

Secretaría de Estado en el Despacho Presidencial

Tegucigalpa, M.D.C., 27 de mayo de 2013

Oficio No. SDP-303-2013

GAFSP Coordination Unit MSN MC5-510 The World Bank Group 3301 Pennsy Drive Landover, MD 20785 USA

Dear Members of the Steering Committee:

Please find enclosed our proposal submitted in response to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) Third Call for Proposals. It was prepared by the Secretaries of the Presidency, Finance and Agriculture and Livestock (SAG) in consultation with other Secretaries of State, public agencies, and stakeholders.

The Lobo Administration has taken important steps to make Food Security and Nutrition is one of its highest priorities. The first step was taken in August 2010, when the President declared Food Security and Nutrition a national priority to be implemented transversely within the Country Vision and National Plan as part of our national goals and objectives.

The following step was creating a high level institutional framework that provides a platform for all the different actors to work in one direction. With the Secretary of Presidency as leader, its members are the Technical Food Security and Nutritional Unit (UTSAN), responsible of the coordination, evaluation and data recollection; the Interinstitutional Food Security and Nutrition Committee (COTISAN), where national and international actors convene, and the Food Security and Nutrition Surveillance Commission (COVISAN), which oversees the nations involvement in the implementation of protective measures of the human right to food.

The National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition was next, which proposes a community based development model that provides true beneficiaries a way to express their needs directly as members of the Food Security and Nutrition Roundtables (Mesas de Seguridad Alimentaria). These roundtables unite our local farmers, women's groups, ethnic groups, local officials, NGOs, Academic Institutions, and local companies in an effort to make them all part of the solution to problems that impact their ability to achieve food security and nutrition, and at the same time provide accountability to the local investment plans and its development process.

Then came the creation of the legal framework to support the National Food Security and Nutrition Strategy, so shortly after; Congress passed the Food Security and Nutrition Law.



Secretaría de Estado en el Despacho Presidencial

The law stresses a multi-sectorial approach and encourages the participation of non-governmental stakeholders in food security policy-making and includes the human right to food into Honduran Human Rights Laws.

Once the investment needs and proposals gathered from the beneficiaries through local and regional Food Security Roundtables were consolidated, the government held extensive consultations with the G-16 Group of international donors, Honduras's Food Security Technical Committee (UTSAN), a public-private collection of executives that includes lawmakers and civil society members, to set the Food Security and Nutrition investment priorities and targets at a national level. As a result, in 2011, the government released the **Food Security Country Investment Plan** (PIPSA in Spanish) to guide the investment of more than \$300 million from the national budget and international donors.

This proposal requests \$40 million from the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) investment to leverage \$104 million for an integrated food security program in the poorest region of Honduras, the *Corredor Seco*, or the Dry Corridor. The program builds upon the last two years of PIPSA investments and incorporates best practices in enhancing food security. The proposed program—Alianza para el Corredor Seco—will improve the lives of 250,000 women, men, and children, enhance income opportunities, and construct 540 kilometers of rural roads.

The development hypothesis of the *Alianza para el Corredor Seco* is: If the GOH invests in what the community itself proposed and finds valuable, we are investing in community empowerment, we procure higher levels of beneficiary participation, accountability and most importantly, teach them to trust in their own ability to lead their development process. If we also provide tools and skills to achieve greater productivity, access to markets, and provide sector wide support (finance and infrastructure), then these families will experience a general increase wellbeing, improve their income and show significant progress in their achievement of food security and nutrition.

The government of Honduras carefully reviewed the feedback provided by the GAFSP in response to our first proposal application in 2012. We respond to each of the weaknesses in the proposal annex. In Part I, we summarize the current situation in Honduras and the progress of PIPSA and ENSAN. The PIPSA revision, which will incorporate the ENSAN, is currently underway by the government of Honduras. In Part II, we detail the *Alianza Para el Corredor Seco* and how GAFSP funds will contribute to achievement of our goals. In the Annex, we include original copies of the PIPSA and ENSAN; we will provide the revised PIPSA to GAFSP this summer.



Secretaría de Estado en el Despacho Presidencial

The government of Honduras is committed to successful implementation of the revised PIPSA and to achieving our goal to eradicate poverty. With the support of the GAFSP, our comprehensive plan will be fully funded.

Sincerely,

María Antonicia Guillen de Bygrán
President and Miniscoff the residency

Wilfredo Cerrato
Minister of Finance

Jacobo Regalado

Minister of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG)