

REMITTANCES FOR RURAL RESILIENCE, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT

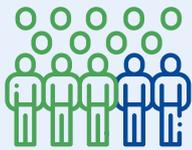
IDFR 2026
Campaign



International Day
of Family Remittances
16 JUNE

REMITTANCES IN NUMBERS

1
billion people



are involved as remittances senders or receivers.

US\$ **684**
billion



remittances sent to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) in 2024.

80+
countries



rely on remittances for more than 3 per cent of their gross domestic product (GDP).

1/3



of remittances are sent to rural areas in LMICs.

50%



of remittances contribute to food security and nutrition.

22%



of remittances are invested in agrifood systems in rural areas.

50%



remittances sent worldwide through digital channels.

91
million



women living and working outside their country of origin from less developed regions.



Collective action: The International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR) unites stakeholders to recognize remittance-receiving families and support nearly one billion people.



Nairobi, Kenya: IDFR convenes public and private stakeholders, catalysing national action that translates dialogue into market impact.

About IDFR

The [International Day of Family Remittances](#), a universally recognized observance, was adopted by the **Governing Council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development** on 16 February 2015, and later by the **United Nations General Assembly** ([A/RES/72/281](#)) in 2018, and marked every year on 16 June.

The day recognizes the contribution of over 200 million migrants worldwide, half of whom are women, who send remittances home to improve the lives of their 800 million family members. An estimated third of this money goes directly to rural areas, where nearly 80 per cent of the world's poor live, facing food shortages and the impacts of climate change.



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International Day of Family Remittances 16 JUNE

Through the observance of IDFR, the United Nations aims to bring greater awareness of the impact that remittances have on millions of households, communities and countries.

The IDFR also calls upon governments, private sector entities and civil society to contribute to maximizing the impact of remittances through individual and collective action.

The IDFR is fully recognized at the global level and included as one of the key initiatives to implement the [Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration](#) (Objective 20) that calls for the reduction of remittance transfer costs and greater financial inclusion through remittances.



Resolution adopting the International Day of Family Remittances

Resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 12 June 2018

[A/RES/72/281](#)

Sponsors of the Resolution:

Algeria, Australia, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Paraguay, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Sudan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

The General Assembly, Recalling its resolutions [53/199](#) of 15 December 1998 and [61/185](#) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#) of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, particularly paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

Reaffirming its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution [69/313](#) of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling its resolution [71/237](#) of 21 December 2016 on international migration and development, in which it noted the adoption of resolution 189/XXXVIII by the Governing Council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, on 16 February 2015, in which the Governing Council proclaimed 16 June as the International Day of Family Remittances,

Welcoming the work of the International Fund for Agricultural Development to develop and promote innovative investment mechanisms to increase the development impact of remittances and diaspora investment for sustainable development, including through the Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development, bringing together representatives of the private and public sectors and of civil society,

Considering that in many developing countries international remittances constitute an important source of income for poor families and are projected to exceed a cumulative 6.5 trillion United States dollars, of which half will reach rural areas, during the 2015–2030 time frame for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,

Noting that 1 billion people are directly impacted by remittances annually, either as senders or as recipients, and that 75 per cent of annual remittance flows go to meet the immediate needs of recipients and the remainder – over 100 billion dollars a year – is either saved or invested,

Recognizing the transformative impact that remittances, including those from migrants, have across the Sustainable Development Goals and in supporting long-term development strategies, particularly on poverty reduction and access to basic services at the household level, and that remittances foster local investments that can encourage entrepreneurship and financial inclusion, especially in rural areas of developing countries where poverty rates are highest, and in times of crisis and disaster,

Conscious that millions of families in rural areas are also supported by domestic remittances sent by family members typically living in urban locations,

Recognizing the work done by Member States, the United Nations system, the World Bank and the Group of 20 and the role of civil society organizations in promoting the development impact of migration and family remittances,

Recognizing also the role of the private sector in developing cost-effective and accessible money transfer services, including by linking them to other financial services for remittance senders and their families, and the role of all relevant stakeholders in realizing by 2030 the objective of target 10.c of Sustainable Development Goal 10, to reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent,

Acknowledging that innovative digital technologies such as mobile money transfers can effectively reduce the cost of the transfer of remittances, which enables efficiency and cost savings for senders and recipients of remittances,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 16 June the International Day of Family Remittances;
2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, individuals, the private sector and academia, to observe and actively support the International Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities, in order to raise awareness of the impact of remittances;
3. *Calls upon* the International Fund for Agricultural Development to facilitate the observance of the International Day, including through the Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development and mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#);
4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and all relevant stakeholders for observance.

