

Working together

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Improving agriculture in Africa by supporting farmers and NEPAD

More than 70 percent of poor people in Africa live in rural areas and depend on agriculture for their food and livelihood. Yet all too often farmers do not have access to the assets they need to make the most of agriculture, such as improved seeds and fertilizers or an adequate water supply. They lack information about markets and technologies that improve farming, fishing and livestock herding.

IFAD, FAO and WFP are assisting the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) to chart a course to develop agriculture, trade and market access in African nations that will address these constraints. NEPAD is also listening to the voices of farmers themselves, because they are in the best position to identify the most pressing problems at hand and propose effective solutions.

All three agencies helped NEPAD to produce the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), a policy document that identifies the difficulties African nations must overcome to reduce poverty and hunger. The document focuses on three main areas: extending the land area under cultivation using sustainable farming methods and adequate water supply; improving rural infrastructure and access to markets; and increasing



IFAD/Jo. Shirey



IFAD/R. Tugath

