

GAFSP Seventh Call for Proposals to Accelerate Food Systems Resilience

Guidelines for Country Submissions

Important dates					
Call launch	September 30, 2022 (Friday)				
Part 1-Express of Interest of	October 31, 2022 (Monday)				
Grant Proposal (including Project					
Concept Sheet)					
Part 2 of Grant Proposal (Full	December 1, 2022 (Thursday)				
Proposal)					



GAFSP Seventh Call for Proposals: Guidelines for Country Submissions

1. Introduction

According to the World Food Programme, as many as 828 million people go to bed hungry every night, and the number of those facing acute food insecurity has soared – from 135 million to 345 million – since 2019. In addition, 50 million people in 45 countries are teetering on the edge of famine.¹ The drivers of acute hunger are rooted in a multi-layer crisis, including climate change, natural disasters, conflict, the COVID-19 pandemic, and food and fertilizer supply chain impacts resulting from the Russian invasion of Ukraine. These crises also threaten progress towards ending all forms of malnutrition² and food produced by a country's agricultural sector has a significant impact on a country's food consumption patterns too. Women and girls are particularly affected by the food shortages and high food prices.³ The global agriculture and food development community has come together to call for immediate action to address these drivers and to promote strong and coordinated responses. In this difficult global context, low-income countries need financing, technical assistance, and the flexibility to support necessary action to implement country-driven agriculture, food security, and related crisis response strategies.

The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) is a critical resource for meeting this urgent call. GAFSP is a demand-driven, country-led program that supports the medium- to long-term resilience and sustainability of agriculture and food systems, complementing humanitarian and emergency responses. GAFSP's grant financing reinforces the ongoing efforts of development partners by filling financing gaps in country-led programs and supporting improved donor alignment around country programs.⁴

2. Scope

GAFSP's Seventh Call for Proposals (the Call) is being launched as part of the global response to the current global food security crisis. As a result, the Call is focused on three elements:

- 1) Grants are to be used to support the implementation of medium- to longer-term elements of national agriculture and food security strategies, and food security crisis response action plans and priorities. Examples of such strategies include documents prepared as part of the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme,⁵ the United Nations Decade of Family Farming,⁶ the United Nations Food Systems Summit National pathways to sustainable food systems,⁷ or multi-sectoral agriculture and food strategies developed in an inclusive manner. More specifically, GAFSP grants are to focus on investments and activities that will help build the resilience and sustainability of the country's agriculture and food system. Eligible activities are elaborated in Section 6 below.
- 2) The Call responds directly to the global call to increase development partner collaboration and to reduce fragmentation in order to increase impact. discuss The Call will *not* finance new standalone

¹ https://www.wfp.org/global-hunger-crisis

² https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cc0639en

³ Women are especially vulnerable to malnutrition: women's nutritional needs are high when pregnant or lactating; and existing gender inequality and gender power imbalances can be exacerbated during crises

⁴ For further information on the GAFSP program, please visit: <u>https://www.gafspfund.org/</u>.

⁵ See: <u>https://www.nepad.org/cop/comprehensive-africa-agriculture-development-programme-caadp</u>.

⁶ See: <u>https://www.donorplatform.org/publication-agenda-2030/un-decade-of-family-farming-2019-2028-global-actionplan.html#:~:text=The%20UN%20Decade%20of%20Family%20Farming%20is%20a%20joint%20effort,Donor%20Platform%2 Ofor%20Rural%20Development.</u>

⁷ See: <u>https://summitdialogues.org/overview/member-state-food-systems-summit-dialogues/convenors/</u>.



projects financed entirely by GAFSP. Instead, grants will be used to provide additional financing or cofinancing to the categories of eligible projects noted in Section 5, Table 2. This includes existing GAFSP or existing Supervising Entity (SE)-financed projects currently under implementation or under preparation. This will facilitate faster project effectiveness and operational readiness, as outlined in Point 3 below. The SEs include the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Bank (WB). Following regular GAFSP policies, no standalone new technical assistance projects will be financed unless there is an existing GAFSP project currently under implementation that meets the eligibility requirements. This will also facilitate faster project effectiveness and operational readiness, as also outlined in Point 3 below. Eligible projects are described in Section 5 below. Further, each grant proposal must include Government confirmation that they have convened a meeting of local development partners – including the GAFSP SEs – to discuss the proposed grant GAFSP grant proposal and chosen project.

