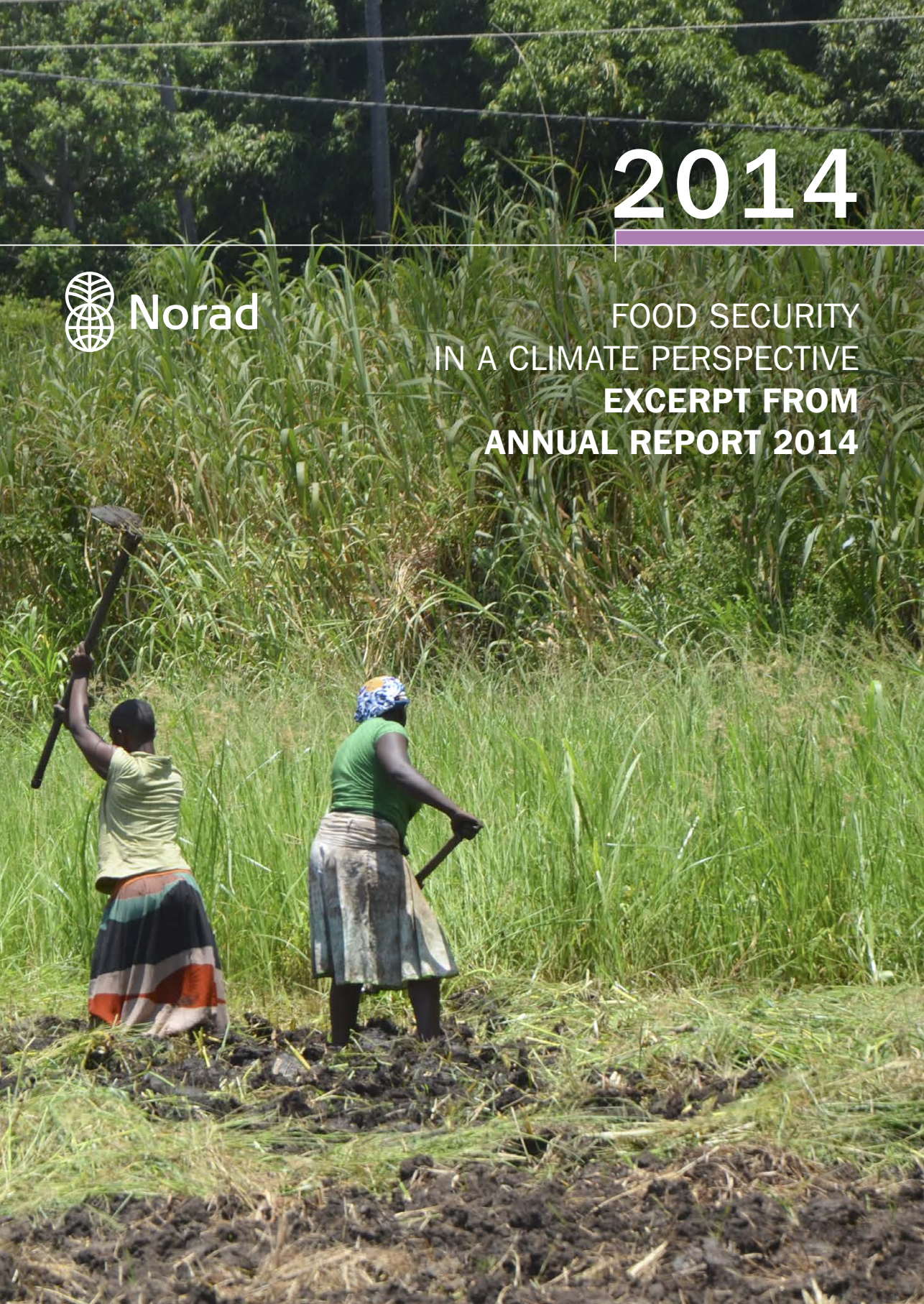


2014



Norad

FOOD SECURITY
IN A CLIMATE PERSPECTIVE
**EXCERPT FROM
ANNUAL REPORT 2014**



The challenge

The UN World Food Summit in 1996 defined food security as “when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.”

