

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

International Food Assistance Division
Global Programs

FY 2023 Food Assistance Proposal
Instructions and Request for Applications

FOOD FOR PROGRESS PROGRAM
NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

3/15/2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) is soliciting applications for the Food for Progress (FFPr) Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023. FAS implements this program on behalf of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). Acting on behalf of CCC, FAS expects to enter into multiple cooperative agreements under the FFPr Program to make awards totaling up to $226 million, **SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING**. Applications for cooperative agreements will be prioritized for the following countries: Bangladesh, Cote d'Ivoire, Lesotho, Mauritania, Nepal, The Gambia, and Togo. FAS will also review submissions for non-prioritized countries. To fulfill its mandate under the Food for Progress Act of 1985, FAS will enter into cooperative agreements with eligible organizations, referred to as recipients, to implement field-based projects that aim to improve agricultural production and expand trade of agricultural products in developing countries. Programs are primarily funded through the sale of donated commodities within the foreign market where the program is implemented. FAS is issuing this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) under the FFPr Program in accordance with the program regulations at 7 CFR part 1499.

Applications must be submitted to USDA through the Food Aid Information System (FAIS) by the Application Submission Deadline of 5:00 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on **May 24, 2023**. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered. FAS advises Applicants **to begin the submission process early to allow time to address any information technology difficulties that may arise**. There will be **no** exceptions to this application deadline.

When an application received by the Application Submission Deadline is found to be incomplete, FAS will contact the Applicant by email. FAS will grant a grace period of three business days from the time of contact for the Applicant to submit omitted content and forms via FAIS. Please see Part D Section 3 b for a list of required content and forms. **Any applications remaining incomplete after the grace period will NOT be considered for funding.** Refer to Part C Section 1 and Part D Section 3 b for Applicant eligibility and application requirements.

Questions regarding this request for applications should be submitted to ppded@usda.gov. Questions must be received no later than 5:00:00 P.M. EDT on May 16, 2023 and include "FY2023 Food for Progress NOFO" in the subject line of the email. FAS will consider questions submitted by the deadline to the extent practicable and will post responses weekly until the Friday preceding the application deadline. Applicants may access the weekly responses in the "Related Documents" tab of the grant opportunity page on Grants.gov.

Issuance of this NOFO does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government nor does it commit the Government to pay for any costs incurred in the preparation or submission of comments or applications. All preparation and submission costs are at the Applicant's expense.

NEW IN FY 2023

1. **Updated Technical Focus Areas:** The primary technical focus areas for the Food for Progress Program have been updated for 2023 and subsequent years. These areas are food security, trade enabling environments, and climate smart agriculture.
2. **Updated requirements for the Budget:** A detailed budget is now required. An excel format template is provided in the Related Documents section of the Grants.gov announcement.
3. **Updated instructions on the Strategic Analysis section:** The former Introduction and Strategic Analysis section has been replaced by the Strategic Analysis section. An Applicant must now include an introduction in the Cover Sheet.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CAGE	Commercial and Government Entity
CCC	Commodity Credit Corporation
CCN	Cooperating Country National
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CFDA	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
CLA	Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting
COP	Chief of Party
CPAR	Contract Performance Assessment Report
CV	Curriculum Vitae
DID	Difference in Difference
FAIS	Food Aid Information System
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAPIIS	Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System
FAS	Foreign Agricultural Service
FFPr	Food for Progress
FTF	Feed the Future
FSMA	Food Safety Modernization Act
FY	Fiscal Year
GAP	Good Agricultural Practice
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practice
GoKL	Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho
GoN	Government of Nepal
GoT	Government of Togo
HACCP	Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point
ICR	Indirect Cost Rate
IFAD	International Food Assistance Division
LENAFU	Lesotho National Farmer's Union
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning
MT	Metric Ton(s)
NARI	National Agricultural Research Institute
NCAGE	NATO Commercial and Government Entity
NICRA	Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement
NOFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity
NUL	National University of Lesotho
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PSM	Propensity Score Matching
RCT	Randomized Control Trial
RF	Results Framework
SAM	System for Award Management
SPOC	Single Point of Contact
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary Regulations

TCN	Third Country National
TEE	Trade Enabling Environment
UEI	Unique Entity Identifier
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USG	United States Government
WHO	World Health Organization

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A. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. Issued By

Foreign Agricultural Service, Global Programs, International Food Assistance Division (IFAD)

2. Assistance Listing Number – Formerly known as CFDA

10.606

3. Assistance Listing Title

Food for Progress Program

4. Notice of Funding Opportunity Title

FY 2023 Food Assistance Proposal Instructions and Request for Applications
FOOD FOR PROGRESS PROGRAM NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

5. Funding Opportunity Numbers

USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-23-(609) – Bangladesh
USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-23-(530) – Cote d'Ivoire
USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-23-(507) – Lesotho
USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-23-(557) – Mauritania
USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-23-(646) – Nepal
USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-23-(577) – The Gambia
USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-23-(578) – Togo

Please refer to Appendix B for Country Specific Guidance for each Funding Opportunity Number.

6. Authorizing Authority for Program

The Food for Progress Program is authorized by section 1110 of the Food for Progress Act of 1985, 7 U.S.C. 1736o.

7. Appropriation Authority for Program

The Food for Progress Program will be funded in FY 2023 through the Commodity Credit Corporation, pursuant to section 1110 of the Food for Progress Act of 1985, 7 U.S.C. 1736o, and not through appropriated funds.

8. Announcement Type

New Agreements

9. Program Regulations

Awards within this funding opportunity that are made to Applicants other than foreign public entities (as defined in 2 CFR section 200.1) will be subject to the Food for Progress Program regulations, 7 CFR part 1499. As provided in 7 CFR part 1499, awards to Applicants other than foreign public entities will also be subject to 2 CFR part 200, as supplemented by 2 CFR part 400 and 7 CFR part 1499, with the exception that Subpart F of 2 CFR part 200 will not apply to a foreign organization (as defined in 2 CFR section 200.1) or a for-profit entity.

10. Program Overview, Objectives, and Priorities

a. Overview

The Food for Progress (FFPr) Program provides for the donation of U.S. agricultural commodities to developing countries and emerging democracies committed to introducing and expanding free enterprise in the agricultural sector. The commodities are generally sold on the local market and the proceeds are used to support agricultural development activities.

b. Objectives

Food for Progress has two high-level strategic objectives: (1) increase agricultural productivity and (2) expand trade of agricultural products (domestically, regionally, and internationally).

c. Priorities

In FY 2023, USDA has prioritized the following technical areas for the FFPr Program:

1. Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA): USDA seeks to strengthen FFPr Program projects to align with the USDA Climate initiatives. FAS is requiring Applicants for awards under the FFPr Program to incorporate climate smart agricultural components into all their projects wherever appropriate and respond to the increasing risks which climate change presents both to farmers and to a livable global environment.

2. Trade Enabling Environment (TEE): USDA seeks to continue its work through the FFPr Program in Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS), food safety, and trade facilitation including the simplification modernization, and harmonization of processes for the export, import, and transit of agricultural goods. To ensure long lasting impact of their proposed agricultural development interventions, Applicants should: (a) consider agricultural sectors with end market opportunities which require consistent safety and quality measures, and (b) seek to assure that their work in SPS and Trade Facilitation is science-based and contributes to the three pillars of food security in target countries (access to, affordability of, and utilization of safe and nutritious food).

3. Strengthening Food Security: USDA contributes to the global poverty and hunger initiative of the U.S. Government (USG) by aligning USDA's international food assistance with the USG's

Feed the Future (FTF) initiative. The Global Food Security Act of 2016 and corresponding FTF initiative affirm the United States' commitment to ending global hunger, poverty, and child malnutrition. Through the FFPr Program, USDA will continue its work in food security by assisting farmers to increase their income through diversification, stronger market linkages and adoption of good agriculture practices. Applicants are encouraged to align proposed interventions with the objectives found in the FTF results framework, where appropriate, and are required to ensure that proposed activities are complementary and not duplicative.

Table 1: Country and Priority Areas

Country	Priority Area
Bangladesh	CSA
Cote d'Ivoire	CSA/TEE
The Gambia	CSA/Food Security/TEE
Lesotho	Food security
Mauritania	CSA/Food Security
Nepal	CSA/Food Security
Togo	CSA/Food Security

In addition, USDA supports the recommendations proposed by the Consultative Group to Eliminate the Use of Child Labor and Forced Labor in Imported Agricultural Products. All proposals for country and priority areas in the NOFO that are identified in the U.S. Department of Labor's report—List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor—must include a child and/or forced labor analysis. The distinct NOFO Country Guidance sections will provide further direction on how the proposals should address the technical areas and country specific goals.

B. FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

1. Award Amounts, Important Dates, and Extensions

Available funding for the NOFO:	Up to $226,000,000 (total) in FY 2023, Subject to the availability of funding
Total award funding:	Up to $226,000,000
Estimated number of awards:	7
Estimated funding per award:	$20,000,000 - $39,000,000

Please refer to Appendix B, Country Guidance, for specific budget ranges for each country. Each Country Guidance includes the Award Value (Total commodity cost + CCC admin funds + freight) as well as the Anticipated Operating Budget (Monetization proceeds + CCC admin funds). This Anticipated Operating Budget may also be supplemented by any cost share the Applicant proposes, which is not included in the default Anticipated Operating Budget figure provided in the Country Guidance.

Funding for all projects in this announcement is subject to the availability of funding. Issuance of this solicitation does not constitute an award or commitment on the part of the USG to make awards, nor does it commit the USG to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a concept note or full application.

Period of Performance:	36–60 months
Projected Period of Performance Start Date:	10/01/2023
Projected Period of Performance End Date:	09/30/2028

Food for Progress Program awards may be eligible for extensions to their period of performance. Refer to Part H Section 1, Extensions.

2. Funding Instrument

FAS will make all awards in the form of a cooperative agreement and will be substantially involved in the award period of performance. FAS's involvement may include:

- Close monitoring of the successful Applicant's performance to verify the achievement of expected results.
- Specification of the manner, method, performance, or timing of the work in an approved work plan.
- Review and approval of one stage of work before a subsequent stage may begin during the performance period;
- Review and approval of a monetization plan;
- Review and approval of proposed subawards and contracts;
- Review of proposed procurement, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.325
- Review and approval of an evaluation plan;
- Participation in the selection and approval of the individuals or organizations that will conduct all required evaluations;
- Participation in data collection, analysis, and review and comment, as appropriate, for required evaluations, performance reports, and other reports prepared under the cooperative agreement;
- Approval of an organizational chart identifying the names, roles, and responsibilities of all of the Applicant's Key Personnel and any subsequent changes or absences (USDA will not select the recipient's employees or contractors but will disallow costs for specific individuals where required by statute or regulation); and
- Provision of specific direction or redirection of the work during the period of performance

Recipients may award procurement contracts or subawards under this cooperative agreement. Procurement contracts must have an operational or administrative objective and subawards must be related to achieving objectives of project activities. Please note that a recipient may not include its own personnel costs in any contract or subaward under the cooperative agreement.

C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

1. Eligible Applicants

In accordance with the Food for Progress Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1736o), the following entities are eligible Applicants (see 7 CFR section 1499.2 for definitions):

- The government of an emerging agricultural country
- An intergovernmental organization
- A private voluntary organization
- A nonprofit agricultural organization or cooperative
- A nongovernmental organization
- A college or university
- Any other private entity

2. System for Award Management and Unique Entity Identifier

Unless an exception in 2 CFR section 25.110 applies, and the exception is confirmed in writing by FAS, Applicants are required to:

- Register in the System for Award Management (SAM) before the closing date of this announcement;
- Assent to the federal assistance certifications in the SAM platform;
- Provide a valid unique entity identifier (UEI) in its application; and
- Maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which the Applicant has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by FAS.

All Applicants who do not have a written confirmation by FAS of an exception must have an active registration in the SAM database at www.sam.gov – pending or expired registrants do not meet this requirement. This requirement must be met by the closing date of the announcement and will not be waived. Please contact ppded@usda.gov if you have questions about this requirement. An application from an Applicant without an active SAM registration will NOT be considered for funding.

Applicants must include a valid UEI in the organizational unit section of Block 8 of the SF-424. All subrecipients listed in the proposal must have a current UEI number. Organizations that do not have a UEI number can obtain a UEI number at no cost by using the web-based form available at: https://sam.gov/content/home.

SAM.gov Registration Instructions

If you have never done business with the Federal Government, you will need to register your organization in SAM.gov. SAM.gov registration requires several weeks to process and cannot be expedited; prospective applicants should therefore ensure that registrations are submitted timely. If you do not have a SAM.gov account, then you will create an account using login.gov to complete your SAM.gov registration. SAM.gov registration is FREE. The process for entity registrations includes obtaining a UEI, a 12-character alphanumeric ID assigned an entity by SAM.gov, and requires submitting assertions, representations and certifications, and other information about your organization. Please review Sam.gov for details on this process.

A foreign entity (defined in 2 CFR section 200.1 as a "foreign organization" or a "foreign public entity") must obtain a NATO Commercial and Government Entity (NCAGE) Code prior to registering in SAM.gov. You can submit your request for an NCAGE Code by going to the NATO Support and Procurement Activity (NSPA) NCAGE Request Tool at CAGE/NCAGE Code Request, which contains detailed instructions. You can complete the SAM.gov registration once you enter your NCAGE Code.

If you have done business with the Federal Government previously, you can check your entity status using your government issued UEI to determine if your registration is active. SAM.gov requires you to renew your registration every 365 days to keep it active.

An organization should ensure that its SAM.gov registration includes a current e-Business (EBiz) point of contact name and email address. The EBiz point of contact is critical for Grants.gov registration and system functionality.

Please note that SAM.gov registration is different than obtaining a UEI only. Obtaining an UEI only validates your organization's legal business name and address. Please review the Frequently Asked Questions at the Federal Service Desk for additional information about the difference between registering in SAM.gov and obtaining a UEI only.

3. Debarment and Suspension

An Applicant will be considered ineligible to receive an award and will be prohibited from making a subaward to or entering into a contract with another entity, under the FFPr Program if the Applicant or other entity or one of its principals has been debarred or suspended from USG-funded procurements or non-procurement transactions or is otherwise prohibited by applicable U.S. law or executive order or U.S. policies. See 2 CFR parts 180 and 417. FAS will review the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS.gov) and System for Award Management (SAM.gov) to verify that the Applicant, potential subrecipients and contractors, and their principals have not been debarred or suspended.

4. Other Submission Requirements and Information

For an application to be considered complete, the Applicant must submit in FAIS all required content and forms as listed in Part D Section 3 b, Required Content and Forms, by the Application Submission Deadline set forth in Part D Section 1. If an Applicant has submitted an application that is incomplete as of the Application Submission Deadline, FAS will notify the Applicant by email that its application is incomplete and that FAS will grant a grace period of three business days, ending at 5:00 P.M. EDT on the third business day after the date of the FAS email, for the Applicant to submit any omitted content and forms via FAIS. FAS will not consider applications that remain incomplete after the grace period. As specified in this NOFO, an Applicant must also submit required information to ppded@usda.gov and SAM.gov. There is no limit on the number of applications per Applicant.

FAS will not consider an application that it determines is not in substantial compliance with the application submission instructions and requirements set forth in Part D Section 3 b, Required Content and Forms, and Part D Section 4, Content Guidance.

All Applicants and subrecipients must comply with the conflict of interest requirements in 2 CFR section 400.2.

Note: FAS's application requirements vary depending on whether an Applicant is a domestic entity, a foreign organization, or a foreign public entity. An Applicant must submit all of the forms that are required to be submitted by the category of entity to which it belongs.

5. Cost Share or Match

FAS encourages, but does not require, cost sharing or matching to maximize lasting program impacts and engender in-country sustainability. If an Applicant chooses to provide cost share or matching, the Applicant must identify and explain any cost share or match in the budget summary and narrative (7 CFR section 1499.4(b)(4)(i)). Applicants should include cost share and in-kind contributions as part of the total award value on the SF–424 and other required budget documents. Cost share may not be used to reach the three percent minimum monitoring and evaluation budget.

Refer to Part E Section 1, Application Evaluation Criteria, for details on how FAS will evaluate cost share or match. FAS's review panel will consider awarding bonus points to an application that includes a cost share. An Applicant that receives an award will be responsible for obtaining and providing any cost share and in-kind contributions that are included in the agreement. Award recipients shall not procure these resources with FAS funding.

D. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. Key Dates and Times

Application Start Date: **March 15, 2023**

Question Submission Deadline: **May 16, 2023**
FAS will consider questions regarding this NOFO to the extent practicable. Submit questions to ppded@usda.gov and include "FY23 Food for Progress NOFO" in the subject line of your email. FAS will endeavor to post responses to questions at grants.gov on a weekly basis.

Application Submission Deadline: **May 24, 2023,** prior to 5:00:00 P.M. EDT
FAS will run a report from the FAIS system showing all applications that were submitted prior to 5:00:00 P.M. EDT on May 24, 2023. FAS will not consider late applications. See additional submission requirements in Part C Section 4. There will be no exceptions to the application deadline. The date of the Application Submission Deadline is also the closing date of this announcement.

Anticipated Funding Selection Date: July 31, 2023

Anticipated Award Date: September 1, 2023

2. Application Package

This NOFO, including its appendices, constitutes the full application package, and instructions for submitting the application are available on the FAIS homepage. Before you can view the FAIS homepage, you must first establish a FAIS account. See the following website for more information: https://www.fas.usda.gov/food-aid-information-system. These documents are also located on www.grants.gov. However, all applications must be submitted via FAIS. If an Applicant does not have access to the internet or experiences trouble accessing the FAIS homepage, the Applicant can request a hardcopy of the full NOFO by calling (202) 531-0216 between 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. EDT or by contacting FAS in writing at:

Food for Progress Branch Director
1400 Independence Ave. SW, Room 6958
Washington, DC 20250

3. Content and Form of Application Submission

a. Application Format

Applications must:

- Be completed in English.

Applications should:

- Applicants are advised that readability is of paramount importance and should take precedence in choice of application format, including selecting a legible font type and size for use in the application.
- Use 12-point font; tables and graphs may use 10-point font where appropriate
- Be typed on standard 8.5" x 11" sized paper with 1-inch margins, single spaced, left aligned.
- Be paginated with each page consecutively numbered in the footer.
- Be submitted as PDF files, unless otherwise specified in the NOFO.
- Cite source information and/or provide an explanation of the analysis undertaken throughout proposal.
- Adhere to the maximum page limits in Part D Section 3b, Required Content and Forms
- Be reduced in file size to the greatest extent that is reasonable.
- Be unlocked and without password protection.

Important Note: If an application exceeds the page limit for any section, the application will be reviewed, but the review of that section will be restricted to the section's page limit.

b. Required Content and Forms

An Application Content Checklist can be found in Appendix A.

All applications must include the following content and forms to be considered complete:

- Cover Sheet – 1 page
- Strategic Analysis – 15 pages
- Plan of Operation – 20 pages
- Organizational Capacity and Staffing – 4 pages
  - Capacity and Staffing
  - Organizational Chart
  - In-Country Registration
  - Curriculum Vitae for Chief of Party (4 page maximum; excluded from Organizational Capacity and Staffing page count)
  - Project-Specific Commitment Letters from anticipated subrecipients (if subrecipients are proposed) (no page limit restrictions; excluded from Organizational Capacity and Staffing page count)
  - Past Performance Records (no page limit restrictions; excluded from Organizational Capacity and Staffing page count)
- Monitoring and Evaluation – 25 pages
  - Project-Level Results Framework – 6 pages
  - Performance Indicators – 5 pages
  - Evaluation Plan – 14 pages
- Commodity Management – 10page maximum
- Budget
  - Budget Summary – 1 page
  - Detailed Budget – no page limit restrictions
  - Budget Narrative – 20 page maximum
  - Applicant's most recent approved NICRA agreement (no page limit restrictions) (See Part D Section 3 c vi, Budget, for more on indirect costs)
- SF-424 (https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html)
- SF–LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Required if Applicant is involved in lobbying activities.)
- Single Audit (Applicant's most recent; no page limit restrictions)

Additional details on the content of each section of the proposal are found below in Part D Section 4, Content Guidance. Applicants should review this guidance to determine which sections require data input directly into FAIS and which sections may be submitted as attachments. FAS strongly discourages, and will not consider, any materials submitted by or on behalf of the Applicant other than those materials specifically requested in this NOFO.

c. Food Aid Information System (FAIS)

Due to the technical limitations of FAIS, data must be input into the following fields in order for an application to be successfully submitted in FAIS:

- Introduction Section

    - Introduction Details: complete these fields.
    - Key Personnel (indicate where this information can be found)
- Result Section
    - Results (indicate where this information can be found)
    - Activities (indicate where this information can be found)
    - Activity Mapping (indicate where this information can be found)
    - Other Details (indicate where this information can be found)
- Commodity Section
    - Commodity List (complete these fields)
    - Special Needs & Distribution Methods (indicate where this information can be found)
    - Monetization (indicate where this information can be found)
- Budget Section
    - Budget Narrative (indicate where this information can be found)

To reduce the administrative burden of submitting an application and minimize duplicative information in the application, Applicants may enter language referencing the location of the information in the application in the Results, Commodity, and Budget fields in FAIS. For example: "See Attachment X: Project Level Results Framework" could be entered in the field for Results.

For any requested element of the proposal that does not have a specific dropdown menu tag, Applicants should upload using the dropdown tag of "generic" and include the document title in the comments.