3) **Projects must be ready to begin implementation within 6-9 months**, with a maximum of 3 months between GAFSP grant award allocation and project approval by the project SE, and up to another 6 months between SE project approval and first disbursement to project accounts.

Every proposal should follow these three elements outlined above, no matter which category of projects it belongs to as specified in Section 5, Table 2.

3. Available financing

GAFSP expects approximately US\$175 million to be allocated in grant resources for eligible countries applying under this Call. It is hoped that additional donor commitments will be made available between the issuance of this Call and the date of grant award allocation (expected in February 2023).

4. Eligible countries

This Call will be open to all members of the International Development Association (IDA) that are classified as active IDA-only countries.⁸ This includes the 57 countries listed in the following Table 1. Proposals that cover more than one country from among the 57 eligible countries are also permitted. However, if a country participates in a multi-country proposal, it cannot then also submit a single-country proposal.

			East Asia and	Europe and	Latin	Middle	
	Africa		the Pacific	Central Asia	America	East	South Asia
Benin	Gambia	Rwanda	Cambodia	Kosovo	Guyana	Yemen	Afghanistan
Burkina Faso	Ghana	Sao Tome &	Kiribati	Kyrgyz	Haiti		Bangladesh
Burundi	Guinea	Principe	Lao PDR	Republic	Honduras		Bhutan
CAR	Guinea-Bissau	Senegal	Marshall	Tajikistan	Nicaragua		Maldives
Chad	Lesotho	Sierra Leone	Islands				Nepal
Comoros	Liberia	Somalia	Micronesia, FS				
Congo,	Madagascar	South Sudan	Myanmar				
Democratic	Malawi	Sudan	Samoa				
Republic of	Mali	Tanzania	Solomon				
Côte d'Ivoire	Mauritania	Тодо	Islands				

Table	1:	List	of	eligible	countries
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⁸ IDA-only countries refer to those countries that are eligible to receive financing from IDA and not from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).



Djibouti Ethiopia	Mozambique Niger	Uganda Zambia	Tonga Tuvalu		
	5		Vanuatu		

5. Eligible associated projects

A project's operational readiness (to implement) is a critical consideration for this Call's application review process. In particular, projects should be approved by the SE(s) within 3 months of grant approval by the GAFSP Steering Committee, and implementation and initial disbursement should occur within 6 months of project approval by the SEs. If a project that is awarded a GAFSP grant is not approved by SE(s) within 3 months of award notification or has not initiated disbursement within 6 months of SE approval, the GAFSP Steering Committee reserves the right to cancel the award.

There are four categories of projects or associated projects (if for additional financing request) that are eligible for financing under this Call:⁹

Category	Requirements	Eligible projects
Category A: Additional financing for an existing GAFSP project that is under implementation	 The associated parent project is rated 'Satisfactory' or 'Moderately Satisfactory' if rated in the FY22 GAFSP Portfolio Review Report Less than five years since the GAFSP grant was awarded by the GAFSP Steering Committee¹⁰ 	See Annex 1 for a full list of existing GAFSP projects
Category B: Additional financing for an existing GAFSP project that is under preparation	 Excludes projects under preparation that were approved by GAFSP prior to September 2020 	that satisfy these requirements
Category C: Additional financing for an existing SE project (with no GAFSP co- financing) under implementation	 The associated parent project is rated at least 'Moderately Satisfactory' for implementation progress in the most recent SE implementation progress report¹¹ Must be less than five years since SE approval Excludes submissions specifying only technical assistance support¹² 	To be determined and confirmed by country and SE
Category D: Co-financing for an existing SE project (with no prior GAFSP co-financing) under preparation	 Excludes projects where SE project preparation began prior to September 2020 	To be confirmed by country and SE

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6. Eligible activities

GAFSP provides scarce grant resources for agricultural investments and technical assistance to support agriculture and food system activities/projects that countries are not able to borrow for, notably public goods, capacity development, institution strengthening, piloting innovation, and high-risk/high return

⁹ Project status (under preparation or implementation) is determined as at the date of Call for Proposals launch date.

