



The Family Farming Knowledge Platform (FFKP) Monthly Digest showcases the latest contents uploaded in the FFKP to provide its readers with relevant and up to date information on family farming main themes such as agroecology, small-scale fisheries, pastoralism, indigenous people, and more.

For more documents, feel free to search in the FFKP's database
(<https://www.fao.org/family-farming/home/en/>)

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Stories of Change: connecting traditional knowledge and innovations for fair and sustainable food systems

The [Family Farming Knowledge Platform](#) in collaboration with the [Barefoot Guide Connection](#) organized a series of “writeshops”, writing classes to support practitioners to write their own experience, generating knowledge which highlight the practices, changes, innovations and impacts of what they do in support of family farming. These writeshops represented an opportunity to share the creative process through which identify, recognize, write and exchange stories and experiences from young people, women, farmers, small-scale producers who work to promote, improve and strengthen family farming and achieve prosperous and inclusive rural societies.

English Version - Click [here](#)

Spanish Version - Click [here](#)

Global Highlights

Good performance and inclusiveness of poor people in cooperatives and other producer organizations: a possible match?

A research study on nine POs in different regions, carried out by the Department of Economics of Roma Tre University and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), suggests that this is possible. The research shows that strategies promoting social opportunities can expand people's agency and capabilities, thus encouraging the development of an informed, motivated, skilled and active membership.

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FAO - SSF-LEX

A legal and policy database on small-scale fisheries that contributes to the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication.

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Breaking the cycle of unsustainable food systems, hunger, and debt

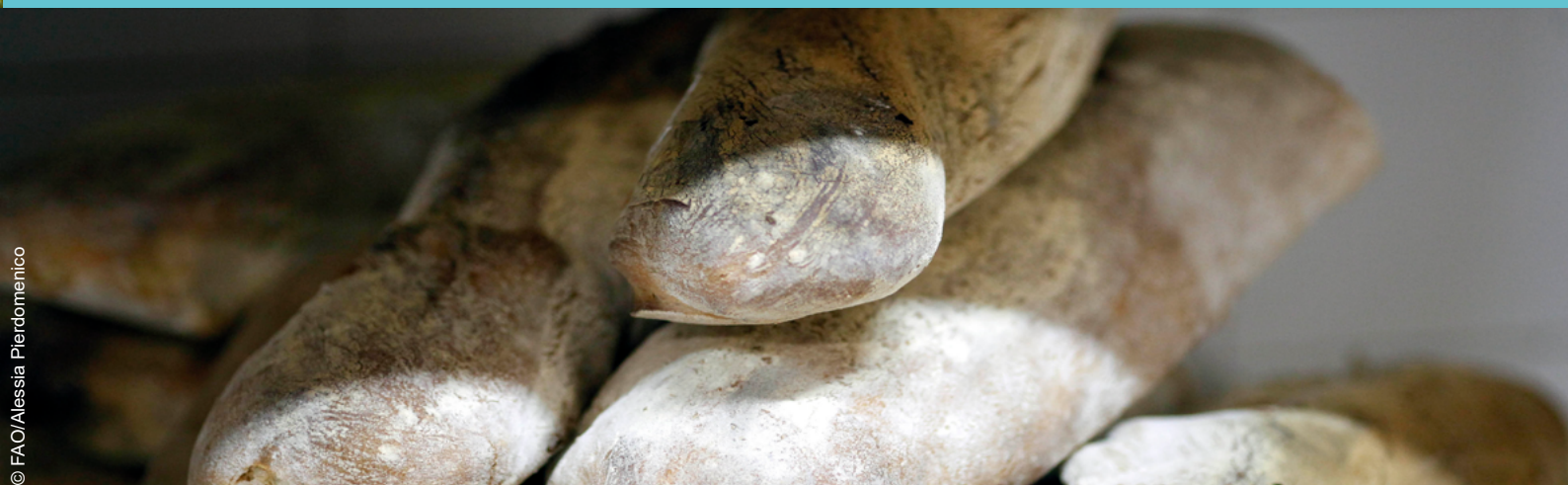
As 2023 begins, the world is on the brink of a devastating debt crisis. Following a decade of steadily rising debt levels, public finances in low-income countries have been strained by the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic disruptions ensuing from the Ukraine war – particularly sky-high import costs for food, fertilizer, and energy, and rapidly-rising interest rates. Although food prices have come down from Spring 2022 peaks, debt servicing costs are projected to rise further this year and next, and the worst impacts are surely still to come. About 60% of low-income countries, and 30% of middle-income countries, are now considered at high risk of (or already in) debt distress.