4. Content Guidance

All FFPr Program applications must include the following as attachments in FAIS:

a. Cover Sheet (1 page)

Applicants must provide an introductory cover sheet with the following information:

- Applicant organization name
- Subrecipient organization(s) name(s)
- Priority country
- Award funding request, itemized by commodities, freight and admin, and operating budget.
- Number of direct beneficiaries
- A paragraph summary of the project's technical approach

b. Strategic Analysis (15 pages)

Applicants must provide evidence of their understanding of the priority area and local context and respond to the priorities outlined in the Country Specific Guidance. This should not be general background information, but a current situational analysis of the country under the technical area and all the key agricultural conditions in the country. The Applicant should not merely repeat what is already described in the Country Guidance but should convincingly describe how the Applicant proposes to achieve the Goal and Priorities (see section X of the Country Guidance), detailing the results to be achieved and the methodology employed. Applicants must identify **what** needs to be addressed within the priority arear. Applicants must also provide a clear, cost-effective strategy on the proposed interventions and **why** those interventions are important for achieving the objectives of the project. In this section, Applicants should also:

- Describe where opportunities for lasting impact exist and why interventions at those points are the most appropriate, context specific, and replicable for creating sustainable change after the proposed project ends. Applicants should demonstrate an understanding of potential end-markets for any targeted value chains.
- Introduce the target geographic area(s) and the beneficiary group(s) and the justification of the selected areas. Applicants may include illustrations such as geographic maps, value chain maps, climate vulnerability maps, or other visualizations to support strategic analysis.
- Showcase an understanding of key private sector actors as well as existing USG and other donor funded projects and why collaboration with these various actors will contribute to the success of the proposed project.
- Highlight interventions to increase the role of youth, women, minorities, and indigenous communities in the priority area(s) to advance gender and racial justice and equality. Explain why such interventions would increase opportunities for these groups.
- Provide an analysis of climate conditions and pre-existing climate smart approaches in the priority sector(s) and why new or further climate smart interventions would be beneficial to sector growth and combatting climate change.

c. Plan of Operation (20 pages)

This section must build off the Strategic Analysis (see subsection b above) and expand on **how** the Applicant will implement the chosen interventions to meet the needs identified in the Strategic Analysis. Applicants should convincingly articulate how proposed activities, which will accomplish the goal presented in the country guidance, are technically and politically feasible within five years. Applicants should deploy diverse and innovative approaches that are designed for the local context. While describing proposed activities in this section, Applicants should:

- Establish target geographic areas and beneficiaries per activity – Clearly indicate the target geographic area(s) and beneficiaries for each activity.
- Show clear process – Provide detailed steps for the implementation of each activity. This should include major milestones and anticipated activity completion dates.

- Create Economies of Scale – Highlight how economies of scale in both input purchases and sales can be achieved for individual smallholder farmers, such as through farmer organizations, to create more broad-based growth. Explain how chosen activities create efficiencies in the priority sector(s) that benefit smallholders.
- Foster Local Capacity, Self-Reliance, and Sustainability – Clearly outline how proposed activities will foster local capacity and national self-reliance and ensure sustainability well beyond the life of the project, including linking to end-markets.
- Partner with the private sector – Explain how they will seek to develop partnerships with responsible private sector firms while implementing the activities.
- Embrace Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting (CLA) principles – Coordinate and collaborate activities with a broad set of appropriate local actors; test promising new approaches in a continuous search for improvement; and build on what works, while eliminating what does not.
- Address Climate Change – Highlight the integration of climate change solutions and adaptations into the activities.
- Advance Racial Justice, Equity, and Opportunity – Include explicit efforts to promote gender and racial equity and incorporate critical gender issues in project implementation. Ensure that women, minorities, and indigenous communities are able to participate in proposed activities and there is equitable access to resources, especially in financing.
- Leverage Other Investments – Specify how they will work with other USG and development partners in implementing activities. Activities should complement ongoing projects on the ground. The project should not operate in isolation.
- Explain Subrecipients' Roles – Clearly state subrecipients' roles and responsibilities in these activities and provide justification for their inclusion in the project.

d. Organizational Capacity and Staffing (4 pages)

Applicants must clearly demonstrate their organizational capacities to implement the proposed project across all aspects of project management. Current and past experience in agricultural projects, especially within the priority area or targeted geographic area(s), must be included in this section.

The Organizational Capacity and Staffing section should also include a staffing plan that demonstrates the technical and geographic expertise required for efficient and effective project implementation, administration, and management. The staffing plan should include a brief description of all long-term staff positions and required levels of experience. The Applicant should avoid excessive staffing and be as cost effective as possible. FAS may request changes to the final staffing plan during award negotiation or project implementation.

Applicants must also identify any proposed subrecipients and provide a description of each subrecipient's responsibilities and capabilities. Subrecipient means an entity that enters into a sub-agreement with the Applicant for the purpose of implementing in the target country activities described in an agreement. Such an entity would receive commodities, CCC-provided funds, program income, sale proceeds, or other resources from the Applicant to use for this purpose and would be accountable to the Applicant for the use of such commodities, funds, program income,

sale proceeds, or resources. The UEI number for each subrecipient must be included in the description. Applicants are encouraged to include U.S. minority- and women-owned small businesses.

In addition to the Organizational Capacity and Staffing narrative described just above, Applicants should provide the following items at the end of the Organizational Capacity and Staffing section (included in the page count):

- **Organizational Chart and Key Personnel** – Applicants must include an appropriate and adequate organizational chart that identifies Key Personnel positions. The Key Personnel would be managers with general responsibilities for implementation of an agreement, such as the country director, finance director, and Chief of Party, as well as critical technical staff for specific activities under an agreement. Should the application be selected for funding, the information on key personnel will be added to the Plan of Operation in the agreement. If subrecipient(s) are proposed, they should be identified in the organizational chart so that a clear reporting structure between the subrecipient(s) and the Applicant is established.

- **In-Country Registration** – The Applicant must disclose its registration status in the target country. Applicants not registered must include a plan to become registered and a timeline to complete the registration process.

Applicants must provide the following items related to the Organizational Capacity and Staffing section. Each item will be submitted as a separate attachment to, and excluded from the page count of, the section:

- **Curriculum Vitae (CV) for Chief of Party (4-page limit)** – The Applicant must attach, as part of the proposal, the CV for the proposed project lead, the Chief of Party. This person will provide major oversight of the proposed FFPr Program project. The CV must clearly demonstrate the project lead's relevant work experience and qualifications.

- **Subrecipient Letters of Commitment** (no page limit) – A project-specific commitment letter from each proposed subrecipient should be included. Letters of support from entities that are not subrecipients should not be included with the application.

- **Past Performance Reviews** (no page limit) – Applicants should identify references for at least one and no more than three grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts implemented by the organization. For projects without a Contractor Performance Assessment Report (CPAR) on CPARS.gov, each reference should complete a Past Performance Review form (see Appendix F) and submit it to ppded@usda.gov by the closing date of this announcement. For any reference projects with an existing CPAR on CPARS.gov, the Applicant may provide that CPAR as a substitute for submitting a Past Performance Review form. Please share the CPAR information (contract number, assessment date, and UEI) in an email to ppded@usda.gov.

When selecting references to submit past performance review forms, Applicants are encouraged to select references with knowledge of the Applicant's past performance of projects that are similar in scope and size to the programming in the Applicant's proposal, including those projects specifically mentioned in the Strategic Analysis section of the Applicant's proposal. An Applicant is strongly encouraged to include at least one review from a reference with knowledge of its performance of a past or active award outside of USDA's international food assistance programs.

If a proposed subrecipient will receive 20% or more of the proposed operating budget for the project, the Applicant must submit one Past Performance Review from a reference for the subrecipient to ppded@usda.gov by the closing date of this announcement.

e. Monitoring and Evaluation (25 pages)

FAS requires an Applicant to submit three monitoring and evaluation documents in its proposal: 1) a Results Framework (RF) (graphic and narrative), 2) a Performance Indicators table, and 3) an Evaluation Plan.

Results Framework (6-page limit)
The project-level RF must clearly identify how the proposed project will contribute to the Food for Progress program-level results framework, as shown in Appendix E. A project-level RF has two components:

1. A graphical representation of the project's theory of change. The suggested length of the graphical RF is 2 pages. A strong graphical RF should:
   - Use the FFPr program-level RF as the basis of the project-level RF.
   - Identify which results the proposed project will contribute to, and which the proposed project will NOT contribute to.
     - A single project is not expected to contribute to all of the results in the program-level RF. Projects typically contribute to a subset of program-level results, and may also contribute to custom results, reflecting the specific country and programmatic context of the proposed project. The number of results contributed to will **not** be a factor in proposal evaluation.
   - Display the project's proposed activities and align each with the result(s) the activity will help achieve. Applicants should use short, descriptive activity titles so that readers have enough information to understand how a proposed activity will logically lead to a result.
   - Include the names of any external entities with whom the Applicant proposes to coordinate to achieve a result, e.g., USAID or a target country government ministry. Applicants are responsible for subrecipients' work, so proposed subrecipients need not be separately identified in the project-level RF.
   - Add custom results, beyond what is available in the program-level RF, to communicate additional results the proposed project is designed to achieve. This is particularly important for projects such as Trade Enabling Environment focused projects that typically work towards results *not* already displayed on the program-

level RF.

2. A narrative text, articulating the project's theory of change, describing the cause-and-effect linkages outlined in the Strategic Analysis. The suggested length of the narrative is 4 pages. A strong narrative should:

    - Reference existing research to support the described causal linkages.
    - Identify critical assumptions that support the theory of change. Critical assumptions are external conditions that are necessary for success of the project, but over which the project implementers have little or no control. Critical assumptions that have a high probability of occurring and, if realized, will prohibit the project from achieving its desired results are defined as "killer assumptions." Generally, projects should not have killer assumptions.
    - For each FFPr program-level result that the proposed project will not contribute to, explain why.
    - Provide a convincing argument that the project's theory of change will achieve the intermediate and highest-level results and these results will be sustained beyond project completion.
        - A strong narrative will tie desired results into the sustainable impact of activities proposed in the Plan of Operation. An applicant should have a plan to develop local ownership of the project and develop sustainable partnerships to maximize the potential for the benefits of the project to endure over time.

Overall, the project-level RF should reflect sound, causal thinking. The project logic should follow a chain of cause-and-effect relationships. There should be no significant causal gaps or large leaps from one level in the causal hierarchy to the next. Proposed activities should be sufficient to produce outputs, achieve initial and intermediate results, and contribute to the strategic objectives. If activities do not align with results, Applicants should remove them and revise the proposal to include activities that directly support results.

Performance Indicators (5-page limit)
Applicants must submit a table of standard and custom performance indicators for their proposed project results. Performance indicators identify how to recognize the success of the project and help to clarify results. For each indicator, the Applicant must identify a baseline value (where possible), annual targets for each year of the project, and a life of project target. Applicants should include, at a minimum, these columns in the table: Performance Indicator, Standard or Custom, Baseline Value, Year X Target, Year Y Target, etc. (numbers to correspond to each year in the project), and Life of Project Target.

Standard FFPr Program performance indicators are required, where appropriate. Each result included in the proposed project should have one or more corresponding indicators in the indicator table. If an Applicant addresses a result that has a corresponding standard indicator, it must include the standard indicator in its table. If the Applicant believes that the corresponding standard indicator is not applicable to its project, the Applicant must provide a brief explanation

of why the indicator is not appropriate in a footnote at the bottom of the table. When a standard indicator isn't available for a proposed project result, the Applicant should include a custom indicator for that result. Custom indicators proposed for a project should be a mix of output and outcome indicators, in alignment with the result level(s) they reflect. As described in the Monitoring and Evaluation Policy, custom indicators should also meet the criteria of being direct, objective, adequate, and practical. FAS does not require a specific number of indicators per result; however, the number of proposed indicators should be sufficient to monitor the proposed project's performance in achieving each result. Applicants may consult publicly available USG indicator sets as resources for their proposed custom indicators. Examples of these resources include Feed the Future indicators (beyond those already included as standard FFPr program performance indicators) or the State Department's Foreign Assistance Standard Indicators.

Applicants should review the FFPr Program standard indicators carefully to propose indicators that will reflect applicable climate smart activities. For example, standard indicator #s 2, 4, and 17 include disaggregates that reflect aspects of climate smart agriculture. If needed, applicants can capture additional climate smart results with custom indicators, and may consult publicly available, established indicator sets such as those in USAID's Global Climate Change Indicator Handbook.

Evaluation Plan (14-page limit)
Applicants must submit a draft evaluation plan. Each evaluation plan should include a comprehensive approach to evaluating the project's performance and impact. Please review the International Food Assistance Division's Monitoring and Evaluation Policy or information that will shape the evaluation plan. For example, note that recipients will be required to hire external evaluators to conduct evaluations of the project. Recipients will be required to hire external evaluators to conduct evaluations of the project.

The evaluation plan should be developed as a stand-alone document that can be shared with interested entities and the public. This evaluation plan must include, at a minimum, the following information:

- **Introduction** Provide a brief description of the purpose of the evaluation plan and how it will be used by the project and other entities with which the Applicant will be working.

- **Project Overview Provide** a summary description of the project strategy, including the project strategic objectives and expected results. The project-level RF should be referenced here, and the overview should provide a brief description of the project activities and corresponding targeted project beneficiaries. The project overview will provide important context to the evaluation plan and methodology proposed.

- **Evaluation Approach and Methodologies** Describe the overall evaluation approach, how applicants will cooperate in the design of evaluations to ensure a participatory process, and the quantitative and qualitative evaluation methods that will be used throughout the project. An evaluation approach may include repeat cross-sectional

designs or panel studies and also may consist of direct observations, key informant interviews, focus group discussions and secondary data analysis. These methodologies should be described in detail, including sample design, expected sample sizes, and key informants.

The Applicant should also describe the strengths and weaknesses in the proposed methodology for measuring impact and assessing attribution. If the Applicant is proposing an impact evaluation, the evaluation plan should identify the proposed design (experimental or quasi-experimental) and method of attribution (e.g., a randomized control trial (RCT), difference-in-differences (DID), or propensity score matching (PSM)). If the Applicant is not proposing an impact evaluation, provide a justification for why not and describe how the methodology will assess contribution. A good evaluation plan will demonstrate why the evaluation approach is appropriate to the project context and how that evaluation design will be useful for project learning.

- **Baseline Study Provide** a description of the Applicant's plan to establish performance indicator baseline information and targets that the project will use to measure performance and report to USDA at regular intervals. Baseline data will be collected for two purposes: (1) to measure progress on performance indicators, and (2) to assess project outcomes and impacts using evaluation methods. Specify who will conduct the baseline, the timeline, and how the project plans to use the baseline findings.

- **Midterm Evaluation Provide** a description of the project's midterm evaluation strategy and activities, if applicable. Identify the purpose and scope of the evaluation, preliminary key evaluation questions, methodology, and key audience for the evaluation. Include a timeline for the conduct of key evaluation activities and a description of how the project will use the evaluation findings and recommendations.

- **Final Evaluation Provide** a description of the project's final evaluation strategy and activities. Identify the purpose and scope of the evaluation, preliminary key evaluation questions, methodology, and the key audience for the evaluation. Include a timeline for the conduct of key evaluation activities and a description of how evaluation findings and recommendations can be used.

- **Alignment with the Food for Progress Learning Agenda** FAS advises Applicants to review the Food for Progress Learning Agenda. Applicants must include a short section in their evaluation plan explaining which questions in the Learning Agenda their proposed evaluations, special studies, or both will contribute to answering. Applicants should also explain in this section *how* the proposed research will contribute to answering the questions, which may include, for example, specifying the proposed methods to be used to generate evidence regarding a specific question.

- **Learning Briefly** describe the project's dissemination strategy for improving the knowledge base and sharing evaluation findings and lessons learned. Also describe how the project and the Applicant intend to use evaluation findings, ideally including

examples of how findings or evidence have been used in similar contexts and referencing the Applicant's overall learning culture.

- **Special Studies (where applicable) Proposals** may include plans to conduct special studies focused on a particular intervention, sector, or technical area that may aid Applicants in identifying project effectiveness, impact, or lessons learned complementary to the required midterm and final evaluations. Proposals may also include the conduct of qualitative or anthropologic studies that help to triangulate evaluation information, provide context to evaluation findings, or offer a better understanding of evaluation findings.

- **Evaluation Management Briefly** describe an evaluation management structure that reflects standards and principles of evaluation independence and credibility. Indicate whether the Applicant maintains an evaluation unit and, if so, describe where it is located and how it will be involved in managing project evaluations. Address the roles and responsibilities of other entities with which the project will be working, and key interested parties throughout the evaluation process. More detailed descriptions of the roles and responsibilities of the Applicant's Monitoring and Evaluation staff should be included in the staffing plan and organizational chart described in the Plan of Operation and Activities section above.

- **Evaluation Budget** Applicants must allocate, at a minimum, three percent (3%) of the operating budget towards monitoring and evaluation. Cost share and indirect costs are not included in the operating budget when calculating the required investment. The three percent minimum excludes monitoring and evaluation staff salaries and monitoring and evaluation staff travel. Examples of items that count towards the three percent minimum investment are costs of designing a monitoring database, database licenses, infrastructure for data collection such as tablets, and external contracts for evaluations and special studies. For evaluation plans which include conducting impact evaluations, FAS expects costs to range between five to ten percent (5% - 10%) of the project budget. The draft evaluation plan submitted with the proposal should include a short table showing the evaluation budget broken into key line items, including separate lines for the baseline, midterm, and final evaluation costs. Applicants should also include a summary of the monitoring and evaluation budget in the General Explanatory Comments section of the Budget Narrative. (See Appendix D - Budget Narrative Example)

f. Commodity Management (10 pages)

The funding for this award is predicated on the sale of U.S. agricultural commodities. The ability to manage the monetization of commodities is an essential element of successfully implementing a FFPr Program award. In this section, Applicants must document the reasoning for their commodity selection and demonstrate that a sufficient level of market analysis has been performed to determine the most appropriate commodity. This includes considerations of local demand, cost recovery, the impact on local production and markets, the impact on commercial sales, and any specific country concerns that would impact the potential sale.

Applicants that have experience successfully monetizing commodities should include information relevant to their capacity. If there is no prior experience, Applicants should describe their proposed plans to hire an experienced agent or third-party consultant to perform this element of the award.

Commodity List
Applicants must provide the following information:

- Commodity or Commodities (Applicants may consider a basket of approved commodities.)
- Commodity specifications or target grades and standards
- Commodity End Use: Specify how the commodity will be used, i.e., food sector, feed sector, or other industrial sector. What does the end use market look like in the monetization country or region?
- Quantity in Metric Tons (MT): Tonnages should be whole numbers only and in multiples of 10
- Destination Country or Region
- Estimated Delivery to U.S. Port (Month and Year)
- Estimated Sales Price per MT
- Estimated Proceeds
- Estimated Rate of Return (70% minimum is target)

Special Needs and Distribution Methods
Each proposal must include detailed information on special needs and distribution of commodities. This includes information on: 1) Transportation bagging (if required)and Storage; 2) Processing or Packaging; 3) Duty Free Entry; and 4) Economic Impact. Please use the following guidance when completing this information.

- **Transportation and Storage**
  The purpose of this section is to provide assurances to FAS that the port, transportation infrastructure, and storage facilities are sufficient to prevent undue spoilage or waste of the commodities. Describe the following: (1) the discharge port facilities in the importing country, including offloading and storage capacity, number of discharge berths, depth of draft, and who will receive the commodities at the discharge port; (2) the mode of transport and expected routing (especially if moving to a country with no direct ocean access) used to move the commodities from the discharge port to the Applicant's warehouse and/or to a buyer; (3) storage capacity at port of discharge and destination, and structure and level of security at the port and during inland routing; (4) steps taken to prevent undue spoilage or waste; and (5) efforts made to ensure availability of the transportation and storage resources during the entire period required, including acceptance of risk for non-performance taken by contractors providing services. Applicants should provide the names of any third-party contractors (e.g., marine surveyors and cargo expeditors) used for this analysis and include their findings. Third-party assessments and assistance are viewed favorably.

Applicants should be advised that cargo preference applies to ocean transportation of donated U.S. commodities.

- **Bagging or Packaging**
  In the case the proposed commodity requires bags be shipped with the cargo to allow bagging at the destination country, this must be noted in the monetization plan. Provide information about the approximate number of bags and discharge, loading, and stacking rates and their impact on freight costs.

- **Duty Free Entry**
  Provide information about local customs, duties, and taxes that may be applicable for the commodities to enter the country or countries if being transported through more than one country. For each country or region, the Applicant should list any special laws or taxes that may apply and explain how these could affect distribution, monetization, or both. For distribution or barter programs only, the Applicant must indicate that the commodities will be imported and distributed free from all customs, duties, tolls, and taxes. Please cite any written documentation that supports duty–free entry. FAS will not pay for any customs, duties, tolls, or taxes on USDA-funded commodities. Outline any additional steps taken to ensure seamless entry into each country, including the employment of local expeditors or agents.

- **Economic Impact**
  Please provide information indicating how the commodities were selected. Describe why the commodities can be imported and distributed without resulting in a substantial disincentive to or interference with domestic production or marketing patterns, and why the sale or barter of the commodities will not displace or interfere with any sales of United States commodities that may otherwise be made to or within the target country. Highlight current local agricultural risks, aberrations, and marketing practices for locally produced foods. Discuss how these factors have been considered in the commodity selection process and monetization plan.

  This should include plans to conduct a monetization impact assessment, which should be designed to examine the market or markets where the actual monetization will occur. The impact assessment will look at pricing and market structure for the monetized commodity or commodities, as well as relevant substitutes, prior to monetization, during the period of monetization (if there are multiple tranches), and for at least 12 months after the last tranche is delivered. The impact assessment should be budgeted for and reflect the size and scale of the monetization activity. Thus, if the sales plan is regional or involves multiple countries, the budget for this task should reflect that complexity.

