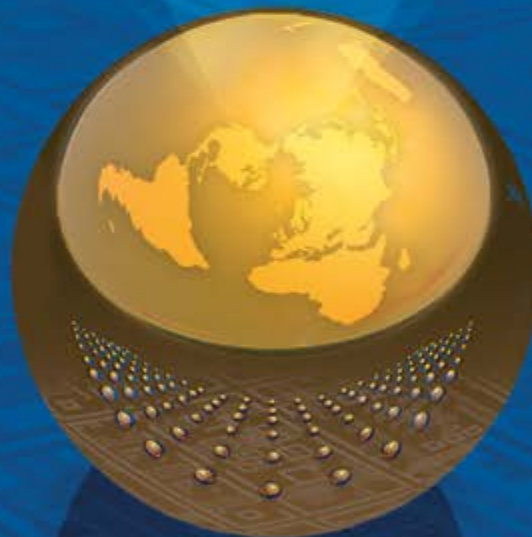


Financing Facility for Remittances: a migration and development programme



Empowering migrant workers and their families through
market innovation, financial inclusion and investment

The Financing Facility for Remittances

In 2016, around 200 million migrants worldwide sent home an estimated US\$ 445 billion to their families in developing countries. These remittances provide for basic necessities such as food, clothing and shelter that are essential to lifting millions of people out of poverty. The truly transformative potential of these funds, however, lies in their investment in education, healthcare and asset building.

To meet these needs, the US\$36 million multi-donor Financing Facility for Remittances (FFR) has been working since 2006 with the goal of increasing the development impact of remittances and enabling poor households to advance on the road to financial independence and rural transformation. The FFR is administered by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), a specialized agency of the United Nations with the mandate to invest in rural people to eradicate poverty in developing countries.

The FFR programme was initially founded by the European Commission, the Government of Luxembourg and IFAD, in partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). It was subsequently joined by the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (MAE) of Spain, the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the World Bank.

During its **first phase (2006-2013)**, the FFR launched four call for proposals which resulted in the co-financing of **nearly 50 pilot projects in more than 45 countries**, with the creation of a network of around 200 partners from the public, private and civil-society sectors.

Now in its **second phase (2014-2019)**, the FFR has adopted a new strategy with a multi-faceted approach, drawing on best practices and lessons learned that enable a permanent cross-fertilization of projects.

On the one hand, the Facility still functions as a “laboratory of innovative ideas”, launching calls for innovative and sustainable initiatives worldwide. This flexible, demand-driven funding mechanism co-finances the most promising initiatives, or pilots, on a competitive basis and fosters a participatory approach to project design allowing better feedback on quality and consistency of the selected

projects. Here, the private sector plays a major role in bringing innovation to the marketplace and reaching rural areas.

On the other hand, the FFR aims to maximize the impact of successful models already implemented during the course of its past and current activities. This is achieved by replicating, scaling up, and ultimately scaling out those mechanisms producing – now and in the future – a significant impact on the target groups.

Through its successful projects and activities, and its advocacy work, the FFR substantially contributes to the global debate on migration and development.

The FFR works in close collaboration with public, private and civil-society partners. Furthermore, it acts as an information broker to facilitate the dissemination, replication and scaling up of remittance-related best practices.

The FFR work is focused on two pillars:

- **Market access and asset building strategies: promote access to remittances in rural areas, and link them to inclusive rural financial services and products**
- **Diaspora investment: develop innovative and productive rural investment opportunities for migrants abroad – the diaspora – and community-based organizations**

In conjunction with its operational activities, the Facility fosters strategic cooperation among governments, international development institutions, and leading organizations in the field of migrant remittances. The FFR also represents IFAD at the G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion, the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), and the Global Migration Group (GMG) among others.

In short, the Facility works to empower migrant workers and their families to overcome the need to migrate and to make migration a choice rather than a necessity.

Guiding principles

Rural remittances

Around 40 per cent of total remittances go to rural areas, where they have a much greater impact than in urban centres. Rural areas are traditionally prone to domestic migration, which makes the sizeable inflow of remittances that stimulates local commerce and creates new livelihoods in rural communities even more important. The FFR links remittances to further opportunities towards rural development.

Promoting innovation

Innovation is at the core of all FFR activities: at both operational and policy levels, innovative solutions have been used to reduce the cost of remittance transfers and broaden the geographic outreach of financial services. The Facility supports entrepreneurial approaches, as evidenced by projects utilizing mobile banking technology and postal networks, in addition to a variety of savings, loan, housing and insurance products.

Partnerships for success

The FFR cofinances new and sustainable initiatives with partners throughout the public, private, and civil-society sectors. These institutions are typically microfinance institutions, credit unions, NGOs and international money transfer operators, but also commercial banks, cooperative banks and local financial service providers.

