



Food and Agriculture Organization



A CAREER AT FAO

Opportunities for international and local staff

Our Mission

Achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO's efforts - to make sure people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives.

FAO's mandate is to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy.





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About FAO



FAO is a United Nations specialized agency. It counts 191 member nations, two associate members and one member organization, the European Union. Besides its headquarters in Rome, FAO is present in over 130 countries.

FAO employs more than 1,800 professional staff (including Associate Professional Officers and National Professional Officers) and over 1,800 support staff.



FAO is composed of seven departments:

-  Agriculture and Consumer Protection
-  Corporate Services, Human Resources and Finance
-  Economic and Social Development
-  Fisheries and Aquaculture
-  Forestry
-  Natural Resources Management and Environment and
-  Technical Cooperation

Member Countries

Afghanistan		Albania		Algeria		Andorra		Angola		Antigua and Barbuda		Argentina	
Armenia		Australia		Austria		Azerbaijan		Bahamas		Bahrain		Bangladesh	
Barbados		Belarus		Belgium		Belize		Benin		Bhutan		Bolivia	
Bosnia and Herzegovina		Botswana		Brazil		Bulgaria		Burkina Faso		Burundi		Cambodia	
Cameroon		Canada		Cape Verde		Central African Republic		Chad		Chile		China	
Colombia		Comoros		Congo		Cook Islands		Costa Rica		Croatia		Cuba	
Cyprus		Czech Republic		Côte d' Ivoire		Dem People's Rep of Korea		Dem Rep of the Congo		Denmark		Djibouti	
Dominica		Dominican Rep		Ecuador		Egypt		El Salvador		Equatorial Guinea		Eritrea	
Estonia		Ethiopia		Fiji		Finland		France		Gabon		Gambia	
Georgia		Germany		Ghana		Greece		Grenada		Guatemala		Guinea	
Guinea-Bissau		Guyana		Haiti		Honduras		Hungary		Iceland		India	
Indonesia		Iran (Islamic Rep of)		Iraq		Ireland		Israel		Italy		Jamaica	
Japan		Jordan		Kazakhstan		Kenya		Kiribati		Kuwait		Kyrgyzstan	
Lao People's Dem Rep		Latvia		Lebanon		Lesotho		Liberia		Libya		Lithuania	
Luxembourg		Madagascar		Malawi		Malaysia		Maldives		Mali		Malta	
Marshall Islands		Mauritania		Mauritius		Mexico		Micronesia (Fed States of)		Monaco		Mongolia	
Montenegro		Morocco		Mozambique		Myanmar		Namibia		Nauru		Nepal	
Netherlands		New Zealand		Nicaragua		Niger		Nigeria		Niue		Norway	
Oman		Pakistan		Palau		Panama		Papua New Guinea		Paraguay		Peru	
Philippines		Poland		Portugal		Qatar		Rep of Korea		Rep of Moldova		Romania	
Russian Federation		Rwanda		Saint Kitts and Nevis		Saint Lucia		Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		Samoa		San Marino	
Sao Tome and Principe		Saudi Arabia		Senegal		Serbia		Seychelles		Sierra Leone		Slovakia	
Slovenia		Solomon Islands		Somalia		South Africa		Spain		Sri Lanka		Sudan	
Suriname		Swaziland		Sweden		Switzerland		Syrian Arab Rep		TFYR of Macedonia		Tajikistan	
Thailand		Timor-Leste		Togo		Tonga		Trinidad and Tobago		Tunisia		Turkey	
Turkmenistan		Tuvalu		Uganda		Ukraine		United Arab Emirates		United Kingdom		United Rep of Tanzania	
United States Of America		Uruguay		Uzbekistan		Vanuatu		Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep of)		Viet Nam		Yemen	
Zambia		Zimbabwe											

Leading Our Organization



On 26 June 2011 the Conference of member nations, FAO's supreme governing body, elected a new Director-General, José Graziano da Silva, of Brazil. *"FAO is open to all those willing to join forces in a spirit of true partnership and alliance to contribute to a more responsible and fair management of food, to eradicate hunger and to promote more sustainable food production and consumption patterns".*

José Graziano da Silva: Biography

José Graziano da Silva is a distinguished professional in the field of food security, agriculture and rural development. Of particular note is his crucial contribution towards the eradication of hunger and the implementation of the Zero Hunger Program (*Fome Zero*) in his capacity as Brazil's Extraordinary Minister for Food Security and Fight against Hunger.

