

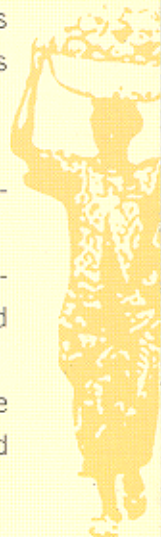


The *FAO Gender and Development Plan of Action 2002-2007* presents a framework to mainstream gender into the work of FAO.

In pursuit of FAO's mission to help build a food-secure world, it aims at removing the obstacles to women's and men's equal and active participation in, and enjoyment of the benefits from, agricultural and rural development. It emphasizes that a transformed partnership based on equality between women and men is an essential condition for people-centred sustainable agricultural and rural development.

There are three interrelated goals that FAO is specifically dedicated to helping Member Nations achieve:

- ▶ **access of all people** at all times to sufficient nutritionally adequate and safe food;
- ▶ **the continued contribution** of sustainable agriculture and rural development to economic and social progress and well-being of all;
- ▶ **the conservation**, improvement and sustainable utilization of natural resources for food and agriculture.



OBJECTIVES OF THE PLAN OF ACTION



Four medium-term objectives have been identified for the FAO Gender and Development Plan of Action:

- ◎ **Promote gender equality in the access to sufficient, safe and nutritionally adequate food.**
- ◎ **Promote gender equality in policy- and decision- making processes at all levels in the agricultural and rural sector.**
- ◎ **Promote gender equality in the access to, control over and management of natural resources, and agricultural support services.**
- ◎ **Promote gender equality in opportunities for on- and off-farm employment in rural areas.**

THE PLAN WAS PREPARED THROUGH a consultative process involving FAO's technical departments. Twenty-four Divisions revised their medium-term plans for the period 2002-2007, specifically selecting major outputs to incorporate a gender dimension. Divisions also provided verifiable gender-sensitive indicators for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Plan of Action.

THE BULK OF ACTIVITIES PLANNED fall into one or more of the following categories: capacity-building and development of curriculum and training material; development of gender-sensitive methodologies and guidelines; awareness-raising and institutional measures; information collection, analysis and dissemination; communication, participation and partnership-building; technology development and transfer, policy advice, and skills enhancement of rural women and men for both on- and off- farm employment.

