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CFP1 – Call Template

Call for Partnership (CFP) for the AfDB Nigeria Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones (SAPZ) Program - Phase II

GCA Food Security Program

CFP Ref.: CFP-0015

CLOSING DATE: 14 March 2025

CLOSING TIME: NOT LATER THAN 16:00 hours (04:00 p.m. o'clock), Central European Time (CET)

PROPOSALS RECEIVED AFTER THE CLOSING DATE AND TIME SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED.



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1. Background

1.1. Introduction to this Call for Partnership (CFP)

The Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) invites registered non-profit organizations (local and international non-government organizations, community based organizations, universities, companies limited by guarantee) to present proposals to provide technical assistance for the development of digital soil health and fertility maps for the three selected states in Nigeria, support the digitalization of climate resilient seed supply and distribution systems, and to provide quality and tailored capacity building to breeders, seed producers, and extension agents on the development and dissemination for high quality, climate resilient seeds for a flagship agro-industrial processing zones project being implemented by the Nigeria government and the Africa Development Bank (AfDB), with GCA's climate resilience mainstreaming support.

1.2. Introduction to the Global Center of Adaptation

The Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) is an international organization that works as a solutions broker to catalyze action and support for adaptation solutions, from the international to the local, in partnership with the public and private sector, to ensure we learn from each other and work together for a climate resilient future. Adapting to impacts of climate change provides a "win-win" for livelihoods, food security, water supply, health, security, and economic growth. The work of GCA elevates the visibility and political importance of climate adaptation and facilitates solutions, such as smarter investments, new technologies and better planning to become more resilient to climate related threats. GCA is a rapidly growing organization with offices in Abidjan, Beijing, Dhaka, Groningen, and Rotterdam.

GCA's ambitious 2020-2025 business plan and strategy have three pillars:

- Programs: Food Security; Using Nature for more resilient infrastructure; Water for Urban Growth and Resilience; Climate Finance; Youth Leadership.
- Knowledge: Building adaptation knowledge globally through cutting edge products such as the State and Trends in Adaptation Report and the Adaptation Knowledge Portal.
- Advocacy and Awareness: Formulating policy messages to move the global, regional, and local adaptation agendas forward.

2. Support Project

The Nigeria Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones (SAPZ) Program – Phase II is an initiative aimed at transforming Nigeria's agricultural sector by developing integrated agro-industrial hubs. The program is designed to enhance agricultural productivity, strengthen value chains, and attract private sector investments into agro-processing and agribusiness.

SAPZ is a program financed by the African Development Bank (AfDB) in collaboration with the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) and other development partners. The program is designed to address key bottlenecks limiting the growth of agro-industries in Nigeria, including weak infrastructure, inadequate access to finance, and climate risks.



SAPZ Phase II builds on the achievements of Phase I and expands its scope by incorporating digital innovations and climate-resilient seed system and adaptation practices, with technical assistance support from GCA. To the end, GCA is providing support in these three key areas:

1. Digital Soil Health & Fertility Mapping

- Development of a digital soil information system to guide precision agriculture.
- Use of remote sensing, GIS, and other analytics to assess soil health and fertility.
- Capacity-building for farmers and extension agents on soil fertility management.

2. Digitalization of Seed Supply & Distribution Systems

- Supporting the establishment of a digitalized seed system to ensure traceable and transparent distribution of high quality certified seeds.
- Strengthening access to improved climate-resilient seed varieties.

3. Capacity Building for Climate-Resilient Foundation Seeds

- Training programs for breeders, seed producers, and extension agents on climate-smart seed systems.
- Support for the multiplication and distribution of high-yielding, drought-resistant seed varieties.

The SAPZ II Program is expected to:

- **Enhance Nigeria's food security** through increased productivity and reduced post-harvest losses.
- **Improve livelihoods** by creating jobs in agro-processing and related industries.
- **Strengthen climate resilience** through integration of climate adaptation interventions.
- **Attract private sector investment** into agribusiness and agro-industrial hubs in Nigeria, thus, fostering the economic development of rural communities and states.

3. Sub-Grant Project

This project aims at supporting inclusive and sustainable agro-industrial development, while the overall objectives are to (i) support the establishment of agro-industrial zones, (ii) strengthen institutional capacity and business environment for agro-industrial development and (iii) support agricultural productivity, skills, and entrepreneurship to enhance agricultural value chain development. The project is expected to directly benefit farm households and communities, small, medium and large-scale farmers, the youth, women, and staff of related public institutions.

