

Global Agriculture and Food Security Program

Washington D.C, May 20, 2010

Dear Colleagues:

Call for Proposals

Following commitments by the G8 leaders at the L'Aquila Summit in July 2009 and reaffirmed by the G20 Summit in Pittsburgh in September 2009, a Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) Trust Fund has recently been established with funds provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Canada, the Republic of Korea, Spain and the United States as the initial donors. These resources will be used to help finance the scale-up of agriculture assistance to low income countries in a way that helps consolidate other forms of support received. In so doing, GAFSP will seek to make catalytic investments that raise agricultural productivity, improve rural incomes and strengthen food security. The general scope of the program is detailed in a Framework Document for the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (see enclosed *Framework Document for a Global Agriculture and Food Security Program*).

Currently available resources in the GAFSP Trust Fund for 2010 are approximately \$350 million, to be allocated to 7 to 10 proposals. More resources are likely to be available for 2011.

All IDA-only countries that are not in non-accrual status are eligible to submit proposals. As not all proposals can be financed with the limited resources available, selection will be based on an assessment of need, policy environment, and readiness (see enclosed *Country Guidelines for Public Sector Window Proposals*).

The Steering Committee will make financing allocations of the \$350 million in both June and October 2010. Proposals will need to be submitted by **June 14, 2010** to the GAFSP Coordination Unit via email at GAFSPCoord@worldbank.org to be considered for the June allocations, and by **October 1, 2010** to be considered for the October allocations.

The Steering Committee would like to inform eligible low income countries, through the country offices of the World Bank, the other Multilateral Development Banks, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, of the program and invite submissions by eligible governments following the above mentioned guidelines.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact the GAFSP Coordination Unit (GAFSPCoord@worldbank.org).

We look forward to receiving country proposals for consideration by the GAFSP Steering Committee.

Sincerely,



Roger Ehrhardt
Chair of the GAFSP Steering Committee