

**AUTHOR:** Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO)  
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Presented at the 2004 African Regional Conference, this paper is on FAO's reponse to the changing context of agricultural development as it is being shaped by the epidemic. The paper is presented in three parts: the first provides an update on the state of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the region; the second provides an overview of the breadth and depth of FAO's responses to date; and the third concludes by identifying areas which require further action and follow-up. Although not specifically focused on the gender dimensions of the epidemic, this paper provides insights that are relevant to gender equality and women's empowerment issues in the context of food security.

Article can be accessed on-line [here](#) .