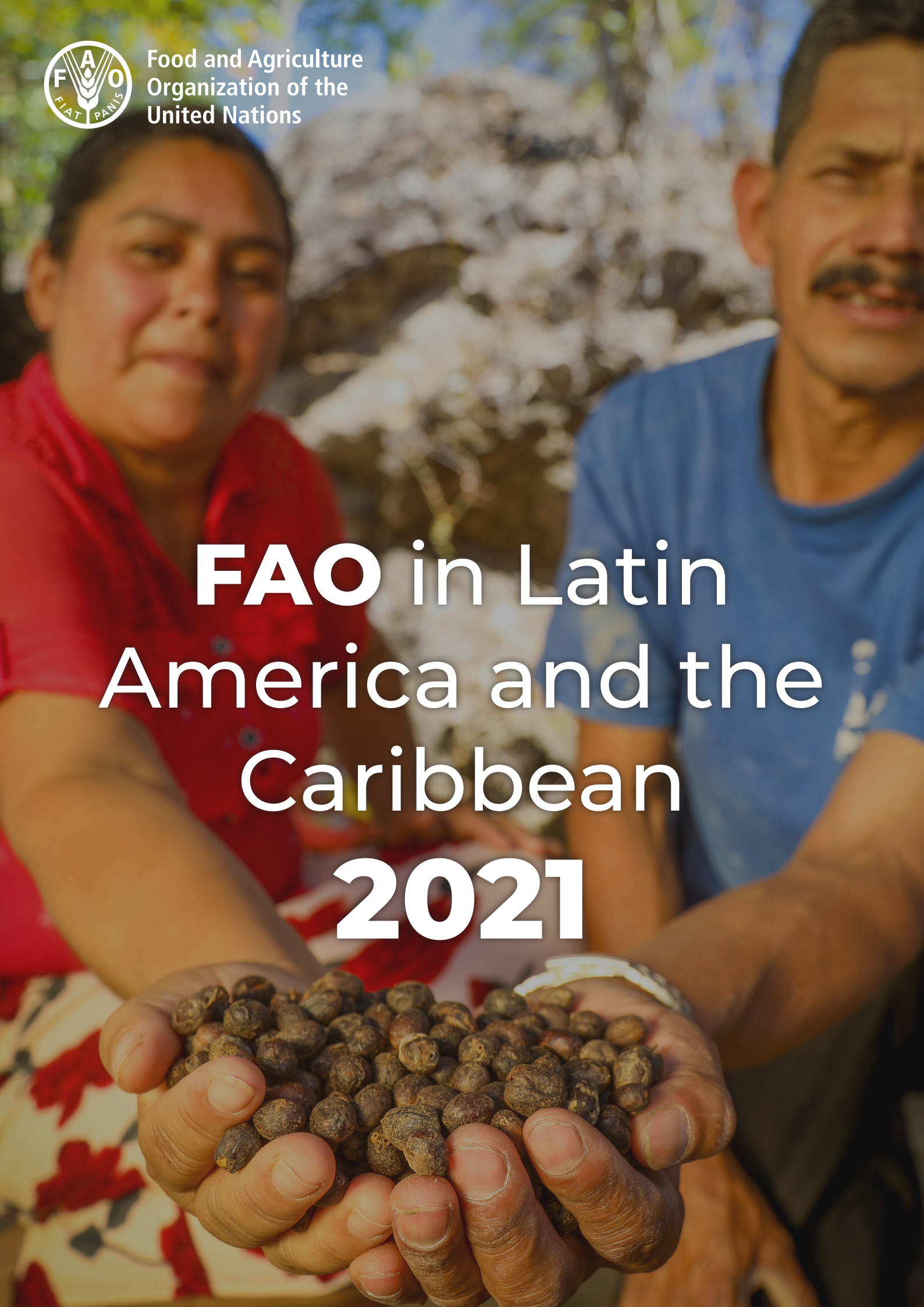

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FAO in Latin America and the Caribbean 2021

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FOREWORD

In 2021, Latin American and Caribbean countries proved that even during one of the most demanding periods in recent history, it is possible to drive better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life, leaving no one behind.

This was made possible due to significant changes in how Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) works in the region, following the reforms initiated by Director-General QU Dongyu. We consolidated remote working modalities, harnessing the power of digital tools so that FAO's 24 offices in the region operated without interruption despite almost all staff working from home for most of the year. We enhanced distance training work, reaching tens of thousands of people. We learned how to provide technical assistance to farmers and rural population remotely. In short, the pandemic encouraged us to very quickly become an Organization much more capable of using the opportunities offered by the digital revolution.

In the midst of the pandemic, we carry on with our policy of always working hand in hand with others. Our fundamental alliance will continue to be with the governments of the 33 FAO Member Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. We have strengthened our work with local governments, whose importance in agri-food systems cannot go unrecognised. We continue to work closely with parliamentarians from across the political spectrum, grouped in the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger in the vast majority of countries in the region. We have also strengthened collaboration with organisations of farmers, fishers, livestock farmers, management and users of land, water, forests and seas; consumers, agri-food small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and medium and large private companies and associations throughout the agri-food systems. In 2021, we emphasised, even more, collaborating with science and innovation, driven by the new regional strategy on the subject. We also give prominence to the increased focus on working together with indigenous peoples, youth and women's organisations, the main drivers of the agri-food systems transformation.

Besides, FAO in the region made a considerable change in how we organise our work. We switched from teamwork divided by sectoral themes and geographical location to integrate 100 percent of our technical staff into multidisciplinary teams that operate as a network regardless of their place of residence. In this way, we can mobilise all the Organization's technical capabilities to support any project in any country. Based on this new scheme, we are moving from individual projects to a programme-based approach, where all projects on the same topic are handled by multidisciplinary teams capable of providing technical, operational, public policy and regulatory advice.

Another consolidated transformation: in 2021, the Sub-Regional Offices and the Regional Office were integrated into a single regional structure. The Sub-Regional Offices are thus fully supported by the resident capacities of the Regional Office and participate more directly in high-level decision-making, thus bridging the gap with the reality of the different sub-regions that make up Latin America and the Caribbean.

FAO's new business model in Latin America and the Caribbean encourages, enables and empowers our collaborators, teams and structures to work as One FAO, thinking together, planning together, acting together, and achieving great results together, beyond each one´s silos, layers and niches.

Functional and organisational transformations have enabled us to accommodate and respond more efficiently to FAO's growing budget in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2021, we broke records once again, mobilising USD 106.7 million in voluntary contributions to support 49 new projects in the region. We implemented 438 projects in 2021, with a total budget of USD 770 million.

All of the above has been done to implement the new FAO Strategic Framework 2022–2031 under the specific conditions of the region, as well as to comply with the three main regional priorities set by the governments of the member countries at the 36th Regional Conference: agri-food systems that are capable of feeding the entire population in a healthy way; prosperous and inclusive rural societies; and sustainable and resilient agriculture and agri-food systems.

In 2022, we will continue to work with our partners and allies to achieve the 2030 Agenda, transforming agri-food systems for them to be more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable, leaving no one behind.

Julio A. Berdegué

Assistant Director-General

FAO Regional Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean

BETTER PRODUCTION

Provide sustainable consumption and production patterns, through efficient and inclusive food and agriculture supply chains at local, regional and global levels, ensuring resilient and sustainable agri-food systems in a changing climate and environment

Decade of Family Farming

Brazil, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic Panama and Peru began to implement their plans for the Decade of Family Farming. Argentina, Chile, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay created alliances between the public sector and the agri-food cooperative sector that enabled the design and implementation of innovation strategies and public policy instruments, such as the National register of agricultural cooperatives (RNCA, by its acronym in Spanish) and a service platform for cooperatives.

Peru improved the design and targeting of cooperative development policies, benefiting 395 agricultural cooperatives in the country, which bring together some 29 600 producers. In Uruguay, the model of trade integration between consumer and agricultural production cooperatives benefited 125 agri-food cooperatives in the country and almost 14 000 members. The Central American Integration System (SICA, by its acronym in Spanish) member states also increased market opportunities for rural and family farming cooperatives through business rounds and virtual spaces for the exchange of commercial information.

FAO published fact sheets with systematised information on policy, legal and regulatory initiatives related to the family farming sector in 17 countries (Argentina, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican

Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay), available on the FAO Regional Platform for Family Farming.

FAO provided technical assistance to SICA representatives and members of the agricultural sector to mobilise resources for three regional post-COVID-19 recovery plans: the SICA Regional Contingency Plan in the face of coronavirus (Plan de Contingencia Regional del SICA frente al coronavirus), the COVID-19 Agro Plan and the Recovery, social reconstruction and resilience plan (Plan de Recuperación, Reconstrucción Social y Resiliencia).

The governments and the agri-food cooperative sector of five countries (Argentina, Chile, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay) signed agreements to promote the cotton value chain through technological innovation and the development of markets for family and rural farming cooperatives.

Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and the Plurinational State of Bolivia implemented public-private articulation strategies to support the cotton value chain with an emphasis on family farming associations and cooperatives and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in the textile sector. Also, the Network of Cotton Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was created as a space for the exchange of experiences, knowledge and good practices for added value.

In El Salvador, support was given to the Law on family farming, which will have an impact on more than 365 000 family farmers nationwide, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock was assisted in the creation of a methodological model of comprehensive care for cooperatives and producer associations. The legislation, which was approved by the Legislative Assembly, provides for the creation of the National Council for Family Farming (CONAF, by its acronym in Spanish) and the creation of a special fund for family farming.

In Honduras, FAO provided training and technical assistance to: ten mancomunidades in the implementation of the rural extension system with a focus on family farming. The productive units of 15 000 households, organised into 388 savings and credit institutions, 248 grain reserves and 186 field schools, were improved. A total of 1 119 agricultural promoters were trained, 143 productive enterprises were created, and 800 integrated home gardens were promoted.

▸1 000
Digital Villages Initiative

In the framework of the 1 000 Digital Villages in Latin America and the Caribbean initiative, a website and a quarterly bulletin were created to share experiences and progress on rural tourism digitalisation processes for the public and private sector.

Thirty-seven rural tourism experiences were supported in Belize, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Jamaica, Peru, and Saint Kitts and Nevis, involving 40 municipalities and 100 rural localities, and a regional digital network took shape for the exchange of knowledge and experiences among the participants of this group of countries, involving 120 young people.

An alliance of technical advisory and rural extension services was promoted with private partners in the area of tourism and the digital world, and a cycle of five forums on extension and digital trade was held in alliance with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the Latin American Network of Rural Extension Services (RELASER, by its acronym in Spanish), in which 4 700 people participated.