Indeed, in 2001 he led the team that designed Brazil's "Zero Hunger" (*Fome Zero*) programme, and in 2003 was named Special Minister of Food Security and the Fight against Hunger by the Brazilian President Inácio Lula da Silva. Between 2003 and 2010, the "Zero Hunger" programme helped lift 28 million people out of extreme poverty.

During the years from 2006 to 2011, Graziano da Silva headed the Organization's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. In that role, he actively supported the "Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative", which made the region the first in the world to commit to totally eradicating hunger by 2025, emphasizing the importance of family farming, rural development and the strengthening of rural institutions to guarantee food security.

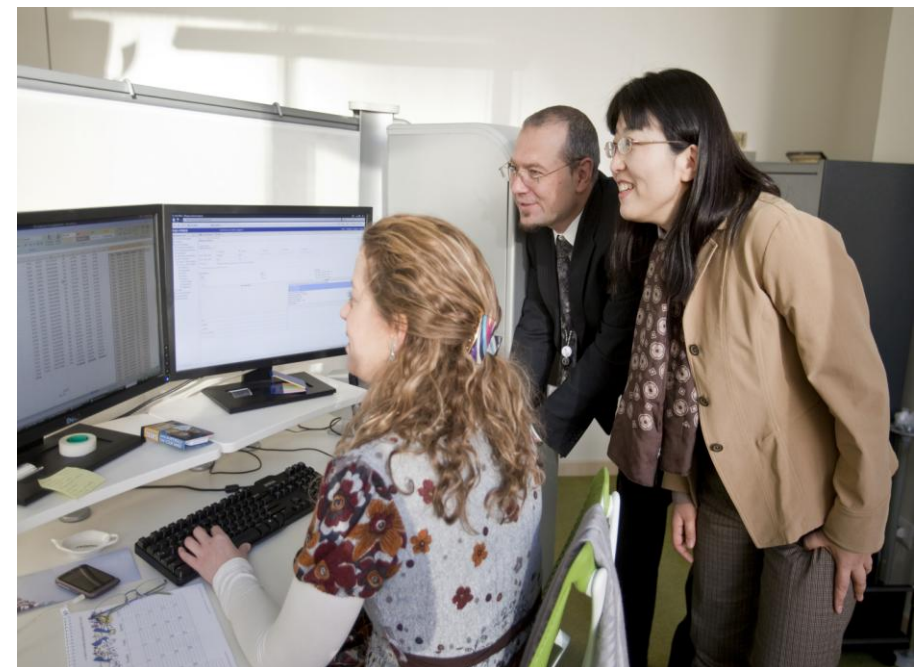
Currently, as the Director-General of FAO, he is leading the Organization's internal reform process with a special emphasis on decentralization, while focusing on FAO's mission to put an end to extreme hunger in the world.



What We Do

FAO's Activities:

- Provide **Information**: FAO works to put information within reach. We use the expertise of our staff-agronomists, foresters and livestock specialists, nutritionists, economists and other professionals - to collect, analyse and disseminate data as well as prepare publications that aid development.
- Draft **Policies**: FAO aims to share policy expertise. It lends its years of experience to member countries in devising agricultural policy, supporting planning, drafting effective legislation and creating national strategies to achieve rural development and hunger alleviation goals.
- Act as a **Forum**: FAO provides a meeting place for nations. As a neutral forum, it allows rich and poor nations to come together to build common understanding.
- Share **Knowledge**: FAO aims to bring knowledge to the field. It mobilizes funds provided by industrialized countries, development banks and other sources to make sure the projects achieve their goals. In crisis situations, we work side-by-side with other humanitarian agencies to protect rural livelihoods and help people rebuild their lives.



Where We Are

With its headquarters in Rome, Italy, FAO is present in over 130 countries worldwide and has more than 4,000 employees from over 191 countries.

