



18 June 2025

# Board Meeting

## Participants

### Board Members

- **Camilla Fusato**, *European Commission*
- **Leonard Mizzi**, *European Commission*
- **Vesa Kaarakka**, *Finland*
- **Fabrizio Moscatelli**, *Gates Foundation*
- **Sven Braulik**, *Germany*
- **Max von Bonsdorff**, *IFAD*
- **Patrick McManus**, *Ireland*
- **Federica de Gaetano**, *Italy (Co-Chair)*
- **Bruce Campbell**, *Switzerland (Co-Chair)*
- **Stineke Oenema**, *The Netherlands*
- **Naomi Sterk**, *The Netherlands*
- **Wilma Van Esch**, *The Netherlands*

### GDPRD Secretariat

- **Maurizio Navarra**
- **Michelle Tang**
- **Alessandro Cordova**
- **Sierra Berardelli**
- **Monique Amar**
- **Jim Woodhill**, *Senior Advisor*

## Agenda

ISSUE	ITEM	DETAILS
1.	Welcome and Introduction	Co-Chairs
2.	Updates on White Paper on Financing Food Systems and Rural Development	Secretariat/Jim Woodhill
3.	2025 Annual General Assembly <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Main theme</li><li>- Potential dates</li></ul>	Secretariat/Jim Woodhill
4.	Updates on Thematic Working Groups	Secretariat
5.	Discussion on Platform status <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Current membership status</li><li>- Engagement strategy for new members</li></ul>	Co-Chairs
6.	Presentation of main areas for GDPRD Strategic Plan 2026-2031	Secretariat/Jim Woodhill
7.	2025 Senior Managers Meeting	Secretariat
8.	Proposal for new thematic workstream: AI for Food Security and Rural Development	Secretariat
9.	AOB and closing	Co-Chairs

# Key Highlights/Issues

## 1. Welcome and Introduction

- Sven Braulik (GIZ) participated for the first time, on behalf of Jan Brix (BMZ). **[Germany]**
- Max von Bonsdorff participated for the first time, on behalf of Ron Hartman. **[IFAD]**

## 2. Updates on White Paper on Financing Food Systems and Rural Development

### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

*To present the White Paper on financing agrifood systems and rural development and discuss next steps and advocacy [\[Annex I\]](#).*

### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- A high-level advisory group (HLAG) was established to provide thought leadership and expert guidance on the development of a GDPRD White Paper (WP) ahead of the FfD4 and other key events in 2025. The HLAG included high-level representatives from IFAD, the European Commission, Canada, the World Bank, the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), Switzerland, WFP, FAO, AGRA, and the Netherlands.
- The WP is titled **"Financing Agrifood Systems for People, Planet and Prosperity: Towards a new pact for mobilizing capital, reforming systems, and driving transformation at scale"** and will act as a call to action: agrifood systems must become a top-tier investment priority, one that unites development agendas in a shared vision for transformation.
- The WP explains how the cost of transforming agrifood systems is just a fraction of the hidden costs, in terms of climate change and the health costs of malnutrition. The WP advocates for a paradigm shift, with a strong call to create **collaborative financing agreements** that work to coordinate investments, build trust, and share accountability among all actors. **[Jim Woodhill]**
- A virtual side event at the FfD4 has been approved "[Financing Agrifood Systems for People, Planet and Prosperity](#)" and will take place on Monday 30 June 2025, from 14:30 - 16:00 CEST. All Board members are strongly encouraged to participate. **[GDPRD Secretariat]**

### Discussion and Q&A:

- The current geopolitical environment is extremely challenging and agrifood systems discourse needs more high-level traction. The White Paper aims to engage both specialists and non-specialists to position agrifood financing in a more detailed way. While it does not offer "silver bullet" solutions, it provides clear pathways for advancing the agenda. The Platform could consider how similar exercises to the HLAG could inform the upcoming AGA, especially on more controversial issues. **[EU]**
- The WP is timely and relevant for upcoming global events, particularly FfD4 and UNFSS+4. The FfD4 Seville outcome document, recently approved by the preparatory committee, already includes multiple references to agrifood systems financing, making the Paper a valuable tool to elevate visibility and drive dialogue on the issue. **[IFAD]**
- The WP clearly articulates the urgency for action. The Netherlands plans to distribute it widely within its organization and beyond, and encourages others to do the same. **[Netherlands]**
- Will the WP influence the FfD4 outcome document? **[Ireland]**

- The document has already been drafted and negotiated, but still needs to be approved during the event itself. However, the WP is critical to give a framework for agrifood systems in terms of political dialogue. *[IFAD]*