FAO together with Euromypime and AI Invest 5.0 published the research *Digitalización y cambio tecnológico en las mipymes agrícolas y agroindustriales en América Latina* (Digitalisation and technological change in agriculture and agro-industrial MSMEs in Latin America), in which they identified changes and progress in nine countries in the region (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Uruguay), with special emphasis on public policies and the inclusion of small farmers.

Sustainable production

Six countries (Argentina, Belize, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Nicaragua and Peru) used the Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation (TAPE). In the province of Santa Fe, Argentina, five municipalities implemented TAPE on 60 farms to compare and evaluate the sustainability of conventional and agroecological models over an area of 239 km^2.

With resources from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and assistance from FAO, 1 200 rural and indigenous families in Paraguay developed climate-resilient agroforestry systems that will improve their incomes while sequestering carbon dioxide and generating environmental services for societal benefits.

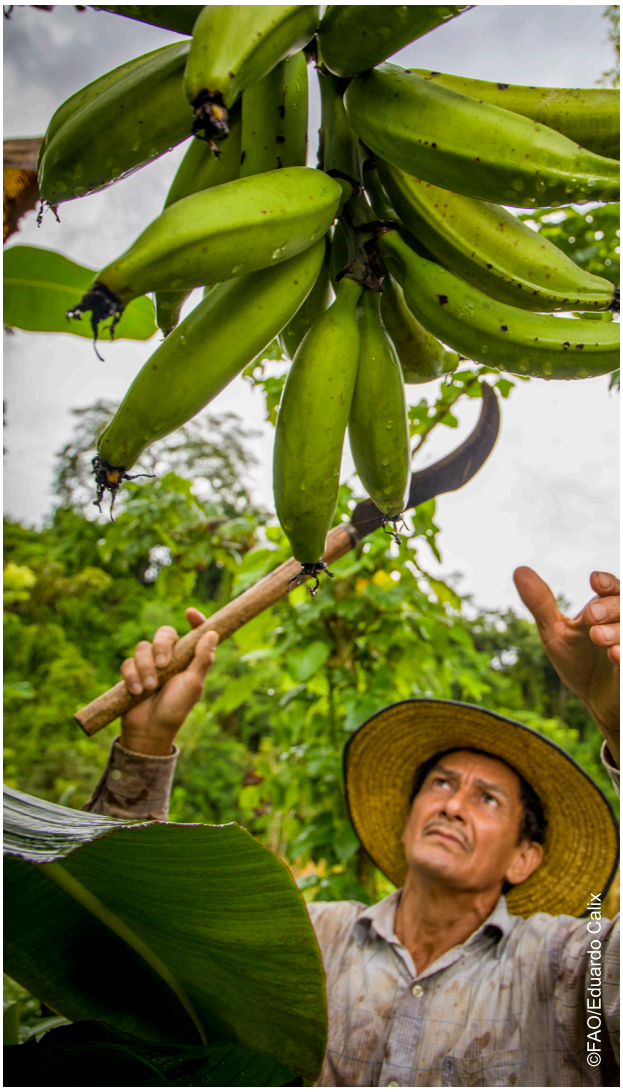
Jamaica established a trade certification system and introduced new production technologies to boost local spice production. This effort is aimed at increasing the resilience and competitiveness of local ginger and turmeric value chains, resulting in the substitution of USD 250 000 worth of imported spices with local products, increasing the income of rural farming communities by USD 400 000 per year.

In Nicaragua, 10 000 families of small and medium agricultural producers in ten municipalities located in the dry corridor received support to increase their adaptation to climate change with practices and technologies for sustainable production and management of natural resources as well as strengthening of organisations and the social fabric, alliances and rural entrepreneurship.

In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the sustainable production of healthy food was promoted in more than 1 100 productive spaces, including backyards and family gardens, to improve the food security and nutrition of 1 142 families in the country.

In Guatemala, the development of sustainable coffee production for 11 575 small-scale producers was supported through a public-private partnership and the use of innovation and digital technology to improve productivity and market linkages.

Brazil received support to obtain funding from the GCF and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the sustainable management of natural resources and the smart generation of value chain data through tracking and tracing mechanisms. FAO and the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture published three studies on greenhouse gas emissions from the Brazilian agricultural sector, and on climate adaptation strategies for agricultural systems in Brazil.



In Haiti, 159 artisanal seed production groups were supported and strengthened, producing and selling almost 1 000 tonnes of quality bean and pea seeds, and almost 30 million sweet potato and cassava seedlings. To improve the conservation of these seeds, 18 metal silos were delivered to these groups.

‣Technology for the framework for the +Cotton project

FAO and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) made blockchain technology available to seven countries (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and the Plurinational State of Bolivia,) for the traceability and transparency of the cotton chain in family farming, and implemented a first pilot programme in Peru.

Working with the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA Americas), and cooperatives in Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador and Uruguay, FAO developed an inter-cooperative collaboration platform that offers strategic business training, online trade and business partnerships.

Young people from rural schools and high schools in Colombia, Ecuador and Paraguay received Lazos App as a digital tool to implement knowledge and learning communities in sustainable management of natural resources in consortium cotton and food systems.

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▸ Data for agricuture and the Sustainable Development Goals

FAO supported the 33 Member States of the region to have updated information on the impact of COVID-19 on agri-food systems, through the publication of bulletins and webinars carried out jointly by FAO and ECLAC, which provided evidence and recommendations for economic recovery and the transformation of agri-food systems to 12 000 persons from the public, private and academic sectors, including decision-makers.

El Salvador, Haiti and the Plurinational State of Bolivia participated in the initiative of the World Bank, FAO and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to bridge the agricultural data gap in the region through an integrated agricultural survey system.

Argentina, Brazil, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay improved their capacities to collect agricultural data through censuses and surveys to calculate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicators, with the help of FAO. This will improve the reporting of the indicators of the countries involved, and promote and generate estimates of agricultural statistics.

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▸Land tenure and natural resources

With the participation of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Spain, Turkey and Uganda, FAO organised a cycle of exchanges of experiences in technological solutions for land administration for the regularisation of land tenure and the modernisation of land administration systems. This international meeting on land governance in protected areas in Latin America allowed the exchange of knowledge, case experiences and good practices to improve policies, regulations and projects, bringing together 194 participants from six countries.

In the Caribbean land bank project, 114 farmers applied in Grenada and to date 25 have been pre-selected to access four-acre plots through leases that will allow the use of public wasteland, contributing to improved food security.

Colombia created five comprehensive departmental plans for agricultural and rural development. The country also supported more equitable access to land tenure for small producers and family farmers by strengthening the National Land Agency, which resulted in 7 613 plots benefiting approximately the same number of families, with 80 000 hectares of land.


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Employment

FAO published the book Empleo Rural en América Latina y el Caribe: aportes en el marco de la reactivación post COVID-19 (Rural Employment in Latin America and the Caribbean: contributions in the framework of the post-COVID-19 reactivation), together with the Faculty of Agronomy of the University of Santa Fe, Argentina, to strengthen the capacities of people participating in the labour market in rural territories and improve their skills and digital competencies.

Antimicrobial resistance plans and strategies

In the framework of the alliance between FAO, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), countries of the expanded Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), SICA, the Andean Community (CAN) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) received training to implement national action plans on antimicrobial resistance (AMR). MERCOSUR countries (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay) and CAN countries (Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and the Plurinational State of Bolivia,) defined an intersectoral national strategy to combat AMR with support from FAO.

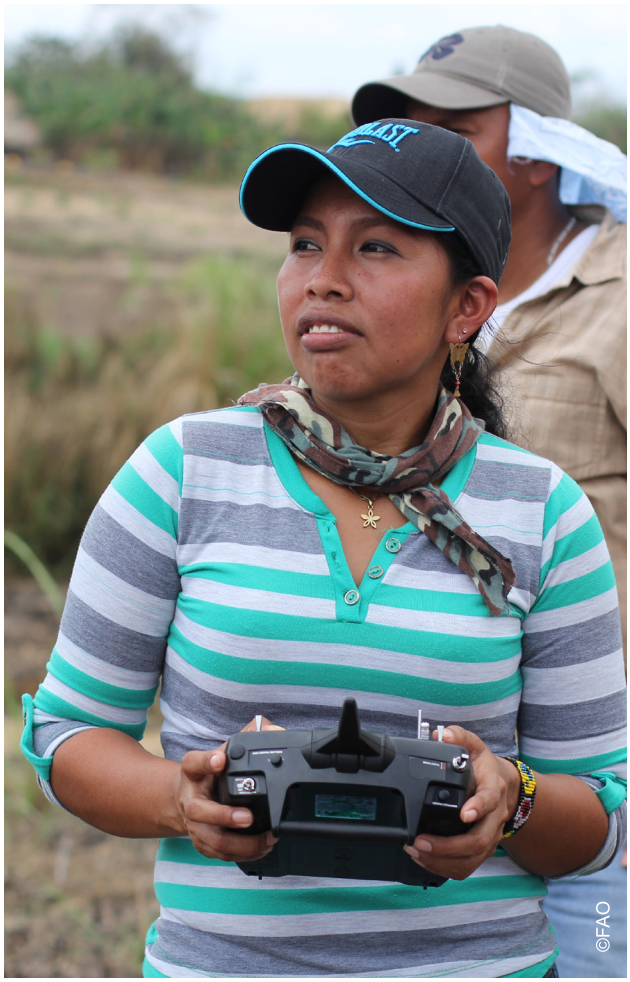
Blue transformation

In the Bahamas, FAO contributed to the rebuilding of the fisheries sector on Abaco Islands and Grand Bahama after Hurricane Dorian: 3 750 new lobster traps were delivered to 50 fishers as a more environmentally sustainable solution. This solution is expected to contribute more than USD 1 million in income to lobster fishers in the 2021-2022 fishing season.

