



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**



Left to right: man grocery shopping: @FAO/Sanja Knežević, two women working together: @FAO/Giulio Napolitano, woman in laboratory: @FAO/Nastya Palagutina, woman holding branches: @Chris Steele-Perkins/ Magnum Photos for FAO, beekeepers: @FAO/Javid Gurbanov, woman: @FAO/Arere/Patrick Meinhardt, man holding vegetables: @FAO/Giorgio Cosulich

FAO INVESTMENT CENTRE 2024 AT A GLANCE

Investing in agrifood systems changes lives – lifting people out of poverty and hunger, connecting small-scale farmers and rural entrepreneurs to markets and financing, and protecting vital ecosystems and biodiversity. FAO is intensifying its efforts with financing partners to crowd in public and private investment for a more food-secure, resilient and sustainable future for all.

The FAO Investment Centre marked its 60th anniversary in 2024 – a milestone made possible by strong partnerships with countries and public and private financiers. This unique business model continues to thrive and evolve.

With five geographic services, the Centre combines global outreach with in-depth country knowledge, prioritizing the needs of the 120 countries it serves. Its growing multidisciplinary team, convening power and ability to draw from FAO's vast technical, analytical, data and policy expertise are distinct assets. With an expanding pool of financing and knowledge partners, the Centre is a trusted place for investment and finance solutions tailored to meet today's challenges.

In 2024, the Centre helped design 51 projects in 36 countries approved by financing partners for USD 7.3 billion

in new public investment. It contributed to 48 agricultural strategies, 33 sector studies, 21 policy studies and 5 policy dialogues in 92 countries. And it supported ongoing investment projects, totalling over USD 49.5 billion in investment, to ensure end-to-end quality and lasting results.

Among the new publications released in 2024 was a joint study with the World Bank on the challenges smallholder coffee producers in Guatemala and Honduras face in preparing for the European Union's new regulation on deforestation-free agrifood products. Another study with Innovations for Poverty Action looks at how access to finance can empower farmers and agribusinesses in lower-middle-income countries to invest in the agrifood sector.

INVESTMENT AND FINANCE SOLUTIONS



STRATEGIC INVESTMENT
PLANNING AND POLICY



PUBLIC
INVESTMENT



PRIVATE
INVESTMENT



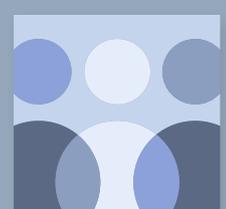
INNOVATIVE
FINANCE

+

COMPANION SOLUTIONS



INNOVATION AND
KNOWLEDGE FOR
INVESTMENT



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
FOR INVESTMENT

FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

Integrated investments for agrifood value chains

Working closely with its partners, the Centre promotes an integrated investment approach for critical agrifood value chains at country level, like grains, roots and tubers, livestock, and fruits and vegetables, as well as global commodities such as coffee, cocoa and cashews. That means strengthening its analytics and knowledge base to identify investment challenges and opportunities. It also means supporting countries to create an enabling environment, maximizing innovations and technologies along value chains, and providing de-risking solutions as needed to increase public and private investment.

Stronger focus on jobs for growth

Agrifood systems, which employ nearly 40 percent of the global workforce, are key to the jobs agenda. More and better jobs in rural areas can reduce poverty and hunger, absorb the growing labour force, and spur economic growth. But lasting results require locally driven and owned solutions. The Centre is committed to deepening its support for community-driven development to empower local entrepreneurs, reaching the most remote and fragile communities, including those affected by conflict, crisis and natural disasters. The Centre will work with countries and investors to find policy and investment solutions that can generate new enterprises and quality jobs. This includes fostering private sector-led growth and gaining a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities that digital tools and technologies, including artificial intelligence, can have on the agricultural workforce.