### 3. 2025 Annual General Assembly

#### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

*Jim Woodhill presented initial ideas and potential dates and process for the next AGA.*

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- This year's AGA will have a clear focus on scaling innovative financing for agrifood systems transformation, building on the momentum of the White Paper and outcomes from FfD4 and UNFSS+4. The idea would be to convene a broad range of stakeholders involved in financing initiatives for an in-depth learning exchange. A preparatory technical session could be held ahead of the AGA, allowing practitioners to share insights, which would feed into the main event. Given the complexity of the current global context, this is an ideal time for the Platform to lead critical discussions on the future of ODA and food systems financing. *[Jim Woodhill, GDPRD Secretariat]*
- The AGA could be held in the first week of December 2025, alongside the FAO Council (date TBD) or in the beginning of 2026, in order to incorporate discussions on the outputs from various key events in 2025. *[Jim Woodhill, Switzerland]*
- As in previous years, an AGA Prep committee will be established (composed of the Secretariat, the Co-chairs, and any other Board member volunteers) to prepare the concept note, which will then be shared with the Board for feedback and approval. *[Italy, GDPRD Secretariat]*

#### Discussion and Q&A:

- The AGA should focus not only on the White Paper and outcomes from key events, but also expand on the broader challenges of the ODA space, including shrinking public investment, domestic resource mobilization and an Africa-focused lens, including the domestication of the Kampala Convention. *[EU]*
- Aligning the AGA with the FAO Council in December could be feasible for in-person presence. Q1 2026 may be more realistic to incorporate outcomes from upcoming global events; a back-to-back format with the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) in Berlin in January 2026 could be considered, if German colleagues would be available and willing. *[EU]*
- The proposed topic is highly relevant and can be linked it to broader ODA discussions, geopolitics and the CAADP agenda, and can incorporate updates on the UN80 process. Aligning the AGA with other events, such as the FAO Council, will maximize in-person participation and synergies. *[Netherlands]*

#### Action Points:

- The Secretariat will develop the AGA concept note and date proposals.
- Board members to volunteer for the AGA prep committee.

### 4. Updates on Thematic Working Groups

#### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

*For the Secretariat to share an update on the four GDPRD Thematic Working Groups [\[Annex II\]](#).*

## ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The absence of the US has strongly influenced all the Platform's Thematic Working Groups (TWGs), as the US strongly supported them with both thought leadership and financial resources. Colleagues from USAID and MCC were already co-chairing, or about to co-chair, three out of the four TWGs.
- The **Global Donor Working Group on Land** is Chaired by FAO. They have four meetings per year, and recently met in-person at the World Bank Land Conference in May 2025. They are currently focusing on coordination around all COPs, with special attention to COP30 in Brazil.
- The **SDG2 Roadmap TWG** is Chaired by the Gates Foundation (previously alongside USAID). They are currently considering a re-focus of the TWG for a stronger mandate on food systems donor coordination data, policy, and impact. They are planning a virtual meeting in July, and an in-person in October (tbc). Discussions are ongoing to assess whether Canada, as an already active member, might be interested in co-chairmanship of the group.
- The **Sustainable/Blended Finance TWG** is chaired by IFAD and Songbae Lee (formerly USAID, now as independent expert). Their main output to date has been on developing the Catalytic Capital Framework; phase one of the donor cohort pilot testing was completed in Q1 2025, and an initial findings report will be published in July. The TWG had in-person presence at the CSAF and Agri-SME Learning Collective annual meetings and Building Bridges.
- The **Rural Youth Employment (RYE) TWG** is co-chaired by YPARD and OECD. The TWG recently contributed to the independent memoranda for the development of the post-Malabo CAADP. The group held a webinar in April, "Investing in Youth: The role of development banks", and will host a second finance-focused webinar in the fall.

## 5. Discussion on Platform status

### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

*For the Co-Chairs to initiate a discussion on the Platform's role and status in an uncertain moment for donors and geopolitics.*

### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The current geopolitical and institutional environment is highly unstable, with rapid changes and unpredictability. The withdrawal of the US from recent processes, including the FfD4, as well as broader multilateral fragmentation, puts forums like the G7 and G20 under strain. However, this emphasizes the unique value of the GDPRD as a space for informal, strategic donor dialogue, especially as other multilateral platforms weaken.
- While the Platform has faced budget constraints this year, due to inflation and nonpayment of membership fees from the US, as well as signals of reduced support in 2025 from some other members, there has been encouraging development of interest from non-Board members, including Canada and Norway. However, there is strong need to the GDPRD to adapt and strategically re-position itself in this evolving institutional landscape, particularly through the upcoming SMM and AGA. The Board is strongly encouraged to reflect on how this can be done, and how additional donors can be brought on as members to strengthen the Platform strategically and financially.
  - Canada has expressed strong interest in rejoining the Board and sees the Platform as a potential forum for pre-negotiation and coordination ahead of major global events, such as the G7, G20 and COPs, as well as a space for discussions on the international financial architecture reform. **[Co-Chair/Switzerland]**
- Given that the number of active members has reduced, there is a need to expand Board

