
GERMANY

REVERSE THE DECLINE IN INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE TO IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY

Germany's international development assistance for food security is delivered via the following:

- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), responsible for overall coordination, policy formulation, political dialogue with partner countries, support to international development organisations and Multilateral Development Banks;
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), responsible for the implementation of bilateral technical cooperation;
- Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), responsible for the implementation of bilateral financial cooperation.

The contributions made by the BMZ, GIZ and KfW are complemented by activities carried out by the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection. These activities relate above all to international policy dialogue and financial support within the Ministry's remit for the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Committee on World Food Security (CFS).

At the 2009 G8 summit in L'Aquila the German government committed a total of \$3 billion for the three-year period from 2010 to 2012 to food security through rural development. It is planned that about 90% of this total amount will be channelled through bilateral cooperation programs, while 10% will be implemented through the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Food Program (WFP) and international agricultural research centres working within the framework of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). This \$3 billion relates exclusively to structural measures for food security through rural development with a medium- to long-term impact. In addition, Germany continues to make significant contributions to emergency food aid.¹

In 2010, i.e. in the first year of the commitment period from 2010 to 2012, Germany spent a total of \$917 billion on international development assistance in rural development and food security. This is more than 10% of the total BMZ budget. Planned spending of \$1,050 million each year in 2011 and 2012 means that the total commitment of \$3 billion will be met.

The majority of Germany's bilateral country program aid will go to 13 focus countries: Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Laos, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia and Niger. The rest of the bilateral aid will be invested in cooperation programs with 33 other partner countries.

In order to ensure that the pledged funds are used as effectively as possible, the BMZ has brought in a new strategy entitled "Rural development and its contribution to food security". This strategy rests on four pillars: (1) Sustainable development of the rural economy; (2) Sustainable management of natural resources; (3) Provision of social services and technical infrastructure; (4) Enhancement of the political and institutional framework.

One prominent example of German support to rural development in Asia is the Cambodian land reform process. With the support of German development cooperation the Cambodian Government is establishing a comprehensive land reform system so that property can be administered fairly, transparently and efficiently. Various land administration statutes have already been adopted, state

¹ This \$3 billion also does not include amounts contributed for rural development and food security as part of German participation in EU financing instruments, payments to Multilateral Development Banks (apart from funds in trust) and support for non-governmental development cooperation.

institutions have received training and extrajudicial dispute resolution mechanisms have been introduced to mediate in land conflicts. To date 15 percent of all plots of land have been registered to small farming families, and registration is continuing. The Cambodian Government has also begun to allocate state land to the landless and land-poor population. Several thousand hectares have so far been allocated – this is the first opportunity that many families have ever had to earn a living and feed themselves from their own land.

**SUPPORT REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LED PROCESSES AND PLAN
IN SUPPORT OF RESPONSIBLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

With the adoption of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness in 2005 and the Accra Agenda for Action in 2008 German development policy undertook to cooperate with partner countries as equals and to base cooperation on mutual accountability. The primary objective is to ensure that funds are used to maximum effect. That means that Germany recognises the fact that partner countries are responsible for drawing up their own strategies for rural development and food security, but also that it will demand that these be elaborated.

Clear democratically legitimated, human-rights-based structures, strategies, development programmes and investment plans of partner countries offer the ideal preconditions for support on the part of German development cooperation. Where these preconditions are met, German activities should, as a general rule, be geared to these requirements, and be incorporated into the strategies, programmes and plans of the partner country. There should be no isolated activities that are not in line with the guidelines thus laid out. For development cooperation with partner countries in Africa, Germany considers the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) to be a central guiding process, both in terms of the form ownership ought to take and in terms of the direction to be taken by support activities.

Countries which do not yet have their own strategies for rural development or which do not have the implementation capacities required, can be supported by German development cooperation, in consultation with other development partners, in the development and realisation of strategies of this sort. In fragile states in particular, which cannot guarantee the population adequate security, social services and the rule of law, specially tailored support services are needed. German development cooperation places its faith in the earliest possible launch of development-oriented emergency and transitional assistance, as well as strengthening social security schemes, institution building at all levels, development-oriented drugs policy, the promotion of civilian conflict management and crisis prevention as well as the conflict-sensitive design of all reform processes.

**SUPPORT STRATEGIC COORDINATION OF FOOD SECURITY ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING TROUGH REFORM OF THE
INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION ARCHITECTURE**

The German government is calling for worldwide efforts on rural development and food security to be pooled, and for all important actors to be brought together. It affirms its commitment to the Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition (GPAFSN) and supports the work of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) as a central element of this partnership.

German development cooperation is working to achieve closer cooperation and consultation with other donors and for urgently needed progress on harmonising donor inputs. The major challenges can be seen in cooperating with each individual partner country and in the dovetailing of the efforts of all donors at partner country level. These efforts are being reinforced by Germany's collaboration on various international bodies.

In spite of all progress made to date, improving results orientation and management for development results in rural development remain central tasks. This applies not only to German development cooperation but to all development partners around the globe. No short-term success stories can be expected when investments are made in sustainable rural development. It is then all the more important to attach great importance to drawing up realistic objectives and results indicators in dialogue with partners. This is the only way to open the door to the sound allocation of resources, results-based monitoring, evaluation and accountability vis à vis parliaments, the general public and target groups of development interventions.