
July 27, 2023

Virtual format

GAFSP Steering Committee Chair

Mr. Hong-Won Yu

Director, Food Security

Global Affairs, Canada

GAFSP Co-Chair and GAFSP Private Sector Window Donor Committee Chair

Mr. James Catto

Director, Office of International Development Policy, International Affairs

United States Department of the Treasury

Accepted for the Steering Committee

HONG-WON YU

Accepted for the Private Sector Window Donor
Committee

JAMES CATTO

September, the SC requested that the FAO provide a stronger justification for charging an ISC on top of the admin fee for both PO-led and Technical Assistance (TA) projects, specify further the links between Admin and ISC fees to actual (\$) costs of different design, supervision, and implementation services, and describe the implications if the ISC were not approved by the SC. The CU was also asked to provide additional analysis and information about potential implications to help inform a decision.

12. The TAC shared lessons learned and recommendations on the 7th CFP, including to 1) limit the number of applications per Call; 2) reach more countries that have not yet benefitted from GAFSP's support; 3) address high-priority themes and capacity development needs; 4) extend timeframe for PO preparation and TAC review process; 5) simplify core Call requirements, guidelines and templates, and consider opening funding for PO-led projects on a rolling basis; 6) take stock of recommendations of the previous Calls; 7) commission independent field reviews to complement the efforts of the CU in identifying and sharing lessons with stakeholders.
13. The presentation highlighted the need to integrate producer organization needs assessments and preparation of PO strategic financial management and operational plans as prerequisites for applying for funds under the PO-led track. To effectively address climate change, the TAC also recommended supporting the provision of climate change guidance tailored to PO-specific needs and opportunities to better inform investments in climate resilience. Climate vulnerability analysis and long-term resilience strategies included in national and regional plans should guide the preparation of PO investment plans in the future.
14. During the discussion, participants stressed the importance of learning from past PO-led Calls and emphasized the need for time to digest and reflect on the recommendations to make informed decisions moving forward. There was a call for conducting independent assessments by civil society and producer organizations to complement institutional evaluations and provide a more comprehensive perspective on the projects. The potential of supporting PO-led projects that can feed into the design of larger GAFSP projects under other GAFSP funding tracks was emphasized as an opportunity to scale up impact. Participants suggested considering flexibility in criteria for projects from countries facing specific limitations, such as women-led projects in regions with formal registration requirements. Recommendations were made for incorporating climate vulnerability analysis and sustainability assessments as part of project evaluations.
15. The Deputy Program Manager of the GAFSP, Mr. Philip Van der Celen, provided SC members with a status update on key actions undertaken by the CU since the March 2023 SC meeting. These included an update on the September in-person SC meeting in Rome (Sept 19-20); proposals for the next SC meeting with field visit during the Spring of 2024; the Business Investment Financing Track; draft Conflict of Interest Policy; the Five-year Program evaluation of the GAFSP; and the revised M&E Plan. Key action items highlighted in the status update include:
 - o The CU will send out a short survey to SC members with options for a Spring 2024 SC Meeting with field visits to be selected by SC members.
 - o The CU will collect comments from different units at the level of the Trustee on the draft GAFSP Conflict of Interest policy with a view to present for review and approval a final version at the September SC meeting.
 - o The CU will organize a 6th meeting of the BIFT Advisory Group to close outstanding questions related to key design features of the BIFT and BIFT pilot.
 - o The CU will share with SC Members by August 8th the proposed Terms of Reference (ToR) and budget for the five-year evaluation of the Program.

- CU will circulate the final revised M&E plan and the response matrix for SC review and approval.and

Chairs			
1	Yu	Hong-Won	Director, Food Security at Global Affairs Canada, GCA, GAFSP Chair
2	Catto	James	Director, International Development Policy, US Treasury, GAFSP Co-Chair and GAFSP Private Sector Window Donor Committee Chair
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Virtual Session 1

** 5.00am Seattle/ 8.00am Washington DC / 12.00pm Abidjan / 1.00pm London / 2.00pm Berlin, Rome /
3.00pm Nairobi / 5.45pm Kathmandu / 6.00pm Dhaka / 8.00pm Manila / 10.00pm Canberra
**The listed time is EDT (GMT -4)

1. Make decisions regarding the allocation of GAFSP funding towards Producer Organization (PO)-led

Session 5