5 Regional Offices:

Africa
Asia and the Pacific
Europe and Central Asia
Latin America and the Caribbean
Near East



11 Subregional Offices:

Multidisciplinary Team for the Oriental Near East
Central Africa
Central America
Central Asia
Eastern Africa
North Africa
Southern Africa
West Africa
Caribbean
Gulf Cooperation Council States and Yemen
Pacific Islands



5 Liaison Offices

North America
Japan
European Union and Belgium
United Nations
United Nations (Geneva)



Our Staff

FAO staff are the Organisation's most important resource. All staff are committed towards achieving FAO's objectives and fulfilling its mission.

Staff are grouped into two main streams: Professional (P) or General Service staff (G). Directors (D) are part of the Senior Management category. FAO also employs consultants, interns and volunteers to assist with special projects and short-term recruitment needs.

International Staff:

- + **Senior-Level Staff** are hired internationally and occupy senior positions which require a high level of managerial and technical expertise in their respective fields.
- + **Professional Staff** are hired internationally and occupy leadership functions or positions that require a significant level of technical expertise. Professional staff are mobile and engage in various functions across FAO's areas of work.

Locally-recruited staff:

- + **General Service staff** are hired locally at the respective duty station. Their main role is to work jointly and support Professional staff in their roles and to assure the smooth functioning of all administrative matters.
- + **National Professional Officers** are nationals of the country in which they serve and perform functions of a professional nature requiring local knowledge, expertise and experience.

The Organization also hires volunteers, interns, consultants, Junior Professional Officers and Associate Professional Officers.



Staff Categories

Professional Staff	Senior Level Staff	General Service Staff	Professional Project Staff and Consultants												
<p>Professional Staff are internationally hired and carry out technical and managerial duties in fields of work throughout the Organization both at Headquarters and in the Field.</p> <p>General requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• University degree relevant to the job;• Work experience relevant to the job;• Fluency in English, French or Spanish and a limited knowledge of any of the other two or Arabic or Chinese or Russian, the languages of the Organization;• Good analytical skills and a keen interest in FAO’s work;• Effective teamwork and communication skills;• Willing and fit to work and travel anywhere in the world. <p>Please see below the <u>Minimum</u> requirements for FAO positions:</p> <table><tr><th>Grade</th><th>Years relevant experience</th></tr><tr><td>P-1</td><td>1-2</td></tr><tr><td>P-2</td><td>3-4</td></tr><tr><td>P-3</td><td>5-6</td></tr><tr><td>P-4</td><td>7-9</td></tr><tr><td>P-5</td><td>10-12</td></tr></table> <p>How to Apply</p> <p>All applications should be made through the FAO iRecruitment system.</p>	Grade	Years relevant experience	P-1	1-2	P-2	3-4	P-3	5-6	P-4	7-9	P-5	10-12	<p>Senior Level Staff are internationally hired and possess outstanding qualifications and work experience, they carry out a series of high level tasks and exercise both managerial and technical leadership in their respective fields.</p> <p>General Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post graduate qualifications or equivalent post-graduate professional development;• Demonstrated professional competence and mastery of subject matter;• Management and technical leadership of a high order in the relevant subject area;• Fluency in English, French or Spanish and a limited knowledge of any of the other two or Arabic or Chinese or Russian, the languages of the Organization;• Ability to lead and work effectively with a diverse team of people of different national and cultural backgrounds in an international setting. <p>How to apply</p> <p>Please complete a FAO Personal History Form (available in A4 and letter formats), by the date shown on each post description and send to: senior-vacancies@fao.org or to: Director, Human Resources Management Division, FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153, Rome, Italy. A Curriculum Vitae and/ or cover letter may also be included as part of the application if desired.</p>	<p>The general service category includes secretarial, clerical and administrative staff but also security guards, nurses and building technicians among others. General Service positions are filled internally; however, occasionally applications are extended to external candidates. As and when applicable, these vacancies will be published on this website with relevant instructions.</p> <p>General Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reside within the Rome commuting area;• High school diploma or equivalent;• Work experience relevant to the job and its level;• Working knowledge of one of the following FAO languages: English, French or Spanish, and limited knowledge of one of the other two. Knowledge of Arabic, Chinese or Russian would be an asset;• Proficiency in Excel, Word, PowerPoint, MS Office;• Ability to pass a test of office skills given in English, French or Spanish. <p>FAO occasionally recruits suitably qualified staff for short term assignments in the General Service Category. The duration of the short term assignments may vary from a few days to a few months.</p> <p>How to apply</p> <p>Please fill out the Personal History Form, (available in A4 and letter formats) and send to: GS-External-Recruitment-Applications@FAO.org</p>	<p>Professional project staff are recruited to respond to temporary FAO needs or projects outside of the FAO regular programme of work. They are internationally and locally hired on short term assignments.</p> <p>How to apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete the FAO Personal History Form;• Include the vacancy announcement number;• Send completed application to address mentioned in the bottom section of the vacancy announcement within deadline; <p>Consultants are employed, usually on a short-term basis, to provide expertise beyond that of regular staff.</p> <p>How to apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete the FAO Personal History Form;• Include the title of the consultancy in your application;• Send completed application to address mentioned in the bottom section of the announcement within deadline.
Grade	Years relevant experience														
P-1	1-2														
P-2	3-4														
P-3	5-6														
P-4	7-9														
P-5	10-12														

