

Expression of Interest to co-invest with the Climate Smart Agriculture East Africa (CSA-EA) Project

Background

Agricultural systems worldwide are facing a triple challenge: how to sustainably increase productivity, while reducing the impact of agriculture on climate change, and increasing resilience of agricultural and food value chains.

The Climate Smart Agriculture East Africa (CSA-EA) project is a five year project funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and implemented by SNV in partnership with Wageningen University and Research, CGIAR's Climate Change Agriculture and Food Security Programme (CCAFS), Agriterra, and Rabo Partnerships. The project uses an inclusive business development approach to climate smart agriculture for arable crops in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

The overall CSA-EA project goal is to increase the availability of accessible climate smart food for the growing population in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The emphasis of project implementation will be on the adoption of climate smart practices and technologies among smallholder farmers and agro-enterprises; increasing the investments and business growth in climate smart value chains, and creating the enabling environment necessary to ensure large-scale roll out of market driven climate smart solutions for the agriculture sector. The project aims to transform, reorient and climate proof agricultural systems and businesses to the new realities of climate change in a select number of value chains

Specific Project Objectives

1. Adoption of climate smart practices and technologies amongst 300,000 farmers
2. Development of inclusive business cases for 50 agri-business SME's and 30 cooperatives.
3. Climate resilient sustainable food production practiced on 600,000 hectares.

The project is hinged on three key pillars of climate smart agriculture:

- Productivity: sustainably increase agricultural productivity and incomes;
- Adaptation: reduce the exposure of farmers and agri-businesses to short-term risks, while also strengthening their resilience by building capacity to adapt and prosper in the face of climatic shocks;
- Mitigation: reduce greenhouse gases emissions, increase water and energy efficiencies.

SNV is inviting expressions of interest targeting private sector led agribusinesses to co-invest in the implementation of climate change adaptation, productivity improvements and inclusive business models that demonstrate deliberate efforts to engage youth and women among the targeted farmers in the promotion of climate smart agriculture.

The CSA-EA project implements a value chain development approach. Targeted value chains are: oil seeds, pulses, cereals and potatoes, across Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania.

To mobilize private sector co-investments and promote climate smart solutions and innovations for and by different actors along targeted value chains, the project utilizes its climate Innovation and Investment Facility (CIIF) as an instrument to co-invest with small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and Cooperatives, as well as with financiers in the region to meet its goal and create sustained impact.

Potential applicants are free to propose co-investment in innovative and scalable climate smart solutions that could help unlock key bottlenecks along the selected value chain/s. This call further targets initiatives that are aligned to the Netherlands Government policies contributing to increased sustainable food production systems.

Investment Level

Due to the wide range of innovations eligible for funding, the maximum budget size of a project proposal to be co-financed under the Innovation and investment Facility will be negotiated on a case by case basis. The project's Innovation and investment facility shall support selected SMEs and cooperatives with a maximum co-investment of 50% of the required funds for the activity or €200,000, whichever is lower, in the proposed climate smart solutions.



Duration of the investment activity; 6 months – 3 years

Duration of the proposed project intervention shall depend on the nature of the intervention. SNV envisages investment interventions that may be implemented within 3 years from the publication of this call, with a completion date not exceeding December 2022, to allow for monitoring and evaluation before the expiry of this project.

General Eligibility criteria

Businesses soliciting co-investment support under the CSA –EA project should be:

- Legally registered small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and Cooperatives
- Demonstrated sound operational track record of at least two years however start-ups with a convincing business case can also be considered
- Eligible organizations should be based in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania.
- Target value chains are oil seeds, pulses, cereals and potato
- Concept Notes address the arrangements and issues as presented in this Call.
- Ability to invest in products and or services that enhance resilience in agricultural production
- Ability to address vulnerability of the value chain/s to impacts of climate change
- Potential for employment/new job creation for the youth and women
- Potential for innovative CSA practices and technologies

The above criteria are minimum criteria and will be pre-screened upon submission to the CSA-EA project's Secretariat. Non-compliance to any of the above criteria could lead to rejection of the application.

Further, the criteria for application acceptance, review and selection will be guided by the following attributes:

- ✓ Outcomes
- ✓ Evidence
- ✓ Learning
- ✓ Sustainability
- ✓ Scalability
- ✓ Replicability
- ✓ Cost-effectiveness (viable business opportunity)
- ✓ Strong commitment to and benefit for women and youth

Evaluation process

The Expression of Interest (EoI) shall be developed in accordance with the format as provided on the SNV website. Selected applicants will be invited to develop a full business case/ proposal.

Submitting EoI

Please download the application form from

http://www.snv.org/public/cms/sites/default/files/explore/download/csa-ea-eoi-fillable_application-form.pdf

All documents need to be addressed to SNV at csaea-grants@snv.org. SNV will receive filled forms on a rolling basis up to **May 31, 2019 at 5:00 pm**. Submission package should include:

- A scanned cover letter signed by the legal representative of the organization
- The EoI, in line with the given format
- A scanned copy of the organization's registration certificate

Feedback on application

Final approval for applications is at the discretion and responsibility of SNV. Decisions of SNV are final and binding and not open for appeal. Applications shall not include the cost of developing or submitting applications. Written feedback for acceptance/rejection of an application will be communicated to the applicant.