



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

FAO + Italy

Partnering for
food security and
prosperity



FAO

+

Italy

**Partnering for
food security and
prosperity**

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Rome, 2019

Required citation:

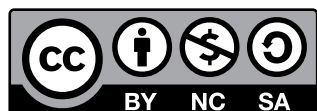
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2019. *FAO + Italy. Partnering for food security and prosperity*. Rome. 58 pp.

Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The mention of specific companies or products of manufacturers, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by FAO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned.

The views expressed in this information product are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of FAO.

© FAO, 2019



Some rights reserved. This work is made available under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 IGO licence (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO; <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/igo/legalcode>).

Under the terms of this licence, this work may be copied, redistributed and adapted for non-commercial purposes, provided that the work is appropriately cited. In any use of this work, there should be no suggestion that FAO endorses any specific organization, products or services. The use of the FAO logo is not permitted. If the work is adapted, then it must be licensed under the same or equivalent Creative Commons license. If a translation of this work is created, it must include the following disclaimer along with the required citation: "This translation was not created by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). FAO is not responsible for the content or accuracy of this translation. The original [Language] edition shall be the authoritative edition.

Disputes arising under the licence that cannot be settled amicably will be resolved by mediation and arbitration as described in Article 8 of the licence except as otherwise provided herein. The applicable mediation rules will be the mediation rules of the World Intellectual Property Organization <http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/mediation/rules> and any arbitration will be in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL).

Third-party materials. Users wishing to reuse material from this work that is attributed to a third party, such as tables, figures or images, are responsible for determining whether permission is needed for that reuse and for obtaining permission from the copyright holder. The risk of claims resulting from infringement of any third-party-owned component in the work rests solely with the user.

Sales, rights and licensing. FAO information products are available on the FAO website (www.fao.org/publications) and can be purchased through publications-sales@fao.org. Requests for commercial use should be submitted via: www.fao.org/contact-us/licence-request. Queries regarding rights and licensing should be submitted to: copyright@fao.org.

This publication has been printed using selected products and processes so as to ensure minimal environmental impact and to promote sustainable forest management.

Cover photographs

Contents

Acknowledgements..... iv

Abbreviations v

Partnership at a glance..... vi

Keeping our food safe and our planet healthy 3

Tackling climate change..... 9

Accelerating progress towards zero hunger and sustainable food systems 17

Sustainable and responsible use of natural resources 27

Investing in resilient livelihoods to address rising hunger..... 35

The way forward 47

List of projects funded by Italy (ongoing over the 2016–2017 period)..... 48

Acknowledgements

FAO would like to express its sincere gratitude and thanks to the Italian government entities that contributed to this partnership report. Particular thanks to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation/Directorate General for Development Cooperation, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, the Ministry of Agricultural, Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies, the Ministry of Environment and Protection of Land and Sea, the Ministry of Health and the Permanent Representation of Italy to the UN Rome-based Agencies for their generous support and time in producing this document.

This report was produced under the overall patronage of the Deputy Director General of Programmes Daniel Gustafson, and the guidance of Gustavo González, Director, Business Development and Resource Mobilization Division (PSR). The report conceptualization and production was led by Kazuki Kitaoka, Team Leader (Marketing, Outreach and Reporting), carried out by Pablo Rabczuk, Programme Officer, Irene Pirca and Lorenzo Gentile, Outreach and Marketing Experts, and written by Kim-Jenna Jurriaans. Editorial support was further provided by Kristen Congedo. Design and layout provided by Shereen Najjar.

The information presented is the result of contributions from across FAO, which involved numerous colleagues working at headquarters and in regional, country and liaison offices. The report would not have been possible without the valuable contributions and review provided by FAO Regional, Country and Liaison Offices, the Emergency and Resilience Division (PSE), the Office for Corporate Communication (OCC), the Office of the Director-General (ODG), and the FAO Technical Departments and Divisions. Particular appreciation goes to Manuel Anta, Vanja Bozic, Giulia Galbiati, Anna Trolle-Lindgren and Caroline Von Gayl for their invaluable guidance, support and inputs.

Abbreviations

CFS	Committee on World Food Security
CNR	National Research Council
CREA	Council for Agricultural Research and Economics
CSA	Climate-Smart Agriculture
ENEA	Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development
EUR	Euros
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FBDGs	Food-Based Dietary Guidelines
GACSA	Globasl Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture
GBEP	Gobal Bioenergy Partnership
GIAHS	Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems
HGSF	Home-Grown School Feeding
ICN2	Second International Conference on Nutrition
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
IPROMO	International Programme on Research and Training on Sustainable Management of Mountain Areas
ISPRA	Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research
ITPGRFA	International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
MP	Mountain Partnership
MPS	Mountain Partnership Secretariat
NENA	Near East and Northern Africa
PAA	Purchase from Africans for Africa
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RYM	Rural Youth Mobility
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
TAD	Transboundary Animal Disease
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VGGT	Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests
WFP	World Food Programme

Partnership at a glance

Italy and FAO have a unique and special relationship. As host country to FAO's headquarters since 1951, Italy has been an integral part of the history and culture of FAO and an active contributor to the Organization's work and Rome-based events.

The country has also been a staunch supporter of furthering the collaboration between the three Rome based United Nations (UN) agencies, encouraging them to find innovative ways to merge their strengths in joint projects for food security and rural development. The agencies, in turn, have provided valuable support and advice to Italy on matters of food and agriculture and their relation to peace, security and migration worldwide, particularly during Italy's presidency of the G7 in 2017.

It is no surprise, then, that Italy has been a crucial partner in FAO's mission to reduce poverty and end hunger and malnutrition all over the world. To this end, Italy has been a longstanding expertise and financial supporter of FAO's activities to improve food security and contribute to sustainable development, including in the most fragile areas on the planet. This is mirrored in the official development framework that Italy has set itself over the years.

FAO is delighted to see Italy's priorities embedded in the Programming Guidelines and Directions for Italian Development Cooperation 2016–2018 and its 2017–2019 updated version, which prioritize the environment and use of natural resources, rural development and food security, as well as increasing support for emergencies and fragile states. The Italian development policy framework directly connects with FAO's mandate to ensure global nutrition, by highlighting sustainable agriculture, along with food security, with a focus on rural areas, women's empowerment, and support to smallholder farmers and producer organizations.

Additionally, FAO is glad to witness Italy's continuous role as a leader in international cooperation regarding nutrition issues, which carries on the legacy of the EXPO 2015 in Milan, entitled "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life". Italy focuses its nutrition interventions on preserving agro-biodiversity and fostering local crops, with particular attention given to traditional knowledge combined with innovative methods.

These shared priorities have enabled FAO to deliver knowledge, skills and capabilities to the field, through an increased collaboration with Italy over the years. One example is a project with Tunisia and Ethiopia that aims to mitigate mobility resulting from poverty in rural areas. With a budget of EUR 2.1 million (USD 2.5 million), the project promotes innovative mechanisms and rural development strategies to generate productive employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for rural youth.

Between 2008 and 2017, Italy ranked FAO's eighth largest resource partner for voluntary and assessed contributions and ninth for voluntary contributions, with EUR 186 million (USD 219 million) approved. Moreover, after a peak of approvals in 2008 and 2009, when voluntary contributions reached EUR 34 million (USD 40 million) yearly, these started declining in 2010, reaching yearly contributions of EUR 7.7 million (USD 9 million) in the years 2015 and 2016. However, the trend changed in 2017, as Italy contributed EUR 12.8 million (USD 15 million) — the same amount seen in 2014.

Recognizing the crucial role of food security and agriculture around the world, Italy and FAO have been seeking ways to boost their partnership. Our key joint work has enabled us to strengthen livelihoods in rural areas and build resilience to food crises in affected countries. We look forward to getting further engaged with Italian partners and to using our collective energy to bring about the noble goal of a Zero Hunger world, which will change reality as we know it and usher in a much more peaceful, fair and sustainable world.

¹ Values in euros (EUR) in this report are based on the exchange rate as of July 27, 2018 (USD 1 = EUR 0.85).

In figures

Total contributions of Italy to FAO (assessed and voluntary) 2016–2017

EUR 59 341 882

(USD 69 813 979)

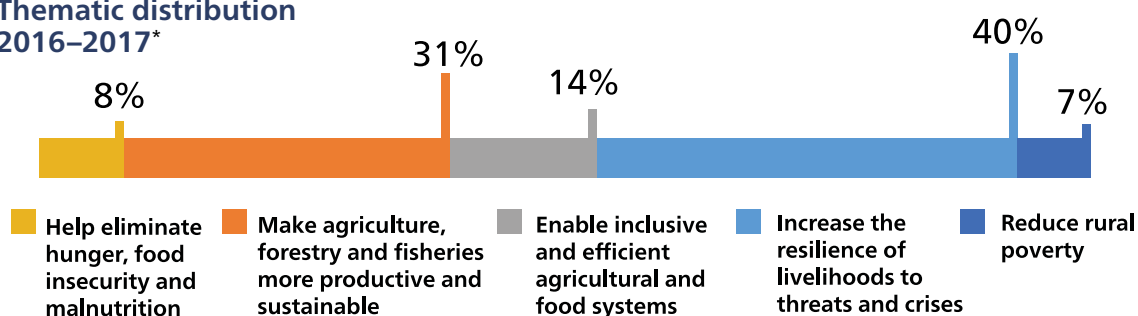
Regional distribution 2016–2017*



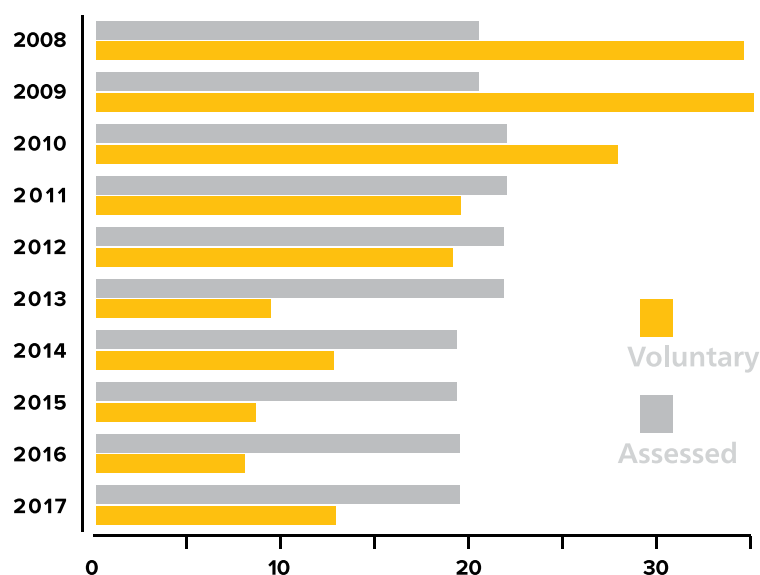
Category distribution 2016–2017*



Thematic distribution 2016–2017*



Trend of assessed and voluntary contributions (EUR million) 2008–2017



* This only refers to voluntary contributions, based on approvals.