Professional Areas of Work

Accounting	Administration	Agriculture and development economics
Agricultural policy	Agricultural research and extension	Agricultural Support systems
Agricultural trade	Animal health	Animal production
Aquaculture	Artisans	Audit
Budget	Buildings Maintenance	Commodity Market
Communication	Economics	Emergency Operations and Rehabilitations
Environment, Climate Change and Bioenergy	Finance	Fishery Industries
Fishery Information	Fishery Policy	Fishery Procedure
Fishery Resources	Fishery Technologies	Food Quality and Standards
Food Security	Forest Economics and products	Forest Resources
Forestry Policy	Gender Issues	Geographic Information Systems
HIV/AIDS	Human Resources	Information Management
Information Technology	Law	Library/Documentation System
Law Resources and Management		
Livestock Information, Policy and Sector Analysis	Medical	Meetings/Conferences Management
Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture	Nutrition and Consumer Protection	Office Assistants/Secretarial/Clerical
Plant Production and Protection	Project Financing - Investment	Project/Programme Analysis and Evaluation
Project/Programme Management	Publishing/Media/Writing	Resource Mobilization/ Partnership/Liaison
Rural Development	Security	Soil Sciences and Plant Nutrition
Statistics	Translation/Interpretation	Water resources and Management



Learning and Development

FAO offers a dynamic and multicultural work environment with staff from 191 countries that provide a truly international workplace.

Working in FAO:

- ✚ **Staff Mobility Programme:** introduced to expand career opportunities and foster a dynamic workforce better equipped to deal with the new challenges facing FAO
- ✚ **Management and Leadership Programme:** the programme aims to share practices in management and leadership, strengthen existing managerial capacity and build skills for supervisors and managers
- ✚ **Language Skills Programme:** aims to provide FAO Staff with language skills to enhance cross-cultural understanding among staff inside the Organization and better communicate with its member countries
- ✚ **Communication Skills Programme:** contributes to the development of a communication culture, allowing for improved communication delivery, participatory planning and decision making
- ✚ **Career Development opportunities:** provide employees with planned learning and development experiences which develop knowledge, skills and attitudes to assist them in making informed decisions throughout their working lives



Work-Life Balance

FAO adopts policies and provides a series of facilities to meet the needs of its staff and ensure its well-being. Some examples are:

- ✚ **Flexible working arrangements** include teleworking, part-time employment, and compressed work schedule
- ✚ **FAO Staff Coop** provides information and services, such as lawyers, cultural events, organised tours, information on accommodation, and fitness classes.
- ✚ **UN services and activities**, such as the **United Nations Federal Credit Union** that serves the financial needs of the UN staff, and the **United Nations Women's Guild** that encourages friendship and understanding among women connected through work or family relationships with the United Nations and promotes fund-raising projects in order to assist women and children worldwide.



Salary: Professional Staff

FAO adheres to the UN Common System (UNCS) of salaries, allowances and benefits.

Base salary

The base salary is determined by the post grade and by the existence of recognized dependants. It is expressed in U.S. dollars and is payable in local currency.

Post adjustment

The base salary is supplemented by a post adjustment which varies according to the cost of living in the duty station and the exchange rate of the United States dollar. The post adjustment guarantees staff members the same purchasing power in every duty station.

Tax exemption

Salaries, grants and allowances paid by FAO are in most cases exempt from national income tax.

Hardship allowance

At some duty stations, a hardship allowance linked to living and working conditions is also paid.

