



Investing in Resilient Food Systems

The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program Brief

**GAFSP:
Agile,
Efficient,
Impactful**

About Us

The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) is a multilateral financing platform dedicated to improving food and nutrition security worldwide. Launched by the G20 in the wake of the 2007–08 food price crisis, GAFSP works to build sustainable and resilient agriculture and food systems in the world's poorest and most vulnerable countries. Since its inception in 2010, the Program has mobilized more than US\$2 billion in donor funds to reach more than 16.6 million people. GAFSP provides financial and technical resources—investment grants, technical assistance, concessional finance, and advisory services—to demand-driven projects along the food chain, from farm to table.

The compounding crises disrupting food systems demand action: we must scale up investments that improve the resilience of food systems in the world's poorest and most vulnerable countries. This requires stronger global coordination between international financial institutions and other development partners to channel and tailor support for investments where they are most needed.

It means prioritizing high-quality investments that can be more effective and catalytic in reversing the downward trend in reaching the Sustainable Development Goals' "Zero Hunger" (SDG 2) and "No Poverty" (SDG 1) targets given countries' levels of preparedness and readiness.

It requires stronger partnerships between governments, the private sector, and civil society organizations, governed by clear accountability frameworks. Each of these features is built into the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP): a multilateral financing platform for enabling a targeted and efficient use of donor resources towards greater impacts.

GAFSP financing aligns with country needs. GAFSP works at the country level, coordinating closely with other development programs on the basis of country strategies and plans. With GAFSP funding, public and private sector partners in low-income countries choose the development agencies they wish to work with and their own areas of focus. GAFSP empowers partners to respond quickly and effectively to farmers' needs on the ground.

GAFSP supports the poorest and most vulnerable groups. A growing share of GAFSP's portfolio (40%) is implemented in fragile and conflict-affected states. Smallholder farmers, micro-, medium-, and small enterprises, and rural communities are the backbone of food systems in these countries. Experiencing firsthand the negative and often tragic impacts of emerging crises and climate change on food supplies, livelihoods, and hunger, these stakeholders can chart the best paths forward to bolster resilience to future crises.

GAFSP is a lever for accelerating the transformation of food systems at scale. By channeling GAFSP grants and concessional financing through multilateral development banks and UN agencies, the Program enables its partners to pilot innovative approaches and help finance high-risk and high-impact investments. These investments can accelerate the transition towards more resilient food systems in the medium- and long-term and ease the burden placed on future humanitarian crisis responses.

Building Climate Resilience

Strengthening Nutrition Security

Empowering women farmers

Since 2019, all of GAFSP's public sector projects have delivered climate co-benefits, with project funds dedicated to climate adaptation or mitigation activities such as access to resilient seed varieties, more efficient irrigation, and sustainable farming practices.

GAFSP seeks to build resilient food systems that deliver safe, affordable, and healthy food in a sustainable way. Thanks to GAFSP, 5 million+ people have better access to healthy foods and diverse diets. Nutrition-related activities are included in 77% of GAFSP's public sector projects.

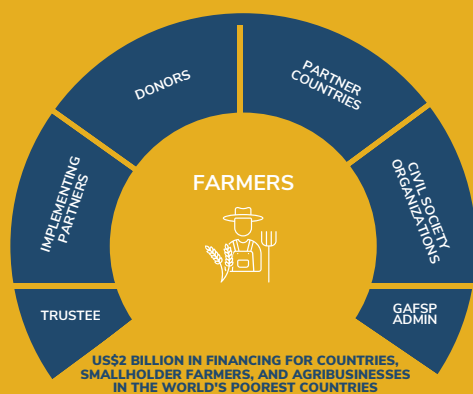
GAFSP works to strengthen women's resilience to crises. GAFSP projects have provided agricultural support to close to 7 million women—41 percent of all people reached. 87% of GAFSP public sector projects provide support for activities dedicated to closing gender gaps.