  Please include recent production and consumption statistics, along with sources to support these statements. An Applicant should provide the names of third-party "monetization agents" used for the analysis and include their findings. Third-party assessments and assistance for the sale are viewed favorably.

Monetization
The Applicant must enter information on the proposed sale of the donated commodity(ies). Please use the following guidance when entering this information.

- **Impact on Other Sales**
  Provide details that give assurance that commercial markets and local production will not be adversely affected by the sale or barter of commodities. Include information on trade of the same and similar commodities from the U.S. and other countries in this market. Discuss current trading partners, including both commercial and traditional regional stakeholders. Discuss the optimal timing of the sale in terms of periods of heightened demand, seasonality, harvest time, etc.

- **Private Sector Participation in Sales of Commodity**
  Provide information that describes how the commodities will be sold (i.e., open tender, tender with negotiation, or direct negotiation) and why this method of sale has been selected. Direct negotiation may only be approved by FAS under extenuating circumstances. Indicate who the potential buyers could be, while discussing market transparency (availability of data on recent sales of the same or similar commodities). Discuss how private sector buyers will be encouraged to participate in the sales process, and any constraints that may hinder or aid the sales process (e.g., number of buyers, number of banks, letter of credit fees, storage facilities at processing plants, etc.). Indicate which measures the Applicant will undertake to guard against an uncompetitive sale due to limited potential buyers.

- **Reaching 70 Percent Minimum Return or Better**
  Per the Food for Progress Act of 1985, as amended by the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, all FFPr Program projects should meet a 70 percent rate of return (cost recovery) on monetization efforts. The Food for Progress Act of 1985 provides that the rate of return will be equal to the proportion that the proceeds from the monetization of the donated commodities bear to the cost to the Federal Government to procure and ship the commodities to the country where they are monetized (see 7 U.S.C. 1736o(b)(10)). Detail how the Applicant plans to achieve at least a 70 percent cost recovery with its commodity monetization plan. Note alternatives in the event the proposed commodity may face potential restrictions, such as biosafety regulations. If attaining at least a 70 percent cost recovery seems unlikely and no other alternatives exist, explain how the Applicant will adjust its commodity and freight finances and related project budget to account for that outcome.

- **Assuring Receipt Procedures**
  Provide information that describes how the Applicant will ensure that it receives payment for the sales. If special banking issues are involved, the Applicant should describe any actions needed to safeguard deposits.

g. Budget

Applicants must submit a full budget in its application, using the template provided by USDA in Attachment A. The Applicant must submit an estimated budget for donated U.S. commodities (Commodity Cost) and Freight Cost. The estimates should be realistic and sufficient, and account for rising commodity and freight rates. The template includes a budget summary tab as well as a detailed budget tab. While there is no total page limit for the budget section as a whole, Applicants are encouraged to be as concise as possible while still providing the necessary detail. The budget must be submitted in US Dollars (USD) and present figures using no more than two decimal places. Formulas and references must be visible, and the budget must not contain hidden or otherwise inaccessible cells. In order to assess the anticipated sale proceeds and overall cost effectiveness of a proposal, FAS requires all Applicants to provide the following budgetary materials:

- **Budget Summary** (one page) that presents the proposed overall funding for administrative, internal transportation, storage and handling, and activity expenses, and shows funding amounts for the specific line items that make up those expense categories (see Appendix C).
- **Detailed Budget** (no page limit) that presents the line-item level cost calculations for each year for the following budget categories and information: salaries/personnel; benefits; travel; professional services/contractual; office; supplies; equipment; other; grants; indirect costs; anticipated program income; and cost share (see Attachment A).
- **Budget Narrative** (20-page limit) that demonstrates in greater detail the composition of each line item, the budget's overall cost effectiveness, and an adherence to applicable cost principles (see Appendix D). For every line-item request reflected in the detailed budget, only the total of that request needs to be included in the narrative; the detailed budget should include the calculations, and the totals across all budget documents must match. The Applicant should justify unit rates for each cost category proposed with supporting information to clearly identify the basis of all costs, such as market surveys, price quotations, current salaries, historical experience, etc. Any assumptions should be clearly stated. The narrative must also include the calculation of expected interest.
- **Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement** (NICRA) (attachment, no page limit) that details the organization's approved indirect rates. An Applicant should attach its most up-to-date NICRA. If the Applicant does not have a NICRA, or it is not applicable, attach a brief note explaining the absence of this document.
- **SF–424, Application for Federal Assistance** (attachment, no page limit) Applicants must complete, sign, and submit to FAIS the SF–424. Please note that an unsigned SF–424 will not be accepted. Applicants can download a blank SF–424 from grants.gov at: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html

5. Intergovernmental Review

An intergovernmental review may be required with regard to an application submitted by a private voluntary organizations, public university, or college. An Applicant that is a public university or college must contact its State's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to comply with the State's process under Executive Order 12372 (see https://www.archives.gov/federal-

register/codification/executive-order/12372.html). The names and addresses of the SPOCs are maintained at the Office of Management and Budget's homepage at: https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SPOC-4-13-20.pdf

6. Funding Restrictions

Funds provided under the FFPr Program may not be used in any manner that is prohibited by the program regulations at 7 CFR part 1499, as supplemented by 2 CFR part 200 and 2 CFR part 400. Any funding restrictions stated in the Budget Narrative section or any section within this NOFO also apply to funds provided under Food for Progress. Program. In addition, funds provided under the FFPr Program may only be used for the purposes set forth in the award and must be consistent with the statutory authority for the award. Funds provided under the FFPr Program and non–monetary support may not be used for matching contributions for other Federal grants or cooperative agreements, lobbying, or intervention in federal regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings. Federal employees are prohibited from serving in any capacity (paid or unpaid) with regard to any proposal submitted under this program. Federal employees may not receive funds under this award. Also, Federal funds may not be used to sue the Federal Government or any other government entity. Selected applicants may be able to incur pre-award costs consistent with instructions provided in the award letter.

Indirect Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Costs

F&A costs are allowable. Applicants with a current NICRA from a cognizant U.S. Government agency must submit that NICRA with their proposal; indirect costs will be allowable as defined in that NICRA. If the Applicant is applying an indirect cost rate which is less than the rate approved under the current NICRA, an authorized representative of the Applicant must state in the budget narrative that the Applicant is accepting a lower rate than allowed.

Applicants that do not have a NICRA may elect to:

- Charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs, which may be used indefinitely. As provided in 2 CFR section 200.403, "Factors Affecting Allowability of Costs," costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs, but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. If the Applicant chooses this methodology, it must use it consistently for all Federal awards until such time as the Applicant chooses to negotiate for a rate, which it may apply to do at any time. For more information, see 2 CFR section 200.414.
- Develop a negotiated rate, upon notification that an award will be made. In this case, the Applicant should develop a tentative indirect cost rate proposal based on its most recently completed fiscal year, in accordance with the cognizant agency's guidelines for establishing indirect cost rates and submit it to the cognizant agency. Applicants awaiting approval of their indirect cost proposals may also request indirect costs. When an Applicant requests an indirect cost rate, it should not charge costs included in the indirect cost pool as direct costs to the award.

7. Other Submission Requirements

The entire application package must be submitted electronically through FAIS at: https://www.fas.usda.gov/food-aid-information-system. **Any automatic response from FAIS that the application has been received does not constitute a statement that the application is complete.**

An Applicant that experiences technical difficulties should phone (202) 720-2637 or email ppded@usda.gov for assistance.

E. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

1. Application Evaluation Criteria

Applicants will be evaluated based on the extent and quality to which they demonstrate that they have the capabilities, staff, and resources to successfully perform the project, as well as the quality of their demonstration. FAS will use these criteria to evaluate the content provided by Applicants provided content under Part D and award points using the point system specified below in Table 2. FAS may invite comments from other USG agencies on its award recommendations, but FAS will make the final determination on which applications to fund. The merits of each application will be reviewed only against other applications received for the same funding opportunity number (see Part A Section 5).

Prior to making a Federal award, the Federal awarding agency is required by 2 CFR 200.206(a)(1) to review information available through any OMB-designated repositories of government-wide eligibility qualification or financial integrity information as appropriate. Therefore, FAS may include the following risk-based considerations in its application evaluation criteria: (1) the Applicant's financial stability; (2) the quality of the Applicant's management systems and its ability to meet management standards; (3) the Applicant's history of performance in managing Federal awards; (4) reports and findings from audits regarding the Applicant; and (5) the Applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements.

Table 2: Content and Points

Content	**Points**
Strategic Analysis	15
Plan of Operation and Activities	35
Organizational Capacity and Staffing*	10
Results Framework and Monitoring and Evaluation	20
Commodity Management	5
Budget**	15 (+3 potential bonus points for cost share)

*In addition to the content submitted by the Applicant in the Organizational Capacity and Staffing section of the application, the following factors, if applicable, may be considered by the review panel in determining a score for this section:

- FAS or another USG agency has formally expressed concerns, either via letter or email, regarding the Applicant's past performance of a CCC- or FAS-funded project.
- FAS or another USG agency has terminated an agreement with the Applicant within the past three years as a result of a violation of the agreement by the Applicant.
- The Applicant failed to pay a single substantial debt, or a number of outstanding debts (not including sums owed to the USG under the Internal Revenue Code) owed to any Federal agency or instrumentality, provided the debt is uncontested by the Applicant or, if contested, provided that the Applicant's legal and administrative remedies have been exhausted. (This information will be sought by FAS through SAM.gov.)
- The Applicant failed to submit to FAS, or submitted after the due date, at least two required reports within the past three years. Required documentation includes semiannual performance reports, semiannual financial reports, A-133 audits, subrecipient agreements, and any other documentation required under an agreement between the Applicant and CCC or FAS.
- The Applicant has on at least two occasions within the past three years: (1) failed to respond, or responded late, to an FAS deadline for documents required during a compliance review or during the closeout of an agreement between the Applicant and CCC or FAS; or (2) failed to notify FAS of commodity losses within 15 days.
- The Applicant has been designated high-risk by FAS (per 2 CFR section 200.206), another Federal government agency (as designated in SAM.gov), or an external auditor within the past three years or the organization's most recent A-133 audit identifies material weaknesses or significant deficiencies.
- The Applicant was responsible for a commodity loss valued at $20,000 or greater, under an agreement between the Applicant and CCC or FAS, during the past three years.

There is **no cost share or match requirement for this program. However, applications that include well-reasoned cost share contributions may receive up to 3 bonus points within the Budget score. To be considered for bonus points, cost share should be equivalent to one percent or more of the total operating budget. FAS will evaluate cost share in terms of both dollar value and reasonableness (ability to implement). Also refer to Part C Section 5, Cost Share or Match.

While evaluating applications on the content areas presented in Table 2, FAS will consider:

- completeness;
- quality;
- strength of analysis;
- appropriateness and technical merit of the intervention strategy;
- alignment with host government laws, policies, and programs; and coordination with local, national, multilateral, private sector, and USG agencies and entities;
- alignment with Appendix B - Country Guidance;
- how well the proposed project will build on existing or past Food for Progress projects; and

- how the proposed project will complement rather than duplicate existing efforts.

2. Review and Selection Process

a. Review Process

FAS will conduct an initial review of each application submitted in response to this NOFO to determine whether the Applicant is eligible, and the application is complete and submitted on time. If an Applicant is determined to be ineligible (see Part C Section 1 and Section 2) or non-responsive, FAS will notify the Applicant.

FAS will not review applications or provide feedback to Applicants if:

- **The Applicant is Ineligible**
  Please refer to Part C Section 1 for a description of the entities that are eligible to apply.
  The Application is Incomplete
  Please refer to Part D Section 3 for a description of the elements and attachments that must be included for an application to be considered complete.
- **The Application is Late**
  Applications must be submitted by the Application Submission Deadline. There are **no** exceptions for any reason.

FAS will review eligible, complete, and timely applications submitted by eligible Applicants as described below:

- FAS will assemble a panel committee consisting of technical reviewers and scorers to review applications for each individual Funding Opportunity Number (see Part A Section 5). This panel may include both Federal and non-Federal persons. The panel committee will review the programmatic merits of the applications based on the evaluation criteria identified in Part E Section 1, Application Evaluation Criteria.
- Following panel committee review, technical reviewer and scorers who participated on the panel committee will provide summary comments, scorers and funding recommendations on the application based on the evaluation criteria in Part E Section 1, Application Evaluation Criteria.

b. Selection Process

The FAS Administrator will make the final selection of applications to approve for funding. The FAS Administrator will give serious consideration to recommendations from IFAD and the panel committees, but may also consider the following factors in making the award selections:

- Agency priorities, such as achieving greater geographical dispersion, program balance, or diversity; and
- Agency's alignment within USG's whole of government approach to agricultural development and innovation, as determined by USDA.

Following the review of Applicant integrity and performance information, outlined in Part E Section 2 c, FAS will notify all Applicants electronically of funding decisions. An Applicant may send a written request to ppded@usda.gov to receive a written summary of the strengths and weaknesses of its proposal related to the evaluation criteria. FAS will send the written summary to the Applicant within 60 days of the request. Additional information will not be provided.

c. Review of Applicant Integrity and Performance Information

Prior to making a Federal award with a total amount Federal share greater than the simplified acquisition threshold, as defined by 41 U.S.C. 134, FAS is required to review and consider any information about the Applicant that is in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM.gov.

An Applicant, at its option, may review information in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM.gov and comment on any information about itself that a Federal awarding agency previously entered and is currently in the system.

FAS will consider any comments by an Applicant, in addition to the other information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the Applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards when completing the review of risk posed by Applicants as described in 2 CFR section 200.206.

d. Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest

FAS will protect technical and cost proposals submitted under this funding opportunity from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. FAS may use one or more support contractors in the logistical processing of proposals. However, funding recommendations and final award decisions will be made solely by FAS. To the extent permitted by law, during the review process, FAS will respect any information which the Applicant has marked as proprietary or business sensitive. Refer to Part H Section 5 for additional information on marking proprietary information.

FAS screens all technical reviewers for potential conflicts of interest. To determine possible conflicts of interest, FAS requires potential reviewers to complete and sign conflict of interest and nondisclosure forms. To the extent permitted by law, FAS will keep the names of submitting institutions and individuals, as well as the substance of the applications, confidential except to reviewers and FAS staff involved in the award process. FAS will destroy any unsuccessful applications after three years following the funding decision.

F. FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. Notice of Award

FAS will notify each Applicant whether the proposal has been selected for funding in writing via FAIS. Selected Applicants will receive an award letter via email from ppded@usda.gov and in FAIS. The notice or award letter is not an authorization to begin performance but will outline

allowable pre–award costs which can be incurred at the selected Applicant's own risk. Once the selected Applicant accepts the selection notice, FAS will begin negotiations with the selected Applicant to develop a cooperative agreement. Until the cooperative agreement is signed, FAS reserves the right not to fund a selected application.

These negotiations may include but are not limited to the following subjects:

- Appropriateness of the budget for the proposed project
- Appropriateness of proposed staff
- Appropriateness of proposed locations
- Scope and type of activities to be implemented.
- Suitability of proposed indicators
- Suitability of the proposed monetization plan
- Any special terms and conditions

The selected Applicant may be required to submit additional information to enable FAS to determine that the Applicant is capable of complying with the requirements in 7 CFR part 1499 and any special terms and conditions.

During the negotiations phase, FAS will also ensure that any cost share proposed by the selected Applicant is retained and included in the agreement.

Failure to satisfactorily resolve an issue that arises during the negotiation of a cooperative agreement may prevent the timely signing of an agreement and may result in the notice of award or award letter being rescinded.

The use of a cooperative agreement as the funding instrument entails substantial involvement between FAS and the selected Applicant, with both parties sharing responsibility for the management, control, direction, or performance of the agreement. The agreement will incorporate project details as approved by FAS in accordance with the FFPr Program regulations, 7 CFR part 1499.

2. Administration and National Policy Requirements

a. Domestic Entities

Applicants that are selected to receive an award and registered in SAM.gov as **domestic entities** are required to comply with both the current Administrative General Terms and Conditions and the current National Policy General Terms and Conditions for all grants and cooperative agreements, which are available online at:
https://www.fas.usda.gov/grants/general_terms_and_conditions/default.asp

b. Foreign Entities

Applicants that are selected to receive an award and are registered in SAM.gov as **foreign entities** are required to comply with the following terms and conditions as applicable:

- Public international organizations (as described within the definition of "foreign public entity" in 2 CFR section 200.1), such as United Nations organizations, will be subject to the Terms and Conditions for Public International Organizations (PIOs)
- Foreign organizations (as defined in 2 CFR section 200.1) will be subject to the Terms and Conditions for Foreign Organizations
- Foreign governments will comply with the Terms and Conditions for Foreign Governments

Before accepting an award, a domestic or foreign Applicant should carefully read the award package for instructions on administering the award and the terms and conditions associated with responsibilities under the award. Selected Applicants must accept all conditions in this NOFO as well as any special terms and conditions in the notice of award to receive an award under this program.

3. Reporting

Applicants that receive funding through a FFPr Program agreement will be required to provide the following: semiannual financial reports, semiannual performance reports, annual property reports (if applicable), and closeout reports. All reports must be submitted via FAIS.

a. Federal Financial Reporting Requirements

Recipients must submit semiannual financial reports via FAIS and follow the budget summary template provided.

For the October 1-March 31 reporting period, the due date is April 30. For the April 1-September 30 reporting period, the due date is October 30. If the first semiannual financial report would be due less than 60 days after the agreement is signed, it will be exempted from submission requirements for that partial reporting period. The first report will be due for the following reporting period.

FAS requires only the financial report that appears in FAIS and does not require the SF-425 under the FFPr Program. All reports must be submitted via FAIS. FAS may provide for more frequent reporting, but no more frequent than quarterly, in the agreement.

b. Program Performance Reporting Requirements

Recipients must submit semiannual performance reports via FAIS. Performance reports must provide information on the overall progress of the project.

For the October 1-March 31 reporting period, the due date is April 30. For the April 1-September 30 reporting period, the due date is October 30. If the first semiannual performance report would be due less than 60 days after the agreement is signed, it will be exempted from submission requirements for that partial reporting period. The first report will be due for the following reporting period.

FAS may provide for more frequent reporting, but none more frequent than quarterly, in the agreement. Changes in the original project timelines must be approved by FAS prior to their implementation.

c. Closeout Reporting Requirements

FAS will initiate the award closeout process 60 days before the end of the performance period. Within 120 days after the end of the period of performance, a recipient must submit: (1) a final financial report and final progress report detailing all accomplishments and a qualitative summary of the impact of those accomplishments throughout the period of performance; (2) a tax certification letter on company letterhead indicating that all required payroll taxes for the employees working in-country have been paid; and (3) an equipment disposition form. A sample tax certification letter, as well as an equipment disposition form, are available on the FAIS homepage under "Forms and Guidance." These documents must be uploaded to the Agreement-Level Report page within FAIS for the specific agreement being closed out under the "List of Closeout Attachments" section.

If applicable, the recipient must report an inventory of all construction projects that used funds under the FFPr Program project using the Real Property Status Report (Standard Form SF–429) available at: https://www.grants.gov/forms.html.

After FAS has reviewed and approved these reports, it will complete a closeout notice to close out the award. The notice will indicate the period of performance as closed, list any remaining funds that will be de–obligated, and address the requirement of maintaining the records for three years from the final date of submission of the reports required by 7 CFR section 1499.13(f)(1) and (2). The recipient is responsible for returning any funds that have been drawn down but remain as unliquidated in its financial records.

4. Monitoring

FAS through its authorized representatives, has the right, at all reasonable times, to make site visits to review project accomplishments and management control systems and to provide such technical assistance as may be required. During a site visit, FAS will review the recipient's files related to the FFPr Program-funded project.

As part of any monitoring and program evaluation activities, a recipient must permit FAS, upon reasonable notice, to review FFPr Program project-related records and to interview the organization's staff and clients regarding the project. In addition, a recipient must respond in a timely and accurate manner to FAS requests for information relating to its project.

5. Other Agreement Requirements

a. Organizational Chart

A recipient will, within 30 days after an agreement is signed, submit to FAS for approval an organizational chart identifying the names, positions, and responsibilities of all of the recipient's key personnel and subrecipients. Following approval by FAS of the organizational chart, the recipient will be required to obtain written approval from FAS before hiring any new key person and notify FAS within one week after the departure of any key person. As 2 CFR section 200.308(c) requires, a recipient must obtain FAS's written approval prior to the disengagement from the project for more than three months, or a 25 percent reduction in time devoted to the project, by the approved project director.

b. Annual Work Plan

Within 60 days after an agreement is signed, the recipient will provide a detailed annual work plan for the project, to be approved by FAS. Subsequent annual work plans will be due annually, as specified by FAS. Further details can be found on the FAS Food for Progress webpage.

c. Monitoring and Evaluation Requirements

In accordance with the agreement, a recipient will be required to provide an updated evaluation plan, a project-level results framework, and a performance monitoring plan (PMP). A recipient will also provide terms of reference to conduct a baseline study, final evaluation, and, if applicable, midterm evaluation, impact evaluation, and all resulting reports.

d. Subaward Requirement

A recipient will be required to submit subaward agreements through FAIS and comply with the subaward reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 170. Any contract which exceeds the Simplified Acquisition Threshold must also be submitted to FAS through FAIS.

e. Audit Compliance

A recipient other than a foreign public entity, a foreign organization, or a for-profit entity must comply with the timeframes established in 2 CFR part 200, Subpart F, for the submission of its audits to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse. In addition, if FAS requires an annual financial audit that is not required by subpart F with respect to a particular agreement, and FAS provides funds for this purpose, the recipient shall arrange for such audit and submit it to FAS via FAIS.

