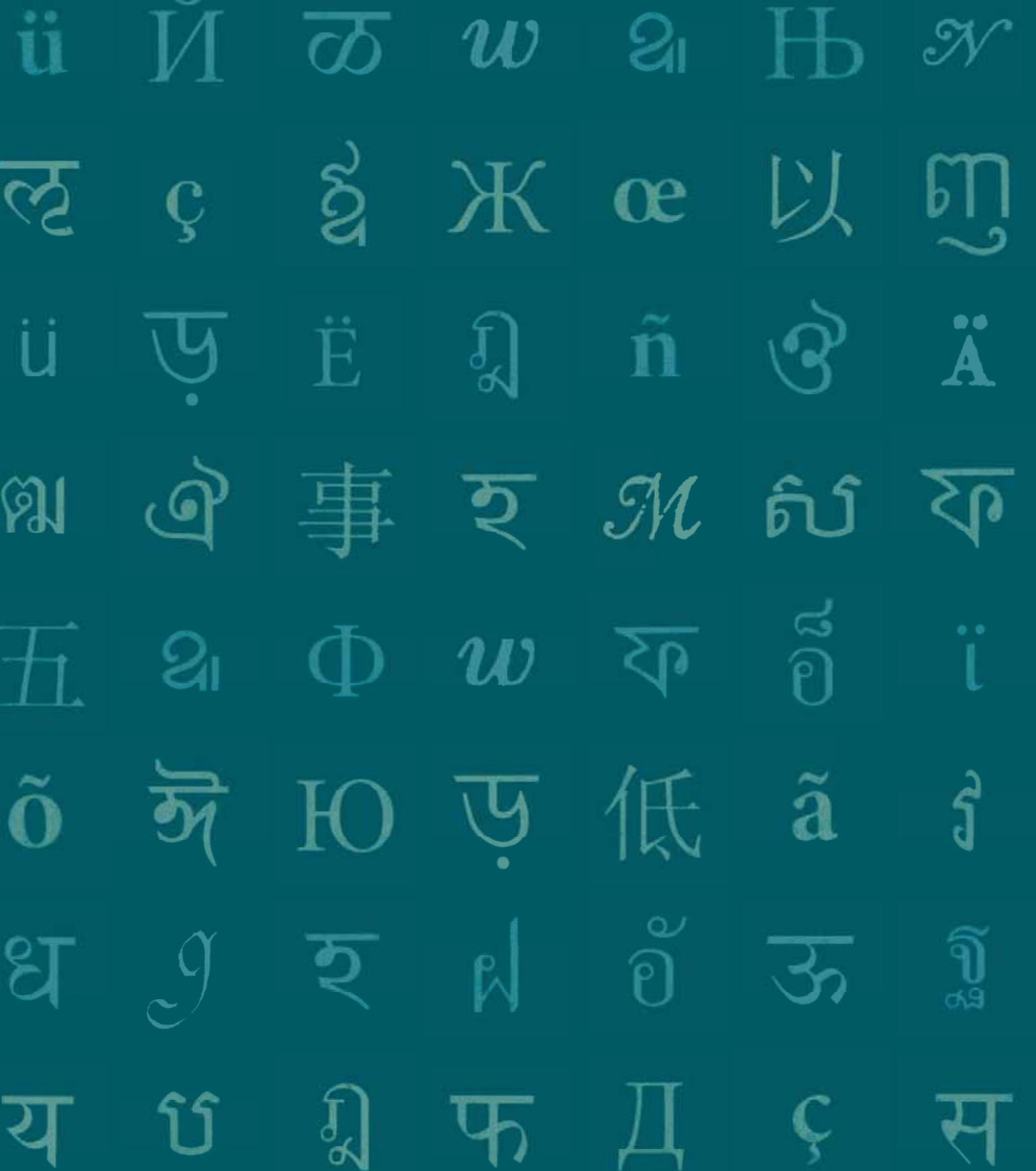


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The subject of this book is capacity development for food security through Education for Rural People (ERP). It identifies different dimensions of education and training that have proven useful in this respect. It covers formal education as well as non-formal education, literacy as well as skills training.

At the international level, these different dimensions of education and training for rural people are the responsibility of different agencies of the UN system. This particular book is the result of the review of a collaborative effort between FAO, UNESCO and about 350 partners related to the Dakar Framework for Action on Education for All and the implementation of the World Food Summit Plan of Action.

ERP is one of the nine Education For All (EFA) flagship programmes led by UNESCO and one of the partnerships launched for the follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development. FAO leads the partnership and the flagship, in close collaboration with UNESCO.



**T**his book was developed to assist policy makers dealing with rural poverty, food insecurity and education challenges confronting rural people. It seeks to address the correlation between education, training, empowerment and food security, mainly through a number of examples from all over the world. It is about strengthening the capacity of rural people to achieve food security.

The broad background is that studies leading to the formulation of the Millennium Development Goals in 2000 have shown the potential that poor people have to make their living if the right conditions are created. The challenge for the international community is to identify barriers and to create conditions for rural people to change and improve their situation. In this perspective, the way to reach food security is to strengthen the capacity of poor people. The concept of capacity is closely associated with notions such as empowerment.

It is generally agreed that education in all its forms is one important pillar in such a strategy. The role of education is not only to impart knowledge and skills but also to contribute to the empowerment of people by improving their self-confidence, widen their frame of reference and give them the tools to participate in wider processes of social and economic change.



EDUCATION FOR RURAL PEOPLE (ERP)

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