any interest generated.

The initiative has helped farmers manage finances and increase farm productivity and income. Despite challenges like limited savings and credit access, it has led to positive changes, including better financial management, employment of paid labour, and higher agricultural output. The model offers more favourable credit conditions than traditional microfinance institutions, which are often far from rural areas. The initiative has now expanded to include 16 cooperatives, engaging 545 members, 60 per cent of whom are women. AVEC’s success lies in its ability to provide a local, accessible and sustainable model of savings and credit that enables farmers to finance their agricultural activities.

While AVECs has significantly improved credit access for maize farmers, challenges remain. The current savings are still insufficient to meet the full credit demands of all members, and there is a need to connect AVECs with formal savings and credit institutions for further capacity-building. However, the model has proven to be replicable and can be easily introduced in other rural areas with the right training and awareness campaigns. The long-term impact of this initiative is expected to include a more robust savings and credit culture, improved access to quality agricultural inputs, enhanced food security, and increased incomes for maize farmers. For greater sustainability, continued capacity-building and partnerships with formal financial institutions will be essential to ensure the longevity and success of the AVEC model.

Enhancing dairy quality and market access in Sidi Bennour, Morocco

FO4ACP - Africa



The ASSALAME Cooperative, founded in 2012 in Sidi Bennour, Morocco, is a member of UMNAGRI and was created to overcome the dairy sector's barriers to growth, in particular inefficient market integration. The cooperative focuses on collecting and commercializing raw milk from local farmers' members and has a contractual agreement with the Jibal Company, a private company buying milk from its members. ASSALAME has become a vital player in the region's dairy sector, operating in the irrigated Doukkala plain and working closely with farmers to enhance milk production.

The Moroccan dairy sector plays a vital role in the national economy, accounting for 96 per cent of the country's milk and dairy needs, employing around 474,000 people and generating approximately EUR 1.2 billion in annual revenue, with almost EUR 700 million benefiting rural actors. In particular, the Sidi Bennour province, home to 452,448 people (81 per cent of whom live in rural areas), is a key contributor to dairy production, covering 17 per cent of national milk production in 2017.

Supported by the FO4ACP programme, the ASSALAME cooperative achieved significant progress in meeting food safety regulations and improving the quality of milk produced by its members. Through FO4ACP funding, the milk collection centre was equipped with essential infrastructure, including a reliable water supply, a backup generator to maintain the cold chain during power outages, as well as milk-testing devices to ensure milk quality. In addition, the programme financed trainings on improved livestock practices for ASSALAME's youth and women members to foster inclusion. These investments enabled the cooperative to implement a robust self-monitoring system and traceability measures, ensuring compliance with the safety standards of the Office National de Sécurité Sanitaire des Produits Alimentaires (ONSA), the agency responsible for oversight of food safety in Morocco.

Through its efforts to meet ONSA standards and enhance milk quality, the ASSALAME cooperative is able to sell at the highest milk prices in the region among the cooperatives contracted by Jibal. FO4ACP investments in infrastructure and training programmes enabled ASSALAME's members to achieve an increase in milk production of 25 per cent, which led to an increase in farmers' revenues by 30 per cent, improving their incomes and livelihoods.

AT A GLANCE

Date  2021-2024

RFO  UMNAGRI

NFO  ASSALAME Cooperative

Themes  Economic development;  access to markets;  enhancing quality of production





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Strengthening resilience in agropastoral communities: A case study on tackling insecurity in West and Central Africa

FO4ACP - Africa

Date  2020–2021

RFO  ROPPA

NFO  CPF (Burkina Faso), CNOP (Mali), PFPN (Niger), CNCR (Senegal), CTOP (Togo), PNOPPAB Benin)¹

LFO  ANOPER (Benin), FEB (Burkina Faso), Gajel (Niger)²

Theme  Evidence-based policy advocacy; economic development; fragile contexts

In recent years, insecurity has become a major concern for governments in West and Central Africa, with a significant impact on the agropastoral sector, which relies heavily on natural resources and income-generating activities, many of which require travel. This insecurity takes various forms across the region: armed groups, cattle theft, child kidnapping, intercommunal conflicts, and resource-based conflicts between farmers, herders and fishers, particularly in the Lake Chad area and river valleys. These forms of insecurity have disrupted agricultural, forestry and fishery production, market access, and economic integration within states. Despite emergency measures taken by governments, such as market closures, identity checks and population displacement, the situation has worsened. Between December 2020 and February 2021, the number of internally displaced people in Burkina Faso increased by 2.23 per cent, highlighting the inadequacy of current measures to address the root causes of insecurity.

In response to these escalating crises, members of NFOs within ROPPA saw the need to collaborate with other CSOs to amplify their advocacy efforts. As a result, CPF (Burkina Faso), CNOP (Mali), PFPN (Niger), CNCR (Senegal), CTOP (Togo) and PNOPPAB (Benin) – along with LFO such as ANOPER (Benin), FEB (Burkina Faso) and Gajel (Niger) – organized themselves to create the Committee for Monitoring and Action (CVA). The CVA is a platform established to encourage cooperation between FOs and CSOs composed of a network of these two types of organizations, including AFAO WAWA, APSS, PANEPAO, COFENABVI, UOFA/AO, WILDAF-AO, CORET³ and ROPPA, among others. This platform facilitates discussions and anticipatory measures to address the crisis and supports public institutions' efforts to mitigate the impacts of insecurity. The main responsibility of CVA's action plan is to support the agropastoral campaign to improve the formulation of proposals and foster effective evidence-based policy dialogue.

The CVA benefited from FO4ACP programme funds to finance a data collection exercise in order to inform strategies and provide critical data for the campaign to reduce the impact of insecurity on agricultural and pastoral activities. CVA mandated a group of five of its members (ROPPA, APSS, ROAC, AVI,⁴ SOS Sahel International) to monitor and collect information related to the agropastoral campaign and to lead the data collection efforts in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo. The exercise included a participatory analysis through focus groups as well as the development of the data collection tools and their refinement during meetings held in Koubri and Burkina Faso. These data collection tools were then shared with partners for nationwide implementation.



