

## Contact:

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All photos FAO unless otherwise  
specified.

The Toolkit was created by the  
Education for Rural People  
partnership, a group led by FAO that  
encourages UN member states, civil  
society, the academic world and the  
media to overcome the rural-urban  
education divide.

The Toolkit contains materials for  
educational programmes at all  
levels – from primary education for  
children, to extension, literacy and  
vocational training to improve the  
knowledge and skills of workers.

## The Education for Rural People Partnership

An online

# Toolkit

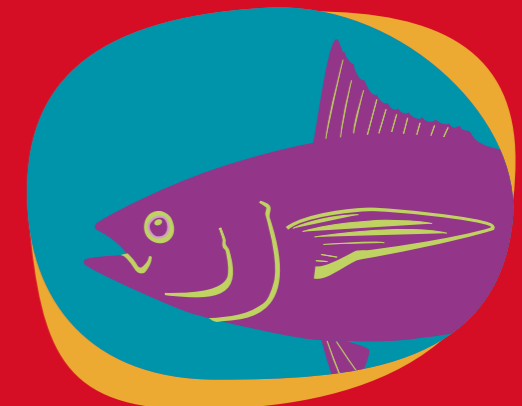
For extensionists, farmers,  
teachers, trainers  
and learners

[www.fao.org/sd/erp/ERPtktoolkit\\_en.htm](http://www.fao.org/sd/erp/ERPtktoolkit_en.htm)



Photo: L. Gasperini

The Toolkit is a product of the Education  
for Rural People Partnership and the  
FAO Inter-Departmental Working Group  
on Training for Technicians for Capacity  
Building.



## Why a Toolkit?

Education has proven to be an essential prerequisite to reducing poverty, improving agricultural productivity, enhancing living conditions and helping to build a more food-secure world.

Yet people's access to education and training in rural areas is much lower than in urban settings and the programmes provided are often irrelevant to rural life. One result is that illiteracy – strongly linked to poverty and hunger – is also much higher in these areas.

Now an online Toolkit helps tackle this problem by supplying extensionists, farmers, teachers, trainers and learners with the materials they need for effective education and training.



## The Toolkit supports the Millennium Development Goals:

- ✂ **Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger:** Seventy percent of the world's poor people live in rural areas.
- ✂ **Achieve universal primary education:** Access to education in rural areas falls far below that in urban areas, and the quality and relevance of the education are much lower.
- ✂ **Promote gender equality and empower women:** Illiteracy is especially high among rural girls and women.

## The Toolkit in action

A vast array of materials available in the Toolkit are being used in many countries. In Zambia, the national education system is using a nutrition education manual, available through the Toolkit, as its standard text. The manual features articles, stories and activities for students on nutrition, health and hygiene.

In China, a booklet for extensionists and trainers in fish farming and aquaculture describes Asian practices and experiences in freshwater aquaculture.

In East Africa, a manual designed for trainers of nomadic peoples is being used in Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda. In southern Africa, a guidebook produced by FAO's Local Indigenous Knowledge Systems project enables NGOs, government institutions and other organizations to better understand the role of rural men and women in managing biological diversity.

## Accessing the Toolkit

Teaching and learning materials are available at [www.fao.org/sd/erp/ERPtktoolkit\\_en.htm](http://www.fao.org/sd/erp/ERPtktoolkit_en.htm).

They are divided by main topic:

*Agriculture (plants, trees and forests, water, soil and land rights, animals and pastoralism, biodiversity, rural finance and book-keeping).*

*Food and Nutrition and School Gardening, Fisheries and Aquaculture, Sustainable Development (education and training planning tools, HIV/AIDS, gender, peace education/training for conflict management, communication).*

– and by education level and type –

*Early Childhood, Primary Education, Secondary and Vocational Education, Non-formal Education for Youth, Women and Adults (including literacy, basic skill training, extension and farmers' field schools).*

A special section contains resources for trainers of teachers and extensionists.



## Additional features:

- ✂ Most materials are in English, but the quantity of material available in other languages, including local languages, is expanding constantly.
- ✂ A search tool enables users to find appropriate materials for specific areas, such as Agriculture: water, or specific levels, for example Primary Education.
- ✂ Partners can propose materials and projects to be added to the site, so that the quality and quantity of content are constantly improving.

## The Toolkit contains:

1. Children's books and cartoons
2. Skill manuals for young and adult learners
3. Planning guides for extensionists, teachers and trainers