membership while re-engaging the US and France. The Platform serving as a regular forum for engaging the current and future presidencies of the G7 and G20 would be valuable. The Secretariat should review its workload to prioritize feasible tasks, including reviewing the working groups' timeframes to ensure they contribute directly to major policy debates and do not operate in isolation. The upcoming Senior Managers Meeting (SMM) should be used to broaden outreach and rally EU member states, with the ultimate goal of attracting new Board members by 2026. **[EU]**

- Despite these challenges, the Platform serves an important role and function, particularly amid the shifting development finance environment. Mobilizing new members is essential to ensuring the Platform's vitality and future; IFAD remains committed and will support as its host. As Canada suggested, using the Platform more systematically as a space for pre-coordination, as was done for the WP ahead of the FfD4, would enhance its strategic value. **[IFAD]**

- The GDPRD is especially valuable now, given the shrinking ODA space, for strategic conversations on aligning efforts around food systems, financing and broader development priorities. Ensuring there are enough active members participating in the working groups is important and our partners could be involved (i.e., One Acre Fund is involved in the TWGs). Hosting the AGA alongside the SMM, as was done in previous years, could be considered to benefit from the unique networking function that the Platform and its events provide.

**[Netherlands]**

- Although hosting the AGA and SMM back-to-back would be practical, it may be too premature to host the AGA in the early fall, when the SMM will take place. **[GDPRD Secretariat]**

- The GDPRD has been extremely valuable for Italy, especially during the last G7 presidency, providing space for informal dialogue on key themes like blended finance and national initiatives. The Platform's role as a pre-coordination forum for international events is already working well and should be strengthened. Additionally, the Platform's communication function is extremely valuable; the databases and knowledge products are tools that Italy uses regularly. While expanding Board membership is crucial, we must focus on quality of better coordination and collaboration, rather than just the quantity of members. **[Italy]**
- The Canadian idea to use the Platform for pre-coordination ahead of global forums (e.g. G7, G20) is compelling, especially for non-G7 members like Ireland, which was invited as a guest under the current G20 Presidency, though future access remains uncertain. **[Ireland]**
- The SDG 2 Roadmap Working Group could serve as a "kitchen cabinet" to coordinate G7/G20 Presidencies, helping overcome the usual fragmentation between different Presidencies' secretariats. However, recent shifts in US involvement mean a new Co-Chair is needed; Canada has expressed interest to take on this role. **[Gates Foundation]**

## **DECISION POINTS**

- The Secretariat could prepare a brief prospectus (2-4 pages) outlining the platform's strengths, goals and engagement opportunities for potential new members. The Secretariat and Co-Chairs will develop this over the summer and share for further Board discussion in the fall. **[Switzerland]**
- The EU will engage France on recommitting to the Board, as well as host of the next G7 Presidency.
- All Board members are encouraged to engage with potential additional Board members. The Co-Chairs and Secretariat remain available to support efforts.

## 6. Discussions on 2026-2031 Strategic Plan

### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

*For the Secretariat to present the initial ideas and drafting process of the SP [Annex III].*

### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The 2026-2031 Strategic Plan (SP) will identify thematic focus areas for the next 5 years; reiterate the governance and funding structure; consider membership modalities; and outline operational principles for the Platform. While significant progress in drafting the SP has been made, the draft has been delayed to incorporate upcoming Senior Managers' insights and ongoing Board discussions. The vision and mission are proposed to remain unchanged, reflecting the platform's core focus on donor coordination, but with an emphasis on targeted, measurable outcomes.
- Over the past 5 years, the GDPRD has made significant achievements, including a strengthened thematic focus, more efficient use of resources despite reduced staffing, and better alignment with member priorities. Crucial lessons have also been learned, including the need for more targeted activities with measurable outcomes; that efficiency matters, but results must be the priority; and that stronger donor coordination requires clear value proposition. The strategic priorities include leveraging digital technologies, innovative financing models, climate-resilient agriculture, and integrating gender and social inclusion across activities
- The SP aims to provide a flexible framework to guide the Platform's work while responding effectively to rapid changes, with the final formulation expected by the end of this year or beginning of 2026.

### Discussion and Q&A:

- Reduced ODA and geopolitics weren't explicitly named in the thematic areas; they should be included as important cross-cutting issues that the Platform addresses. **[Netherlands]**

### DECISION POINT

- The Board approved the approach for the development of the new Strategic Plan.