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Guide for the evaluation of agroecology

The Guide for the evaluation of agroecology proposes an approach and methodological tools to assess, on the one hand, the effects of agroecological practices and systems on the agro-environmental and socio-economic performance of agriculture and, on the other hand, the conditions for developing agroecology.

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Latest from Africa

Achieving Sustainable Food Systems in a Global Crisis

This report summarizes the evidence-based and costed country roadmaps for effective public interventions to transform agriculture and food systems in Ethiopia, Malawi, and Nigeria in a way that ends hunger, makes diets healthier and more affordable, improves the productivity and incomes of small-scale producers and their households, and mitigates and adapts to climate change.

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FAO in Africa: Highlights in 2022

FAO in Africa: Impacts in 2022 is organized according to the four betters identified in FAO's Strategic Framework 2022–2031. The framework seeks to support the 2030 Agenda through the transformation to more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for better production, better nutrition, a better environment, and a better life, leaving no one behind. This report shows real progress is being made in Africa. However, there is still much work to do. In 2022, FAO commits to continuing to work with our partners to support countries towards achieving better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life, leaving no one behind.

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Latest from Africa

Legal report on the ecosystem approach to fisheries in Namibia

Legislating for an ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) is complex, due to the holistic nature of EAF involving multiple factors that underpin the social, economic, environmental, and institutional aspects of fisheries sustainability. These factors include ecosystems integration, risks, inter-sectoral collaboration, research, participatory processes, monitoring, control, surveillance, and enforcement, among others. To assess how the EAF is being implemented through national policy and legal frameworks,

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FAO Namibia Newsletter

FAO Namibia Newsletter March 2023 / Issue #1

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Latest from Asia and the Pacific

Traditional Rice-Based Farming Systems for Climate Change Adaptation in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam

Historically, before the introduction of high-yielding rice varieties (HYV), the traditional rice varieties (TRV) were predominant in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam (MDV). The TRV-based farming system is environment-friendly and has been existing for hundreds of years—now, it has been proven to be sustainable under increasing climate change conditions.

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GOOD PRACTICES: A Digital Tool for Empowering Women Farmers

Women constitute a substantial proportion of the agricultural workforce; yet they quite often face significant barriers to accessing information, resources and technology that could improve their farming practices and enhance productivity and farm income. This good practice note examines the challenges that women farmers face, as well as how innovative digital solutions can empower them, promote gender equality in agriculture and support sustainable agricultural practices.

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Asia-Pacific Symposium on Agrifood Systems Transformation

Countries agreed at the UN Food Systems Summit in 2021 on the need to reshape and reimagine their agrifood systems and demonstrated their resolve and commitment through the development of national pathways. FAO's mission, institutionalized in its Strategic Framework (2022-31), is to support this transformation to MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for better production, better nutrition, better environment and better lives, leaving no one behind.

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Latest from Europe and Central Asia

Europe and Central Asia – Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition 2022

This report presents the latest updates related to food security and nutrition in Europe and Central Asia, including estimates on the cost and affordability of healthy diets. It also explores how governments are supporting the food and agriculture sector and how to repurpose policies and incentives to make healthy diets more affordable and agrifood systems more environmentally sustainable.

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Policy Insight publications: CAP support for agroforestry, gender equality and younger generations

Gender equality continues to be an important strategic objective for all European policies. Hence the new Policy Insight on Enhancing gender equality in EU agri-food systems highlights how the CAP is purposely designed to support actions and targets that benefit all EU citizens.