G. AWARDING AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact and Resource Information

For general questions related to the FFPr Program, Applicants and other interested parties are encouraged to contact:

Ingrid Ardjosoediro
Director, Food for Progress
International Food Assistance Division, Global Programs

Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Hours of Operation

Monday–Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm EDT

Address

1400 Independence Ave. SW, Stop 1034
Washington, DC 20250

Phone, Email, and Website

Phone: 202-531-0216
Email: ppded@usda.gov
Website: https://www.fas.usda.gov/food-aid-information-system

Individuals with questions regarding the NOFO or Information Technology (IT) issues with FAIS must submit questions in writing to the above email address. Answers to all questions regarding the NOFO will be posted to www.grants.gov weekly.

Individuals lacking internet access who would like access to these questions and answers about the NOFO should contact IFAD at the phone number or address above. Provide your address or fax number and IFAD will provide these questions and answers.

H. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Extensions

Extensions to the performance period of a project funded through an award under this NOFO may be allowed. A recipient may request a project extension in order to complete all project activities, in accordance with 2 CFR section 200.308. Requests for extensions are subject to FAS approval.

2. Prior Approval

A recipient must not use donated commodities, sale proceeds, CCC–provided funds, interest, or program income for any activity or any expense incurred by the recipient or a subrecipient prior to the start date of the period of performance of the agreement, without the prior written approval of FAS (see 7 CFR section 1499.11(b)). A recipient must not transfer any funds budgeted for participant support costs, as defined in 2 CFR section 200.1, to other categories of expense without the prior approval of FAS (see 7 CFR section 1499.11(h)(2)).

3. Budget Revisions

Transfers of funds between direct cost categories in the approved budget when such cumulative transfers among those direct cost categories will exceed ten percent of the total budget approved in an agreement will require the prior approval of FAS, through an amendment (see 7 CFR section 1499.11(h)(1). The recipient shall obtain prior written approval for any budget revision that would result in the need for additional resources or funds. The recipient is not authorized at any time to transfer an amount budgeted for a direct cost to an indirect cost line item, or vice versa, without prior written approval.

4. Program Income

In the event program income becomes available, it must be used in accordance with the agreement (see 7 CFR section 1499.11). Program income is defined in 7 CFR section 1499.2 as interest earned on proceeds from the sale of donated commodities, as well as funds received by a recipient or a subrecipient as a direct result of carrying out an approved activity under an agreement. This includes but is not limited to income from fees for services performed, the use or rental of real or personal property acquired under a Federal award, the sale of items fabricated under a Federal award, license fees and royalties on patents and copyrights, and principal and interest on loans made with Federal award funds. Program income does not include proceeds from the sale of donated commodities; CCC-provided funds or interest earned on such funds; or funds provided for cost sharing or matching contributions, refunds or rebates, credits, discounts, or interest earned on any of them.

5. Proprietary Information

An Applicant wishing to mark information in its application as proprietary or business sensitive may do so. The Applicant should indicate which information or pages are proprietary or business sensitive through footnote notations. FAS will treat the information as such. In the event of a request through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), FAS will work with the Applicant to ensure proprietary or business sensitive information is respected to the extent permitted by law. Information which is proprietary, or business sensitive may be exempt from disclosure under FOIA Exemption (b)(4). The FOIA exemptions may be viewed here.

APPENDIX A – Application Content Checklist

1. **Applicant Requirements**
   - ❑ System for Award Management (SAM)
     - ☐ Active Registration
     - ☐ Current Financial Assistance Certifications
     - ☐ Current Grants Certifications
   - ❑ Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number for Applicant
   - ❑ UEI number(s) for proposed subrecipient(s)

2. **Required Content and Forms** (submitted as attachments in FAIS)
   - ❑ Strategic Analysis
   - ❑ Plan of Operation and Activities
   - ❑ Results Framework and Monitoring and Evaluation
     - ☐ Project-Level Results Framework with Narrative
     - ☐ Performance Indicators
     - ☐ Evaluation Plan
   - ❑ Commodity Management
   - ❑ Organizational Capacity and Staffing
     - ☐ Capacity and Staffing Narrative
     - ☐ Organizational Chart
     - ☐ In-Country Registration
     - ☐ CV of Project Lead
     - ☐ Project-Specific Commitment Letters (if subrecipients are proposed)
     - ☐ Applicant's Single Audit (most recent)
   - ❑ Budget
     - ☐ Budget Summary (template provided)
     - ☐ Detailed Budget (template provided)
     - ☐ Budget Narrative
     - ☐ Applicant's NICRA (most recent)
   - ❑ SF-424
   - ❑ SF-LLL (Required if Applicant is involved in lobbying activities)

3. **Submitted to ppded@usda.gov**
   - ❑ Completed Past Performance Reviews for Applicant (by reference)
   - ❑ Completed Past Performance Review for Subrecipient (by reference) (if applicable)

4. **Required Fields in FAIS**
   - ❑ Introduction Section

- Introduction Details (complete these fields)
- Key Personnel (indicate where this information can be found)

❑ Results Section

- Results (indicate where this information can be found)
- Activities (indicate where this information can be found)
- Activity Mapping (indicate where this information can be found)
- Other Details (indicate where this information can be found)

❑ Commodity Section

- Commodity List (complete these fields)
- Special Needs & Distribution Methods (indicate where this information can be found)
- Monetization (indicate where this information can be found)

❑ Budget Section

- Budget Narrative (indicate where this information can be found)

APPENDIX B – Country Specific Guidance

Appendix B.1

Thematic Area
Climate Smart Agriculture

Country
Bangladesh

NOFO Number
USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-23-(609)

Timeframe
5 years

Estimated Total Award Value
Up to $34,300,000

Anticipated Operating Budget (Monetization Proceeds + CCC Admin)
$16,300,000

Goal
To support and encourage the adoption of climate smart techniques and technologies in the livestock sector and assist farmers to increase production and improve incomes while conserving the land resources required for livestock production and reducing emissions.

Priorities
Bangladesh is one of the most climate vulnerable countries in the world threatened by sea level rise, saltwater intrusion, average temperature increases, unpredictable rainfall, and cyclones, with 87% of rural households supported by agriculture. The 20% of the population directly engaged in the livestock sector are particularly susceptible to changes in water availability for animals to drink or bathe, disease outbreaks under extreme heat stress, and salinization.

This project will provide support in livestock production with a focus on improving incomes through better management practices and assisting Bangladesh in meeting their commitments to international climate agreements.

Growth potentials of more than 50% over 2015 levels exist for non-rice crops, livestock, and fisheries and demand for meat and dairy products has been rising quickly in Bangladesh. An estimated population increase by 186 million by 2030, paired with increasing income levels and rapid urbanization rates are expected to shift diets away from rice and wheat toward animal-

based diets.[1] Bangladesh requires assistance to sustainably meet this growing demand. For example, the country produces 9.4 million tons of milk against a demand in estimated of 15.04 million tons in a year, according to the International Farm Comparison Network.[2]

The Government of Bangladesh acknowledges the critical role of the agricultural sector in mitigating GHG emissions at the national and global level and has demonstrated its commitments to collectively reduce global methane emissions and keep the global temperature rise below 2°C by joining the Global Methane Pledge in 2022. It was also the first country in South Asia to join the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM4C). Accordingly, the Government of Bangladesh is pursuing multiple, parallel efforts to improve the livestock sector in line with its climate goals. Supporting mitigation and adaptation efforts in the sector aligns with the National Adaptation Plan (2023-2025); Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock CSA Investment Plan; and the Nationally Designated Authority to the Green Climate Fund, among many others.

Proposals should consider the domestic market for dairy and livestock products and identify demand for and access to climate smart technologies and practices. In addition to climate smart practices, the project should build upon existing investments in livestock value chains and prioritize animal health improvement measures, aggregation, and marketing which will have the greatest impact on incomes along the value chain.

Component 1 – Incorporating Climate Smart Technologies in the Livestock Sector
Livestock is a quickly growing sector in Bangladesh and South Asia at large, which presents opportunity to increase incomes at the farmer level and meet domestic demand for dairy and meat products while enhancing opportunities for trade. Bangladesh is a strong market for U.S. livestock genetics and live cattle, with genetics and dairy cattle imports rising between 112% and 351% between 2021 and 2022[3] and Bangladeshi companies increasing their investment in the sector. Youth and women are already active in the production of livestock and there is opportunity to increase their involvement beyond production as livestock activities become more commercialized.

To increase the ability of rural livestock farmers to mitigate and adapt to climatic events while reducing methane emissions, proposals should identify the merits of climate smart management practices and technologies with the potential to provide cost effective approaches for farmers. Proposed activities must reduce GHG emissions at the production level and demonstrate knowledge of what management practices are currently undertaken. There are nascent efforts in Bangladesh to collect data towards establishing emissions baselines at the country and value

[1] *Bangladesh - Climate Smart Investment Plan: Investment opportunities in the agriculture sector's transition to a climate resilient growth path (English).* Climate Smart Agriculture Investment Plan (CSAIP) Series Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group. http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/936881574884000754/Bangladesh-Climate-Smart-Investment-Plan-Investment-opportunities-in-the-agriculture-sector-s-transition-to-a-climate-resilient-growth-path

[2] Hossain, Shahadat & Jahan, Mashrat & Khatun, Fatima. (2022). Current status of dairy products in Bangladesh: A review on supply and utilization. 11. 609-618. 10.18801/ijbmsr.110222.65.

[3] Based on GATS U.S. export data Jan-Dec 2022 for Livestock and Meats

chain level. Activities and data collected on emissions reduction practices should contribute to these efforts, such as the research and pilot projects conducted by FAO.

Applicants must identify geographic areas of activity based on the intensity of existing livestock production and the population's vulnerability to these shocks. Practices and technologies should respond to known and potential climate shocks such as drought, flooding, salinity intrusion, and extreme heat. Interventions and technologies should be proposed which are specific to the targeted geographic area(s). These may include, but are not limited to, energy-efficient livestock shelters, manure management, and land use planning.

There have been several donor-funded projects on fodder production to address the feed needs within livestock value chains, but gaps remain to fully understand what solutions are required for nutrient intake for smallholder livestock producers in addition to fodder to assist in reducing enteric methane emissions. Proposed approaches should consider the remaining fodder production needs and feed issues smallholder farmers across the selected geographic areas face by developing access to and use of feed additives, micronutrient blocks. Fodder management and production activities should be focused on tolerant varieties and soil health in areas prone to stresses such as flood, salinity, or drought.

Component 2 – Improved Animal Health Management Practices

Research has shown that animal health improvement measures have the ability to increase the productivity of dairy cattle, thereby increasing the incomes of farmers, and reduce the emissions generated per unit of production.[4] Proposals should identify appropriate preventive medicine activities to reduce the prevalence of diseases and parasites which would generally reduce emissions intensity as healthier animals are more productive and thus produce lower emissions per unit of output.

The GHG consequences of different diseases and different conditions vary in magnitude by context. Accordingly, proposals should establish the preventive medicine practices which will be most effective in reducing GHG in the proposed activity region. These can include, but are not limited to, biosecurity practices, infections disease prevention, vaccine schedules, and access to veterinary intervention. Proposals must identify the cost benefits of the selected measures.

Veterinary services are in great demand and the Department of Livestock Services has limited capacity with regard to veterinary care to support animal health improvement measures. Applicants must address avenues of capacity building for government officials to provide veterinary services as part of the approach.

USDA encourages close collaboration with local research institutions and universities, as well as U.S. land grant universities. For example, through studies on the practices of animal health improvement measures specific to the geographic context, which will have a demonstrable

[4] Dairy Cattle Health and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Pilot Study: Chile, Kenya and the UK; Statham et al. October (2020); https://dairysustainabilityframework.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Dairy-Cattle-Health-and-GHG-Emissions-Pilot-Study-Report.pdf

impact on incomes and emissions reduction. USDA encourages Applicants to reference the work of the Global Dairy Platform and their jointly published report with FAO, 'Climate Change and the Global Dairy Cattle Sector'.

Component 3 – Strengthen Extension and Service Providers
Activities should be focused on increasing sustainability and product quality from the farm level through the aggregation and processing level. For example, a holistic intervention could include a focus on animal health management at the farm level which reduces emissions, and food safety and energy efficiency at the aggregator and processing level.

Proposals should include activities to assist Bangladesh to meet their increasing demand for livestock and dairy products. With extension services in the livestock sector severely overstretched at the national and district levels, Applicants should propose activities for sustainable extension systems and technology transfer via models such as farmer field schools, demonstration farms, or extension via fee-based services providers. Proposals should identify the potential for innovative livestock extension services and advisory institutions across Bangladesh to deliver harmonized information on climate smart management practices and incorporate existing or draft manuals from the Department of Livestock Services.

Women have become more active in livestock rearing in Bangladesh as a means to earn an income and have more control of household resources and decision making. However, as the sector continues to make advancements toward commercialization, women's participation in the livestock value chain beyond production can still be strengthened. Proposals must reflect participation of youth and women in livestock rearing and include interventions to strengthen the role of women and youth beyond production by connecting them to market opportunities.

Applicants are expected to propose access to finance strategies for smallholders, processors, and producer groups which will expand opportunities for livestock and dairy in Bangladesh. Applicants should work with producer groups to increase training and technical assistance while facilitating connections to markets and private sector actors. Activities related to access to finance should consider how to reduce risk for livestock farmers in the face of climatic shocks, disease outbreak, production cycles, etc.

In order to connect more livestock farmers to markets, Applicants should link farmers to existing producer groups, such as those established by the World Bank's Livestock and Dairy Development Project.

Component 4 – Coordination with the Government of Bangladesh and other Donors
Applicants are expected to work closely with the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries to increase technical expertise in climate smart livestock value chains within the Government of Bangladesh. This includes integration of climate smart issues into extension guidelines and instruments and further linking GoB climate mitigation and resilience goals and initiatives to livestock the livestock sector. Coordination on climate smart goals across the sector will require coordination with additional ministries and departments, such as the Ministry of Environment,

Forest, and Climate Change; Department of Agriculture; and Department of Agriculture Extension. Applicants must clearly demonstrate their capabilities in coordinating across government agencies, include local technical expertise in the project team and this should be reflected in the qualifications of any proposed key personnel.

To assist Bangladesh to achieve climate smart investment goals in the livestock sector the Applicant should propose a strategy to identify data gaps in the current system and identify logical and simple methodologies for recording progress. For example, data on topics such as land use, animal health improvement practices, animal numbers, waste disposal methods, acres of improved grasses, kg of protein feed, number of head receiving additives, etc.

It is vital that proposals leverage and coordinate with existing donors in this space, given the past and current investment in the sector. With approximately 32 million people directly engaged in the livestock value chain throughout Bangladesh, there is opportunity for scale to reach additional farmers. Applicants should build upon the successes of current and prior projects by other donors such as, USAID Feed the Future, the World Bank, FAO, the Asian Development Bank, and others as applicable. Coordination with these projects will be key to selection of beneficiaries and geographic areas of focus.

Applicants should not submit activities which duplicate the work being conducted by the Food for Progress Bangladesh Facilitation project such as lab accreditation and improved testing procedures, risk management systems, or large-scale cold storage investment facilitation.

Metrics
Applicants should include all relevant standard indicators in their proposal and capture additional climate smart results with custom indicators as needed (see page 23 of this NOFO). Beyond the use of standard Food for Progress indicators, Applicants should consider their specific proposed activities and desired results, and include indicators or special studies that reflect any of the below themes the proposed project will address:

- How do gender, age, or class play into adoption of improved technologies that are crucial to GHG mitigation in livestock value chains?
- Study to identify existing GoB plans or policies with climate-smart plans and emissions reduction goals and where/how they do or do not align.

Appendix B.2

Thematic Area
Climate Smart Agriculture and Food Security

Country
Cote d'Ivoire

NOFO Number
USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-23-(530)

Timeframe
5 years

Estimated Total Award Value
Up to $34,900,000

Anticipated Operating Budget (Monetization Proceeds + CCC Admin)
$16,300,000

Goal
To improve resilient and sustainable food security and farmer income in Cote d'Ivoire through support of the high-potential agricultural value chains of aquaculture and/or horticulture.

Priorities
Côte d'Ivoire ranks 171st of 188 countries in the United Nations Development Program's Human Development Index, suffering from both significant gender inequalities (ranking 155th on the Gender Equality Index) and high-income inequality[5], with 46 percent living below the poverty line.[6] These factors severely affect smallholder farmers as they also struggle with land access and frequent climate-related shocks.[7] Despite the above issues, Côte d'Ivoire has also demonstrated many growth opportunities in the agricultural sector. It is West Africa's largest economy after Nigeria, with an average GDP growth rate of approximately 7% over the past decade. Its population of 27.5 million (2021) has been growing at 2.5% annually[8], and with important trade routes from its ports to landlocked neighbors Mali and Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire offers a significant and growing market as well as a path for exports.

Aquaculture, while currently in a nascent stage, has been recognized by the Government of Cote d'Ivoire as one of the key sectors for investment to improve food security. As incomes, population and dietary preferences for fish have increased, the country's consumption of fish has

[5] See https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/452631564064496467/pdf/Cote-d-Ivoire-Agricultural-Sector-Update.pdf, p. 10.
[6] See https://www.actionagainsthunger.org/countries/africa/ivory-coast)
[7] See https://www.wfp.org/operations/ci02-Côte-divoire-country-strategic-plan-2019-2023
[8] See https://data.worldbank.org/country/cote-divoire for latest general statistics on Cote d'Ivoire.

almost doubled over the past eight years from 360,000 metric tons in 2014 to an estimated 650,000 metric tons in 2022[9]. National fisheries production (marine, "continental", and farmed) has only been able to meet 15% of local demand, with an estimated annual production of 95-110,000 MT in each of 2020 and 2021. To date, aquaculture has been able to contribute only 4800[10] metric tons of that total fish supply, despite the country's abundant bodies of water available and annual rainfall averaging 3,000 millimeters in the Southwest[11] portion of the country. As part of its sectoral growth strategy, the government has created a harmonized National Livestock, Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Policy for 2022 to 2026 to guide public and private investments in the sector,[12] and developed a National Aquaculture Development Strategy to significantly increase its domestic production[13].

Horticulture has shown success in Côte d'Ivoire, with many of its products having a higher immediate export potential than aquaculture. The country is the largest exporter of bananas and pineapples in Africa, and exports of mango have been increasing significantly over the past decade, while papaya and several exotic fruits have shown promising opportunities. Export of mango, grown mainly in the north, have found ready markets in Europe, but faces phytosanitary threats. Pineapple, grown in the south and central regions, lost its important position after the year 2000 when the industry failed to quickly adopt the MD2 variety along with most of the rest of the world, but niche markets for better-tasting varieties or organically grown products still offer potential. Papaya, grown largely in the south by small producers, has potential but needs new varieties resistant to the Papaya Ringspot Virus.[14]

Applicants may submit proposals in both of the above-mentioned value chains or only in aquaculture. The proposal must provide strong data-based evidence (include references) to support the justification of the proposed agricultural sector/s. Applicants must identify the opportunities for significant impact on value chain improvement and growth (including number of beneficiaries across the value chain) with defined end-markets. The selected Applicant will be required to conduct a situational analysis as part of the Baseline study to confirm and adjust the proposed activities and approaches. Part of the study would include focus group discussions with key actors (particularly farmers), plus social, associativity, gender and age gap diagnostics, and an assessment of existing financing services available to the sector.

Component 1 – Improve farmer productivity and farmer associations

Since farmer associations and cooperatives are key in providing technical services to their member farmers and can also serve as key vehicles for building farmer capacities, Applicants are expected to examine strategies for their strengthening. This would include trainings to build the managerial capacities of leadership and strengthen members' understanding of the power of

[9] USDA Foreign Agricultural Service GAIN report, April 2022.
[10] USDA Foreign Agricultural Service GAIN report, April 2022.
[11] Cote d'Ivoire, A Country Private Sector Diagnostic, 2020.
[12] Cote d'Ivoire's "Twins" magazine, produced by a Government-Private Sector Partnership, #26, Oct.r 2022, p. 66.
[13] Cote d'Ivoire's "Twins" magazine, produced by a Government-Private Sector Partnership, #26, Oct. 2022, p. 88.
[14] See https://www.rvo.nl/sites/default/files/2018/09/Horticulture-Cote-divoire.pdf.

aggregation, including abilities to access lower input prices, improve access to various markets and better sales prices, improved access to finance, trainings, etc., and to follow that up with accompanying members in those processes. If feasible, these entities should also be supported in the formation of smaller clusters of farmers, such as aquaculture management areas, in which disease, water management, and other practices should be coordinated. Note that farmer associations and cooperatives should be intentional about encouraging participation of women and youth.

To develop farmer capacities in areas such as production, food security, and trade, Applicants must provide trainings which include both in-person demonstrations and digital training. Training could include general farm management, such as *Farming as a Business* plus basic management and financial literacy skills, along with relevant technical training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). Among various strategies, GAP aims to ensure new Applicants adopt climate- smart agriculture practices and technologies. Applicants are encouraged to provide training for matching grant opportunities mentioned under Component 2, and on managing available credit to effectively purchase prioritized assets and supplies. Thirdly but not exhaustively, Applicants should train farmers on domestic or international (as market-appropriate) standards for hygiene, food safety, and quality, as mentioned under Component 3.

For Côte d'Ivoire's fish farming value chain, Applicants should consider activities to strengthen hatcheries for increasing quality seed, hatchlings, spawn, fingerlings, and fry, as the limited supply of fry is noted as a significant obstacle to the value chain's growth. Other capacity-building activities should include supporting education on a variety of fish-farming techniques and promoting the purchase of appropriate fry and fish feed.