Where we innovate

The FFR concentrates its efforts on five focus areas which are key to leveraging the development impact of remittances. Each area is subdivided into issues of specific relevance to the Facility's goals:

1 Market development

- Market research and analysis
- Regulatory framework advocacy
- Promoting competition through the financing of innovative business models



2 Pioneering partnerships

- Partnership-based initiatives
- Joint investment by private, public, and civil society actors
- Pro-poor, profitable business models



3 Innovative business models

- Promoting opportunities for microfinance, postal, mobile networks to enter the market
- Promoting financial inclusion and literacy towards savings mobilization
- Cross-selling of financial products business models



4 New technologies

- Promotion of card-, web-, and mobile-based solutions
- Financing of platforms for data management
- Introduction of technical capacity building



5 Diaspora investment and entrepreneurship

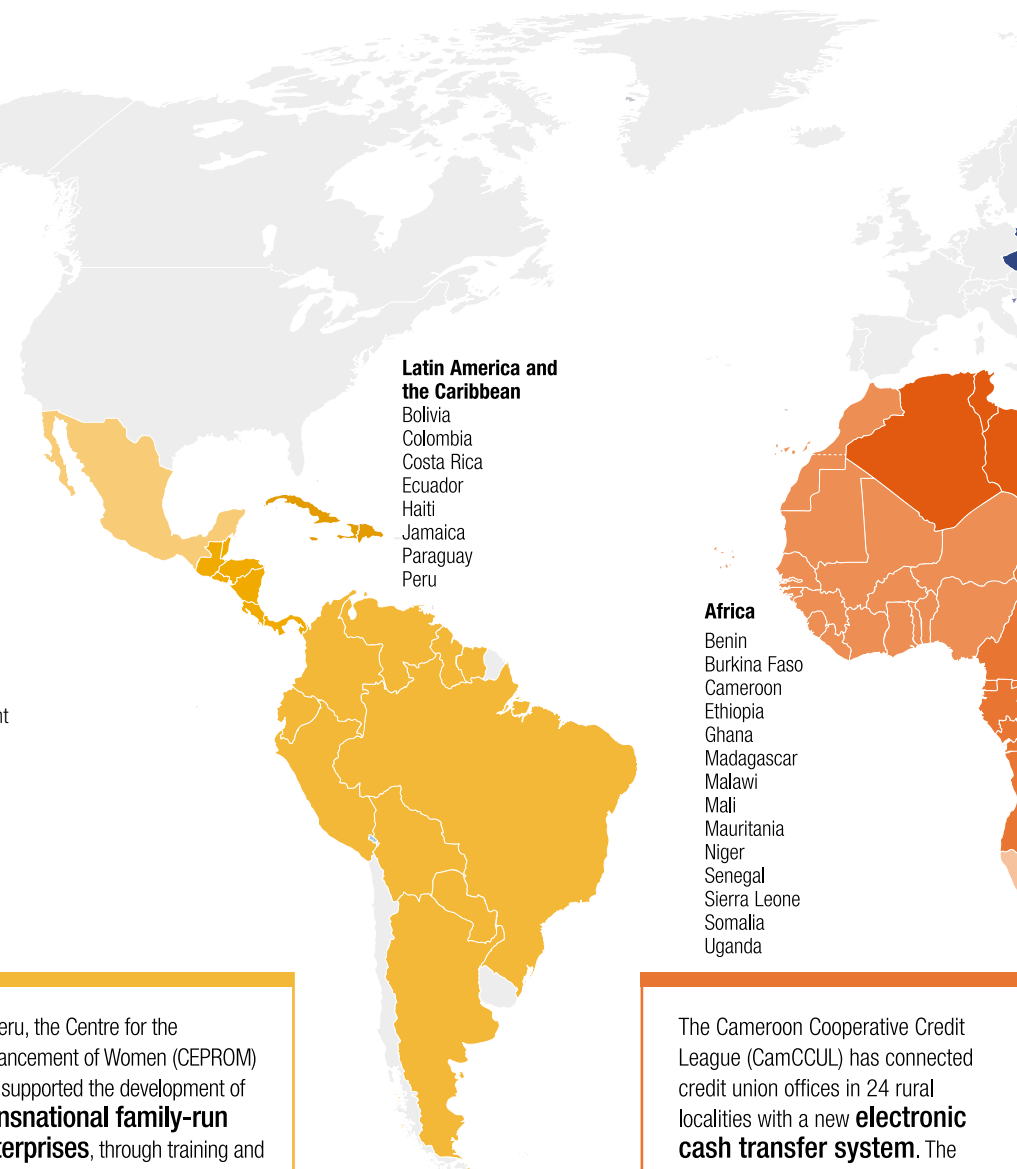
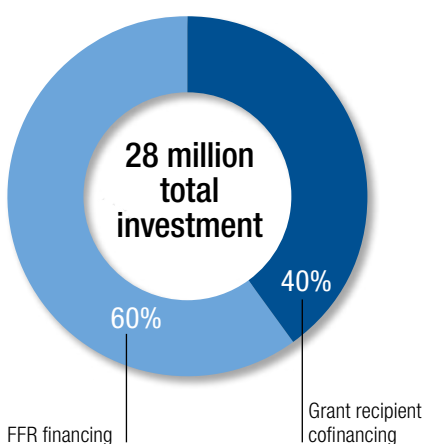
- Opportunity identification
- Productive investment models
- Skill development and transfer (financial literacy and entrepreneurship support)



IFAD operations on migration and development through the FFR

FFR's portfolio includes **over 60 innovative projects in more than 40 countries** across the developing world. The grant financing totals US\$28 million, of which US\$11.2 million consists of contributions from beneficiaries and partners.