Keeping our food safe and our planet healthy

One of the most tangible ways FAO contributes to the daily lives of people around the world is in developing and promoting international standards around the production and trade of food. From food labelling to the management of fish stocks and the preservation of valuable genetic heritage of plants and livestock, FAO brokers international guidelines and hosts several specialized commissions and governing bodies that keep our food safe and our food production sustainable into the future. Facilitating trade, keeping plants and animals healthy, and ensuring that benefits are shared by all are essential parts of FAO's mission to strengthen national institutions and global food governance.

Italy'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, more commonly known as the International Seed Treaty. As host of the governing bodies of these three major covenants, FAO facilitates countries' participation in these intergovernmental mechanisms and lends its institutional resources and expertise to further their success. Outside of these vehicles, FAO is instrumental in brokering a number of major international guidelines and agreements, including in the area of tenure rights, which Italy has supported with generous additional funding.

Codex Alimentarius

The Codex Alimentarius plays an important role in ensuring the safety, quality and fairness of international food trade. Italy is a proponent of and contributes to it on a voluntary basis. The Codex's broad scope, covering areas such as contaminants, nutrition, food hygiene, additives, antimicrobial resistance and biotechnology, makes it an essential part of achieving food security and zero hunger. In addition, public concern about food safety often places the Codex at the centre of global debates. Italy actively participates in the Codex Commission, which sets international standards, guidelines, codes of conduct and best practices.

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

Italy is a contracting party to the IPPC, which aims to secure coordinated, effective action to prevent and control the introduction and spread of pests that affect plants and plant products. The convention, which is governed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, covers cultivated plants and natural flora alike. It also extends to vehicles, aircrafts and vessels, containers, storage places, soil and other objects or materials that can harbour or spread pests. The convention encourages collaboration between various national and regional Plant Protection Organizations to implement the rules set out in the agreement. Italy supports the Commission on a voluntary basis and actively contributes to its work.

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

The CFS has been central to global governance in food and nutrition security since its reform in 2009 and is one of the priorities for collaboration among the UN Rome-based agencies. The CFS constitutes the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for governments and a broad range of other stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner and in support of country-led processes, towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all. Italy is Vice Chair of the committee for the 2018–19 biennium. In addition, in 2017, Italy organized a series of events around the CFS Plenary meeting in October, in collaboration with other countries and bodies engaged in food security, including on sustainable agricultural practices and organic agriculture, child nutrition, and migration and food security.

The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT)

The VGGT represent a historic breakthrough in the global effort to safeguard the legitimate rights of people to own, use and access land, forests and fisheries. Since 2012, many resource partners, including Italy, have recognized these first-ever global tenure guidelines — endorsed by the CFS — to protect the rights of millions of small-scale farmers. This ensures development is sustainable and contributes to food security for all.

Since 2013, Italy has been a committed resource partner to the implementation of the VGGT. The Italian Government initially joined other partners in backing a multiyear project that supports 70 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America in implementing the guidelines, with a contribution of EUR 2.8 million (USD 3.3 million). Under this initiative, Italy has also supported the preparation of two technical guides — the first dedicated to the role and responsibilities of the private sector in responsible agricultural investments and the second to the use of innovative technologies in land administration. Recently it confirmed a further EUR 1.3 million (USD 1.6 million) to expand and continue policy development for Colombia, Guinea, Niger and Senegal.



Senegal – Women from the Kawral association water their plantation every day with water drawn from the cistern

© FAO/Benedicte Kurzen

Implementing the VGGT

In **Senegal**, the VGGT has offered a powerful framework for normative reform processes and better local tenure governance in three sectors: land, fisheries and forestry. Thanks to FAO's support and Italian resources, Senegal embarked on an unprecedented, participatory and inclusive process to develop the national land policy document. The new Land Policy Document was subsequently submitted to the President of the Republic and the country has become a pioneer in VGGT implementation, inspiring other countries to learn from this experience.

Other achievements along the way include new legal frameworks for inland fisheries, which are the result of discussions with close to 400 people from nine regions, and a national assessment of forest tenure. Perhaps most notably, the project has brought about concrete change in communities that are applying the VGGT on the ground. Farmers and fishers have come forward to claim land titles and communities stand stronger in their negotiations with local government over land use. The government, in turn, is better equipped to set rules regarding land use in a participatory way and to collect comprehensive data that supports management efforts.



The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)

The ITPGRFA, also known as the International Plant Treaty, facilitates the conservation, sustainable use and continued open exchange of food crops and their genetic material between countries. This helps to ensure that farmers and researchers across the globe continue to have access to the world's most important food crops and can utilize the valuable genetic traits found therein to transform the livelihoods of farming families, as well as contribute to more climate-resilient food production systems.

The Italian Government participates actively in strategic and policy discussions relating to the Treaty and supports its work on a voluntary basis. In fact, the country contributed around EUR 10.6 million (USD 12.5 million) to the Treaty between 2005 and 2018. More specifically, EUR 1.1 million (USD 1.3 million) were dedicated to the Treaty Management, EUR 3.2 million (USD 3.7 million) to the Fund for Agreed Purposes, EUR 26 678 (USD 31 385) to the fund to support the participation of developing countries and EUR 6.3 million (USD 7.4 million) to the Treaty's Benefit-sharing Fund during the last biennium. The latter supports community-based projects, benefiting nearly a million people in developing countries — mostly smallholder farmers. Through the Fund, farmers and scientists, including young scientists, have been trained in conserving, managing and using plant genetic diversity and have benefited from new technologies that help them discover and breed new varieties for specific crop traits to solve local and global agricultural challenges.

Italy has also provided key support to the Platform for Co-development and Transfer of Technologies, which brings together partner institutions with expertise to support developing countries in understanding local challenges and ensuring technology solutions respond to these challenges.

In the 2016–17 biennium, Italy was pivotal in supporting and taking forward work on farmers' rights, helping to enable them to continue to manage, develop and conserve crop genetic resources as they have done since the dawn of agriculture.

Beyond plant genetics, FAO remains a leading forum for countries to address the conservation of biodiversity for agriculture and livestock. This includes hosting the Commission on Genetic Resources for

Food and Agriculture, which provided the forum for the negotiation of the International Plant Treaty. Additionally, the Commission's flagship reports on the state of plant, forest and animal genetic resources, are among the most comprehensive reference tools for policy-makers and practitioners in donor and developing countries alike. In this context, Italy contributes regularly to the development of these global reports, by submitting updated country information. Furthermore, Italy contributes to the updating of the Commission's rolling Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA, which is recognized as an integral supporting instrument to the implementation of the Treaty.

The Global Soil Partnership (GSP)

Soil, along with water, is the most important natural resource for life on Earth. However, population growth, the increasing demand for food and competing land uses, expose it to a series of threats that increase the risks of getting it degraded or lost. In order to preserve soil resources from degradation, the Global Soil Partnership (GSP) is promoting the practice of sustainable soil management through its five Pillars of Actions, which address the topics of awareness raising, extension services, education, technical and scientific cooperation, policy and soil governance, investments, research, soil data and information collection, management and sharing, reporting and monitoring, and the harmonization of methods, measurements and indicators on soil.

Italy has been participating in the activities of the Partnership since 2012 and 11 Italian organizations are currently official partners of the GSP. In particular, the country has produced the updated soil organic carbon map for Italy and has chaired and co-vice chaired the European Soil Partnership. Furthermore, Italy is represented in the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS) and is providing the GSP with technical support in the newly elected ITPS panel, which will serve for the triennium 2018–2021. Moreover, Italy assisted the GSP Secretariat with the revision, translation and dissemination of the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management, and the country collaborated on the publication 'Soil and Pulses, Symbiosis for life' — launched during World Soil Day 2016 — and on the International Code of Conduct for the Use and Management of Fertilizers.



Bangladesh – Homes still flooded by Cyclone Aila, which swept through Bangladesh, flattening homes, killing livestock and damaging crops

©FAO/Munir Uz Zaman

Tackling climate change

The impacts of climate change negatively affect soils, water and biodiversity in sustaining the world's rising food demands. Therefore, food security, natural resource benefits and services, and climate change are interlinked and need to be addressed simultaneously. Increasing resource efficiency in agriculture and building resilience to climate risks are the key actions that straddle both realms.

Priority fields of work include enhancing the capacity of governments to assess risks, vulnerabilities and impacts of climate change in their country and to build adequate action plans. It also means introducing producers and governments to new approaches in farming and managing the rural environment as a whole, including climate-smart agriculture techniques that can be adapted to the local environment.

Agriculture is a major producer of greenhouse gases and is therefore an important sector in which to develop interventions that reduce emissions.

At the same time, agriculture is also the cradle of solutions to some of the most pressing climate-change-related challenges, which reach far beyond farming itself. Moving away from fossil fuels, towards a green economy that harnesses the potential of bioenergy, is but one example of this. Likewise, forestry, integrated with agriculture, can also play a significant role.

Agriculture and forestry, in short, are where the fights against climate change and hunger meet the quest for sustainable development. This makes agriculture a fertile ground for finding new approaches that increase productivity, limit agriculture's environmental footprint and help farmers adapt to a changing climate. It is at this intersection that FAO is bringing together partners and governments, including Italy, to build holistic solutions that serve people, producers and the planet.

