

China-IFAD South-South and Triangular Cooperation Facility



Approved proposals: second call





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Local Production of Fortified Cassava Flour in Bouenza Department in Congo

Total value: US\$492,437

Focus country:

Republic of the Congo

Targeted beneficiaries:

Cassava producers and cooperative groups in Congo; at least 50 per cent of the beneficiary producers are women producers

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Congo faces a serious food security and nutrition situation. Cassava is consumed by 90 per cent of the country's population and accounts for one third of average daily food consumption, making Congo the world's fourth-largest consumer of cassava. Congo is the eighth-largest producer of cassava per capita, with 98 per cent of the country's farmers engaged in its cultivation. However, national production of cassava does not cover demand, and the country therefore imports a significant amount of cereals to make up the shortfall.

The project plans to establish a framework and evidence-based business plan for the production of fortified cassava flour and sales of the products in the national and regional market. The project will also reinforce the capacities of small-scale cassava producers and their organizations to allow them to supply fresh cassava to cassava mills. This will enable targeted small-scale farming cooperatives to benefit from increased production capacity and access to industrial value chains, thus improving their income and food security.

In the domain of cassava production, this will be the first time that the Rome-based agencies (RBAs) work together. The RBAs are collaborating to support a public-private partnership to build a cassava mill that will make affordable fortified cassava products available to the public, and to support small-scale cassava growers who supply the mill. Bringing in each agency's experience and competencies, the RBA collaboration will be leveraged to achieve global objectives, and thus ensure food and nutrition security.

The project envisages partnerships with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Programme, the Agricultural Company of Congo and the Chinese Academy of Tropical Agricultural Sciences.



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Freshwater Aquaculture Improvement Project in Odisha, India

In the State of Odisha (India), almost 900,000 families depend on freshwater aquaculture as a source of livelihood. However, due to dated production practices, unstructured forward linkages and a lack of quality fish seed, these families are unable to tap into the full potential of this livelihood source. The inland fishery resources, which cover more than 676,000 hectares, produce only 314,000 tonnes of fish per year, and neighbouring states supply 40,000 tonnes of fish per year to meet local demand in Odisha.

Through the introduction of relevant technologies, there is scope for increasing the productivity of freshwater aquaculture by up to ten times. The project plans to introduce a low-cost subset of these technologies and is targeting a 20 per cent average increase in productivity for an initial set of farmers as proof of concept. This will then be scaled up simultaneously through the implementing agency's outreach channels to other fish farmers in the state, and also replicated in Bangladesh through knowledge-sharing. The activities will be developed with the guidance of technical institutions such as the WorldFish centre in India, the Freshwater Fisheries Research Center (part of the Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences), and the Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture in Odisha.

The innovations will highlight the use of South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) in two ways: (i) by using Chinese expertise and experience to enhance fish production in India; and (ii) by then using this as a model for replication in neighbouring Bangladesh. The project could be scaled up to 200,000 fish farmers in the medium term, 2 million farmers in India in the long term, and millions more in other Asian countries through IDH The Sustainable Trade Initiative, IFAD and the RBAs.

The project envisages partnerships with Four Leaf Clover Agro Private Limited and IDH The Sustainable Trade Initiative.

Total value: US\$490,200

Focus country:
India

Targeted beneficiaries:
25,000 farmers will be reached directly through capacity-building and service provision; more than 200,000 farmers are expected to benefit through the service networks and capacities created

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Small-scale Dryers for Post-harvest Management Enterprises in Africa

Total value: US\$500,000

Focus countries:

Ghana, Kenya,
United Republic of Tanzania

Targeted beneficiaries:

Small-scale producers
and processors at
the production end of
highly perishable foods
such as cassava roots
and seasonal fruits;
direct 3,720, indirect 33,500

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In Africa, rapid post-harvest physiological deterioration (PPD) is a major constraint on the production and marketing of fresh produce. For cassava tubers, PPD occurs within 2-3 days of harvest, thus substantially reducing the crop's quality and financial value, with a consequent reduction in income for value chain actors. Drying is an important technology for reducing the risk facing farmers and traders that is caused by the rapid deterioration of fresh cassava tubers. However, the traditional technologies for cassava drying need improvement as they have not addressed constraints and challenges.