How we mobilize resources



Latin America and the Caribbean

- Bolivia
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Ecuador
- Haiti
- Jamaica
- Paraguay
- Peru

Africa

- Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Cameroon
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Niger
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- Somalia
- Uganda

In Paraguay, commercial service provider Konecta has launched a technology platform for **mobile integrated financial services**. By simply signing up to the service with an ordinary ID, more than 2,000 Paraguayan remittance recipients opened a mobile bank account, and are now managing their cash transfers or paying their bills through over 700 enabled points of sale.

In Peru, the Centre for the Advancement of Women (CEPROM) has supported the development of **transnational family-run enterprises**, through training and developing integrated business plans with local governments. CEPROM is also sensitizing local mayors to the impact migration is having on their communities.

The Cameroon Cooperative Credit League (CamCCUL) has connected credit union offices in 24 rural localities with a new **electronic cash transfer system**. The "Telecash" service has brought down transfer cost by almost 20% on average, and reached areas where no other money transfer system has ever reached. In the same period, connected credit union offices saw their savings and loan portfolio grow significantly.

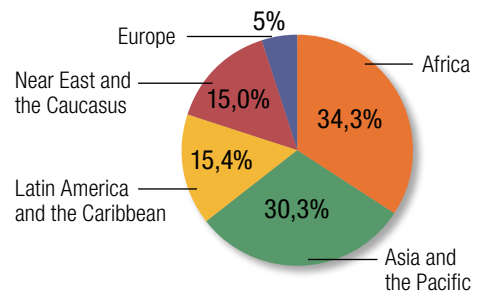
Romanian and Moldovan migrants in the Veneto region of Italy can now rely on the special **Guarantee Fund model for migrant entrepreneurs** launched by Veneto Lavoro. Would-be entrepreneurs are assisted by a dedicated help desk in developing their business plans, and are granted access to new financial products to finance their business ideas.

In Albania and Kosovo, the International Agency for Source Country Information (IASCI) has partnered with Raiffeisen Zentralbank Österreich (RZB) Group, Austria's third largest commercial bank, as well as microfinance institutions, to reach over 1,100 migrants with **innovative financial products**. From the "flexible deposit account" to the "welcome migrants account", all products ease migrant re-integration and increase migrant earnings, in addition to attracting savings to the country of origin.

Europe

Albania
Kosovo
Moldova
Romania

Where we invest



Near East and the Caucasus

Georgia

Asia and the Pacific

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| Bangladesh | Laos |
| Cambodia | Malaysia |
| China | Nepal |
| India | Philippines |
| Indonesia | Sri Lanka |
| Kazakhstan | Tajikistan |
| Kyrgyzstan | Uzbekistan |
| | Vietnam |

In six West African countries, the Universal Postal Union (UPU) modernized 355 rural post offices enabling them to offer their clients timely remittance transfers at half the price. Based on the lessons learned from this initiative, IFAD, in close cooperation with the World Bank, UNCDF, UPU and WSBI/ESBG, initiated an innovative programme on **Postal Financial Services in Africa**, aimed at enhancing competition in the African remittance marketplace. This scaled-up initiative will enable key post offices in Africa to offer financial services and to transfer remittances in a way that is cheaper, more convenient, safer and more rapid.

Hatton National Bank (HNB), the second-largest bank in Sri Lanka, channels about 20 per cent of official international remittances. The pilot project developed a tailored savings scheme for migrants and their families in rural areas (women in particular), offering a safe and affordable way for them to send money home through direct transfers into a recipient's savings account. What started as a small pilot project in **four branches**, has had an enormous response and expanded to **more than 200 branches** throughout the country. Demand for expansion continues to grow, as requests by migrants and their families in rural areas increase. This demonstrative project with a private sector entity showcased the business model viability and potential for market expansion. Overall, the project has contributed to wealth generation, improved gender parity by allowing women microentrepreneurs to start businesses and reduced the vulnerability of low-income rural households.

In the Philippines, G-Xchange Inc. expanded their remittance service system "G-Cash", which transforms a **mobile phone into a virtual wallet**, enabling rural and urban remittance beneficiaries to access their funds in ways that are more convenient and more economic.