The results of these efforts culminated in the production of a comprehensive report detailing the effects of insecurity on agricultural and pastoral production. The data collected provided valuable insights into the nature and scale of the challenges faced by local communities and the agropastoral sector that served to support the agropastoral campaign. For instance, evidence gathered emphasized the lack of robust local stock management systems, persistent pest threats, and security concerns that hinder production and market integration, which were translated to the need for strengthened mechanisms in stock management, pest control, and resource governance throughout the campaign. The campaign also underscored the importance of improved land and pasture management through policies supporting land restoration, transhumance corridors, and large-scale fodder cultivation, among others.

Overall, through the work of the CVA, a more coordinated and strategic approach has been developed, enhancing collaboration among FOs, CSOs and public institutions, resulting in resource mobilization, increased technical capacity, and access to agricultural inputs. While the impacts of insecurity are still being felt, the increased coordination and data-driven strategies are expected to contribute to more effective interventions and ultimately support the resilience of communities affected by insecurity in the region.

KEY ACTORS

¹Confédération Paysanne du Faso (CPF), Concertation Nationale des Organisations Paysannes du Mali (CNOP Mali), Plateforme Paysanne du Niger (PFPN), Conseil national de Concertation et de Coopération des Ruraux (CNCR), Coordination Togolaise des Organisations Paysannes et de Producteurs Agricoles (CTOP), Plateforme Nationale des Organisations Paysannes et des Producteurs Agricoles du Bénin (PNOPPAB).

²Association Nationale des Organisations Professionnelles des Éleveurs de Ruminants du Bénin (ANOPER), Fédération des Éleveurs du Burkina (FEB), Groupement d'Action Culturelle, de Développement et de la Promotion des Jeunes Éleveurs (GAJEL)

³Association des Femmes de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (AFAO WAWA), Association pour la Promotion de l'Élevage au Sahel et en Savane (APSS), Plateforme des Acteurs Non Étatiques de la Pêche artisanale et de l'Aquaculture en Afrique de l'Ouest (PANEPAO), Confédération des Interprofessions ou Fédérations Nationales Bétail et Viande (COFENABVI), Union des Organisations de la filière avicole (UOFA/AO), Women in Law and Development in Africa (Femmes, Droit et Développement en Afrique), Bureau Sous Régional pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest (WILDAF – AO), Confédération des organisations d'élevage traditionnel en Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre (CORET),

⁴Afrique Verte International (AVI)



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Empowering women farmers in Kinshasa through agricultural transformation

FO4ACP - Africa

Date  2019

RFO  PROPAC

NFO  La Confédération Paysanne du Congo (COPACO-PRP)

LFO  Groupe des Femmes Paysannes Professionnelles Agricoles (GFPPA)

Themes  Economic development; value chain approach; women's empowerment; agricultural transformation; enabling business

In the province of Kinshasa, the GFPPA is an LFO and member of COPACO-PRP, an NFO in DRC representing 1.6 million farmers and 2,452 LFOs across the country. GFPPA plays a crucial role in empowering women farmers, primarily focusing on cassava and maize production. Before receiving support from the FO4ACP programme, these women sold their crops as raw commodities, earning low incomes, while resellers captured most of the added value by processing these products into flour. Limited access to processing facilities and resources left the farmers unable to maximize the benefits of their efforts. To address these issues, the FO4ACP project aimed at improving women farmers' income and financial autonomy by introducing value-added processing activities.

To help improve the economic standing of GFPPA members, the FO4ACP project established a transformation unit on the outskirts of Kinshasa in 2019.

This initiative followed a value chain approach, ensuring that each stage – from raw material collection to processing and final marketing – was systematically integrated to maximize efficiency and profitability. This unit enabled the women to process their raw cassava and maize into flour, which could be sold in branded, printed packaging, enhancing marketability. With financial backing from the project, the cooperative purchased raw materials and invested in milling equipment. Three commissions were formed for collection, transformation and commercialization of products, empowering GFPPA women to oversee the entire production chain. The initiative led to the production of 183,077 tons of flour, generating EUR 82,560 in revenue and a profit of EUR 29,916. This success significantly increased the income of the women, who used their earnings to meet family needs such as education, housing and health. Additionally, many women expanded their agricultural activities and began new entrepreneurial ventures.

The initiative has had a profound impact on the women of GFPPA, enabling them to increase their revenue through collective market strategies and product transformation. The cooperative's success has also led to the creation of direct and indirect jobs, contributing to the local economy. The women involved have strengthened their financial stability and autonomy, which has positively affected their families' quality of life. The project emphasized the importance of cooperative action, transparency, and sustainable practices in the agriculture sector. However, challenges such as delays in fund disbursements, fluctuating market prices, and limited access to transport remain. Despite these challenges, the management committee is responsible for handling the funds to ensure the sustainability of the initiative. Moving forward, the cooperative plans to focus on agroecological practices to enhance productivity and environmental resilience, ensuring the long-term success of the project. The experience has also highlighted the importance of collective marketing and capacity- building to replicate the model in other regions.



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The local sale of certified seeds by the N'Dail cooperative: A hope for building a sustainable value chain in Benin

FO4ACP - Africa

Until 2013, the Government of Benin was the main actor in the maize seed sector, purchasing seeds from producers and distributing them free of charge to farmers. In 2014, a gradual liberalization process began, leading to the creation of FNPS-B, an FO advocating for seed producers' interests at the national level, with technical support from Agriculteurs français et développement international (Afdi). Founded in 1975, Afdi supports FOs to improve their income and food security.

Despite liberalization, the state remained heavily involved in basic seed production, causing payment delays for producers and limiting the role of FOs.

In 2017, Afdi partnered with CCPSM, established in N'Dali, to address challenges in input supply and resource mobilization under the aegis of FNPS-B.

After many years of strong state involvement in the agriculture sector, CCPSM faced a significant challenge in introducing direct sales of certified maize seeds to farmers. Having grown accustomed to receiving free seeds and other agricultural inputs from the government, many farmers were reluctant to pay for high-quality seeds, even if they offered better yields and long-term benefits. There was a concern that this dependency on state support had created an expectation of free resources, making it difficult to convince farmers of the value of investing in superior seed varieties.