More than 805 million still suffered from under-nutrition and hunger in 2014. The vast majority of these people live in developing regions. In Sub-Saharan Africa, one in every fourth person remained undernourished in 2014. The world’s population is estimated to exceed nine billion in 2050, requiring a 60 per cent increase in food production. This will put severe pressure on food production systems world-wide, which already are suffering from an exhausted resource base.

Smallholder farmers, of which most are women, make up the vast majority of people employed in global agricultural production. This group accounts for half of the world’s food insecure people. Further, smallholder farmers in developing countries have limited access to food markets, resulting in loss of income opportunities and loss of food.

The Norwegian Strategy for Food Security in a Climate Perspective (2013-2015) is a policy tool for Norwegian development cooperation. The annual report (2014) will pay considerable attention to three topics: smallholder farmers, private sector development and gender equality. This summary presents a few selected examples of Norwegian support to food security.

FURTHER READING

> The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation: www.norad.no

> Norwegian Strategy for Food Security in a Climate Perspective: www.regjeringen.no

> Annual Report 2014 on Food Security in a Climate Perspective: www.norad.no



Smallholder farmers

According to IFAD, over 2,5 billion smallholder farmers, of whom the majority are women, provide around 80 per cent of the food consumed in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. The small-scale sector is a main contributor to occupation, income and provision of food in developing countries.

Norway supports several small and large-scale programmes in developing countries, promoting empowerment of small-scale food producers, especially women. The support has a strong emphasis on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) practices, especially Conservation Agriculture (CA).

SOME EXAMPLES:

>> The Zambian Conservation Farming Unit (CFU) promotes CA in Zambia and the Eastern and Southern African Region. The mid-term review for 2014, found that yields under CA have increased by 33%, which has further directly contributed to increased farmer's incomes. It is estimated that Zambia has earned NOK 5.7 for every NOK spent on CA. The experiences from Zambia has also contributed to the implementation of the regional CFU Conservation Agriculture Regional Programme (CARP) in Malawi, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

>> Norway has supported Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) in Tanzania through more than 40 years. The ongoing programme, EPINAV, has facilitated on-farm research with a value-chain approach in different agro-ecological zones. Achievements from the highland zone of Njombe so far show improved soil fertility and nutrient balance by use of appropriate fertilizer and herbicide, which has increased maize yield from 1.3 tons/ha (national average) to 5.4 tons in the area. Excess milk production has increased income of 800 farmers with 140 per cent in three years. Development of biogas-systems based on manure for household energy has reduced the need for wood and thereby reduced deforestation in the area, eased women's workload and improved the manure as fertilizer.

>> Since 2013, Norway has supported Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) in Mozambique in their support of UNAC's and ORAM's membership associations in Mozambique. The objective is to strengthen the influence of these grass roots organizations in order to make small-scale farmers able to claim their rights and improve their living conditions. The programme has provided access to markets for 20.000 vulnerable households, and around 120 new beneficiaries are currently using CA practices and have increased their agricultural yields in seven districts.

>> In 2014, three new agreements were signed between the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Malawi with the NGO's We Effect, Total Land Care and the Norwegian Development Fund (DF). The goal of the Norwegian support is that 1,3 million Malawian farmers will adopt sustainable agricultural methods and improved technology by 2019.



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Private sector development

Food production and trade involve a range of actors along a chain from soil and sea to final consumer. Small-scale food producers, commercial actors, input suppliers, merchants, and business corporations are central stakeholders. In developing countries, food producers experience challenges to access markets, arising from inability to handle demands on qualities and standards, poor logistics and transportation systems and limited price information and negotiation power.

In-country food production and trade represent opportunities for income generation for small-scale farmers, national food access and growth of national private sector. However, due to a number of constraints, countries in Africa annually import food for millions of dollars and at the same time experience substantial loss of nationally produced food. Many African countries lack incentives for private investments due to weak policies, governance, and regulations for commercial investments.

Norwegian support to private sector development promotes PPPs and incentives for private investments, i.e. by supporting value chain development programmes. The approach is to maximize the value of any given product in a way that gives most benefits to the poor. This is partly done through investments supported via Norfund and partly as development support.