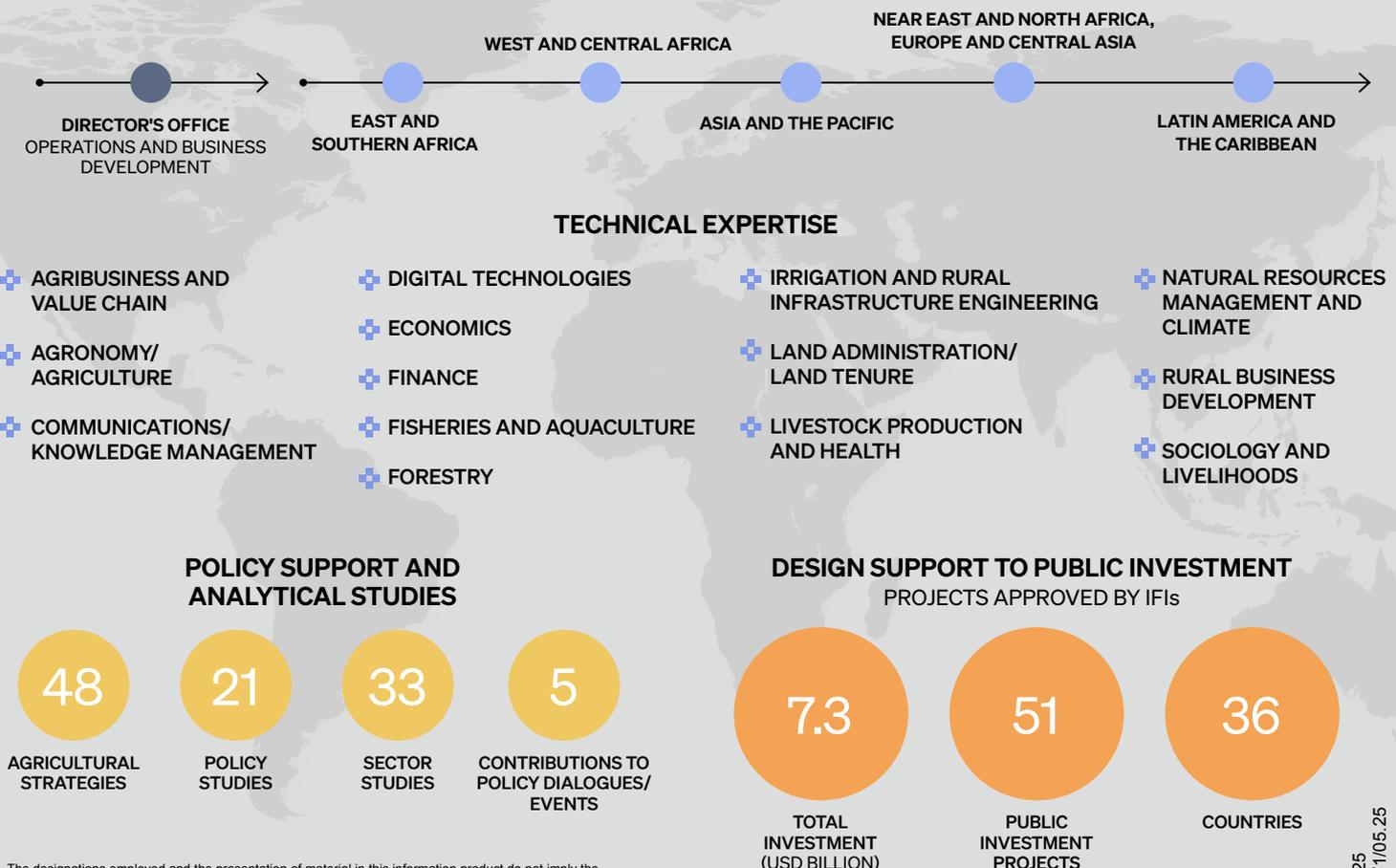
Harnessing science, technology and knowledge for greater impact

The use of FAO platforms such as the Agroinformatics, the Hand-in-Hand's geospatial data and the One Country One Priority Project enhances the quality of the Centre's investment and finance solutions. Partnering with financiers and academic and research institutions, the Centre integrates cutting-edge tools, analytics and evidence-based insights into agrifood investments for greater impact for current and future generations. The growing repository of Innovation and Knowledge for Investment products has become a global asset for policymakers and investors. The Centre promotes impactful dialogue and knowledge sharing through fora like the Investment Days, which can spark bold ideas to address today's most pressing agrifood challenges.

Diversifying investment and finance solutions, expertise and partnerships

The Centre will continue to strengthen and diversify its longstanding alliances, expanding into new critical areas of work and new regions, while also cultivating new partnerships. Its agile multi-disciplinary team keeps pace with the growing demand for investment support by sharpening its expertise in high-priority areas, including climate-smart agriculture, digital technologies, agribusiness development and blended finance. As the Centre evolves with its partners, it remains committed to providing innovative investment and finance solutions that drive real change for a better future.

FAO INVESTMENT CENTRE



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