



## Call for Expressions of Interest – Innovative agriculture – first appraisal of submissions received

Adopted on 25 June 2021 at EB 18

**EB.2021.13**

Considering:

- The CAFI Declaration and the persisting challenge of forest loss and food security in the region and existing cooperation frameworks with CAFI partner countries (including Letters of Intent, preparatory grants and feasibility studies)
- [Decision EB.2021.03](#) on the launch of the call for Expressions of Interest (EoI) on Innovative Agriculture
- The [terms of reference](#) of the EoI, especially :
  - that the purpose of the EoI is to identify a portfolio of innovative operational projects and the Board may approve several bids at different moments in time
  - that the assessment is based on the following criteria: “Proven experience and results in supporting farmers”, “Agency capabilities” and “Implementation approach”
  - the two dates for the receipt of expression of interests: (i) 31 May 2021 for a first selection of proposals to be developed in priority and (ii) 31 July 2021 for a second selection of proposals taking into consideration first submissions received ; and
  - the priority given to Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Congo
- The reception of ten expressions of Interest from One Acre Fund (1), the Food and Agriculture Organization - FAO (5), Farm Africa (1), the UNDP (1), the CIFOR (1) and IIED (1) by 30 May 2021.
- CAFI’s revised [Terms of Reference](#) and [Manual of Operations](#), endorsed by [Decision EB.2021.01](#),

establishing that eligibility of International non-governmental organizations - other than UN organizations, the World Bank and International Cooperation Agencies - will have to be confirmed following an Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) Assessment.

- The process associated with the Expression of Interest on Innovative Agriculture, that requires selected agencies to develop and submit technical and financial proposal to access the preparatory grants.

The CAFI Executive Board (EB):

- 1) Recalls that, according to the terms of reference of the Eol, the EB may approve several bids. Therefore, submissions that are not concerned by this decision are not disqualified and will be examined and presented to the EB after the final close of the call (31 July 2021);
- 2) Acknowledges that the proposals by One Acre Fund and that Farm Africa have received a positive assessment based on the evaluation criteria of the Eol:
  - a) “Proven experience and results in supporting farmers”: One Acre Fund and Farm Africa have demonstrated experiences and concrete results in supporting farmers in Central Africa using the models described in their implementation approach
  - b) “Agency capabilities”: the agencies demonstrated that they have internal technical and financial capacities to undertake projects as described in their expression of interest
  - c) “Implementation approach”: Specifics models and approaches to be used to reach desired outcomes are relevant and have demonstrated results in other similar contexts. Moreover, organizations demonstrated that technical and financial proposals are in an advanced stage by providing a budget and detailed work plan.
- 3) Asks One Acre Fund and Farm Africa to develop and submit to CAFI a technical and financial proposal each no later than 30 August 2021
- 4) Request that the technical and financial proposals follow CAFI Feasibility Grants & CAFI budget program document templates and includes the resumes of keys experts
- 5) Asks the agencies and CAFI Secretariat to collaborate on the elaboration of technical and financial proposals
- 6) Asks the CAFI Secretariat to proceed with the HACT assessment to confirm One Acre Fund and Farm Africa’s eligibility to access CAFI fund in accordance with CAFI revised Terms of Reference and Manual of Operations endorsed by [Decision EB.2021.01](#)
- 7) Asks the CAFI Secretariat to engage with CAFI country partners to confirm their interest and participation to the selected programs before grant appraisal by the CAFI Executive Board.