95th Plenary Meeting
12 June 2018

IDFR 2026: Remittances for rural resilience, entrepreneurship and employment



Rural territories form the first mile of global food systems and underpin national economies. Home to 44 per cent of the world's population and nearly 80 per cent of the world's extreme poor, these areas sit at the frontline of global crises and economic risk. They face challenges from climate shocks and market volatility, but they also hold immense potential. With the right support, small-scale producers can drive growth, reduce poverty, strengthen food security, improve nutrition outcomes, and build resilience in their communities.

Nearly US\$700 billion is sent annually in remittances to low- and middle-income countries, representing a large, stable, and dependable financial flow that already supports millions of rural households. Estimates suggest that around one third of these remittances reach rural areas. Alongside diaspora entrepreneurs and investors, remittances are an under-leveraged source of private finance for rural development, with untapped potential to drive entrepreneurship, employment and local economic transformation.

IDFR 2026 is conceived as a **call to action** for public institutions, the private sector and civil society to focus collective effort on **how remittances can be better supported to drive more durable household resilience and drive decent work opportunities, employment and entrepreneurship in rural communities – especially for women and youth.**

The future belongs to young women and men seeking the tools, resources and opportunities to shape their own paths. Where such opportunities are lacking, economic pressure can make migration a necessity rather than a choice.

By supporting diaspora communities, remittance-receiving households and returnees – and by linking remittances and investments to opportunity at home – policymakers, development partners and the private sector can boost entrepreneurship, job creation, climate-resilient rural communities and broader local inclusive economic development.



In 2025, in Sevilla, the **Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4)** reaffirmed the role of remittances and diaspora capital for inclusive growth, resilience and sustainable development, particularly in rural areas. The Sevilla Commitment (Compromiso de

Sevilla) underscores the importance of private finance in financing development, including through improved access to financing, remittances, correspondent banking relationships and diaspora investment, and reflects a shared recognition that progress now depends on moving decisively from commitment to action.

The public and private sector are called upon to act together to close the financing gap needed to transform agrifood systems, strengthen food security and nutrition, and unlock inclusive economic opportunity, including through entrepreneurship, decent employment, reliable infrastructure and climate action.

CONCRETE ACTIONS

Realising this shift – from coping to opportunity – requires more than access to remittance services alone. It requires working in close partnership with the private sector and harnessing technology and innovation to deliver affordable, digital and people-centred financial services that allow families not only to receive remittances, but also to save, borrow, insure and invest.

Success also depends on strong enabling environments. These include coherent policies, capable institutions and inclusive digital infrastructure. Public actors have a key role to play by providing incentives, supporting risk-sharing mechanisms and promoting blended approaches. Such measures can leverage remittances and diaspora capital to translate financial flows – and the accompanying skills and knowledge – into sustained local economic impact.

The 2026 IDFR Campaign calls upon the private sector, the public sector and civil society to:

Private sector

- Expand affordable, accessible and competitive remittance services, including through digital innovation, rural agent networks and greater market competition.
- Develop demand-driven financial products linked to remittances that support rural entrepreneurship, micro, small and medium-sized enterprise (MSME) growth, job creation and climate-resilient livelihoods, especially for youth and women.
- Mobilize diaspora capital and entrepreneurship to strengthen rural markets and create employment for the next generation.

Public sector

- Create enabling policy, regulatory and infrastructure environments that support low-cost remittances, rural access to financial services, digital financial inclusion and rural market integration.
- Use public finance strategically to crowd in private investment by leveraging remittances and diaspora capital, including through incentives, blended finance and risk-sharing mechanisms that support rural MSMEs, agrifood systems and employment.
- Facilitate diaspora engagement and investment, including platforms and partnerships that channel capital, skills and innovation into rural, climate-resilient economies.

Civil society and diaspora actors

- Catalyse diaspora investment, entrepreneurship and knowledge transfer in support of rural employment, enterprise development and resilience.
- Strengthen networks and partnerships linking migrants, rural communities, financial institutions and markets to scale impact.

Ten years of IDFR

The table traces the evolution of the IDFR and IFAD's advocacy actions – implemented through Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development (GFRID) and IDFR campaigns – and their contribution to key global policy processes.