In 2019, with Afdi's technical support and FO4ACP funding, CCPSM launched its first group sale, broadcasting the initiative on eight radio programmes in three local languages over three months and organizing field visits for maize producers to promote the use of certified seeds and inform customers about the establishment of a store. Within 10 days, they sold 18 tons of certified seeds, and demand exceeded supply.



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AT A GLANCE

Date	 2019-2024
Implementing partner	AgriCord 
National agri-agency	Agriculteurs français et développement international (Afdi)
NFO	 Fédération Nationale des Producteurs Semenciers du Bénin (FNPS - B)
LFO	 Coopérative Communale des Producteurs de Semences de Maïs (CCPSM)
Themes	 Technical support to FOs; certified seeds; improved production

By 2020, driven by growing demand and effective local radio campaigns, CCPSM sold its entire production – 80.17 tonnes of maize seeds and 57 tonnes of soybean seeds sold to 135 individual customers and nine producer unions, from N'Dali and other neighbouring areas.

Significant progress has been made since then, and with Afdi's support, CCPSM has grown considerably, challenging a long-established system of government intervention. Farmers increasingly prefer CCPSM's high-quality seeds over state-distributed ones. However, the key challenge ahead is achieving financial autonomy and establishing a sustainable seed sector based on local direct group sales – making continued FO4ACP support essential.



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Advocacy for Agricultural cooperatives to access public markets in Burundi

FO4ACP - Africa

CAPAD is a member of EAFF and a dedicated FO promoting farmer leadership, advancing rural entrepreneurship, and encouraging reconciliation among Burundians through agricultural and livestock activities. Between June and October 2020, while being supported by the FO4ACP programme, CAPAD partnered with EAFF to conduct an advocacy campaign in Bujumbura, Burundi aimed to help small agricultural cooperatives access public and institutional markets.

Before the campaign, institutional markets were importing food to supply military and police camps, prisons, boarding schools, and school canteens, which could instead be supplied by local agricultural cooperatives and thus contribute to their sustainability and incomes. In addition, imports had driven down local prices, discouraging farmers from investing in agriculture.

CAPAD identified that public procurement was prioritizing imported foods instead of buying locally produced food, creating a barrier to market access for local agricultural cooperatives in Burundi. CAPAD advocated for a specific quota for cooperatives in public procurement contracts by writing to the President of Burundi and engaging in targeted advocacy strategies. These included formal meetings with ministry officials, informal dinners with parliamentarians and executives, and field visits to showcase the production and storage of cooperatives. These efforts aimed at demonstrating the ability of cooperatives to meet large-scale market demands and successfully advocate for policy adjustments supporting local producers.

The campaign culminated in a presidential decree mandating the National Food Security Stock Management Agency (ANAGESSA) to purchase products from cooperatives. This political decision is also regularly underscored in public speeches by the President, who calls on ANAGESSA to prioritize cooperative-sourced products. Institutional markets now offer cooperatives opportunities to sell in bulk, increasing farmers' incomes and household investments. Ongoing advocacy seeks to further expand the percentage allocated to cooperatives in public procurement.



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AT A GLANCE

- Date**  June–October 2020
- RFO**  EAFF
- NFO**  Confédération des Associations des Producteurs Agricoles pour le Développement (CAPAD)
- Themes**  Policy advocacy;  policy influence;  market access

CASE STUDIES BY REGION



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ASIA AND THE PACIFIC - FO4ACP FO4A



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Policy advocacy enabling financial access for Farmers' organizations in Lao People's Democratic Republic

FO4A

With funding from the FO4LA programme, the LFA, a member of the RFO AFA, conducted a comprehensive study in 2022–2023 to document the inconsistencies in banking practices that FOs face when trying to access banking services – both between different banks and within branches of the same bank.

Despite the issuance of decrees in 2014 and 2020 aimed at formalizing FOs as legal entities, these organizations have struggled to gain recognition from banks and other financial institutions. This lack of recognition has hindered their ability to open bank accounts, establish formal banking relationships, and access funds from buyers and development partners.

The study revealed that while some banks like the Agriculture Promotion Bank were cooperative, others like BCEL Bank exhibited inconsistent practices across their branches. The findings prompted a national policy dialogue on 19 January 2022 involving over 60 stakeholders from various sectors, including the central bank and commercial banks.

On 22 August 2023, the Central Bank of Laos issued a directive mandating commercial banks to facilitate account openings for FOs. BCEL Bank, in response, issued notices across its branches to align practices and ensure compliance with the new guidelines. As a result, all 32 FOs involved in the APFP-FO4A project, covering 1,529 households and 14,400 individuals, successfully opened bank accounts, significantly enhancing their operational capabilities.

To build on this success, LFA plans to develop educational materials, including posters and videos, to raise awareness among FOs nationwide about the new banking policies. This initiative aims at reinforcing the gains in financial inclusion and support the sustainable development of FOs across Lao People's Democratic Republic.



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AT A GLANCE

Date		2022–2023
RFO		AFA
LFO		Lao Farmer Association (LFA)
Theme		Access to credit

Empowering Papua New Guinea women through poultry

FO4ACP – Pacific



Women in Papua New Guinea represent a significant portion of the agricultural workforce but face numerous challenges, including limited access to resources, skills training, and opportunities to improve productivity. Climate change further exacerbates these difficulties, disproportionately impacting women as primary caregivers for their families. To address these barriers, PNGWiADF (a member of PIFON), identified the need for interventions that could provide women with sustainable income opportunities while requiring less physical labour compared to traditional crop farming.

In 2021, PNGWiADF, with support from the FO4ACP programme in the Pacific, launched a poultry pilot project in Zifasing, near Lae. The project targeted 25 women, providing each with 52 chicks to establish small-scale poultry farms. Designed to offer manageable and accessible income opportunities, the initiative catered to women with no prior poultry farming experience. Regular consultations and support sessions were conducted, including an assessment in 2022 to gather feedback on their progress. While the women faced challenges such as inadequate fencing that led to chicken losses, the project fostered problem-solving and adaptation.

