

GAFSP Call for Proposals

The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) announces the launch of a Call for Proposals, and hereby invites eligible (a) Country governments, and (b) Producer Organizations¹ (POs) to submit proposals for grant funding respectively by September 8, 2021. Eligibility for this Call is limited to members of the International Development Association (IDA) that are classified as active IDA-only countries². Proposal submissions should be consistent with the updated *Country Guidelines and Proposal Template* and the *Producer Organization Guidelines and Proposal Template*. These Guidelines have been set forth by the GAFSP Steering Committee in consultation with stakeholders, constituents, and partners and are available on the GAFSP “Call for Proposals” webpage (<https://www.gafspfund.org/apply-funding-2021>).

Currently available non-committed resources to support this Call are approximately US\$150 million, with approximately US\$125 million expected to finance successful country-led proposals and approximately US\$25 million expected to finance successful PO-led proposals. The total amount may change depending on further donor commitments received between now and the time of allocation. There is no guarantee that all deserving proposals will be funded given the limited availability of funds.

For this Call for Proposals, GAFSP is looking for technically sound proposals submitted using the two modalities outlined below:

- The **Country-led modality** aims to fund projects that support country governments to address priority public sector investments in line with country-owned agricultural investment plans, but also to identify opportunities for complementary private sector engagement³ and that, by design, support the creation of a conducive environment for private sector investment. Multi-country submissions from among the eligible countries are also permitted.
- The **PO-led modality** aims to strengthen POs as key economic players in the value chain. The proposed PO-led investments need to build smallholder farmers’ livelihood opportunities through capacity building and increased access to finance, markets, and technology. For the PO-led

¹ For the purposes of this Call for Proposals, POs include farmers’ organizations and other forms of producer associations, cooperatives, unions and federations. They are autonomous membership-based professional organizations, structured on either a commodity or a territorial basis. Their members include smallholders, family farmers, and rural producers, including pastoralists, artisanal fishers, landless people and indigenous peoples.

² This refers to Countries that are eligible to receive concessional funding through the World Bank from the International Development Association (IDA), but do not have access to lending from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and that are not in non-accrual status. Nonaccrual status occurs when the oldest payment arrears are six months overdue. Once all arrears are cleared, all loans to, or guaranteed by, the country are generally restored to accrual status.

³ The private sector covers a broad spectrum, from individual farmers and their cooperatives through to commercially oriented large-scale corporations. GAFSP, with its focus on smallholders, engages primarily with those parts of the private sector which can play a critical and responsible role in delivering inclusive and sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction by adhering to principles espoused by GAFSP, including emphasis on local markets and working with producer organizations, smallholders, and their communities.

modality, this Call is open to POs that are registered and operating in GAFSP eligible countries (as per eligibility reference above) and whose mandate is aligned with GAFSP's objectives, with smallholder farmers as their primary target group.

GAFSP is a global financing instrument that offers a range of public and private sector investment tools along the entire agriculture value chain. GAFSP was created by the G20 in response to the 2007-08 food price crisis to address a clear need for increased investment in agriculture and food security in low-income countries (IDA-only), and to support smallholder farmers, countries and businesses recover and grow in the medium- to long-term. Donors to GAFSP are Australia, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Since 2010, GAFSP has channeled \$1.7 billion in funding for strategic investments and technical assistance in more than 45 countries in Africa; Central, East and South Asia; the Middle East and Latin America and the Caribbean. These investments have reached more than 15 million smallholder farmers and their families, including 5.6 million women. With this new Call, GAFSP will continue its work to support the world's poorest countries to resiliently and sustainably transform their food and agriculture sectors.

This Call for Proposals is being launched in the context of the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic. With rising food insecurity taking center stage owing to the enormous challenges posed by COVID-19, GAFSP funding will support countries and smallholder farmers and their families in their medium- to long-term COVID-19 response efforts for a more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient recovery of their agriculture and food systems in a changing climate. Within this context, GAFSP encourages proposals that aim to reduce risk and vulnerability and increase the impact of agricultural interventions through emphasis on cross-cutting areas of gender and the empowerment of women and girls, climate resilience, and improved nutrition outcomes.

Furthermore, priority will be given to proposals that are able to demonstrate high likelihood of effective implementation within the specific country context. GAFSP encourages submissions with evidence of stakeholder participation, including by relevant Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), from project design to implementation and in monitoring and evaluation.

We encourage all potential applications to consult the Call Guidelines [<https://www.gafspfund.org/guidelines-2021-CfP>] for specific information and guidance. We very much look forward to receiving the country and producer organization proposals submitted for review by an independent external Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and then final consideration for grant awards by the GAFSP Steering Committee towards the end of the year.

Sincerely,



Dirk Schattschneider
Assistant Director General
German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
Chair of the GAFSP Steering Committee