The Atikha Overseas Workers and Communities Initiative (Atikha) and the Filipino Women's Council took a very realistic approach to investments **mobilizing migrant resources towards agri-based cooperatives** in the Philippines. The provision of financial literacy training by Atikha in Italy and the Philippines resulted in more than 900 migrant workers investing either in existing cooperatives or in small businesses in their rural communities in the Philippines. The SIDC agri-cooperative, provided migrants a guaranteed 6 per cent return on their investments.

In Nepal, the Centre for Micro Finance (CFM) offered training to local migrant families, as well as a capacity-building programme that helped local MFIs **improve the quality of the financial services** they offered. CMF held more than 50 financial and business literacy classes, attended by 1,000 migrant worker family members (mostly women). The approach adopted by CMF increased the number of migrant workers obtaining loans by more than 200 per cent, and the number of enterprise loans doubled, creating more than 900 jobs through new investments in local cooperatives.

Bringing opportunities to scale

Rural Enterprises and Remittances (RER)/Samriddhi (Nepal)

in cooperation with IFAD's Asia and the Pacific Division (APR)

In 2015, IFAD approved the first loan for a programme specifically addressing remittances in rural areas of Nepal.

Building on the FFR past experiences in the country, the programme aims at providing sustainable sources of income to poor households, migrant families and returnees in the eastern and central regions of Nepal by supporting the creation and expansion of family-run micro-, small- and medium-sized rural enterprises in the farming and off-farming sectors.

The RER/SAMRIDDHI targets around 60,000 enterprises and 30,000 unemployed youth, for a total of 179,000 primary beneficiaries and their households, or around 900,000 people.

The project will also provide financial education in-country and abroad to improve the savings and investment capacity of another 112,320 people, benefitting around 560,000 people more in their households.

Due to the post-earthquake crisis and the precarious situation in the country, the programme is soon to be implemented.

Financing Rural Youth from Malian Diaspora

in cooperation with IFAD's West and Central Africa Division (WCA)

This grant promotes an innovative approach linking migrants to young people from their regions of origin that are supported by an IFAD project in Mali (the Rural Youth Vocational Training, Employment and Entrepreneurship Support Project: FIER). The key outputs expected from the grant are that, at the end of the 3-year project, around 2,000 migrants will have lent a cumulated amount of EUR 350,000 to a dedicated crowdfunding platform and will have mobilized EUR 40,000 in donations to finance rural youth-led economic activities. This will also allow local MFIs supported by another IFAD project (the Rural Microfinance Programme: PMR) to access a stable and low-cost resource, increasing their average portfolio by EUR 275,000.

ABC Microfinance was selected as recipient of this small grant proposal because it is an established social

enterprise, using Babyloan, the leading European crowd-funding platform linking micro-entrepreneurs in developing countries to individual lenders.

The proposal is estimated to benefit 200 young Malian entrepreneurs in 3 years; a figure estimated to increase to 800 in 5 years. The grant will also support the effectiveness of the IFAD country programme in Mali and reinforce the impact of two ongoing projects by linking the youth supported by FIER and financed by the microfinance institutions supported by PMR with the Malian migrants and their organizations through a crowdfunding platform.

Engaging diaspora communities in Italy to support youth employment in Senegal and Morocco

The goal of the project is to promote inclusive and sustainable growth by supporting employment opportunities for rural youth in Senegal and Morocco by leveraging the commitment of the diaspora in Italy towards their communities of origin, and facilitating viable investment and knowledge transfer in the target countries.

Specific project objectives include: 1) promote rural youth employment (wage employment and self-employment); 2) stimulate the use of migrant's investment in local rural development; and 3) facilitate the transfer of knowledge, skills and innovations from migrants and migrants' associations to their communities of origin.

The project is estimated to benefit between 200 Senegalese and 400 Moroccan youth living in rural areas and their families (a total of 1,500 and 3,000 people, respectively), between 50 and 100 funded business investors, and at least 80 Senegal and Morocco-based economic actors.

Oxfam Italia, in partnership with SlowFood and MicroFinanza, will implement the project.

Bringing access to financial services and investment in rural areas

The Diaspora Investment in Agriculture initiative

Building on the experience of a number of pilot projects on migrant investment and entrepreneurship implemented through the FFR, the Diaspora Investment in Agriculture (DIA) initiative was launched in 2011 by IFAD's President Kanayo F. Nwanze and the former U.S. Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton. The DIA was designed to facilitate agricultural investment in post-conflict and fragile states, with the goal of creating local jobs and entrepreneurship opportunities, while fostering stability and development in some of the most challenging countries in the world.

- **Enhancing Food Security in the Horn of Africa through Diaspora Investment in Agriculture**

Recognizing the critical role played by migrant workers in sustaining livelihoods, IFAD engaged in policy dialogue with the Government of Somalia, one of the most severely conflict-stricken countries in the Near East and North Africa region. Somalia

Receives on average over US\$1.3 billion annually in remittances, exceeding official aid to the country.

The 'Enhancing Food Security in the Horn of Africa through Diaspora Investment in Agriculture' project is implemented by the Business in Development (BiD) Network Foundation, in partnership with Shuraako, an American-Somali NGO acting as Manager of the Somali AgriFood Fund.

Project objectives are:

- Economic development
- Promoting the improvement of the Somali well-being through new innovations
- Job creation
- Providing new opportunities for paid employment throughout Somalia
- Enhanced food security

Increasing access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food

Project activities started in 2014, with the creation of the Somali AgriFood Fund (somaligrifood.org), a matching seed capital fund that aims at providing incentives to facilitate diaspora investments into the Somali agriculture,

fisheries and/or food processing sectors. The Somali AgriFood Fund supports investment projects that can range from US\$20,000 to US\$250,000 through a 40 per cent contribution. The remaining 60 per cent are financed by the business owner cash or in-kind contribution (20 per cent) and by external capital, of which at least one third (or 20 per cent of the total project cost) is to be financed by the diaspora. The leverage ratio of the US\$673,000 fund is expected to be 3.4 to 1, or a total investment of US\$2.28 million.

By project completion on 31 March 2017, the project was able to leverage a total capital of US\$2,285,615, to which the diaspora contributed with an amount of US\$992,640.

14 companies were funded in all three regions of Somalia. 21 diaspora investors contributed to the creation of 212 seasonal jobs and 241 full-time jobs.

The project supported four key industries for the Somali economy: (i) fishing, (ii) agriculture, (iii) food processing, and (iv) livestock.

The project has demonstrated that it is possible to attract diaspora investment into Somali agribusinesses and to generate employment and revenues through diaspora resources.

Furthermore, it has raised interest from the national financial sector (local banks and micro-finance institutions) to develop diaspora investment-related activities into the local economy. This will however require improved banks' compliance with international banking standards. The creation of the Somali Banking Association, facilitated by Shuraako, constitutes a first step in this direction.

Diaspora's interest in contributing to the Somali economy was further confirmed by the online Somali Investment Survey, carried out by Shuraako in 2015. It was responded by close to 1,000 participants in 33 countries. Most respondents regard investment as a way to prepare their return to Somalia. The survey provides useful information as to factors that would facilitate diaspora investment, including evidence of profitability, a transparent and enforceable contract and risk mitigation.

- **Scaling up Initiatives in Mobilizing Migrant Resources towards Agriculture Development in the Philippines** in cooperation with IFAD's Asia and the Pacific Division (APR)

This project is implemented by Atikha building on the lessons learned during its previous project: Mobilizing Migrant Resources towards Agriculture Cooperatives in the Philippines. The project focuses on providing financial literacy and investment opportunities in agriculture for the Filipino diaspora. Furthermore, it aims to scale up successful, field-tested approaches for channelling remittances towards remunerative rural investments.

Before the project completion in 2017, the project will focus on achieving the project outcomes of US\$5 million of investments mobilized by the Filipino diaspora.

The project involves a large consortium of partners: NGOs (Atikha, Wimler, INAFI, PRRM, ASOG, among others), migrant organizations (FWC, ACFIL-Italy, Bayanihan-UAE), national government agencies (the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Labour, the National Economy Development Authority, the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Philippine Embassy to Italy, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas), local government agencies, rural financial institutions and cooperatives, MFIs, rural banks (Landbank), and the Bank of Filipino Islands.

- **Diaspora Investment in Agriculture and Services, and Private Sector Opportunities in Rural Asia (DIASPORA)** in cooperation with IFAD's Asia and the Pacific Division (APR)

The project, launched in January 2015, builds on the results of a successful pilot microfinance services project, Remittance-Building Linkages for the Development of Rural Migrants and their Families through Microfinance Services (ReBuiLD MFS). Its goals are to (i) provide migrant families in communities of origin with appropriate financial products and services, and (ii) assist apex institutions in pooling migrants' capital and channel it through local financial institutions already serving migrants' families.

The programme focuses on two countries – the Philippines and Nepal – which have high remittance flows and conducive microfinance environments, but also have low financial inclusion ratios (particularly rural). Successful results will be replicated in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

The programme brings forward two innovations: (i) models developed will be a global public good, as they can be replicated in other countries; and (ii) inclusion of an apex institution acting as an agent of the local financial institutions, and on their behalf, provides migrants and their families access to asset-building financial products in their countries of origin, and coordinates financial education and product promotion campaigns abroad.

The African Postal Financial Services Initiative

The African Postal Financial Services Initiative (APFSI) aims at enhancing competition in the African remittance market by promoting and enabling post offices in Africa to offer remittance and financial services. The main objectives of the Initiative are to: (i) reduce the cost of remittances to and within Africa; (ii) reduce transaction times; (iii) broaden the network of rural locations; and (iv) increase the range of financial services provided in rural areas. The programme, financed by the EC, is implemented by IFAD's FFR in partnership with the World Bank, UPU, WSBI and UNCDF, and in direct cooperation with African national postal operators.

The programme provides technical assistance to postal operators in four countries (Benin, Ghana, Madagascar and Senegal), supporting and enabling them in the delivery of remittances in rural areas and in increasing access to financial services for rural population. During 2016, APFSI partners increased their efforts on business development, re-engineering and marketing, with the finalization of development plans and an increased portfolio of partners in the national remittances market, as well as the refurbishing of 8 pilot post offices in rural areas, and the almost finalized modernization of 388 post offices which will be now able to provide remittances in rural areas.

On increasing flows and competition, in total 11 new North-South and South-South remittance corridors were opened in the 4 countries, broadening the access to remittance services. Furthermore, 23 new public-private partnerships were created, enhancing fair competition in the remittances market in the 4 countries. Also, in terms of human capital, the planned cycle of trainings – for senior management and national middle-level management and front officers – was successfully completed. In total, 170 postal staff were trained in 4 countries on how to manage remittances, marketing, and on the provision of a better service to migrants' families.

Promoting innovative business models

Economic and social upgrading of rural value chains through innovative financial inclusion policies to leverage the use of remittances and diaspora investment in Latin America and the Caribbean

Dominican Republic, El Salvador and Guatemala

- Promote value chains towards diversified economic activities for remittance-receiving households.
- Support a more favourable environment towards financial inclusion for remittance recipients in the targeted countries.
- Design targeted and focused strategies to foster the effective use of formal financial services among small rural producers receiving remittances and their families abroad.



Driving transformative financial inclusion among migrants and their rural families to alleviate poverty by enabling cross-border mobile money transfers

Kenya and Uganda

- Provide financial services to migrants and their families, reducing travel time and related costs.
- Provide a low-cost, convenient and accessible mobile channel across the Kenya-Uganda corridor as a driver towards financial inclusion.
- Promote entrepreneurship for increased migrant investment to enhance local economic development.



Scaling up remittances and financial inclusion in Uganda through post offices

- Enhance competition in the African remittance market by promoting and enabling post offices in Uganda to offer remittances and financial services.
- Increase the number of remittance account holders, including those from 7 refugee camps, and diaspora accounts.
- Provide regular financial literacy training for remittance-receiving refugees.
- Increase the number of financial access points to offer financial services.



Adding “ValYou”: advancing financial inclusion through e-wallet remittances from Malaysia

Malaysia and Pakistan

- Improve migrants and their families' livelihoods through faster, cheaper remittances and additional financial services.
- Scale-up the impact of remittances to rural areas in Pakistan towards deeper financial inclusion by (i) converting over-the-counter remittance users to e-wallets, and (ii) providing additional services to senders and the new rural e-wallet-based receivers.
- Enrol senders and receivers to use the new e-wallet-based remittance system in Pakistan.



Advocacy and knowledge sharing

The International Day of Family Remittances

The International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR) is celebrated annually on 16 June, in recognition of the fundamental contribution of migrant workers to their families and communities back home, and to the sustainable development of their countries of origin.

The IDFR was unanimously proclaimed by IFAD's 176 Member States in February 2015. In early 2017, the UN General Assembly took note of the proclamation of the IDFR (A/RES/71/237).



International Day of Family Remittances 16 JUNE

Purpose of the IDFR is (a) to raise global awareness about the contribution of migrant workers to the well-being of their families and communities of origin through remittances, and their active role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), (b) to capitalize on the potential of remittances to help meet the economic, social and environmental challenges confronting developing countries, (c) to encourage the private sector to facilitate the sending of remittances and to link these flows to a range of financial services and products for migrants and their families, and (d) to enhance the impact of remittances in communities of origin.

The idea of proclaiming an IDFR was unanimously recommended by representatives of the public and private sectors, and the civil society at the GFRD2013 held in Bangkok. As a United Nations specialized agency, IFAD has been called upon to take the lead in developing formal recognition of this Day.

Since its first celebration on 16 June 2015 in Milan, in the context of the GFRD2015, with the support of Her Majesty Queen Máxima of the Netherlands as Patron of the Day, the IDFR outreach campaign has evolved extensively. With a large number of international organizations, and over 90 MTOs and 800 mobile money operators endorsing the values of this observance, the IDFR was able to ensure that the human face of remittances – millions of families in lower and middle-income countries – was given its true and deserved dimension.

This endorsement from key stakeholders comes at a time when migration has become one of the top priorities of the global development agenda, and its implications are being discussed in all major forums, like the Global Forum on Migration and Development and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration process.

www.ifad.org/idfr

www.un.org/en/events/family-remittances-day/

The Global Forums on Remittances, Investment and Development

The FFR is the driving force behind the Global Forums on Remittances, Investment and Development (GFRID), a series of ground-breaking and inclusive international forums hosted by IFAD in collaboration with key development organizations and other IFIs. Since 2007, these Forums have brought together stakeholders across all sectors and from around the world involved in the field of remittances, migration and development.

The main focus of the Global Forums is to raise awareness, promote dialogue, stimulate partnerships and create long-lasting synergies among public and private sectors, and civil society actors. The Global Forums serve as a platform to specifically share best practices and lessons learned, create opportunities to promote global remittance-related dialogue and address solutions to maximize the development impact of remittances and migrant investment trends in countries of origin.

2017 Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development | GLOBAL

Global coverage will focus on the role of remittances in achieving the SDGs, and opportunities in the global marketplace. To be held in New York and organized together with the World Bank and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA).



2015 Global Forum on Remittances and Development | EUROPE

Focused on *European and global markets*, and development impact, organized by IFAD, the European Commission and the World Bank, held in Milan in conjunction with the Universal Exposition EXPO Milano 2015.



2013 Global Forum on Remittances | ASIA

Focused on *Asia*, held in Bangkok, and organized together with the World Bank.



2005 International Forum on Remittances | AMERICAS

Focused on *Latin America and the Caribbean*, held in Washington D.C. and organized by the IDB, after which the organization passed on to IFAD.



2007 International Forum on Remittances | GLOBAL

Global coverage, held in Washington D.C. and organized together with the IDB.



2009 Global Forum on Remittances | AFRICA

Focused on *Africa*, held in Tunis, in collaboration with the AfDB.

Participation in global processes on migration and development

Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)



A government-led process open to all Member States and Observers of the United Nations, that influences the global agenda on migration and the key issues related thereto, like remittances and diaspora engagement.

- IFAD's Strategy: influence the global agenda on migration and development, and on the opportunities related to remittances and diaspora engagement in rural areas.
- Objectives:
 - To provide technical advice to the GFMD through the Working Groups, thus contributing to the outcome document submitted to the final GFMD Summit.
 - Through showcasing best practices and examples, to sensitize Member States and other UN partners on the crucial role of remittances for development, and their transformative impact in rural areas.

The G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPII)



An inclusive platform for all G20 countries and relevant stakeholders to carry forward work on financial inclusion, including implementation of the G20 Financial Inclusion Action Plan.

- IFAD's Strategy: as one of the implementing partners, to showcase cross-sector synergies to enhance the impact of remittances for financial inclusion. This is achieved through the provision of technical input to the GPII Working Group on Markets and Payment Systems.
- Objectives:
 - To contribute to the global effort of reducing the average remittance transfer cost, to enhance financial inclusion as a priority, to find strategies for aligning with the SDG target on remittances.
 - To enhance the role of IFAD as high-level knowledge institution.

Global Migration Group (GMG)



IFAD joined the GMG in 2017, becoming the the Group's 22nd UN agency member.

The GMG is an inter-agency group aimed at promoting the wider application of all relevant international and regional instruments and norms relating to migration, and to encourage the adoption of more coherent, comprehensive and better coordinated approaches to the issue of international migration. The GMG is particularly concerned with improving the overall effectiveness of its members and other stakeholders in capitalizing upon the opportunities and responding to the challenges presented by international migration. Participation in the GMG increases the visibility of IFAD, underlines its expertise on remittances and diaspora investment in rural areas and emphasizes its prominent role in promoting rural transformation as a means of addressing some of the challenges of international migration.

Remittances 2020

Facilitating cooperation between IFIs on scaling up operations addressing remittances and development



The Remittances 2020 initiative aims at bringing together international financial institutions (IFIs) that share the vision of leveraging the development impact of the half-a-trillion US\$ remittances and the additional half in savings accumulated by migrants abroad. The initiative looks forward to facilitating cross learning and coordination among IFIs on key initiatives and operations in which remittances can play a fundamental role. First convened by IFAD in 2015, Remittances 2020 involves the following IFIs: African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Multilateral Investment Fund of the Inter-American Development Bank, and the World Bank.

Knowledge products

SENDING MONEY HOME – SERIES OF REPORTS

In 2007, the FFR's Sending Money Home report provided the first-ever estimates of world-wide remittances to developing countries. Since then, the FFR has released four reports under the Sending Money Home label, focusing on central issues affecting remittances from both a global and regional perspective, and stressing their impact in developing countries. Sending Money Home provides comparative indicators to measure the importance of remittances among regions and sub-regions, and highlights their potential to stimulate local economic activity. The studies also deal with regulatory and competitive issues and developments in financial mediation

- 2007 – *Sending money home: Worldwide remittance flows to developing and transition countries*
- 2009 – *Sending Money Home to Africa: Remittance markets, enabling environment and prospects*
- 2013 – *Sending Money Home to Asia: trends and opportunities in the world's largest remittance marketplace*
- 2015 – *Sending Money Home: European flows and markets*
- 2017 – *Sending Money Home: Contributing to the SDGs, one family at a time*



Other knowledge products developed

GLOBAL FORUM REPORTS

2013 GFR 2013 Official Report

This report proceeds from the Global Forum on Remittances held in Bangkok, Thailand in 2013.

