

**THE EUROPEAN UNION AND CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK REGIONAL  
FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMME**

**INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION**

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS # 3: EU-CDB RFSP**

**Project Background:** The Caribbean Development Bank and the European Union have entered into a contribution agreement as part of a broader response to address the food security crisis in the Caribbean Region and to promote food and nutrition security, particularly among vulnerable groups.

**Overall objective:** To enhance the resilience and sustainability of food systems in the Caribbean, in order to promote food and nutrition security.

**Specific Objectives:**

**Window 1:** To enhance the institutional capacity of agri-finance institutions and farmer organisations, to facilitate improved service delivery and increased access to resources for farmers, fishers, and other key value-chain actors.

**Window 2:** To support agri-tech investments designed to enhance productivity, efficiency, and resilience across all segments of the agri-food value chain, encompassing both the agricultural and fisheries sectors.

**Scope of the Financing Windows:** The resources will be used to finance actions aimed at institutional capacity building for agri-finance institutions and farmer cooperatives and agri-tech investments across agricultural and fisheries sectors.

**Prioritised areas include:**

**1. Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of Agri-finance Institutions and Farmer Organisations**

Proposals should focus on high-impact interventions that address systemic governance and technical gaps within existing financial institutions (FIs) and farmer organisations. The objective is to build internal expertise to improve service delivery, expand access to resources, and effectively assess and mitigate agricultural and credit risks and capitalise on emerging opportunities. Key activities may include, but are not limited to, strengthening credit-appraisal systems, improving organisational governance, and developing specialised financial products tailored to the agriculture and fisheries sectors.

**2. Advanced Production and Processing Agri-tech Solutions**

Proposals should focus on high-impact interventions that accelerate the adoption of agri-tech solutions at both the production and processing levels of agriculture and fisheries value chains to improve productivity. Key activities should enhance productivity through precision agriculture and drive the industrialisation of processing to increase output, enhance product value, minimize waste and extend shelf life.

**3. Resource Optimisation and Cost-Reduction Technologies**

Proposals should focus on high-impact interventions that enhance resource efficiency and reduce production costs by adopting advanced technologies across agricultural and fisheries systems. This includes technologies to increase efficient use of inputs, reduce operational costs and enable higher production while minimising resource use compared to traditional systems. These interventions should lower input dependency, improve input-to-output efficiency, increase energy efficiency and strengthen the economic viability and competitiveness of producers and processors within the agriculture and fisheries sector value chains.

#### 4. Climate Adaptive Technologies and Resilient Infrastructure

Proposals should focus on high-impact interventions that strengthen climate resilience through the adoption of adaptive technologies and resilient infrastructure across agriculture and fisheries systems. At the production level, this includes the deployment of real-time environmental monitoring systems to enable timely, data-driven responses to climate stressors (drought, flooding, and changes in water and soil quality etc.) and investment in climate-resilient infrastructure designed to withstand extreme weather events thus supporting continuity of production, stabilising output, and protecting critical assets, within the agriculture and fisheries sectors.

##### Proposal Guidelines

**Financial Allocation:** The overall indicative amount made available under this Call for Proposals is € 1,378,273. Resources will be allocated on a competitive basis and based on the assessed value of the intervention. Individual country projects may benefit from a grant up to €600,000 with a maximum of regional projects - covering more than two countries - may benefit from grant resources up to €1.3 million.

**Target:** This call is open to actors, stakeholders, national organisations, and support service providers operating across the agriculture and fisheries value chains in CARIFORUM member states.

**Counterpart Financing:** *Projects to be financed under this window are expected to provide counterpart financing of up to 30%.* Applicants are encouraged to allocate counterpart contributions directly to activities that support the project's core objectives and interventions. In-kind contributions for salaries, administrative, or similar expenses will not count towards the required 30% counterpart financing.

**Blended Financing:** In duly justified cases blending with other commercial based funds is possible, however, applicants proposing the use of grant resources to compliment such financing schemes should be able to demonstrate that the intervention will not duplicate previous interventions from CDB and/or other development partners.

**Institutional Capacity:** applicants will need to demonstrate that the executing/implementing agency is adequately resourced financially and technically. Also, applicants must assign a dedicated project coordinator to ensure the successful implementation of the project.

**Eligibility:** Only interventions benefitting clients within CDB's Borrowing Member Countries and CARIFORUM member States will be eligible for financing.

**Qualifying Requirements:** Proposals will be assessed and selected based on the following criteria.

- **Relevance:** How well the proposed project aligns with the call's objectives and addresses the identified challenges (15 points).
- **Design:** The clarity, logic, and coherence of the project plan, including its methodology and approach (15 points).
- **Feasibility:** The practicality and realism of the project, considering available resources, technology, and local conditions (20 points)
- **Effectiveness:** The likelihood that the proposed interventions will achieve their stated outcomes and deliver tangible, positive impacts (20 points)
- **Sustainability:** The potential for the project's benefits and operations to continue and be maintained after the funding period ends (10 points)
- **Environmental Sustainability:** The project's approach to minimizing environmental impact, integrating climate adaptation measures, and promoting resource efficiency (energy, water) (10 points)

- **Cost-Effectiveness:** The efficiency with which the project utilizes resources to achieve its objectives, demonstrating good value for money (10 points).

Proposals with a score equal to or greater than 70 points will be considered for advancement.

#### **Proposal Submission Guidelines**

- **Required Documentation:** Proposals must be submitted using the official templates – see link below - and include: a detailed project description, work plan with milestones, detailed budget (grant & counterpart), logical framework with SMART objectives and indicators, proof of legal registration, CVs of key personnel, and letters of commitment for counterpart funding and partnerships.
- Proposals must be submitted electronically via email to [eu-cdb-fsp@caribank.org](mailto:eu-cdb-fsp@caribank.org).
- Submissions must clearly include the following information:
  - Call reference number and title
  - Proposal title
  - Submission window
  - Prioritised area
  - Applicants full name and address
- The deadline for submission is June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026.