Specifically, the sub-grant project is seeking to strengthen the climate resilience of the SAPZ Phase II project. **GCA is seeking a partner organization to provide technical assistance for the development of digital soil health and fertility maps in three selected states in Nigeria, the digitalization of climate-resilient seed supply and distribution systems, and capacity building for breeders, seed producers, and extension agents on the development and dissemination of high-quality, climate-resilient seeds.**



3.1. Project Outcomes & Outputs

The overarching outcome of the Nigeria Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones (SAPZ) Program is **to increase household incomes, foster job creation in rural agricultural communities, especially for youth and women, and enhance food and nutritional security in Nigeria.**

Output 1	<i>Digital Soil Health and Fertility Mapping</i>
Sub-Output 1.1	Generate baseline soil health and fertility data; or build on existing data where such is available and accessible.
Sub-Output 1.2	Develop digital soil maps using GIS and remote sensing technologies.
Sub-Output 1.3	Design a digital platform for disseminating soil health and fertility data to farmers and stakeholders.
Sub-Output 1.4	Develop training materials and implement training workshops on how to use the platform to relevant stakeholders.
Sub-Output 1.5	Provide recommendations for sustainable soil management based on mapping results.
Output 2	<i>Digitalization of Climate Resilient Seeds Supply and Distribution</i>
Sub-Output 2.1	Develop the framework for a digital platform for seed supply and distribution system that incorporates barcoding, traceability, and quality assurance systems.
Sub-Output 2.1	Develop training modules to train seed companies and farmers on using the platform to ensure transparency and efficiency; Conduct at least 2 training workshops.
Output 3	<i>Capacity and Training Support for Climate-Resilient Foundation Seeds</i>
Sub-Output 3.1	Develop tailored training manuals for seed companies focusing on climate-resilient varieties and best practices for seed production.
Sub-Output 3.2	Organize and facilitate 2 training sessions for project implementation technical staff/extension officers and key stakeholders on topics like site selection, seed production, soil fertility improvement, integrated pest management, and post-harvest handling.



Sub-Output
3.3

Provide reports on training outcomes and recommendations for scaling up.

4. Alignment with GCA Values and Commitment

- Demonstrated support of the core values of GCA and its commitment to climate action and adaptation;
- Active engagement in partnerships and initiatives with, inter alia, United Nations, intergovernmental, national, subnational, industry or sectoral, non-governmental and other related organizations in support of climate, environmental and/or social causes;
- Demonstrated support of the principles of sustainable development, including inclusion and social and environmental corporate responsibility;
- Compliance with recognized environmental and social standards.

5. Submission Guidelines

5.1. How to Apply

- Only **registered non-profit organizations (e.g., INGO, NGO, CBO, Universities, Company Limited by Guarantee)** are eligible to receive a sub-grant from GCA.
- The organizations responding to this call **must meet the minimum eligibility criteria** and demonstrate their capacity to **implement all the technical criteria**.
- Proposals and all supporting documents must be **submitted as a PDF**, no later than, **14 March 2025, 04:00 p.m, Central European Time (CET)** to **subgrants@gca.org** and cc'd to **Oluwabunmi.Ajilore@gca.org**.
- Proposals **must include**:
 - **Annex 1**: Sub-Grant Project Document (proposal template) addressing the details outlined in this call.
 - **Annex 2**: Completed Partner Information Document & minimum required documents.
 - **Annex 2a**: Budget and Financial Report Template.
- **Important to note**:
 - All registered non-profit organizations are encouraged to respond to this call and complete the templates in as much detail as possible.
 - Responses to **Annex 1** will be considered even if there is a lack of detail or if the form is incomplete.
 - Responses to **Annex 2** will be considered even if some details are lacking, if justified.
 - The template serves as a tool for interested organizations to showcase their technical expertise and experience in response to the call.
 - Organizations need only meet the minimum eligibility criteria to be considered.
- Proposals received **after the closing** date and time **will not be considered**. Organizations will be notified once a decision about the Sub-Grant is made.
- For all questions or requests for additional information contact **FoodsecurityTeam@gca.org**. The email subject heading should be clearly marked with the following information: **Call for Partnership – AfDB Nigeria SAPZ II Project**.



- If an interested organization has concerns about completing the templates, please reach out.
- Proposals and all supporting documents must be drafted **in English**.
- GCA reserves the right to decline disclosure of the specificity of decision derived by GCA mission due to reasons related to confidentiality.
- GCA reserves the right to accept or reject any submissions, and to annul the selection process and reject all submissions at any time, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected implementing partners.

5.2. Process Overview

- After the deadline, all submissions will undergo an evaluation process.
- The most suitable partner will be selected based on the evaluation outcomes.
- The selected partner will be contacted to conduct a due diligence assessment through in-depth meetings.

