India-IFAD Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (COSOP) 2026–2033

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Why in News?

Recently, Union Government & International Fund & Agriculture Development (IFAD) have launched a new 8 year strategy, the country strategic opportunity Programme (COSOP) 2026 -2033.

- **Objective** - To bolster the rural economy & Enhance Climate resilience.

COSOP 2026-2033

- **Vision Alignment -** Programme is aligned with the Government's Viksit Bharat @2047 vision, focusing on transforming India into a developed nation by its centenary of independence.

Strategic Priorities –

- **Resilience Building -** Enhancing the social, economic, and climate resilience of rural communities.
- **Knowledge Sharing -** Strengthening knowledge systems to scale successful development models within India and across the Global South (South-South and Triangular Cooperation).
- **Institutional Focus -** Emphasis on grassroots institutions such as:
- Self-Help Groups (SHGs)
- Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)
- Cooperatives

Knowledge Leadership - Positioning India as a leader in rural development by sharing models of inclusive finance, digital agriculture, and climate-resilient value chains with countries in Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America.

IFAD-NABARD Strategic Partnership - On the sidelines of the launch, a strategic agreement was signed between IFAD and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

Objective - To strengthen rural finance systems and foster innovation in agricultural and allied sectors.

About IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development)

- ***Nature -*** *A specialized agency of the* ***United Nations*** *and an International Financial Institution (IFI).*
- ***Establishment -*** *Set up in* ***1977*** *as an outcome of the 1974 World Food Conference.*

- ***Mandate -*** *To eradicate poverty and hunger in rural areas of developing countries.*
- ***Headquarters -*** *Rome, Italy.*
- ***Membership -*** *Open to any state that is a member of the UN. India is a founder member and a major contributor.*
- ***Focus Areas-***
    - *Smallholder farmer productivity.*
    - *Climate change adaptation in agriculture.*
    - *Gender equality and women's empowerment in rural landscapes.*

Significance for India

- **Longevity -** The India-IFAD partnership spans nearly five decades, with 35 rural development projects implemented to date.
- **Evolution -** The partnership has shifted from basic poverty alleviation to building **market-oriented** rural livelihoods that can withstand climate and economic shocks.
- **Impact -** Major successes include large-scale financial inclusion for women and the integration of e-commerce for women-led enterprises.

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