The pilot project delivered remarkable outcomes. Participants reported an average annual income of PGK 7,572 (approximately EUR 1,975) in the first year, which was used for school fees, medical expenses, family obligations and home improvements. The initiative also fostered new skills among children who assisted their mothers with poultry care. Many women reinvested their earnings into further business ventures, such as additional poultry coops, crop diversification, and other entrepreneurial activities like car operations and retail stores. By 2024, 60 per cent of the original participants remained engaged in poultry farming, while others expanded into diversified businesses. The programme's success highlighted the importance of accessible resources, targeted training, and community support. It also emphasized the value of addressing challenges such as infrastructure needs early in project planning to ensure sustained impact.

Date

2021



RFO

PIFON



NFO



Papua New Guinea
Women in Agriculture
Development Foundation
(PNGWiADF)

Themes



Women's empowerment;
economic development



This initiative underscores the transformative potential of empowering women with sustainable, income-generating activities tailored to their unique needs, showcasing the ripple effects on families and communities.



CASE STUDIES BY REGION

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN - FO4ACP FO4LA





Including rural youth in agricultural businesses in Belize through agricultural skills training and leadership development

FO4ACP – Caribbean

Date  **May to December 2023**

LFO  **Belize, rural youth leaders in FOs**

Implementing Partners  **FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (RLC)**

Theme  **Youth; economic development; value chain approach; business-to-business approach; enabling business**

In Belize, under the FO4ACP programme, the "Boot Camps Training Programme: Learning from Business by Doing Business" was launched by FAO and Procasur between May and December 2023. This initiative targeted 11 youth leaders from six FOs in Belize. The programme aimed at empowering youth by equipping them with the knowledge and practical experience necessary to develop and manage small agricultural businesses within their communities.

The initiative was driven by the recognition that youth in rural areas often face limited opportunities and training in agriculture, which restricts their ability to contribute meaningfully to agricultural businesses. There was a clear gap in transferring youth skills and

interests to agricultural enterprises, limiting their involvement in the success and sustainability of FOs. This programme sought to address these challenges by providing hands-on learning experiences and fostering leadership development, ensuring that youth can play an active role in the future of agriculture and rural economic growth.

As part of the initiative, Procasur, through FO4ACP funds, worked with the young FO leaders to teach them how to prepare business plans, utilize administrative systems for managing production and marketing, and apply climate resilience measures. The youth went on to establish two collective production companies, PARADISE and CROP CAPITAL, focused on growing and commercializing habanero peppers. They additionally adopted a digital system for accounting and created production and marketing plans for their businesses.

This initiative led to significant outcomes for the youth involved and the broader community. The two farmer-led enterprises, PARADISE and CROP CAPITAL, cultivated 2 acres of habanero peppers and were able to secure a direct sales agreement with Marie Sharp's Fine Food Product Ltd., the country's largest and most established producer of habanero sauce – a staple found on the table of most Belizean households. This agreement represents a clear example of a business-to-business approach, where two businesses – farmers and a food company – form a direct partnership to ensure the smooth and effective operation of the supply chain from farm to table. The partnership resulted in the sale of 27,216 kilograms of habanero peppers, generating significant income for the youth, and reinforcing the need for continued youth involvement and leadership in FOs for the future of sustainable agriculture in Belize.

Best practices and innovations in advocacy and policy influence

FO4LA

In the Latin American region, FOs have long faced challenges in influencing national and regional policies that directly impact their livelihoods. A key issue has been limited representation in policymaking forums, which often results in agricultural policies that overlook the needs and perspectives of smallholder farmers. In many countries, rural agricultural sectors struggle with inadequate support for sustainable farming practices, market access and social inclusion. Furthermore, political advocacy efforts for more inclusive policies, especially those focused on family farming, have been insufficient, leaving smallholder farmers with limited opportunities for growth.

Aligning with the principles of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming, which aims at highlighting the importance of supporting family farmers through enabling policies, the FO4L programme initiative was pivotal in enhancing the participation of FOs in policy dialogue. Notably, it empowered FO leaders to engage in key regional meetings such as the Mercosur's meeting specialized in family farming, known as REAF from the Spanish "Reunión Especializada en Agricultura Familiar", and the Latin American Conference on Family Farming (CAS). Through these platforms, COPROFAM submitted six advocacy documents to government authorities, proposing policy reforms based on practical, on-the-ground experiences.

COPROFAM's efforts led to significant policy changes that have positively impacted family farmers across several countries in Latin America. In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, UNEC collaborated with local authorities to sign a cooperation agreement, boosting support for the oregano value chain and improving services for local FOs. In Brazil, the partnership between Unicafe and Sebrae, a non-profit private entity promoting the sustainable and competitive development of small businesses in Brazil, successfully advocated for the inclusion of family farm products in federal purchasing programmes, including school feeding schemes, and secured tax reductions, providing significant economic relief to family farms. In Paraguay, the Manduvirá



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AT A GLANCE

Date		Ongoing through the programme
RFO		Confederation of Family Farming Organizations (COPROFAM)
NFO		In Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the National Union of Family Farmers (UNEC); in Brazil, the National Union of Family Farming and Solidarity Economy Cooperatives (Unicafe)
LFO / Cooperatives		In Paraguay, Manduvirá cooperative; in Peru, AGRONORTE cooperative and Cooperativa Agraria Cafetalera Aguilayoc
Implementing partner		AgriCord
NGO		Brazilian Micro and Small Business Support Service (Sebrae)
Themes		Policy advocacy

cooperative, which produces and exports organic sugar cane, worked with other groups to introduce a law promoting organic sugar cane production, further strengthening the sector. In Peru, the AGRONORTE cooperative, which specializes in exporting bananas, proposed public policies through regional platforms to support sustainable family farming practices and improve market access. Similarly, the Cooperativa Agraria Cafetalera Aguilayoc in Peru secured EUR 92,000 in funding to enhance organic fertilizer production, opening new markets and opportunities for cooperatives.

The collective efforts of these cooperatives and their advocacy work have led to notable policy changes at both the national and regional levels. As a direct result of COPROFAM's advocacy within REAF and CAS, family farming policies in several countries were strengthened, providing better recognition of and support for smallholder farmers. These experiences underline the importance of strong institutional frameworks and coordinated advocacy to secure policy changes that support smallholder farmers. The lessons learned emphasize the need for ongoing political engagement, the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships, and the impact of grassroots movements in shaping sustainable agricultural policies.