Digital agriculture

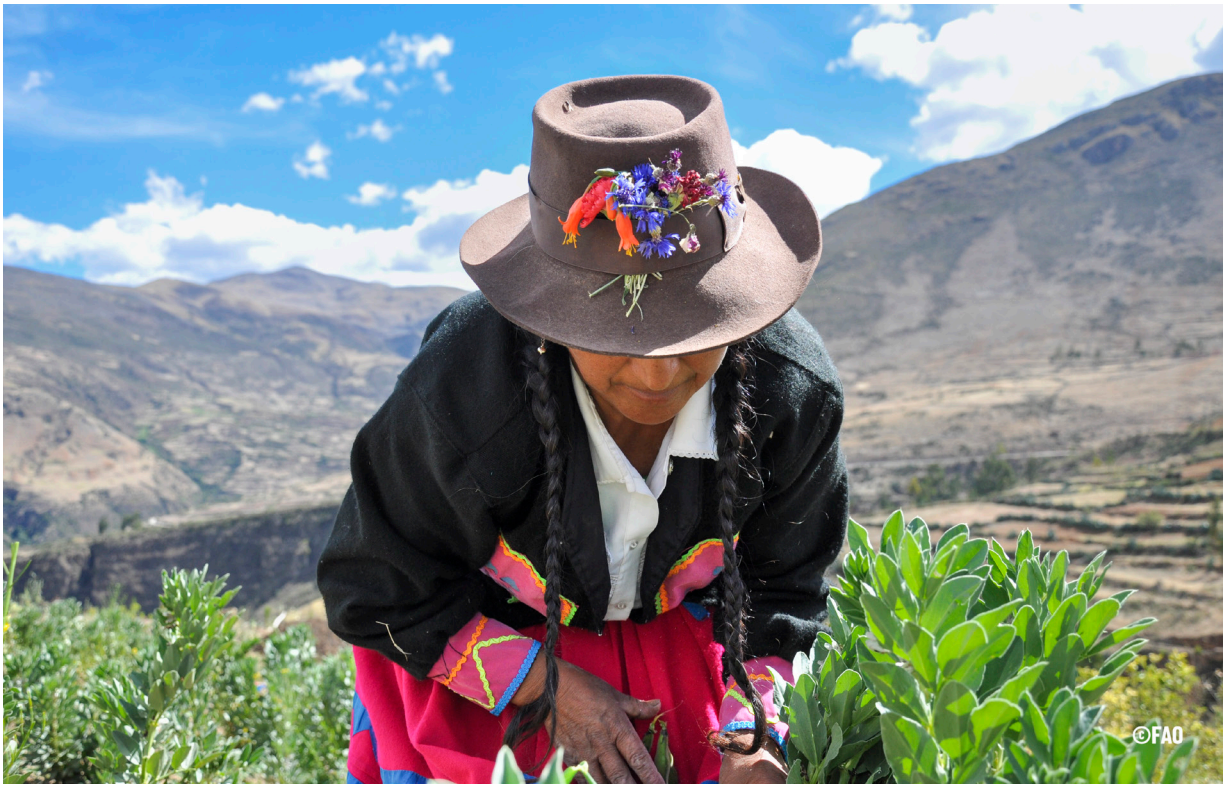
In Belize, FAO provided training in geospatial analysis through FAO Geographic Information System (GIS) and land mapping to identify existing irrigation systems, key infrastructure (roads, markets, electricity) and assess the economic and environmental viability of new irrigation investments, analysing the country's three critical water basins.

In Nicaragua, the livelihood recovery of 600 households of artisanal fishers and 200 female-headed households dedicated to the commercialisation of fish products belonging to indigenous communities in the autonomous region of the Northern Caribbean Coast — which were affected by hurricanes Eta and Iota — was boosted.



BETTER NUTRITION

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition in all its forms, including promoting nutritious food and increasing access to healthy diets.



Laws, regulations and policies for food security and nutrition (FSN)

The publication *Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean 2020* produced by FAO, IFAD, PAHO/WHO, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) provided an analysis of the latest indicators of food security and nutrition, hunger, obesity and child malnutrition, updated at regional, sub-regional and national levels.

FAO assisted the national statistics institutes of El Salvador and Panama in accessing food security measurement methodology in indigenous territories.

FAO provided technical assistance to Chile and El Salvador in their reform processes for the constitutional recognition of the right to food. Cuba passed a Law on Food and Nutrition Sovereignty and Security (SSAN, by its acronym in Spanish) and its regulations, and adopted an Integrated Knowledge Management System (SIGC, by its acronym in Spanish). Ecuador formulated the regulation of the Organic Law on School Feeding, and Peru formulated a Law on Food Security and Nutrition.

Through the Parliamentary Front against Hunger, FAO supported the Government of Colombia to establish regulations for the Law on Food Labelling; pass a law to promote the participation of small-scale local and rural agricultural producers, family and community agriculture in public food procurement markets; and measure food waste in the services of the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare.

El Salvador formulated and passed a Law on Healthy and Sustainable School Feeding, benefiting 5 000 schools. FAO conducted a diploma course aimed at strengthening the knowledge and technical capacities in food and nutrition education for 1 500 public officials involved in the school feeding and health programme.

Costa Rica developed its food-based dietary guidelines (GABAS, by its acronym in Spanish) for children in their first thousand days of life, and developed a study on the basic food basket with foods selected according to consumption and nutritional elements. Argentina, Costa Rica, Grenada, Mexico, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Suriname updated their food-based dietary guidelines to implement them during the pandemic and articulate them with other food and nutrition policies and programmes.

FAO promoted food labelling as an effective tool to protect consumer health in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Panama, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay, through public-private dialogues, legal support to policies and regulations, and evidence gathering on the impact of these measures in the region.

In Paraguay, five thousand rural women improved their capacity to access financial services designed with the assistance of FAO, through the Agricultural Credit for Empowerment, and with the support of the Ministry of Women's Affairs.

Thirteen countries in the region (Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) implemented forms of food insecurity measurement using the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) or equivalent. FAO trained these countries to collect, measure and report the prevalence of food insecurity on the FIES scale.

In an effort to support vulnerable households during the COVID-19 pandemic, FAO partnered with UNICEF and the Jamaican Ministries of Agriculture and Social Services to facilitate the distribution of 1 000 household food care packages, which included fresh fruits and vegetables supplied by local farmers. This helped ensure that farmers who had surplus production or lost traditional marketing channels due to the pandemic had the opportunity to market their produce.

In Guatemala, organisational and institutional capacities were strengthened for the purchase of family farming products, within the framework of the country's Law on School Feeding, which resulted in healthier nutrition for 130 000 children in rural and indigenous areas in three departments of Guatemala.

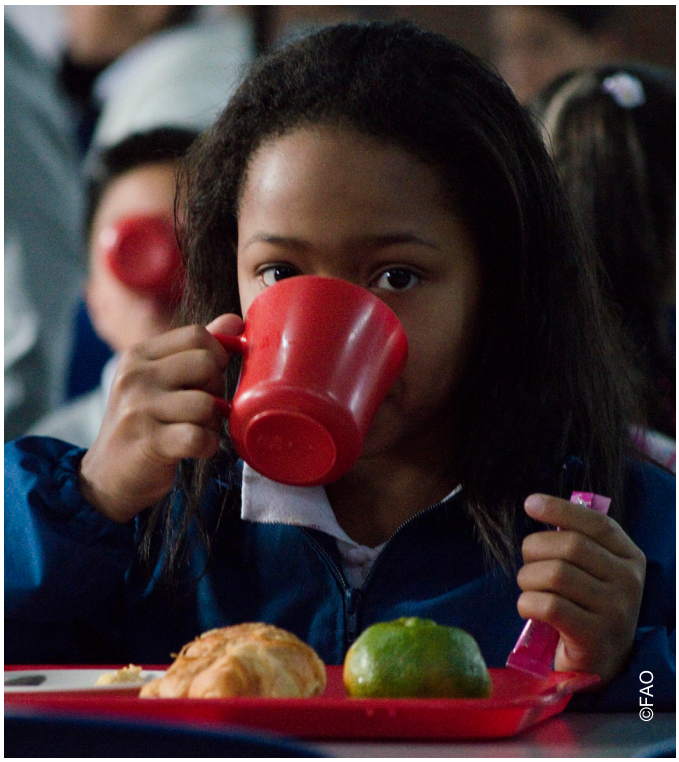
in Haiti, FAO helped 2 000 low-income urban households meet their daily needs for fresh and nutritious food by growing their own vegetables in micro-gardens, providing nutrition education and training in urban agriculture, enabling each family to harvest around 400 kg of vegetables.

Food and nutrition education

Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and El Salvador developed a food and nutrition education roadmap with more than 70 stakeholders, through the implementation of FAO's new measurement tool for the analysis of capacities in Food and Nutrition Education (FNE) at the school level.

Seven SICA member countries in Mesoamerica (Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama) created tools to strengthen healthy eating processes in the dissemination of school practices of the Ministries of Education; 185 teachers from 30 schools received training.

FAO generated a working alliance between the public and private sectors, civil society and academia to carry out research on the modification of food consumption habits during the COVID-19 lockdown, and its effects on food insecurity and malnutrition. It also included the study of factors associated with healthy eating patterns in school-aged children and adolescents as well as university students. The findings were published in indexed scientific journals, and disseminated at symposia, courses and in the media.



The free course on healthier and more sustainable food environments in Colombia ("Ambientes alimentarios más saludables y sostenibles en Colombia"), carried out thanks to a joint effort between FAO and the Presidential Council for Children and Adolescents (CPNA, by its acronym in Spanish) of the Presidency of the Republic of Colombia, had 1 342 enrolments, and was offered for the whole region.

International Year of Fruits and Vegetables

FAO promoted the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables in 14 countries: Belize, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Barbados, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, and Peru.

FAO worked with public food supply and marketing institutions in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay on producer fairs, public warehouses and shops, food stock management, public procurement for various government programmes, and food price information systems that contribute to market transparency.

In coordination with the Latin American Federation of Supply Markets (FLAMA, by its acronym in Spanish), 40 wholesale markets in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay were supported in implementing a modernisation agenda aimed at promoting new management models for access to information, market transparency, inclusive marketing of products, strengthening of knowledge and exchange of experiences.

School Feeding during the COVID-19 Pandemic

As part of government-led programmes to mitigate the effects of the pandemic, countries were supported to provide continuity in school feeding during the COVID-19 pandemic. Six hundred schools in 11 countries (Belize, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) serving 102 000 students, received hygiene and food preservation kits, among other support.

FAO provided technical assistance to 16 countries (Belize, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago) to ensure the articulation of school feeding with other public policies in the context of the pandemic.

In Panama, a pilot project was implemented and benefited more than 2 000 vulnerable children attending schools. This project linked local family farming with school feeding and was carried out in the framework of the implementation of the law creating the programme "Estudiar sin Hambre" (Study Without Hunger). This initiative is expected to be extended to more than 1 800 schools — 450 000 students — throughout the country.

Sustainable schools

Through the Sustainable School Feeding Network (RAES, by its acronym in Spanish), and with the support of the Brazilian Government, more than 3 000 school feeding managers and technicians strengthened their capacities thanks to a FAO course on school feeding as an educational strategy for a healthy life ("Alimentación escolar como estrategia educativa para una vida saludable"), with participants from Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Paraguay, and Peru.

FAO launched the publication *Tasty and waste-free food – The alternative to improve the use of public resources in School Feeding Programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean*, which analyses cases from Chile, Colombia and Guatemala to improve the gastronomy in these programmes, reduce food waste and improve nutrition. Besides, the following publications were released: *Avances de la metodología de escuelas sostenibles en los programas de alimentación escolar en Mesoamérica – Estudio de caso en El Salvador, Guatemala y Honduras (Progress of the Sustainable Schools methodology in school feeding programmes in Mesoamerica - A Case Study in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras*) and A *Review of School Feeding Programmes in the Caribbean Community*: A driver for food and nutrition security, on the results of a study on school feeding programmes in 14 CARICOM member countries.