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Biodiversity in action

Both climate change and biodiversity loss have distorting social and economic impacts on development and cause severe risks for food security, nutrition and livelihoods among rural populations in Europe and Central Asia, most of whom depend directly or indirectly on the agricultural sector.

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Latest from Latin America and the Caribbean

Evaluation of results and lessons learned from the “Mesoamerica without Hunger Programme: More effective institutional frameworks to improve family farming and food and nutrition security”.

The Mesoamerica Without Hunger Programme (MSH) is a regional cooperation initiative, with a total budget of US\$15 million and an eight-year cycle (2015-2022), funded by the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) and implemented by FAO in nine Mesoamerican countries: Belize, Costa Rica, Colombia, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic.

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NEW WEBSITE: Regional Technical Platform for Family Farming

The Regional Technical Platform for Family Farming in Latin America and the Caribbean is a network that brings together the most successful experiences, know-how and the latest innovations to be shared throughout the world. It is available to governments, family farming organizations, the scientific and academic community, and the private sector.

It functions as a digital knowledge dissemination mechanism, will have a virtual convention center, and will offer digital spaces and tools to carry out joint initiatives such as training courses, learning communities, meetings, and events.

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Latest from Latin America and the Caribbean

Strengthening Digital Financial Inclusion in Rural and Agricultural Areas: Recommendations for Latin America and the Caribbean

The rapid evolution of financial technology (Fintech) over the last decade has important implications for promoting financial inclusion, especially in developing and emerging contexts. Digital innovations in the financial field, and especially mobile money services, have vast potential to alleviate some of the most critical barriers that currently limit access to financial services for rural and vulnerable actors.

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Map of Organic Fairs

The Organic Fairs Map is a search tool, idealized by Idec (Brazilian Consumer Defense Institute), with the objective of stimulating healthy and sustainable food throughout Brazil and showing that organic and agroecological products can be more accessible to consumers.

The Map aims to shorten the path of the consumer to the producer to expand the access to healthy food, produced without pesticides. Another concern of the platform is to value fairer trade relations and initiatives that seek to minimize the environmental impacts caused by food production.

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Latest from Near East and North Africa

Near East and North Africa – Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition 2022

This year's report presents evidence that Arab States face significant challenges in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2 targets related to hunger, food security, and nutrition, as undernourishment, moderate or severe food insecurity, and malnourishment are increasing. Child wasting and overweight are higher, and adult obesity is double the global average. LDCs and conflict-affected countries suffer from even more severe hunger and malnutrition, including child stunting, wasting, and women's anaemia. The report also provides the first assessment of the cost and affordability of a healthy diet since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, which shows a growing trend in the price of nutritious diets in recent years and that more than half the Arab population cannot afford a healthy diet.

Click [here](#)

FAO in the Near East and North Africa – Mid-year highlights

This report presents a summary of the main highlights and results achieved by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in the Near East and North Africa (NENA) region from January to June 2022.

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Latest from Near East and North Africa

Research priorities to strengthen women's roles in climate-resilient agriculture in the middle east and north Africa

The newly published strategy results from compiling over two decades of research in gender equality evidence and knowledge, outlining gaps in existing theoretical and applied assessment literature. The strategy aims to deliver recommendations for future research and public policy that can lead to significantly more equitable outcomes for women working in agriculture in the region and improved livelihoods and food security.

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Documentary film of the Promote & Enhance Resilience of Local Urban Food System & Food Sovereignty

The documentary film about the steadfastness of Palestinian women farmers in Gaza/Palestine reflects the continued struggle of urban and peri-urban women agripreneurs to restore food sovereignty and face challenges. These activities of the Urban Women Agripreneurs Forum (UWAF) come as an extension of the partnership project between the Gaza Urban & Peri-urban Agriculture Platform (GUPAP) and the Middle East Children's Alliance (MECA).

