



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

FAO + the United States of America

Enhancing food security. Protecting global stability. Promoting trade.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United States of America have partnered closely over the past 75 years on efforts to end hunger and malnutrition around the world. The United States of America is the largest financial contributor to FAO's budget – with USD 801 million through assessed and voluntary contributions in the 2018–20 period – and a key partner collaborating with FAO across the food and agriculture sector, from global crop forecasting and food safety, to disaster assistance, economic sustainability of agriculture and resilience building.

Sustaining local peace and stability

Ongoing instability and chronic challenges continue to trigger food crises around the world and threaten valuable development progress. Agriculture remains the backbone of rural livelihoods, providing food and incomes and, by extension, contributing to local stability. The United States of America's support to FAO's work in emergencies has allowed the Organization to harness the complex relationship between agriculture-based livelihoods, long-term development and improved prospects for local peace.

In 2016–2017, Somalia faced one of its harshest droughts on record, resulting in poor harvests, substantial loss of livestock and increased food prices, which led to 6.2 million people facing acute food insecurity. With funding from the United States of America between 2018 and 2019, FAO provided humanitarian assistance to 674 124 severely drought-affected households in the rural parts of the country. The project increased the immediate access to food by restoring local food production through the distribution of livestock and agricultural inputs, and reduced the risk of large-scale livestock losses through vaccination and treatment campaigns.

Thanks to another project funded by the United States of America during the same period, FAO helped increase access to emergency livelihood inputs for around 185 000 food-insecure and displaced households in South Sudan, contributing to the overall 2018 Emergency Livelihood Response Plan. The project also allowed for the improvement of the nutritional status of women and children by promoting school gardens and nutrition-sensitive agriculture.

The United States of America and FAO join forces to:

- Increase the resilience of agriculture, enhance food security and improve livelihoods through better disaster response and preparedness (together with the **United States Agency for International Development**).
- Enhance production, reduce food waste, and improve distribution systems and market access through research & training [together with **American universities and the Department of Agriculture (USDA)**].
- Control and eradicate zoonotic diseases in collaboration with the **Defense Threat Reduction Agency**, and work towards averting the rise of emerging threats at the human-animal-ecosystem interface.
- Increase global food safety and trade through the **USDA Codex Office**, the **Food and Drug Administration** and the **FAO/WHO Codex Commission**.
- Invest in agricultural development that balances indigenous or cultural knowledge with modern technology — including biotechnology and big data.
- Conserve and manage fisheries in collaboration with the **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**.
- Increase access to on-farm and off-farm livelihood opportunities together with the **Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement**.

Promoting global health security

An increasing number of outbreaks of transboundary animal and plant pests and diseases continuously threatens global health, food security and livelihoods. The United States of America is a major partner, adviser and supporter of FAO's efforts to help rural farming families prevent, detect and respond to disease threats, while building developing countries' capacity to identify, report and contain such emerging threats at the onset. The United States of America's robust support has further enabled FAO to promote food safety and best practices along food chains around the world in order to prevent diseases and trade disruptions.

FAO's Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases implements the Global Health Security Agenda (GHS) and Emerging Pandemic Threats (EPT) programmes. With the United States of America's support to the GHS programme since 2015, FAO is helping 19 countries in Africa and Asia to improve their capacity to effectively tackle infectious disease threats, using a multi-sectoral One Health approach. Likewise, through the EPT-2 programme that started in 2014, FAO, with the United States of America's funding, is building the capacity of more than 25 countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East to pre-empt or combat emerging diseases of animal origin that could threaten human health, including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Moreover, through a project running between 2018 and 2022, FAO and the United States of America are improving the food security and livelihoods of small-scale crop and livestock farmers in Mozambique, by providing better access to livestock vaccines, food safety skills and improved crop varieties, as well as enabling effective fall armyworm (FAW) management and better access to agricultural information technologies. The initiative is helping to set up a FAW surveillance system, awareness materials, monitoring and analysis of changes in FAW populations and their distribution, and training for farmers, extension staff and technicians in FAW management.