Food safety

Eleven countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay) improved their food control systems based on the Codex Alimentarius and international market standards.

Four countries (Chile, Ecuador, Guyana and Nicaragua) improved food safety standards for exportable food products in line with Codex priorities for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Reducing food loss and waste

In the framework of the #SinDesperdicio (ZeroWaste) platform and together with ministers, parliamentarians, representatives of private companies, international organisations, experts and scholars, the second Summit on Food Loss and Waste reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean was held.

FAO conducted food loss and waste measurement studies in Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Uruguay, and presented a prototype food loss monitoring system for sub-national governments in Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Peru.

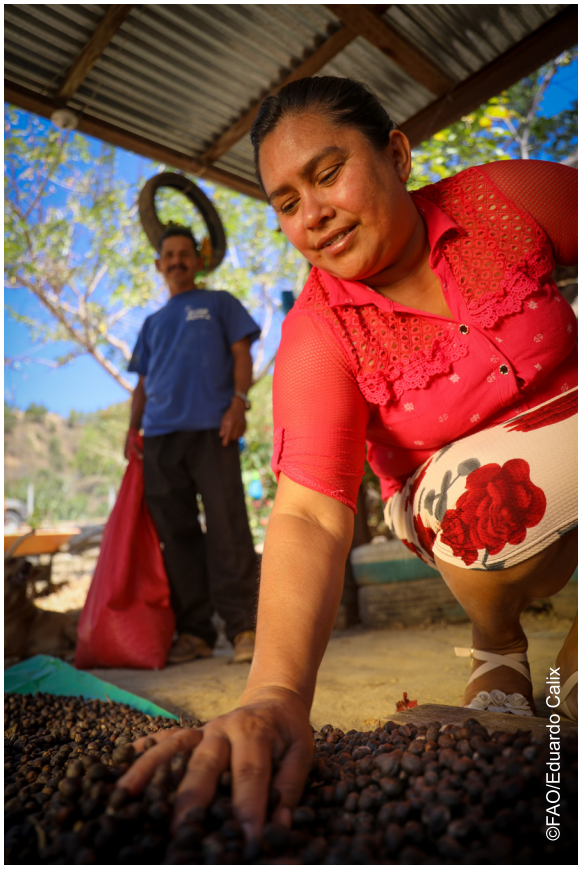
Argentina positioned itself as a leading country in food loss and waste reduction policies. The country designed the "Argentina 2030 Valoremos Los Alimentos" strategy (Argentina 2030 Let´s value Food), a guide for waste-free municipalities on experiences of good practices for more sustainable food production and consumption in municipalities and local governments, and a guide for the implementation of a corporate policy to reduce food loss and waste in agri-food small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Besides, the regional event of the International Day of Awareness on Food Loss and Waste Reduction took place in Argentina.

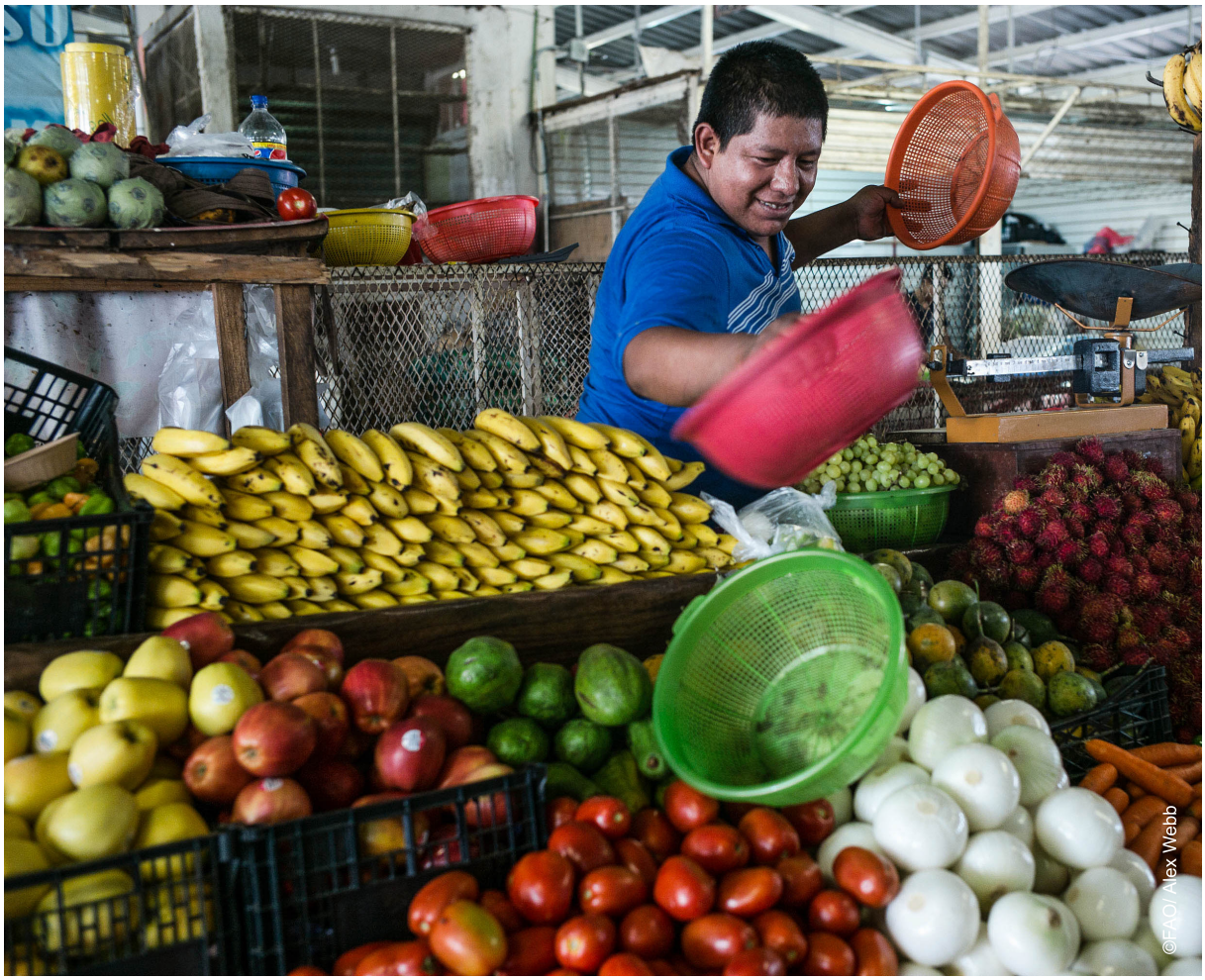
In the municipality of Exaltación de la Cruz, Argentina, FAO implemented a consultancy on loss and waste reduction to improve irrigation in horticultural production on the El Corralito estate ("Fortalecimiento de las capacidades de riego para la producción hortícola del predio El Corralito"), supporting 70 producers who grow some 500 hectares of vegetables and fruit destined for markets in the area.

Promoting international and intra-regional agri-food trade

FAO promoted the participation of SMEs, family farming producers and female-headed enterprises in Argentina, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay. This was implemented through training, toolkits to overcome gaps in the insertion of SMEs in international value chains, and policy recommendations to improve their institutional environments.

Six Caribbean countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) received support from FAO to collect and analyse data on food consumption and imports, and their potential influence on nutritional outcomes over time.





The seven SICA countries implemented three virtual business rounds, with the participation of 1 550 companies from the agri-food sector, generating a business intention of USD 50.6 million to promote innovations in market access and development for family farming organisations, cooperatives and MSMEs. The countries adapted a training module for market access and incorporation of technologies for trade promotion to the needs of 200 family farming organisations, cooperatives and agricultural and rural MSMEs.

The Executive Secretariat of the Central American Agricultural Council (SECAC, by its acronym in Spanish), the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA, by its acronym in Spanish), and seven countries (Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama) updated and improved the Agricultural Market Information and Monitoring System (SIMMAGRO, by its acronym in Spanish) with national data for the management and transparency of markets for 40 strategic products that are key to food security and international agri-food trade. These countries also boosted international agri-food trade through trade policy dialogue for the agricultural sector with the support of FAO, SECAC and SIECA, where 140 public and private sector officials enhanced their capacities in agricultural trade policy.

BETTER ENVIRONMENT

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems and combat climate change (reduction, reuse, recycling, waste management) through more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agri-food systems.

▸Climate action and reduction of greenhouse gas emission in agri-food systems

FAO and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) supported PARLATINO to create the first Model Law on Climate Change and Food Security and Nutrition (FSN), a legal framework of reference that identifies key principles and policy elements for climate change management, adaptation and mitigation strategies.

The Platform for Climate Action for Agriculture in Latin America and the Caribbean (PLACA, by its acronym in Spanish) together with Euroclima+ and the Ministry of Agriculture of Chile, prepared four self-learning courses on climate change adaptation and mitigation. Besides, a virtual training programme on climate finance in the agriculture sector was developed for the Latin American and Caribbean Ministries of Agriculture. A regional diagnosis on the state of knowledge and tools for the design and implementation of public policies for climate change was also conducted.

In 2021, FAO supported Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Saint Lucia, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago to access USD 23.8 million from the GEF and USD 2.5 million from the GCF in environment and climate finance. These funds will improve the sustainability and resilience of agricultural production, improve forest and water management, reduce emissions related to deforestation and forest, water, coastal and marine area degradation; they will also safeguard biodiversity.

Haiti received USD 6.2 million from the GEF to sustainably manage wooded production landscapes for biodiversity conservation and to enable farmers to manage their land in ways that generate multiple environmental benefits, especially through increased incorporation and improved management of woody perennials.

▸Sustainable management and restoration of land, agricultural and livestock systems, water resources, and ecosystem services.

In Cuba, 16 373 hectares of agricultural land were managed under the approach of sustainable intensification of agricultural production. Transformations were initiated in more than 35 000 hectares of agricultural areas vulnerable to climate impacts, affected by invasive species and with degraded pastures on compacted soils with low productivity, through the adoption and implementation of agroforestry and silvopastoral systems that will increase the climate resilience of 51 713 farmers and reduce the emission of about 2.7 million tonnes of greenhouse gases over the next 20 years.

FAO launched the Global Soil Organic Carbon Sequestration potential maps (GSOCMap): Argentina, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay submitted their national maps for the FAO Global Soil Organic Carbon Sequestration potential map, and nine other countries in the region are in the process of joining.

FAO made recommendations on water governance through the analysis of case studies in Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Panama and Peru, which were presented at a conference attended by more than 1 400 participants. Besides, two policy papers were produced to improve water governance in agricultural territories in Central and South America. FAO also initiated the establishment of the Regional Technical Platform on Water Scarcity (RTP-WS) for the exchange of information, experiences and practices with other regions.

