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**President's report**

**Proposed grant to the Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the United Nations for**

**IFAD's contribution to the Committee on World  
Food Security 2025–2027**

Project ID: 2000005640

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Document: EB 2025/LOT/G.3

Date: 31 October 2025

Distribution: Public

Original: English

**FOR: APPROVAL**

**Action:** The Executive Board is invited to approve the recommendation contained in paragraph 17.

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**Technical questions:**

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# **President's report on a proposed grant to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for IFAD's contribution to the Committee on World Food Security 2025–2027**

## **I. Background and compliance with the IFAD Regular Grants Policy**

1. The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) is a key priority for Member States. It is an inclusive, intergovernmental platform for all stakeholders working to ensure food security and nutrition for all, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The platform brings together governments, civil society organizations (CSOs), United Nations agencies, the private sector and philanthropic foundations, and its policies and guidance build on scientific, evidence-based reports. The CFS has been receiving regular support from the Rome-based agencies (RBAs) since 2014. This grant will allow it to further advance its mandate, ensuring that its constituencies continue to be engaged in the promotion of policy convergence and coherence on global food security and nutrition issues.
2. The role of the CFS is broadly recognized in international initiatives and forums such as G20 and G7 processes, the Brazil-led Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, the German-led Policies Against Hunger Conference, and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. Such recognition is also reflected in the outcome documents of these forums, for example in the final statement of the Foreign Ministers' Meeting, and during the G7 Leaders' Summit.
3. IFAD's support for and engagement with the CFS strengthens a wide range of partnerships and policies, and ultimately contributes to IFAD's own mandate, given the multi-stakeholder nature of the platform. By contributing to the CFS, IFAD – one of the few international financial institutions engaged in the platform – can actively influence and provide technical expertise in key areas of work and CFS workstreams, positioning itself as a global leader in food security discussions and a key partner in rural development, with a particular focus on policy work around financing food security and food systems. It also gives IFAD the opportunity to identify and provide innovative and viable policy solutions to challenges in smallholder agriculture and rural development. Through this engagement, IFAD can influence the global policy agenda by adopting and applying CFS policy products in its lending programme, in line with CFS guidance, recommendations and development outcomes.
4. Since 2011, IFAD has been providing financial, strategic, technical and human resources to the CFS, ensuring linkages with IFAD's policies (for example, those on targeting, gender and engagement with Indigenous Peoples) as well as IFAD's programme of loans and grants. For instance, the RBAs and UN Women are actively promoting and supporting the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition by offering a range of innovative solutions, collaborative efforts and technical assistance aimed at fostering gender equality and empowering women and girls in the context of food security and nutrition, including through the Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress Towards Rural Women's Economic Empowerment.
5. The proposed programme is in line with the goal and objectives of the IFAD Regular Grants Policy (2021),<sup>1</sup> specifically contributing to strategic objective 2 of the IFAD Strategic Framework 2016–2025, and the Thirteenth Replenishment of IFAD's

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<sup>1</sup> See EB 2021/132/R.3.

Resources. The programme leverages the efforts of other partners, such as the RBAs, Member States, CSOs and the private sector, and provides IFAD with the opportunity to complement their work with its own expertise in smallholder farming.

6. The recipient, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), was identified through direct selection as the institutional host of the CFS. The direct selection was approved by a decision memorandum signed by the President of IFAD on 9 July 2025.

## **II. The proposed programme**

7. The overall goal of the programme is to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular, ending hunger and malnutrition, through a participatory and inclusive process of policy development for food security and nutrition.
8. The objective is for IFAD to leverage its engagement in the CFS to further foster international cooperation on issues related to food security and nutrition and to strengthen actions at the national and regional levels for inclusive and sustainable food systems transformation. Overall, from a financial and technical standpoint, the support for the CFS will ensure increased visibility for IFAD's work at the country level and collaboration with the other RBAs.
9. IFAD's target group is made up of rural people living in poverty and experiencing food insecurity in developing countries. They are often the poorest and most vulnerable: those most likely to have little access to assets and opportunities due to social exclusion and marginalization (e.g. women, young people, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities and people living in fragile situations). Considering the CFS's multi-stakeholder configuration and its mandate, this grant will have a positive impact on IFAD's target group, as it will: support their participation in the development and uptake of policies through the CFS; facilitate the application of guidelines and policies through IFAD's programme of loans and grants; and ensure that the CFS multi-year programme of work (MYPoW) 2024–2027 includes thematic areas of relevance to them.
10. The programme will be implemented over three years and will have the following components:
  - (i) CFS Secretariat: IFAD supports the functioning and activities of the Secretariat.
  - (ii) CFS Plenary Session: Increased visibility among key stakeholders, including Member States, CSOs, Indigenous Peoples and the private sector.
  - (iii) Thematic workstreams: Enhanced recognition of IFAD's work in rural development through the provision of technical expertise in areas relevant to IFAD's mandate.
  - (iv) CFS Bureau and Advisory Group: Opportunities for IFAD to steer the strategic direction of the CFS and promote rural transformation.
11. In order to achieve the above, IFAD will leverage lessons learned from the implementation of previous grants supporting the CFS Secretariat, ensuring engagement of technical staff in policy convergence processes, encouraging the use of CFS policy products in the design of IFAD's projects and programmes, and supporting their uptake at country level on a demand-driven basis. Such lessons and related IFAD achievements will be shared annually through the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group's reporting exercise, in which IFAD and the other United Nations agencies and stakeholders are invited to participate.

