



Quick Facts:

Sustainable Agriculture

Hunger and Poverty

- 36.2 million people live in households considered to be food insecure. Of these 36.2 million, 23.8 million are adults (10.6 percent of all adults) and 12.4 million are children (16.9 percent of all children). (Food Research and Action Center)
- Of the 2 billion children in the world, 1 billion live in poverty. (2005 UNICEF State of the Children Report)
- Almost half the world—over 3 billion people—live on less than US\$2.50 a day. (2008 World Bank Development)
- Rural areas account for three in every four people living on less than US\$1 a day, and a similar share of the world population suffering from malnutrition. (2007 United Nations Human Development Report [UNHDI])
- Of the more than one billion hungry people in the world, three-quarters are poor farmers. (Gemma Lodesani, head of the World Food Programme [WFP] office in Brussels)
- Annually, \$25 billion is spent on US farm subsidies. (2007 Heritage Foundation report)
- African countries could generate \$70 billion if their share of world exports increased by 1%—approximately five times what the continent receives in aid. (Oxfam International)
- The amount required to meet all eight Millennium Development Goals by 2015 is \$40-70 billion. (UN)

UMCOR's Sustainable Agriculture & Development (SA&D) Program

- The SA&D is an initiative of the Hunger and Poverty Program office of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) that aims to support economic and social development in rural communities through agricultural production and related activities. Its primary goal is to provide improvements in the standards of living in communities, especially in rural areas.
- Global Ministries' original Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development Initiative (SARDI) began in 2000. The current SA&D model of trainings began in 2001.

- UMCOR SA&D currently conducts trainings in four countries: Ghana, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and has provided support in Nigeria, Mozambique, and Senegal in the past. We are working now to provide more trainings in DRC and Nigeria.
- SA&D currently offers farmer-to-farmer trainings in Integrated Crop and Pest Management (ICPM), and in nutrition using soy and moringa, beekeeping, agroforestry, small livestock, and group microcredit.
- Each year, approximately 2,000 farmers are directly trained in at least one UMCOR SA&D component.

Fair Trade

Fair trade is an alternative business model that gives farmers and workers a living wage for their work, which can sustain them and also create opportunities for social and economic development.

UMCOR supports fair trade relationships that cultivate and ensure partnerships with small-scale farm holders and cooperatives. UMCOR's Coffee Project promotes fair trade by bringing United Methodist consumers and producers closer through its partnership with Equal Exchange, which trades directly with democratically organized small farmer cooperatives, provides producers with advance credit for crop production, pays producers a guaranteed minimum price that provides a stable source of income and improved social services, provides high-quality food products, supports sustainable farming practices, builds a democratically run cooperative workplace, and develops more environmentally sound business practices.

Fair trade seeks to create greater equity and partnership in the international trading system by:

- Creating opportunities for economically and socially marginalized producers
- Developing transparent and accountable relationships
- Building capacity
- Promoting fair trade
- Paying promptly and fairly
- Supporting safe and empowering working conditions
- Ensuring the rights of children
- Cultivating environmental stewardship
- Respecting cultural identity.



Be Counted.

