

China-IFAD South-South and Triangular Cooperation Facility

Approved proposals: first call



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Inclusive Agriculture and Agro-industrial Value Chain Development as an Enabler of Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh

The main objective of the project is to respond to opportunities created through the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and China's support for South-South Cooperation, with a specific focus on Bangladesh, where BRI investments include the construction of the Padma Bridge and the Dhaka-Jessore railway. Such investments will link southwestern parts of the country to Dhaka and beyond, creating new opportunities for farmers in these districts to engage in markets, reduce poverty and achieve prosperity.

The project responds to the request from the Government of Bangladesh to promote the development of the livestock sector, and is aligned with its national priorities and development strategies. Bangladesh is a low-income economy, and most poor rural households raise livestock. The livestock sector is not only a source of income and nutritious food for rural households, but also generates employment for a growing population in the country, particularly for young men and women. It is therefore the aim of the project to strengthen the dairy and beef value chains and introduce innovative business models to improve the productivity of the dairy and meat subsectors, especially for the benefit of smallholder farmers and agroentrepreneurs in the targeted areas, as well as improve food security and nutrition at the national level.

The project envisions collaboration and partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) as well as with the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) for the implementation.

Total value: US\$500,000

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Rural Youth Innovation Award

Total value: US\$450,000

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The project proposal focuses on creating a platform for conceptualizing, presenting and sharing information and knowledge around youth-led innovative and market disruptive enterprises and highly effective solutions to smallholder farmer challenges in order to encourage replication and creativity across the region for addressing rural development challenges.

It also aims at putting in place a contest mechanism, in collaboration with the private sector, academia and like-minded partners, for financing the most innovative, implementable and scalable rural solutions. Last, it is targeted at ensuring adequate follow-up and dissemination in the implementation of the winning solutions across the region in collaboration with development project staff (including IFAD-supported projects), private partners and development institutions.

The recipient and administrator of the Facility grant is IFAD's SSTC and Knowledge Centre in Brazil, a newly established centre whose objective is the promotion of SSTC initiatives throughout the Latin America and Caribbean region.



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Strengthening the Rural Solutions Portal and IFAD's IT Tracking Systems to Increase the Uptake of Rural Development Solutions

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the Rural Solutions Portal – the web portal that collects and makes available innovative rural development solutions – as well as IFAD's South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) tracking systems, with a view to increasing the uptake of rural development solutions and improving the living conditions of the population in target countries.

The project will promote the sharing of innovative rural development solutions, including through exchanging information and knowledge with similar web-based information platforms developed in developing countries, such as the Global Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth Portal (GPIG) maintained by the International Poverty Reduction Center in China (IPRCC).

It will also improve IFAD's capacity to undertake analysis of SSTC activities at the corporate, regional and country levels, and facilitate timely reporting through the development of an SSTC database and dashboard. The Portal will be strengthened with a view to increasing matchmaking opportunities among solution seekers and solution providers, allowing the sharing of lessons and good practices, and making information available on SSTC-related institutions and organizations from across the world.

The project will be managed by IFAD's Global Engagement and Multilateral Relations Division (GEM), in cooperation with the SSTC and Knowledge Centres in Addis Ababa, Beijing and Brasilia. It envisages cooperation with national institutions, including the IPRCC, among others.

Total value: US\$400,000

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South-South Cooperation in Green Economy for Agricultural Development and Enhanced Food Security (SSGE-ADFS)

Total value: US\$459,000

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This project aims to address the issues of climate change and the further need of populations for increased food production through the combination of advocacy and networking activities, promotion of green investment with a focus on young smallholder farmers, and provision of capacity-development support in green economy agricultural development.

It is expected to target government focal points in 20 countries and up to 450 smallholder farmers. The project has three main components: (i) systematic advocacy and networking support to promote green economy agricultural development; (ii) scaling up of existing homegrown systems for green investment in agriculture and a track record in an innovative green economy; and (iii) improving the capacity of institutions to promote effective and sustainable green economy approaches in agricultural development.

Led by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), the project will initially target eight countries and scale up to at least 20 countries. It will be developed in partnership with China Agricultural University and the World Green Economy Organization.



