



## Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

### Vision

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) was founded in 1943. The first session of the FAO Conference in 1945 established FAO as a specialized UN agency. Since 1951, FAO headquarters has been located in Rome.

FAO is a knowledge-based organization. For more than six decades, FAO has led global efforts to alleviate hunger, focusing on ways to improve agricultural production and, in turn, the lives of rural people. Under its mandate, FAO also spearheads activities that focus on making sure the environment is protected, that food produced is safe to eat, and that all people have enough food to live healthy lives. At any one time, FAO manages more than 2,000 field programmes and projects around the world, each one specifically designed to add more information, more understanding and more opportunity to find solutions. Each project has a specific goal,



**Integrated Pest Management Project, Farmer Field School in Kermanshah involving children (June 2010)**  
Photo: Hossein Heidari.

a specific problem to solve, and – once reached – FAO tries to provide the tools to share best practices on what has been learned among other farmers or other communities that face similar problems.



**Integrated Pest Management Project, IPM Product Marketing at UN Office, Tehran, Iran (May 2009).** Photo: Hossein Heidari.

FAO strategic objectives are:

- Contribute to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.
- Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner.
- Reduce rural poverty.
- Enable more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems at local, national and international levels.
- Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises.

The work of FAO is built on an overarching goal of eradicating hunger, which can be achieved by, among other things, accelerating the shift toward sustainable food consumption and production systems, promoting greater fairness in the



Integrated Pest Management Project, Farmer Field School, Group discussion on cucumber planting at Jiroft, Kermanshah Province. Photo: Hossein Heidari.

global and national management of food systems, and expanding South-South Cooperation.

### Work in Iran

Iran became a member of FAO on 1 December 1953. The Organization has been present in the country through a formal Representation since 1992, although the technical assistance rendered by the organization to the country dates back to the early 1970s.

To date, almost 200 FAO-assisted projects have been implemented in Iran. The major thrust of this FAO technical assistance has been in the areas of:

- Capacity Building.
- Policy and Strategy Development.
- Crop Production.



Integrated Pest Management Project - Farmer Field School - Grape planting at Kermanshah. Photographer Mr. Hossein Heidari.

- Livestock and Animal Health.
- Fisheries and Aquaculture.
- Forestry.
- Emergency and Rehabilitation Programmes.

Since early 2014, and in line with the priorities of the Government to promote sustainable agriculture and rural development, FAO will pursue a strategic programme, to be implemented in the country in medium to long term, on three major pillars of:

- Water Scarcity and Environmental Impact of Climate Change.
- Building Resilience for Enhanced Food Security and Nutrition.
- Sustainable Small-scale Agriculture for Inclusive Development.

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