Adapting agriculture to a changing climate: the Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture



Contribution:

**EUR 1.8 million
(USD 2.1 million)**



Beneficiaries:

Government policy-makers from ministries of agriculture and environment



Location:

Global



Duration:

2014–2018



Results:

Creation and implementation of GACSA supported

Initiatives to assist developing countries with the international commitments to climate change reinforced

Activities to fill knowledge and implementation gaps developed

Development of several knowledge products assisted, to strengthen CSA capacity

The organization of consultative events to facilitate knowledge exchange on CSA enhanced

Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) is an integrated approach to farming that contributes to food security and development under the threat of climate change. Its focus is on sustainably increasing agricultural productivity and incomes, adapting and building resilience to climate change, and reducing or removing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, where possible. It does so by finding targeted strategies that fit local conditions and doing away with one-size-fits-all solutions. These strategies often include a combination of using available resources more efficiently, better managing the ecosystems the production relies on, and providing services to farmers that support these necessary changes.

In order to promote the CSA approach, Italy and FAO, since 2014, have been working together to build and promote the Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA), which Italy has been backing with its financial contribution. The Alliance is a voluntary, action-oriented and multistakeholder platform committed to the incorporation of climate-smart approaches within agrifood systems. It builds on the diversity of resources, knowledge, information and expertise of its members to stimulate concrete initiatives at all levels. Its 236 members include governments, research and academic institutions, farmers' organizations, NGOs and intergovernmental organizations, as well as the private sector.

The Italy-funded project supported the crucial start-up phase of the Alliance between 2014 and 2017, during which FAO and the Alliance's members decisively shaped the laying of the foundations for GACSA's governance structure, with its various action groups, committees and work plans. In the last biennium, the project also commissioned case studies assessing the state of CSA implementation, including in Italy, and feasibility studies in a number of developing countries that had expressed interest in receiving support on the ground to scale up CSA and achieve related commitments, including their NDCs, such as for example Botswana and Ecuador. Furthermore, the project implemented several CSA knowledge activities including webinars, online discussions, and the development of technical documents and reports in collaboration with other GACSA members, and conducted feasibility studies for CSA interventions at country level. In addition, Italy's contribution supported the GACSA annual forums in 2016 and 2017, with some 250 officials and practitioners from across the world attending. Based on these results, the Italian Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea, and FAO agreed to continue cooperation on CSA also throughout the 2018-2020 triennium, with the aim of carrying forward the findings of the feasibility studies and new CSA activities on the field and, at the same time, of guaranteeing continuous support to the GACSA Facilitation Unit and governing bodies.

CSA in Italy

Italy, like many countries, is facing the consequences of climate change, including desertification and an increase in extreme climate events. This has led the country to embrace climate-smart agriculture at the highest government levels, including various ministries and national research institutions. Increasingly, service providers and the agribusiness sector are on board as well.

Italy puts a particular premium on Conservation Agriculture – a set of practices with great potential to achieve CSA objectives and that curb soil fertility loss and erosion. The latter is a big issue in Italy, which suffers one of the highest mean annual soil loss rates in the Mediterranean. With support from the GACSA, Italy is implementing initiatives that promote Conservation Agriculture in 15 regions across the country. In addition,

Italy now has a National CSA “Hub” – a true community of practice for those invested in supporting a climate-smart transformation of the agriculture sector at both the regional and the national level.

Various universities, meanwhile, generate valuable knowledge, while Italian agrifood industries spearhead technological innovations that support the adoption of a CSA approach in Italian agriculture.

The Italy case study, commissioned and funded by the project, is a strong contribution to GACSA's efforts in promoting and enhancing best practices, both within Italy and abroad, through its various international collaborations.



Supporting greener energy through the Global Bioenergy Partnership



Contribution:
EUR 4.7 million
(USD 5.5 million)



Beneficiaries:
Government
policy-makers



Location:
Global



Duration:
2006–2020



Results:
24 relevant voluntary
sustainability indicators
for bioenergy agreed upon

51 countries and
27 international
organizations involved

Policy support facilitating
sustainable development
of bioenergy provided

Bioenergy meetings
for the exchange of
knowledge organized

Visibility of bioenergy
opportunities and
challenges improved

Bioenergy integrated into
development initiatives

Coordination across
sectors and between
public, private and civil
society stakeholders
improved

The Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP) was born out of an agreement by G8 countries to support a wider, cost-effective use of biomass and biofuels, particularly in developing countries. The Partnership started in 2006 and has since served as an important forum to bring about better policies, tools and investments in bioenergy. The GBEP supports multilateral collaborations and skill exchanges, and it finds solutions for specific barriers in the supply chain to allow bioenergy to be integrated more easily into energy markets. The GBEP is currently the only initiative seeking to build consensus among a broad range of national governments and international institutions on the sustainability of bioenergy, and it puts emphasis on providing measurements useful for informing national-level policy analysis and development. With its generous contributions, Italy has been the main supporter of the GBEP Secretariat, and has therefore played a key role in facilitating the work of the Partnership worldwide. What is more, since its establishment and for the next biennium (2019–2020), Italy is serving as Chair of the Partnership.

In December 2011, the GBEP agreed on a set of 24 relevant, practical, science-based, voluntary sustainability indicators for bioenergy. These are intended to guide any analysis of bioenergy undertaken at the domestic level with a view to guiding decision-making and facilitating the sustainable development of bioenergy. Measured over time, the indicators will show progress towards or away from a sustainable development path, as determined nationally. The GBEP indicators have already been implemented in 12 countries (Argentina, Colombia, Egypt, Germany, Ghana, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Netherlands, Paraguay and Viet Nam). In addition, four countries (Brazil, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uruguay) are currently in the process of implementing the indicators, while Germany is implementing them for a second time.

In light of the lessons learned, the GBEP has been working on the development of an Implementation Guide on the use of the GBEP Sustainability Indicators for Bioenergy, to improve their practicality and provide related guidance for users. Moreover, Bioenergy Weeks are organized by the GBEP in different regions of the world, providing opportunities for scientists and officials to learn from positive experiences in the sustainable production and use of bioenergy, which could guide the design and implementation of bioenergy policies. Furthermore, they create opportunities to continue a dialogue with the private sector and stakeholders on ways to improve cooperation towards a more sustainable production and use of bioenergy.



Thailand – Good maize crop grown in pilot demonstration area of Mai Sa
©FAO/F. Botts

Helping small islands meet their international climate commitments



Contribution:
EUR 1.7 million
(USD 2 million)



Beneficiaries:
National stakeholders
and local communities



Location:
Grenada, Guyana, Saint
Kitts and Nevis, Suriname,
Micronesia, Kiribati,
Samoa, Solomon Islands
and Vanuatu



Duration:
2017–2019



Results:
Integration of
agricultural sectors into
national climate change
priorities advanced

Sustainable and
resilient domestic food
production ensured

Food security and
nutrition safeguarded

Capacity of national
stakeholders in
SIDS strengthened

Technical support and
training provided, and
innovative adaptation
actions piloted

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) require special attention in global food security efforts, as they face the biggest threats from climate change and have the most to gain from development projects that focus on disaster resilience, climate change adaptation, productivity gains and market linkages.

With Italian backing, FAO is implementing a project in nine small island states in the Caribbean and the Pacific, to integrate their priorities in agriculture with the commitments they made under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The target countries are Grenada, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Suriname in the Caribbean, along with Micronesia, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu in the Pacific.

The initial focus of the work includes strengthening country capacities to use analytical techniques to assess risks, vulnerabilities and impacts of climate change in their agricultural sectors. What is more, FAO is working with the nine governments to ensure that agriculture resilience and food security are integral parts of all national climate change strategies and action plans, and Nationally Determined Contributions. Throughout, FAO is providing technical support, trainings and guidance to government staff in various ministries and departments, and it is piloting a number of innovative adaptation actions across the nine SIDS. For example, in Guyana, field demonstrations of shade houses for growing cash crops that reduce the impact of high temperature, introduction of short-duration cassava, pasture establishment, and production of silage for cattle and nutritious pasture grass to match rainfall behaviour are all being implemented.

FAO and SIDS

FAO and Italy share a vision to help SIDS flourish by reducing their vulnerabilities and unleashing their full agricultural and economic potential. To this end, FAO has been supporting small island states with a number of projects that boost food and nutrition security through national action plans, stronger early warning systems and climate-smart production techniques. At the same time, FAO is helping producers and governments in SIDS harvest the benefits of the blue economy through better management of marine resources and promotion of fish farming initiatives.



Cook Islands – Farmer tends his bananas
©FAO/Sue Price



South Sudan – Smallholder farmer generates income by preparing and selling beans
©FAO/Stefanie Glinski

Accelerating progress towards zero hunger and sustainable food systems

Eradicating hunger in all its forms — including hidden hunger, such as malnutrition — depends on our ability to ensure that our agricultural supply chains and the communities they serve are healthy, productive, sustainable and resilient. This means adopting production techniques that are smarter in the ways they use scarce natural resources and proactive about environmental threats and weather changes. It also means involving national institutions in policies and actions that stimulate the production and consumption of nutritious food and in ensuring the safety of products for human consumption. In short, it requires a significant transformation of agriculture and food systems through a coordinated global effort with a long-term perspective.

Studies have shown that for every dollar invested in nutrition, the return on investment is about USD 16. Overcoming malnutrition, therefore, not only is a moral imperative but also makes economic sense as it improves productivity and economic growth, reduces health care costs and

promotes education, intellectual capacity and social development. For effective implementation of policies to improve nutrition, an enabling policy environment is essential.

Together, Italy and FAO have supported developing countries in transforming their agriculture to make more diverse and nutritious foods available, cut food waste by introducing activities that reuse and add value to raw goods and provide information to citizens that helps them eat healthier diets.

Creating new and more efficient value chains, therefore, is at the heart of improving both the quality and the quantity of the food we can produce with the available resources. For that reason, Italy and FAO have been investing in a number of projects that introduce new activities into farmers' production cycles and connect them to new markets — activities that limit waste by adding value and boost incomes while improving nutrition and food security.

