

May 21, 2025

Launch of the 8th GAFSP Call for Proposals

Dear Colleagues and Partners,

On behalf of the GAFSP Steering Committee, I am pleased to announce the official **launch of the 8th Call for Proposals** under the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP). This Call is specifically dedicated to **Producer Organizations (POs)** and reflects GAFSP's continued commitment to placing smallholder farmers at the center of agricultural transformation.

We invite eligible POs to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) no later than June 26, 2025. POs whose EOIs are deemed successful will be invited to submit full proposals by November 11, 2025.

Eligibility

This Call is open exclusively to:

- I. **National or Subnational POs**: Legally registered in a GAFSP-eligible country (IDA-only country) organized as producer associations, cooperatives, unions, federations, or apex bodies.
- II. **Regional (multi-country) POs**: Legally registered in a GAFSP-eligible or IDA-blend country and operating in at least two GAFSP-eligible countries. Project activities must take place exclusively in GAFSP-eligible countries.

All eligible POs must be member-owned and serve smallholder farmers, pastoralists, fishers, forestdependent peoples, or Indigenous Peoples. Eligible agriculture and food security activities include but are not limited to production, processing, aggregation, marketing, or service delivery. Regional POs must primarily consist of national POs meeting the same eligibility criteria.

Submission Guidelines and Resources

Proposals must adhere to the **8th Call for Proposals Guidelines and Proposal Template**, developed through broad stakeholder consultations and approved by the GAFSP Steering Committee. These materials are available on the <u>GAFSP Call for Proposals webpage</u>.

Approximately **US\$38 million** in non-committed GAFSP funds are currently available to be allocated to eligible PO-led proposals under this Call.

Program Background

GAFSP was established to address long-term food and nutrition security by strengthening agricultural systems through grants, concessional finance, technical assistance, and blended financing. Since 2010, GAFSP has mobilized over **US\$2.44 billion** in donor contributions and supported more than **190 projects** across the public and private sectors globally.

POs play a pivotal role in linking small-scale producers to markets, services, and capital, thus improving productivity, incomes, and food access. This Call reaffirms GAFSP's dedication to empowering producer organizations as **development partners**, not just beneficiaries and aims to continuing the approach taken in the previous three PO-Calls (2016, 2021, 2023). To date, GAFSP has awarded funding to **32 PO-led projects** totaling **US\$80 million**.

Guiding Principles

This Call promotes two guiding principles:

- I. **Subsidiarity**: Decision-making and implementation should be as localized as possible to best reflect and respond to PO members' needs.
- II. Partnership: POs are expected to lead the design and implementation of projects in close coordination with their Supervising Entity (SE), chosen among the African Development Bank (AfDB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), World Bank, and World Food Programme (WFP).

All applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully review the Guidelines to ensure compliance and alignment with GAFSP's objectives and expected outcomes, which include measurable impacts both at the member level and within the PO institution.

We look forward to reviewing your proposals, which will be assessed by an independent Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), with final grant selections scheduled to be made by the GAFSP Steering Committee in early 2026.

Sincerely, James Catto Chair, GAFSP Steering Committee