GAFSP Operational Model



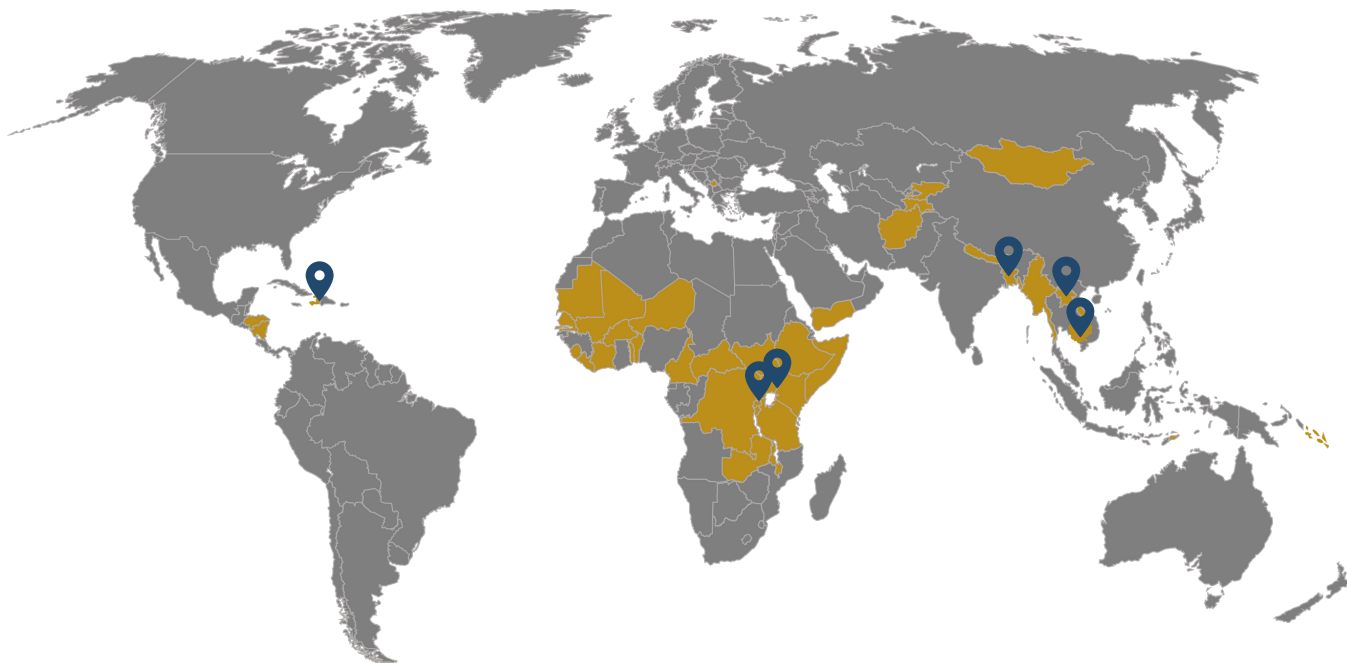
Inclusive Governance

The GAFSP Steering Committee is comprised of donors, partner countries, multilateral development banks, UN agencies, and civil society organizations. This unique forum gives key stakeholders a seat at the table to jointly make decisions, by consensus, about projects and the Program's direction. A Technical Advisory Committee composed of independent experts supports the GAFSP Steering Committee's decision-making by reviewing the technical quality of project proposals and providing funding recommendations.



GAFSP Projects Around the World

GAFSP's \$2.1 billion portfolio includes 96 country- and farmer-led projects and 106 private-sector projects in 41 countries. These projects build resilience, empower women, and strengthen food and nutrition security. To date, over 60% of GAFSP funds have been directed to projects across Africa, approximately 25% to projects across South and East Asia, and 10% to projects across Latin America and the Caribbean.



BANGLADESH

Decentralized demonstration activities supported by GAFSP in villages in Bangladesh (IFC Mahyco International) doubled the speed of the adoption of saline-flood resilient seeds. The lessons were transferred to Rwanda as part of a seed minikit program to introduce new seeds varieties to farmers.

HAITI

The Technological Innovation for Agroforestry and Agriculture Program (IDB) is increasing the agricultural productivity and food security of smallholder farmers through the adoption of sustainable technologies. The project has benefitted almost 40,000 farmers.

RWANDA

Lessons learned during the first phase of the Land Husbandry, Water Harvesting, and Hillside Irrigation Project (World Bank) in Rwanda found that land market failures limited the adoption of hillside irrigation systems—despite a 70% increase in net revenue for adopting farmers.

CAMBODIA

The Climate Resilience Rice Commercialization Sector Development Program (ADB) has helped increase smallholder farmers' access to finance, equipment, and infrastructure that improves rice seed quality, yields, post-harvest technology, and export potential.

LAO PDR

The Lao Agriculture for Nutrition Project (IFAD) estimates that project households experienced an increase of 92% in nominal on-farm income, in particular through sales of produce and increased assets in the form of livestock.

UGANDA

The Multisectoral Food Security and Nutrition Project (UMFSNP; World Bank) has empowered over 1.5 million people and contributed to the reduction of stunted growth in young children, while also increasing the production and consumption of micronutrient-rich foods.



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