Stronger value chains and less waste in Egypt and Tunisia



Contribution:

**EUR 2 million
(USD 2.3 million)**



Beneficiaries:

**Smallholder farmers
and value chain actors
in selected countries**



Location:

Egypt and Tunisia



Duration:

2015–2019



Results:

**Better organized food
value chains**

**Environmental
footprint reduced**

**Opportunities for
rural off-farm and/
or agro-industry
employment increased**

**More effective
marketing of primary
and value-added food
products**

In the Near East and North Africa (NENA) region, food loss and waste along the food value chain amount to an estimated 250 kg per person each year and cost over EUR 51 billion (USD 60 billion). The majority — about two-thirds of all loss and waste — occurs during production, handling, processing and distribution, whereas one-third occurs at the consumer level. The social, economic and environmental impacts of this loss and waste are serious for a region that relies heavily on global food imports. In addition, NENA countries struggle with scarcity of water and arable land, and have a limited potential to increase food production.

With funding from the Italian Development Cooperation, FAO developed a project tailored to reducing food losses and waste in Egypt and Tunisia through targeted capacity building, investments and interventions in specific value chains. The latter have focused primarily on the post-harvest, trading and processing stages of the chains. FAO's underlying goals have been to ensure food value chains are better organized, have a reduced environmental footprint and are more inclusive of smallholders. They should also generate added value and provide increased opportunities for rural employment, both off-farm and at agro-industry level. This kind of market chain development, in turn, allows for a more effective marketing of food products and ultimately strengthens the performance of the agricultural sector in Egypt and Tunisia.

In Egypt, the project is focusing on the tomato and grape value chains, while in Tunisia it supports the dairy and grain sectors, specifically high-value milk and cereal products. This includes detailed analysis of the causes and levels of losses and waste along the value chains. To this end, FAO is providing training in best practices for harvesting and post-harvest handling to various actors in the value chains, including farmers, farm laborers and traders. What is more, the project is introducing a number of value-addition activities, such as drying tomatoes and grapes, pilot processing units for cheese, and improved silo treatment for cereals and green refrigerating units for milk, as well as offering technical, marketing and business support to beneficiary associations. In addition, FAO is working with the governments to create stronger linkages among smallholders, as well as between traders, transporters and buyers. At the same time, a national Monitoring and Evaluation Unit for Food Loss and Waste is being established at government level in both countries. Likewise, technical staff and consumers are brought into the mix through awareness raising campaigns that help generate demand for better quality products.



Improving household food and nutrition security in Egypt by training women and youth to produce healthy food



Contribution:
EUR 2.5 million
(USD 3 million)



Beneficiaries:
522 participants



Location:
Assiut, Aswan, Beni Sueif,
Fayoum and Souhag
governorates; Egypt



Duration:
2012–2018



Results:
More food diversity
and healthier diets
for families

Nutritionally secured
households

Women empowered
with knowledge and
skills in horticulture,
poultry and small
animal rearing,
nutrition, and business
and marketing

Productivity and
income improved

Against the background of economic stagnation, rising poverty rates and unemployment, as evidenced by the deterioration of nutritional indicators for children, household food and nutrition security has become a salient problem that presents an urgent need for action in Egypt. Through its financial contribution, Italy has been supporting women and youth in Egypt to grow, process, market and cook healthy food. The project empowered women with nutritional knowledge, skills, tools and financial backing, enabling them to enhance nutritional benefits for their families, especially for children under the age of five. As a result, the participants' families are now consuming more diverse, healthy and nutritious diets, and women are generating more income — all thanks to their new expertise in horticulture, animal husbandry, business and marketing, and nutrition.

The initiative's three major intervention strategies included improving nutrition through food production and income-generating activities, improving health behaviour through education and Behaviour Change Communication plans — comprising mass media, interpersonal communication and social mobilization — and capacity building and institutionalization of integrated and participatory approaches for improving nutrition at decentralized levels. More specifically, Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools were implemented, where women and youth learned which crops to select and what agricultural practices are best. They developed their farming, irrigation, harvesting, storage and marketing skills, while receiving nutrition education. Those women who did not have access to fields to grow crops could apply their skills in Landless Gardens — elevated micro-gardens used to cultivate vegetables. The produce the women learned to grow then made its way into the Community Nutrition Kitchen, where women learned to prepare healthy meals and use traditional recipes with higher nutritional values. Additionally, women who participated in the project also learned about meal planning and budgeting, along with food storage strategies.

Moreover, a Mobile Nutrition Kitchen has also been developed that provides women and youth in rural communities with a continuous training platform on how to produce healthy meals. Likewise, the initiative supported the promotion of Food Carts that serve as micro projects to sell healthy food, based on the knowledge acquired from the project's capacity-building activities.

The project also promoted savings-and-loan activities and entrepreneurship, through which women developed basic business skills and received financial support by means of a revolving fund that can be used to finance poultry rearing, raising of small animals such as sheep and goats, equipment, and seeds and supplies for landless gardens or food processing. Training was provided for the type of projects chosen by the women, coupled with nutrition education. Once their project is under way, women pay back their loans and provide funding for others who are trying to start a new enterprise and in doing so, they create a virtuous circle of development in their communities.

Policy support on public food procurement for government-led home-grown school feeding initiatives

Through institutional procurement, governments have an opportunity to use their authority and purchasing power to award public tenders in ways that address social, environmental and economic concerns. Public food procurement can also be an instrument to foster agricultural development by directing government food demand to domestic suppliers, particularly smallholder farmers.

Many governments are increasingly sourcing food for school feeding programmes from local smallholder farmers, with the aim of boosting local agriculture, promoting a diversified and locally specific food basket for children, and contributing to overall poverty reduction, food security, nutrition, education, health and agriculture. Such home-grown school feeding (HGSF) effectively augments the impact of regular school feeding programmes by fostering increased food production and diversification as well as economic benefits for local communities.

With financial support of EUR 1.7 million (USD 2 million), Italy committed itself to backing a three-year project to produce a global framework for preferential public food procurement policies for the improvement and upscaling of HGSF programmes.

The project builds on previous successes in using public food procurement as a catalyst for building market access for smallholders through HGSF, particularly the Purchase from Africans for Africa (PAA Africa) programme. PAA Africa was designed and implemented through a collaboration between FAO and the World Food Programme (WFP) in support of HGSF programmes in Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger and Senegal.

With Italy's support, this new project will enhance the technical capacity of any country interested in improving its current school feeding initiatives with guidance on different policy tools and regulatory frameworks, to ensure more diversified and nutritious school meals and at the same time trigger rural development.

In addition to contributing to the global policy design for HGSF, the project has a country focus on Ethiopia and Senegal and is implemented within the framework of the Rome-based Agencies HSGF Group.

Creating an enabling environment to improve nutrition through agriculture and food systems



Contribution:

**EUR 1.3 million
(USD 1.5 million)**



Beneficiaries:

**Government
stakeholders of
selected countries**



Location:

Mauritania and Niger



Duration:

2016–2018



Results:

**Advocacy and awareness
of nutrition-sensitive
agriculture and food
systems enhanced**

**National sustainable
food-based dietary
guidelines developed**

Mauritania and the Niger stand apart from the rest of the Sahel in a number of key demographic, gender, health, economic and sanitation indicators. Ensuring adequate nutrition for all remains a challenge for both countries, where there is a need to strengthen capacities of actors and sectors to fully engage in food and nutrition security, ensure coordination both at central and decentralized levels, and improve policies, programs and investments in food and nutrition security.

With financial support from Italy, FAO, for the last two years, worked with Mauritania and the Niger to create an enabling environment to improve nutrition-sensitive agriculture and food systems. Part of this work involved strengthening technical and institutional capacities on nutrition-sensitive policy, programme and investment planning and delivery, as well as food and nutrition security multi-sectoral coordination. Another important component of this project aimed at enhancing advocacy, sensitization and awareness at policy and programmatic levels, on nutrition-sensitive agriculture and food systems across key government sectors. As part of this effort, the governments of Mauritania and the Niger, with FAO support, are in the process of developing sustainable food-based dietary guidelines (FBDGs) – a set of science-based, practical and easy-to-follow recommendations and messages to guide people on healthy eating, and to inform policies and programmes aimed at the prevention of malnutrition in all its forms.

In the Niger, FAO supported the Office of the Haut-Commissariat for the “Nigériens Nourish Nigériens” initiative in their effort to develop and promote the National Nutrition Security Policy and its Action Plan. The role of women remains an important consideration throughout this work. To this end, in 2018, FAO and the Niger Government brought together scientists, from the field of nutrition, to organize a conference about the role of rural women – particularly young women – in nutrition-sensitive agriculture. Participants included professors, researchers and parliamentarians, as well as students who actively contributed to the debate.

Similarly, in Mauritania, a recent review undertaken through this project revealed that, in general, a nutrition-sensitive approach is patent in the sectoral policies, strategies and programs reviewed. However, there is a need to strengthen implementation and coordination. Therefore, FAO is working with the government to address these needs.

Zakaria Diallo, Technical Committee for the preparation of FBDGs in Mauritania

“Mauritania is challenged with different forms of malnutrition, as well as non-communicable diseases. The FBDGs will propose a series of guidelines [for] foods, food groups and dietary patterns that provide the nutrients needed to promote optimal health and prevent chronic diseases.”

Niger – Farmer with manure on her head collected from the organic waste of her family farm

©FAO/Andrew Esiebo



Towards enhancing the Mediterranean diet in the Mediterranean region



Contribution:

EUR 283 019
(USD 332 964)



Expected Beneficiaries:

Vulnerable communities, children



Location:

Lebanon and Tunisia



Duration:

2016–2018



Results:

Evolution of food supply/patterns documented

Evolution of CNDs documented

Shift in the local Mediterranean diet compared using national nutrition surveys and globally available scores

Scientific evidence has shown the beneficial impact of the Mediterranean diet on health, especially the reduction of incidences of chronic diseases including coronary heart diseases and certain types of cancer. In addition, the Mediterranean diet has been proposed by FAO as a case study of “sustainable diets” because of its positive links to the environmental, socio-economic and cultural aspects of sustainability. The protection and promotion of the Mediterranean diet in its natural habitat — the Mediterranean basin — is therefore seen as contributing to the 2030 Agenda and is in line with the recommendations of the Second International Conference on Nutrition.

