



CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2024

National Committees of Family Farming Challenge Fund

*Deadline for the submission of applications: June 14, 2024 at 6:00 pm
(local time in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain)*

I. Background

On 20 December 2017, the UN General Assembly declared 2019 – 2028 as the **United Nations Decade of Family Farming (UNDF)**, recognizing the enormous contribution of Family Farming (FF) to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The UNDF places family farmers at the centre of food systems, ensuring food security, improving livelihoods, better managing natural resources, protecting the environment, maintaining culture and achieving inclusive and sustainable development (UN Resolution A/RES/72/239).

In a situation of complex and interconnected challenges in the context of the climate, food and environmental crises, the UNDF 2019-2028 offers a solid and coherent framework for dialogue for governments, their partners and key stakeholders such as farmers' organisations (FOs) and National Committees of Family Farming (NCCFs), enabling them to develop, improve and implement public policies and investments in favour of family farming and thereby contribute to achieving the SDGs. Thanks to the policy dialogue and multi-actor collaboration it generates, the UNDF is a powerful tool to scale up the vital role of family farming as a driver for the transformation towards sustainable, inclusive and resilient food systems.

The [UNDF Global Action Plan \(GAP\)](#) foresees the **development of National Action Plans (NAP) and other policies in support to Family Farming by governments in dialogue with Family Farmers' organizations (FOs) the National Committees of Family Farming (NCCFs) and other key partners.**

The National Committees for Family Farming (NCCFs) are multistakeholder policy dialogue platforms (such a platform comprises Farmers' organizations, rural development associations, research centers, public institutions, and international and cooperation

organizations, among others), aim to promote sound and proactive policies in support of family farming.

Based on the longstanding relation of collaboration and support to the NCCFs, the [World Rural Forum \(WRF\)](#) launches the 5th edition of the **CHALLENGE FUND FOR NATIONAL COMMITTEES OF FAMILY FARMING (NCCF Challenge Fund)** in order to strengthen the capacities of the NCCFs to promote and participate effectively and meaningfully in policy dialogue for the development and implementation of the Decade's National Action Plans and other policies in favour of family farming, as a way for countries to progress towards inclusive and resilient food systems.

The NCCF Challenge Fund is implemented by the WRF with funding and support of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), as a joint FAO-IFAD UNDF Secretariat was mandated by the General Assembly to lead the implementation of the Decade.

II. Call Objectives and Priorities

The overall objective of the call is to contribute to the creation of a policy environment conducive to strengthening family farming and developing sustainable agri-food systems for the people and the planet in the framework of the UNDF 2019-2028.

The specific objective of the Call is to promote and participate in the development and implementation of UNDF National Action Plans and other policies in favour of family farming, enabling progress towards more sustainable agri-food systems in IFAD priority countries.

III. Application requirements

Here are the **requirements** that the proposals submitted must meet for applying to the Call 2024. **Failure to comply with one or more of these requirements will result in exclusion from the selection process.**

REQUIREMENTS to be met by the APPLYING ENTITIES:

1. **Be an active member of the NCFE engaged in the UNDFE implementation.**
2. **Have legal entity in the implementing country.**
3. **Be a non- profit Civil Society Organization.**

(In the case of legally registered NCFE requirement 1 is not necessary since the NCFE itself submits the application).

REQUIREMENTS TO BE MET BY THE PROJECTS:

1. **The project' implementation will tentatively start in August 2024, with a duration of 12 months.**
2. **Be located in one of IFAD's recipient countries** (please see the IFAD's Lists of Member Countries: List B and Sub-List C1, C2 and C3)¹
3. The **grant requested** per project will be a **minimum of 10,000 USD and a maximum of 30,000 USD.**
4. **Be aimed at promoting and participating in the elaboration and implementation of UNDFE National Action Plans** on Family Farming (NAP) or of a pro-Family Farming policy.

5. **Be based on the promotion of representative, inclusive and democratic platforms** for policy dialogue at the national level.
6. The proposal aims to **strengthen policy dialogue and the capacities of the main actors in family farming** in the country, with a particular focus on family farming organisations.
7. The proposal needs to be aligned with IFAD's strategic priorities in the country. As such, **formal endorsement of the proposal by IFAD's Country Director is a mandatory eligibility criterion**, while support from the government and other relevant stakeholders, such as the FAO, is an advantage.
8. **A complete application**, including: a roadmap/timeline for achieving the policy objectives; a mapping and analysis of farmers' organisations, government institutions and other key stakeholders for capacity building and dialogue in support of the policy objectives; a proposal for implementation modalities; an estimate of preliminary costs, and the implementation period.

The ACTIVITIES which can be financed are:

- **Carry out studies** to support the process of elaboration or implementation of the UNDFE NAPs or other policies in support to family farming.
- Organization of meetings between NCFE/FOs, government representatives and other key stakeholders.
- **Organization of seminars, forums for policy dialogue** to mobilize stakeholders, conduct consultations, etc, for the elaboration or implementation of the NAPs or other policies in support to family farming.

¹ <https://webapps.ifad.org/members/member-states>

- **Capacity building activities** in support of the policy objectives of the project.
- **Elaboration of documents:** proposals, policy documents, design of tools to operationalize the NAPs or other policies, etc.
- **Development of communication campaigns** to mobilize stakeholders, knowledge management, and sharing.