For the horticultural value chain, training activities could introduce effective field preparation, planting techniques, and a selection of improved seed. Activities should include climate smart technologies such as precision agriculture in fertilizer and pesticide application, improved soil moisture retention and tree cover to prevent dry soil, and drip irrigation among various water management methods.

To integrate the above activities with Component 4, Applicants should partner with the mentioned local institutions for the delivery of training. Applicants must clearly demonstrate their capabilities in coordinating across government agencies and engage local Côte d'Ivoire aquaculture/horticultural technical experts as part of the project team. This should be reflected in the qualifications of any proposed key personnel, and as part of the exit strategy to leverage sustainability beyond the life of the project.

Component 2 – Strengthen Access to Finance Across the Value Chain

Access to finance is a key constraint in developing agricultural value chains, ranging from the microfinance needs of small farmers to formal financial institution access for medium- and larger-scale farmers and processors. Applicants should propose appropriate financial solutions based on an assessment of the various value chain actor needs for financing and credit options.

Applicants are encouraged to consider provision of technical assistance to microfinance and formal financial institutions in development of more appropriate financial products along with training credit officers in appropriate loan analysis. In addition to working with financial institutions, Applicants are encouraged to facilitate other private-led solutions, including buyer provision of seasonal credit or inputs, contract farming, out-grower schemes, agro-processors advancing credit to farmers, or input providers supplying in-kind loans.

In addition, the use of matching grants can be used to assist farmers reduce the barriers of entry to acquisition of key productive assets. In the aquaculture sector, this may include helping fish farmers with items such as pond construction, cages, or netting, helping feed mills expand their product line to include fish feed, or helping processors with cold chain or other technologies. For horticulture, examples may include purchase of saplings or seedlings, irrigation equipment, or post-harvest handling equipment.

Component 3 – Link and Strengthen Input Suppliers, Processors and Marketing Channels
The project aims at strengthening not only the key actors in the value chain but also the linkages between them to improve efficiency and reduce transaction costs: particularly those between farmer associations and input suppliers, processors, and marketing channels. Applicants are encouraged to propose activities which strengthen linkages between farmer associations and input suppliers to reduce farmers' input prices while equipping them with better information. Likewise, strengthened linkages to processors and marketers should improve farmers' understanding of market needs and ultimately their sales prices. These activities should complement those of Components 1 involving farmer and farmer association training as well as matching grants under Component 2 which strengthen feed mills or processors to better meet the needs of a more efficient and expanded value chain.

Within the aquacultural value chain, producers and retail suppliers of fish feed play an important role, since feed often represents over 60% of total aquaculture production costs, and high production costs were identified as one of the sector's most significant obstacles in Côte d'Ivoire. Applicants should provide solutions to improve the supply of fish feed by working with existing feed millers to expand their product lines. To increase farmer income, assistance is also needed in adding value to the value chain by expanding the range of fish products and by-products, with potential interventions to improve packaging, transport, and storage, and offering new marketing channels and tools. Achievements in this area would need to be linked to training of farmers and their associations as discussed under Component 1, and to access to finance as described under Component 2.

For horticulture, Applicants may consider providing assistance to input suppliers and end buyers such as supermarkets. In addition, niche markets for "organic" products could be set up with farmer associations, initially aimed at the local market (and require integration with the farmer trainings envisioned under Component 1).

Applicants may conduct a cold storage survey for either the aquaculture and/or the horticultural value chain to identify key needs and the investment environment, organizing an investor forum

to discuss needs, opportunities, and strategies. This analysis can address the needs for expansion of cold chain for fish and ongoing issues with insufficient availability of cold storage of fruits such as mango at the Port of Abidjan.

Component 4 – Strengthen Collaborating Research and Government Institutions
The Applicant is expected to collaborate with and strengthen relevant research and government institutions. For both value chains, this could include assessing and strengthening relevant extension services, such as the National Agency to Support Rural Development, as the premier agricultural extension agency, to provide extension and veterinary services for the value chain and building staff capacities where there are gaps. The Ministry of Animal and Fisheries Resources, which includes the Department of Aquaculture), should be part of the solution in strengthening extension services to fish farmers. The Applicant may consider proposing the creation of a commission or working group composed of government and private sector representatives to focus on development of the nascent aquaculture industry. For horticulture, coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is required.

Government agencies require assistance in strengthening their sanitary and phytosanitary and food safety capacity. This could begin with an assessment of the recently established National Food Safety Agency of Cote d'Ivoire to determine the adequacy of their policies and procedures, particularly in assuring that food safety inspections of the selected value chains are science-based and rigorous. Subsequent activities would focus on collaborating with agencies to revise their standards and inspection and certification systems, and training staff to build their capacities and promote compliance to safe food standards such as Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), and the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). Technical assistance and potentially matching grant support to government and academic research institutions for further development of improved strains of fish stock (primarily tilapia) may be needed to strengthen the aquaculture value chain. Supporting laboratories for domestic testing (for fish diseases and pathologies and of feed quality) plus government capacity to establish public surveillance systems for aquacultural pests and diseases, is important to increase fish farmer access to these services. This could include the National Center for Agricultural Research, Côte d'Ivoire's main though under-funded agricultural research agency) and the Interprofessional Fund for Agricultural Research and Advice.

Strengthening of relevant government agencies' capacities to develop training materials and delivery of that information (including digitally) to fish farmers, processors and other relevant parties should also be considered. In parallel, Applicants are encouraged to work with the government to develop solutions to address access to inputs mentioned in Component 3, particularly protein inputs for feed to complement nationally produced cassava or corn. Further, academic institutions such as the Abidjan-based Felix Houphouet-Boigny University's aquaculture program could be assessed to determine needs for further strengthening of their curriculum, training equipment, and supplies.

Metrics

Applicants should include all relevant standard indicators in their proposal and capture additional climate smart results with custom indicators as needed (see page 23 of this NOFO). Applicants should also consider their specific proposed activities and desired results and include indicators or special studies that reflect any of the themes the proposed project will address.

Appendix B.3

Technical Area
Food Security

Country
Lesotho

NOFO Number
USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-20-(367)

Timeframe
5 years

Estimated Total Award Value
Up to $30,570,000

Anticipated Operating Budget (Monetization Proceeds + CCC Admin)
$12,025,000

Goal
USDA/FFPr seeks to support the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho's food security objectives by improving productivity and improving the business enabling environment in the poultry sector.

Purpose
Lesotho is a landlocked country, with a population of 2.2 million and a nominal GDP per capita of $1,091 in 2021. In 2017, over 70% of the poorest engage in small-holder farming, with women as the primary labor force.[15] The Government of Kingdom of Lesotho's (GoKL) is prioritizing the commercialization of agriculture given its potential to improve food security and to enable equitable growth, according to their Development Plan II.

The poultry industry, which includes both egg and chicken meat subsectors, provide great opportunities for small holder farmers for increased income, while providing affordable protein to consumers in Lesotho. Though domestic demand for poultry products has seen continuous growth in the last few years, the poultry value chain is a relatively under-developed sector. The supply for eggs and chicken meat come from imports from South Africa and local producers. In Lesotho, most of the egg and chicken meat producers are women small scale farmers. In 2021, Lesotho imported 27,937 MT of chicken meat from South Africa alone, and annual imports from

[15] Lesotho Policy Notes (worldbank.org)

2019 to 2021 show an increased compounded annual growth of 6.27%.[16] Domestic chicken meat production has also increased from 1,600 tons in 2010 to 1,840 tons in 2018.[17]

Food for Progress' support will strengthen the poultry value chain integrating best practices including climate change technologies. Improved organization and development of the value chain will result in increased potential for commercialization, employment opportunities, and private sector investment.

Component 1 – Increasing poultry production and strengthening of poultry producers
Farmers lack the technical knowledge in best practices, farming as a business and in marketing. Thus, capacity building is needed in various topics such as: animal husbandry, management and business skills, risk management, particularly related to biosecurity and hygiene, and climate smart practices. Given that poultry feed can amount for 60% or more of production costs, training should also account for optimizing its use for layer and broiler production, reducing costs, and improving incomes. Applicants should develop training modules that account for the local cost and benefits of inputs, and farming as a business, as it pertains to diseases, and identification and selection of preferred chicken breeds. Further, training should help poultry farmers to maintain and care for poultry during cold weather and provide guidance on suitable ventilation and insulation. Applicants are expected to incorporate training mechanisms that will be wide reaching to beneficiaries and are also meant to be sustainable after the project ends.

Strengthening the sectors will require extension and veterinary services to promote best practices in the poultry sector. Applicants should provide innovative extension and delivery mechanisms on best practices in both the egg and chicken meat sectors, which should include the training of small-scale abattoirs or mobile abattoirs in Good Manufacturing Processes. Activities should also address gaps in veterinary services given that Lesotho relies on South Africa for its veterinary supplies and has a limited amount of public and private veterinarians to provide direct support to farmers. To ensure that the extension and veterinary services exist beyond the life of the project, Applicants should provide solutions that include linkages to the private sector.

Applicants are encouraged to align proposed interventions with objectives of U.S Government's Feed the Future initiative as articulated in its results framework. USDA expects that Applicants to develop interventions that are forward looking, cater to local agricultural needs, and address long-term sustainability challenges. The proposed activities should include partnerships with Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and local and international stakeholders in the poultry sector.

Component 2 – Strengthening poultry producers associations
Though Lesotho currently has a network of associations coordinated by the Lesotho National Farmers' Union (LENAFU), additional capacity building in organization management skills is required, both for the umbrella organization and the commodity specific organizations they

[16] TDM data included in USDA GAIN report – South Africa: Poultry and Products Annual, 2022
[17] The Poultry Value Chain in Lesotho, A rapid assessment of the status and prospects of poultry production and trade, LENAFU

represent, so they can effectively organize, coordinate, and provide training and guidance to their members. Applicants should include activities that will enable poultry producers to find value in taking part in associations particularly in using their collective strengths to address gaps that hinder productivity, marketing, and income generation.

Applicant's proposed capacity building efforts such as, but not limited to, strengthening the management of farmer groups (i.e., cooperatives, farmer associations) would be implemented with the goal of organizing producers to ensure effective coordination, organization, and marketing of poultry products. When applicable, activities should incorporate private sector led initiatives into proposed activities focused on long-term sustainability and marketability of poultry products. Applicants are expected to consider how best to tap into value chain actors who may be interested in serving as processing partners and/or buyers to farmer groups and producers. For egg producers, this could be egg aggregators or school feeding programs and for meat producers, this could be buyers with a slaughtering and/or packaging facility. The focus should be on helping producers meet the quality and quantity standards set by the private sector.

Component 3 – Strengthening input providers and fostering public private partnerships
Fostering a business enabling environment to enhance value chain actors is required to ensure competitiveness in the poultry value chain and address structural and marketing obstacles for actors to invest in the value chain. The project should begin with a value chain analysis or rapid market assessment taking into account South Africa's role in the poultry sector as a supplier for the broiler and layer value chains. Activities should focus on helping to support actors by addressing bottlenecks which may limit their sustainability and success. The Applicant should support private sector led initiatives to become sustainable and scalable.

A major challenge for the sector is that it relies on imported inputs. In 2021, the Lesotho government restricted chicken inputs from South African provinces affected by avian flu. Though the safety measures reduced disease in the local supply, stock shortages drove prices up due to the lack of inputs particularly for day old chicks, fertilized eggs, and lay chickens, which are usually directly purchased from South African agents.[18] In South Africa, the current prolonged load shedding situation may constrain South Africa's domestic supply, which consequently may affect Lesotho's supply and likely increase input prices. Basotho input suppliers rely on relationships with South African traders to supply chicken inputs. However, these relationships can be difficult to manage as traders may not have an incentive to guarantee consistent quality and quantities given supply restrictions and Lesotho's demand for products. Activities should focus on supporting buyers in understanding quality issues with South African traders to the extent possible.

Given the dependence on chicken inputs, Applicants should explore alternative means to supply parent brood stock to Lesotho and help forge the path towards sustainability. Activities should consider working with research institutes such as the National University of Lesotho (NUL) to identify suitable breeds that are adaptable to the Lesotho context, or other organizations with

[18] https://lestimes.com/poultry-ban-bites-farmers/

innovative breeds. Applicants should support private sector development in the production of healthy day-old chicks and the maturation process of fertilized eggs. Incubators' hatching rates have been low, and activities should incorporate research and/or introduce innovations.

The lack of processing in the poultry industry limits the potential of the sector. For broilers, a major challenge is the lack of an abattoir that can process chicken meat to meet food safety standards. Though abattoir structures exist, they are often not functional, and do not have a sustainable business model. This is partly due to a lack of consistent and quality chicken meat supply, as well as a lack of standards. Activities should be designed to resolve these market failures and facilitate direct linkages between producers and processors, and support processors to adhere to hygienic and good manufacturing practices. Approaches should consider cost reducing strategies, such as the use of mobile abattoirs to reduce transport costs, mobilizing associations to collectively sell chicken meat, and/or facilitate price contracts with producers. For layers, processors require consistent quantity and quality of supply to meet the needs of supermarkets and school feeding programs. Egg collection centers existed in the past and the activity should use approaches that can reestablish these centers that are sustainable and meet the business needs of producers, processors, and their end markets.

Activities should focus on promoting private sector led dialogue with the public sector (i.e., Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of Trade, etc.) to help develop manageable industry standards on processing chicken meat and collecting eggs to promote commercialization that do not disrupt markets, particularly the informal, to avoid inadvertent harm to community food security while promoting food safety.

Component 4 – Access to finance

Access to finance is a key constraint along the poultry value chain, stretching from the needs of small farmers to formal financial institution access for medium- and larger-scale farmers and processors, and formal bank loans and investor financing for larger processors. Applicants are encouraged to consider facilitation of appropriate financial solutions for different value chain actor needs and typologies based on an assessment of existing financing, credit, and investment options. Finance options can include provision of credit, savings, and guarantees.

Agricultural financing is nascent in Lesotho, and banks such as Post Bank are strategizing on how to develop appropriate agricultural finance products. However, many loans are often denied because of the perceived repayability of agriculture loans including challenges pertaining to collateral, including land registration and titling. Efforts are also underway to develop agricultural crop insurance products. Given that poultry finance is generally considered risky, the Applicant should support and train institutions to develop products that consider the production cycles of broilers and layers, and the all-in, all-out nature of production. Applicants are encouraged to present models based on other successful financing tools such as seasonal loans or advances from buyers to farmers (such as "contract farming"), agro-processors advancing credit to farmers, input providers supplying in-kind loans to farmers, buyer out-grower schemes that involve credit (often alongside inputs), short-term, seasonal loans for working capital, long-term

fixed asset loans from financial institutions, and partial guarantees to financial institutions to leverage credit to value chain actors.

Access to finance is a priority to the private sector given the less than favorable business enabling environment, and the lack to formal financial finance. Activities could also include matching grants to private sector actors to spur accelerated growth and to produce multiplier effects throughout the value chain, and particularly when it involves youth or women or application of more environmentally sound practices. If proposing a matching grant co-investment component to the plan of operation, Applicants are requested to provide tentative examples and caps. The poultry sector requires innovative ideas, especially given that some processing models (i.e., abattoir and egg collection centers) will need to overcome barriers that have prevented the sustainability of these models. Incubating innovative business ideas requires guidance and the Applicant should work with existing incubator programs, such as the NUL incubator lab, to support efforts to incubate business ideas to resolve bottlenecks in the poultry value chain. Development grants could be designed to scale up proven technologies to resolve challenges and to make these technologies commercial for public use.

Overarching notes
To have an impact in the agriculture sector, Applicants are expected to closely consult with existing service providers, most importantly government authorities including the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Lesotho Standards Institute, Ministry of Trade and with the NUL and any other relevant academia. The Applicant should also consider complimenting efforts of other USG programs including the Millennium Challenge Corporation's Lesotho Compact, more specifically the Business Environment and Technical Assistance (BETA) project's work on developing the business ecosystem and aligning with USDA's McGovern Dole's FY22 school feeding program to ensure efficient supply of poultry products to schools. The following list illustrate potential activities to consider:

- *Youth and employment:* A tailored Youth and Employment Action plan to improve the participation and benefit this targeted group, especially accounting for those who return from migrant work. Activities could also integrate university agriculture students in interventions.
- *Research and dissemination*: The project should work closely with NUL as a bridge to support delivery of applied research and development of technology to improve the efficacy of the sector. Emphasis should also be placed on incubating ideas for scalability and profitability.
- *Climate Smart Agriculture:* All training and research activities are expected to integrate best practices to help farmers not only improve production but introduce techniques that reduce the emission of greenhouse gases and enable sustainable productivity in response to climate change.
- *Aligning food standards*: Standards development should be contextualized to the Lesotho context and work with existing informal structures for harmonization with industry best practices. Efforts should be taken to not disrupt the informal market but rather use technology, and other mobile innovations to resolve gaps in the value chain.

- *Align with GoKL agriculture registries:* Provision of extension services and government subsidies rely on farmer statistics to understand the needs and production of small-holder farmers. Activities should consider how to integrate approaches to align with the GoKL Strategic Plan for Agriculture & Rural Statistics, as well as FAO's work on piloting farmer registries.

Metrics

Applicants should include all relevant standard indicators in their proposal and capture additional results relating to production efficiency, and profitability with custom indicators as needed. Beyond the use of standard Food for Progress indicators, Applicants should consider their specific proposed activities and desired results and include indicators or special studies that reflect any of the below themes the proposed project will address.

Appendix B.4

Technical Areas
Climate Smart Agriculture, Food Security, and Trade Enabling Environment

Country
Mauritania

NOFO Number
USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-23-(557)

Timeframe
5 years

Estimated Total Award Value
Up to $35,450,000

Anticipated Operating Budget (Monetization Proceeds + CCC Admin)
$15,300,000

Goal
To provide a sustainable, reliable source of fruits and vegetables to help meet Mauritania's food security needs while increasing the resiliency of farmers to continually evolving climate conditions.

Purpose
Mauritania currently cannot meet its food security needs through domestic production and is heavily reliant on imports for fruits and vegetables. While the country produces animal proteins through pastoral activities, the supply of fruits and vegetables is unreliable. Approximately 1.4 million out of total population of 4.6 million are moderately or severely food insecure. Per FAO-WFP data, Mauritania has persisted over the past year with approximately 20% of the country at or above the Phase 3-Crisis under the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification system, as a result of inconsistent rainfalls in a predominantly rainfed system, cross border trade issues, and inflation. This 20% classified as severely food insecure, is likely to grow without intervention.

Mauritania's landscape is dominated by the Sahara Desert and the semi-arid Sahel region. The regions of Trarza, Brakna, Assaba, Gorgol, and Guidimakha, located in the southern part of the country, do provide arable land and opportunities for the production of fruits and vegetables. As climate change intensifies the looming threat of desertification needs to be proactively combatted to preserve the agricultural potential of Mauritania. There are over 500,000 hectares of agricultural land in Mauritania, most of which is either uncultivated or under-cultivated, according to the government's Horizon 2025 Rural Sector Development Strategy. Across the horticultural sector, the Government of Mauritania is investing and providing what resources and tools it can to build up what it sees as a national priority. USDA supports the Government of

Mauritania's assessment and prioritization of horticulture and is thus soliciting proposals to maximize the potential of this agricultural land.

Commercial viability and interest for investment has been hampered by the fact that land tenure is a significant obstacle for Mauritanian agriculture and the project will have to account for this in its implementation, but land tenure should not be a focus of intervention for the Food for Progress project. The Government of Mauritania and local communities are seeking resolution to land tenure issues and established the National Agricultural Land Resources Committee to facilitate agreements, USDA supports these efforts.

To have an impact in the agriculture sector in Mauritania, Applicants are expected to closely consult with existing service providers, most importantly national and subnational authorities such as the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Livestock, and the Ministry of the Economy. The project should also collaborate with other international donors such as the World Bank, the World Food Programme's Food Assistance for Assets, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development. The project will need to coordinate with these entities and others across all of the below Components especially as agricultural investments are geographically concentrated within Mauritania.

Component 1 – Increased production and farmer resiliency
Proposals should seek to catalyze and increase the production of crops for local consumption and trade. Applicants should select the specific horticultural value chain based on their strategic analysis and technical assessment, with flexibility to adapt after the baseline evaluation; potential crops include, but are not limited to, cabbage, carrots, tomatoes, onions, mangoes, sweet potatoes, okra, watermelon, papaya, bananas, and eggplant. To be sustainable, the project must focus on the adoption and marketability of any proposed crops by farmers. Applicants should not propose more crops than would be reasonable for adoption by targeted communities. Applicants should propose crops with viable end-markets. Drought-resistant and climate resilient crops varieties should be strongly considered as a means to improve climate resiliency of farmers. Climate-smart agriculture approaches should be embedded in the value chain development of the selected crops. The project should propose new and bolster existing irrigated agriculture solutions to address unreliable rainfall in Mauritania. Applicants should include innovative solutions that utilize underused water infrastructure established through previous donor and Government investment, scale up small-scale irrigation solutions, and provide functional collaborations with existing projects that are implementing water management programming.

Component 2 – Regenerative agriculture and agropastoralism
Pastoralism is instrumental to life in Mauritania and pastoralists often go to the south of the country for its water resources. Applicants' proposed interventions should complement the existing pastoralist approach in Mauritania and should seek to spread awareness of the benefits of diversifying food sources to improve their resilience (relying less on livestock). Proposals should therefore include trainings, outreach and awareness campaigns, and/or appropriate social and behavior change activities. Applicants should incorporate regenerative agricultural approaches and CSA such as agroforestry, intercropping, etc.; especially as a way to integrate

smaller cash crops with potential end-markets that can boost incomes. FAS encourages Applicants to reduce desertification in the chosen intervention zones and provide sustainable solutions such as the use of horticultural tree buffer zones.