The alarming increase in obesity and associated non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in Lebanon and Tunisia is a major cause of concern for health professionals and policy-makers in both countries. Promoting healthy diets within the local context is therefore an important preventive measure against such a phenomenon. With support from the Government of Italy, FAO was able to bring together research teams from Lebanon and Tunisia to look at the current consumption patterns in both countries, document the drift (or lack thereof) from a local traditional Mediterranean diet, evaluate the evolution of obesity and related chronic disease, and propose policy orientation that will help both countries to promote the local version of the Mediterranean diet through evidence-based data.

FAO worked with nutrition research institutions in both countries to assess changes in food consumption patterns, nutrient intake and diet-related diseases by age, gender and rural/urban location over time. The initiative documented these changes since the early sixties based on FAO Food Balance Sheets and through existing national nutrition surveys. Furthermore, different available scores to assess adherence to the Mediterranean diet were used by the two research teams.

Moreover, a review of the studies, publications and scientific articles about the health benefits of the Mediterranean diet and its food products was produced and used to populate the project’s digital library. A report was also prepared by each team on the current situation of NCDs in Tunisia and Lebanon. Likewise, with the documentation of changes in the traditional eating patterns and the associated chronic nutrition-related diseases (CNDs), the project will produce policy briefs that will help policy-makers in both countries target their interventions.





West Bank and Gaza Strip – A Palestinian farmer harvesting water from a well to give to a herd of goats and sheep

©FAO/Marco Longari

Sustainable and responsible use of natural resources

Our well-being and that of our planet depends in no small way on healthy forests, soils, streams and oceans, and on the genetic diversity these ecosystems provide. Ensuring the food security and prosperity of future generations is simply impossible without safeguarding these natural resources, which enable food production and, by extension, create rural jobs. As the source of all life, water — and fresh water in particular — is at the centre of global concerns about the sustainable use of resources. These concerns are mounting as climate change adds extra challenges to the existing ones that result from population growth and changing lifestyles.

While there are no magic-wand solutions to water scarcity, there are smart approaches for managing limited resources. That is why FAO, with the assistance of partners like Italy, has been increasing its efforts to support countries in finding the right strategies and technologies for specific local realities. In the area of water productivity, Italy joined FAO and other institutions from around the world in the Global Framework for Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG), for example, which is designed to help governments achieve the water-related targets of the 2030 Agenda and their commitments under the Paris Agreement.

Moreover, innovation is a key factor for sustainable agricultural development worldwide, to increase farmers' incomes, improve food security and allow for a sustainable management of natural resources. In this regard, Italy, through a contribution of EUR 637 500 (USD 750 000), has supported the Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS) project in El Salvador. Furthermore, FAO and Italy are also working together to promote agro-ecology, encourage better stewardship of traditional agricultural systems — the so called Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) — and incorporate such ecosystems into rural development policies. Within its support for ecosystems, Italy pays special attention to mountains, which remain among the most important and fragile environments in this world, as well as marine life in the Mediterranean, which is so deeply tied to its culture, cuisine and economy. Italy's contributions to projects that protect natural resources near and far to its shores remain essential to sustainable development worldwide.

Improving cooperation for sustainable fisheries in the Mediterranean through MedSudMed



Contribution:

**EUR 6.5 million
(USD 7.6 million)**



Beneficiaries:

**Scientists, fisheries
management bodies
and fishers**



Location:

**Italy, Libya, Malta
and Tunisia**



Duration:

2001–2018



Results:

**First multiyear survey
of small pelagic fish
in Libyan waters
undertaken**

**International
fishery multiannual
management
plan adopted**

Italy and FAO have been partners in a major endeavour to assess and monitor the fisheries and fish stock in the Strait of Sicily, in order to ensure marine resources in this part of the Mediterranean are used sustainably. This means finding the right balance that keeps stocks within safe biological limits, while allowing enough fishing activities to provide food and income for surrounding fishing communities.

This was difficult in the past because the four countries that trawl and fish in these waters — Italy, Libya, Malta and Tunisia — neither collaborated on tracking stocks nor coordinated their fishing activities. Instead, their fishing often overlapped and caused conflicts over shared resources. Scientific data, meanwhile, was patchy, country-specific and rarely shared, which meant that until about two decades ago countries were making decisions based largely on their own limited assessments. What is more, for some parts of the Strait — most notably Libyan waters — information was not available at all. Fisheries management, in short, was a national issue; management measures and approaches followed local dynamics and lacked a holistic focus on the region as a whole. Since fish are not static but constantly on the move, this unilateral approach to fisheries management was limited at best.

With long-term financial support from Italy, FAO has been operating MedSudMed, which brings together scientists, fisheries management bodies and fishers from all four countries to define priorities and set a common path, thus ensuring both sustainability and ongoing profitability of fisheries in the region.

Today, these stakeholders regularly sit at the same table and make management decisions based on comprehensive data they generated through joint scientific projects. Among many notable results, MedSudMed was responsible for the first-ever multiyear survey of small pelagic fish in Libyan waters, which cemented a research partnership that further expanded in the following years with scientists from the four countries working together, including aboard shared research vessels. As a result of a series of scientific cooperative activities, in the last biennium the FAO General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean adopted an international multiannual management plan for demersal fisheries. Equally important is the fact that today, the Strait of Sicily is regarded as a single unit by scientists, fishers and fisheries administrations alike.



Tunisia – Fishermen in the port of Ajim

©FAO

Partnering for sustainable mountain development



Contribution:
EUR 7.9 million
(USD 9.3 million)



Beneficiaries:
Mountain communities
and their environments



Location:
Global



Duration:
2007–2018

The Mountain Partnership (MP) is a UN voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improving the lives of mountain peoples and protecting mountain environments around the world. Founded in 2002, the MP addresses the challenges facing mountain regions by tapping the wealth and diversity of resources, knowledge, information and expertise of its members. Currently, the MP has 347 members, including governments, intergovernmental organizations and civil society, working towards a world in which sustainable mountain development receives greater public and private sector attention, commitment, engagement and investments.

With a generous contribution since 2007, Italy has been a champion for sustainable mountain development. The country has financed the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS), the Climate Change and Mountain Forests project and the launch of the Fragile Ecosystems Coalition.

The Climate Change and Mountain Forests project tackles the nexus between poverty and unsustainable use of natural resources faced by vulnerable mountain communities. The project has two main components: one on mountain products and one on building a methodology to assess and monitor forest biodiversity at the national scale in the framework of REDD+. In addition, the initiative falls under the Sustainable Mountain Development programme of FAO.

Moreover, the MPS is hosted by FAO, serving members' needs and advocating for sustainable mountain development worldwide. The Secretariat's work is organized under four main pillars: advocacy, capacity development, knowledge sharing and communications, and joint action. It advocates for global attention on and tangible commitments from the international community to protect mountain environments and peoples. Most notably, advocacy campaigns under the MP umbrella contributed to the UN decision to include three mountain-related targets in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The MP promotes networking between member countries and institutions, which lays the foundations for partnerships, technical cooperation and resource mobilization. In addition, it organizes trainings and workshops. The most recent ones included the Mountain Green Cover Index to monitor progress on achieving Sustainable Development Goal 15.4 (Life on Land) and, in 2018, the Agrobiodiversity in a Changing Climate summer course, focusing on the role that agrobiodiversity has in enhancing resilience and adaptability of farming systems to climate change. The MP's diverse publications on sustainable mountain development, meanwhile, continue to support its international advocacy, as well as policy-makers and practitioners in the field.

The Framework for Action for Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Mountains and the Coalition for Fragile Ecosystems

In 2017, during the Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership, MP members committed to a Framework for Action to promote concrete actions, put in place long-lasting processes and establish national development policies to strengthen the resilience of mountain peoples in support of the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development.

During the same meeting, the MP and the Global Island Partnership launched the process for the creation of the Coalition for Fragile Ecosystems, aimed at building resilient and sustainable communities in islands and mountains. Governments of mountainous and island nations, together with their partners, will focus on mobilizing visibility, political attention and resources for these fragile ecosystems and vulnerable communities. The coalition will be supported by the combined efforts of the MP and the Global Island Partnership, both of which work on global advocacy for these ecosystems.

The Facility

The MP has launched a Facility — a multi-donor trust fund mechanism for members — dedicated to the implementation of projects that tackle sustainable mountain development. Thematic areas for funding are: policy support, capacity building, climate change adaptation and resilience building, natural resources management, strengthening of local economies and data collection. Beneficiaries include all MP members, and collaborative activities among two or more members are favourably considered. Housed within the MP Secretariat at FAO, it benefits from FAO's technical expertise and network.

International Programme on Research and Training on Sustainable Management of Mountain Areas (IPROMO)

Since 2008, the Mountain Partnership Secretariat has offered an annual two-week course on the sustainable management of mountain areas in collaboration with the University of Turin and the University of Tuscia, Italy. The majority of participants hail from public and private institutions in developing countries.

IPROMO provides scientific knowledge and boosts the ability of participating researchers and technicians to assess potential ecological and social impacts of different management policies. The programme has engaged hundreds of practitioners over the years, gradually evolving into a strong alumni network of practitioners who continue to share knowledge and guidance that help them make better decisions in their work to promote stronger mountain communities.

The Mountain Partnership Products Initiative

The MPS, in collaboration with Slow Food, has launched a voluntary label for quality mountain products to promote access to markets for small mountain producers in developing countries, while preserving unique, high-quality mountain products and encouraging environmental sustainability. The global mountain label, supported by technical assistance, value chain strengthening and marketing training, allows small producers to obtain fair compensation for their specific quality products as well as help customers make a more informed purchase. To date, 16 products from seven different countries carry the Mountain Partnership Product label, ranging from coffee produced in the Panamanian Central Cordillera to herbal tea and rice from the Indian Himalaya. Now in its second phase, the project is expanding links with the private sector, working with farmers on participatory guarantee systems and starting a pilot on sustainable mountain tourism with local food and agricultural systems.