Average UN salary level

Annual gross salaries:

- entry-level professional (P-1 –P-2): US\$46,399 – 77, 443
- mid-level professional (P-3 –P-4): US\$ 72,267 -117,178
- senior-level professional (P-5): 106,718 -133,575

Benefits



As an FAO staff member you may be entitled to some of the benefits listed below:

Assignment and Repatriation Assistance

To help with international staff and their families with relocation expenses

- **Assistance with travel expenses**
- **Removal expenses** upon separation from the Organization
- **Assignment grant**
- **Rental subsidy** may be provided to assist newly-hired international staff with payment of monthly rent prices which are too high in proportion to total remuneration
- **Repatriation grant**
International staff who leave their duty station after separation from service at FAO may be entitled to a repatriation grant payable on the basis of the number of years of service.

Help with family commitments

- **Family allowances**

Dependency benefits are provided in the form of higher net salaries and allowances for staff with dependents, and by flat-rate allowances for children and secondary dependents.

- **Education grant**

An education grant may be payable to internationally-recruited staff members serving outside their home country to cover a part of the cost of educating children in full-time attendance at an educational institution.

Leave

- **Annual Leave**

Depending on your type of contract, you will be entitled to up to 30 days of vacation per year.

- **Home leave**

Internationally-recruited staff may be eligible for home leave travel to renew social, cultural and family ties in their home country.

- **Maternity/Paternity/Adoption leave**

FAO makes provisions for maternity, paternity and adoption leave with full pay which can range from two to sixteen weeks depending on which type of leave is being requested.

Social security and retirement pension

- **Health insurance**

All FAO employees will be able to participate in one of FAO's sponsored medical insurance plans. The monthly premiums are co-shared by the employee and the Organization.

- **Insurance**

FAO employees are compensated by the Organization in the event of injury or illness attributable to the performance of official duties.

- **Retirement pension**

Staff with appointments of six months or more become participants in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSP). A compulsory contribution will be deducted from your monthly salary.

Working at FAO Headquarters or in one of its Regional Offices



Rome, Italy



Accra, Ghana



Bangkok, Thailand



Budapest, Hungary



Cairo, Egypt



Santiago, Chile

Headquarters: Rome, Italy

Rome and FAO: the Headquarters



In 1943, forty-four governments met in Hot Springs, Virginia, United States, to commit themselves to founding a permanent organization for food and agriculture. The first session of the FAO Conference was held in Quebec City, Canada, when FAO was established as a specialized agency. FAO headquarters was transferred from Washington, DC, United States, to Rome, Italy, in 1951. Including 191 member countries, two associate members and one member organization, FAO acts as a neutral forum where all nations gather as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy issues. The Organization, with a network of nearly 100 offices worldwide, leads and coordinates international efforts to ensure good nutrition and food security for all. FAO is also a primary source of knowledge and information and its specific priority is to encourage sustainable agriculture and rural development, a long-term strategy for the conservation and management of natural resources. It aims to meet the needs of both present and future generations through programmes that do not degrade the environment and are technically appropriate, economically viable and socially acceptable. The headquarters hosts the David Lubin Memorial Library which is considered one of the world's finest libraries for information on food, agriculture and rural development. Starting from 2008, FAO has engaged in a comprehensive programme of organizational reform and decentralization. Improved internal teamwork and closer external partnerships coupled with upgrading of IT infrastructure and greater autonomy of FAO's decentralized offices allow the Organization to respond quickly where needs are greatest.



Rome as a duty station

Rome is one of the richest cities in the world in terms of historical, archaeological and cultural heritage. It is the capital of Italy and the country's largest and most populated city with over 2.7 million residents. It enjoys a typical Mediterranean climate. As a result of its central position in the Italian peninsula, close to the sea, Rome is an ideal departure point to travel around the country. When walking in the city, you can hear people speaking many different languages. Although Italian is the only official language, English is widely spoken. Major foreign newspapers and magazines are available in kiosks and information on the main public service is provided in both languages. The city also hosts various highly acclaimed international schools and universities. The best way to discover Rome is to move around on foot. Much of the inner core is traffic-free and sites of interest are often very close together to each other. Public transportation includes the *Metropolitana* ("subway" or "underground"), bus and trams, and taxis. Rome is served by two international airports: Fiumicino and Ciampino. Rome is home to the food-related UN agencies: FAO, WFP and IFAD. They are all committed to fighting hunger in the world and ensuring that every man, woman and child has access at all times to the food needed for a decent life. Furthermore, Rome also hosts the Headquarters of other international organisations: IDLO, UNIDROIT, and ICCROM. The multitude of UN and other institutions in Rome offer a multicultural environment where the energy, talent and perspectives of people from all backgrounds thrive.