## 7. 2025 Senior Managers Meeting

### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

*To discuss potential dates and topics for the annual Senior Managers Meeting (SMM).*

### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The 2025 Senior Managers Meeting (SMM) will be a hybrid meeting to review the Platform's highlights from 2024, discuss the Strategic Plan 2026-2031, coordination in a shrinking donor space, as well as to open a discussion on a 5-year review of IFAD's Secretariat hosting role.
- Proposed dates for the SMM include October 13-17 (alongside World Food Forum/World Food Day), October 20-24 (alongside CFS 53). Canada also proposed that the Senior Managers Meeting could be held back-to-back with the G7 Food Systems Working Group, allowing synergies between the two meetings (date and time still TBD). **[GDPRD Secretariat]**
  - Coordinating with Canada to engage the G7 working group would be valuable. **[Ireland]**
  - The option alongside the G7 working group may pose challenges for in-person attendance. **[Netherlands]**
  - Preference to hold the SMM either alongside the G7 working group meeting or the

week of World Food Day. *[Gates Foundation]*

## 8. Proposal for new thematic workstream: AI for Food Security and Rural Development

### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

*To present the proposal for a new workstream on AI.*

### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Over the last two years, the Platform has explored setting up an AI workstream, originally backed by the US and Canada through the SDG 2 Roadmap Working Group. This was presented during the 2023 SMM, but did not materialize, and the US funding for the SDG 2 Roadmap is currently frozen. Given the growing relevance of AI, as reaffirmed by the G7's recent commitments, we're now revisiting the idea of a dedicated workstream to create a space for coordination and knowledge sharing, to support Board agencies' approach and engagement of AI in development cooperation.
- Board members expressed their feedback and interest in this proposal through a series of Mentimeter questions [\[Annex IV\]](#).

### DECISION POINTS

- Based on the Mentimeter feedback, the Secretariat will develop a concept note on an AI workstream for the Board's consideration.

## 9. AOB and closing

### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Wilma van Esch and Naomi Sterk (the Netherlands) joined the call for the last time as they transition to new positions.





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# Financing Agrifood Systems for People, Planet, and Prosperity

Towards a new pact for mobilizing capital, reforming  
systems, and driving transformation at scale

A WHITE PAPER BY THE GLOBAL DONOR PLATFORM FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

June 2025




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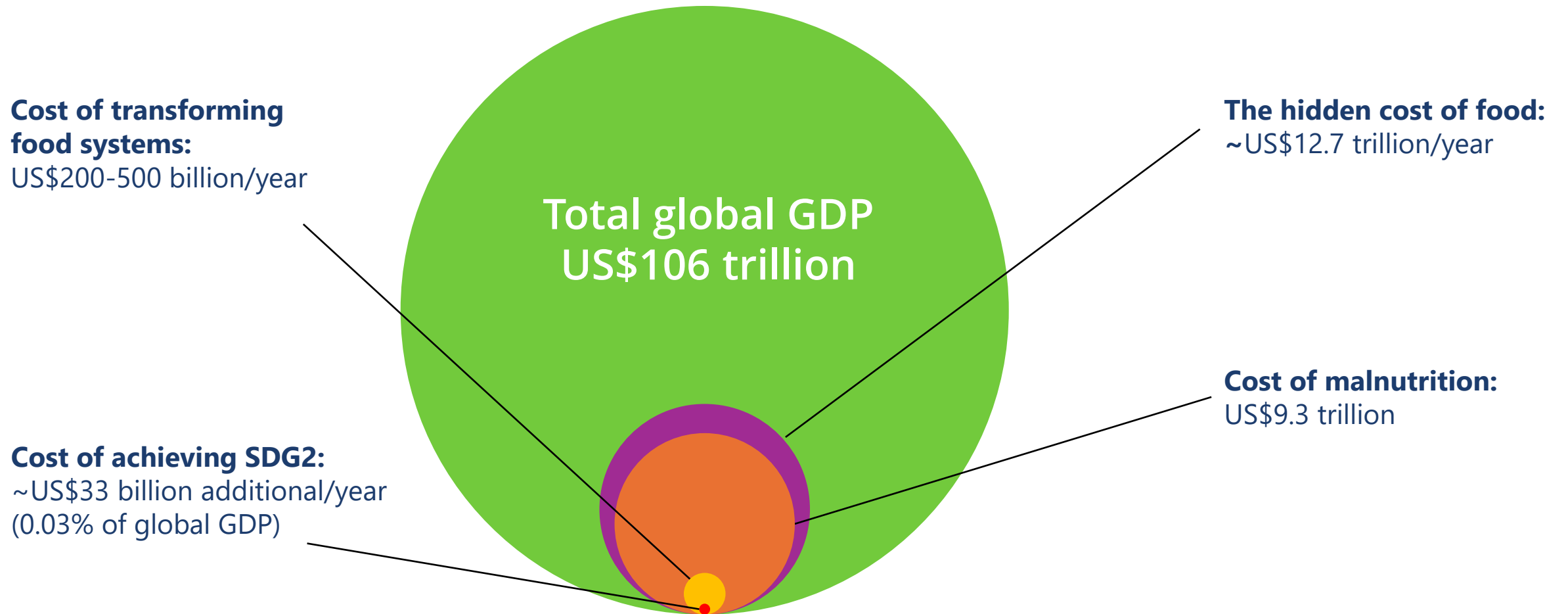
# Why this white paper?