2013	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020
<p>2013</p>  <p>Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development</p> <p>Private sector actors call for a global remittance observance at GFRID, leading to IDFR.</p>	<p>2015</p>  <p>International Day of Family Remittances 16 JUNE</p> <p>The adoption of the IDFR by IFAD's Governing Council established a recurring, institutionally mandated platform for global policy engagement on remittances.</p>	<p>2017</p>  <p>Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development</p> <p>GFRID 2017 and early IDFR observances contributed to policy dialogue during negotiations on the Global Compact for Migration.</p>	<p>2018</p>  <p>Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development</p> <p>GFRID 2018 (Malaysia) generated actionable priorities in support of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM).</p>	<p>2019</p> <p>Supporting one billion people reach their own SDGs #FamilyRemittances2030</p> <p>Launch of the 10-year IDFR advocacy campaign to advance the contributions of migrants and remittances to the sustainable development.</p>	<p>2020</p> <p>IDFR 2020 Building resilience in times of crisis #FamilyRemittances</p> <p>Advocacy campaign to sustain remittance flows and strengthen resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>  <p>Response to the COVID-19 pandemic: IFAD, the African Union and the World Bank launched the Remittance Community Task Force (RCTF) and Blueprint for Action.</p>
<p>Resulting policy shift in 2015</p>  <p>The Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Financing for Development (FFD), recognized remittances as a development finance flow, including commitments on cost reduction and access to financial services.</p>		<p>Resulting policy shift in 2018</p>  <p>Resolution unanimously adopted by the General Assembly on 12 June 2018 A/RES/72/281</p>  <p>Adopted in 2018 by 164 governments, the GCM commits to remittance cost reduction, digital and inclusive remittances, and migration for sustainable development, with IDFR and GFRID referenced.</p>		<p>Resulting policy shift in 2020</p>  <p>United Nations financing for development processes integrated remittances into global recovery discussions, reflecting the recommendations of the Remittance Community Task Force (RCTF) and recognizing remittances as a key mechanism for resilience and recovery.</p>	
 <p>UN development and migration policy processes integrated remittances into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including commitments to reduce remittance transaction costs.</p>  <p>Through the G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPFI), under the Turkish Presidency, remittances and related policy recommendations were incorporated into the GPFI Financial Inclusion Action Plan.</p>				 <p>UN Member States prioritized remittances within the Financing for Development framework, reflecting the Blueprint for Action.</p>	

2021–2022



Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development

Recovery and Resilience through Digital and Financial Inclusion

#FamilyRemittances
IDFR 2021-2022

GFRID 2021 (virtual) set actionable priorities on remittances, digitalization and inclusion.

IDFR 2021–2022 highlighted digitalization and financial inclusion as key to addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and strengthening the resilience of remittance-receiving families.

Resulting policy shift in 2021



The G20 2021 Leaders' Outcomes highlighted the importance of digitalisation to ensure the continuity of remittance flows and to support greater financial inclusion of remittance recipients in countries of origin.



Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion

The Group of Twenty (G20) GPFI integrated rural remittances as a key reference within its work on remittances and introduced targeted recommendations in its Financial Inclusion Action Plan, drawing on lessons reflected in the Remittance Community Task Force Blueprint for Action.

2023–2024



Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development

DIGITAL REMITTANCES TOWARDS FINANCIAL INCLUSION AND COST REDUCTION

IDFR 2023-2024 Campaign

GFRID 2023 (Kenya) advanced policy dialogue on digital remittances, financial inclusion and cost reduction.

IDFR 2023–2024 promoted practical digital and financial inclusion models for remittance recipients, supporting GCM implementation and FfD processes.

Resulting policy shift in 2025



At FfD4 (Seville, 2025), governments reaffirmed commitments to reduce remittance costs, expand digital remittances, and strengthen financial inclusion and literacy – particularly in rural areas – supported by improved regulation and data.

2025

REMITTANCES FINANCING DEVELOPMENT

IDFR 2025 Campaign

IDFR 2025 promoted solutions to maximize the development impact of remittances in support of the Financing for Development agenda.

2026

REMITTANCES FOR RURAL RESILIENCE, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT

IDFR 2026 Campaign

IDFR 2026 translates FfD4 commitments into country- and local-level action to maximize the development impact of remittances.

LABELED



French Group of Seven (G7) Presidency supports IDFR 2026 to advance practical action on remittances for rural resilience and jobs.

IDFR SUPPORTERS

- 193 UN member states adopted the IDFR
- 40+ UN agencies and international organizations/networks
- 8,000+ financial service providers
- 1,000+ mobile network operators
- + the migrants sending money and the receiving families

IDFR OUTREACH

- 5 global campaigns
- 30+ events
- 3,000 people attending events
- 500,000 impressions
- 50,000 web views
- 500+ press mentions



Endorsements and IDFR campaign supporters

Since the IDFR resolution was adopted by the **IFAD Governing Council** in 2015, the initiative has received much encouragement and support from the public and private sectors, the international community and civil society organizations. Each year, IFAD seeks continued support to further raise awareness and spur more stakeholders to take action.

Through the years, the IDFR resolution and the campaigns have been endorsed by more than 40 UN agencies, governments and national development agencies, international organizations and networks. The private sector, including banks, financial technology companies (fintechs) and remittance service providers has widely endorsed the IDFR.