Regional Office for Africa: Accra, Ghana

Accra and FAO: the Regional Office for Africa (RAF)

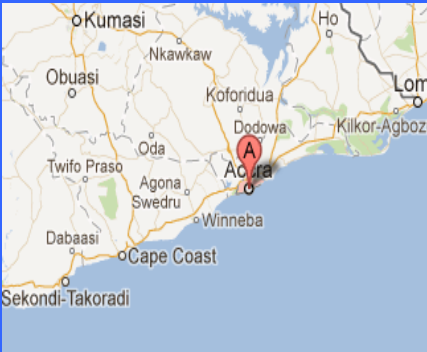


The FAO Ghana Offices located in Accra has about 90 staff members. It comprises of the Regional Office for Africa, the Sub- regional Office for West Africa and the FAO Country Office.

The FAO Regional Office for Africa (RAF) was established in 1958 to decentralize substantive programme operations to the regions in response to the wishes and strong demand by member nations. Presently, RAF is composed of 48 member countries. The principal function of the Regional Office is the overall identification, planning and implementation of FAO's priority activities in the Region.

Led by the vision to help African nations build a food secure and environmentally sustainable economy for the present and future generations in Africa, RAF's goal is to assist member countries in the region to accelerate, on a sustainable basis, the rate of growth of agriculture productivity and increase competitiveness of their agricultural sector along with poverty reduction. Its core functions include ensuring a multi disciplinary approach to programmes; identifying priority areas of action and tailored programmes for the Organization in the Region, and monitoring the implementation of programmes.

Accra as a duty station



Accra is the capital and largest city in Ghana. The country, located in West Africa, was the first Sub Saharan country in colonial Africa to gain its independence from the British Empire. The city is situated in the southern part of the country with a population of over 2 million inhabitants. It enjoys a typical tropical climate with an average daily temperature of 30°C. Residents are very friendly and polite and enjoy socializing with foreigners. Most people you meet will offer a hand on informal handshake and will tell you *Akwaaba* (welcome). English is the official language, although many other local languages are spoken throughout the country. Accra is one of Africa's safer capitals and walking around is relatively hassle-free. Taxis and minibuses, commonly called "Tro- Tro" are readily available in all areas of the city which also hosts the *Kotoka* international airport. The main economic activities are manufacturing, agriculture, trade and tourism, services and utilities/social services. Major multinational companies and international organizations have offices in Accra, such as the Nestle Central and West Africa Regional Office, the UNDP and the World Bank Country Offices.

Accra boasts a wide selection of local and continental restaurants, pubs and entertainment places where you can eat good Indian food as well as traditional Ghanaian fare and fresh seafood. In and around Accra there are some nice beaches where you can enjoy the serene atmosphere and almost secluded nature.

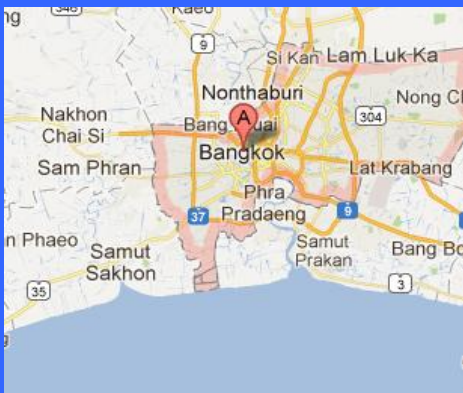


Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific: Bangkok, Thailand

Bangkok and FAO: the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP)



RAP was first established in 1948 with a strong commitment towards a food-secure Asia and Pacific region and now has 44 member countries. It assists Asia-Pacific countries with policy advice and technical expertise in agriculture, economic and social development, fishery, forestry and sustainable development to make the region food-secure for present and future generations. Its mission is to help member countries halve the number of undernourished people in the region by 2015 by raising agricultural productivity and alleviating poverty while protecting the region's natural resources base. In order to meet this target, regional staff are committed to providing trend monitoring and assessments; capacity building and technical support; as well as policy assistance and advice to sub regions. RAP seeks to establish partnerships and alliances; strengthen information, knowledge and statistics.