- Making the case for a **dramatic increase in finance** for agrifood systems
- Identifying **six priority action areas** for key actors across the agrifood landscape
- **A CALL TO ACTION:** Agrifood systems must become a top-tier investment priority - one that unites development agendas in a shared vision for transformation


# Why agrifood systems must be a top investment priority

- **Agrifood systems are the foundation for national security, economic growth and human development**
  - The risks of not investing are unacceptable
    - 2.3 billion people face food insecurity – which could escalate
    - Agrifood systems contribute 1/3 of GHG emissions
    - Malnutrition costs the global economy US\$9.3 trillion annually
  - Hidden costs of current systems = US\$12.7 trillion/year
  - **Transformation costs (US\$200-500B) are dwarfed by the economic and social returns (up to US\$10 trillion)**
- 

# Costs of transformation



# The real bottleneck is not capital, it's alignment

- ODA is flat; private capital is abundant
  - Less than 1% of climate finance supports small-scale agriculture
  - Private investments and domestic subsidies already exceed public development finance
  - We need a new financing paradigm that unites public and private capital
  - **The global system has enough money – it needs direction, ambition, and coordination.**
- 

# Investing in transformation

## Current investments

**Investment by informal producers and SMEs in L&MICs:**  
US\$412 billion

**Climate finance to agrifood sector:**  
US\$28.5 billion (<5%)

**ODA to agriculture, forestry and fisheries:**  
US\$14.1 billion annually  
(5-6% of ODA,  
0.012% of global GDP)

**Private capital leveraged by blended finance:**  
~US\$240-500 million/year

**Global agrifood sector**  
US\$14 trillion

## Potential investment sources

US\$1.164 trillion

**Impact investing**

US\$1.27 trillion

**Climate finance**

US\$905 billion

**Remittances**

US\$842 billion

**Agricultural support**

# Driving a paradigm shift

- **Prioritize** agrifood systems transformation policy and expenditure as a foundation for development
- **Integrate** agrifood systems across sectors
- **Catalyse**, derisk and incentivise private sector investments
- **Repurpose** national government and donor expenditures to be more catalytic of change
- **Coordinate** across sectors and ministries, between public and private sector actors, within value chains, and between donors

## ACTION AREA 1:

# Ensure multilateralism remains the bedrock of global public goods

- Multilateral institutions must lead on global public goods
- Use development finance to catalyse reform and leverage private capital
- Shift from fragmented projects to long-term, systemic investment
- **Embed agrifood resilience in multilateral agendas: food security = global stability**



## ACTION AREA 2:

# Reform to unlock investments

- Investments require clear policies, fair trade, land tenure, and rural infrastructure
- Repurpose harmful subsidies and create smart incentives
- Support financial inclusion for SMEs, women, youth, Indigenous communities
- **Reform is not optional – it is the cost of unlocking transformation.**

## ACTION AREA 3:

# Scale innovative finance

- Accelerate blended finance and de-risking tools
- Use guarantees, green bonds, and public-private platforms
- Support domestic financial institutions to scale SME lending
- **Innovative finance is no longer niche – it's central. Scale it fast.**

## ACTION AREA 4:

# **Harness tech for inclusive finance**

- Leverage AI, digital platforms, remote sensing, and mobile tools
- Cut costs, improve access, and expand coverage
- Focus tech investments on underserved producers and SMEs
- **Tech is a catalyst for inclusion, not just efficiency.**

## ACTION AREA 5:

# Measure what matters

- Track where money is going – and whether it works
- Build data systems to inform investment, manage risk, and show results
- Strengthen collaboration with private sector and UN data platforms
- **What gets measured, gets financed.**

## ACTION AREA 6:

# Create collaborative financing agreements

- Move from talk to structured agreements
- Align actors behind national priorities
- Coordinate investments, build trust, and share accountability
- **CFA are the glue. They make financing systems work together.**

# Our call to action

**This is the moment.**  
FfD4, UNFSS+4, COP30  
– we must act now.

- Recognize agrifood systems as the engine of sustainable development
- Shift narratives
- Align finance
- Deliver transformation

Let's put food systems where they belong:  
at the **centre** of global investment strategies.