¹⁰ Specifically, this means the GAFSP grant was awarded by the GAFSP Steering Committee either in the 4th Call for Proposals (2017) or the Special Call for Proposals for FCV countries (2019).

¹¹ For AfDB managed projects, a project must be rated Satisfactory or Highly Satisfactory (given that there is no Moderately Satisfactory rating in AfDB's implementation progress monitoring system).

¹² This follows standard GAFSP policy that does not allow for standalone TA projects (see para. 59 in the <u>GAFSP Framework</u> <u>Document</u>)



activities. GAFSP's grant financing aims to catalyze innovation and broader change or transformation within a country – creating the initial spark for wider changes to national food systems.

In line with GAFSP program objectives, funded projects should focus on activities that help mitigate the impacts of the current global food security crisis while also supporting the country's medium to long-term objectives to bolster food and nutrition security for the poorest. This includes targeting benefits to women, youth, and other vulnerable groups, as well as geographic targeting to disadvantaged areas.

Given this Call's emphasis on projects that are operationally ready and can be rapidly implemented (as per Section 5 above), activities requiring extended procurement processes and/or preparation, such as the construction of new large-scale infrastructure (e.g., major irrigation or major rural road networks, etc.) will not be eligible. Examples of potentially eligible activities are presented in Annex 2. Note that these examples are provided for illustrative purposes only and do not fully represent all activities that can be supported by GAFSP's grant financing under the Call.

7. Application Process

Eligible countries are asked to submit the grant application in two parts to facilitate accelerated grant review.

Proposal Part 1 - Expression of Interest (EOI):

Part 1 grant proposals must include the following seven documents (see Annex 3 of the Guidelines):

- 1. A copy or electronic link to an up-to-date national agriculture or food security strategy.
- 2. A copy or link to the national food security crisis response action plan (if available) with supporting data.¹³
- 3. Evidence of an in-country donor meeting regarding submission to this Call.
- 4. A government letter that endorses the priority of the request and the eventual submission of a Full Proposal to this Call.
- 5. An SE letter stating intent to support a country in the eventual submission of a Full Proposal to this Call.
- 6. A Project Concept Sheet (Available as: GAFSP Seventh Call for Proposals Project Concept Sheet Template (for Part 1-EOI)).
- 7. If it's an additional financing proposal for a project currently under implementation (Category A and C), submit documents from the associated parent projects.

Countries may submit the Part 1-EOI package of documents whenever they are ready, but no later than October 31, 2022. It would be advisable to submit the required documentation before the deadline so any omissions noted by the CU could be provided before the cut-off date. The GAFSP Coordination Unit (CU) will review submissions to verify that the package is complete; neither the CU nor the Technical Advisory Committee (an independent technical body) will assess the quality or merits of the submitted documents. The GAFSP CU will then notify applicants whether their submissions are complete. Incomplete submissions will ineligible for further consideration.

<u>Proposal Part 2:</u> Countries who have successfully fulfilled the Part 1-EOI requirements will submit the Full Proposal Template (available as: GAFSP Seventh Call for Proposals Part 2: Country Proposal Full Template); applicants do not re-submit the same documents [or updated versions] that were already submitted in Part 1-EOI. The deadline for submission of the Full Proposal Template is December 1, 2022.

¹³ Supportive data includes current evidence of food and nutrition insecurity, trends related to current crises, the identification of sub-national areas of extreme need



8. Selection Process

The GAFSP Steering Committee constitutes and appoints an independent technical body, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), for each GAFSP Call for Proposals. The TAC for the Seventh Call will review the complete project proposal (Parts 1 and 2) and prepare a recommendation report for the GAFSP Steering Committee. The TAC is comprised of members with a high level of experience and technical expertise in agriculture and food security, and other critical areas of expertise, including climate, nutrition, and gender. The composition of the TAC will be disclosed after awards are allocated (past TAC membership can be found at https://www.gafspfund.org/tac-members)

GAFSP Steering Committee award allocation: Based on the recommendations from the TAC, the GAFSP Steering Committee will make the final grant award allocations (expected in February 2023). For each submission, the GAFSP Steering Committee will decide whether to (i) approve funding (and decide the funding amount for each country), (ii) conditionally approve funding pending more funding received by GAFSP (and decide the funding amount for each country),¹⁴ or (iii) not approve funding. Each applicant will be promptly notified of the GAFSP Steering Committee's decision by email from the GAFSP CU.

