



March 1, 2019

COUNTRY GUIDELINES

FOR PUBLIC SECTOR WINDOW PROPOSALS:

SPECIAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR FRAGILE AND CONFLICT AFFECTED COUNTRIES

I. Focus of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program

1. The focus of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) is on the long-term agenda to improve the income and food security of poor people in developing countries through more and better country-led public and private sector investment in raising agricultural productivity, linking smallholder farmers to markets, reducing risk and vulnerability, improving non-farm rural livelihoods, and through technical assistance, institution-building, and capacity development. The objective of this mechanism is to fill the financing gaps in country and regional agriculture and food security strategies, thereby contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals to end poverty and hunger by 2030.

2. GAFSP has two financing windows: (i) the Public Sector Window that, through grants, finances public investment and technical assistance to support implementation of country-led initiatives, giving priority to those with evidence of stakeholder participation, including Producer Organizations (PO) and relevant Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), from project design to implementation, and (ii) the Private Sector Window that provides long- and short-term loans, credit guarantees, equity investment, and technical assistance to the private sector for activities in agricultural development and food security. For the scope of eligible activities see the GAFSP Framework Document:

https://www.gafspfund.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/GAFSP%20Framework%20Document%20FINAL%20%28external%29_0.pdf

3. There is no preference for any of the five components described in the GAFSP Framework Document. Technically sound proposals that reduce risk and vulnerability and increase the impact of agricultural interventions through emphasis on cross-cutting themes such as nutrition (direct nutrition interventions or nutrition sensitive agricultural activities)

(IDA) and

- A current⁴ Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plan (NAIP), and an associated CAADP technical review report, are generally pre-requisites for African countries to apply for GAFSP financing.⁵

of financing requested and time frame for implementation; (vi) post-project sustainability and exit strategies; (vii) risks and risk management; (viii) consultation with local stakeholders and development partners, including farmer partners; as well as (ix) detailed plan for project preparation (in case the proposal is accepted for financing). Assessment points for each of these sub-points are described in Part 2 of the Proposal Document. The project proposal is not expected to be equivalent to an appraisal stage document, but rather to be at a pre-appraisal stage.⁸ The completed Proposal Document will provide information to the TAC to guide their proposal assessments, and to the selected Supervising Entity(ies) to help speed preparation (with the provision of upfront information) and guide the subsequent more detailed design.

- The proposal will include a clear rationale for *public* financing of components and activities chosen, and description of any public-private dialogue that has taken place to identify optimal roles of the public and private sector players in the proposed operation, including tangible efforts made to date to attract private investment to finance similar activities in the country (see question 2 (a)-(f) of the Proposal template document) . GAFSP's working definition of private sector covers a broad spectrum from individual farmers themselves and their cooperatives, through to commercially oriented large-scale corporations.

IV. Outline of Proposals from Eligible Countries and Available Financing

9. Countries are expected to prepare their own proposals. They may engage with their partner Supervising Entity(ies) and organize any additional technical resources they may wish.

10. For this Special Call in 2019, GAFSP is making available limited assistance to support countries wishing to avail of technical assistance (TA) in their *proposal* preparation, furnished through either of GAFSP's two partner Supervising Entities that provide technical assistance only: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) or the World Food Programme (WFP). The utilization of such assistance is not required and will be organized in response to demand and by these two partner organizations. With or without the use of TA provided with GAFSP assistance, proposal preparation and quality remain entirely the responsibility of the submitting country.

11. *Proposal assistance application process:* If countries are interested in seeking GAFSP-financed TA from FAO or WFP for their proposal preparation, they should contact: gafsp-info@gafspfund.org by 11:59pm on April 15, 2019 (Washington D.C. time), using the template attached in Annex 5. Requests received after this deadline will not be accepted. It is expected that countries will coordinate any such assistance organized through FAO or WFP, as needed, with the proposed investment Supervising Entity in finalizing their proposals.

12. *Two-part proposal:* Countries' proposals will have two parts (see f1 0s9912 0 612 792 reWñBT/F1 11.04 Tf1 0 0 1

- All eligible countries that apply for GAFSP financing: Summarize the country's overall agriculture and food security strategy and any associated investment plan (or related roadmap and stocktaking report, or other relevant national level planning documents) in Part 1 of the Proposal Document, and include in the proposal submission a summary of implementation performance of their current or, if none, most recent investment plan or other relevant national planning documentation.
- African countries
 - Countries with a current CAADP National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plan (NAIP) and associated CAADP technical review report: Summarize the outcome of that process, including steps being or to be undertaken to address issues raised in the technical review report.
 - Countries that have completed implementation of a CAADP NAIP and/or do not have a current applicable NAIP: Summarize the current comprehensive agriculture and food security strategy and any new investment plan that has been prepared, or if a new NAIP is not yet finalized, use relevant, current national planning documentation (e.g., Malabo Declaration country implementation Roadmap, stocktaking report, or other national plans) to summarize and respond to questions in Part 1 of the Proposal Document
- Non-African countries: Summarize the current comprehensive agriculture and food security strategy and associated investment plan (or related roadmap, stocktaking report or other relevant