In Brazil, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Suriname, FAO strengthened integration, effective management, good governance and local participation in protected areas in the Amazonian countries of the RedParques network. The design and implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Amazon Vision 2019-2022, as well as the development and application of a Protocol for the analysis of effectiveness assessment in protected areas in the Amazon biome, and the updating of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas for the biome, were some of the major results.

In the Caribbean region of Colombia, FAO developed productive and environmental integration strategies in five connectivity corridors and 11 conservation and sustainable use mosaics: 1 894 336 hectares of terrestrial and marine ecosystems have been connected through the corridors, and 21 765 hectares of newly declared protected areas have been included, with benefits for nearly 4 000 families.

In Uruguay, FAO showed in a sustainable livestock initiative that it is possible to increase productivity per hectare of net income from USD 45 to USD 111.9, reducing CO_2 emissions per kilo of meat produced by 16 percent. The initiative was carried out by the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment.

In Chile, FAO worked on the "Huerta Biodiversa" (Biodiverse vegetable garden) initiative with around 600 producers in the Pehuenche mountain range; more than 400 of them are women, who increased their knowledge on valuation and recognition of seeds and traditional practices associated with the Pehuenche vegetable garden. They also identified 22 varieties of traditional species including: beans, maize, quinoa, peas, chilli, rye, shallots, coyocho, pallar beans, chira potatoes, tomatoes and squash, which are being propagated to share with neighbouring communities, rescuing ancestral crops.

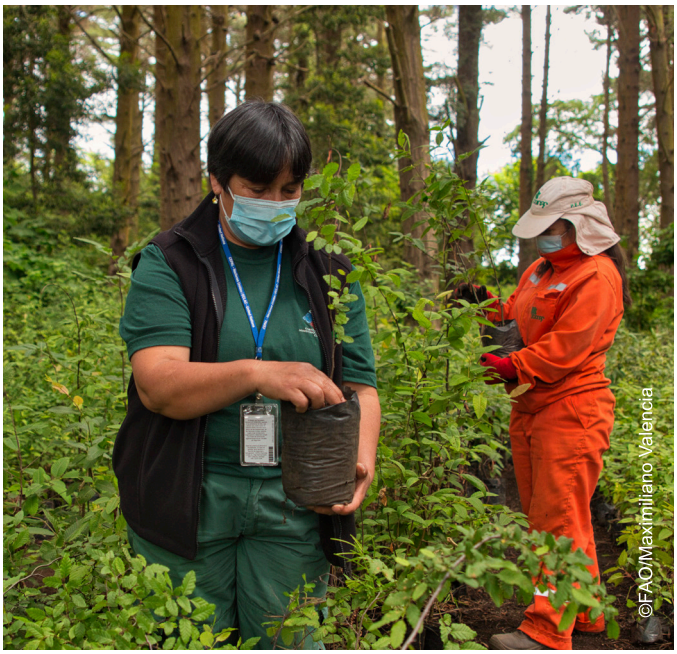
FAO supported the development of country profiles for the region in the context of the Global Wildfire Information System (GWIS), which provides access to information on the geographical distribution of fires, areas burned, emissions, and their impacts at global, regional, national and sub-national levels. The profiles provided a starting point for country information on forest fires. Under the leadership of FAO, the United Nations (UN) regional inter-agency group to strengthen coordination on climate change, resilience and disaster risk reduction produced a report that analysed forest fires in the region and highlighted existing services and products across the UN system to support country teams on issues related to integrated forest fire management.

The Policy Training Nucleus delivered an agro-ecology course on transition to sustainable food systems ("Transición a sistemas alimentarios sostenibles") to 6 017 enrollees from 37 countries; a course on Good Emergency Management Practices (GEMP) in animal health ("Buenas prácticas de gestión de emergencias en sanidad animal (GEMP)" with 2 886 enrollees; while the course on climate-smart cocoa ("Cacao Climáticamente Inteligente") to train on the traditional Chakra agroforestry system in the Amazon, had 1 151 enrollees.

FAO implemented a diploma course on biodiversity and sustainable production: conservation and territorial approach ("Diplomado Biodiversidad y Producción Sostenible: conservación y enfoque territorial") to train more than 100 technicians and officials from Chile in conservation and sustainable production practices, and a course on mitigation actions for climate-smart livestock (NAMA) ("Acciones de Mitigación para una Ganadería Climáticamente Inteligente -NAMA") for 60 officials from animal health services in the region.

More than 2 000 attendees from Latin America and the Caribbean were trained in the tools developed by the Latin America and the Caribbean Soil Partnership (LACS), enhancing their capacities to apply the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management (VGSSM), the Protocol for the assessment of Sustainable Soil Management, and other relevant tools to support the 2030 Agenda.

In El Salvador, FAO strengthened the technical capacities in resilient agriculture of 20 594 producers (40 percent of whom are women) in the dry corridor by training 632 community extension workers (30 percent women and 24 percent young people) in 47 municipalities of the country. FAO conducted a diploma course to strengthen technical capacities in the management of seed sources, genetic conservation and management of endangered species for the conservation and adequate preservation of forest seeds and their distribution of high-quality tree germplasm for the restoration of more than 17 000 hectares of ecosystems and agro-systems in the country's dry corridor; this course was intended for 296 people from five institutions.



Forest conservation and restoration and ecosystem services

FAO supported Paraguay in the design of a national forest fire monitoring system designed for subsequent implementation with resources from the GCF, which will allow for rapid response and coordinated control of national institutions, reduction of ecosystem loss, and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions.

The Government of Honduras, through the SMART FIRE platform developed by FAO, has managed to improve statistical data on forest fires in the country, as well as field measurement procedures of burned areas at the national level, which has provided information to initiate restoration processes in these areas, achieving a substantial improvement in managing existing natural resources.

In Nicaragua, FAO accompanied the conservation and integrated management planning of 383 085 hectares of protected forests, promoting the restoration of degraded areas and ecosystem connectivity.

In Peru, indigenous peoples' capacities for forest monitoring were improved to reduce deforestation in the Peruvian Amazon. Fifteen indigenous organisations created 45 community-based forest monitoring and control committees and developed a protocol for the integration of the indigenous approach in the forest monitoring module of the National System of Forest and Wildlife Information (*Sistema Nacional de Información Forestal y de Fauna Silvestre*).

Peru developed estimates of gross deforestation in the Amazon biome using the Collect Earth platform, which yielded an annual average of 131 520 hectares deforested by anthropogenic causes. These results were used for the submission of the country report on the Forest Reference Emissions Level (FREL) for Peru's Amazon biome, which will allow the country to apply for results-based payment schemes.

In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, hectares of degraded forests were restored, with 1 200 000 forest and fruit plants produced in state and indigenous peoples' institutional nurseries.

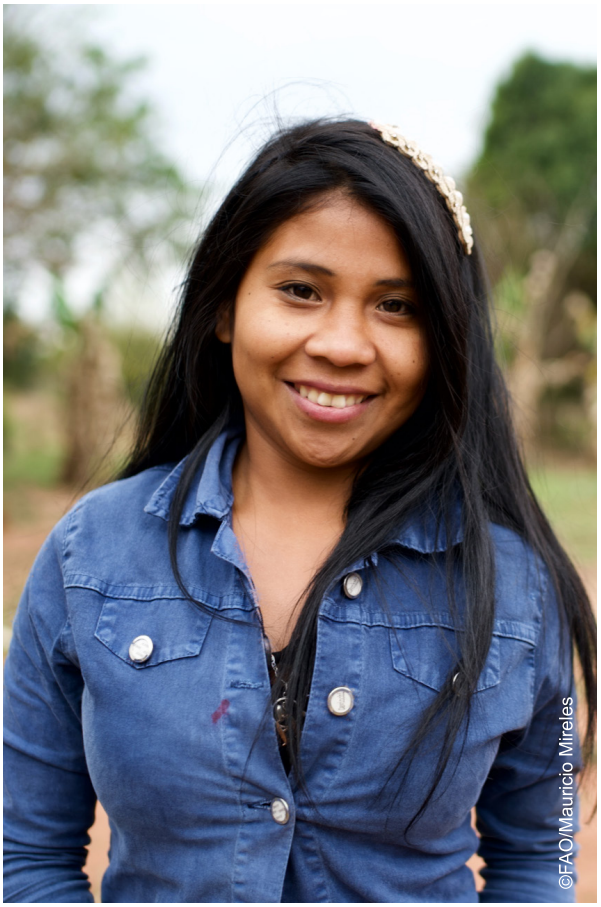
Argentina created a regulatory and public policy framework for the prevention and use of invasive alien species, coordinated with Mercosur countries and with FAO support; trained 260 conservation agents from more than 20 regional centres, national parks and reserves; published the first official list of invasive alien species in Argentina; and drafted in a participatory manner the first bill focused on minimum standards on invasive alien species.

In Guatemala, 500 agroforestry producers implemented agroforestry restoration practices and measures on an area of 1 500 hectares, which can potentially be linked to government forestry incentive programmes.

In Brazil, in the framework of the project "Revertendo o Processo de Desertificação nas Áreas Suscetíveis do Brasil: Práticas Agroflorestais Sustentáveis e Conservação da Biodiversidade (REDESER)" (Reversing desertification in susceptible areas of Brazil: Sustainable agroforestry practices and biodiversity conservation), a platform for landscape analysis, identification of degradation and recovery trends was created, which will support decision-making and contribute to maintaining ecosystem services. This tool will allow spatial analysis of degradation in at least 34 municipalities based on satellite data, benefiting 1 600 people.

BETTER LIFE

Promote inclusive economic growth by reducing inequalities (urban/rural areas, rich/poor countries, men/ women).



Rural women, women with rights

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay have developed policies with a gender perspective in their plans, programmes and strategies.

Innovative value chains were strengthened in rural territories in Barbados, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Saint Lucia and Uruguay through the implementation of the gender-sensitive value chain methodology, which allows to develop an enabling environment in which governments and the private sector take actions that favour the reduction of gaps and promote women´s empowerment.

The online courses implemented by FAO allowed 2 000 people from the public sector, civil society, academia and the private sector from 31 Latin American countries to strengthen their technical capacities on equitable land governance and gender-sensitive social protection.

Twelve countries in the region (Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Grenada, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Paraguay, Saint Lucia and Uruguay) monitored Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5, which analyses national legal frameworks on land rights, providing recommendations to overcome existing challenges to women's land ownership and control.

The #RuralWomen, women with rights campaign tripled its number of partners, and produced 15 good practice documents on gender mainstreaming. The campaign was a mechanism for dialogue and advocacy at a high political and technical level, working with partners such as the Alliance of spouses of heads of state and representatives (*Alianza de Cónyuges de Jefes de Estado y Representantes* - ALMA) and public institutions in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Uruguay.