	Weight	Source
Grant targeting and focus	25%	Section 2 - Impacts on country food systems driven by crises of the Full Proposal
		 Supports countries (and/or regions within a country) with high food and nutrition security needs (judged by available metrics such as IPC/FEWS NET/Cadre Harmonise data and analysis, and FAO-WFP Hunger Hotspots, among others). Alignment with the medium- to longer-term elements of the country's crisis response priorities, to build the resilience and sustainability of the country's agriculture and food system.
Technical quality of proposed activities	50%	 Section 3 - Project Description of the Full Proposal The proposed project is clearly described and is likely to achieve satisfactory development outcomes in terms of effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability. The GAFSP grant will support the achievement of specific additional outcomes, essential to address the current crisis. Appropriate use of grant resources (e.g., public goods, capacity development and institution strengthening, piloting innovation, and high-risk activities), including a strong justification for the additional financing request. Identifies and addresses climate risks (adaptation and/or mitigation) to build
		 long-term resilience. Identifies the need for and addresses gender equality and women's empowerment, including plans for formal gender analysis. Includes focus on other GAFSP's cross-cutting priorities, including nutrition-sensitive agriculture (if applicable).
Operational readiness to implement	25%	 Section 4 - Operation readiness of the Full Proposal A clear description of implementation arrangements for grant-supported activities.

Table 3: Selection weights

¹⁴ This is for projects for which the Steering Committee decides to fund but are lower ranked and thus beyond the available funding envelope. The Steering Committee will decide on a date by which if funds become available then projects could receive funding. For example, the Steering Committee may decide that country X should receive funding if additional funds become available by a future date such as December 31, 2023 (exact date will be indicated in the notification letter to country X).



 Evidence of institutional capacity to implement the proposed project timely. A clear description of the associated project budget and GAFSP grant budget. Demonstrated ability to meet timelines for approvals and implementation: reflected as the likelihood that the proposed project can implement within
6-9 months as specified in Section 2-Scope.

Project Preparation (for successful applicants): Following approval of a grant by the GAFSP Steering Committee, the recipient country will work with their selected SE(s) to design and appraise the proposed project in line with the SE's fast-track crisis response type policies and procedures so that the stipulated deadlines for SE approval and first disbursement can be met.

9. Other Considerations

Proposal Preparation: Countries are responsible for proposal preparation. GAFSP does not provide funding for proposal preparation. Only <u>one country-led proposal</u> may be submitted <u>per country</u>, which should be determined from an internal process of prioritization. Joint multi-country submissions from among the 57 eligible countries are permitted; however, if a country participates in a multi-country proposal, it cannot also submit a single-country proposal.

Engagement with SEs: Countries should clearly specify the SE(s) in the Project Concept Sheet (Part 1-EOI) and the Full Proposal (Part 2). While proposal preparation remains fully the responsibility of country applicants, countries should engage with the SE(s) early in the preparation of the submission.

Engagement with Project Participants and Partners: In addition to engagement with the SE(s), applicant countries are expected to demonstrate in the Full Proposal (Part 2) how they have engaged and consulted, in a gender-inclusive manner, with farmers, agro-processors, marketers, farmer organizations, women's groups, civil society and/or other relevant stakeholders in the preparation of the proposal.

Disclosure: Successful proposal documentation will be publicly disclosed. If the proposal documentation includes confidential information that the government does not wish to be disclosed publicly, it should be highlighted clearly in the submission to permit redaction.

10. Submission

Submission: Documents should be submitted by email from a government official email account to: <u>gafsp-info@gafspfund.org</u>. Submission documents must be in Microsoft Word, Excel, or PDF format. GAFSP proposals are required to be in English or French. Supporting documents may be submitted in English or French. Please contact the GAFSP CU at <u>gafsp-info@gafspfund.org</u> before submitting supporting documents in other major languages, which may be permitted on an exceptional basis.