Component 3 – Improved agricultural enabling environment
Extension agents and other agricultural service providers have historically been too few, time limited to a donor-funded project, or were unable to secure stable funding. Existing extension agents lack specialized training in horticulture that is needed to build the horticultural sector. For a sustainable project, wherein support services persist after the life of project, Applicants should propose activities for the propagation of private agricultural service providers (PASPs) such as agro-dealers, extension agents, business support services, etc. These PASPs should not rely solely upon donor support to operate and should be self-sustaining businesses before the end of the project. The project should also work with Ministerial level and local governments to build their capacity to support agriculture and sustain investments that may be infused into their local communities. The Applicant should describe how they will develop the support services and build the capacity of government bodies in conjunction with other donor funded projects.

Component 4 – Capacity building for post-harvest
Increasing production necessitates improvement in post-harvest management, processing, and end-market development. In selecting the focal crops in Component 1, Applicants must evaluate, using the end-market approach, the need for post-harvest improvements and dry/cold storage infrastructure. The project should propose activities that build the capacity of producers, processors, and traders to get agricultural products to market, domestically and internationally. In identifying end-markets, Applicants should explain the current status of targeted beneficiaries' food safety and how the project will build the capacity of stakeholders, where relevant, to meet certification requirements such as Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP), and Global Food Safety Certification (GFSI).

Proposed interventions should consider the use of green energy solutions in both formal and informal infrastructure to reduce post-harvest losses and waste. Particular emphasis should be placed on preventing spoilage and reducing waste for targeted fruit and vegetable value chains, including transforming these products into more shelf-stable options to provide food security during leaner seasons. The project should also align waste reduction with any regenerative agriculture approaches being proposed in Component 2.

Metrics
Applicants should include all relevant standard indicators in their proposal and capture additional climate or project specific results with custom indicators as needed (see page 23 of this NOFO).

Appendix B.5

Thematic Area
Climate Smart Agriculture and Food Security

Country
Nepal

NOFO Number
USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-20-(681)

Goal
To address food security through improvements in the aquaculture value chain by (1) incorporating climate smart technologies, (2) improving end market linkages and incomes for farmers, (3) increasing access to finance for farmers to expand trade of agricultural products, and (4) strengthening the public and private sector**.**

Timeframe
5 years

Estimated Total Award Value
Up to $33,050,000

Anticipated Operating Budget (Monetization Proceeds + CCC Admin)
$15,300,000

Priorities
Studies have shown that aquaculture is one of the fastest growing agricultural subsectors in Nepal. The current estimated total national fish production is 77,000 MT, of which 28 percent is contributed from capture fisheries and 72 percent from aquaculture. Aquaculture has expanded to 55 districts of the country and has generated direct employment for 584,839 people[19]. This is also an important sector that contributes to nutrition for rural communities and has the potential to increase employment for youth, women, and returning migrant workers. Increased agricultural productivity is key to meeting USDA/FFPr and the Government of Nepal's (GoN) shared objectives of addressing food security, increased incomes, and agricultural trade for fish farmers. As a USAID Feed the Future country, Nepal has increased its production of fish, which has more than doubled in 13 years from 400 MT in 2004/05, to 898 MT in 2016/17[20].

Due to a decline in capture fisheries, aquaculture has been regarded as the future source of supply for fish, with fishermen transferring their harvesting skills to the aquaculture sector. To

[19] Cite. Kunwar, Prabesh & Adhikari, Baikuntha. (2020). Status and development trend of aquaculture and fisheries in Nepal.
[20] Cite. From "Fish Marketing System in Nepal: Present Statis and Future Prospects" by M.A. Husen (2019) Int. J. Appl. Sci. Biotechnol. Vol 7(1): 1-5

meet the growing demand for fish products, most farmers have converted centuries-old rice paddies, reservoirs, and natural waterways to fish production areas. This is most notable in the plains of Nepal, stretching from the far-west to the far-east covering the entire southern part of the country, known as the Terai region. This resource rich area of the country has adequate water sources that sustain seven types of carp, among other fish species.

However, aquaculture farmers face many challenges related to increased market needs, productivity, input supply, product consistency, and volatile pricing. In addition, many famers lack technical knowledge on production through limited training opportunities, they operate in absence of appropriate financing, and they do not routinely practice efficient utilization and conservation of water resources for aquaculture activities.

There are structural constraints of the aquaculture value chain in Nepal including, but not limited to, a lack of organized marketing, inadequate infrastructure from production areas to marketplaces, poor cold chain facilities, strained veterinary support, and sparce maintenance services. Further, the supply of high-quality fry and fingerlings in the sector is limited due to lack of certified hatcheries.

In addition, due to a decentralized government structure in Nepal, power and authority are provided to subnational entities at the provincial and local levels, this creates gaps in coordination efforts throughout the GoN and leaves research centers, like Nepal Agricultural Research Centers, widely unsupported.

Component 1 – Increase Aquaculture Production
Support to the aquaculture sector utilizing good aquaculture techniques will further strengthen the broader agricultural sector in Nepal. As previously stated, aquaculture famers lack technical knowledge in good aquaculture production practices and efficient utilization and conservation of water resources. They also struggle to implement food safety measures that are needed to improve their access to higher value markets.

Applicants should propose activities to increase productivity and sustainable use of natural resources, such as water. Applicants are encouraged to align proposed interventions with objectives that build capacity at the local level, provide technical support and training, establish food safety for local markets, and adopt efficient water use (recirculating systems) technologies.

Training should include, but not limited to, *Aquaculture as a Business* utilizing cooperatives or associations as platforms for increased outreach to support Component 3: Strengthen Aquacultural-Related Research and Government Institutions. To integrate activities from Component 3, Applicants should partner with these local institutions, and organizations to deliver training. Applicants must clearly demonstrate their capabilities in coordinating across government agencies and engage local Nepalese aquaculture technical experts as part of the project team. This should be reflected in the qualifications of any proposed key personnel, as part of the exit strategy to leverage sustainability beyond the life of the project.

In addition, Applicants should implement capacity building training for farmers on technical areas, not limited to, infrastructure and components of production (preparation of ponds, pond maintenance, hatchling production, hatchery maintenance, selecting stock and breed varieties, etc.), harvesting and post-harvest handling (storage, canning, salting, smocking, open air drying, etc.), food safety, farm management (pest and predator management, fertilizer use, waste disposal, proper administration of vaccines and hormones, disease identification, etc.), and better use of water for agriculture that would contribute to increased productivity.

Applicants should provide sustainable solutions to address the lack of access to quality fry and fingerlings. Close collaborations with the stakeholders included in Component 3 such as Research and Government institutions should be leveraged for long lasting impact.

Applicants should develop tools or platforms that complement in-person trainings to reach a wide range of beneficiaries in the value chain in Nepal. Tools such as media platforms including, but not limited to short videos, WhatsApp groups, SMS, radio, and other media that would affordably disseminate best practices and reach a wider group of beneficiaries unable to attend regular in-person training sessions.

Component 2 – Improved Access to Finance

Access to finance is a key constraint throughout the value chain, ranging from the microfinance needs of small farmers to formal financial institution access for medium and larger-scale farmers and processors, and formal bank loans and investor financing for larger processors.

For aquaculture farmers to fully participate in the sector, understanding current market dynamics in Nepal is critical. Applicants should develop a locally centered network of market information systems with clear channels of communication that will inform farmers of surrounding markets in their region and link farmers to end markets. To support Component 1: Increased Aquaculture production, Applicants should include activities to deliver basic financial literacy and recordkeeping trainings to cooperatives and associations.

The primary operating costs in aquaculture is the cost of fish feed, thus with inflation challenges and reliance on India for imports, upwards of 80 percent or more of total production costs can come from feed. This leads most farmers to substitute for a lower-quality feed protein using homegrown mix of mustard oil cake and rice bran to mitigate feed expenses[21]. When possible, leveraging local use for feed inputs and encouraging aquaculture farmers to utilize local feed formulations can help mitigate production costs. Applicants should work with feed millers and producers to provide support for feed costs and introduce interventions that utilize local feed products and their efficient use.

Applicants should propose appropriate financial solutions for different value chain actor needs, based on an assessment of existing financing, credit, and investment options. Finance options can

[21] Cite. From "Value Chain Analysis of Fish in Karaiyamai Rural Municipality, Bara District of Nepal. Anish Paudel, Amrita Paudel, Bikash Gurung, Sushil Shrestha, Uttam Poudel, Kalika Bahadur Adhikari (2021). Malaysian Animal Husbandry Journal, 1(1): 01-13.

include provision of credit, savings, and guarantees or insurance to or among value chain actors. Some examples are seasonal loans or advances from buyers to farmers (such as "contract farming"), advancing credit to farmers, input providers supplying in-kind loans to farmers, buyer out-grower schemes that involve credit (often alongside inputs), short-term, seasonal loans for working capital from microfinance institutions, long-term fixed asset loans from financial institutions, and partial guarantees from financial institutions to leverage credit to value chain actors.

FFPr expects Applicants to propose sustainable interventions that would require focusing on the creation of strategic alliances through financing extended by a variety of value chain actors and financial institutions. Financing options should be sustainable in the long term but could also include services such as matching grants to spur accelerated growth of recipients if expected to produce multiplier effects throughout the value chain, and particularly when it involves youth, women, returning migrant workers, or application of more environmentally sound practices. When proposing a matching grant co-investment component to the strategy, Applicants are requested provide tentative examples and caps.

Component 3 – Strengthening Aquacultural-Related Research and Government Institutions

Limited adoption of best production practices and standards by the private sector, and a fragmented extension service system all play a part in contributing to gaps in production, management, and knowledge on aquaculture. This project is expected to build the capacity of, and work with the federal, provincial, and local levels of the GoN to support good aquaculture standards and practices throughout the value chain. For example, activities at the federal level should be centered around rule setting, developing regulations, and building connections to the provincial level. At the provincial level, activities should be centered around collaborating with research and education institutions to organize and disseminate information at the local level. At the local level, extension agents should be trained on best practices to share with farmer collectives. All activities in this component should be targeted to support Component 1: Improve Aquaculture Production via Research and Government Institutions.

The proposal should identify Nepal's aquaculture sector needs and priorities to develop a comprehensive capacity building plan to assist the public and private sector on topics that will enable Research and Government Institutions to better support farmers. The proposal will provide a plan to improve public-sector institutional capacity to develop and implement technical services, food safety trainings, and information dissemination campaigns in collaboration with the private sector and the public. Additionally, the proposal should integrate capacity building activities for public and private-sector entities to promote compliance to safe food standards, such as Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), and the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA).

Proposed activities could include, but not limited to, conducting a baseline review of current policies, providing recommendations to research and government institutions and engaging research centers to develop a revenue-based model to enable these centers to become a

successful business. Services at research centers can include providing fingerlings, selling booklets, and lab testing for water quality. Applicants should also include connections with universities to support additional research centered on pest and disease management, mechanization, and development of new technologies. Furthermore, Applicants will work with local universities to develop and deliver sustainable training modules for farmers. Trainings on hygiene, developing food safety standards (including inspections, facilities for packing, processing, and transporting fish, etc.), and disposal of waste for additional value should be included. For example, private sector businesses could collaborate with cooperatives to produce organic fertilizer from fish waste.

The proposed training will partner directly with regionally established Research and Government institutions, for example, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Center for Aquaculture-Agriculture Research and Production, Natural Waters Fisheries Promotion and Conservation Center, Agriculture and Forestry University, Fishery development Center, Bhandara, and other similar and related stakeholders in the selected value chain.

Metrics
Applicants should include all relevant standard indicators in their proposal and capture additional climate smart results with custom indicators as needed (see page 23 of this NOFO). Beyond the use of standard Food for Progress indicators, Applicants should consider their specific proposed activities and desired results. Applicants will include indicators or special studies that reflect any of the below themes the proposed project will address. Nepal is a Feed the Future Country, and coordination with USAID and other donors in this space is critical.

Custom Indicators
- Number of cooperatives/associations utilizing locally sourced feed

Appendix B.6

Technical Area
Food Security and Trade Enabling Environment

Country
The Gambia

NOFO Number
USDA-FAS 10.606-0700-23-(577)

Goal
To contribute to the government of The Gambia's goal of increasing food security through strengthening of the agricultural sector by (1) increasing productivity and output, (2) expanding and improving quality of exports, (3) providing youth and women employment, and (4) improving incomes and standard of living for smallholder farmers in The Gambia.

Timeframe
5 years

Estimated Total Award Value
Up to $27,700,000

Anticipated Operating Budget (Monetization Proceeds + CCC Admin)
$11,000,000

Priorities
USDA/FFPr seeks to support the Gambian government's food security objectives through the application of climate smart agriculture practices and improved trade enabling environment. USDA/FFPr expects that Applicants would develop a detailed analysis of the selected value chain demonstrating that the proposed project would meet the FFPr 2023 NOFO and Gambian government food and nutritional security objectives.

Food for Progress's support will strengthen Gambia's horticulture production, utilizing CSA to develop and implement sustainable climate change mitigation strategies, meet international trade standards, resulting in increasing rural incomes and the Gambian economy at large. Food for Progress' support to smallholder farmers, processors, and traders will allow The Gambia to meet international trade standards and commitments as a member of the World Trade Organization and provide both local and international consumers with safe and sustainable agricultural products.

The implementation of trade facilitation activities under the proposed project would increase local and regional trade with Gambia reducing agricultural import and export costs that currently stifle increased trade benefits. In addition, FFPr project support would help facilitate a

transparent and speedy clearance process for agriculture products to reach local, regional, and international markets. The project would also lead to increasing incomes and opportunities for youth and women in the country.

Component 1 – Increased Horticulture Productivity and Markets
Increased agricultural productivity is key to meeting USDA/FFPr and Gambia's shared objectives of addressing food security, increased incomes, and agricultural trade for smallholders. The support for horticulture sub-sector utilizing CSA techniques further strengthen the broader agricultural sector set forth in Gambia's food and nutrition strategy.

Applicants should propose activities that will catalyze the adoption of improved agriculture practices and contribute to a sustainable future in Gambia's economy. Applicants are encouraged to align proposed interventions with objectives of U.S. Government's Feed the Future (FTF) initiative as articulated in its results framework. The proposed horticulture (fruits and vegetable) value chains are expected to include considerations of household food security and dietary diversity, leveraging the potential of the growing end-market in the growing tourism sector, local, regional and international markets.

Proposed training should include, but not limited to *Farming as a Business* utilizing cooperatives or associations for increased outreach. In addition, *capacity building* training such as smallholder on-farm management and operations, basic financial literacy, record keeping, pest management, selection of better seeds, preparation of orchards or vegetable fields, proper application of fertilizers, improved planting techniques, early identification of diseases, pruning of fruit trees, and better use of water for agriculture would contribute to increased productivity and farmers' income.

Applicants should propose tools or platforms that complements in-person training to reach beneficiaries in The Gambia. Tools such as *media platforms* including, but not limited to short videos, WhatsApp groups, SMS, radio, and other media would affordably disseminate best practices and reach a wider group of beneficiaries unable to attend regular in-person training sessions.

To deliver such services, Applicants are expected to closely collaborate with Gambia National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI). This collaboration is expected to directly deliver *science and research* to beneficiaries such as access to high-quality planting material and seeds developed for Gambian agricultural environment propagated, tested, and distributed by NARI or NARI-certified local nursery operators.

USDA expects Applicants to develop interventions that are forward looking, cater for local agricultural needs, and address long-term sustainability challenges. The project would address technical constraints such as those related, but not limited to the efficient use of fertilizer and pesticides, post-harvest handling, selection of best plant breeds or seeds, applicable soil health education, water use for agriculture, and better pest management practices. In addition,

Applicants should include an awareness campaign to promote dietary diversity and nutritional food[22].

Additionally, Applicants are expected to also work with The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Regional Integration in alignment with The Gambia's National Export Strategy to improve local horticultural products' trade as well as facilitating access to regional and international markets for Gambian produce. Applicants are expected to do a thorough domestic, regional, and international market analysis for the proposed horticulture value chain or chains for the project aimed at expanding opportunities smallholder's income generation goals.

Component 2 – Building Farmer Associations and Cooperatives
Applicant's proposed capacity building efforts such as, but not limited to *strengthening the management* of cooperative and farmer associations, training of *farming as a business*, post-harvest handling, development of *input supplier network* (stockists)—would be implemented with the goal of generating a long and sustained impact in the development of Gambian agricultural sector. Applicants are expected to consider how best to incorporate this thinking and *private sector led initiatives* into proposed activities focused on *long-term sustainability* of cooperatives and farmer associations.

Applicants should design training aimed at sustainability beyond the life of the project. The proposed training will partner with NARI, Ministry of Agriculture, local and international stakeholders in the selected value chain(s). Furthermore, the proposal should elaborate how access to finance for smallholders, processors, and cooperatives will expand opportunities for horticulture in Gambia. Applicants are expected to work with cooperative and farmer associations to increase managerial capacity leading to *improve agricultural services* delivery in alignment with the national strategy, meeting USDA, local government, and beneficiaries' expectations.

Component 3 –Trade Enabling Environment and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Services
FFPr seek to continue its work in *Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures*, *food safety,* and *trade enabling environment* such as to simplifying, modernizing, and harmonizing processes for export, import, and transit of agricultural goods to and from Gambia. To ensure long-lasting impact of the proposed agricultural development interventions, Applicants should review agricultural sector's end market opportunities which require consistent safety and quality measures and seeks to assure that its work in SPS for example, is foremost science-based and contributes to food security in Gambia including the utilization of safe and nutritious food.

Gambia's Food Safety and Quality Act of 2011 (the FSQA) serves as a guide for importation and export of food products. However, due to Gambia's resource constraints its implementation is limited and in need of support. In addition, as a top priority, the government of Gambia is committed to developing the capacity of an export sector that meets international standards in agricultural trade. Gambia's National Export Strategy aims at achieving increased level of

[22] https://www.fao.org/nutrition/education/food-dietary-guidelines/regions/countries/united-states-of-america/en/

economic development, by focusing its limited, but valuable resources on developing export capacity in priority sectors such as agribusiness and horticulture.

The project is expected to work closely and in collaboration with key Gambian ministries and agencies such as The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Regional Integration, Ministry of Agriculture, Gambia Ports Authority, Gambia Standards Bureau's Division of Testing and Inspections, Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Gambia Investment and Export Promotion Agency as well as other private sector representatives. Such collaboration will ensure deep-rooted change and long-term viability of expanded local and international trade.

USDA expects that at the core of the trade enabling activities, proposals will include, but not limited to increased harmonization of processes, formalities and pre-clearance processing, increased transparency of trade information and WTO notification compliance, improvements in post-harvest handling procedures, enhanced cold storage infrastructure for perishable goods, and certified laboratories and testing procedures. In addition, the project will also implement activities aimed at strengthening risk-based SPS systems and create SPS-compliant supply chain linkages.

Overarching notes
To have an impact in the agriculture sector in Gambia, Applicants are expected to closely consult with existing service providers, most importantly national and subnational authorities such as the Ministry of Agriculture's Extension Division, Gambia's National Nutrition Agency , and Gambia National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI), as well as private sector stakeholders. The expected coordination efforts should integrate the project's CSA approaches with existing private sector and government extension services in alignment with priorities set forth in the national agricultural strategy. The following list illustrate potential activities to consider:

- *Gender:* A tailored Gender and Youth Action Plan to improve the participation and benefit of this targeted group in communities identified for project implementation.

- *Research and dissemination*: The project would work closely with NARI as a bridge to support deliver applied research to Gambian farmers via a network of extension agents, cooperatives, and private sector partners.

- *Climate Resilience/Climate Smart Agriculture:* All training and research activities are expected to integrate best practices to help farmers not only improve quality of their yields, introduction of water-saving techniques for agriculture use, but also sustainable productivity in volatile and vulnerable climate such as that of Gambia.

- *Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)*: Gambia is endowed with considerable riverine and marine resources. The impact of climate change, however, is challenging the future of water availability and use for agriculture. As part of the CSA application, USDA/FFPr expects the Applicant's proposed project would develop IWRM

implementation plan aimed at utilizing water resources for agricultural use, but also responsibly managing it to meet Gambia's agricultural development goals.

Metrics

Applicants should include all relevant standard indicators, including those linked to Feed the Future aimed at addressing food security in their proposal and capture additional climate smart results with custom indicators as needed (see page 23 of this NOFO). Beyond the use of standard Food for Progress indicators, Applicants should consider their specific proposed activities and desired results, including indicators or special studies that reflect any of the themes the proposed project will address.

Appendix B.7

Thematic area
Climate Smart Agriculture and Food Security

Country
Togo

NOFO Number
USDA-FAS-10.606-0700-23-(578)

Timeframe
5 years

Estimated Total Award Value
$29,665,180

Anticipated Operating Budget (Monetization Proceeds + CCC Admin)
$13,800,000

Goal
To enhance food security and agricultural transformation by adopting climate smart technology, increasing productivity, expanding exports, and strengthening the agribusiness enabling environment.

Priorities
The Ministry of Agriculture has prioritized the development of the agricultural sector to improve productivity and yields, strengthen agro-food processing industries and encourage high value-added agriculture, and improve access to finance and markets for farmers.[23] The agriculture sector accounts for about 39% of total employment and 25% of GDP. Expansion in agricultural output over the last three decades (3.1% annually) was mainly due to increased cropped area (2.8% annually) with marginal growth in use of inputs (0.3%), and 0.0% due to efficiency or technological progress.

Agriculture in Togo has a comparative advantage, since there are distinct production zones ranging from the tropic south to the semi-arid Sahel region, allowing for crop diversification and intensification, yet is mostly subsistence farming. These zones allow local producers to specialize in region specific crops which link into regional industrial zones where the crops can be used locally or graded and directed to high-value outlets.