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Latest from our Contributors

Digitalisation in the Sahel – Piloting interactive voice response

Digital tools hold the potential to open the untapped potential for agroecology across Africa. One such tool, aiming to reach rural farmers in their own language, interactive voice response, was put to the test in Mali, yielding good results.

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CAP post-2027: An Integrated Rural and Agricultural Policy – Part 1

“Rural Europe Takes Action – No more business as usual”, the book published by ARC2020 and Form Synergies in June last year, ended with a mysterious unwritten regulation, the Common Agricultural Policy of the future. Only it is not. It is much broader than that. We called it the European Rural and Agricultural (and Food) Policy (ERAP). So, what is it about and why is it important to talk about it now? Let’s dive into it.

This article is divided in two parts. In this first part, we will first assess the why we urgently need a new CAP by looking at how it has performed on its main objectives.

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Latest from our Contributors

Shescapes: Women in Small-scale Fisheries

The 32 minute film compiled by shows a change that has occurred over a decade in different countries across the world — truthful appreciation of women's role in fisheries.

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Discover and protect Kitarasa Banana

The Kitarasa Banana is an important element of food culture at the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro. This banana variety is used to make flour for porridge, to produce a traditional local beer and as mixture with traditional dishes. Nevertheless, Kitarasa producers are decreasing, due to changes in culture, lifestyle, poor market access and the introduction of other varieties.

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Call for proposals: Research and Training Programme on Andean Agroecological Systems

The Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO) is an international non-governmental institution with associative status at UNESCO, created in 1967, currently bringing together 836 research and post-graduate centres in the field of Social Sciences and Humanities in 57 countries in Latin America, the Caribbean and other continents.

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E-LEARNING of the month

New approaches to rural development in the territories

The FAO representation in Chile, in coordination with the Undersecretariat of Regional and Administrative Development (SUBDERE), of the Ministry of Interior and Public Security of Chile, invites you to participate in the Training Course offered through the Public Policy Training Centre (FAO for Latin America and the Caribbean). The topic to be addressed will be “New approaches to rural development in the territories”.

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Real water savings in agricultural systems

In the context of the global water shortages and challenges for water savings in agricultural systems, this course introduces interventions and tools, and more specifically the real water savings in agricultural systems (REWAS) project, that aims to provide practical guidance on the implementation of real water savings.

Click [here](#)

Transforming dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems

This course seeks to build the competencies needed for program and project managers, field practitioners and policy makers to apply a transformational sustainability approach to decision-making in the management of dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral production systems.

Click [here](#)



Farming Practice of the month

Production of composts and organic materials

This selection from the Digital Library of Agriculture and Rural Development in Niger (Duddal) offers documentary resources on good organic soil fertilisation practices and in particular on compost and its manufacture. It contains technical sheets, articles, booklets and guides.

Click [here](#)

Agricultural Training Video

Mexican Roots, tradition, flavour and culture

The complex traditional systems known as milpas have played a crucial role in the production of different iconic products in the Mexican diet, such as corn, beans, pumpkins and chillies. Independently, other agricultural practices have given rise to other products that are widely consumed around the world. Cacao, vanilla, cactus, avocado, honey from melipona bees and marigold flowers are some of them.

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Family Farming Knowledge Platform

www.fao.org/family-farming

Thank you for participating!

A strong coalition of contributors sharing their knowledge represents the very foundation of this initiative.

If you are not yet a member, join our Communities of Practice!

To do so, click on the following links:

Global CoP: <https://dgroups.org/fao/familyfarming>

CoP for the Africa Region: <https://dgroups.org/fao/familyfarming/agroecologyafrica/>

CoP for the LAC Region: <https://dgroups.org/fao/familyfarming/lac>

Once a member, for sharing a message, you will only have to send an email to the email addresses below:

Global CoP: familyfarming@dgroups.org

CoP for the Africa Region: familyfarmingagroecologyafrica@dgroups.org

CoP for the LAC Region: familyfarmingagroecologylac@dgroups.org

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