# 2025/26 AGA

## Scaling innovative financing for agrifood systems transformation

- Builds on 2024 AGA and the White Paper
- Brings together a wide range of innovative initiatives
- Sessions on each of the White Paper action areas
- Distill a more detailed action agenda for Collaborative Financing Agreements
- Preparatory technical session ahead of the AGA



# AGA timing and process

- Early 2026? – avoid end of year rush
- Series of webinars in lead up
- Synthesis of existing innovative financing initiatives
- Build on outcomes of FfD4 and UNFSS+4
- Combine with other key themes of the Platform



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# Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) of the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development

June 2025

# Thematic working groups



**Sustainable-  
blended Finance**



**Rural Youth  
Employment**



**Land Governance**



**SDG2 Roadmap**

# Global Donor Working Group on Land

- FAO as Chair since May 2024
- Four meetings per year
- Met in-person at the World Bank Land Conference in May 2025
- Coordination around all COPs, and a specific focus ahead of COP30 in Brazil



# SDG 2 Roadmap

- Gates Foundation as Chair (previously alongside USAID)
- Considering a re-focus of the TWG based on food systems donor coordination data, policy, and impact
- Virtual meeting in July, in-person in October (tbc)
- Seeking co-chairmanship with Canada



# Sustainable and Blended Finance



- IFAD and Songbae Lee as Co-Chairs
- Catalytic Capital Framework – donor cohort pilot testing completed (GAC, Norad, SDC, FCDO, USAID)
- Phase one testing results published in July, group discussion on Phase two
- In-person presence at CSAF, Agri-SME Learning Collective meetings, and Building Bridges

# Rural Youth Employment



- YPARD as incoming Chair alongside OECD
- Contributed to the independent memoranda for the development of the Post-Malabo CAADP
- Special AGA session with 3 young agriprenuers
- Webinar series – Investing in Youth: The role of development banks





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# Thank you

[www.donorplatform.org](http://www.donorplatform.org)

**GDPRD Food Systems Databases**

<https://www.donorplatform.org/resources/databases/>



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# Strategic Plan 2026-2031

**BOARD MEETING**

*18 June 2025*

# Scope and breadth

- Review the **vision** and **mission** of the Platform
- Identify **thematic focus areas** for the next 5 years
- **Governance** and **funding** structure
- **Membership** modalities
- **Operational** principles

# Review of the last five years

## Key achievements:

- Strengthened thematic focus
- More **efficient resource use** despite reduced staffing
- Greater alignment with **member priorities**

## Lessons learned:

- Need for **more targeted** activities with measurable outcomes
- **Efficiency matters**, but results must be the priority
- Stronger donor coordination requires **clear value proposition**

# A flexible and adaptive framework

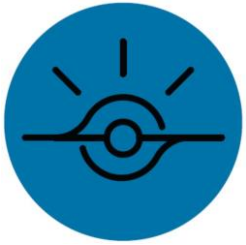
**Not a rigid blueprint** → a living, adaptive framework designed to help donors adjust priorities in response to rapid geopolitical and financial shifts.

1. **Reaffirm** the GDPRD's role as a convening space
2. **Increase** adaptability and responsiveness
3. **Address** funding constraints
4. **Strengthen** engagement with non-traditional donors

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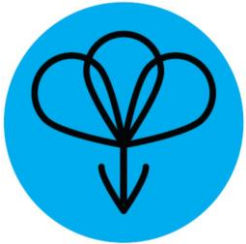
1. Executive summary
2. Introduction
3. **Global challenges & trends**
4. **Vision, mission & strategic goals**
5. **Thematic priorities for 2026-2031**
6. Operational approach & governance
7. Measuring impact & success
8. **Implementation roadmap (2026-2031)**
9. Conclusion & call to action

# Vision, mission & strategic goals



## VISION STATEMENT

Donors effectively **catalyse change**



## MISSION STATEMENT

Brokering **donor collaboration** for impact

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Strategic influencing
- Knowledge sharing
- Networking and convening



# Global challenges & trends

## Poverty, hunger and malnutrition

- Over 700 million living in extreme poverty, particularly in **rural areas**
- Triple burden of malnutrition is exacerbated by **inadequate agricultural support systems**

**Strategic Implication:** The GDPRD must focus on integrated strategies addressing poverty, food security, and nutrition, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

# Global challenges & trends

## Geopolitics and global cooperation

- **Conflicts, sanctions, tariffs, and trade restrictions** → reshaping supply chains and impacting food systems globally
- **Diverging priorities** → high-income countries, emerging economies, and low-income countries

**Strategic implication:** The GDPRD should help promote inclusive dialogue and cooperation, ensuring that geopolitical tensions do not undermine progress toward common goals.