- Part 1-EOI of submissions (documents listed in Annex 3) must be received any time after the launch of the Call, but no later than <u>11:59 pm on October 31, 2022 (Washington, D.C. time (GMT -5))</u>.
- For those countries that have been notified that their Part 1-EOI submissions were complete and invited to submit a Full Proposal, the Full Proposal (Part 2) must be received by <u>11:59 pm on</u> <u>December 1, 2022 (Washington, D.C. time (GMT -5))</u>.

<u>No exceptions will be made to the deadline or document formats</u>. Countries are encouraged to submit a few days earlier than the deadline in case there are technical problems in the submission process. Applicants will receive an acknowledgment email upon confirmation of receipt.



Annex 1: Full list of eligible projects (for Categories A and B)

Notes: Projects are investment projects unless otherwise noted; SE= Supervising Entity(ies) MS=Moderately Satisfactory S=Satisfactory; 2022 Ratings are from the 2022 GAFSP Portfolio Review Report

Country(ies)	Project Name	SE	GAFSP Call ¹⁵	2022 Rating
Category A: Pr	ojects under implementation with GAFSP funding	-		
Burkina Faso	West Africa Food System Resilience Program (FSRP)	WB	4th	n/a
Ethiopia	Agricultural Growth Project (AGP) II (Investment and TA)	WB/FAO	4th	MS
Gambia, The	Gambia Agriculture and Food Security Project (GAFSP)	AfDB	FCV	MS
Haiti	Technological Innovation for Agroforestry and Agriculture Program (PITAG)	IDB	4th	MS
Liberia	Smallholder Agriculture Development for Food and Nutrition Security (SADFONS)	AfDB	FCV	MS
Nepal	Food and Nutrition Security Enhancement Project (FANSEP)	WB	4th	MS
Rwanda	Sustainable Agricultural Intensification for Improved Livelihoods, Food Security and Nutrition Project (SAIP)	WB	4th	S
Tanzania	Initiative for Preventing Aflatoxin Contamination (TANIPAC)	AfDB	4th	MS
Yemen	Strengthening Agriculture Productivity and Resilience Project	WB	FCV	S
DRC	Multisectoral Nutrition and Health Project (MNHP)	WB	FCV	n/a
Haiti	Rural Productivity and Connectivity Program with a Territorial Approach	IDB	FCV	n/a
Pacific Islands	Small Islands Food and Water Project (Investment and TA) Kiribati, Micronesia, Marshall Is. & Tuvalu	IFAD/FAO	FCV	n/a
Category B: Pr	ojects under preparation with GAFSP funding	•		<u>.</u>
Bangladesh	Diversified Resilient Agriculture for Improved Food and Nutrition Security (DRAIFNS)	IFAD	6th	n/a
Bhutan	Building Resilient Commercial Smallholder Agriculture (Investment and TA)	IFAD	6th	n/a
Kyrgyz Republic	Strengthening Producer Organizations in Kyrgyz Republic (Investment and TA)	WB/FAO	6th	n/a
Lao PDR	Agriculture for Nutrition – Phase 2 (AFN II) (Investment and TA)	IFAD/WFP	6th	n/a
Nepal	Vegetables in Hilly Areas Project (TA)	WFP	6th	n/a
Senegal	Post-COVID Food and Nutrition Security Enhancement Project (PRESAN/PC)	AfDB	6th	n/a
Solomon Islands and Vanuatu	Agricultural Investment for Markets and Nutrition in Solomon Islands and the Republic of Vanuatu (investment and TA)	IFAD/FAO	6th	n/a
South Sudan	Rural Enterprises for Agricultural Development (READ)	IFAD	6th	n/a
Mauritania	Promotion of gender-sensitive agricultural value chains and women's entrepreneurship in support of the program to support agricultural transformation in Mauritania (PCVASGEF-PATAM)	AfDB	6th	n/a
Cambodia	Inclusive Livestock Value Chains and One Health Project (ILVCOHP)	WB	6th	n/a
Honduras	Strengthening innovation, resilience and sustainability of agri-food systems in the face of climate impacts and COVID-19 in North Central Honduras (INNOVA-SAN)	IFAD	6th	n/a
Somalia	Somalia Integrated and Resilient Agricultural Productivity Project (SIRAP)	IFAD	6th	n/a
		1	1	1

¹⁵ 4th Call was allocated in March 2017, FCV Call was allocated in December 2019, and the 6th Call was allocated in December 2021.