Table 1: List of documents required to be included in a GAFSP submission package

For African countries	For Non-African countries	Details
(1) Document Checklist (2) Cover letter with endorsement signature from Minister of Finance and from the Minister of	(1) Document Checklist	Use template in Annex 3

For African countries that have completed implementation of a CAADP NAIP: an updated comprehensive Agricultural and Food Security Investment Plan, or, if this is not yet finalized, a Malabo Declaration country implementation Roadmap and stocktaking report, based on the African Union Commission/NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (AUC/NPCA) CAADP guidelines under

Annex 1

Guidelines for Review of non-African Country Investment Plans
Consistent with the CAADP approach

Areas of Review	Content of Review of Country Investment Plans
Likelihood for the investment programs to realize growth and poverty reduction	•

capacity improvement and accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Does it present a data collection and analysis system/plan to effectively monitor and report progress against the planned targets?
Extent and quality of dialogue, (peer) review and mutual accountability system	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who is responsible for implementation and what is the accountability system for results, including peer review arrangements?

Annex 3 - Document Checklist

Document Checklist for <u>African Countries</u>	File Name (files should be in Word, Excel, or PDF only)
(1) Document Checklist	
(2) Cover letter with endorsement signature from: a. Minister of Finance b. Minister of at least one relevant technical ministry or line department	
(3) Endorsement letter from the in-country Sector Working Group	
(4) Letter of readiness from preferred Supervising Entity (or Entities, if more than one)	
(5) GAFSP Proposal Document (Parts 1 and 2) – using Proposal Document template for submission	
(6) Agriculture and Food Security Strategy	
(7) Current	

Annex 4

Project Preparation Grant

This information is for countries that wish to request a project preparation grant as part of any successful project grant approved by the GAFSP Steering Committee. This Annex does not describe the process by which proposal preparation assistance is offered, which is found in Annex 5.

A recipient country may include in its proposal a request for a preparation grant to be used to assist the country in the subsequent detailed design of a project approved under the GAFSP Public Sector Window. The GAFSP Steering Committee will consider the preparation grant request if it awards financing to the overall proposal. The preparation grant request will be considered at the same time as the overall proposal financing awards.

Countries have the option to request preparation funds if it is difficult to source sufficient and timely funds through the government budget process or other funding sources. A preparation grant request should be included as a specific Appendix in the country's Proposal Document (Appendix 3). The preparation grant will be made available to countries through their chosen Supervising Entities and is not additional to the GAFSP grant amounts (i.e., it will be considered as part of the overall grant award and will therefore reduce the amount that could otherwise be used for the proposed project). The specific amount for the overall grant (excluding the preparation funds) and the funds for the preparation grant will be identified separately in the award from the GAFSP Steering Committee. The preparation grant request should include the following:

Justification: Specify the reasons for the request, including measures taken to secure alternative financing for preparation including through the public budget.

Proposed activities and associated budgets: Provide a detailed list and associated budget for the preparation activities proposed to be undertaken. The grant can only be used for the preparation of the GAFSP-financed project, which may include:

- Feasibility studies and detailed designs, including technical studies;
- Environmental and social impact assessments, gender studies and studies on project-related cross-cutting issues;
- Pre-contract services including revision of designs and tender documents;
- Preliminary studies or dialogue with the private sector to design Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and concessions
- Institutional support, capacity development and human resource development during the project preparatory phase;
- Development of the indicative project monitoring and evaluation framework; and
- Carrying out the design and completion of the baseline studies.

Grant size requested: Preparation grant size is limited to a maximum of US\$500,000.

The grant must be used within 18 months from the date of Steering Committee approval. Any preparation funds that have not been disbursed after 18 months must be returned to the GAFSP Trustee. The undisbursed preparation funds cannot be added to the project grant. The recipient country should provide assurances in the preparation grant request that the preparation activities can be undertaken within the indicated time period.

The GAFSP TAC will review the preparation grant request at the same time as it reviews the overall proposal requests and will make combined recommendations to the Steering Committee. Upon approval by the Steering Committee of a preparation grant to a recipient country, the Supervising Entity requests the transfer of funds. Detailed processing of the grant will follow the policies and procedures of the investment Supervising Entity that will support the government to implement the overall project, identified as the preferred Supervising Entity in the Award notification letter from the Steering Committee.

A progress update on the use of and outputs financed by the preparation grant, and a final account of the use of funds should be submitted to the Steering Committee no later than 19 months after Steering Committee approval of the preparation grant. The progress update and final account eW7hBT3a3(te)-gi4 Tf1 0 0BT3a3(te)

<p>Brief description of activities for which assistance is requested, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technical area• Specific deliverable(s)• Timeframe	<p>[Insert brief description of the nature and anticipated technical areas for proposal preparation assistance]</p>