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South–South Triangular Cooperation for the Inter–Africa Bamboo Smallholder Farmers Livelihood Development Programme

The main objective of this project proposal is to enhance the impact of the Inter-Africa Bamboo Smallholder Farmers Livelihood Development Programme by transferring solutions, knowledge, skills and technologies both within Africa and from China to target African countries. The goal is to create an enabled bamboo value chain environment by increasing awareness, facilitating knowledge and technology transfer, and improving policy frameworks as well as investment promotion in the beneficiary countries, with the ultimate aim of alleviating poverty and creating jobs.

Direct beneficiaries will be at least 30,000 poor smallholder farmers and community members, primarily women and youth engaged in degrading forests for agricultural land. The project also aims to enhance connectivity between bamboo technical experts from beneficiary countries for knowledge transfer and the development of high-quality standards. This will be pursued through the establishment and strengthening of two task forces, one on sustainable bamboo management and the other on bamboo for renewable energy.

Both task forces will produce voluntary guideline standards that will boost sustainable bamboo trade in and beyond the beneficiary countries. Furthermore, three study tours in China and two regional symposiums in Africa will be carried out, and they will have a strong emphasis on fostering linkages with China's Belt and Road Initiative.

Total value: US\$500,000

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South-South Cooperation for Scaling up Climate Resilient Value Chain Initiatives (SSCVC)

Total value: US\$500,000

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The main objective of this project is to generate structured learning across countries based on a consistent approach to climate-resilient value chain (CRVC) analysis, with the engagement of smallholder farmers groups, processing units and enterprises.

In particular, the project will: facilitate the identification and development of CRVC initiatives among farmers groups, processing units and enterprises in the context of IFAD-supported projects in four selected countries (Cambodia, China, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam); and build capacity and develop knowledge on successful climate-smart value chain best practices for future use, replication and scaling up by all stakeholders involved.

The project will: (i) identify and select CRVC best practices through a participatory action research process with IFAD project staff, related institutions and consultants; (ii) strengthen awareness and capacities of institutions, project staff, smallholder farmers and agribusinesses about CRVC techniques and technologies; and (iii) develop targeted knowledge products on technologies and practices, including books, brochures, posters and videos, as well as knowledge exchange events, such as learning routes, training workshops and study tours, to facilitate the effective replication and application of techniques.



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Promoting Water Conservation and Irrigation Water Use Efficiency in Ethiopia

This project builds on the experiences from an existing project funded by IFAD that already includes lessons on key innovations to improve prosperity, food security and nutrition in Ethiopia, but specifically addresses the challenges that the country is facing due to climate change effects: temperatures rising, drought incidences becoming more severe, and water sources diminishing.

This project aims at deepening the form and scope of the Ethiopia-Kenya knowledge, skills and experience sharing in the following areas: (i) efficient irrigation water use technologies; (ii) effective capacity-building approaches of irrigation and water users associations and other community-based organizations; (iii) interaction and learning from poor rural farmers who have developed their capacity to profitably and sustainably grow crops using irrigation water and who successfully market their produce; (iv) interaction and learning from poor rural farmers who have been trained in sustainable rainwater harvesting using farm-level ponds and are profitably growing and marketing food crops; and (v) awareness of policy and legislative regimes that enables the creation of community-based institutions that have a legal basis and the capacity to manage and oversee the use of river waters.

Total value: US\$499,905

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Strengthening Business-to-Business Linkages and Investment Opportunities through IFAD's SSTC and Knowledge Centres

Total value: US\$250,000

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The aim of the proposal is to support the activities of the newly established SSTC and Knowledge Centres in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Beijing (China) and Brasilia (Brazil). The centres will support the implementation of IFAD's corporate SSTC Strategy and the Brasilia Declaration and Action Agenda, further strengthening the linkages between IFAD's country, regional and global activities.

With this proposal, IFAD aims to identify and promote opportunities for middle-income countries (MICs) to finance development interventions in other MICs and low-income countries (LICs). In addition, this proposal aims to identify and link private-sector companies across countries and to facilitate knowledge exchanges and matchmaking opportunities to strengthen the capacity of private-sector organizations in developing countries in their support to smallholder farmers.

By facilitating SSTC links and partnerships, including government-to-government, community-to-community and business-to-business, IFAD will work to promote a greater role for the private sector in supporting sustainable agriculture and the agrifood sector, with a particular focus on creating employment opportunities for rural youth and women. Projects under this Facility will be managed by IFAD's Global Engagement and Multilateral Relations Division (GEM) in cooperation with the SSTC and Knowledge Centres in Addis Ababa, Beijing and Brasilia.



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