Bangkok as a duty station

Once known as “the Venice of the East”, today Bangkok is prosperous, rising democracy. The city extends approximately 23 miles (37 km) and counts a population close to 9 million inhabitants. It has a tropical monsoon climate, with temperatures ranging from 26 to 31 degrees C throughout the year. The majority of its residents are native Thais, although there is an influx of Chinese immigrants as well as Indians, Arabs, Malays and Europeans. Residents in Bangkok are welcoming and friendly; they will always “wai” you in sign of respect. Besides being a very accommodating society, as a city Bangkok has much to offer. To travel, the Skytrain and underground rail systems connect the main shopping, entertainment and business areas of the city, while river taxis and express boats can be used to explore many historic sites and attractions at the riverside. Taxis are cheap and common.

Bangkok is the centre of Thailand's economy and finance and is the country's principal port. Bangkok is home to numerous international companies and organizations. Besides the FAO Asia-Pacific Regional Office, Bangkok is the seat of the Secretariat of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). Many organizations have their Regional Offices in the city: ICAO, ILO, UNHCR, UNICEF, ICRC. The influx of international staff has facilitated the penetration of English in a land that historically never faced foreign incursion. Today, English, the second language after Thai, has also gained momentum in various commercial and governmental areas, tourist locales, including most public signs are written in both Thai and English. Various English-language dailies are published, including the “Bangkok Post” and “The Nation”.

Its rapid modernization has respected the city's many historic palaces and Buddhist temples which have remained untouched and still draw thousands of tourists from around the globe.



Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia: Budapest, Hungary

Budapest and FAO: the Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (REU)



The FAO Budapest Offices located in the Pest neighbourhood of the city has about 100 staff members. It comprises the Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, the Sub- regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, and the Shared Services Centre.

REU was established with the aim to support FAO activities in the region, to provide assistance in a whole range of policy, capacity and institutional-building issues in the region from natural resource management to food safety, value chain developments and others. Strengthening institutional capacity in the region is of particular relevance and FAO has an important role in developing and assisting in the implementation of effective evidence-based policies that not only ensure access to food and address malnutrition but especially aim at enabling family farms to access technologies, inputs, capital goods, credit and markets.



Budapest as a duty station

Located in the centre of Europe, at the crossroads of the ancient East-West and North-South trading routes, Budapest is one of the prominent cultural and growing markets in Europe. It counts a population of 1.74 million inhabitants and covers an area of approximately 525 square kilometers. With the Alps to the west and the flat, open Great Plain to the east, Budapest enjoys a temperate climate. The city is the country's principal political, cultural, commercial, industrial, and transportation centre, and is considered the primate city of Hungary.

As of 2000, when major political and economic reforms were launched to ensure the respect of the European Union's criteria for EU membership, Budapest has experienced a growth in the number of economic and financial institutions and has asserted itself as a logistics and production hub. The availability of a highly skilled workforce has led to several global multinationals setting up their R&D and shared service centers in the capital, particularly in the fields of telecommunications, electronics and medical research. For its richness in history, architecture and cultural heritage, Budapest has gained the rightly deserved etiquette of "the Paris of Central Europe". In 1987 the UNESCO World Heritage Committee listed the view of the Danube embankments and the Buda Castle District as a World heritage site.



Regional Office for the Near East: Cairo, Egypt

Cairo and FAO: the Regional Office for the Near East (RNE)



The FAO Regional Office for the Near East was established in Cairo, Egypt, on 29 November 1947 driven by a vision for a food-secure Near East and North Africa region. The organization's priorities in the Near East region include enhancing food security and nutrition; fostering agricultural production and rural development for improved livelihood; sustainable natural resources management; response to climate change impacts; and developing adaptation strategies; and preparedness for, and response to, food and agriculture emergencies. To address these challenges and help member countries achieve tangible results, RNE works closely with HQ technical divisions and member countries for the implementation of technical assistance programmes. The Regional Office plays a particularly active role in promoting South - South cooperation between the countries of the region and provides a forum for its Member States to agree on, discuss and resolve shared problems and also serves as a secretariat for some intergovernmental regional bodies such as FAO's specialized Regional Commissions.