Promoting women and youth inclusion in farmers' organizations in the Dominican Republic

FO4ACP - Caribbean

Through the FO4ACP programme, FAO, Procasur and AgriCord have consistently promoted inclusive governance by prioritizing the integration of women and youth into the structures of FOs throughout their programme operations. For example, in the Dominican Republic, women and youth have historically faced limited participation in the governance and decision-making processes of FOs. This lack of representation hindered their ability to contribute meaningfully to agricultural development and community empowerment.

As addressing the gender and generational gap is a key goal of the institutional strengthening component under the FO4ACP programme, FAO Procasur and AgriCord introduced a key innovation, the School for Women Entrepreneurship, which equipped women across five FOs in the Dominican Republic with the skills to lead productive and entrepreneurial projects. Each FO created gender and youth committees and allocated resources to implement their workplans.

Women participated in leadership training through dedicated schools, while “Schools of Men from and for Life” promoted gender equality among male members. For the first time, 15 women and youth were elected to serve on directors boards of FOs, signalling a significant shift towards inclusive governance.

These efforts resulted in tangible progress towards closing the gender and generational gaps in FOs. Women and youth gained greater representation in decision-making spaces, leading to increased diversity in governance. The entrepreneurial projects spearheaded by women enhanced their economic independence and community standing. The inclusion-focused strategies demonstrated the value of empowering all members of FOs, fostering stronger, more representative organizations.



AT A GLANCE

Date		Throughout the whole duration of the FO4ACP programme
LFO		FOs in the Dominican Republic
Implementing partners		FAO, Procasur and AgriCord
Themes		Women and youth; leadership; institutional development

Lessons learned from working with farmers' organizations under the FO4 programmes

The case studies have demonstrated the essential role that FOs play in improving smallholder farmers' incomes and promoting sustainable agricultural growth. The FO4 programmes have supported FOs in achieving these goals by investing in remunerative, ethical and inclusive value chain activities, while agri-agencies have provided technical assistance across all areas supported by the programmes. These collective efforts have helped increase farmers' incomes and contributed to the broader objective of improving smallholder farmers' livelihoods.



As seen from the case studies, FOs offer a wide range of economic services to enhance their members' productivity and profitability.

These include facilitating access to essential inputs like biofertilizers, biopesticides and seeds, as well as providing infrastructure and machinery to improve production. FOs also assist with obtaining certifications, buying and selling products, and establishing market linkages. Additionally, FOs invest in capacity-building activities such as training, extension services, and farmer-to-farmer learning, all aimed at improving smallholder farmers' market competitiveness.



A key function of FOs is facilitating access to finance. Case studies highlight in-house tools such as village savings and credit associations that help members overcome credit constraints.

FO savings are often insufficient to meet the credit demands of all members, making partnerships with formal financial institutions (such as banks and microfinance institutions) essential. FOs help bridge this gap by linking financial members to these institutions and advocating for favourable lending conditions through policy campaigns.



FOs play a pivotal role in addressing the multiple, interconnected challenges of rural areas, positioning them as strategic development partners for IFAD in its mission to eradicate rural poverty and hunger.

While supporting their members' economic growth and prosperity, they also contribute to other development goals related to food security and nutrition, biodiversity conservation, women and youth inclusion, and climate change mitigation and adaptation. FOs also have the capacity to support small producers operating in fragile environments due to their knowledge of on-the-ground realities and their efficient coordination with platforms at various levels. All of these attributes make FOs strategic programme implementing partners and instrumental to the achievement of relevant global policy agendas, including the [UNDROP](#) and [UNDFE](#) (2019–2028).



Beyond their economic contributions, FOs are vital in promoting the inclusion of women and youth.

By economically empowering these often-marginalized groups, FOs contribute to reducing poverty and inequality. Women and youth bring valuable contributions to FOs by introducing fresh ideas, innovative approaches, and improved agricultural and business solutions. Their inclusion strengthens the long-term sustainability of FOs by ensuring a new generation of farmers. More efforts are needed to promote gender-sensitive policies and ensure equitable access to land, credit and training for women and youth.



FO networks have significantly expanded the FO4 programmes' reach, benefiting millions of smallholder farmers.

The subsidiarity principle ensures that funds flow from RFOs to national and local levels, directly supporting FOs and their members. This approach has enhanced programme outreach and impact while proving more efficient and cost-effective than relying on intermediaries, ensuring the local ownership and the sustainability of interventions.