[23] https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/415231627138524928/pdf/Resettlement-Framework-West-Africa-Food-System-Resilience-Program-FSRP-P172769.pdf

There are opportunities to improve several agricultural value chains such as a wide range of fresh fruits and vegetables and cassava, which can be industrialized and utilized for import substitution or as a local food staple. However, poor performance in agriculture has been linked to low economic productivity, stunted private sector development, and weak resource mobilization. In general, the value chains need to be modernized.[24] While labor productivity has increased in the industry and services sectors, it has remained relatively constant in the agricultural sector. Low labor productivity does not only impact earnings but also food security and the ability of the country to increase participation to regional and global value chains [25].

Vegetable Production in Togo can be divided into three categories: “leafy vegetables”, “fruit vegetables” and “root and tuber vegetables”. The term “leafy vegetables” refers to cabbage, lettuce, cortea (adémè), nightshade (gboma), spinach (fontêtê), Guinea sorrel, and parsley. As for “fruit vegetables”, they include eggplant, cucumber, okra, watermelon, pepper, tomato, and green bean. Finally, onions, carrots, beets, cassava, and turnips constitute the group of “root and tuber vegetables”.

The Government of Togo (GoT) is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions with the objective to make agriculture more resilient to the changing climate. Togo’s strategic opportunities programme (COSOP) works with the National Equity and Gender Equality Policy , the National Strategic Plan for Youth Employment, and the National Strategy for the Protection and Promotion of Persons with Disabilities to implement strategic national objectives on managing the environment and natural resources.[26]

The project will enhance food security, strengthen selected vegetable value chains by implementing CSA activities to adopt sustainable climate change mitigation strategies, initiate international trade standards using science-based approaches, and increase rural incomes. The Applicant is expected to develop a minimum of three detailed analyses of the potential value chains to demonstrate that the proposed project aligns with the food and nutrition security objectives of USDA and GoT.

Component 1 – Increased Productivity in the Vegetable Sector

Increased agricultural productivity is critical to address food security, raise incomes, and cultivate agricultural trade. Proposed capacity building should include the use of farmer field schools[27] with the participation of cooperatives or associations for increased outreach. In addition, capacity building should include, but not be limited to, Good Agricultural Practices such as seed selection; seed bed preparation; fertilizer and soil adjuvant application; improved planting techniques; early identification of diseases; and improved irrigation methodologies. Additional topics may include

[24] https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/togo-african-development-bank-supported-agro-food-processing-project-hits-its-stride-56266

[25] https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099715006162211825/pdf/P174741091bbc700a089000336ea46bdd3f.pdf

[26] https://webapps.ifad.org/members/eb/134/docs/EB-2021-134-R-29.pdf?attach=1

[27] https://www.fao.org/3/cb9920en/cb9920en.pdf

risk management, mechanization, market linkages, farm management, financial management, record keeping, and pest management.

Applicants are encouraged to develop interventions that are forward looking, adapt to local agricultural and culture needs, and address long-term sustainability. The project should address technical constraints such as those related, but not limited to, crop protection products, soil health, fertilizers, proper pesticide use, plant selection to geographical region, water management, and enhanced carbon sequestration methodologies. For example, to deliver such services, Applicants are expected to closely collaborate with research institutions such as the Togolese Institute of Agronomic Research and others as outlined in Component 5. This collaboration is expected to directly demonstrate sustainable science-based approaches for agriculture including climate smart applications to address desertification, soil degradation and other landscape degradation related issues in the chosen intervention zones. Moreover, to integrate the above activities with Component 5, Applicants should partner with the mentioned local institutions for the delivery of training. Applicants must clearly demonstrate their capabilities in coordinating across government agencies and engage local Togo horticultural technical experts as part of the project team. This should be reflected in the qualifications of any proposed key personnel, and as part of the exit strategy to leverage sustainability beyond the life of the project.

In addition, to increase outreach Applicants should propose tools, platforms and digital methods to complement and expand the reach of training to beneficiaries. Tools such as media platforms including, but not limited to short videos, WhatsApp groups, SMS, radio, and other digital media platforms which can affordably disseminate best practices and reach a wider group of beneficiaries unable to attend regular in-person training sessions.

Component 2 – Addressing Post-harvest Losses in the Vegetable Sector
Major challenges in the vegetable sector are major post-harvest loss and waste, lack of processing facilities for value add, storage, and poor marketing. Applicants should include solutions to address losses due to pests, poor storage, transport, processing, packaging, and post-harvest handling. Applicants should include trainings in food safety and simple phytosanitary methodologies. Proposals should consider the domestic market and identify opportunities for accessing sustainable climate smart technologies and practices. In addition to climate smart practices, the project should build upon existing investments in horticulture value chains and prioritize improvement measures, aggregation, and marketing which will have the greatest impact on incomes along the value chain while improving food and nutrition security.

Component 3 – Improved Enabling Environment
Investments in extension activities and input services have been limited during the recent years. For sustainable and transformative agriculture, the service sector throughout the value chain must be strengthened. This includes technical assistance addressing agriculture methods, input selection and application, financial services, post-harvest handling, storage, transport, and marketing.

Applicants should propose activities for the development of private agricultural service providers such as farm service centers, independent agro-dealers, extension agents, business support services, etc. These entities should not rely solely upon donor support to operate and should be self-sustaining businesses before the end of the project. Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate how the producers and services will be linked with Togo's integrated agricultural industrial growth platforms (agropoles) and strive for vertical integration of value chains. [28] [29] The project should also work with Ministerial level and local governments to build capacity to support agriculture and sustain investments that may be infused into and adopted by local communities. The Applicant should describe how they will develop the support services and build the capacity of government bodies in conjunction with other donor funded projects. Increasing production necessitates improvement in post-harvest management, processing, and end-market development. In selecting the focal crops in Component 1, Applicants must evaluate, using the end-market approach, the need for post-harvest improvements and dry/cold storage infrastructure. The project should propose activities that build the capacity of producers, processors, and traders to get agricultural products to market, domestically, regionally, and internationally.

Applicants are expected to demonstrate how to build the capacity of associations in Togo, including the umbrella association Coordination Togolaise des Organisations Paysannes et de Producteurs Agricoles. The activities are expected to strengthen the administrative and financial management of the associations to deliver enhanced services to members, be sustainable beyond the life of the project, and include women and youth.

Component 4 – Access to Finance

Access to finance is a key constraint with agricultural value chains, ranging from the microfinance needs of small farmers to formal financial institution access for medium and larger-scale farmers and processors, and formal bank loans and investor financing for larger processors.

Applicants should propose appropriate financial solutions for stakeholders along the value chain, based on an assessment of existing financing, credit, and investment options. Finance options can include provision of credit, savings, guarantees, insurance, and technical assistance to value chain stakeholders. Some examples are seasonal loans or advances from buyers to farmers (such as "contract farming"), agro-processors advancing credit to farmers, input providers supplying in-kind loans to farmers, buyer out-grower schemes that involve credit (in addition to inputs), short-term, seasonal loans for working capital from microfinance institutions, long-term fixed asset loans from financial institutions, and partial guarantees from financial institutions to leverage credit to value chain actors.

Financing options are expected to result in sustainable value chain activities and may include activities such as matching grants to spur accelerated growth of recipients if expected to produce

[28] https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/953481513100047718/pdf/Togo-Country-Partnership-Framework-April20-05012017.pdf

[29] https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/togo-african-development-bank-supported-agro-food-processing-project-hits-its-stride-56266

multiplier effects throughout the value chain, with an emphasis on youth, women and adoption economic climate smart solutions. If proposing a matching grant co-investment component, Applicants should provide examples and investment ranges.

Component 5 – Coordination with the Government of Togo and other Donors
The proposal should identify selected value chain sector needs and priorities to develop a comprehensive capacity building plan to assist the public and private sector on topics that will enable Research and Government Institutions to better support farmers and industry transformation. The proposal will provide a plan to improve public-sector institutional capacity to develop and implement technical services, food safety trainings, and information dissemination campaigns in collaboration with the private sector and the public. Additionally, the proposal should integrate capacity building activities for public and private-sector entities to promote compliance to safe food standards, such as Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), and the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA).

It is vital that Applicants leverage and coordinate with existing donors. Applicants should incorporate ways to tap into networks through projects being executed by IFAD, GTZ, the World Bank, FAO, the Africa Development Bank, JICA, and others as applicable. Coordination with these projects will be key to selection of beneficiaries and geographic focus areas.

Proposed activities could include conducting a baseline review of current policies, providing recommendations to research and government institutions and engaging research centers to develop a revenue-based model to enable these centers to become a successful business. Services at research centers can include providing improved genetic material and soil testing. Applicants should also collaborate with universities to support additional research centered on pest and disease management, mechanization, and development of new technologies. Furthermore, as outlined in Component 1 and 2 above, Applicants will work with local universities to develop and deliver sustainable training modules for value chain stakeholders. Trainings should also include hygiene, developing food safety standards (including inspections, facilities for packing, processing, and transporting of fresh fruit and vegetables.), and disposal of waste for additional value.

The proposed training will partner directly with regionally established Research and Government institutions, for example, Togolese Agricultural Research Institute (ITRA), Plant Protection Directorate (DPV) and Agricultural Statistics, Information, and Documentation Directorate (DSID) Advanced School of Agronomics (ESA), Faculty of Science, and Advanced School of Biological and Food Technology (ESTBA), and the University of Lomé (UL)

Metrics
Applicants should include all relevant standard indicators in their proposal and capture additional climate smart results with custom indicators as needed (see page 23 of this NOFO). Beyond the use of standard Food for Progress indicators, Applicants should consider their specific proposed activities and desired results, and include indicators or special studies that reflect any of the below themes the proposed project will address:

- How do gender, age, or class play into adoption of improved technologies that are crucial to GHG mitigation in selected value chains?
- Study to identify existing GoT plans or policies with climate-smart plans and emissions reduction goals and where/how they do or do not align.

APPENDIX C – Budget Summary

Note: This template is also available as an Excel file on the FAIS homepage under the "Forms and Guidance" section.

ATTACHMENT C-1

Budget Summary

Program (FFPr or MGD):	FFPr
Country of Operation:	
Implementing Organization:	
Fiscal Year:	2020
Agreement or Proposal Number:	Fxx-xxx-20xx/0xx-00

Total Amount of Federal Funds Obligated

Funding Source (CCC for FFPr) (FAS for MGD)	Funding Year	Commodity Cost	Freight Cost	Administrative Costs (cash portion)	Total Federal Funding Obligated
CCC	2020	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00

Project Operating Budget

Expense Type	Monetization Proceeds (FFPr Only)	FAS or CCC Funds (CCC is Admin Only)	Cost Share	Total w/out Cost Share	Total w/Cost Share
Administration					
Salaries/Personnel	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Benefits	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Travel	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Professional Services/Contractual	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Equipment	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Office	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Supplies	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Other	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Administration	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**
Activities					
Activity 1: *Insert Description*	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Activity 2: *Insert Description*	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Activity 3: *Insert Description*	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Activity 4: *Insert Description*	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
(Insert additional activities as needed)					
Total Activities	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**
Commodity and Food Purchases (N/A to FFPr)					
Commodity Procurement	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Food Vouchers (N/A to MGD)					
Cash Transfers (N/A to MGD)					
Total Commodity Procurement	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**
ITSH (N/A to FFPr)					
Salaries	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Benefits	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Transportation	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Professional Services	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Warehouse	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Supplies	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Other	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total ITSH	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**
Total Direct Costs	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**
Indirect Costs					
ICR on Administration	$0.00	$0.00		$0.00	
ICR on Activities	$0.00	$0.00		$0.00	
ICR on Commodity and Food Purchases (N/A to FFPr)	$0.00	$0.00		$0.00	
ICR on ITSH (N/A to FFPr)	$0.00	$0.00		$0.00	
Total Indirect Costs	**$0.00**	**$0.00**		**$0.00**	
Anticipated Program Income					$0.00
Grand Total Costs	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**
Total Amount of Federal Award (Total Federal Funds Obligated Plus Cost Share):					**$0.00**

APPENDIX D – Budget Narrative Example

Note: Non-program specific budget narrative guidance is also available on the FAIS homepage under the "Forms and Guidance" section.

Program: Food for Progress
Country: Country X
Fiscal Year: 2023
Organization: Food Development
Point of Contact: Johnny Appleseed, Johnny.Appleseed@fooddev.org

This document contains examples of the types of information to be provided in Budget Narratives submitted to the International Food Assistance Division (IFAD). The examples used in this document are fictitious and are provided to show the required level of detail in Budget Narrative submissions.

SECTION 1: GENERAL EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

Food Development (FD) will implement a 4-year Food for Progress (FFPr) Program project in Country X. The total Federal award amount is $21,064,691. This includes commodity ($15,007,000), freight ($5,070,000), and administrative costs (cash portion) ($987,691). The total operating budget (grand total costs) for this project is $9,027,110; this includes $10,000 in cost share. The following budget narrative describes the operating budget and does not describe the commodity and freight portions of Federal funding.

Gross Monetization Proceeds	$8,029,419
CCC Funding	$987,691
Total Cost Share	$10,000
Total Project Operating Budget	**$9,027,110**

Summary of Total Project Operating Budget (Includes Cost Share)	
Administration	$4,312,455
Activities	$3,337,531
ICR on Administration	$844,411
ICR on Activities	$532,713
Total	**$9,027,110**

1. Any cost escalations expected during this project, and the manner in which they are accounted for throughout the budget (for example, an annual X% increase in expenses per year).

2. A summary and total amount for program income[30] which may be earned by the proposed project;
3. A summary of the indirect rates applied to the proposed budget and their base of application across Administration and Activity expenses; and
4. A summary of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Budget. For example: The M&E budget for FD's project is $465,000 or **5%**[31] of the total operating budget (excluding cost share) of $9,017,110.

For the initial proposal version of the narrative[32], this section should also include:

1. The organization's financial capacity;
2. The cost application methodology used for the proposal;
3. A summary of how the budget components will contribute to the implementation of the project;
4. A description of the overall cost effectiveness of the project;
5. A summary of anticipated interest to be earned on the monetization proceeds over the life of the project. (If no interest is expected over the life of the project, then describe the reasons for this.); and
6. Discuss how monetization proceeds will be deposited into a separate, interest–bearing account and when proceeds will be disbursed from the account for program activities, the persons who will have access to the funds, and how the accounts will be monitored and audited.

SECTION 2: ADMINISTRATION

Total Administration Costs: $5,156,866 ($4,164,175 in monetization, $987,691 in CCC funds, $5,000 in cost share)

- **Total Direct Costs: $4,312,455** ($3,610,462 in monetization, $696,993 in CCC funds, and $5,000 in cost share).
- **Total Indirect Costs: $844,411** ($553,713 in monetization and $290,698 in CCC funds)

2.1. Salaries/Personnel[33] – Total $1,479,600 ($1,379,600 monetization and $100,000 in CCC funds)

Home Office (HO). FD HO salary rates are based on current annual salaries of staff. The FD HO team will be led by the HO Director of Agricultural Programs, who oversees the

[30] For further information on program income, see 2 CFR section 200.307, as well as the definition of "program income" in 7 CFR section 1499.2 and 7 CFR section 1499.11 in the program specific regulation.
[31] M&E budget must be at least 3% of the total operating budget.
[32] These items should ONLY be included in proposal. Do not include these items in the final negotiated budget narrative.
[33] See 2 CFR section 200.430 for cost principle information on compensation for personal services.

HO team in the project's interventions, including compliance, and provides technical support. The HO Program Director, with the Senior Program Associate, will serve as the primary day-to-day support to the field team. They will be supported by the home office Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Director.

U.S. Nationals (USN). USN are budgeted for the current Director to remain through the life of the project. The Director is an expatriate who has worked in Country X for more than 10 years. The Director provides project oversight and management and maintains technical standards. The Director's salary is distributed between Administrative and Activities.

Cooperating Country National (CCN) Staff. The majority of CCN staff are budgeted to remain on the project throughout the life of the project. Proposed salary rates are in line with current in-country staff salaries from X project. To account for annual salary increases, we are using the average monthly salary over LOP.

2.2. Fringe Benefits[34] – Total $622,969 ($560,009 in monetization, and $62,960 in CCC funds)

Fringe Benefits – Headquarters (HQ), U.S. Nationals, and Third Country Nationals (TCN)[35]

FD charges actual fringe benefit costs. It is currently estimating an average fringe benefits rate of 40.51% for total Headquarters, Expatriate and Third Country National salaries. Total HQ Administrative Salaries = $429,244.

Fringe Benefits – Cooperating Country Nationals[36] Employees
Fringe benefits for Cooperating Country Nationals are budgeted at 43.05% of their total salary and are based on FD's current practice in-country. This includes:

- Medical Insurance: 6% of annual income
- Social Security: 10.67% of annual income
- Bonus Payments: 16.66% of annual income
- Severance: 9.72% of annual income

Fringe Benefits – Third Country Nationals (TCN)
Total TCN Fringe Benefits: $193,725

[34] See 2 CFR section 200.431 for cost principle information on fringe benefits.
[35] TCN is defined as: "A person who is employed by an international organization and who comes neither from the country where the organization has its main base, nor from the country where they are working."
[36] CCN is defined as: "An individual - employee who is a cooperating country citizen, or a non-cooperating country citizen lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the cooperating country."

2.3. Travel[37] – Total $247,090 ($231,567 in monetization, and $15,523 in CCC funds)

International Travel ($60,043)
FD headquarters staff/consultants will make 8 international trips during the course of the period of performance. The purpose of the trips will be to provide monitoring and technical guidance. The Chief of Party (COP) will make 2 international trips to Headquarters in Washington, DC. The total international travel cost estimate is $60,043.

Local Travel ($119,926)
FD estimates $119,926 for quarterly local travel by staff. The estimate includes per diem and miscellaneous costs.

Vehicle Fuel and Rentals ($67,121)
FD estimates the cost for vehicle fuel for 3 vehicles to be $40,000. FD plans for vehicle rentals at 10 days/month during high volume periods.

Rentals and taxi service are estimated at $27,121 over the life of the project.

2.4. Professional Services/Contractual[38] – Total $1,031,913 ($731,913 in monetization and $300,000 in CCC funds)

Monetization Agent Fee ($260,896)
The Monetization Agent fee is estimated at 2.7% of monetization proceeds received for a total of $260,896.

Support Services ($166,017)
FD has included expenses related to support services over the life of the program. These costs are directly attributable to the project and include: local legal services ($62,450), security services ($50,749), IT services ($35,123), and translation services ($17,695).

Call Forward Fees ($125,000)
FD has budgeted for call forward fees at $25,000 per call forward in Y1 – Y4 for a total of $125,000.

Evaluations ($465,000)
FD estimates the consultant fee for the Baseline, Midterm, and Final Evaluations to be $150,000, $175,000, and $140,000 respectively. FD has selected Circle Food Research Institute to conduct these evaluations based on its unique capabilities and extensive experience working in Country X.

Special Study ($15,000)

[37] See 2 CFR section 200.475 for cost principle information on travel costs.
[38] Any costs associated with a subrecipient agreement or contract should be provided here. See Procurement Standards found in 2 CFR part 200.

In Y2, FD will secure the services of an external evaluator to conduct a monetization impact study for $15,000. FD will go through a bidding process to select the external evaluator. FD will take into consideration factors such as the soundness of the proposal, unique capabilities of the bidder, the amount of the bid, delivery schedule, technical competency of the key personnel proposed for the study, etc.

2.5. Equipment – Total $90,000 ($90,000 in monetization, and $0 in CCC funds)[39]

FD plans to purchase three 4x4 vehicles at $30,000 each, totaling $90,000.

2.6. Supplies[40] – Total $155,497 ($110,518 in monetization, and $44,979 in CCC funds)

Appliances ($99,708)
FD plans to purchase two servers, 12 laptops, 12 computer workstations, and related equipment. FD plans to replace computer equipment transferred from prior projects in Y3. Equipment to be replaced in Y3 includes: 10 laptops and workstations, 2 printers, 1 scanner, 1 projector, 14 cell phones, 2 satellite phones, 12 office furniture sets, 2 AC units, 2 cash safes, hardware, and 2 digital cameras. Estimated costs: $99,708.

M&E Supplies ($3,000)
FD will purchase 20 tablets for 20 field M&E staff at a cost of $100 each for a total of $2,000.

In Y1, FD will purchase a subscription and licenses for EvalU-PLUS+, a highly effective M&E software system for $1,000. All necessary M&E staff will have access to this system.

Office Supplies ($52,789)
The budgeted monthly office supply costs are estimated at $863.30. The costs cover all necessary office supplies such as notebooks, pens, calculators, office bags, clip files, registers, photocopy paper, flip chart paper, markers, transparency paper, flip chart boards, etc. Our estimates are based on programs of similar size and market research.

2.7. Office – Total $630,386 ($456,855 in monetization, and $173,531 in CCC funds) In-Country Office

[39] Equipment is defined as "tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes, or $5,000." See 2 CFR section 200.1.
[40] Supplies is defined as "all tangible personal property other than those described in the definition of equipment in [2 CFR section 200.1]. A computing device is a supply if the acquisition cost is less than the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes or $5,000, regardless of the length of its useful life." See 2 CFR section 200.1.

FD estimates the costs of its main in-country office to be $630,386. The costs include rent, office upgrades, utilities, generator fuel, office improvements, cleaning and maintenance, bank charges, branding and marking, recruitment, staff development, internet, landline phone service, cell phone services, printing, postage, shipping, vehicle and motorcycle insurance, tax, and software licenses.

2.8. Other – Total $50,000 ($50,000 in monetization, and $0 in CCC funds)

Maintenance ($20,000)
FD estimates equipment and supply maintenance to be $20,000 for the life of the project.