Building a food secure future

Investments in agriculture hold a central place in the United States of America's Global Food Security Strategy 2017–2021 and in FAO's Strategic Framework as a means to help families lift themselves out of poverty and hunger, by enhancing livelihood support, increasing availability of food, generating income from production, creating employment and entrepreneurship opportunities, and spurring growth in rural and urban economies. By working together in supporting Bangladesh's efforts to end hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition, the "Meeting the Undernutrition Challenge" (MUCH) project built the country's capacities to formulate, implement and monitor sectoral- and cross-sectoral policies, strategies and investment plans in order to strengthen the enabling environment for eradicating food insecurity and malnutrition.

With a generous financial contribution from the United States of America between 2015 and 2020, the MUCH project is a good example of how innovative partnerships can lead to progress towards the 2030 Agenda. It created synergies with field-level actions in order to translate national-level policies and strategies into grassroots-level actions to tackle child stunting. It also assisted the Scaling-up for Nutrition Movement in monitoring and assessing nutrition progress through a national mechanism set out by Bangladesh's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Promoting trade and food safety

Facilitating trade, preventing the spread of diseases and ensuring that benefits are shared by all are an essential part of the United States of America-FAO cooperation to advance global food governance. The United States of America's assessed contributions to FAO strengthen efforts to boost international standards through three major vehicles: the Codex Alimentarius, the International Plant Protection Convention and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

The United States of America has also been an important supporter of a number of international guidelines and agreements brokered by FAO, including the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) — which constitutes the first legally binding treaty that prevents unscrupulous fishers from landing their ill-gotten fish, thereby hindering such catches from entering national and international markets. Between 2017 and 2020, the United States of America made financial contributions to the implementation of FAO's PSMA Global Capacity Development Programme. This initiative assisted the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago in strengthening their national policy and legislative frameworks, as well as their monitoring, control and surveillance systems to implement the provisions of the Agreement.