Mozambique – The sun rises over a tea
plantation on the Namuli mountains
©FAO/Filipe Branquinho



Bangladesh – A participant of a FAO-supported Farmer Field School, is pictured with her family

©FAO/GMB Akash

Investing in resilient livelihoods to address rising hunger

Each year, rural areas lose a promising share of their workforce, as poverty, hunger and lack of employment cause youth to leave their homes and migrate to cities or move abroad in search of a better future. In addition to this group are people of all ages who are forced to leave their land as a result of climate shocks, conflict and protracted crises that have exhausted their ability to cope. On average, between 60 and 80 percent of those hit by crises are rural families who rely on agriculture-based livelihoods. The breakdown of livelihoods and rising food insecurity in times of crisis can be major drivers of migration, leaving populations with no choice but to move in search of food, shelter, safety and livelihood opportunities.

FAO works at the intersection of many adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to move. In areas prone to shocks and crises, FAO helps vulnerable families build stronger livelihoods so that they are more resilient and can cope with crises, maintaining an income and adequate nutrition. Moreover, in times of natural disaster or conflict, FAO helps families to rebuild their food production as fast as possible and ensure their production is stronger in preparation for a future crisis, by introducing risk reducing or climate-smart farming techniques, like drought-resistant seeds.

FAO is partnering with Italy and other partners to invest in rural infrastructure, agriculture development and social entrepreneurship in order to create new opportunities for a growing population across Africa, Latin America and Asia, thus building solid livelihoods and promoting wider development. FAO helps communities identify existing business opportunities and establish a public-private support system, with a special focus on involving rural women and youth in agribusiness and value-added agriculture jobs. Investing in agriculture and sustainable rural development can create alternatives for rural people and contribute to making migration a choice and not a necessity. From promoting seed fairs to helping farmers recover after El Niño to supporting young agripreneurs and diversifying women's incomes in crisis-hit Syria, Italy and FAO make a difference in rural areas through both humanitarian and development projects — and increasingly with interventions that connect these two spheres.

Animal health and migration

One often-overlooked side effect of crisis migration is the spread of transboundary animal diseases. These tend to rise when people cross borders with their remaining livestock in search of food and shelter at a time when national veterinary systems are no longer able to provide adequate services.

Italy has been a supporter of FAO's Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases to help prevent, detect and control these diseases, from foot-and-mouth disease to swine fever. The initiative combines the strengths of FAO and the World Organisation for Animal Health to build the capacity of national and regional bodies to control animal diseases and to help establish programmes that target certain diseases based on regional priorities. Along the way, the project puts a premium on building strong regional alliances for disease control.

Working at the Intersection of Humanitarian Aid and Development

At the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit, FAO committed to a new way of working, in line with the Grand Bargain that called for integrated, context-specific, multiyear, multipartner actions led by national governments and local communities and supported by multiyear financing.

With an unprecedented level of humanitarian needs driven largely by protracted crises, FAO is actively bridging humanitarian and development objectives, and bringing together partners across humanitarian -development -peace nexus to achieve concrete results in averting and addressing food crises. This entails significantly strengthened efforts in sharing data relating to vulnerability; undertaking joint assessments and analysis of needs, response and future risks; and collaborating on planning and programming, backed up by appropriate financing modalities and stronger leadership in support of collective outcomes.

Where previous international models for responding to humanitarian emergencies addressed the immediate needs of communities, Italy's ongoing support has allowed FAO to promote a paradigm that also involves the transition, recovery and development phases, within a framework of building resilient livelihoods and food systems.

FAO recognizes that advancing such new and differentiated approaches to protracted crises, including promoting resilience of vulnerable communities and livelihoods, is the most effective way to break the cycle of vulnerability and achieve Zero Hunger by 2030.



Somalia – Fathuma poses in front of the hut she shares with her four children at IDP camp in Uusugure village, Puntland

©FAO/Karel Prinsloo

Enhancing youth employment and entrepreneurship in Tunisia and Ethiopia



Contribution:

**EUR 2.1 million
(USD 2.5 million)**



Beneficiaries:

Policy-makers (planning and technical staff from agriculture line ministries, extension officers from national and regional institutions);

Rural stakeholders (producers' organizations, youth groups and migrants' networks);

Rural youth in selected countries



Location:

Ethiopia and Tunisia



Duration:

2015–2018



Results:

Migration and rural development considerations coherently integrated into national policies and strategies

Scalable innovative mechanisms put in place to support youth-led agricultural activities in rural areas prone to migration

89 full-time direct jobs and 83 direct casual jobs created in Tunisia

454 jobs created in Ethiopia

In Tunisia and Ethiopia, migration is a widespread livelihood strategy, with migratory flows characterized by significant internal movements of people. Data indicate that in Tunisia, about 70 percent of internal migrants are youth, while in Ethiopia, migratory movements present a marked seasonal dimension linked to the agricultural calendars, and rural-rural migrants account for 34 percent of the total migrants' population.

With funding from the Italian Government, FAO implemented a three-year Rural Youth Mobility (RYM) project to address the adverse drivers of migration in the two countries, while at the same time harnessing the development potential of migratory movements.

At the global level, the project contributed to generating evidence and raising awareness of rural youth migration dynamics. In addition, lessons learned helped to inform the global debate on economic mobility. At the national level, the capacities of governments and rural stakeholders to incorporate migration considerations into agricultural and rural development planning were strengthened, contributing to policy coherence between migration and rural development.

Moreover, working closely with national stakeholders, FAO invited youth in migration-prone areas of Tunisia and Ethiopia to propose business ideas, and selected the best proposals to receive support — some 50 projects in Tunisia and 38 in Ethiopia. In particular, the RYM project provided unemployed youth with enterprise-specific training, equipment and — in some cases — live animals, while at the same time guiding them in launching their own agricultural microenterprises, from beekeeping and poultry farming to processing spices and medicinal plants. Such productive activities are expected to generate further employment opportunities in rural areas.

FAO also boosted financial literacy and raised awareness of the risks of irregular migration. As many families in these areas receive funds from relatives living abroad, FAO also provided advice to communities on how to productively invest the remittances they receive from the diaspora.

A business dream laced with herbs and spices

Sonia Mhamdi's little shop, scented with spices and herbs, looks like a magical alchemist's lab, lost among the streets of the sand-fringed village of Amdoun, in Tunisia's Béja governorate.

Not long ago, Sonia was considering leaving her family behind and migrating abroad in search of work. Like many other locals, she and her family were low on income and struggled to support their three children.

Instead, she has found a new livelihood in the manufacturing of food products and local spices for Tunisian traditional cuisine, which, laced with herbs and a hit of spice, combines Mediterranean and Middle Eastern flavours.

"I sincerely started with only 20 Dinars," Sonia said. "FAO has provided me with the spice and chili grinder for the transformation and commercialization of local products. Now I work with my husband, my sister and my sister-in-law."

The RYM project also provided Sonia with technical expertise and business management skills. The project is anchored in the understanding that women and girls are critical agents in the fight against rural poverty, especially when their productive and entrepreneurial capacities are increased.

"As soon as I launched my project, I obtained a training certificate in spice and dried fruit grinding. After that, I undertook another training in Tabarka on the production of food for traditional cuisine."

Sonia shared this new knowledge with her family members and, together with her husband, developed a network of agricultural producers, mainly women, who supply raw materials to be processed.

"With my project, I have managed to offer employment opportunities to women," Sonia said. "When I say women, I do not mean women holding a degree, but poor women who are really in need and who are not graduates. Their only degrees are their arms and their hands. If they work, they have a livelihood. If they don't work, they cannot eat."



Tunisia – Sonia Mhamdi shows the spices she sells in her store

©Nikos Economopoulos/Magnum Phot

Reducing the adverse drivers of migration through local value chain development in Kenya



Contribution:

**EUR 1.3 million
(USD 1.5 million)**



Beneficiaries:

4 000 young participants



Location:

Kiambu county; Kenya



Duration:

2017–2019



Results:

**Policy coherence
and inter-ministerial
dialogue enhanced**

**More stable and
profitable agricultural
jobs created**

**Productivity of small-
scale agricultural
producers increased**

**Beneficiaries linked to
finance, insurance and
training facilities**

Young people make up more than a third of the Kenyan population, and more than one million of them enter the labour market each year. Still, the latest figures suggest that more than a fifth of Kenyans aged 15–24 are unemployed. Rural exodus is common in the country, as countryside dwellers leave in search of better job opportunities in the city. Lack of employment, limited access to services and better education options are the main drivers. In addition to internal migration, half a million Kenyans have left the country to try their luck abroad. Agriculture presents a huge opportunity for creating jobs that can absorb youth and ensure food security for future generations. However, the sector is yet to fully exploit its potential.

In this context, FAO, with a contribution from Italy, is increasing employment opportunities through agribusiness in the peri-urban Kiambu county. Its closeness to the city offers great opportunities to connect to value chains but, as in the rest of Kenya, agricultural productivity here is low. Informal or subsistence farming remains the norm, activities that add value to raw products are rare and formal opportunities in the sector are scarce. These are but some of the reasons agriculture's image is poor and unattractive to young people in this part of the country and beyond.

In response, FAO is working with the national and county governments, value chain actors and youth to create more stable and profitable agricultural jobs by stimulating entrepreneurship and linking farmers to Kenya's existing social protection programmes. The project works to increase the productivity of small-scale agricultural producers, diversify their incomes and align their production to markets. This will include getting better access to finance, insurance and training on international food standards and on how to add value to their raw products. FAO is also working with the Government of Kenya to promote coherence between migration, agriculture, employment and social protection policies, while building programmes and investment plans that will benefit small-scale producers and channel more finance into the sector. Out of the 4 000 young participants, 1 000 will benefit directly from training and mentoring, improved market access, credit and other support services. Another 3 000 will benefit from information sessions and guidance on how to start agribusinesses, find employment and build resilience through linkages with existing social protection services.