Insurance ($25,000)
FD estimates vehicle insurance to be $25,000 for the life of the project.

Training ($5,000)
FD plans for $5,000 in onboarding and training of staff on FD agreement policies in Country X in Y1.

2.9. Cost Share[41] – Total $5,000

FD will provide $5,000 in in-kind cost share in the form of the time and travel for two headquarters staff to facilitate staff onboarding and training in Y1. This volunteer labor time is valued at $5,000, with $2,500 in Admin: Salaries and $2,500 in Admin: Travel.

2.10. Indirect Costs[42] – Administration – Total $844,411 ($553,713 for monetization and $290,698 for CCC)

In accordance with FD's most recently approved NICRA, indirect costs are estimated at $844,411.

SECTION 3: **ACTIVITIES – Total $3,870,244 ($3,865,244 in monetization funds and $5,000 in cost share)**

- **Total Direct Costs: $3,337,531** ($3,332,531 in monetization funds and $5,000 in cost share)
- **Total Indirect Costs: $532,713** (in monetization funds)

[41] See 2 CFR section 200.306 for clarification on what constitutes cost share. Please note IFAD will not consider cost share on indirect costs.
[42] See 2 CFR section 200.414 for cost principle information on indirect costs.

Activity 1: Capacity Building: Government institutions – Total $293,225

3.1.1 Salaries/Personnel – $47,994

Home Office (HO). FD HO salary rates are based on current annual salaries of staff. The FD HO team will be led by the HO Director of Agricultural Programs, who oversees the HO team in the project's interventions, including compliance, and provides technical support. The HO Program Director, with the Senior Program Associate, will serve as the primary day-to-day support to the field team. They will be supported by the home office Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Director.

U.S. Nationals (USN). USN are budgeted for the current Director to remain through the life of the project. The Director is an expatriate who has worked in Country X for more than 10 years. The Director provides project oversight and management and maintains technical standards. The Director's salary is distributed between Administrative and Activities.

Cooperating Country National (CCN) Staff. The majority of CCN staff are budgeted to remain on the project throughout the life of the project. Proposed salary rates are in line with current in-country staff salaries from X project. To account for annual salary increases, we are using the average monthly salary over LOP.

3.1.2 Fringe Benefits – Total $20,661

Benefits for CCN staff are in accordance with local labor laws and calculated at 43.05% of the employees' base salary.

3.1.3 Professional Services/Contractual – Total $60,000

Contractor, Global Ag Foods, will implement capacity building workshops in Y2-Y4 for a total of $60,000. FD has selected Global Ag Foods to conduct these workshops based on its unique capabilities and extensive experience working in Country X.

3.1.4 Office – Total $76,303

FD estimates the cost of the office in Nebaj to be $76,303. The costs include rent, start-up and closeout costs, utilities, generator fuel, office improvements, and cleaning and maintenance.

3.1.5 Supplies – Total $20,300

Office supplies are estimated at $17,300. This includes laptops, one printer, tablets, and cell phones.

FD will procure 6 motorcycles with a unit cost of $2,000 for use by the Organizational Technicians and Agriculture Production Technicians. The cost will be shared across Activities based on staffing. The total for Activity 1 is $3,000.

3.1.6 Travel – Total $17,550

Motorcycle fuel for 6 motorcycles at $225 per month for 52 months divided equally among 4 activities.

3.1.7 Other – Total $50,417

Food Development will implement the following workshops:

Capacity-Building Government Institutions Workshop ($13,229)
One workshop per quarter has been budgeted at roughly 15 attendees per workshop. Cost associated with this workshop includes refreshments, copies of training materials, and transportation for meeting participants.

Coordination Committee Sessions/Meetings Workshop ($ 5,594)
Each workshop/event will last for 1 day and host roughly 20 attendees. There will be one event in Years 1 and 5, and two events in Years 2-4. Costs include venue rental, training materials, per diem, transportation, and accommodations for meeting participants.

Lessons Learned Seminars Workshop ($7,923)
Each workshop/event will last for 1 day and host roughly 50 attendees. These meetings will be held once a year for the life of the project. Costs include venue rental, training materials, per diem, transportation, and posters for meeting participants.

Facilitation of Links with Research Institutions Workshop ($23,671)
Each workshop/event will last for 1 day and host 50 attendees, 25 of whom will be from out-of-town. There will be one workshop in Years 1 and 5, and two workshops in Years 2-4. Costs include venue rental, training materials, per diem, transportation, and training materials for meeting participants.

Activity 2: Post-Harvest Infrastructure Support – Total $1,016,801 ($1,011,801 in monetization and $5,000 in cost share)

Salaries/Personnel – Total $500,700

Home Office (HO). FD HO salary rates are based on current annual salaries of staff. The FD HO team will be led by the HO Director of Agricultural Programs, who oversees the HO team in the project's interventions, including compliance, and provides technical support. The HO Program Director, with the Senior Program Associate, will serve as the

primary day-to-day support to the field team. They will be supported by the home office Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Director.

U.S. Nationals (USN). USN are budgeted for the current Director to remain through the life of the project. The Director is an expatriate who has worked in Country X for more than 10 years. The Director provides project oversight and management and maintains technical standards. The Director's salary is distributed between Administrative and Activities.

Cooperating Country National (CCN) Staff. The majority of CCN staff are budgeted to remain on the project throughout the life of the project. Proposed salary rates are in line with current in-country staff salaries from X project. To account for annual salary increases, we are using the average monthly salary over LOP.

Fringe Benefits – Total $215,551

Benefits for CCN staff are in accordance with local labor laws and calculated at 43.05% of the employees' base salaries.

Travel – Total $17,550

Motorcycle fuel for 6 motorcycles at $225 per month for 52 months divided equally among 4 activities.

Supplies – Total $3,000

FD will procure 6 motorcycles with a unit cost of $2,000 for use by the Organizational Technicians and Agriculture Production Technicians. The cost will be shared across Activities based on staffing. The total for Activity 2 is $3,000.

Other – Total $275,000

Post-Harvest Workshops ($15,000)
FD will facilitate post-harvest workshops for grant recipients. Each workshop/event will last for 1 day and host 25 attendees. Workshops will be held in Years 2-4. Estimated cost per workshop is $5,000.

Post-Harvest Processing Cash Grants ($210,000)
FD will provide 210 farmers with $1,000 cash grants to purchase materials and equipment with the goal of improving production capacity and diversifying the types of food provided in school meals.

Capacity-Building Cash Grants ($50,000)
FD will allocate cash grants of up to $1,000 to farmer cooperatives in 50 municipalities to conduct soil improvement trainings and provide participating farmers with seed and fertilizer.

Cost Share – Total $5,000
The farmer cooperatives that receive the "Capacity-Building" cash grants will provide a 10% cost share, totaling $5,000.

Activity 3: Financial Services: Facilitate Agricultural Lending – Total $975,674

3.3.1 Salaries/Personnel – Total $41,248

Home Office (HO). FD HO salary rates are based on current annual salaries of staff. The FD HO team will be led by the HO Director of Agricultural Programs, who oversees the HO team in the project's interventions, including compliance, and provides technical support. The HO Program Director, with the Senior Program Associate, will serve as the primary day-to-day support to the field team. They will be supported by the home office Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Director.

U.S. Nationals (USN). USN are budgeted for the current Director to remain through the life of the project. The Director is an expatriate who has worked in Country X for more than 10 years. The Director provides project oversight and management and maintains technical standards. The Director's salary is distributed between Administrative and Activities.

Cooperating Country National (CCN) Staff. The majority of CCN staff are budgeted to remain on the project throughout the life of the project. Proposed salary rates are in line with current in-country staff salaries from X project. To account for annual salary increases, we are using the average monthly salary over LOP.

3.3.2 Fringe Benefits – Total $17,757

Benefits for CCN staff are in accordance with local labor laws and calculated at 43.05% of the employees' base salaries.

3.3.3 Professional Services/Contractual – Total $750,000

Subrecipient A: $750,000: To oversee financial lending to local farmers in Nebaj.

3.3.4 Supplies Total – $3,000

FD will procure 6 motorcycles with a unit cost of $2,000 for use by the Organizational

Technicians and Agriculture Production Technicians. The cost will be shared across Activities based on staffing. The total for Activity 3 is $3,000.

3.3.5 Travel – Total $17,550

Motorcycle fuel for 6 motorcycles at $225 per month for 52 months divided equally among 4 activities.

3.3.6 Other – Total $146,119

FD will implement financial services workshops in Y2-4 for 50 participants each. Total workshop costs will be $146,119.

Activity 4: Training: Improved Agricultural Production Techniques – Total $1,051,831

3.4.1 Salaries/Personnel – Total $383,000

Home Office (HO). FD HO salary rates are based on current annual salaries of staff. The FD HO team will be led by the HO Director of Agricultural Programs, who oversees the HO team in the project's interventions, including compliance, and provides technical support. The HO Program Director, with the Senior Program Associate, will serve as the primary day-to-day support to the field team. They will be supported by the home office Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Director.

U.S. Nationals (USN). USN are budgeted for the current Director to remain through the life of the project. The Director is an expatriate who has worked in Country X for more than 10 years. The Director provides project oversight and management and maintains technical standards. The Director's salary is distributed between Administrative and Activities.

Cooperating Country National (CCN) Staff. The majority of CCN staff are budgeted to remain on the project throughout the life of the project. Proposed salary rates are in line with current in-country staff salaries from X project. To account for annual salary increases, we are using the average monthly salary over LOP.

3.4.2 Fringe Benefits – Total $163,281

Fringe benefits for cooperating country national staff are in accordance with local labor laws and calculated at 43.05% of the employees' base salaries. Total is $137,760.

Fringe benefits for HQ employees are calculated at 40.51% of base salary. Total is $25,521.

3.4.3 Supplies – Total $3,000

FD will procure 6 motorcycles with a unit cost of $2,000 for use by the Organizational Technicians and Agriculture Production Technicians. The cost will be shared across Activities based on staffing. The total for Activity 4 is $3,000.

3.4.4 Travel – Total $17,550

Motorcycle fuel for 6 motorcycles at $225 per month for 52 months divided equally among 4 activities.

3.4.5 Professional Services/Contractual – Total $485,000

FD will enter into 3 subrecipient agreements as follows:

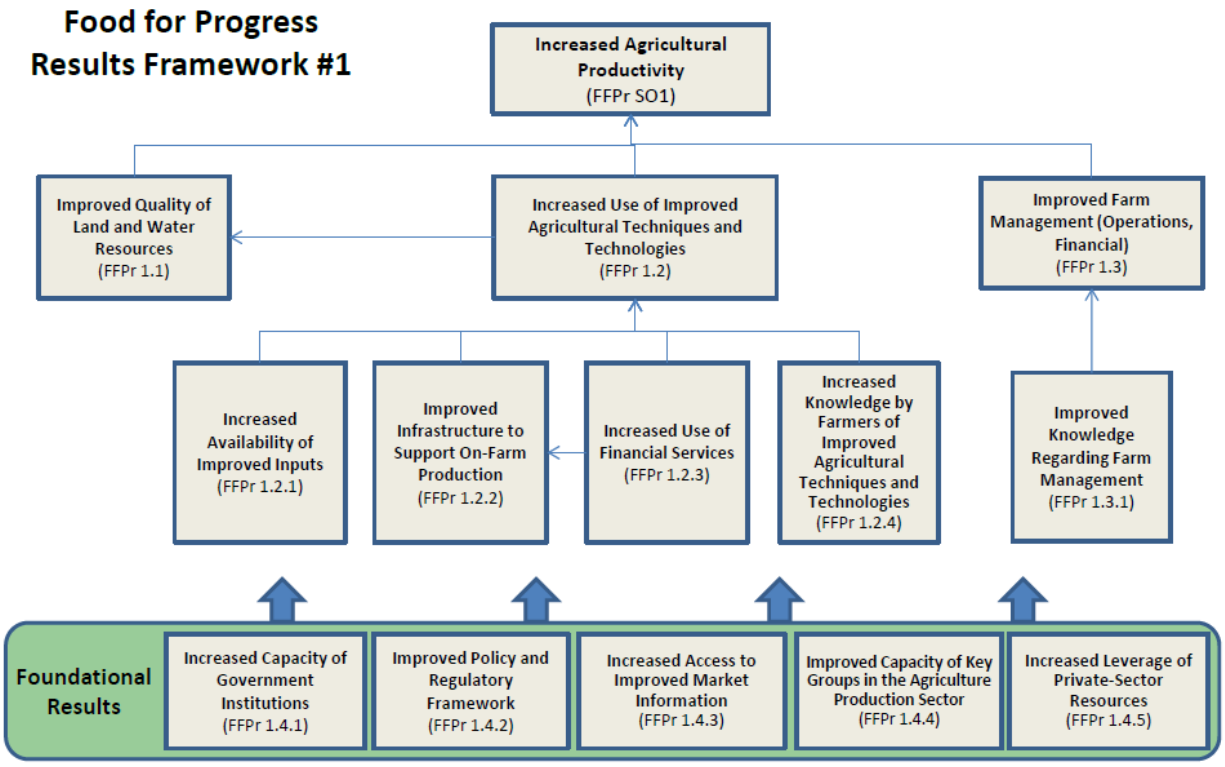
Subrecipient A: $310,000: To provide training to local farmers on water use efficiency.
Subrecipient B: $50,000: To provide training to local farmers on pest management.
Subrecipient C: $125,000: To provide training to local farmers on crop rotation.

Subrecipients will be selected based on a competitive bidding process. FD will take into consideration factors such as the soundness of the proposal, unique capabilities of the bidder, the amount of the bid, delivery schedule, technical competency of the key personnel proposed for the study, etc.

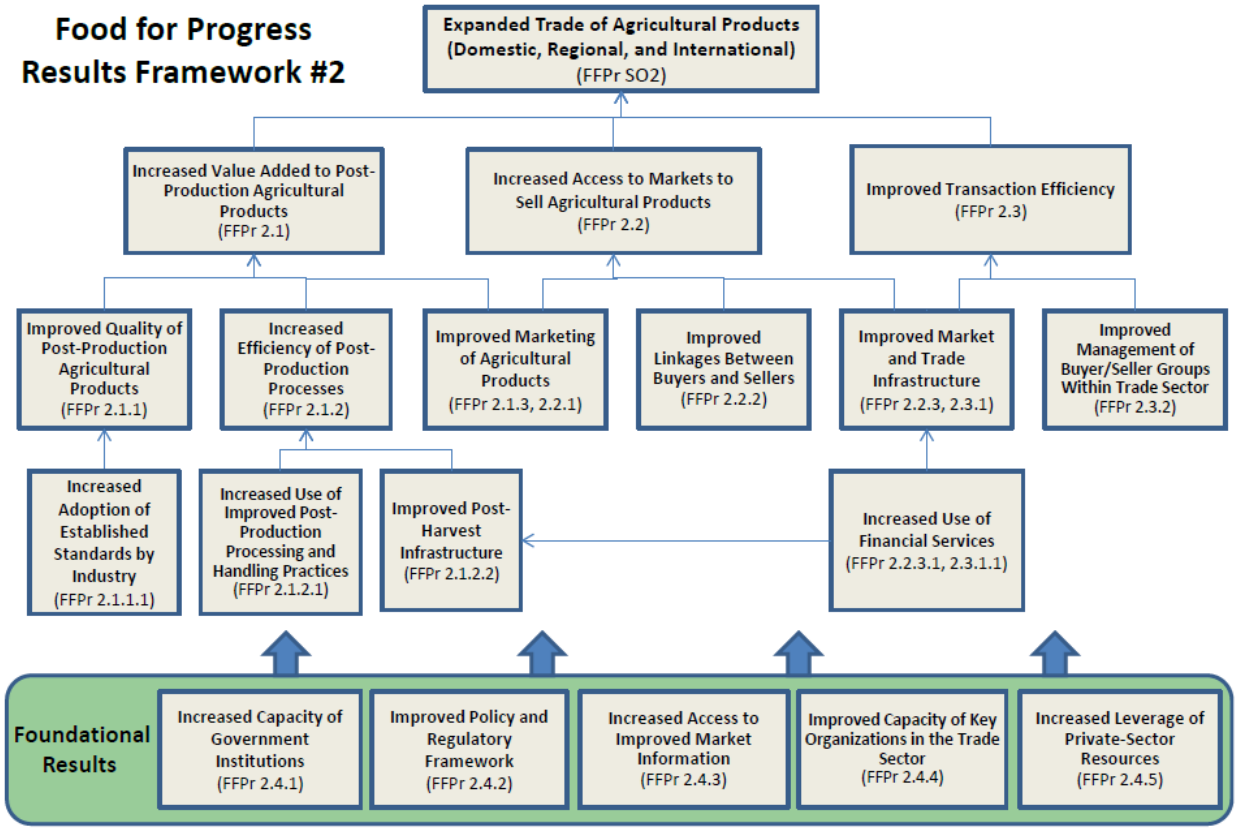
3.5 Indirect Costs – Activities – Total $532,713

In accordance with FD's most recently approved NICRA, indirect costs are estimated at $532,713 in monetization funds.

APPENDIX E – Results Framework and Illustrative Examples of Foundational Results



A Note on Foundational Results: These results can feed into one or more higher-level results. Causal relationships sometimes exist between foundational results.



A Note on Foundational Results: These results can feed into one or more higher-level results. Causal relationships sometimes exist between foundational results.

APPENDIX F – Past Performance Review Template

Applicants should complete all information in Part I. If one of the items does not apply, simply note N/A in that row. Parts II and III should be completed by the reference organization/personnel. The reference organization/personnel must then submit the completed form to ppded@usda.gov. Please use the subject line "Past Performance Reference for [Proposal Name]". FAS may contact the reference organization/personnel for verification.

PART I: Award Information (to be completed by Applicant)
1. Name of Applicant's Organization
2. Applicant Contact Name:
3. Title:
4. Phone Number:
5. Email Address:
6. Name of Project:
7. Award Number:
8. Award Type:
9. Award Value:
10. Description of Work/Services:
11. Location Where Work was Performed:
12. Contracting/Agreement Officer:
13. Contracting/Agreement Officer Phone Number:
14. Contracting/Agreement Officer Email Address:
15. Technical Officer (if applicable):
16. Technical Officer Phone Number:
17. Technical Officer Email Address:

PART II Performance Assessment (to be completed by Reference Organization)
1. Contact Name (person(s) completing this document):
2. Title:
3. Name and address of organization:
4. Phone number:
5. Email address:
PART III: Performance Assessment (to be completed by Reference Organization)
1. Instances of good performance as measured by results achieved and quality of deliverables or services, including, but not limited to the following: timeliness, consistency in meeting goals and targets, effectiveness and appropriateness of personnel, cooperation, and effectiveness of the organization in identifying or addressing problems, and cost control issues, including forecasting costs as well as accuracy in financial reporting. Comment:
2. Instances of poor performance as measured by results achieved and quality of deliverables or services, including, but not limited to the following: timeliness, consistency in meeting goals and targets, effectiveness, and appropriateness of addressing problems, and cost control issues, including forecasting costs as well as accuracy in financial reporting. Comment:
3. Significant achievements: including relationships with beneficiaries, initiation, and management of several complex activities simultaneously, coordination among country partners, and correction of problems. Comment:
4. Significant Problems: including relationships with beneficiaries, initiation, and management of several complex activities simultaneously, coordination among country partners, and correction of problems. Comment:

APPENDIX G – Potential Available Commodities

(Applicable to both McGovern-Dole and Food for Progress Programs)
Commodities are subject to change, based on price and availability.

All Beef Packer Tallow	Nonfat, Non-fortified Dry Milk*
All Purpose Flour	Northern Spring Wheat
Black Beans	Parboiled, Well Milled, Long Grain Rice 2/7
Bread Flour	Parboiled, Well Milled, Long Grain Rice 5/20
Bulgur	Peas/Lentils Substitutable
Cornmeal	Pinto Beans
Corn-Soy Blend	Ready-to-use nutritional food (RUSF or MQ)
Corn-Soy Blend Plus	Salmon, Pink (Canned)*
Crude Degummed Soybean Oil	Small Red Beans
Dark Northern Spring Wheat	Soft Red Winter Wheat
Dark Red Kidney Beans	Soft White Wheat
Dehydrated Potato Granules*	Sorghum
Dehydrated Potatoes Flakes*	Soybean Meal
Distiller's dried grains with solubles	Soybean Oil
Extra Fancy Tallow	Soy-Fortified Bulgur*
Fortified Rice, 2/7 Long Grain, Well Milled	Soy-Fortified Cornmeal
Fortified Rice, 2/7 Medium Grain, Well Milled	Split Yellow Peas
Fortified Rice, 3/15 Long Grain, Well Milled	Super Cereal Plus
Fortified Rice, 3/15 Medium Grain, Well Milled	Technical Tallow
Fortified Rice, 5/20 Long Grain, Well Milled	Vegetable Oil
Fortified Rice, 5/20 Medium Grain, Well Milled	Vegetable Oil Substitutable
Great Northern Beans	Well Milled, Long Grain Rice 2/7
Green Peas	Well Milled, Long Grain Rice 3/15
Green Split Peas	Well Milled, Long Grain Rice 5/20
Hard Milled Long Grain Rice	Well Milled, Medium Grain Rice 5/20
Hard Red Spring Wheat	Whole Green Peas
Hard Red Winter Wheat	Whole Yellow Peas
Kabuli Garbanzo Beans	Yellow Corn
Lentils	Yellow Grease
Lipid Based Nutrient Supplement (LNS SF)	Yellow Soybeans
Milled Rice	

For specific questions related to commodities, please contact ppded@usda.gov

For additional commodity specifications, please visit:
https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/international-procurement/commodity-requirements

*Availability May Vary