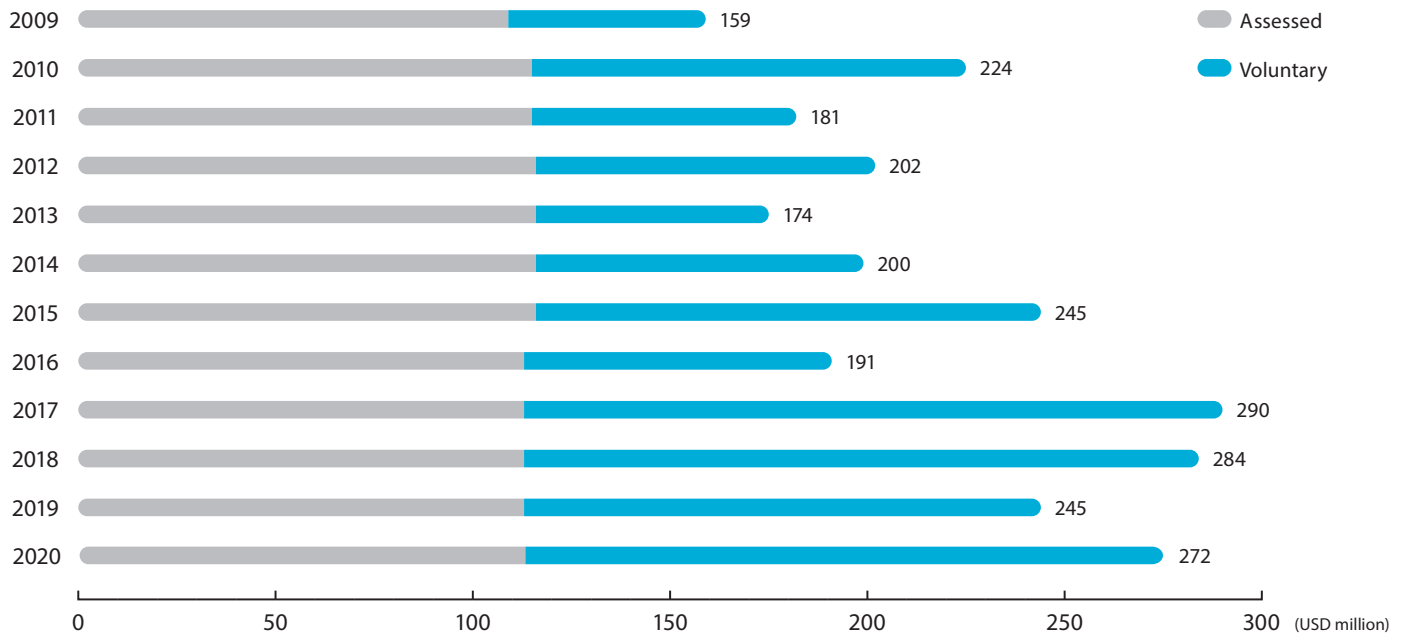


Partnership in figures

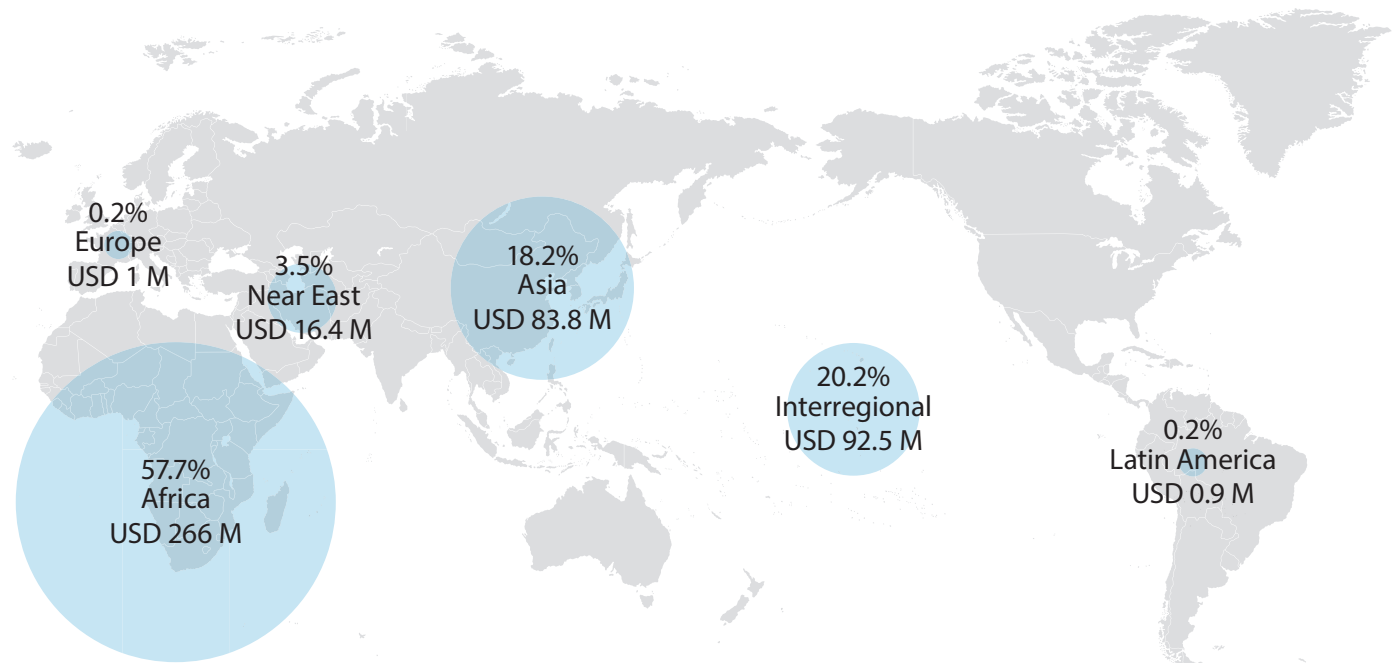
Total contributions to FAO
(assessed and voluntary¹) 2018–2020

USD 801 million

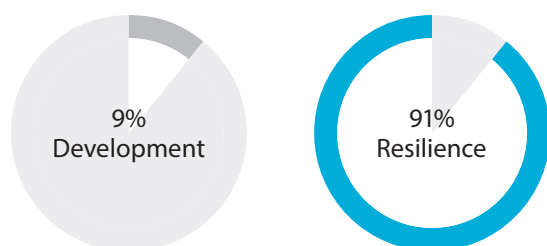
Trend of total contributions (2009–2020)



Contributions by region (2018–2020)¹



Contributions by category (2018–2020)¹



Contributions to FAO's areas of work/Strategic Objectives (2018–2020)¹ aligned to the SDGs²



¹Refers to voluntary contributions based on approvals, excluding those provided to Multilateral/Pooled Trust Funds.

²SDG targets and indicators included in the 2018–21 Strategic Objective results framework, as per FAO Director-General's Medium Term Plan (2018–21).

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