Cairo as a duty station



Cairo is the capital and largest city of Egypt, the Arab world and Africa. The city of Cairo is located in the north of the country, on the banks of the Nile River, just south of the Nile Delta area, where the river splits into two forks. Easy access to water and its favorable geographical position has allowed Cairo to grow into a prosperous city. With a population of 6.76 million inhabitants spreading over 453 square km (175 sq mi), with an additional ten million just outside the city, Cairo is ranked the eleventh-largest urban area in the world. It enjoys a desert climate, with mild to warm temperatures according to seasons. Residents in the city are polite and courteous to expatriates, and want foreigners to pursue an understanding of their unique culture. Transport in Cairo comprises an extensive road network, rail system, subway system and maritime services and hosts the Cairo International Airport.

Cairo is a political and economic hub for North Africa and for the Arab World, hosting many multinational businesses and institutions, as well as offices for major intergovernmental organizations, such as IOM, UNDP, UNEP, ILO, UNHCHR, WHO. Cairo is home to major publishing and media outlets and film studios, and half of the national hospitals and universities. "Daily News"/ "Egyptian Gazette" or "Mail", as well as numerous online news web sites are published in English. Cairo is also the seat of important cultural festivals relating to music, films and theatre, such as the International Film Festival, and the Cairo International Book Fair.

Cairo is dubbed the Mother of All Cities by Egyptians for its historical attractions, i.e. the *Giza* pyramids and the Sphinx, as well as the famous *Tutankhamun*. *Tahrir* (Liberation) Square is the symbol of modern down-town Cairo. Several notable buildings surrounding the square include the American University in Cairo, the *Mogamma* governmental administrative building, and the HQ of the Arab League.



Regional Office for the Latin America and the Caribbean: Santiago, Chile

Santiago and FAO: the Regional Office for the Latin America and the Caribbean (RLC)



The Regional Office for the Latin America and the Caribbean was established in Santiago in 1955. Currently, 33 countries in the region participate in and benefit from FAO's activities, and are represented by their national delegates appointed in the majority of the region's countries in order to make relations between governments smoother and more direct. The regional priorities, as approved during the 2012 Regional Conference for the biennium 2012-2014 are: food security, family farming, climate change and environmental sustainability, health and food safety. The 2012 FAO Conference was of greater importance, since it was established that Regional Conferences will no longer only be technical and advisory in nature, but will establish issues that will guide FAO actions worldwide. At regional level, Brazil is leading the fight against hunger by enhancing its cooperation with FAO and allocating US\$20 million to achieve the aim of a Latin America and Caribbean region free from hunger and promote food security in other regions of the world. All countries are truly committed to achieve the objective of the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative 2025. Its activities also focus on improving access to food and to aid in developing policies and strategies for food safety, employment and rural development, and studies trade and regional markets.



Santiago as a duty station

Santiago is the capital and largest city of Chile. It is located in the country's central valley, flanked by the Andes on the east and the Chilean Coastal Range on the west, and enjoys a cooler Mediterranean climate. The city counts a population of nearly six million inhabitants and expands over an area of 641 km² (247.6 sq mi). Santiago is a multiethnic society: the majority of the population can claim some European ancestry, mainly Spanish, German, Italian, Irish, French, British, Swiss, and Croatian, in various combinations. The capital is a modern city, with wonderful public transportation (metro, commuter rail, buses and taxi), and an educated population, very friendly and open to foreigners.

Santiago is Chile's major industrial and agricultural region, and it contributes for as much as 42% of the whole of Chilean economy. Its steady status and rapid growth has gained the city the title of the "Switzerland of South America". It is one of the preferred areas in the region for American and European companies willing to invest in the new economy's sectors like computer technology and food processing. The international profile of Santiago is enhanced by the fact that the city houses the offices of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and Regional Offices for a number of intergovernmental organizations, such as UNESCO, OHCHR, UNDP. Chile has an important position as a bridge between the developed and developing world. It is unique in being a member of both the OECD and the G-77 grouping of developing countries.

The city of Santiago has an intense cultural life, with various theatres housing operas, ballets and concerts. The Bohemian *Bellavista* area hosts restaurants, art galleries, pubs and the home of the well known writer Pablo Neruda.





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