

The *FAO Investment Centre* helps governments to identify, prepare and evaluate projects for financing by the various investment agencies with which the FAO is linked through co-operative programs.

The largest of these programs is with the World Bank Group – the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA). During 1972 the FAO/IBRD Co-operative Program helped to identify or prepare 27 projects in 22 countries; loans and credits approved by the Bank for these projects totalled \$351 million. Since the 1964 Program, 138 projects have been approved for loans totalling more than \$1,900 million.

Similar co-operative arrangements with regional banks have helped in increasing lending for agricultural development.

The *World Food Program* is a co-operative undertaking by the United Nations and the FAO that uses food supplies – contributed by more than 100 developed and 62 developing countries – as a backing for long-term social development and also for emergency relief. Food aid may be given as an incentive in self-help and settlement programs, as part wages in labour-intensive development projects or as support for school and other institutional feeding programs. The Program started operations in January 1963, and by 1972 more than 11 million people were benefiting from WFP aid. Most were workers, and the families of workers, building roads, digging irrigation channels, planting new forests and doing other public works. Others were infants, mothers and students benefiting from various health and education projects. Up to the end of 1972, 538 projects had been approved in 87 countries for a total commitment of \$1,135 million, and 154 emergency operations in 72 countries had cost \$114 million.

The *Freedom from Hunger/Action for Development Campaign* was launched in 1960 to create a world awareness of the severity of the food problem and to stimulate understanding of the fundamental causes of under-development. Substantial funds have been contributed by private individuals and citizen groups that have increasingly been spent on self-help projects aimed at showing the people of the developing countries how much they can do to improve their own circumstances. By the end of 1972, there were 132 projects in operation, for which \$2,250,000 have been contributed during this year by voluntary agencies.

The *FAO Industry Co-operative Program* helps countries to draw up projects that are likely to gain support from private industry and helps to bring investors into projects at the drafting stage. The Program was established in 1966, and is supported by fees paid by about 90 member companies.

