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Call for Partnership (CFP) for Technical Support for Climate Adaptation in the World Bank Transforming Agri-Food Systems in Morocco Program

GCA Food Security Program

CFP Ref.: CFP-0025

CLOSING DATE: 18 July 2025

CLOSING TIME: NOT LATER THAN 16:00:00 hours (04:00:00 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 climate adaptation in the Transforming Agri-Food Systems in Morocco Program (hereinafter referred to as the Program), an investment by the World Bank and the Government of Morocco. The technical assistance will be centered around comprehensive climate risk and vulnerability assessment in the project areas and targeted value chains, and development of business and partnership models to sustainably incentivize uptake of climate-resilient seeds by farmers.

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, and is soon opening its second headquarters in Nairobi.

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 World Bank-funded Transforming Agri-Food Systems in Morocco Program is a 5-year, US\$ 250 million investment that aims to increase the agri-food system's resilience to climate change and strengthen food safety and quality. The Program will support the implementation of the second period (2025-2030) of Morocco’s Green Generation Strategy 2020-2030 (GGS) by improving climate resilience and risk management in rainfed agriculture, and strengthening food safety, food quality and nutrition security. It is expected to benefit over 120,000 farmers (including 30,000 youths and 8,000 women), over 1,200 SMEs and indirectly benefit over 750,000 consumers. Priority value chains include cereals, legumes, fruits and vegetables (particularly olives).

The Program is structured as a Program-for-Results (PforR) with 5 Disbursement-Linked Indicators (DLIs) clustered under 3 Result Areas, whereby attainment of the targets specified under each DLI triggers a payout from the World Bank to the Government of Morocco. More information about the Program is available [here](#).

3. Sub-Grant Project

This sub-grant project aims at strengthening climate resilience of targeted value chains and communities of the World Bank-funded Program. As such, GCA is seeking a partner organization to provide technical assistance to support strengthening of climate adaptation in the Program's implementation particularly in activities upstream the targeted value chains. GCA's support will encompass two main activities:

- (1) Climate risk and vulnerability assessment focusing on cereals, legumes and olive value chains.** This activity aims to provide context-specific information on climate hazards, exposure, adaptive capacity and impact, which will contribute to developing adaptation pathways that can be implemented by the Program, particularly in the context of agricultural insurance reforms and climate-resilient seeds that are a key part of the Program.

The outputs of this activity are expected to support Result Area 1 of the Program (Improved climate resilience and risk management in rainfed agriculture). It is expected to facilitate identification of climatic triggers that can be used in the design of parametric insurance under the new Program for Climate Resilience and Adaptation (PCRA). It is also expected to be used by the Moroccan Agricultural Mutual Insurance Company (MAMDA), an implementing partner of the Program, in the reforms of the current insurance products to make them more viable.

- (2) Development of business and partnership models to sustainably incentivize uptake of climate-resilient seeds by farmers.** The aim of this activity is to take stock, identify gaps and propose actionable recommendations/investments to strengthen the resilience of the seed systems for sustainable production and marketing and accessibility by smallholders. It will focus on seed market systems for climate-resilient varieties of cereals, legumes, olives and horticultural production.

The outputs of this activity will also support Result Area 1 of the Program by supporting the Ministry of Agriculture (MAPMDREF) and the National Seed Commercialization Company (SONACOS) to develop strategies leveraging the Program that sustainably scale up uptake of climate-resilient seed varieties whose production is expected to be ramped up by the National Agronomic Research Institute (INRA) through this Program. The goal is to ensure that the seed varieties are not just released by INRA but ultimately get to the farmers that need them in a scalable and sustainable manner (e.g. informing the implementation of the envisaged new seed subsidy program) while also stimulating systemic improvements in the country's seed systems.

3.1. Project Outcomes & Outputs

The expected outcome of GCA's technical assistance is the integration of climate adaptation solutions and innovative approaches in the implementation of the Program to strengthen resilience of targeted communities and value chains. This is aligned with Result Area 1 of the Program (Improved climate resilience and risk management in rainfed agriculture).

Outcome	Improved climate resilience and risk management in rainfed agriculture.
Output 1	<i>Up-to-date and context-specific data and insights are used inform the design of the parametric insurance under the new Program for Climate Resilience and Adaptation (PCRA) and in the envisaged reforms of the current insurance products.</i>
Output 1.1	A climate Risk and vulnerability report inclusive of an adaptation plan and impact pathways
Output2	<i>Improvement in strategies and approaches to sustainably scale up uptake of climate-resilient seed varieties by smallholder farmers in the targeted communities and value chains</i>
Output 2.1	A report documenting the evaluation of the seed market systems and recommendations facilitating scaling of climate-resilient seed varieties

The Sub-grant project is expected to be completed no later than **9 calendar months** from the commencement date, which is estimated to be 1 August 2025.

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., INGOs, NGOs, CBOs, universities, or companies limited by guarantee) are eligible to receive a sub-grant from GCA. However, non-profit organizations may apply either individually or as part of a consortium. In such cases, the consortium may include international and Moroccan

specialists, or private sector entities. Regardless of the consortium composition, GCA will enter into a sub-grant agreement only with the registered non-profit organization, which will serve as the lead entity.

- 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 than later than **18 July 2025, 04:00 p.m. Central European Time (CET)** to subgrants@gca.org and cc'd to Kimwaga.Mhando@gca.org.
- Proposals **must include**:
 - **Annex 1**: 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 – World Bank Transforming Agri-Food Systems in Morocco Program**.
 - 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 Morocco OR Evidence of a strong consortium led by a registered not-for-profit organization, and including international and/or Moroccan partners, or partners with a demonstrated track record of working in Morocco.	
EC2	Demonstration of experience of at least ten (10) years in implementation of similar tasks and projects.	
EC3	Local presence in Morocco (implementing staff based in the country).	
TC	Technical Expertise Relevance of experience and expertise to achieve expected outcomes and outputs.	Max Score: 100
TC1	Relevance of organizational profile and experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous experience (at least 7 years) working on climate adaptation in the agricultural sector, seed systems, agronomic services, extension services or similar undertakings in Morocco. • Experience in implementing and managing development projects of at least EUR 250,000 and above funded by development partners. • Experience working with government projects and programs. • Experience with working directly with farmers and seed system actors. 	20

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience partnering with local and international research organizations to pilot or scale up various innovations in the agricultural sector. 	
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 in similar projects to achieve related outputs/outcomes. 	30
TC3	<p>Relevance of proposed activities to achieving expected outcomes and outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level of detail, clarity and relevance of the proposed activities and work plan to achieve outcomes and outputs. Demonstration of a thorough understanding of the outcomes and outputs—and the key tasks and activities required to achieve them. Presentation of a clear workplan that demonstrates attainment of the desired outputs within the stipulated time-frames. Demonstrated ability to effectively manage all logistical aspects of the activities. 	20
TC4	<p>Relevance of institutional and project team expertise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 7 years of both institutional and project team experience in the areas of expertise listed in TC1, and the specific projects outcomes and outputs (section 3.1.) 	20
TC5	<p>Alignment with GCA values and experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment to GCA values & commitments Experience with partnerships engagement 	10
	<p>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</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.	
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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