



# *Call for proposals*

## 2010

### **Promoting family farming in Western Africa**

**Program supported by  
Fondation de France in partnership  
with Comité français pour  
la solidarité internationale (CFSI)**

Deadline:  
• 7 April 2010

# Background

With poverty and malnutrition on the increase in rural Western Africa, many people are calling for the development of family farming. At a time when malnutrition is affecting more than one billion people worldwide and is gaining ground in Western Africa, support for viable and sustainable family farming is absolutely vital.

Malnutrition is not only a breach of human rights but an offence to human dignity. Sub-Saharan Africa, where one person in three goes hungry, is one of the world's worst-hit regions.

One of the causes is large-scale importation of food to feed urban populations cheaply. Food-producing agriculture has been hard hit by this external competition and consequently neglected, leading to a sharp fall in farmers' incomes and chronic food shortages in rural areas. The investments required to develop agriculture have fallen and research has turned to other sectors.

Malnutrition spread to poor urban families in late 2007 following sudden, sharp increases in the price of imported agricultural produce. To reduce hunger, the focus must now shift back to locally grown food as a top priority.

Furthermore, agriculture needs to face up to environmental issues by adapting to climate change, husbanding natural resources and preserving biodiversity.

Western African farmers and their organisations have a three-fold challenge to take up with their partner associations: reduce malnutrition, ensure a decent income for farmers and address the need for sustainable management of natural resources.

To help them, Fondation de France and Comité Français pour la Solidarité Internationale joined forces in 2009 to launch a new programme for bolstering family farming in sub-Saharan Africa. In 2010 this programme will refocus on Western Africa.

# Objectives

The main aim is to **promote local initiatives for developing viable and sustainable agriculture in Africa and share the benefits on a wider scale.**

The specific objectives are to:

**1.** Improve and safeguard the production, processing, preservation and marketing of farm produce and take concrete

action so that poor urban consumers have access to this food;

**2.** Share the knowledge acquired from these practices among local actors, and even at national and international level;

**3.** Adopt an environmentally responsible approach, taking issues such as biodiversity and climate change into account.

## Which areas of focus?

The programme to promote family farming in sub-Saharan Africa will provide financial support for two types of action project:

■ local projects to:

- Improve and diversify family farming and the processing and marketing of family farmed produce, notably by training or by developing services to farmers,

- Manage natural resources in a sustainable manner, in connection with family farms,

- Strengthen local farming organisations;

■ projects geared to networking, exchanges and assistance with intra-sector dialogue.

**Important:** projects aimed solely at purchasing equipment or inputs cannot be financed under this programme.

## Who is this call for proposals aimed at?

- Farming organisations in Western Africa;

- NGOs providing support in Western Africa or in France;

- organisational or individual networks (in Western Africa and France) working on a shared project or approach to promote family farming in Western Africa.

**Important:** this call for proposals is reserved for **formal partnership-based** actions between African and French organisations. The organisation putting forward the project can be either African or French.

# Selection criteria

The selection committee will evaluate projects according to seven criteria.

## **Four quality criteria:**

- the quality of the project, its relevance and its impact on family farming or on food access in towns and cities;
- the feasibility of the project's budget/ planning match, and coherence between the planned activities and expected outcomes;
- budget/financing consistency;
- measures to sustain the action over time.

## **Three innovation criteria:**

- the innovative nature of the action on a local scale with regard to climate change and preservation of natural resources and biodiversity, or of its marketing methods and actions targeting rural employment and the creation of economic activity;
- the innovative nature of the action for ensuring that citizens are organised in terms of local governance and economic subsectors;
- the innovative nature of the action with regard to skills partnerships at local and international levels.

# How long will the action last and how much assistance is available?

To encourage applicants to develop diversified partnerships, notably at local level, Fondation de France never funds an entire project (maximum 80%). The applicant's financing plans must therefore give details of other financial partners that have been approached or have already granted financing, as well as the self-financed portion.

## **We will support two types of project:**

- short (one year), for a total of between €10,000 and €15,000;

- longer term (maximum three years), for a maximum of €50,000 over the entire period (paid in annual instalments according to the advancement of the project).

We finance projects that are already underway or specific segments of much larger projects whether existing or new ones.

# How to apply?

Please download the applications for grants (Word and Excel files) from one of the following websites:

**[www.fondationdefrance.org](http://www.fondationdefrance.org)**

(under "Nos aides", in French only), or

**[www.cfsi.asso.fr](http://www.cfsi.asso.fr)**

(under "Actualités", in French only)

The application form must be completed in French or in English and sent **by email** **only** to the following address:

**[secr.aeaf@cfsi.asso.fr](mailto:secr.aeaf@cfsi.asso.fr)**

[Word file, together with an Excel file for the project budget, maximum of 4 Mb]

The deadline for email applications is **Wednesday 7 April 2010**

The applications will be examined by the programme's secretariat, managed by CFSI.

A jury will draw up a shortlist before the end of April. Applicants will be informed of the results by email in early May.

Shortlisted applicants will have ten days to complete their application form by sending scanned copies of all administrative documents such as articles of association, the latest annual report and balance sheet, the minutes of the Annual General Meeting, the list of board members and bank account details.

The final selection will be made in July 2010 and applicants will be informed of the results by email in the course of the month.

Any questions concerning this call for proposals may be sent by email to the following address **[secr.aeaf@cfsi.asso.fr](mailto:secr.aeaf@cfsi.asso.fr)**

## **Programme managers:**

Martin Spitz (Fondation de France)

and Anne-Françoise Taisne (CFSI)



32 rue le Peletier - 75009 Paris

Tél. + 33 (0)1 44 83 88 50

**[www.cfsi.asso.fr](http://www.cfsi.asso.fr)**



40 avenue Hoche - 75008 PARIS

Tél. + 33 (0)1 44 21 31 00

**[www.fondationdefrance.org](http://www.fondationdefrance.org)**