# Global challenges & trends

## Development and funding landscape

- **Private capital, philanthropy, and impact investors** → coordination and alignment remains challenging
- **Blended finance models gaining traction** → climate-smart agriculture and rural infrastructure

**Strategic implication:** The GDPRD must strengthen partnerships with diverse stakeholders, ensuring that new financing mechanisms support rural development and food systems priorities.

# Global challenges & trends

## The role of private sector and blended finance

- Blended finance approaches can help **de-risk investments** in agricultural development and rural infrastructure.
- **Public-private partnerships (PPPs)** are increasingly essential.

**Strategic implication:** The GDPRD must facilitate collaboration between public and private actors, promoting models that support donor agencies in developing common standards for assessing the effectiveness and impact of blended finance initiatives.

# Thematic priorities for 2026-2031

1. **AI & digitalization** → Smarter donor coordination & data-driven decisions
2. **Innovative finance & blended models** → Mobilizing private capital for development
3. **Climate-resilient agriculture** → Scalable solutions for food security
4. **Gender & social inclusion** → Cross-cutting themes
5. **Donor coordination**

# Strategic focus for the future



## **Focus over breadth**

Streamlining Platform work for a balanced, targeted portfolio that achieves depth of impact over breadth and finding synergies between workstreams and working groups for efficiency.



## **Tracking platform successes**

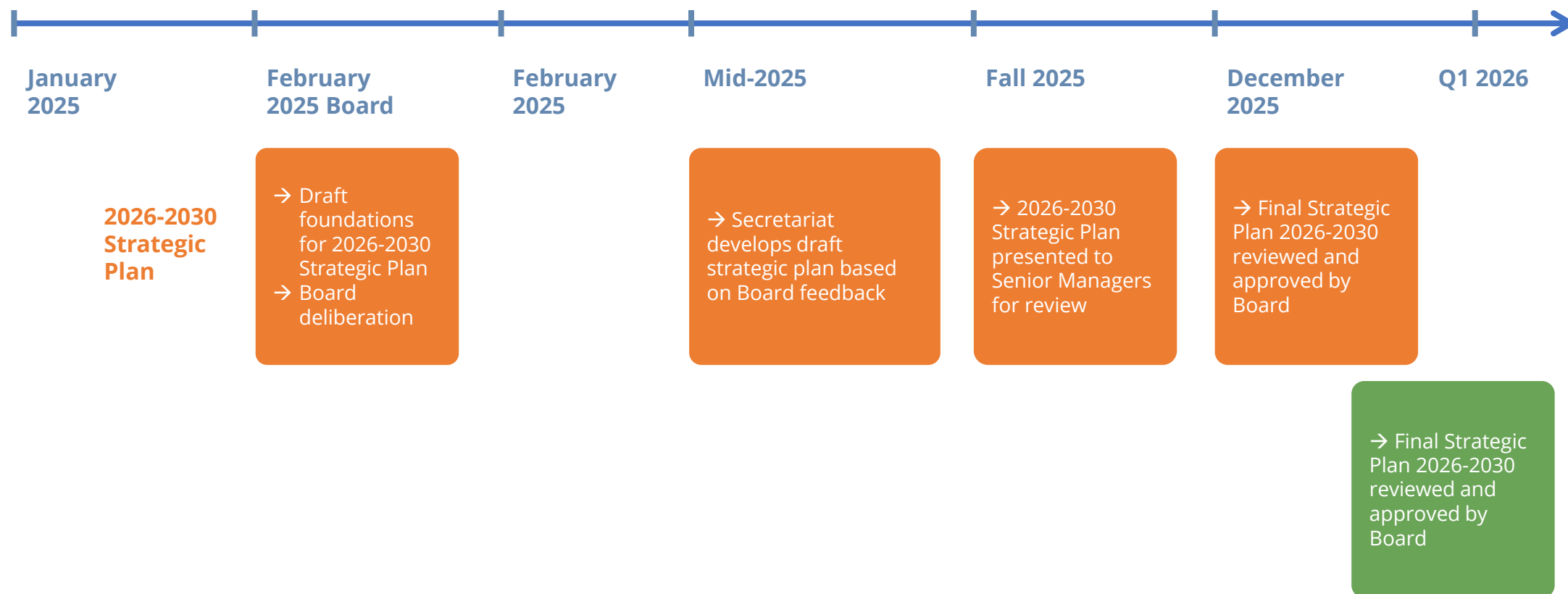
Understanding which types of products and initiatives from the 2021-25 Strategic Plan have carried the most value.



