Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security

Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security remain key development topics. In many countries, a significant part of the population still suffers from hunger. Many rural regions have a real potential for a socio-economic development which could strongly reduce malnutrition and rural poverty.

Transtec has more than 30 years experience in this kind of programmes. Agricultural projects go beyond agricultural production and address all steps of the market chain and policy development. Rural development stimulates community initiatives in agricultural production but also in social infrastructures, rural roads and all types of income-generating activities. Food security involves the management of food-related data from the local level to large-scale national or regional overviews, and the support or supervision of the nutritional situation of the most vulnerable population groups.

Small-scale, family farming is a cornerstone of agriculture and rural development, and requires adequate support for being successful and sustainable.

Some examples of Transtec activities in the field of agriculture, rural development and food security are presented below:

**Somalia & Djibouti:** Improving Dryland Livelihoods in Djibouti and Somalia through Productivity-enhancing Technologies. The purpose of the IFAD programme is to improve the livelihoods of pastoralists and agro-pastoralists communities in Somalia and Djibouti through increases in productivity resulting from the adoption of improved technologies for farming, the sustainable management of water, watersheds, rangelands and small ruminants – IFAD – 2017-2021 – 1,881,467 EUR

**Somalia:** Soil and water conservation, crop production and communication organization structures of the Maroodijeh Upper Catchment. The overall goal the MUC-SWCP was to contribute to the sustained livelihoods of the target groups by restoring and raising land productivity – Somaliland Development Fund (SDF) 2015-2017 – 1,842,735 EUR

**Somalia:** North-Western Integrated Community Development Programme Phase II incorporating the Food Security for Pastoralists Programme to provide advice and support the government policies towards sustainable agriculture and livestock improvement in partnership with the private sector, and through innovative reforms along the market chain, encompassing the lessons learned from initial Programme implementation. The Programme goal is to reduce poverty in target communities of Awdal and Woqooyi-Galbeed regions. The primary purpose would be to achieve an improved living standard which enables communities to satisfy basic minimum needs. The achievements gained in Phase I would be consolidated or improved to assure sustainability of Programme interventions and enhance benefits. In addition, innovative pro-poor approaches would be tested and developed. Gender mainstreaming would cross cut through all Programme activities – IFAD 2010-2015 – 6,178,173 EUR

**Tanzania:** Consultancy Service for Strengthening Service Delivery Capacity of SACCOS in 28 Districts to strengthen the capacity of rural savings and credit institutions in DASIP supported areas to provide improved services to their clients – The District Agricultural Sector Investment Project (DASIP) is a six-year Project which became operational in 2006. DASIP has three components: (i) Farmers’ capacity building, (ii) Community planning and investment in agriculture, and (iii) Support to
rural micro-finance services and marketing. The key objective of the assignment is to strengthen the services delivery capacity of existing Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies (SACCOS), facilitate the transformation of Participatory Farmer Groups (PFG) and other groups into savings groups and strengthen the capacities of authorities in the target districts and regions to manage these institutions – African Development Bank 2012-2014 – 810,000 EUR

**Bangladesh:** Technical Assistance to the Department of Women Affairs for the Food and Livelihood Security (FLS) programme to assist 50,000 ultra-poor female headed households and 30,000 ultra-poor marginal farmer and sharecropper households in the south-western part of Rajshahi Division for improving food security and livelihoods and mainstreaming them in the overall development process. The programme is implemented in all upazillas of three districts (Naogaon, Natore and Nawabganj districts) in Rajshahi Division in Northwest Bangladesh – EU 2011-2014 – 1,430,000 EUR

**Solomon Islands:** Technical Assistance to the Rural Advancement Micro-Project Programme (RAMP) to promote community self-reliance and inclusion and contribute to improved access to social services and income of participating rural and urban communities in the Solomon Islands. This was achieved through grants awarded to communities across the Solomon Islands engaged in projects to increased community access to and community-managed sustainable social-infrastructure and enterprise development opportunities. Also, a capacity-development component was established for the provision of training to NSAs – EU 2010-2013 – 920,000 EUR

**Worldwide:** Management and development of the Operational Food Security Network – ROSA to consolidate and reinforce the network of dialogue and exchange of information and knowledge involving experts in the field of food security without geographical restrictions and accessible to the staff of the Commission from headquarters and delegations as well as to external partners, in particular regional and national partners. In 2007, the European Community put in place a virtual platform open to EC actors involved in food security and to close colleagues from partner organisations. A team of experts contributed to the launching of the pilot phase of the network and to manage the platform during a 12-months period, ending in December 2008. This pilot phase was followed by successive follow up phases in 2009 and 2010. Since 2009, the “Operational Food Security Network” platform “ROSA” entered into a more user-friendly and interactive phase of operations, with the development of a new extranet platform, which offered a set of interactive tools allowing the improvement of communication and the sharing of experiences. The extranet contains a centre of documentary resources, a forum space for exchanges and a Wikipedia function for drafting of documents with several "hands". The forum function also allows each member to choose topics of common interest and start discussions about those specific issues – EU 2008-2013 – 600,000 EUR

**Honduras:** Technical assistance to the State Secretariat of the President Office for the execution of the Food Security Strategic Plan in the framework of PASAH to support the institutional & technical capacities of the State Secretariat of the President Office (the coordination organisation for food & nutritional security) - in fulfilling its duties in the framework of the strategy to implement the National Policy for Food Security & Nutrition – EU 2008-2010 – 860,000 EUR

**Mali:** Technical assistance to the Food Security System in Mali in the Framework of Support Programmes for Food Security (PASA) to provide technical and institutional assistance to the implementation of the National Food Security Strategy (NFSS) through supporting the national food security system to better programme and coordinate the NFSS and to better implement and monitor its activities; and through accompanying the reform of the system – EU 2007-2010 – 650,000 EUR

**Sierra Leone:** Technical assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security for the management of STABEX funds to improve the level of income and well-being of farming families, in areas targeted by the Programme, through improved production and marketing of basic food commodities and export crops in line with the Agriculture Sector Review – EU 2007-2009 – 837,000 EUR

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