

## GAFSP: Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme

### Context:

GAFSP is a global initiative which was started in 2009 by the G8 and G20, in response to the global food price crisis, to improve incomes and food security of poor people in the poorest countries and maximise the contribution of public and private sector investments into agriculture. It is delivered through the key agriculture multilaterals and development banks (IFAD, World Bank etc).

GAFSP has recently embarked on a reform process to articulate its contribution to Agenda 2030, and to maximise impact of its public and private investments through its governance model. DFID has opted to be a leader in the reform process.

### Outcomes and Results until 2017 Annual Review:

Over 8.6 million people (over 1/3 female) have directly benefitted from support through Public Sector Window projects, and the programme is on target to reach 16 million beneficiaries. On average, a 22% income gain is reported for GAFSP projects that have conducted experimental impact evaluations.

- Over **one-third** of the total GAFSP portfolio generates **climate adaptation** and/or **mitigation benefits**, compared to a 25% commitment under IDA-17.
- \$158M across 21 countries is invested in nutrition-sensitive and nutrition specific interventions.
- 38% of funds have been allocated to 8 **fragile or conflicted-affected states**, including a new project active in Yemen.

The private sector window has 39 active investments with 75% in Africa. These investments have reached almost 1m smallholders so far. Since its inception in 2013 for every dollar that GAFSP invested into the project it attracted on average US\$5.2 from DFI and private investment (including US\$1.7 from IFC).

Internal benchmarking has shown GAFSP to be an efficient tool, disbursing funds faster on average than its implementing agencies' standard programmes (average of 24 months vs. 28 months) and with lower average administrative overheads (<5% fees vs a range from 5-13%).

### Key Facts:

- **Budget:** £136m DFID, US\$ 1.5bn total to date
- **Timeline:** DFID - 5-year programme 2012-2018, with an extension underway  
In 2017, GAFSP was globally extended to 2030.
- **Focus Countries:** 39 countries so far, over 60% funds invested in African countries
- **Donors:** 11 donors, UK third-largest after US and Canada

### Programme Objectives:

GAFSP aims to improve the income and food security of poor people in developing countries through more and better public and private sector investment in the agriculture and rural sectors that is country-owned and led. By pooling resources and prioritizing projects it can mobilise financing efficiently and with relatively low overheads compared to similar funds. In doing so, GAFSP contributes to SDG 2 (ending hunger) as well as other SDGs.

Its purpose has been to help fill significant gaps left by bilateral and multilateral programmes, and private investments, and target hard to reach farmers in countries with high poverty and vulnerability. It achieves this through:

1. **Longer term grant financing to governments of the poorest countries** to fill critical gaps in their national agriculture strategies. The World Bank and specialist supervising entities in the multilateral system oversee the programmes and ensure best practice implementation and strong financial management.
2. **Financial products to farmers and direct investment to private sector agribusinesses** through the private sector arm of the World Bank Group, the International Finance Corporation (IFC). In addition, specialised advisory services to investee companies help deliver strong development impacts. The focus of these investments is on smallholder supply chains.
3. **Grants to farmer organisations** to increase their productivity or innovate. These grants are also supervised by one of the existing UN agencies or development banks.