## **Expanding the pool of actors**

From the EU and increasing engagement with emerging donors to foster diversified discussions.

# Next steps and process





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# Thank you

[www.donorplatform.org](http://www.donorplatform.org)



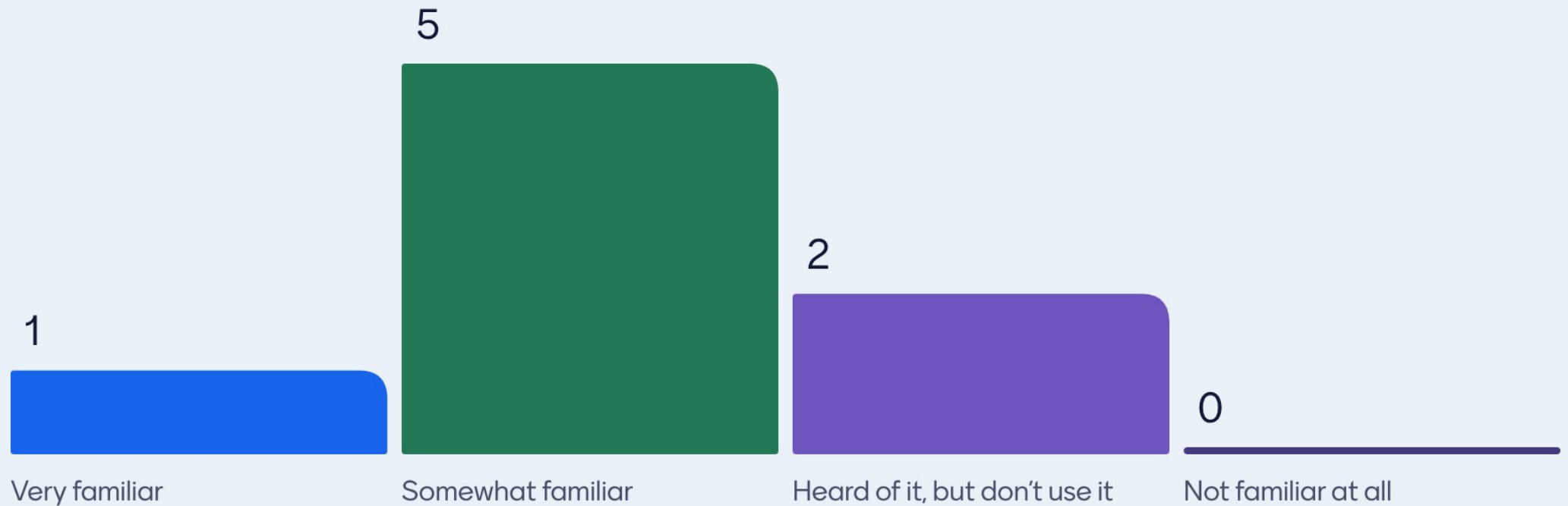
# Instructions



In one word, what comes to mind when you think of AI in development cooperation?



How familiar are you with practical applications of AI in international development?



# What is your biggest interest in integrating AI into development cooperation?

Stakeholder  
engagement

Country ownership and use.  
Transparency in data  
access and availability.

Resilience of projects  
Efficiency of projects

How it can be used to  
improve the knowledge  
base for decisions and  
policy.

Increase efficiency, making  
use of existing knowledge,  
new possibilities

Data interoperability

Remote sensing

Good way to involve also youth.  
New avenues. Can maybe also  
create better overview on data  
and analysis which can help  
decision making or can support  
our development programmes.

# What is your biggest interest in integrating AI into development cooperation?

Optimizing resource allocation:  
Identifying the most effective  
interventions and regions for  
investment . Enhancing data-  
driven decision-making

Digital Connectivity and  
Space

Has your organization already implemented an AI programme? If yes, in which area?

No

On going

AI supported weather  
forecasting and digital  
advisory services.

No, but interested in the  
options

Exploring some of the  
tools.

Which areas should the Donor Platform prioritize for exploring AI applications? Rank your top 3 choices.



## What outcomes would you expect from an AI workstream over the next 12–24 months?

To understand what are already the options out there and share experiences if certain donors already work on it.

A landscape understanding of the possibilities, and possible policy positions.

Sharing what is possible now & horizon scan

Convergence on donor policies towards AI.

Knowledge on technologies to be used by youth

Policy