6. Selection Criteria & Evaluation

The evaluation's purpose is to assess the organization's eligibility, and the technical expertise of respondents. The evaluation consists of two sets of selection criteria:

- (1) **Minimum Eligibility Criteria**
- (2) **Technical Expertise**

The first section specifies the minimum eligibility criteria that an organization must meet to qualify for the call. This set of criteria is evaluated on a pass/fail basis. Only organizations that pass this initial assessment will proceed to the next stage.

The technical expertise is evaluated based on the relevance and depth of experience and expertise in relation to the criteria outlined in the call, specifically how well these align with achieving the expected results.

6.1. Selection Criteria

Name	Description	Score
EC	Minimum Eligibility Criteria	Pass/Fail
EC1	Evidence of registered not-for-profit entity status with a legal presence and registration in the project country.	
EC2	Experience in the following: Agricultural research and development, climate adaptation, climate resilient foundation seed breeding and dissemination, seeds value chain development, digital agriculture and digitalization integration agrifood value chains, soil health and fertility research/mapping, and capacity building for climate resilient seeds system development.	
EC3	Experience in work in locations of interest to GCA (i.e., Africa, South Asia, Small Island Developing States).	
EC4	Established working presence in project country – Nigeria.	



EC5	Demonstration of experience of at least ten (10) years in implementation of similar projects and activities in Nigeria.	
TC	Technical Expertise Relevance of experience and expertise to achieve expected outcomes and outputs.	Max Score: 100
TC1	<p>Relevance of organizational profile and experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous experience (at least 10 years) developing/breeding and disseminating climate resilient foundation seeds; conducting soil health and fertility research/mapping; and leading digitalization of agricultural research and food systems in Nigeria. • Experience working in the locations of interest of the project (i.e. Nigeria) • Organizational capacity to design and implement capacity building for seed companies (breeders and producers), extension officers, and farmers in producing and disseminating climate resilient foundation seeds. 	30
TC2	<p>Relevance of methodology and approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of innovation, suitability, clarity, structure and sequencing of the proposed methodology in achieving project objectives (outputs and outcomes). • Previous experience applying approach/methodology in similar projects to achieve related outputs/outcome. 	20
TC3	<p>Relevance of proposed activities to achieving expected outcome and outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of detail, clarity and relevance of the proposed activities and work plan to achieve outcome and outputs. • Demonstration of a thorough understanding of the outcome and outputs—and the key tasks and activities required to achieve them. • Demonstrated ability to manage all logistical aspects of the capacity building and training events effectively. • Included description of potential capacity building/training modules. • Demonstrated capacity/organizational credibility to convene all relevant stakeholders for capacity workshops and engagements. Experience of working and in convening relevant stakeholders on the ground must be shown. 	30
TC4	<p>Relevance of institutional and project team expertise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 7 years both of institutional, and project team, experience in the areas of expertise listed in TC1, and the specific projects outcome and outputs (section 3.1.) 	15
TC5	<p>Alignment with GCA values and experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alignment to GCA values & commitments • Experience with partnerships engagement 	5
	<p><i>Scoring for Criteria is based on maximum points. Grading for each criterion under technical expertise will be conducted using the following scale:_ 0 = not included, 2 = scarcely included, 4 insufficient, 6 good enough, 8 good, 10 excellent to above expectations</i></p>	



6.2. Exclusionary Criteria

GCA will not engage with any entity whose public image is severely compromised by past activity or advocacy in one of the categories below, or in other areas which may be deemed, at any given time, to reflect negatively on GCA.

Name	Description	Score
EXC	Exclusionary Criteria	Pass/Fail
EXC1	Systematic failure to demonstrate support of the core values of GCA and its commitment to climate action and adaptation.	
EXC2	The organization is not involved in illicit behavior, including organized crime, trafficking, corruption, terrorism or violations of internationally agreed sanctions.	

6.3. Evaluation

After assessing whether organizations meet the minimum eligibility criteria, the organization with the highest score in the technical evaluation **will be considered** for the sub-grant. The scoring allows GCA to identify the most suitable partner.

A preliminary capacity assessment will be conducted based on the information provided in **Annex 2**. This assessment aims to identify organizational and programmatic risks and **will not impact** the evaluation scoring or partner selection.

The insights gained from this assessment **will inform the comprehensive due diligence assessment that the selected partner will undergo.**



Annexes

Annex 1: Sub-Grant Project Document

To be downloaded from website

Annex 2: Partner Information Document

To be downloaded from website

Annex 2a: Budget & Financial Reporting Template

To be downloaded from website