The main objective of the project is to facilitate the adaptation and downstream availability of food dryer technology already available in China and to demonstrate its applicability in the African context. The project will: (i) identify the needs of small-scale dryers of cassava and other value chains in rural areas of Ghana, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania; (ii) facilitate interactions between African technology users and Chinese technology providers; (iii) re-scale and adapt Chinese technology to suit the needs of African smallholder producers; and (iv) document China-Africa agricultural technology transfer in the form of knowledge products.

Dryer technologies available in Africa are at either artisanal or industrial scale. This project will introduce a technology that fits between these extremes and enables small-scale producers to become more active value chain actors, allowing them to access larger markets and trade by increasing the level of product preservation.

The project envisages partnerships with the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa; the Center for International Agricultural Research of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences; Kakindo Seed Farm, United Republic of Tanzania; the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture; the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization – Agricultural Mechanization Research Institute, Kenya; Adela Foods, Ghana; and the GRATIS Foundation, Ghana.



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Enhancing the NARYSEC Programme's Knowledge Base and Expertise to Promote Youth Employment/ Entrepreneurship in Rural Communities

Persistent, high youth unemployment is one of the Government of South Africa's biggest economic and social challenges; it is the single most important obstacle to poverty reduction in the country. Low participation of young people in the economy constrains future economic growth, and this will also have harmful consequences for the equity and stability of society.

The aims of this project are to: (i) strengthen the capacity, knowledge base and expertise of the National Rural Youth Service Corps (NARYSEC) in promoting youth employment and entrepreneurship, and upgrade it to a centre of excellence in the Southern Africa region; and (ii) promote SSTC partnerships. The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform will organize an international conference to share experiences and best practices in youth employment and entrepreneurship development programmes in the agriculture sector. It will also organize two study tours to the Songhai Centre in Benin and the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture's Agribusiness Programme in Nigeria to learn the best practices and models used to promote effective youth participation in agribusiness development. Two Chinese experts will provide short-term technical assistance on the design of curriculum and learning methods at NARYSEC College.

This project will offer an opportunity to exchange knowledge, skills, resources and technical know-how on promoting youth employment and entrepreneurship development as a path out of poverty in rural communities. South Africa will benefit from intellectual and human resources originating from China and other developing countries to foster its national programmes for rural poverty reduction through promoting youth employment and entrepreneurship.

The project envisages partnerships with the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, South Africa; the International Poverty Reduction Center, China; the Songhai Centre, Benin; and the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture ENABLE Youth Program, Nigeria.

Total value: US\$400,000

Focus country:
South Africa

Targeted beneficiaries:
Young people willing to engage in agribusiness and a selected number of government officials in South Africa

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Effective South-South Cooperation in Agriculture to Unleash the Transformative Power of the Agriculture Sector for Inclusive Development in Pakistan

Total value: US\$500,000

Focus country:
Pakistan

Targeted beneficiaries:
Small-scale farmers and farmer organizations, agribusiness and agriculture-related firms, and governmental agencies in Pakistan

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The main objective of the project is to establish and operate an effective knowledge generation and sharing platform to provide customized assistance for Pakistan to unleash the transformative power of the agriculture sector for the country's inclusive development. The project includes assessment of the knowledge-sharing needs of Pakistan, capacity-building and technology transfer.

With the support of China's Foreign Economic Cooperation Center and based on a needs assessment, the project will increase the use of technologies, especially those from China, to improve: (i) agricultural productivity through modern irrigation technologies (specifically, for the small-scale operator); (ii) agriculture-related value chain development; and (iii) the application of digital technology in the agriculture sector in Pakistan. Pakistan's agriculture sector will grow through increasing productivity, improving on-farm water management and promoting value chain development.