SOME EXAMPLES:

>> The Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) is a public-private partnership consisting of farmers, agri-business, the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and companies from across the private sector. The aim is to promote commercially successful agribusinesses that will benefit the regions small-scale farmers. In 2014, the partnership expanded from 44 to 71 registered partners, and private sector pledges increased from USD 750 million, to USD 1 billion.

>> The Malawi Agriculture Partnership (MAP) brings private sector, the Government and other stakeholders together in cooperation for private sector development in the cotton and rice sectors. MAP II started in 2014, and it is expected that a total of 105 000 smallholder households will achieve increased incomes and enhanced food security.

>> The Norwegian Partnership with National Smallholder Farmer's Association of Malawi (NASFAM) aims at making private sector business linkages and moving farmers up the value chain. Today, NASFAM has about 100 000 members organised in local councils. 50 per cent of smallholder farmers under the programme produce enough food to feed their families as compared to 32 per cent in national average. NASFAM works to diversify farmers' crops, from tobacco and maize to cotton, rice, peanuts, soy, chilli and paprika. The NASFAM 'Kilombero' rice is now established as the number one choice for most consumers in the country. NASFAM-farmers' peanuts have been approved as Fair Trade products.

>> The "Marine Business Development Programme" in Madagascar is supported through The Royal Norwegian Society for Development (Norges Vel). The programme aims at improving living conditions for the coastal community of Madagascar through private sector development based on breeding of algae, sea cucumber and tilapia. In October 2014, the harvest had grown to provide profit above the minimum monthly salary in Madagascar.

>> In 2013, Norfund invested in African Century Foods (ACF), a fully integrated producer and distributor of farmed fish and chicken, in order to strengthen and expand ACF's operations in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Uganda and Mozambique. ACF farms and produces 10,000 tonnes of tilapia annually. In Mozambique, ACF's subsidiary company Frango King produces fresh and frozen broilers, as well as day old chicks which are sold to local small-scale farmers. The company is specifically targeting the lower end of the market, and provides quality jobs to over 1,400 people through its regional operations.



Gender equality

Women play a key role in agricultural production and household food security in Africa and account for between 60-80 per cent of food production for domestic consumption. Despite this, women do not enjoy the same rights and opportunities as men, and they tend to have limited access to food markets. Women farmers and pastoralists are especially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Climate change may lead to water and firewood scarcity, which would further increase women's work burden and poverty. According to FAO, women could increase their crop yields up to 30 per cent if given equal access and opportunities as men.

Gender issues are mainstreamed in all projects under the Norwegian Strategy for Food Security in a Climate Perspective. By doing so, the strategy seeks to redouble efforts to empower women and address the various constraining factors.

SOME EXAMPLES:

>> Norway supports the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) in designing a five-year Gender Climate Change Agricultural Support Programme (GCCASP). The inception phase of the programme was finalized in October 2014. The programme promotes policy dialogue on gender issues with the vision to achieve an effective and more equitable participation of women smallholder farmers, youth and other vulnerable groups in development planning and decision-making. The aim is to enable these groups to cope with the impacts of climate change, and to increase food security in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Malawi, Niger and Rwanda.

>> The Programme Against Malnutrition (PAM) in Zambia has the overall objective to improve women farmer's livelihoods through increased income and resilience to the effects of climate change. It works towards empowering women to fight rural poverty, local deforestation and land degradation through agricultural inputs, training and sensitization, adoption of CSA practices and increased market access. In 2014, women farmer participation in project activities increased. Market participation also increased during 2014. By June 2015, beneficiaries from 73 women groups were engaged in both rainy and off-season vegetable garden production, and a total of 2657 farmers were trained in relevant skills.

>> The project Reducing Vulnerability of Women Affected by Climate Change through Livelihood Options seeks to include gender in the climate change programme in Bangladesh. Around 1600 poor women from selected districts have improved earnings and 16 000 women from poor and often landless communities have been brought together in disaster resilient groups. Through this project support, UN Women has influenced national policy to integrate gender issues into the National Development plan of the Government of Bangladesh (2015-2020).





FOOD SECURITY

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