FAO developed two guides (one for gender mainstreaming in the project cycle and the other for intersectionality in the design, implementation and evaluation of public policies and programmes), published seven technical documents, and systematised 22 good practices in projects targeting rural women.

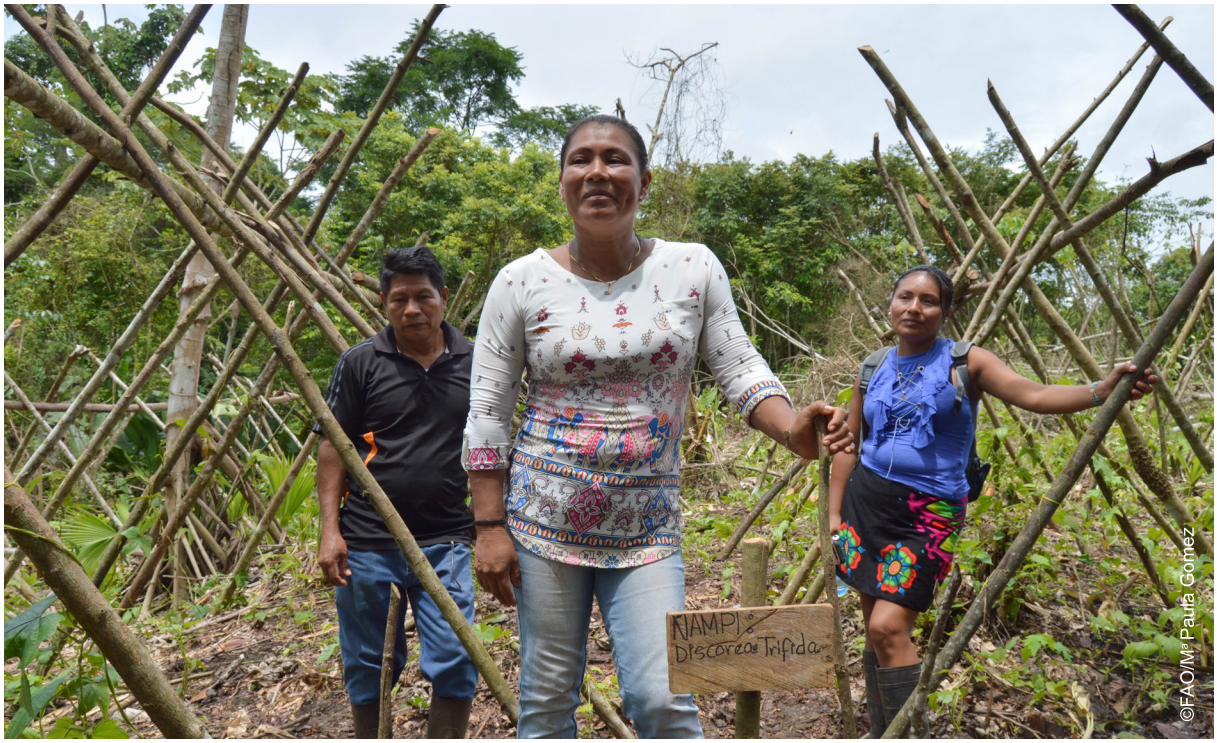
In Honduras, the PROMUCLIMA project for the empowerment of women for climate action in the forestry sector promoted 40 business plans for short agroforestry value chains, which will benefit approximately 980 women, incorporating climate-smart technologies for agricultural and forestry production, together with time and effort-saving technologies for women, which resulted in 15 591 tonnes of CO_2 emissions reduced and 414 tonnes of sequestrated carbon.

Social protection and social inclusion to move towards more prosperous territories

FAO assisted SICA in the design and approval of the Regional Integrated Social Policy and the Plan for the Recovery, Social Reconstruction and Resilience of Central America and the Dominican Republic, as requested by the Ministers of the Central American Social Integration Council.

The Organization also provided technical assistance to the Social Integration Council and to SICA Central American Social Integration Secretariat for the organisation of technical exchanges to identify challenges and potential in social protection policies and programmes, in the framework of the implementation of the Regional Integrated Social Policy (PSIR-SICA) 2020-2040.

FAO supported the development of ten strategies and plans that articulate social protection and economic inclusion in Chile, Colombia, the



Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru, including specific recommendations to integrate a gender and intercultural approach in planned activities.

FAO supported the Zero Hunger Temporary Intervention of the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru (MIDIS, by its acronym in Spanish) by consolidating multi-stakeholder platforms that allowed a territorial articulation of social protection and productive inclusion programmes in three prioritised provinces.

Six evaluations of social protection programmes and their impacts on income and livelihoods (in Colombia, Mexico and Peru) and of food security and nutrition (in Argentina, Chile and Uruguay) were carried out.

In collaboration with UNDP, FAO developed three regional reports on social protection and employment promotion measures implemented by governments in response to COVID-19.

In 2021, FAO contributed to strengthening the implementation of the Bridge to Development Strategy in Costa Rica, specifically the Bridge to Agriculture component, a strategy that articulates actions between the agri-food sector and the social sector, for the productive inclusion of socially vulnerable families —18 000 households in 40 districts throughout the country.

Progress in the circular economy

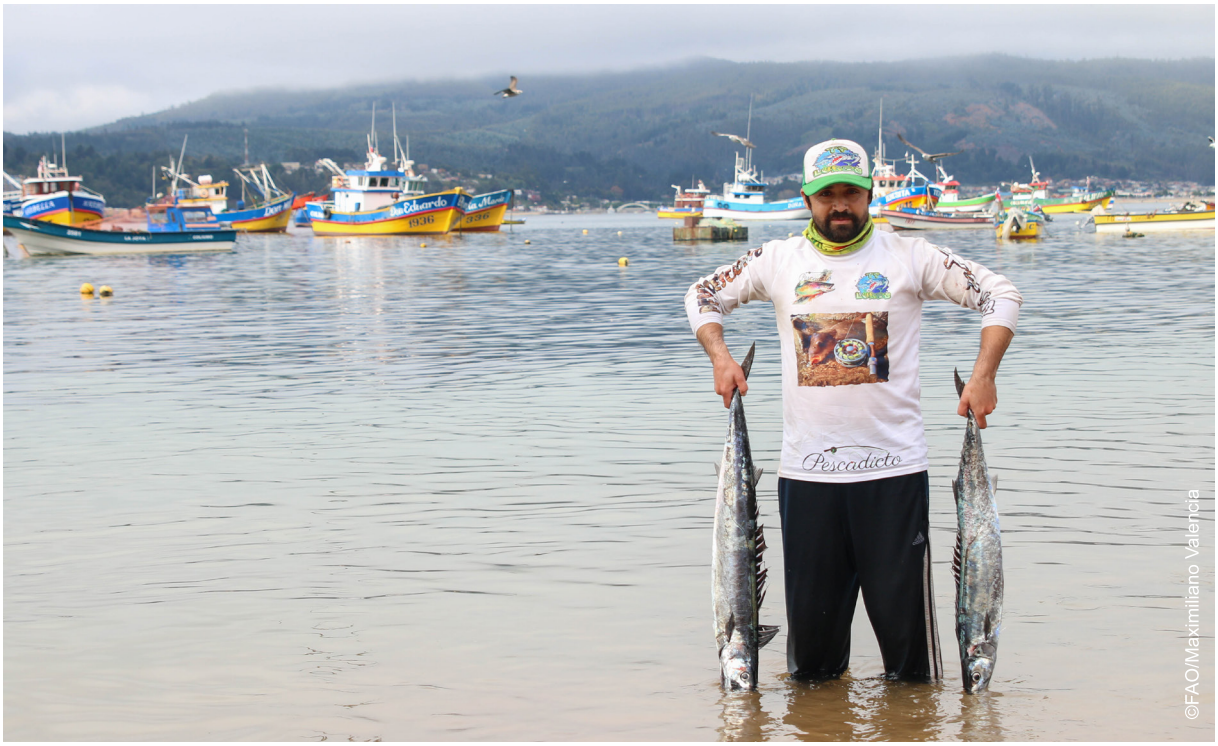
FAO supported ministries of agriculture, wholesale markets and subnational governments in Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay to incorporate circular economy as an effective alternative for the recovery and transformation of agri-food systems.

Network of intermediate cities

Local governments from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay formed the Intermediary Cities Network (*Red de Ciudades Intermedias*) as a space for integration and learning for the implementation of the urban food agenda.

Agricultural and **food** emergencies

In Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, in response to the impact of hurricanes ETA and IOTA, FAO increased emergency assistance, allocating internal resources to rehabilitate the food systems of 4 500 people in Guatemala, 3 000 small producers in Honduras; and artisanal fisheries in Nicaragua, benefiting 10 400 people.



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In the Caribbean, FAO supported the development of the CARICOM Emergency Response Strategy and Action Plan which provides guidelines for coordinating regional and international agricultural assistance and tools for damage and loss assessment.

In the Dominican Republic and Haiti, FAO sent a mission to support the response to the African swine fever outbreak, benefiting more than 50 000 producers, reaching between 1.4 and 2 million pigs in the Dominican Republic. In Haiti, the benefits will reach about one million pigs, 95 percent of which belong to small backyard farmers.

In 2021, FAO trained 1 829 people from 303 organisations, associations, companies and universities from 23 countries (Argentina, Belize, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Saint Lucia, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago) on Fusarium wilt tropical race 4 (R4T). Also, two technical exchanges of experiences between five countries and four public-private dialogues were promoted to agree on joint investment priorities to address this disease.

In response to the citrus Huanglongbing (HLB) emergency, FAO developed courses, demonstration plots and training days with 111 technicians. The Organization also conducted training activities on other pest alerts and emergencies, such as the Central American locust, the giant African snail and the pine bark beetle.

FAO developed strategies for the rapid recovery of agricultural production in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, including cash transfers and strengthening school feeding programmes, benefiting 20 177 people.

In Colombia, strategies for the rapid recovery of agricultural and livestock production were supported, including cash transfers, contingency mutual funds and rehabilitation of water systems, directly benefiting 28 463 people —of whom 98 percent belong to indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples.

In Haiti, FAO provided emergency agricultural assistance for the recovery from drought and socio-economic crises, benefiting more than 50 000 highly vulnerable rural households, reaching a total of about 250 000 people, with cash transfers, distribution of agricultural inputs and technical assistance.

In Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago, FAO promoted practices and technologies contributing to more sustainable fisheries, through the approval and implementation of national fisheries and bycatch management planning, working groups and advisory committees; in the cases analysed, the implementation of technological measures demonstrated an effective reduction of between 24 and 40 percent of fish bycatch.

