

—❦— The second celebration of —❦—
**WORLD RURAL
DEVELOPMENT DAY**
2026

(July 6)

—❦— Special Edition of CIRDAP —❦—

IR Iran's Vision:
**Together We Grow,
Together We Prosper.**



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Islamic Republic of Iran



SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE



FOOD
SECURITY



VIBRANT RURAL
COMMUNITIES



COOPERATION &
PARTNERSHIP

—❦— **THEME 2026** —❦—

“Towards Vibrant, Prosperous and Happy Rural Communities”

IR Iran's Vision: Together We Grow, Together We Prosper.

By H.E Dr. Gholamreza Nouri Ghezeljeh, Minister of Agricultural Jihad, Islamic Republic of Iran

In the Name of God

Message from the Minister of Agricultural Jihad of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Occasion of the International Day of Rural Development (2026) - Theme 2026: *"Towards Vibrant, Prosperous and Happy Rural Communities"*

Amid the profound sorrow and grief brought about by the recent circumstances in my country which is observing a period of national mourning following the martyrdom of the Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I am sending a message on the occasion of the International Day of Rural Development and under this year's inspiring theme, "Towards Vibrant, Prosperous and Happy Rural Communities," to CIRDAP, member countries, including the governments, peoples, rural communities, and all those dedicated to rural development across the CIRDAP Member States.

We firmly believe that even in difficult times, development, solidarity, and cooperation among nations keep the light of hope alive. Rural development remains one of the strongest pathways toward achieving food security, prosperity, and sustainable development.

Today, the world is facing complex challenges, including climate change, the depletion of natural resources, economic volatility, food insecurity, and regional crises. These challenges have highlighted, more than ever, the importance of investing in rural development and strengthening the resilience of food systems.

In recent months, the Islamic Republic of Iran has also experienced difficult circumstances. During this period, Iranian rural communities, farmers, and nomads demonstrated remarkable commitment, resilience, and dedication by maintaining agricultural production and ensuring the continued supply of essential food products. Once again, they proved that the resilience of rural communities forms the foundation of food security and constitutes a key pillar of national stability and sustainable development. This experience has further reinforced our commitment to strengthening rural infrastructure, supporting agricultural producers, and enhancing the preparedness of local communities to respond to future crises.

The Islamic Republic of Iran believes that realizing the vision of 2026 theme, **"Towards Vibrant, Prosperous and Happy Rural Communities"** requires stronger regional cooperation, knowledge and experience sharing, human capacity development, technology transfer, and enhanced partnerships among governments, academic institutions, the private sector, and local communities.

In this regard, we sincerely appreciate the valuable efforts of CIRDAP in promoting regional cooperation and strengthening the capacities of its Member States. The Islamic Republic of Iran reaffirms its readiness to expand scientific, technical, and practical cooperation, particularly in the areas of sustainable agriculture, food security, the empowerment of rural women and youth, natural resource management, and innovation in rural development.

Today, more than ever, we share a common responsibility to build rural communities where prosperity, hope, justice, and opportunity are accessible to all communities that not only ensure food security but also lay the foundation for sustainable development and lasting peace for future generations.

In closing, I once again extend my congratulations to all CIRDAP Member States, as well as to farmers, rural communities, nomads, researchers, and rural development practitioners on this important occasion. I sincerely hope that through closer cooperation and stronger partnerships, we will witness the emergence of vibrant, prosperous, and happy rural communities throughout Asia and the Pacific.

On behalf of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I reaffirm our commitment to friendship and constructive cooperation with all CIRDAP Member States. We firmly believe that a sustainable future will be built upon vibrant, prosperous, and hopeful rural communities.

With best wishes and GOD's blessing,