Knowledge-sharing and outcome dissemination events will be held in China and Pakistan with the participation of government institutions, donors, United Nations agencies, CGIAR institutions, academic institutions, the private sector, and other stakeholders. Existing platforms will also be leveraged, including IFAD's Rural Solutions Portal, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation's SSTC conferences, and other international forums/conferences. The project will generate lessons learned and provide policy recommendations on how to foster effective SSTC on the ground.

Partnerships are envisaged with the Foreign Economic Cooperation Center of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, China, and the National Rural Support Programme, Pakistan.



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Promoting Sustainable Cage Aquaculture in West Africa (ProSCAWA)

Ghana and Nigeria are two prominent West African countries that depend on fisheries as major sources of animal protein. Both countries have numerous waterbodies, which have the potential for increasing aquaculture production through cage aquaculture, thereby reducing dependence on capture fisheries and the need to supplement the domestic fish catch with imported fish. Cage aquaculture will make it possible for rural farmers to grow fish without owning land, and enable them to do so in waterbodies where draining and seining would be impossible.

The main objective of this project is to empower and transform the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in West Africa through enhanced Sino-African application of knowledge, sustainable technologies and expertise in cage aquaculture. To this end, the project will leverage the proven expertise of and collaboration with Chinese and similar companies dealing with cage aquaculture implementation.

By fostering knowledge-sharing between Ghana and Nigeria facilitated by IFAD and WorldFish, the project will promote South-South cooperation in two ways: (i) by enabling technology transfer from China to West Africa; and (ii) by enhancing cooperation between Ghana and Nigeria in promoting cage aquaculture. It will also support private sector capacity-building, in addition to the sharing of cage aquaculture solutions and investment opportunities.

The project will: (i) promote capacity-building of farmers, policymakers and businesses for sustainable cage aquaculture systems in Ghana and Nigeria; (ii) enhance employment, incomes and the nutritional status of rural households through productive and sustainable cage farming in waterbodies; and (iii) establish linkages between Chinese and West African aquaculture entrepreneurs for knowledge transfer and the development of viable business partnerships.

The project envisages partnerships with WorldFish; Qingdao Evergrowing Import and Export Co. Ltd, China; Sugarland Farms Ltd, Ghana, and Orisha Farms NG, Nigeria.

Total value: US\$500,000

Focus countries:

Ghana and Nigeria

Targeted beneficiaries:

Smallholder farmers, cage manufacturers, feed producers, hatcheries, youth and women

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Learning from SSTC in Project Design for Better Results and Greater Sustainability

Total value: US\$250,000

Focus countries:

Cambodia, China, Ethiopia,
Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan
and Senegal

Targeted beneficiaries:

Key officials in governments
and in the project management
units involved in the design
and implementation of IFAD-
supported projects, as well
as IFAD country directors and
technical staff concerned

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South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) has been identified as an important component of IFAD's renewed business model for improved outcomes in enhancing rural livelihoods. There is an urgent need to improve knowledge about how to better incorporate SSTC into IFAD project design across different countries and regions.

Leveraging SSTC as an instrument, the overall objective of the project is to improve the knowledge and quality of IFAD-supported project design for better development outcomes. This overall objective will be achieved through two specific and interrelated goals:

(i) capture and document knowledge about embedding SSTC in project design in different country contexts; and (ii) exchange lessons and good practices about how SSTC can be better leveraged in project design for improved development results.

The rationale for focusing on West and Central Africa is its important successful SSTC experiences despite the weak institutional and economic context. The reason for selecting the region of Asia and the Pacific is the ample number of SSTC success stories in project design registered here, while East and Southern Africa is included because of the presence of the SSTC and Knowledge Centre, and to ensure wider geographic coverage throughout Africa. Therefore, this project will allow for opportunities for cross-fertilization and learning across different regions on research and promotion of the successful experiences of SSTC components in projects, and the methods to embed SSTC factors in IFAD project design.

The project envisages partnerships with IFAD's Asia and the Pacific Division, East and Southern Africa Division, West and Central Africa Division, the Regional SSTC and Knowledge Centres in Beijing and Addis Ababa, and the SSTC Unit at IFAD headquarters.



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