



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

HOW TO PARTNER WITH FAO

Partnerships as a way forward to eradicate hunger and malnutrition

To help accomplish its mandate, FAO is looking to establish **strategic partnerships** with non-state actors (NSAs), including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academia, research and development institutes, the private sector, producers organizations and cooperatives, and parliamentarians.

SDG 17 urges all stakeholders to continue to learn, innovate, transform and share knowledge as they work together to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially in regard to those actions relevant to hunger eradication such as resource mobilization; multi-stakeholder partnerships; international development cooperation, particularly South–South cooperation.

Three main pillars for partnerships and supporting FAO

Partnering with NSAs can be done in relation to three pillars:



Financial resource mobilization for ongoing/potential projects and activities requested by governments.



Technical capacity and expertise (through knowledge and information exchange, and in-kind contributions, participation in policy discussion and standard setting).



Awareness raising and advocacy.

FAO's selection process of partners

FAO will choose partners that respect the UN's principles and guidelines, according to the **UN Global Compact**, focusing on environmental, social and governance sustainable practices and activities.

FAO will use a **specific screening system** that aims to minimize risks and **guarantee** that potential partners are in line with FAO's mandate and with **FAO's Partnerships Strategy**.

FAO WILL PARTNER WITH ENTITIES THAT HAVE ACHIEVED AND COMPLIED WITH THE BELOW CRITERIA AND DUE DILIGENCE PROCESS.

Common UN criteria according to the UN Global Compact and environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles



HUMAN RIGHTS

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and

Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.



ENVIRONMENT

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility, and

Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.



LABOUR

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour; and

Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.



ANTI-CORRUPTION AND GOVERNANCE

Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

UN exclusion areas

Companies whose main sources of revenues are derived from the following areas would be treated as highly controversial: alcohol, gambling, weapons, pornography and tobacco.

FAO corporate risk factors in relation to the partnership

- ▶ Risk of conflict of interest
- ▶ Financial risk
- ▶ Threat to neutrality, independence or scientific credibility
- ▶ Risk of providing unfair advantage or exclusivity

Other sensitive areas of collaboration

The following sectors/industries would require a thorough risk analysis: manufacturers/sellers of genetically modified products; fast food; chemicals (including fertilizers, pesticides, seeds and other agro inputs); mining; and oil and gas.

Examples of organizations involved with FAO in successful partnerships: Google, MasterCard, Rabobank, La Via Campesina, the World Farmers' Organisation (WFO), the International Co-operative Alliance, and the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM), ActionAid, Caritas Internationalis, SEWA, El País, Unilever, Consumers International, Università degli Studi Roma Tre, Mississippi State University (MSU), etc.