Annex 2: Illustrative examples of eligible activities

Additional financing will be considered for ongoing projects that cover one or more of the themes below.¹⁶ Proposed activities are expected to address medium- to long-term issues, supporting resiliency to the current and future shocks, and not emergency activities. Examples are provided for illustrative purposes only and do not fully represent all activities that can be supported by GAFSP's grant financing under the Call. Given the size of the available financing for this Call and the emerging priorities, this Call does not cover the construction of large-scale and commercial irrigation infrastructures, rural access or feeder roads, or large market infrastructure. GAFSP's cross-cutting theme priorities must be adequately reflected in proposed activities, with women to be considered as prioritized recipients and participants in the design and implementation process.

Theme 1. Support agricultural production systems for food and nutrition security

Illustrative Activities:

- Facilitate access to and affordability of climate resilient/sustainable production inputs and technologies (e.g., seed, fertilizers¹⁷; animal feeds, poultry chicks, fingerlings, and vaccines), and other production needs to avert reduced production scenario of critical food security crops for upcoming harvest seasons.
- Support access to working capital, extension service, training, and technical assistance for smallholders including through media and digital platforms for sustainable production of critical staple/food crops.
- Provide grants and technical assistance to support local and national institutions (producer organizations, community groups, and local authorities) to bulk purchase sustainable inputs and deliver them to designated locations for local distribution and support production of locally produced improved inputs where the infrastructure and capacity are already largely in place.
- Support and train farmers in production inputs management systems to reduce their dependence on external inputs, including through seed storage and community seed banks.

Theme 2. Support the sustainable use of land and water resources to optimize productivity and reduce dependence on fossil-based fertilizers

Illustrative Activities:

- Support the adoption of practices and technologies (e.g., bio-fertilizers, compost, manure, biopesticides, integrated and alternative pest management) to reduce the application of agrochemicals where applicable, and/or improve agrochemicals use efficiencies including through community-based mechanisms (e.g., Farmer Field Schools).
- Support the introduction of climate-resilient land and water management practices (e.g., climatesmart agriculture) to improve water/land use efficiency.
- Disseminate best practices to provide producers with the critical know-how (including, but not limited to, the rapid deployment of soil maps, extension services, and precision agriculture technology) for supporting sustainable production.
- Support the transition to integrated, diversified, organic, agroecological approaches in farming, fishery, and forestry in selected farming systems where it is applicable.

¹⁶ The activities are laid out in the Framework Document for GAFSP, dated December 7, 2009.

¹⁷ There should be a balance between the distribution of chemical fertilizers and other activities supporting food security and resilience building. For chemical fertilizers, strong cases should be made and how the environmental risks will be mitigated should be explained.



• Invest in rehabilitating/maintaining irrigation infrastructure that can have near-term impacts and technologies to maintain the productivity of small-holder farmers in the face of climate change challenges (e.g., tertiary canals and on-farm channels).

Theme 3. Support diversification in food production systems to enhance resiliency and household incomes *Illustrative Activities:*

- Diversify food systems (e.g., legumes in crop rotations, increasing share of high-value crop production, intercropping, integrated crops-livestock systems, agroforestry, agroecology) to improve food systems resilience, increase productivity/income, and mitigate production and market risks.
- Provide veterinary services and promote improved pastoralism practices that are less dependent on external feed and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as improved feeding practices and sustainable local forage development.
- Support and train farmers on agroecological practices to boost productivity in a sustainable manner.

Theme 4. In partnership with the private sector, facilitate increased access to the market and better postharvest and handling management

Illustrative Activities:

- Provision of technical assistance across the value chain (i.e., food safety and quality, market development, enhancement of storage practices, reduction of post-harvest losses sorting/grading practices).
- Promote quality standards and packaging to meet quality requirements of higher paying markets.
- Facilitate the dissemination of market information to farmers and support the use of digital platforms and access of farmers to the local, regional, and international markets.
- Support value chain development, including small-scale postharvest storage, cooling, and processing infrastructure facilities.
- Provide financial and technical support for the working capital needs of agribusinesses (SMEs/MSMEs) and cooperatives.
- Facilitate pro-smallholder procurement schemes including through fairs and public procurement schemes.
- Leverage existing activities to reach small-scale and micro enterprises working in food processing, transport, and marketing.
- Facilitate trade, and implement targeted actions to improve the functioning and resilience of global, regional, and local markets for food and agriculture, which are critical steps to help minimize supply disruptions and lower food prices.

