



## **FAO INVESTMENT CENTRE**2022 AT A GLANCE

FAO is committed to helping countries achieve a healthier, more sustainable future. That means finding the right combination of policies, innovations and public and private investment to help them realize the promise of the four betters - better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life for all.

For almost 60 years, the FAO Investment Centre has helped countries and financial partners make more and better agrifood investments to reduce poverty, hunger and malnutrition, improve rural livelihoods and protect the environment.

The needs of the people and countries that FAO serves come first. The Centre provides a full suite of investment support, partnering with governments, national and international financing institutions (IFIs), the private sector, research institutions, academia and producer organizations to help countries achieve impact at scale. By applying FAO's vast knowledge and expertise to investments, the Centre can help localize the four betters at country level.

In 2022, the Centre helped design 45 IFI-approved public investment projects in 32 countries for a total of USD 8.8 billion in new investment – up 22 percent from the previous year's USD 7.2 billion. It provided implementation support to 275 ongoing investment projects representing a portfolio worth over USD 44.5 billion. Also notable were contributions to 52 agricultural strategies, 25 sector studies, 17 policy studies and 6 policy dialogues, and the publication of 54 knowledge products – from a high-profile study on carbon neutrality in agrifood systems to guidelines on scaling up agrifood investments for and by youth in Africa, among others.

# INVESTMENT AND FINANCE SOLUTIONS COMPANION SOLUTIONS STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PLANNING AND POLICY INVESTMENT COMPANION SOLUTIONS CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT KNOWLEDGE FOR INVESTMENT FOR INVESTMENT FOR INVESTMENT

#### **FUTURE PERSPECTIVES**

The world is facing massive economic, environmental and public health challenges – from declining ecosystems and rapid urbanization to malnutrition and food supply chain and trade disruptions. Agrifood systems are being hit by multiple shocks, often at the same time. Scaling up investment and finance solutions to help countries sustainably transform agrifood systems has never been more urgent.

### Accelerating FAO's support to sustainable agrifood investment

The Centre is accelerating its delivery, working across all the 4+2 solutions. It will provide more support to strategic investment planning, especially through the Hand-in-Hand initiative. The first Hand-in-Hand Investment Forum in 2022 – matching countries with potential investors – was a success, with similar plans for the 2023 World Food Forum. The Centre is also expanding its public and private investment support with existing and new partners, and exploring partnerships with newly established international development banks like the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the New Development Bank.

#### Stronger country focus

The Centre's enduring business model – a three-way partnership with Member countries and IFIs – is expanding to engage with a wider group of financing partners. The Centre is also exploring opportunities to work directly with Members. Two new geographic services in 2022, bringing the total to five, allows the Centre to provide targeted support to help countries achieve the four betters. And more strategic collaboration across FAO – technical units, country and regional offices – enables the Centre to respond even more effectively to the growing and evolving demand from Members and investors.

#### Greener, more resilient agrifood systems

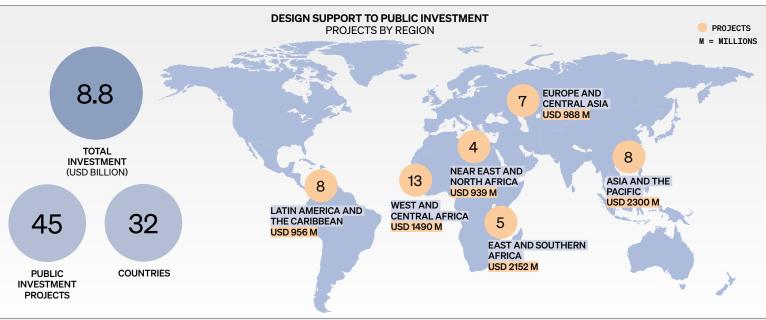
The portfolio of climate-related investment projects is growing, as are efforts to align investments and planning with the Paris Agenda, helping countries and financiers achieve their climate commitments. There is burgeoning interest around nature-based solutions, carbon markets and better, more standardized carbon offsetting tools to monitor, report and verify emissions.

#### **Diversified financial ecosystems**

As FAO deepens its understanding of the financial architecture supporting agrifood systems, it is essential to diversify and bring in more innovative financial solutions, like blended finance, agri-risk management instruments, impact investing and digital finance. This involves expanding the Centre's work with national and international development banks, development finance institutions and impact funds to improve the quality and quantity of agrifood investment.

#### Knowledge and innovation-intensive solutions

The Centre partners with financing institutions, technical experts, research centres, academia and public and private sector innovators to address critical knowledge gaps in investment and finance, provide quality analyses and promote new tools. Its body of knowledge products, e-learning courses and trainings continues to grow. And the Centre is strengthening its capacity, especially in strategic areas, to fulfil FAO's ambition of being the go-to place for agrifood investment and finance solutions and innovations.







INVESTMENT