



Enhancing national delivery systems through operational partners



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The Operational Partners Implementation Modality (OPIM) was established in response to an increasing demand from beneficiary countries and resource partners to carry out FAO projects in collaboration with national and non-profit actors. This partnership approach facilitates engagement with strategic operational partners in an attempt to achieve a world free of hunger and malnutrition.

By implementing projects jointly with operational partners, FAO is:

- » Getting its expertise closer to the ground
- » Increasing impact on the field
- » Tapping into the know-how of national professionals and local organizations
- » Building deeper partnerships with operational partners
- » Strengthening national ownership and achieving sustainable results
- » Delivering its strategic framework in a decentralized manner
- » Mobilizing additional resources at country level



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KEY FACTS

- » FAO has transferred **USD 120 million** to operational partners at country level to implement FAO projects. Projects currently under development include further transfer of some **USD 142 million**.
- » Resource partners have expressed their preference for operational partnerships with national entities and other eligible partners.
- » FAO works with **66 operational partners**, including governments, intergovernmental organizations, national and international NGOs, and research institutes.
- » **31 OPIM** projects are being implemented worldwide, and an additional **20 OPIM** projects are under development.
- » Adequate assurance activities, to monitor that funds are used for intended purposes in line with work plan and budget, and that agreed results are timely achieved, have been put in place by FAO.

• “The FAO-GEF portfolio is comprised of over
• 140 projects valued at over USD 640 million.
• To date approximately 20 percent of this portfolio
• is being implemented under the OPIM. This
• represents a significant amount of investment
• channeled to our partners and is destined to grow
• steadily in the coming years.” – Daniel Gustafson,
• **FAO Deputy Director-General for Programmes**

Operational partnerships in action

Project title

Market-oriented and Sustainable High Value Crops Sector Development

Beneficiary
West Bank and Gaza Strip

Resource partner
The Netherlands

Operational partner
Union of Agriculture Works Committees (UAWC)

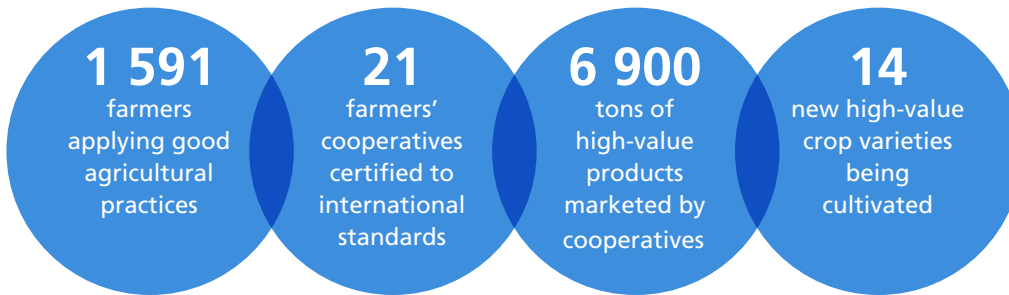
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- » Promoting local ownership and sustainability by developing local capacities.
- » This partnership was instrumental in reinforcing the strategic positioning of FAO in relation to governments, resource partners and other actors in the country.
- » This project helped define FAO's operational partnership policy.



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„This was a valuable experience in terms of sharing full responsibility and accountability for delivering project activities. The partnership with FAO was a great opportunity for mutual learning and experience sharing, with UAWC enhancing its technical and operational experience and capacities.“ – UAWC



Project title

Management of Chimborazo's Natural Resources Project

Beneficiary
Ecuador

Resource partner
GEF

Operational partner
Chimborazo Provincial Council (Gobierno Provincial de Chimborazo-GADPCH)

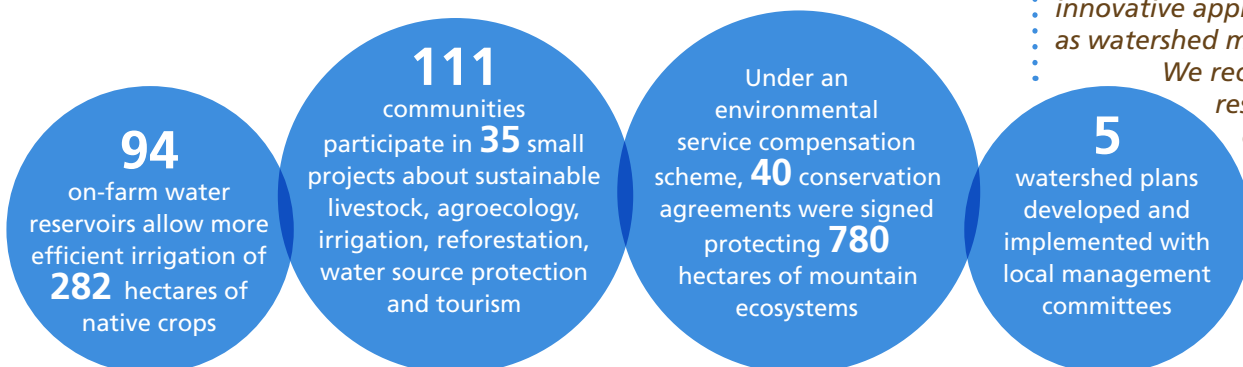
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- » Chimborazo Provincial Council strengthened capacities for managing cooperation funding.
- » Partnerships with local government helped strategic positioning of FAO at local level.
- » Local communities' participation through management committees was key to defining and implementing activities at farm scale.



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„FAO's technical assistance is key to implementing innovative approaches such as watershed management. We recognize FAO's responsibility, efficiency and commitment to achieve the desired project results.“ – GADPCH



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