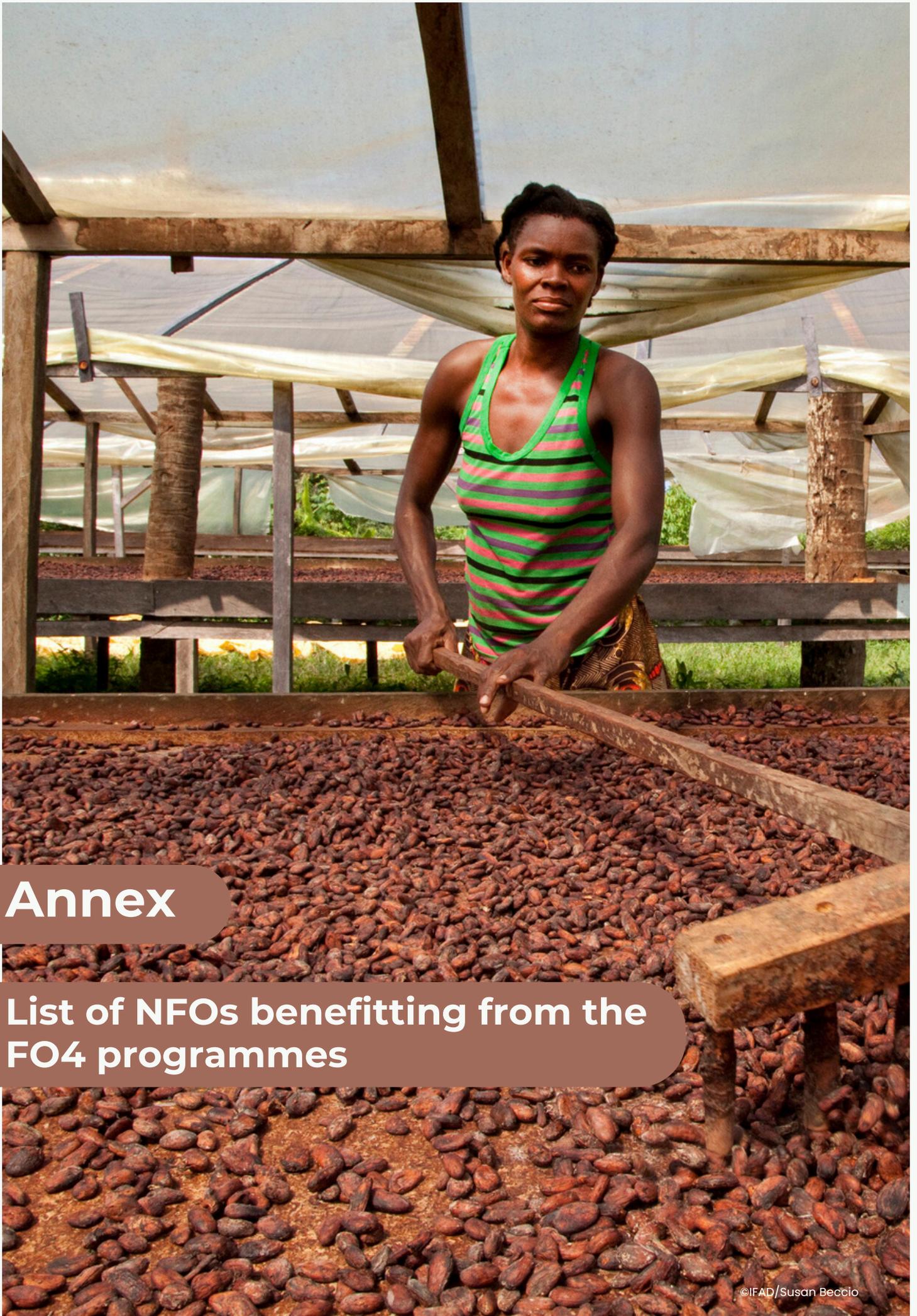
The FO4 programmes have also strengthened the economic services provided by FOs, particularly through business-to-business and value chain approaches.

By adopting the business-to-business approach, FOs enable direct connections between members and businesses, ensuring fair compensation for produce and contracts to supply markets. The value chain approach supports all stages of production, from input to marketing, creating opportunities for farmers to add value at every stage of the value chain.



The FO4 programmes focused on strengthening FOs' institutional capacity to ensure their long-term viability.

Case studies show that FOs play a leading role in data collection and research to inform policy papers, using evidence-based advocacy to strengthen their position in policy discussions. Effective policy dialogue requires partnership with civil society to amplify grassroots voices and engagement with governments and policymakers to influence agricultural policies. FOs must continue building partnerships with other organizations and institutions to foster multi-stakeholder collaborations that support their advocacy efforts.



Annex

List of NFOs benefitting from the FO4 programmes



Burundi

Confédération des Associations des Producteurs Agricoles pour le Développement (CAPAD)



Democratic Republic of the Congo

Confédération Nationale des Producteurs Agricoles du Congo (CONAPAC)

League of Women Farmers Organization in Congo (LOFEPACO)

Democratic Republic of Congo Cooperative Centrale du Nord-Kivu (COOCENKI)

Syndicat de Défense des Intérêts Paysans (SYDIP)



Djibouti

Djibouti Livestock Breeders Association (DAPA)



Kenya

Cooperative Alliance of Kenya (CAK)



Rwanda

Syndicat Rwandais des Agriculteurs et Eleveurs (INGABO)

Rwanda Federation of Farmers (SYNDICATE IMBARAGA)



South Sudan

South Sudan National Agriculture Producers Union (SSAPU)



Uganda

Uganda Co-Operative Alliance (UCA)

Uganda National Farmers' Federation (UNFFE)

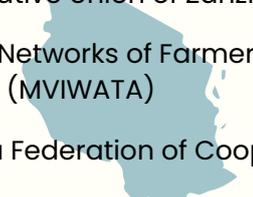


United Republic of Tanzania

Co-Operative Union of Zanzibar (CUZA)

National Networks of Farmers' Groups in Tanzania (MVIWATA)

Tanzania Federation of Cooperatives (TFC)



SACAU



Botswana

Botswana Farmers' Association (BOFA)

Eswatini

Eswatini National Agricultural Union (ESNAU)

Lesotho

Lesotho National Farmers Union (LENAFU)

Madagascar

Coalition of Farmers Organizations (CPM)

Confédération des Agriculteurs Malagasy (FEKRITAMA)

Fikambanana Fampivoarana ny Tantsaha (FIFATA)

Syndicat des Organisations Agricoles (Reseau SOA)

Malawi

Farmers' Union of Malawi (FUM)

National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi (NASFAM)

Mauritius

Farmers in Agriculture, Livestock, Cooperative, Organic Network (F.A.L.C.O.N. Association)

Mozambique

União Nacional de Camponeses (UNAC)

Namibia

Namibia National Farmers' Union (NNFU)

Seyschelles

Seychelles Farmers' Association (SeyFA)

South Africa

African Farmers' Association of South Africa (AFASA)

United Republic of Tanzania

Agricultural Council of Tanzania (ACT)

Zimbabwe

Commercial Farmers' Union (CFU)

Zimbabwe Farmers' Union (ZFU)

ROPPA



Bénin

Plateforme nationale des organisations paysannes et de producteurs agricoles du Bénin (PNOPPA-B)

Burkina Faso

Confédération Paysanne du Faso (CPF)

Cabo Verde

CVUYP
PAFWACA

Gambia

National Coordination Organisation for Farmers Association (NACOFAG)

Ghana

Farmers Organization Network in Ghana (FONG)

Guinea

Confédération Nationale des Organisations Paysannes de Guinée (CNOP)

Guinea-Bissau

Cadre Nationale de Concertation des Organisations Paysannes et de Producteurs Agricoles (QNCOCPA)