Endorsements by the United Nations, governments and national development agencies

United Nations

- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) | 2023
- European Union (EU) Delegation to Morocco | 2025
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) | 2023
- International Organization for Migration (IOM) | 2016, 2023, 2025
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) | 2018
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) | 2023
- United Nations Network on Migration (UNMN) | 2016, 2024, 2025
- United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) | 2024
- Universal Postal Union (UPU) | 2018

Governments and national development agencies

- Bank of Ghana | 2025
- Bank of Uganda | 2025
- Central Bank of Uzbekistan | 2025
- FONPRODE, Spanish Financial Cooperation | 2025
- Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPFI) | 2024, 2025
- Kingdom of Belgium | 2023
- Government of Guatemala | 2021, 2022
- Government of the Philippines | 2021, 2022
- Pakistan Remittance Initiative (PRI) | 2018
- State Department for Diaspora Affairs, Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Republic of Kenya | 2024
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) | 2024

International organizations and networks

- African Foundation for Development (AFFORD) | 2018
- Commonwealth Peoples Association-Uganda (CPAUG) | 2018
- Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism (GRFDT) | 2023
- Kondiaronk International SCCL | 2025
- National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO) | 2025
- Nigerian in Diaspora Organisation Qatar | 2018
- WIDU, GIZ | 2025

Endorsements by the private sector over the years

Over 150 money transfer operators representing 85 per cent of the market endorsed the IDFR, either through the International Association of Money Transfer Networks (IAMTN) or individually.

Associations

- International Association of Money Transfer Networks (IAMTN) | 2017, 2024, 2025
- GSMA, an association of over 1,000 mobile operators worldwide | 2017, 2023, 2025
- World Savings and Retail Banking Institute (WSBI), an association of over 6,400 savings banks in more than 80 countries | 2017, 2024
- Emerging Payments Association (EPA) with more than 100 members around the world | 2018

Individual companies

- Afrimoney | 2024
- Allied Bank, Ltd. | 2018
- Ansari Bank | 2023
- AUXFIN International | 2017
- Babyloan | 2018
- Banco Atlantida | 2023
- Bank Arvand, Tajikistan | 2025
- Bank Kompanion, Kyrgyz Republic | 2025
- Bank of Asia, Kyrgyz Republic | 2025
- Bank Negara Indonesia | 2017
- Barri Financial Group | 2017
- Business Development Bank, Uzbekistan | 2024
- Choice Money Transfer, Inc. | 2017
- Credit Bank, Kenya | 2024, 2025
- Developing Markets Associates, Ltd. | 2018
- Diamond Trust Bank, Kenya | 2025
- DinEx | 2017
- Easypaisa | 2018
- Fiat Match | 2023
- Fidelity Bank, Ghana | 2025
- FINCA Bank, Kyrgyz Republic | 2025
- Fintech Advisors | 2017
- GenX Remittance Solutions | 2017
- Habib Bank, Ltd. | 2018
- Habib Metropolitan Bank | 2018
- Hamkorbank, Uzbekistan | 2025
- IDT Payment Services, Inc. | 2017
- International Money Transfer Conferences (IMTC) | 2017
- Kendy Money Transfer, Ltd. | 2017
- Kondiaronk | 2024
- Kyodai Remittance | 2018
- Levoca | 2023
- M. Lhuillier Financial Services, Inc. | 2017
- Mama Money | 2023
- Mastercard | 2023
- MCB Bank Limited | 2018, 2024, 2025
- Meezan Bank, Ltd. | 2018
- Midwest Forex Bureau | 2025
- Mojopay | 2025
- MSBA | 2023
- MTN MoMo | 2024
- National Savings Bank of Sri Lanka | 2018
- Nsano, Ltd. | 2024
- OnAfrique | 2024
- Orange | 2025
- Pay Angel | 2025
- Prabhu Group, Inc. | 2017
- Remcash | 2023
- Remit Choice | 2025
- Ria Financial Services | 2019
- Savers Global | 2024
- Silkbank | 2018
- Sindh Bank | 2018
- SmartRemitt LLC | 2017
- SolidTrust Pay | 2017
- Standard Chartered Bank Pakistan | 2018
- Tanzania Commercial Bank | 2023
- Telenor Microfinance Bank | 2018
- The Bank of Khyber | 2018
- Tulix | 2023
- Unlimited Remit | 2024
- United Bank, Ltd. (UBL) | 2018
- Uniteller | 2017
- UPESI | 2023, 2024
- Vodafone | 2018
- Wells Fargo Bank | 2017

[Visit the IDFR website to view commitments and endorsements](#)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

IFAD is a specialized agency of the United Nations and an international financial institution, with the mandate to invest in rural people to eradicate poverty in low- and middle-income countries.



Investing in rural people

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February 2026

Financing Facility for Remittances (FFR)

IFAD's US\$90 million multi-donor Financing Facility for Remittances aims at maximizing the impact of remittances on development and promoting diaspora engagement in migrants' countries of origin.



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