### III. Expected outcomes/outputs

12. The programme is expected to have the following outcomes/outputs:
  - (i) Integration of IFAD's priorities in CFS workstreams;
  - (ii) Greater political recognition of IFAD's role in and contribution to CFS workstreams, as relevant to IFAD's mandate;
  - (iii) Adoption of key policy products that can be utilized in and add value to IFAD's operations; and
  - (iv) Enhanced visibility of IFAD among CFS stakeholders, including Member States.

### IV. Implementation arrangements

13. The grant recipient, FAO, will sign a contribution agreement with IFAD for programme implementation. The recipient will act as the sole counterpart to IFAD, bearing all contractual and operational liabilities as defined in the contribution agreement. The programme manager will be IFAD's primary point of contact for all coordination, planning and administration matters.
14. There are no deviations from IFAD's standard procedures for financial reporting and audits.

### V. Indicative programme costs and financing

15. IFAD's total contribution for the three-year period is US\$1,500,000. In addition to this cash contribution and, subject to the availability of resources and IFAD's internal policies, IFAD will continue to second a P-5-level staff member to the CFS Secretariat as "staff on loan", in line with its human resources policy, the staff rules and the Human Resources Implementing Procedures, as amended from time to time.
16. FAO will contribute US\$2,025,000 in cash for the same period, which will also cover a P-5-level staff secondment, while the World Food Programme (WFP) will contribute US\$1,475,000 in cash and in kind, covering a P-5-level secondment and support for a P-3-level contract in 2025.

Table 1  
**Costs by component and financier**  
 (United States dollars)

<i>Component</i>	<i>IFAD</i>	<i>FAO cofinancing (cash)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>WFP cofinancing (cash/in-kind)<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Annual CFS Plenary Session: event management, translation and interpretation	585 264	600 000	400 000	1 585 264
2. Communication and outreach	361 980	150 000	50 000	561 980
3. Implementation of the MYPoW and the three main functions of the CFS: platform, policy convergence and coherence, and uptake	552 756	1 275 000	1 025 000	2 852 756
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 500 000<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>2 025 000</b>	<b>1 475 000</b>	<b>5 000 000</b>

<sup>a</sup> Estimated figures for FAO and WFP contributions 2025–2027.

<sup>b</sup> Please refer to paragraph 15 for details on the potential additional in-kind contribution that IFAD may provide.

Table 2

**Costs by expenditure category and financier**  
(United States dollars)

<i>Expenditure category</i>	<i>IFAD</i>
1. Salaries and allowances	259 656
2. Consultancies	231 030
3. Travel and allowances	181 980
4. Workshops and training	585 264
5. Goods, services and inputs	60 512
6. Operating costs	181 558
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 500 000</b>

**VI. Recommendation**

17. I recommend that the Executive Board approve the proposed grant in terms of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Fund, in order to finance, in part, IFAD's contribution to the Committee on World Food Security 2025–2027, shall provide a grant of one million five hundred thousand United States dollars (US\$1,500,000) to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for a three-year programme, upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented to the Executive Board herein.