2015 GFRD2015 Official Report

This report proceeds from the Global Forum on Remittances and Development held in Milan, Italy in 2015.

REMITTANCES AND FINANCIAL INCLUSION

The use of remittances and financial inclusion

A report by the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Bank Group to the G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion

This report provides an overview of the relevant general trends in leveraging remittances as a means to enhance financial inclusion, and it underscores the importance of maximizing the economic impact of remittances towards sustainable development. It describes different migration patterns (domestic vs. international; circular settlement), the segmentation of migrants according to region of destination or origin, and the related behaviours in the utilization of remittance services. It also defines an analytical framework for understanding the instrumental role of remittances as a means to foster financial inclusion. The main issues, policies, and interventions are presented herein.

REMITTANCES AND POSTAL NETWORKS – AFRICAN POSTAL FINANCIAL SERVICES INITIATIVE

Remittances at the post office in Africa: Serving the financial needs of migrants and their families in rural areas

This report focuses on African national postal operators (NPOs) as one of the several distribution channels for remittances and financial services. It intends to provide the reader crisp information on where the post offices are today in the African remittance market and financial inclusion and what can be done to leverage the existing, publicly-owned assets and resources to enhance competitiveness and to advance inclusion.

African Postal Financial Services Initiative – brochure

This brochure describes the operations of the African Postal Financial Services Initiative, highlighting the unique position of postal networks for extending access to cashless payments and securing affordable financial services in rural areas.

African Conference on Remittances and Postal Networks – official report

This report proceeds from the First African Conference on Remittances and Postal Networks held in Cape Town, South Africa 2015.

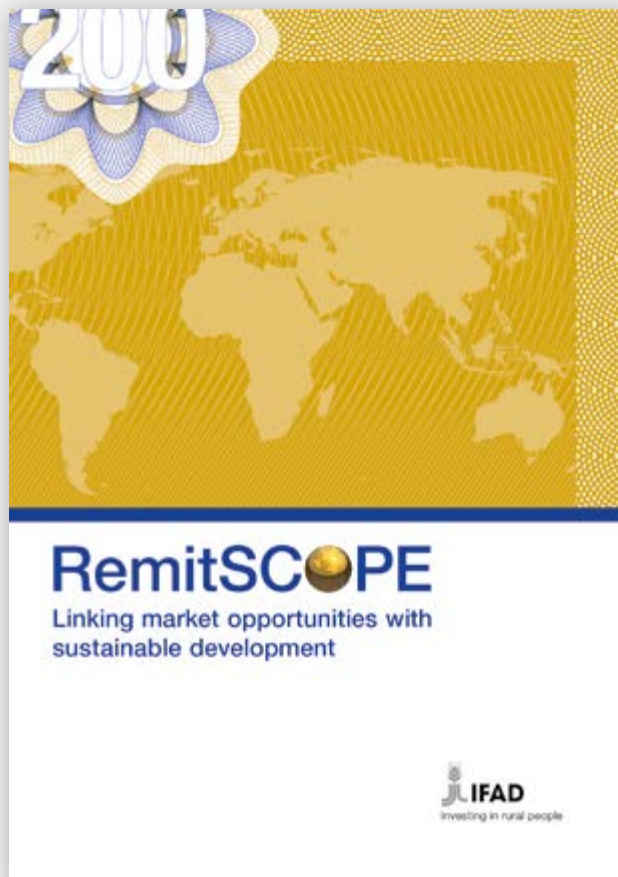
Second African Conference on Remittances and Postal Networks – official report

This report proceeds from the Second African Conference on Remittances and Postal Networks held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 2016.

DIASPORA INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE (DIA) INITIATIVE

Brochure

This brochure describes the operations of the Diaspora Investment in Agriculture (DIA) initiative, highlighting the important role played by the diaspora to foster economic growth and its potential to enhance the resilience of fragile communities. DIA seeks to leverage the contributions of migrant workers and encourage their engagement in sustained economic development through investment in agriculture, particularly in rural areas.



Upcoming

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

IFAD is an international financial institution and a United Nations specialized agency dedicated to eradicating poverty and hunger in the rural areas of developing countries. Through low-interest loans and grants to governments, IFAD builds and finances poverty reduction programmes and projects in the world's poorest communities. Seventy-five per cent of the world's poorest people, almost one billion women, men and children, live in rural areas of developing countries and depend on agriculture and related activities for their survival. IFAD focuses on poor, marginalized and vulnerable rural people, enabling them to access the assets, services and opportunities they need to overcome poverty. IFAD works closely with governments, other United Nations agencies, donors, non-governmental organizations, community groups and rural poor people themselves.

For more information, please visit www.ifad.org



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