



2023 Call for Applications for Grant (CAG)

Focus Pillar: Advancement of quality education, research and innovation in agriculture

Announced date:

8:00am EST, 11th September 2023

The application portal will be open.

End of application:

5:00pm EST, 13th October 2023

The application portal will be closed after this deadline.

Purpose

The AGCO Agriculture Foundation is requesting grant applications under its focus pillar two: **Advancement of quality education, research and innovation in agriculture.**

Quality agriculture education is fundamental to the global food and nutrition security agenda. Over the past years, our tailored projects on agricultural education, research, and innovations such as the Africa Agribusiness Qualification (AAQ) program in Kenya and South Africa, has placed strong emphasis on knowledge sharing and skill development, helping to empower farmers, equip young people to take up careers in the agricultural industry and strengthen capacity and skill development for farming communities to innovate best practices for food systems.

As an agriculture-focused Foundation committed to a farmer centric approach and impact driven initiatives for a food-secure world, we recognise the importance of facilitating access to quality agricultural education and training programs that support agricultural transformation, enhancement of capacity building and skill development of farmers, including youth and women.

This Call for Grant Applications (CAG) will consider proposals that increase the capacity of farmers, farming communities, young people and/or women, and facilitates access to the tools, training, activities, and support they need to continuously improve their practices, build resiliency and improve their profitability and contribute to a food-secure world.

Funding Priority

The AGCO Agriculture Foundation implement projects and initiatives under its three thematic areas:

- **Pillar one: Nutrition and Sustainable Food Systems**
Food security, animal welfare, climate action.
- **Pillar two: Agricultural Education and Innovation**
Advancement of quality education, research and innovation in agriculture.
- **Pillar three: Community Development**
Advancement of community development, particularly in our AGCO communities.

Solely for the purpose of this CAG 2023 cycle, we will only consider grant applications submitted under the ***“Pillar two: Agricultural Education and Innovation.”*** Applicants can only submit one application under this focus pillar and must ensure the submitted application address some of the following areas:

1. Identify the problem, need, or difficulty associated with this pillar that this project will aim to tackle.
2. Demonstrate a high likelihood of project success.
3. Showcase key activities that will be carried out as part of the project. Activities can include but not limited to the following - providing farmers and other stakeholders technical support, hands-on training, e-learning, vocational training in the agricultural sector, farmer field schools and on-farm demonstrations to help them adapt to increasingly specialized agricultural techniques, shift from subsistence agriculture to market-oriented production, thrive, transform the food system, conserve natural resources by combating climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
4. Demonstrate strong alignment of the project with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4 – “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.”
5. Showcase the need and approach to develop and promote entrepreneurial training certification programs and business skills training in agribusiness and value chains for farmers, including young farmers, women or other underserved groups.
6. Demonstrate how the development of an educational project can enhance knowledge awareness on food systems and nutrition transformation or acceptance of agricultural technology and innovations among farmers and other stakeholders in agriculture.

Targeted Audience

The project submitted under this pillar two must target at least one of following stakeholders:

- Farmers (small-scale and emerging farmers).
- Farmer cooperations and associations.
- Young farmers or women farmers.
- Agricultural extension officers and teachers.

Grant Funds and Expected Duration

The AGCO Agriculture Foundation anticipates grant funds for this CAG 2023 cycle to range from **\$200,000** to **\$450,000**. We expect the grant/project duration to be **two to three years**.

The Foundation reserves the right to decline grant requests lesser or higher than the indicated amount. Requested grant funds must adhere to the Foundation’s funding

guideline - **70%** of grant funds go directly towards the actual project implementation and related project activities, while **30%** are for administrative support. Following the funding guideline highlighted above is mandatory, as our reviewers will pay keen attention to it.

Eligibility

Non-profit organizations and public universities/educational institutions that are registered and recognized as charitable or non-profit organizations under the law are eligible to apply for grant funding. As part of the application process, applicants are expected to provide a certificate or proof of non-for-profit registration to be considered for a grant. For the approval process, our Foundation may reach out for clarification and further documentation on non-profit status if required. Submitted projects must address the focus pillar identified for this grant application.

Additional notes, the Foundation does not award grants to activities or programs to benefit:

- Individual for profit organizations (hospitals, hospice programs, etc.)
- Political, religious-based, labor or fraternal organizations.
- Individuals and their personal fundraising efforts.
- Groups seeking education, travel or conventions.
- Sporting leagues, youth or adult sports teams, clubs, golf tournaments or similar one-off events.
- Sales related, marketing, or customer requested fundraising campaigns.
- Schools (unless non-for-profit registered), school districts, individual students, alumni associations, school or parent organizations and activities
- Organizations, individuals and their fundraising efforts for conferences, summits, and webinars.

Grant Process and Timeline

The grant application cycle will be implemented in one phase and all supporting documents must be submitted alongside the grant application form. All applicants must submit their project application form (overview of the project proposal) and upload mandatory supporting documents (*concept note – max. 5 pages, budget breakdown based on funding guideline of 70% vs 30%, detailed work plan, certificate or proof of non-profit*) online through our Community Investment software partner, Benevity, to answer all grant application questions. We will only consider the listed supporting documents in the application decision. Documents such as annual reports do not count towards the grant decision and will not be reviewed.

Schedule for Grant Application	
Announce Call for Applications for Grant	September 11th 2023
Attend to Enquiries Related to the Grant	September 11th – October 6th 2023
Close Grant Application Portal	October 13th 2023
Schedule for Grant Awards	
Announce and Award Grant Funds	November/December 2023

We advised applicants to start their CAG process on our Foundation's website (<https://www.agcofoundation.org/grants>) by reviewing all grant application documents, - 2023 Call for Applications for Grant, Grant Overview and FAQs. The grant page on the Foundation's website will guide you on how to start the grant application process and submit a grant application form on the Benevity platform.

Enquiries

If you have any questions or in need of any assistance directly on the CAG, reach out to us via the Foundation's inbox - AGCOagriFoundation@agcocorp.com or [Contact Form](#).