



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# FAO'S WORK IN ARMENIA



## **ABOUT FAO**

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), one of the largest specialized agencies in the United Nations system, leads the international drive to end hunger in our lifetime.

FAO is the lead agency for agriculture, forestry, fisheries and rural development. Founded in 1945, FAO today has 194 Member Countries, two Associate Members and one Member Organization, the European Union. The FAO Europe and Central Asia region includes a total of 53 Member Countries.

## **MANDATE**

FAO's mandate is to improve nutrition levels, increase agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations, and contribute to the growth of the world economy through agriculture development.



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## **GOAL**

The goal of the Organization is to achieve food security for all and to ensure that people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives. FAO believes that everyone can play a part in ending hunger.

## **FAO IN ARMENIA**

The Republic of Armenia became a Member of FAO in 1993, and the FAO Representation Office in Armenia was founded in 2004. Since becoming an FAO Member Country, Armenia has received support from the Organization in implementing various development and emergency projects aimed at increasing agricultural productivity and improving food security in Armenia.

## **SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN ARMENIA**

### **- Apricot Genetic Resources Conservation and Utilization**

Objective: reinforce the country's solid apricot industry through the collection and preservation of apricot genetic resources, the use of appropriate technology, and the introduction of suitable varieties and rootstocks for fruit and planting material production.

### **- Grape genetic resources conservation and sustainable use in Armenia**

Objective: contribute to sustainable national agricultural development by establishing a basis for the improvement and modernization of the grape production sector, with possible future significant contributions to food security, employment and income generation.

### **- Technical assistance for grape phyloxera-resistant certified planting material production**

Objective: support the Government of Armenia in the introduction of new approaches and instruments for the sustainable development of agriculture in the country through the establishment of a basis for the sound management of the grape production sector, with possible production and export growth.

### **- Support for pesticide quality control and residue monitoring in Armenia**

Objective: contribute to the sustainable development of the agricultural sector by reducing the use of hazardous agricultural inputs, improving agricultural practices, enhancing food safety, encouraging a cleaner environment and reducing the risks associated with pesticide use.

### **- Support for abattoir development in Armenia**

Objective: demonstrate and foster safe and hygienic meat production in selected regions of Armenia and help livestock development institutions (both private and public) improve the safety and quality of meat and meat products.

### **- Alternative utilization of water resources in Armenia in the field of fish production**

Objective: ensure the sustainable use of underground water resources in the Ararat valley through investment in modern technologies, maintaining the increase in industrial fish farming volumes.

**- ENPARD (European Neighbourhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development) technical assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture of Armenia**

Objective: support the Government of Armenia in ensuring efficient and sustainable agriculture and contribute to better conditions in rural areas of Armenia.

**- Assistance on agricultural policy development**

Objective: streamline agricultural, rural development and land tenure policies and propose implementation modalities to operationalize the proposed policy measures.

**- Reducing the advance of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in food and agriculture**

Objective: strengthen technical capacities and enabling environments related to antimicrobial drug resistance in targeted countries.

**- Strategies for food loss and waste (FLW) reduction**

Objective: enhance reductions in food loss and waste in the programme implementation areas, resulting in a reduction of the national contribution to climate change and a mitigation of the pressure on national food systems for increased production.

**- Developing capacity for strengthening food security and nutrition in selected countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia**

Objective: increase capacity in the countries of the region to establish an enabling environment for food security, nutrition and social protection among the most vulnerable populations.

*“Now, thanks to FAO, I am confident for the future of our family, and especially for the future of my grandchildren.”*

Merselida Atoyán, FAO project beneficiary,  
Mayisyan village of Shirak marz

## **- Establishment of land management instruments and institutional framework to address land abandonment**

Objective: assist the Ministry of Economy in addressing the problem of land abandonment through a new legal and institutional framework and the introduction of land management instruments such as land consolidation, land banking and mediation of lease. The draft law “On increasing effectiveness of utilization of agricultural land” and the accompanying package of other documents are prepared to support the Ministry of Economy during the consultation and adoption of the law.

*“The emergency assistance project is one of the important components of the continuous cooperation between the Ministry of Economy and FAO, and we must work together to ensure that the support provided to farmers is not only transparent and targeted but is also in due time.”*

Arman Khojoyan, Deputy Minister of Economy of the Republic of Armenia

## **- Forest resilience of Armenia, enhancing adaptation and rural green growth via mitigation**

Objective: through investments in forestry, agroforestry and capacity development, increase national forest cover and carbon removal from forests by reducing fuelwood demand, supporting reforestation and afforestation, and introducing sustainable and climate adaptive management of forests.

## **- Technical support for revision of the national forest policy and strategic framework**

Objective: contribute to developing activities and projects that will support sustainable forest management in Armenia, in line with Government priorities, FAO Regional Initiatives in Europe and Central Asia, FAO Strategic Objectives and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## **COLLABORATION**

- Government of Armenia
- United Nations agencies
- International organizations
- Local and international partners in the private sector
- Non-governmental organizations

## **DONORS**

- United States of America
- Greece
- Russian Federation
- European Union
- Switzerland
- Austria
- Italy

## **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Establishing a pesticide quality control laboratory.
- Upgrading and furnishing the pesticide residue monitoring laboratory with highly sophisticated equipment.
- Equipping a fish farm with modern technologies.
- Establishing a grape planting material grafting workshop.
- Establishing demonstration farms equipped with anti-hail systems and advanced irrigation technologies.
- Establishing apricot and grape demonstration orchards.
- Establishing an apricot collection orchard, with 83 varieties.
- Establishing a grape collection vineyard, with 350 varieties.
- Establishing five slaughterhouses.
- Establishing three school greenhouses.
- Establishing a fruit drying unit adjacent to the school greenhouse.
- Establishing two school orchards.
- Publishing numerous pieces of technical literature.
- Preparing educational materials and videos on advanced agriculture technologies.
- Supporting the rollout of a general agricultural census.
- Continuously building capacity among beneficiaries.



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## **SUPPORT FOR THE ELABORATION OF THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS**

- National programme on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.
- National programme on plant protection.
- Policy note on land abandonment and recommendations for policy advice on introduction of a land consolidation instrument in Armenia.
- Armenian draft law “On increasing effectiveness of utilization of agricultural land”.
- Digital agriculture strategy of Armenia 2021–2030.
- National forest development policy, strategy and action plan of the Republic of Armenia.
- The strategy of the main directions ensuring economic development in agricultural sector of the Republic of Armenia for 2020–2030 and its action plan for implementation.
- Draft law of the Republic of Armenia “On agriculture”.



## BENEFICIARIES

- Government of Armenia, represented by the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia, Food Safety Inspection Body of the Republic of Armenia, etc..
- Farmers from all marzes in Armenia.
- Scientific and educational institutions.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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