Côte d'Ivoire

Association Nationale des Producteurs Agricoles de Cote d'Ivoire (ANOPACI)

Liberia

Farmers Union Network Liberia (FUNL)

Mali

Coordination Nationale des Organisations Paysannes (CNOP)

Niger

Plateforme Paysanne du Niger (PPFN)

Nigeria

Confederation of Traditional Herders Organization in Africa (CORET)

Senegal

Conseil National de Concertation et de Coopération des Ruraux (CNCR)



Sierra Leone

National Federation of Farmers of Sierra Leone (NAFSL)



Togo

Coordination Togolaise des Organisations Paysannes et de producteurs agricoles (CTOP)



PROPAC



Angola

Confederação das associações de camponeses e cooperativas agropecuárias de Angola (UNACA)



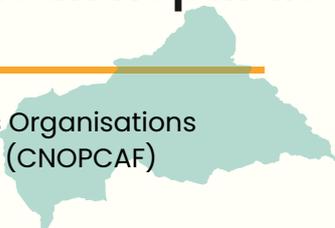
Cameroon

Concertation Nationale des Organisations Paysannes au Cameroun (CNOP CAM)



Central African Republic

Concertation Nationale des Organisations Paysannes de Centrafrique (CNOPCAF)



Chad

Conseil National de Concertation des Producteurs Ruraux du Tchad (CNCPRT)



Congo

Concertation Nationale des Organisations Paysannes du Congo (CNOP CONGO)



Democratic Republic of the Congo

Confédération Paysanne du Congo – Principal Regroupement Paysan (COPACO-PRP)



Equatorial Guinea

Fédération Nationale des Organisations Paysannes de la Guinée Equatoriale (FENOCGE)



Gabon

Concertation Nationale des Organisations Paysannes du Gabon (CNOP Gabon)



Sao Tome and Principe

Federação Nacional dos pequenos Agricultores de São Tomé e Príncipe (FENAPA STP)



UMNAGRI



Algeria

Union Nationale des Paysans Algériens
(UNPA)



Morocco

Union Marocaine de l'Agriculture (UMA)



Mauritania

Fédération Mauritanienne de l'Agriculture
(FMA)



Tunisia

Union Tunisienne de l'Agriculture et de la
Pêche (UTAP)



AFA-LVC



The 2025 Directory of Farmers' Organizations and agricultural cooperatives under the Asia-Pacific Farmers' Program (APFP), the Farmers' Organizations for Asia Program (FO4A) and the Assuring Resiliency of Family Farmers (ARISE-FARMERS) is available to view or download [here](#).

Under the FO4A, APFP and ARISE-FARMERS programmes, AFA-LVC have worked with 62 NFOs as implementing agencies and 2,584 sub-national FOs covering 15 countries in Asia.

East, Central and South Asia

Bangladesh

8 NFOs



China

10 provincial cooperatives



India

3 NFOs



Kyrgyzstan

2 NFOs



Mongolia

1 national cooperative association



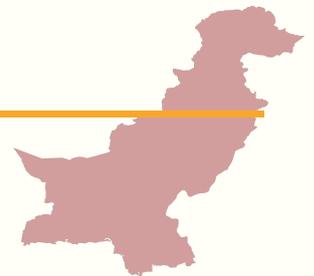
Nepal

14 NFOs



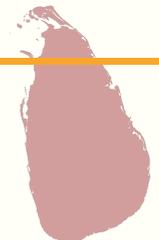
Pakistan

3 RFOs



Sri Lanka

2 NFOs



Southeast Asia

Cambodia

6 NFOs



Indonesia

4 NFOs



Lao People's Democratic Republic

1 NFO (with commodity-based clusters)



Myanmar

1 NFO



Philippines

5 NFOs



Thailand

3 NFOs



Viet Nam

1 NFOs (covering ten provincial farmer unions)



PIFON

Cook Islands

Te Tango Enuā (TTE)

Fiji

Bula Agro (BA)

Fiji Beekeepers Association (FBA)

Fiji Crop and Livestock Council (FCLC)

Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises and Development (FRIEND)

Model Towns Charitable Trust (KOROIPITA)

Nature's Way Cooperative (Fiji) Ltd. (NWC)

Rise Beyond the Reef (RBTR)

South Sea Orchids (SSO)

Tutu Rural Training Centre (TRTC)

Tei Tei Taveuni (TTT)

New Caledonia

Chambre d'Agriculture et de la Pêche de Nouvelle-Calédonie aka Chamber of Agriculture & Fisheries (CAPNC)

Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea Women in Agriculture Development Foundation (PNGWiADF)

Papua New Guinea Women In Coffee (PNGWiC)

Samoa

Samoa Farmers Association (SFA)

Women in Business and Development Incorporated (WIBDI)

Solomon Islands

Gurafesu Biodiversity, Conservation and Climate Change Group (GURAFESU)

Kastom Gaden Association (KGA)

Nut Growers Association of Solomon Islands (NGA)

Virgin Coconut Oil Producers Association (VCOPA)

Timor-Leste

National Association of Commercial Seed Producers/ Asosiasun Nasional Produtor Fini Komersial (ANAPROFIKO)

Tonga

Growers Federation of Tonga Incorporation (GROFED)

Mainstreaming of Rural Development Innovation Tonga Trust (MORDI)

Nishi Trading Co. Ltd (NISHI)

Vanuatu

Farm Support Association (FSA)/Syndicat Agricol Pastural Vanuatu (SAPV)



Federated States of Micronesia

Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP)



The United States of America (Hawaii)

Hawaii Ulu Cooperative (HUC)



The Republic of Kiribati

Kiribati Organic Farmers Association



The Republic of the Marshall Islands

Marshall Islands Organic Farmers Association

List of NFOs cooperatives in Latin America and the Caribbean



Belize

Bomba United Cooperative Society LTD

Concepcion Vegetable Farmer Cooperative Society LTD

Hibiscus Mayan Arts and Craft Women Cooperative

Los Buenos Amigos Cooperative

Los Chileros del Sur Pre-cooperative

Maya Green Growers Cooperative

Northern Agro Sustainable Producers Cooperative

Orange Walk Beekeepers Cooperative Society LTD

Pembrokehall Pre-cooperative

Sayab Farms Cooperative

Ta Nah Farmers Group

Valley of Peace Lagoon Farmers' Cooperative Society Limited

Bolivia (Plurinational State of)

Asociación Nacional de Productores de Quinoa (ANAPQUI)

Central Local de Cooperativas Agropecuarias "CARNAVI" (CELCCAR R.L.)