COSTS that can be financed are:

- **Consultancy services and technical assistance:** technical and professional services required to carry out the project activities.
- **Travel, accommodation, and food:** traveling costs, accommodation, and food costs of participants in meetings, workshops, seminars, forums.
- **Publications:** written or audiovisual materials.
- **External audit:** An external audit is required at the end of the project.
- **Administrative costs (a maximum of 8% of the grant requested).**

IV. Follow up and reporting requirements

For those proposals selected, the WRF and the grant recipient entities will sign **Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs)** that will refer to the following items: -general conditions; -responsibilities of the parties with regard to planning, implementation and reporting; -description of the action; -duration of the contract; -terms of disbursements; -narrative and financial reports templates and supporting documentation required; -provisions on communication and visibility; -amendments, settlement of disputes, delays and termination.

The grant recipient entities will submit to the WRF **intermediate and completion narrative and financial reports, including the supporting documents of the incurred costs.** The grant recipient entities' **procurement procedures and financial reports should comply with IFAD rules.** The grant recipient entities should **keep original supporting documents in the eventuality of** an IFAD audit in the future.

The WRF will convene **periodical meetings** with the grant recipient entities and the respective NCFE to follow-up on the activity plan, evaluate the progress and define areas of improvement when necessary.

The WRF will be responsible for consolidating all the narrative and financial information generated by the grant recipient entities and incorporate it in the progress and final reports to be submitted to IFAD.

V. Evaluation criteria for the proposals

Those applications meeting all the requirements mentioned above will be evaluated under the following criteria:

- **Institutional and technical capacity of the applying entity** to manage the project.
- **Past experiences of the NCFE** and policy results obtained as well as the ongoing dialogue and collaboration with the government.
- **Clear, relevant and specific objectives for the development or implementation of a UNDFE national action plan or other policy in favor of family farming,** in line with the pillars of the UNDFE Global Action Plan.
- Progress already realized in the UNDFE implementation by the NCFE alongside the key national stakeholders.
- Contribution of the project to **other national policy processes** on food systems, nutrition, health, biodiversity, climate change, gender

equality, youth, poverty and inequality and/or **directly to international agendas implementation processes** at the country level.

- **Linkages with IFAD country programs and strategic priorities.**
- **Co-funding mobilization capacities.**

At the end of the document, you can find the **Evaluation Table** that will be used for the assessment of the proposals.

VI. Submission of applications

Application Form:

Applications shall be submitted following the **Application Form attached.**

Applications can be completed in **English, Spanish or French.**

Where and how to submit applications:

The application form, along with the supporting documentation, **should be sent via email** to the following specific email address:

challengefund@ruralforum.org

You will receive a confirmation that your application has been received.

Deadline for submission of applications:

The deadline for the submission of applications is June 14, 2024, at 6:00 pm (local time in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain).

Applications received after the submission period has closed will not be accepted.

VII. Selection procedure

Those proposals which do not meet the application compulsory requirements set out in this Call (Section III) will be rejected.

Proposals still under consideration will be analyzed under the evaluation criteria set out in Section V. of this document.

The proposals will be evaluated and selected per lot (Asia-Pacific, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean respectively). A minimum of 2 proposals will be selected per region respectively.

The proposals which receive the highest scores will be selected until the amount of funds available for the Call is reached. The amount granted might differ from the amount requested in the proposal and be reduced, according to the Challenge Fund priorities and criteria.

VIII. Notification of the resolution

The applying entities will be informed in writing via email of the decision made in relation to their application. All of the participating NCFEs will be informed of what proposals have been approved and the amounts granted.

EVALUATION TABLE

EVALUATION CRITERIA	Maximum Score
1. Institutional and technical capacity of the applying entity	30
1.1. The applying entity's previous experience in the NCFE and managing projects of a similar type. Past experiences and results obtained by the NCFE and ongoing dialogue and collaboration with the government.	18
1.2. Human and material resources available to the applying entity for the correct implementation of the project.	9
1.3. Co-funding capacity.	3
2. Efficacy, impact and viability of the proposal	35
2.1. The proposal presents clear and specific objectives towards the elaboration or implementation of a UNDFE National Action Plan or other policy in support of family farming.	10
2.2. The proposal aims to strengthen policy dialogue and the capacities of the main family farming stakeholders in the country, with particular emphasis on Family Farming organizations.	10
2.3. There is consistency between the proposal objectives, the expected outputs/products, the activities and the resources foreseen for their attainment	15
3. Progress already realized in the UNDFE implementation by the NCFE alongside the key national stakeholders	15
3.1. Progress in multistakeholder dialogue on the UNDFE	4
3.2. Progress in the NAP or the policy drafting process	4
3.3. NAP or policy already validated or endorsed	4
3.4. Alignment with UNDFE Global Action Plan pillars and relevance of Policy Objectives to family farmers in the country	3
4. Contribution of the project to other national policy processes on food systems, nutrition, health, biodiversity, climate change, gender equality, youth, poverty and inequality and/or directly to international agendas implementation processes at the country level.	5
5. Linkages with IFAD country programs and priorities	15
5.1. Alignment with IFAD strategic priorities in the country (COSOP if available)	10
5.2. Potential linkage with IFAD-funded operations	5
TOTAL MAXIMUM SCORE	100