In Chile, FAO supported a pioneering initiative to reduce vulnerability and increase adaptive capacity to climate change in the artisanal and small-scale fisheries and aquaculture sector,

training 300 public actors and more than 140 fishers, with special emphasis on women´s participation. Two thousand people increased their knowledge and capacity to adapt to climate change.

Peru created a management model for 2 612 food markets in the context of the COVID-19 health emergency.

Resilient agri-food systems

In the Central American Dry Corridor, support was provided for the implementation of anticipatory actions based on drought forecasts, enabling 7 500 people in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras to improve their water collection and storage capacities, strengthen their productive capacities and transform their agricultural and livestock livelihoods to more resilient systems.

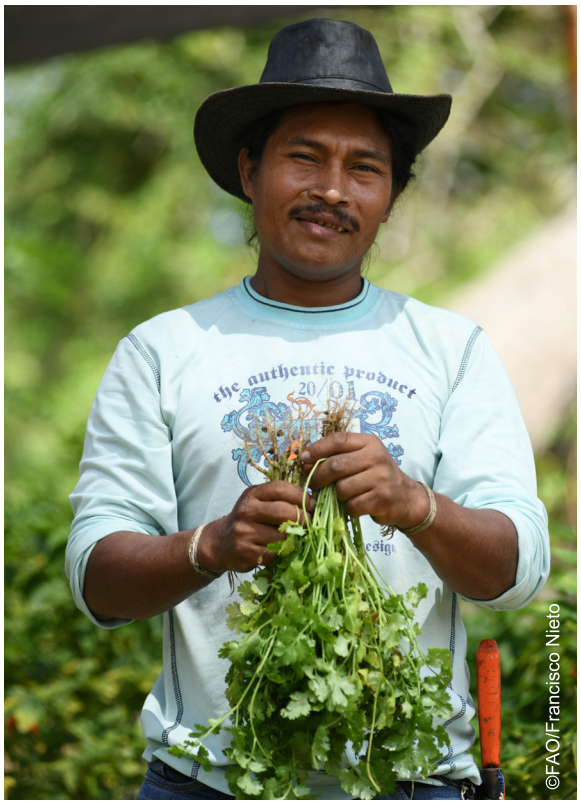
In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Colombia, Nicaragua, Paraguay, the Purinational State of Bolivia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, FAO strengthened mechanisms and policy instruments for early warning, anticipatory action and hazard risk preparedness. In Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, anticipatory actions benefited 700 livestock-keeping households, and around 2 000 small ruminants and pigs were protected through the installation of structures and shelters, and actions to maintain nutrition and health in the context of volcanic eruptions.

In Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay and Uruguay, FAO supported the institutionalisation of damage and economic loss assessment in the agricultural sector through webinars that were followed by more than 6 000 people and two distance learning courses that had 1 487 enrolments.

In the Caribbean, FAO supported training on climate-smart agriculture digital tools and technologies, and trained 140 people in collaboration with CARICOM.

FAO produced a publication on practical technical guidelines on the use of satellite and remote sensing data to support disaster risk forecasting, modelling and monitoring in agriculture at scale.

In Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Saint Lucia, digital risk modelling was promoted to prevent the Black Sigatoka disease of bananas, as well as a model for precision irrigation. In Dominica and Saint Lucia, support was provided for the creation of teams specialising in drones, mapping and geographic information systems for agriculture.



In the framework of the initiative to increase Climate Resilience measures in the Dry Corridor agroecosystems of El Salvador (RECLIMA), and in coordination with the Enrique Álvarez Córdova National Centre for Agricultural and Forestry Technology, FAO supported the preparation of 6 000 farm plans to implement practices that improve resilience to climate change. As part of RECLIMA, two reforestation nurseries were established — one of them with indigenous peoples — and a total of 3 000 hectares have been restored by 2021. Besides, joint work with the Salvadoran National Indigenous Coordinating Council was carried out to generate an action plan for the involvement and participation of indigenous peoples.

FAO launched the following publications: *Hacia una agricultura sostenible y resiliente en América Latina y El Caribe. Análisis de siete trayectorias de transformación exitosa* (Towards sustainable and resilient agriculture in Latin America and the Caribbean. Analysis of seven successful transformation pathways), which analyses the experiences of Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay; Sinergias y trade-offs entre las políticas de rescate y recuperación económica frente a la COVID-19 y la resiliencia climática de los sistemas agroalimentarios en América Latina (Synergies and trade-offs between rescue and economic recovery policies in the face of COVID-19 and climate resilient agri-food systems in Latin America); Cinco claves para reducir el riesgo y mitigar el impacto de los desastres. (Five keys to reduce risk and mitigate the impact of disasters).

Hand-in-Hand towards more prosperous and resilient territories

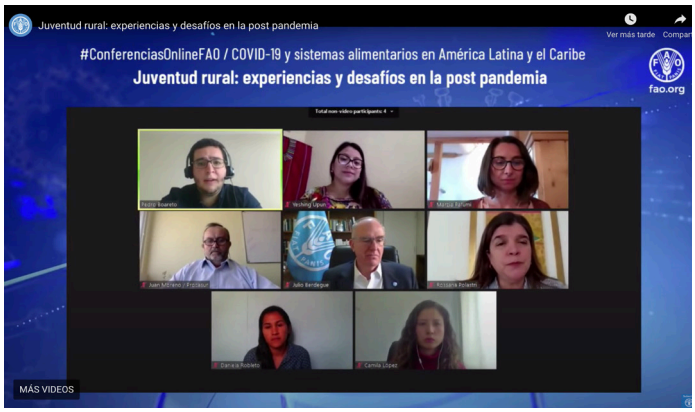
In 2021, six countries joined the Hand-in-Hand Initiative in the region: Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras and Peru. The countries produced typology maps of micro-regions prioritised by governments; three countries identified a portfolio of strategic investments.

FAO supported project formulation in Nicaragua for the mobilisation of over USD 60 million to support climate resilience and rehabilitation of agricultural livelihoods, using ecological transition practices, climate-smart agriculture and forest landscape restoration. Following the Hand-in-Hand methodology, FAO supported the design of a National Rural Investment Support Programme (PIR, by its acronym in Spanish) for poverty reduction and sustainable development in agricultural value chains — livestock, beans, coffee and cocoa — to mobilise up to USD 1 billion in the coming years.

Following the Hand-in-Hand approach, the Government of Colombia created 16 Master Structuring Plans (PME, by its acronym in Spanish), an initiative aimed at achieving economic development in conflict-affected territories in the framework of the Colombian peace process. These plans promoted the analysis of 54 territorial value chains and rural investment management.

In Haiti, a typology to identify where and how to invest available resources for the best possible results in increasing agricultural production and reducing poverty was created and is now available at the national level. This extremely promising analysis will lead to designing an investment plan to facilitate and support the development of sustainable, dynamic and diversified agricultural economic growth.

Human capital and institutions



Nearly 20 000 people enrolled in 60 training activities of the FAO Public Policy Capacity Development Centre. Technicians, professionals, academics and students from 23 countries of the region participated: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Belize, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay. The activities also had participants from 36 other countries of the world.

Governance

FAO facilitated 123 national and regional dialogues and 111 independent dialogues from 16 countries (the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay) organised in the context of the UN Food Systems Summit. As a result of these dialogues, 23 countries intervened at the Summit (Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Panama, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Uruguay), and 14 countries submitted roadmaps based on their national consultations (the Bahamas, Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay). Six countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica and Guatemala) joined coalitions that will implement the Food Systems Summit commitments.

HIGH-IMPACT COMMUNICATIONS 2021

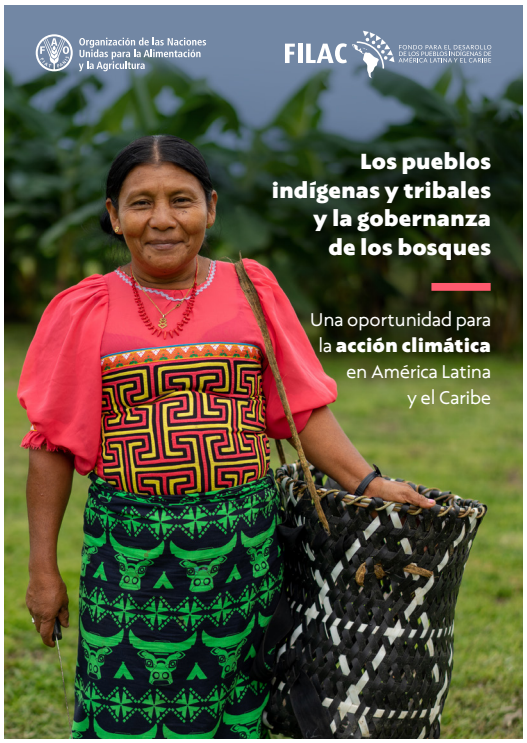
During 2021, communications played a central role in making FAO´s work visible with its partners and allies in a context marked by the severe impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on poverty, inequity, food security and nutrition levels in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The projects FAO implemented in the region, together with its partners and allies, had wide dissemination, making it possible for the public opinion to get acquainted with the message of moving forward in the transformation towards more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agri-food systems.

The results of these projects, the life stories of their actors, the opinions and interviews of FAO managers and technicians, as well as studies and publications, were featured in the region's most influential media. The increasing participation of FAO representatives in seminars, forums, summits and dialogues was widely disseminated to a broad audience.

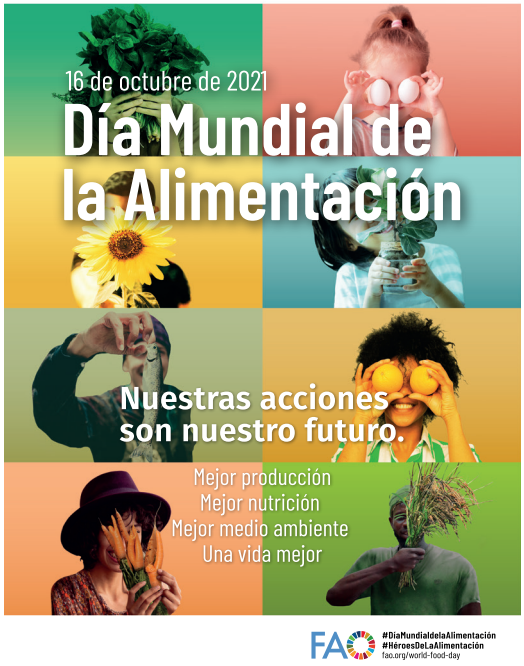
All these messages marked a strong presence in the leading regional media. Top-tier media in Latin America and the Caribbean recorded 4 289 appearances in 2021, an increase of 24 percent compared to 2020.