Unidad de Negocios de Especies y Condimentos SA (UNEC)

Brazil

Cooperativa Mista dos Cafeicultores de Barra do Choça e região LTDA (Cooperbac)

Cooperativa de Comercializacao Solidaria Xique Xique (Cooperxique)

Cooperative de Desenvolvimento Agropecuario e Extravista do Pontal (COOPONTAL)

Cuba

Cooperativa Jesus Menéndez

Cooperativa Niceto Pérez

Cooperativa Reinaldo Manning

Dominican Republic

Asociación Agrícola Noroestana

Bananos Ecológicos de la Línea Noroeste

Juan Cruz Guaranal

La Santa Cruz

Las Mercedes

Grenada

Blue Flame Womens Group
Carriacou Farmers Association
Central Mahaicony Perth Village Farmers Association
Genesis Added Value Nutmeg Cooperative Society Ltd
Gibraltar/Fyrish Farmers Association
Grenada Cooperative Nutmeg Association
Grenada Network of Rural Women Producers
Medine from Trees
Mocha Arcadia Multipurpose Agricultural Cooperative
North East Farmers Organisation
Northeastern Farmers Organization
Pomeroon Beekeepers Association
Pomeroon Export Producers Association
Sea moss Farmers Organizations
St. Patrick Goat Farmers
West Berbice sheep and goats farmers' association

Haiti

Fédération des groupements paysans de Limbé (FGPL)
RECOCARNO (Réseau des Coopératives Caféières de la Région Nord)

Jamaica

Ebony Park Agro Cooperative Society 2016 Limited
Golden Grove Farmers Association
Jamaica Cocoa Farmers' Association
Jamaica Coffee Growers Association
Jamaica Network of Rural Women Producers
New Era Farmers Benevolent Society

Paraguay

Agronorte Cooperative
Asociación de Productores Orgánicos (APRO)
Maduvirá Cooperative

Peru

Cooperativa Agraria Cafetalera Aguilayoc
Cooperativa Agraria Cafetalera Alto Urubamba
Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Los Andes (COOPAC Los Andes)
La Cooperativa Agraria Cafetalera San Fernando Ltda.
La Florida

Saint Lucia

Black Bay Farmers & Consumers Co-operative Society Ltd.
Coconut Industry multi-Services Co-operative Society Limited
Aupicon Agriculture Seamoss Producers
Iyanola Apiculture Collective
Micoud Chocolate Company
Mille Fleurs Apiculture, Consumers and Worker Cooperative Society Ltd
Praslin Seamoss Farmers Association

List of Agri-agencies

Agencia de Cooperación al Desarrollo de la Agricultura (Acodea)

Dominican Republic
Paraguay

Agriculteurs Français et Développement International (Afdi)

Benin
Burkina Faso
Cambodia
Dominica
Grenada
Haiti
Madagascar
Mali
St. Lucia

Andreas Hermes Akademie (AHA)

Kenya
Tanzania

Asian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources for Rural Areas (Asia DHRRA)

Cambodia
Indonesia
Philippines
Viet Nam

Association Sénégalaise pour la promotion du développement à la base (Asprodeb)

Burkina Faso
Guinea
Mali
Senegal

Collectif Stratégies Alimentaires (CSA)

Burundi
Philippines

Fert

Kenya
Madagascar

Food and Forest Development (FFD)

Kenya
United Republic of Tanzania
Viet Nam

Infocos

Peru

Trias

Brazil
Burkina Faso,
Democratic Republic of Congo
Dominican Republic
Guinea
Indonesia
Peru
Philippines
Uganda

Union des Producteurs Agricoles - Développement International (UPA DI)

Benin
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
Haiti
Indonesia
Jamaica
Peru
Senegal

We Effect

Kenya
Malawi
Philippines

Contact:

Antonella Cianciotta

Technical Specialist (Global), Farmers' Organizations in Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific (FO4ACP)

a.cianciotta@ifad.org

Nicoletta Giulivi

KM and M&E Analyst, Farmers' Organizations in Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (FO4ACP)

n.giulivi@ifad.org



International Fund for Agricultural Development

Via Paolo di Dono, 44 - 00142 Rome, Italy

Tel: +39 06 54591 - Fax: +39 06 5043463

Email: ifad@ifad.org

www.ifad.org

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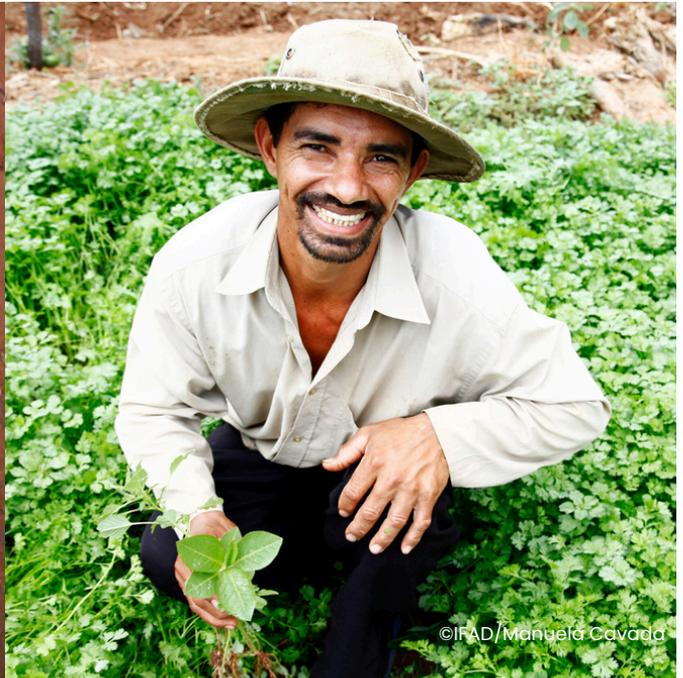
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