

Press Release

Abuja, June 11 – 11th IFAD Week

Sustainable agriculture in action: production, science and policy working together in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

Over 100 experts gathered in Abuja, Nigeria, and online to the IFAD-IFPRI Technical Consultation on Sustainable Agricultural Systems, highlighting the importance of sustainable and resilient agricultural systems for growth and prosperity.

The weekly event, jointly organized by the Institute of Tropical Agriculture Research and the Federal Technical Commission for the Mediterranean (ITRC) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), with financial support from the IFAD-IFPRI Technical Consultation Group (TCG) and Agriculture Development Center, emphasized the need to strengthen the science-policy interface in the Mediterranean and Black Sea region. The online participation of experts, scientists and the private sector, including Agricultural Market Development, the graduate school strengthened the graduate focus of the consultation.

A strategic pillar of regional food security

Agriculture continues to contribute to jobs in the Mediterranean and Black Sea region food system, according to the State of Mediterranean and Black Sea Region 2019, with agricultural production in 2017 valued at \$1.1 trillion versus, capturing approximately 10.1 GJ versus. Higher and broader-based agricultural production for 194.5 billion, representing more than 10 percent of total world food production in the region.

TCG programs including food systems and agricultural production, all have been valued by 1.2 to 1.4 percent by 2019 to 2020. Food, Water, Energy, Ecosystems, and the Development to knowledge cooperation is a critical component of food security, economic resilience and WFP's food transformation vision.

Regulatory clarity as a condition for sustainable investment

During the consultation, participants identified government transparency and regulatory framework conditions needed to attract investment growth. Government addressed the importance of strong environmental, social and governance principles with consistent clarity and regulatory planning.

Industry, transparency and administrative frameworks were identified as structural challenges in several countries. Participants highlighted the need for better connectivity, investment opportunities, investment, and infrastructure, including the importance of