Theme 5. Support to strengthen policy, institutional, and coordination framework

Illustrative Activities:

- Build capacity to diagnose bottlenecks to the use of internal, regional, and global trade in food and agricultural inputs more efficiently and effectively.
- Technical assistance that could include *inter alia*, food safety, inputs and market policies, regulations, and practices, and support for coordination and market platforms that improve supply chains.
- Support the development of strategies to strengthen national food reserves.



Theme: 6 Improved nutrition and food security outcomes¹⁸

Illustrative Activities:

- Enhance the availability and utilization of nutritious food, including vitamin and micronutrient-rich varieties, through backyard, community, and school gardens, and support gender-responsive nutrition programming through women's empowerment.
- Support fortification in both production and processing including through private sector engagement.
- Support food safety interventions including the development and adoption of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures to address risks to public health and animal and plant health.
- Ensure efficient outreach programs for better nutrition and health outcomes, including through capacity development and leveraging available communication channels to deliver priority messages on nutrition to those most at risk, including women and children.
- Work through existing community-based programs to ensure high coverage of these interventions does not slip and is scaled up.
- Use information or surveillance systems across sectors (including food price monitoring and food consumption data) to identify severely food insecure communities/families and nutritionally vulnerable populations (acutely malnourished children, destitute elderly, etc.).

¹⁸ This theme complements other proposed interventions that ensure the production and availability of food and focuses on the production of selected crops essential for households' nutrition where needed.



Annex 3: Grant Proposal Part 1-EOI: Required documents to be submitted

Documents to submit	Details
1) Up-to-date agriculture or food security strategies	 Only submit (electronic document or active web link) of approved strategy/action plan – do not submit drafts. Countries could also submit other strategies such as water strategy, climate adaptation plans, and nutrition strategies if they are relevant to the proposed project. For multi-country proposals, agriculture or food security strategies from all participating countries must be included.
2) National food security crisis response action plan (if available)	 An up-to-date crisis response plan, or any emerging approved government documents on priority setting and action plan in addressing the food security situation in the country (if available). For multi-country proposals, crisis response action plans from all participating countries need to be included.
3) Evidence of in-country donor meeting regarding submission to this Call for Proposals	 Countries should utilize existing donor coordination mechanisms (i.e., UN resident coordinator mechanism, sector donor working groups, etc.). If there is no existing mechanism, the country should convene a meeting with all locally active GAFSP SEs (ADB, AfDB, IDB, IFAD, WB, FAO, and WFP). The meeting should be organized by the country officials recently, and include a discussion of the proposed project and coordination with other agriculture and food efforts in the country. The document should include the date of the meeting, main agreements, and a list of participants. For multi-country proposals, documents from donor meetings regarding all the
4) A government letter that endorses the eventual submission of a Full Proposal to this Call for Proposals	 participating countries need to be included. The letter should attest that the proposed project: complies with each of the three elements of this Call identified under Section 2 above; is a priority of the Government to address ongoing crises and was selected through a consultative process; and complements and does not duplicate other ongoing government or development partner activities. The letter is signed by the Minister of Finance or Permanent Secretary of the government agency that handles relationships with GAFSP SEs. For multi-country proposals, letters from all the countries need to be included.
5) An SE letter stating intent to support a country in the eventual submission of a Full Proposal to this Call for Proposals	 Use of the SE Attestation Letter Template is recommended (separate document, see Annex 1 of Part 1-EOI template) If an SE chooses not to use the provided template, the letter should include confirmation that the SE: > is willing and ready to serve as SE; and > that the proposed project complements and does not duplicate other ongoing government or development partner activities. The letter must be signed by the SE's senior-level official responsible for GAFSP.
 6) Simplified Project Concept Sheet 7) Associated Project Documents 	 All submissions are also required to submit a simplified Project Concept Sheet using the Template (separate document). For categories A and C: include the associated parent project design/appraisal document; most recent implementation status report/supervision report; most recent mission aide-memoire; evaluations/management reviews.