The project will also offer learning routes for young entrepreneurs and award exemplary initiatives. Likewise, to form a true community of young farmers and agripreneurs, FAO will create an online Youth Agro Enterprise Platform, as well as physical co-working spaces in Kiambu where young people can gather and exchange ideas.



Supporting the livelihoods of farmers and women's groups in northern Syria



Contribution:

**EUR 425 000
(USD 500 000)**



Beneficiaries:

1 500 crisis-affected households



Location:

Aleppo and Idleb governorates; Syria



Duration:

2017–2018



Results:

920 families received summer vegetable kits

580 families received solar-powered irrigation systems and winter vegetable kits

500 women-headed households received specific support to further engage in local income-generation activities

In Syria, irrigated agriculture has been significantly affected by the protracted crisis. Ongoing conflict has resulted in extensive damage to irrigation facilities, including distribution canals and pumping stations. Moreover, high fuel prices and electricity outages have further affected farmers in all agro-ecological zones where irrigation is normally provided for agriculture purposes. Many farmers using diesel pumps had to either cut back on irrigation or revert to rain-fed production, where feasible and economically viable. Not surprisingly, the efficiency of the irrigation systems in Syria significantly decreased since the onset of the crisis.

With support from the Italian Development Cooperation, FAO helped strengthen the resilience and nutritional capacity of 1 500 crisis-affected households in Aleppo and Idleb governorates, by boosting crop production, food processing and market access for women's associations, and improving irrigation and water resource management through the involvement of water user associations. To this end, 920 families received FAO standard summer vegetable kits and 580 received a combination of solar-powered irrigation systems and winter vegetable kits, aimed at ending families' dependence on fuel or electricity to operate irrigation pumps. Moreover, up to 500 women-headed households received specific support to further engage in local income-generation activities, including food processing units for tomato and red pepper paste production as well as dairy, adding value to their agricultural and livestock products. Wherever possible, the project also minimized waste and losses along the value chain.

Capacity building on crop production, food processing and market access, as well as irrigation and water resource management, were provided to farmers along with field technical assistance through selected FAO implementing partners.

Under the 15-month initiative, FAO collaborated with local agricultural service centres, women and water users' associations. Together, they increased and diversified farmers' crop production, diets and income sources, ensuring the efficient use of soil and water resources. This enabled families to increase their resilience to protracted crises.

Syria – Life-saving assistance provided to vulnerable IDPs and host communities,
including emergency support to crop and livestock production
©FAO/Omar Sanadiki



Improving emergency response to help Malawi's farmers rebuild stronger after El Niño



Contribution:

EUR 935 000
(USD 1.1 million)



Beneficiaries:

27 000 households



Location:

Malawi



Duration:

2016–2018



Results:

60 000 bundles of sweet potato planting material distributed

6 500 tonnes of maize produced

4 000 tonnes of fresh sweet potato tubers produced

3 600 tonnes of legumes produced

420 extension staff and 40 community leaders strengthened their capacities through trainings

110 tonnes of assorted seeds (maize, legumes and vegetables) distributed

In December 2015, FAO's Global Information and Early Warning System issued a special alert on the effects of El Niño in Southern Africa. Based on this information, FAO drafted the Southern Africa El Niño Response Plan 2016 to support the rapid recovery of agricultural production and to safeguard livestock-based livelihoods in ways that boost household and national food security in the subregion.

With financial support from Italy, FAO has invested in recovery and resilience-building activities in Malawi. This includes supporting subsistence farmers with agricultural inputs, particularly seeds and irrigation tools, to help them recover and build a stronger asset base.

In Malawi, FAO focused on reducing the food gap and improving access to nutritious food in the short term through off-season crop and vegetable production, while also supporting farmers in the main 2016–17 season through seed fairs. Farmers received drought-tolerant short-cycle crops (cereals and legumes), vegetable seeds, planting materials and fertilizer to quickly grow foods to meet their immediate needs.

Because climate change has stretched the ability of Malawi's traditional rain-fed agriculture system to produce enough food, FAO also supported small-scale irrigation and water conservation works using cash-for-work schemes. Farmers learned to apply climate-smart technologies and practices, including water harvesting and conservation agriculture techniques. What is more, farmers learned to better protect their crops against seasonal flash floods.

Through the project, FAO also boosted its ongoing efforts to enhance coordination and better manage information between partners working in the food security and agriculture sector to ensure appropriate, timely and effective responses to shocks.

Seed fairs

A seed fair is an innovative strategy that combines access to a diversity of seeds with training on improved agricultural practices, adapted to local conditions. Seed fairs are specially organized markets that foster the exchange and trade in seeds between farmers and vendors, who may be commercial seed firms or local seed producers and traders.

The aim of the seed fairs in the 2016–17 cropping season was to restore the food production capacity and agricultural livelihoods of Malawians who were affected by disasters. With support from Italy, FAO conducted 90 seed fairs across Malawi that allowed farmers to resume their agricultural production after two consecutive years of drought, floods or a combination of both. The intervention benefited over 50 000 households — some 255 000 people — in eight of the worst-affected districts of Malawi at once. As a result, seed fairs have now become one of the most reliable and empowering mechanisms for seed distribution in responding to an agricultural emergency.

How does it work?

On the day of the seed fair, farmers are given several denominations of vouchers that they exchange with vendors for the type of seeds they desire. The latter, include new varieties and indigenous, locally produced seeds. During the fairs, participants also receive information on good farming practices so they can put their new seeds to the best use. At the end of the seed fair, the vendors redeem the vouchers for money from the organizers of the fair.

Local government authorities usually conduct quality assurance of the seeds and the methodology, and ensure that farmers receive appropriate and good-quality seed varieties. To ensure the greatest impact, assessments are conducted before the seed fairs, to determine market prices and set price ceilings so that vendors do not exploit the farmers, and to select the beneficiaries.

Overall, farmers purchased more than 290 tonnes of seeds, through 93 vendors who participated in the initiative.

Surey Liphava, 50, a vendor in Blantyre Rural district.

“I sold five times more seeds in two fairs than I normally do in my shop in a month.”





Rwanda – Papaya seeds are planted at a tree nursery

©FAO/Marco Longari

The way forward

Going forward, Italy and FAO will continue their joint work around common priorities such as the environment and sustainable use of natural resources, rural development, food security and nutrition, and increasing support for emergency and fragile states, with a specific focus on the nexus between food security, resilience and migration.

Greater emphasis needs to be placed on supporting innovation in the international humanitarian system, and specifically on finding more diverse, effective and efficient ways to deliver relevant support to people in need. This includes working with the private sector on insurance and risk management, for example. Likewise, there is a role for the private sector in expanding the use of cash support to populations caught up in crises, and in sustainable investments for agricultural development, with a special focus on Africa. Harnessing the private sector's creativity, clout and capacity to drive innovation will aid Italy and FAO in introducing and adapting new technologies and know-how to help governments and communities address development challenges, from climate shocks to malnutrition.

The partnership between FAO and Italy is currently being strengthened by several initiatives that will be launched in the coming period. These include the Africa Centre for Sustainable Development, a joint Italy/FAO/UNDP initiative to support African countries in dealing with the adverse effects of climate change and the FAO-Italy initiative on the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) training, through the launch of a master's course at the University of Florence to train GIAHS experts from developing countries.

In addition, through a recent Memorandum of Understanding, different Italian public research institutions joined FAO, specifically the Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA); the National Research Council (CNR); the National Agency for New Technologies, Renewable Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA); and the Italian Institute for Environmental Research and Protection (ISPRA). Through this partnership, which is intended to promote enhanced sustainable food production and nutrition in developing countries, FAO and Italian research institutions have jointly organized seminars over the last three years on a wide range of topics related to agricultural sustainability, such as soils, pulses and water, and energy management for sustainable food systems.

Partners have also engaged in food safety activities and in studies on food additives, which provided scientific evidence for the Codex Alimentarius. For the next three years, the partnership will focus on knowledge sharing, including through the Symposium on Agricultural Innovation for Family Farmers, as well as developing new initiatives based on a holistic approach to sustainability. Agricultural innovation, climate change, the development of new protocols for sustainable food systems and human nutrition, value chain development through a systemic approach to local innovation, land and water management, and ecosystems quality will be the main areas for collaboration.

These initiatives will be a firm foundation for Italy and FAO to continue in their endeavour to develop new and improved interventions that rise to the biggest challenges of our time — including those outlined in the SDGs — and to do so in ways that serve both people and the planet.

List of projects funded by Italy (ongoing over the 2016–2017 period)*

Project Symbol	Project Title	Total Budget**	Start date	End date	Current status***
GCP /RER/010/ITA	Scientific Cooperation to Support Responsible Fisheries in the Adriatic Sea (AdriaMed)	10 255 085	1/10/1999	31/12/2018	Ongoing
GTFS/RAF/391/ITA	Improvement of food security in cross-border districts of Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and Uganda, in support of the modernization of agriculture under the NEPAD-CAADP framework	9 168 532	1/5/2006	15/6/2016	Closed
GCP /RER/010/ITA	MedSudMed - Assessment and Monitoring of the Fishery Resources and the Ecosystems in the Straits of Sicily (Module 2)	7 624 786	1/4/2001	31/12/2018	Ongoing
GCP /INT/016/ITA	Global Bioenergy Partnership Secretariat	5 492 599	1/8/2006	31/12/2019	Ongoing
GCP /ETH/073/ITA	Strengthening of fruit and cactus pear production in Tigray and North Wollo	3 275 000	1/7/2007	31/12/2016	Closed
GCP /EGY/024/ITA	Improving household food and nutrition security in Egypt by targeting women and the youth	3 000 000	20/2/2012	22/8/2018	Ongoing
GTFS/BGD/041/ITA	Food Security through enhanced agricultural production diversified sources of income, value addition and marketing in Bangladesh	2 954 210	1/5/2011	30/4/2016	Closed
GCP /GLO/176/ITA	Support to the Secretariat of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	2 842 821	7/5/2008	31/12/2019	Ongoing
GCP /RAF/490/ITA	Improving supply of safe and quality livestock and meat exported from the Horn of Africa to Middle East and Gulf countries	2 764 528	1/1/2015	30/6/2018	Ongoing
GCP /INT/240/ITA	Youth mobility, food security and rural poverty reduction: Fostering rural diversification through enhanced youth employment and better labour mobility	2 500 000	26/1/2015	28/2/2018	Ongoing
GCP /INT/124/ITA	Coping with Water Scarcity (The Role of Agriculture): Phase III - Strengthening national capacities	2 373 000	1/3/2011	31/7/2017	Closed
GCP /RNE/004/ITA	Food Losses and Waste (FL&W) Reduction and Value Chain Development for Food Security in Egypt and Tunisia	2 300 000	1/10/2015	30/9/2018	Ongoing
GCP /MYA/011/ITA	Support to Special Rice Production	2 213 000	11/6/2009	31/3/2016	Closed

* Contributions provided to the Multilateral /Pooled Trust Funds are not included in the list

**In USD, subject to change for ongoing projects

***As of 1 January 2018

Project Symbol	Project Title	Total Budget**	Start date	End date	Current status***
GCP /GLO/534/ITA	International Alliance on Climate Smart Agriculture	2 130 000	10/4/2014	1/12/2018	Ongoing
OSRO/GAZ/703/ITA	Strengthening resilience and livelihoods of Gazan fishing communities through promoting the establishment of a marine cage farming social business	2 102 566	4/10/2017	3/10/2019	Ongoing
MTF /INT/160/EXP	Participation in Expo 2015	2 053 123	1/6/2013	31/5/2016	Closed
GCP /MYA/010/ITA	Sustainable small-scale fisheries and aquaculture livelihoods in coastal mangrove ecosystems.	2 020 000	11/6/2009	31/3/2016	Closed
GCP /GLO/775/ITA	Policy support for government-led Home Grown School Food initiatives	2 000 000	12/9/2017	11/9/2020	Ongoing
GCP /CAF/014/ITA	Projet d'appui à la création d'un centre pilote de formation et d'insertion socio-économique en RCA	2 000 000	1/2/2017	1/2/2019	Ongoing
GCP /GLO/726/ITA	Assisting SIDS to integrate agriculture sectors into climate change priorities and NDCs to UNFCCC	2 000 000	1/1/2017	30/6/2019	Ongoing
GTFS/RAF/478/ITA	Food Security through Commercialization of Agricultural sector in marginalized areas in Kenya and South Sudan under the CAADP Framework, with focus on women and youth	1 900 000	1/7/2013	30/6/2017	Closed
GCP /GLO/538/ITA	Climate Change and Mountain Forests - The Mountain Partnership and the Global Island Partnership join hands in Latin America and the Pacific	1 862 068	1/4/2014	21/12/2019	Ongoing
GCP /BOL/052/ITA	Fortalecimiento de la economía social comunitaria a través de la gestión integral/sustentable	1 731 429	23/3/2017	22/3/2019	Ongoing
OSRO/BOL/701/ITA	Programa de Asistencia Técnica para el fortalecimiento, coordinación, articulación de la Gestión del Riesgo e incremento de la resiliencia en Bolivia	1 695 109	25/9/2017	24/9/2019	Ongoing
GDCP/SEN/002/ITA	Capitalisation de la technologie des micro-jardins de la Ville de Dakar et expansion regionale au Burkina Faso, au Niger et en Gambie dans le cadre de l'Expo 2015-Phase III (Consolidation des micro-jardins dans la Municipalité de Dakar-Phase II)	1 693 600	1/1/2006	31/12/2016	Closed
GCP /INT/267/ITA	Creating an Enabling Environment to Improve Nutrition through Agriculture and Food Systems	1 500 000	1/10/2016	30/9/2018	Ongoing

List of projects funded by Italy (ongoing over the 2016–2017 period)*

Project Symbol	Project Title	Total Budget**	Start date	End date	Current status***
GCP /KEN/087/ITA	Reducing Distress Migration Through Local Value Chain Development	1 500 000	1/6/2017	31/5/2019	Ongoing
OSRO/SOM/302/ITA	Creation of a Sustainably Funded Fisheries Authority, Federal Government of Somalia	1 298 344	1/7/2013	31/10/2018	Ongoing
OSRO/BOL/501/ITA	Strengthening local resilience to food insecurity, based on successful livelihood strategies, to develop a national early warning system for vulnerable rural families in the High Andes zone and in Beni.	1 219 511	15/1/2015	31/7/2016	Closed
GCP /BOL/049/ITA	Sistema Agroalimentario Integrado Quinoa/ Camélidos; Promoción de la Agricultura Familiar Comunitaria Sustentable en el Altiplano Boliviano	1 172 414	2/6/2014	30/6/2016	Closed
GCP /INT/041/ITA	Scientific and Institutional Cooperation to Support Responsible Fisheries in the Eastern Mediterranean (EastMed)	1 159 079	1/9/2009	31/12/2018	Ongoing
OSRO/MLW/601/ITA	Enhanced Agriculture Emergency Response to tackle the negative effects of El Niño in Malawi 2016	1 111 111	1/9/2016	31/3/2018	Ongoing
OSRO/ZIM/602/ITA	Enhanced food and nutrition security for smallholder women and men farmers affected by drought	1 106 196	26/8/2016	25/8/2017	Closed
GCP /GLO/533/ITA	Preparations for the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) and follow-up	1 091 000	9/4/2014	30/6/2016	Closed
GCP /GLO/540/ITA	Strengthening the Capacity to Monitor Food Insecurity in the Sahel	1 001 876	30/6/2014	30/6/2017	Closed
GCP /RAF/502/ITA	Improving food security in sub-Saharan Africa by supporting the progressive reduction of tsetse-tran	1 000 000	1/1/2016	30/6/2018	Ongoing
GTFS/RAF/465/ITA	Strengthening capacity of selected member countries of the East African Community in agricultural statistics for food security — Burundi, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Rwanda	1 000 000	9/9/2011	31/3/2016	Closed
GTFS/KEN/080/ITA	Improving food security through increased quality production and value addition of fruits and vegetable in Kenya (West Pokot County)	900 000	1/10/2014	30/9/2017	Closed
GCP /GLO/340/ITA	Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases	887 519	1/4/2011	31/12/2018	Ongoing

* Contributions provided to the Multilateral /Pooled Trust Funds are not included in the list

**In USD, subject to change for ongoing projects

***As of 1 January 2018

Project Symbol	Project Title	Total Budget**	Start date	End date	Current status***
GCP /SLC/009/ITA	REACH-Resilient Environment and Agricultural Caribbean Habitats — FAO/Italy Cooperative Programme	743 009	1/2/2017	28/2/2018	Ongoing
OSRO/SUD/506/ITA	Integrated Food Security and Livelihoods Project (IFSLP) in Eastern Sudan	674 916	1/9/2015	30/4/2017	Closed
OSRO/SYR/504/ITA	Emergency agricultural input support to vulnerable farmers affected by the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic	635 324	31/7/2015	31/7/2016	Closed
MTF /INT/130/ITA	Official Italian Celebration of World Food Day	572 906	18/5/2011	31/12/2018	Ongoing
OSRO/ETH/602/ITA	Emergency livelihood support to El Niño-affected agropastoral communities of Afar Region	556 001	29/1/2016	28/1/2017	Closed
OSRO/SYR/702/ITA	Supporting the livelihoods of farmers and women groups in northern Syria	542 889	8/5/2017	7/5/2018	Ongoing
OSRO/NEP/502/ITA	Emergency Assistance for Agricultural Livelihoods in Earthquake affected Districts	533 720	13/5/2015	20/2/2016	Closed
OSRO/CAF/509/ITA	Support to resilience and social cohesion of vulnerable households affected by the crisis in Bangui	522 486	1/4/2015	30/11/2016	Closed
GCP /LEB/024/ITA	Enhance the livelihood and food security of vulnerable Lebanese women through improving their dairy production practices and supporting their dairy processing activities	406 628	21/12/2015	31/3/2017	Closed
GCPA/INT/055/ITA	Brasacco, Filippo, Associate Professional Officer, Agribusiness	335 235	13/10/2013	12/10/2016	Closed
GCP /RNE/007/ITA	Towards the enhancement of the Mediterranean diet in the Mediterranean region	332 964	20/10/2016	21/10/2018	Ongoing
GTFS/GLO/470/ITA	Support to the joint FAO/OIE FMD Secretariat to roll out the Global FMD Control Strategy	270 000	1/7/2013	30/4/2016	Closed
GCP /PHI/064/ITA	Strengthening Resilience of Vulnerable Small-Scale Coastal Fishers in Region IVB	250 000	15/7/2014	16/1/2016	Closed
OSRO/ETH/504/ITA	Emergency livelihood support to drought affected pastoral and agro-pastoral communities in Dewe wore	170 171	8/10/2015	7/10/2016	Closed
OSRO/INT/801/ITA	Officer from the Emergency Operations and Rehabilitation Division administering operations relating to the Italy FAO Emergency Fund (GINC/INT/801/ITA)	77 760	26/11/2007	31/12/2099	Ongoing
OSRO/AFG/601/ITA	Development of Integrated Dairy Schemes in Herat	33 554	1/2/2016	31/5/2016	Closed

FAO Business Development and Resource Mobilization Division
Programme Support and Technical Cooperation Department
TCR-Director@fao.org
www.fao.org/partnerships/resource-partners

FAO Emergency and Resilience Division
Programme Support and Technical Cooperation Department
Relief-Operations@fao.org
www.fao.org/emergencies

FAO Investment Centre Division
Programme Support and Technical Cooperation Department
Investment-Centre@fao.org
www.fao.org/technical-cooperation/investment-centre

FAO Office of South-South and Triangular Cooperation
Programme Support and Technical Cooperation Department
South-south-cooperation@fao.org
www.fao.org/partnerships/south-south-cooperation

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome, Italy
Tel: (+39) 06 57051
FAO-HQ@fao.org
www.fao.org