Alvaro Lario  
President

## Results-based logical framework

	Objectives hierarchy	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
<b>Goal</b>	Contribute to the achievement of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda, in particular ending hunger and malnutrition, through a participatory and inclusive process of policy development for food security and nutrition.		Reports on stakeholder participation in CFS plenaries, Advisory Group and Bureau meetings and workstream discussions/negotiations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stakeholders high and continued interest in being engaged in the development of policy products related to food systems and nutrition.</li> <li>Member States and International Development Agencies willingness to promote the use and implement CFS policy products on the ground</li> </ul>
<b>Objectives</b>	IFAD to leverage its role in the CFS to foster international cooperation and strengthen actions for sustainable food systems transformation at national/regional levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of countries/entities adopting/incorporating CFS policy products/recommendations in their regional/national strategies</li> <li>Policies are adopted and implemented at regional and national levels also through IFAD Programme of Loans and Grants</li> <li>Number of stakeholders engaged in policy development processes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring reports of CFS policy adoption/uptake and national policy analyses</li> <li>Report from IFAD country teams on use of CFS policy products on the ground</li> </ul>	High commitment and sense of ownership from relevant international institutions, as well as other CFS stakeholders, to engage in the process.
<b>Outcomes/ outputs</b>	1. Integration of IFAD priorities in CFS workstreams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IFAD actively contributes technical inputs to at least one CFS MYPoW workstreams per year as aligned with its expertise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Periodic reporting via email, updates and blogs</li> <li>IFAD technical staff participation to CFS workstreams</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Availability of IFAD technical staff to provide support to the relevant CFS workstreams</li> <li>Availability of Senior Management to represent IFAD in CFS events/plenaries</li> <li>Proactive engagement and interest of technical staff and their managers to use and take advantage of CFS policy products for the design of projects and programmes, on a demand driven basis</li> </ul>
	2. Increased political recognition of IFAD's role in and contribution to CFS workstreams, as relevant to IFAD's mandate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior IFAD representatives participate in high-level CFS meetings and receive formal acknowledgments in CFS resolutions or conclusions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CFS Plenary reports and Bureau and Advisory Group Summaries, ad hoc event summaries</li> </ul>	Buy-in from IFAD leadership to showcase IFAD's value added to the CFS processes

Objectives hierarchy	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of policies developed with IFAD's support</li><li>Number of plenaries session in which IFAD's support is recognized</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Participation of IFAD technical staff in the preparation of policies</li></ul>		
3. Adoption of key policy products that can be utilized in, and add value to, IFAD's operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of policy products adopted which included IFAD's technical contribution and that are relevant for IFAD's operations</li><li>IFAD staff and partners are trained on utilizing CFS policy tools to enhance project design and implementation.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Intranet communications and webinar organizations</li><li>Reports from IFAD regional/national staff on use of CFS policy products</li><li>Reports post negotiations of policy products</li><li>Tracking of participation of IFAD technical staff in policy products development and negotiations</li></ul>	Member States, government counterparts, CSOs, donors, IFIs, and agriculture organizations have time to participate in the development of policy products and have the buy-in to support and promote implementation of adopted CFS policy products	
4. Enhanced IFAD Visibility amongst CFS Stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>IFAD co-hosts or leads at least one side event at the CFS plenary session, engaging Member States, private sector, and civil society</li><li>Number of events with IFAD's presence as related to the CFS/in CFS plenaries</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>CFS Plenary reports</li><li>Partnership/collaboration opportunities established between IFAD and CFS stakeholders</li></ul>	Buy-in from IFAD leadership to showcase IFAD's value added to the CFS processes	
Key activities by component	1. IFAD support to the functioning of the CFS Secretariat	Technical and financial contribution provided to the CFS Secretariat	Financial and Narrative reports from the CFS Secretariat as related to the grant contribution	Commitment by IFAD leadership and Member states to continue to provide financial contribution to the CFS secretariat
	2. Support to the CFS Plenary to enhance the visibility of relevant food security and nutrition issues amongst key stakeholders including Member State, CSOs, indigenous peoples and the private sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Type of support provided to the CFS Plenary</li><li>Number of events organized/co-organized by IFAD during the CFS Plenary</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>IFAD flash report following CFS Plenaries</li><li>CFS Plenaries reports</li></ul>	Commitment by IFAD staff and leadership to contribute to CFS Plenaries
	3. Support to the thematic workstreams and technical task teams for the development of policy products, contributing to the recognition of IFAD's work in rural development.	Number of workstreams supported by IFAD technical staff	Reports on workstream discussions participation	Commitment by IFAD staff to provide technical support in key workstreams of relevance for IFAD's mandate

Objectives hierarchy		Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
	4. Contribute to the definition of the strategic direction of the CFS through its Bureau & Advisory Group for the promotion of rural transformation.	Participation to the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group meetings	Reports from the Bureau and Advisory Group meetings	Commitment by IFAD staff and leadership to contribute to the strategic direction of the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group