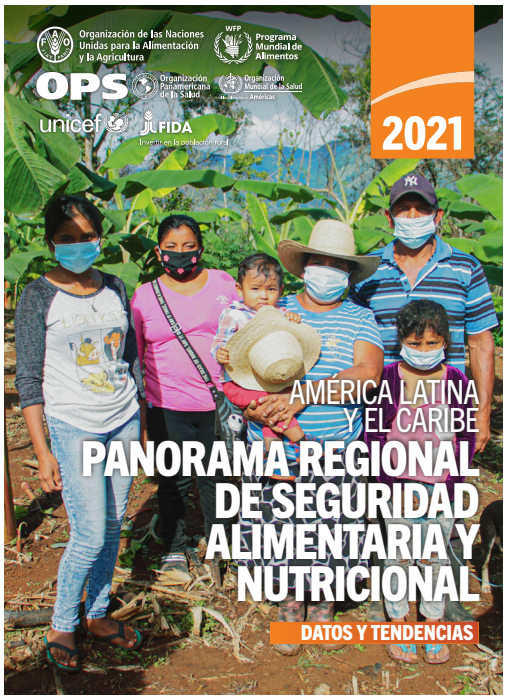
Media presence included 630 opinion columns and interviews of the Director-General, the Regional Representative, Country Representatives and technical officers, 76 percent more compared to the same period last year.



In October, World Food Day (WFD) was the event with the most outstanding communication impact for FAO in the region. Latin America and the Caribbean was part of the regions that gave greater visibility to this celebration with various events, ranging from dialogues with family farmers, government authorities and civil society, to colourful marketing campaigns and illumination of important buildings in Latin American cities.

On the occasion of the WFD alone, the region's leading media published 217 press articles, of which 50 were opinion pieces or interviews.





The launch of *Latin America and the Caribbean - Regional Overview on Food Security and Nutrition 2021: Statistics and trends* prepared by FAO in conjunction with four other UN agencies, was key in making visible the critical situation in which the region finds itself in terms of food security and nutrition after the emergence of COVID-19. More than 170 media publications worldwide disseminated the alarming results of this report.

The dialogues that took place in the region´s countries with different public and private actors on the road to the 37th FAO Regional Conference to be held in Quito, Ecuador, in March 2022, were widely disseminated through social networks and FAO offices´ websites in different countries.

Social media

In a world where content overload is predominant, the @FAOAmericas Twitter account reached more than 100 000 followers, which adds to more than 320 000 followers reached in the region as a whole through the 25 Twitter accounts of the Representations in Spanish, English, Portuguese and French as of September 2021. In addition to this impact, FAO's Facebook page in Spanish has 24 101 fans.

One of the major milestones for the @FAOAmericas Twitter account was the launch of the publication *Forest GOvernance by indigenous and tribal people* , jointly with the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC), where 1.6 million people were exposed to the content.

Other outstanding Twitter hashtags were:

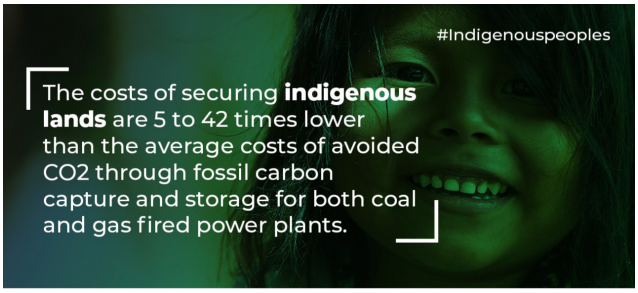
#IndigenousPeople
#ForestGovernance

#HéroesDeLaAlimentación
#ElPoderDeLasHistorias

#AquíMeQuedo
#TierraDeOportunidades

#CambioClimático #ConferenciasOnlineFAO

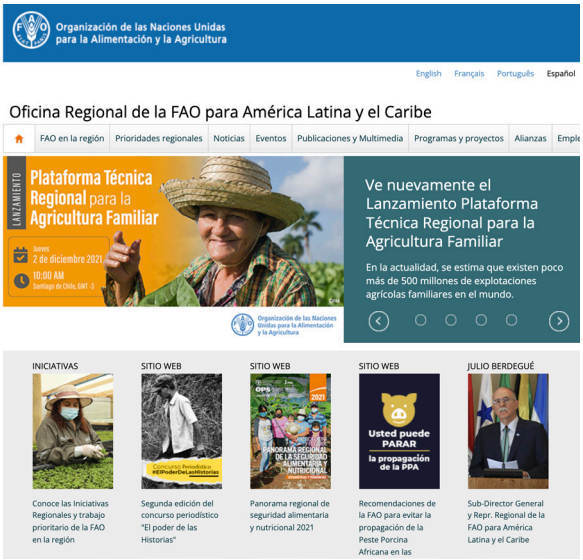
#GeneraciónRestauración



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FILAC

In terms of audiovisual content, the videos produced include a project to strengthen the Chilean fisheries and aquaculture sector's capacity to adapt to climate change; videos from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras on the Dry Corridor; a summary of World Food Day 2021 activities in the region; success stories in the Dry Corridor; and a video on the +Bosques project.

Website



The Regional Office website received 828 815 total unique visitors in the first nine months of the year, 33 percent more than in the same period in 2020. One of the achievements this year is the creation of web pages for specific topics relevant to FAO, including one dedicated to the prevention of African Swine Fever, which was published in three languages. Another one, in Spanish and English, addresses the issues of the Dry Corridor, a territory in Central America particularly affected by climate change where FAO is carrying out intensive resilience work. This site was launched in October and has already received 4 521 visits.

75 conferences and seminars were broadcast on YouTube/Web FAO Americas with a total of 52 858 participants.

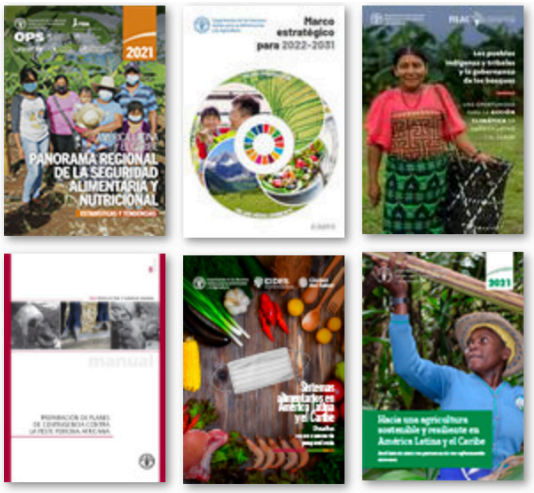
Publications

In the publishing area, in addition to the flagship publication *Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition,* or high-profile global publications such as *Forest Governance by indigenous and tribal peoples,* the series Water Governance in Latin America was also created, while, at country level, the food-based dietary guidelines (FBDG) of Ecuador and the collection of publications of the project "Integrated national monitoring and assessment system on forest ecosystems (SIMEF, by its acronym in Spanish)" in Chile were published.

FAO, ECLAC and IICA published the report *The Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Americas: A perspective on Latin America and the Caribbean 2021-2022*, which highlights the central role of agri-food systems and actions for rural and agricultural transformation in Latin America and the Caribbean in post-pandemic COVID-19 recovery scenario.

Publications related to the pandemic continued this year with new issues of the series *Agri-food system and the challenges of COVID-19* and the bulletin *Food systems and COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean.*

FAO in the region also published 44 books, and 27 brochures and short books. Of these publications, 19 were translated into different languages (English, French, Portuguese), thus contributing to multilingualism in the generation and dissemination of expertise on issues that are part of the Organization's mandate.



RESOURCE MOBILISATION

Projects launched and executed

During 2021, as of the preliminary close of December, FAO has mobilised USD 106.7 million in voluntary contributions in support of 49 new projects.

FAO implemented 438 projects in the region during the year, in addition to 25 global and interregional projects that incorporate work in a country of the region. Of the total number of projects implemented, 232 have been financed by 48 strategic partners and 206 through the Technical Cooperation Programme. The budget for these projects amounts to USD 770 million.

Projects undergoing negotiation

To date, the region has 95 projects in the final stages of design and negotiation with strategic partners, for a total amount of USD 524 million.

Partner	Amount (USD)	No. of projects
Green Climate Fund (GCF)	198 550 759	22
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	133 028 062	56
Colombia	85 711 869	23
Brazil	75 557 688	12
European Union (EU)	73 592 901	19
Mexico	23 331 137	6
United Nations Joint Programme (UNJP)	15 448 683	20
Spain	14 932 963	6
Guyana Green Investment Fund (GRIF) - Norway	14 792 273	1
Sweden	13 003 986	3
Canada	12 234 107	6
United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)	6 552 367	3
Republic of Korea	5 999 998	1
Italy	5 916 016	4
Argentina	5 547 572	1
Switzerland	4 724 001	1
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	4 366 000	1
Ecuador	4 029 450	1
United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNO-CHA)	3 374 999	4
Panama	3 351 436	2
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	3 213 285	2
Belgium	2 890 000	6
United States of America	2 000 000	1
Uruguay	1 899 546	2
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)	1 855 163	1
United Nations Industrial Development Organisation	1 835 000	1
Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI)	1 536 500	1
Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)	1 200 000	1
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	959 056	1
World Food Programme (WFP)	739 042	3
UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)	700 000	1
Grenada	690 414	1
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	648 958	1
UN Trust Fund	613 645	1
Multilateral	590 001	1

Partner	Amount (USD)	No. of projects
Kielsa Foundation	426 842	1
El Salvador	400 000	1
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	375 600	1
Germany	337 534	1
Dominican Republic	300 000	1
Nicaragua	250 000	1
Development Bank of Latin America	244 408	1
Chile	208 747	2
Guyana	200 000	1
France	142 694	1
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	126 000	2
Standards and Trade Development Facility in SPS Measures	52 966	1
Telefood	19 500	2
SUBTOTAL	728 501 168	232
Technical Cooperation Programme	41 525 017	206
TOTAL	**770 026 185**	**438**

Investment mobilised in the region for countries to achieve Sustainable Development Goals

The FAO Investment Centre Division contributed to the design of eight investment projects in seven countries in the region, which were approved during 2021, totalling USD 1.05 billion. Of these projects, four were financed by the World Bank (one co-financed by IFAD), two by the Inter-American Development Bank (one including a GAFSP grant), and two by IFAD.

Through its Investment Centre, FAO is also supporting the implementation and supervision of a portfolio of 38 projects financed by development banks and international financial institutions, representing USD 3.5 billion in public investments for the agricultural sector or rural development and sustainable management of natural resources in the region. These resources are predominantly implemented through governments themselves, and finance programmes that seek to meet the SDGs.

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FAO in Latin America and the Caribbean 2021

Corrigendum

Updated on March 16th 2022

The following corrections were made to the PDF after it went to print.

Page	Location	Text in printed PDF	Text in corrected PDF
ii (Disclaimer page)	Last line	Cover Photography: FAO/José Hernández	Cover Photography: FAO/Eduardo C lix

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