



Global Donor
Platform for
Rural Development

Global Donor Platform for Rural Development

2026 Work Plan



Vision

Donors effectively catalyse change



Mission

Brokering donor collaboration for impact

Functions of the Donor Platform

Strategic influencing

Shaping global donor
policies and programmes.

Knowledge sharing

Connecting stakeholders for
collaboration and shared
learning.

Networking and convening

Curating and disseminating insights and
innovative donor policies, strategies and
practices. Managing databases and
information bases to offer knowledge
tools for the donor community.

Outcome areas

1

Strategic influencing capability
strengthened

2

Responsiveness to member needs is
enhanced

3

Communications, outreach, and
knowledge sharing are improved

4

Membership base is consolidated

5

Delivery capacity secured and
improved

Outcome Areas and Activities

1. Strategic influencing capability strengthened

Outcome: Donors better position agrifood systems as a credible, high-impact and politically relevant investment area.

Outputs and activities:

1.1. Focus on new models of ODA and return on investments (ROI) in agrifood systems:

- Develop a high-level framing paper on ROI for food systems (e.g., time horizons, benefits for donor countries, economic and financial impacts, etc.).
- Organize donor roundtables highlighting value-for-money strategies and return on investment, specifically in fragile contexts.

Indicators: 1 high-level report, 2 donor roundtables, 1 high-level convening.

1.2. Strengthen collective positioning and coordination of agrifood systems in global policy processes:

- Informal policy roundtables with expert speakers, for shared analysis and insights on navigating the current context.
- Closed-door donor discussions ahead of global fora (e.g., G7, G20, UN processes) to ensure that members are well-informed, and that agrifood systems remain well positioned.

Indicators: 1 policy roundtable, at least 1 closed-door discussion held with Presidency of G7/G20 etc.

1.3. Integration of digitalization and AI in food systems:

- Host webinars and dialogues on AI and digitalization at both political and technical level.
- Discussion space for donors to share how they are responding to AI across their portfolios
- Explore 2–3 areas for joint action (e.g. shared pilots, pooled learning initiatives).
- Short scoping study to map donor initiatives and emerging lessons, with concise repository of select AI use cases relevant to food security and rural development.

Indicators: 3 webinars, 1 scoping study (subject to funding).

2. Responsiveness to member needs is enhanced

Outcome: The Platform's work is adaptive and aligned with the priorities of its members.

Outputs and activities:

2.1. Facilitate member engagement and input:

- Organize 2026 Annual General Assembly (AGA).
- Host the 2026 Senior Managers Meeting.
- Publish quarterly newsletters.

Indicators: 1 AGA, 1 Senior Managers Meeting, 4 newsletters.

2.2. Support for thematic working groups (TWGs):

- Convene TWGs on Sustainable Finance, SDG2 Roadmap, Rural Youth Employment, Land Governance and Tenure.
- Provide platforms for TWG presentations at Board meetings.

Indicators: At least 3 meetings per TWG, 1 TWG presentation at Board, dedicated TWG sessions at AGA.

3. Communications, outreach, and knowledge sharing are improved

Outcome: Members and stakeholders are better engaged and informed. Outreach covers wider target audience.

Outputs and activities:

3.1. Enhance visibility through digital channels:

- Update the Platform website for better usability and searchability.
- Implement mini campaigns around major events and flagship publications.
- Establish member profile pages.

Indicators: 10% increase in web traffic, 2 mini-campaigns, 1 new website feature for member profile pages.

3.2. Expand social media engagement:

- Develop content strategies to amplify outreach on LinkedIn, Instagram and X.
- Identify donor champions as social media advocates.

- Strengthen relationships with member and partner communications counterparts with an expanded social media advocacy toolkit.

Indicators: 15% increase in social media followers, 1 social media advocate, 10 new communications relationships, 1 social media advocacy kit

3.3. Develop and share knowledge products:

- Publish flagship reports using enhanced digital capabilities.
- Conduct Board, member, and partner interview series Maintain and improve the Food Systems Recommendations Database.
- Maintain and improve the Food Systems Architecture Database.

Indicators: 3 digital flagship publications including 1 Annual Report, monthly database updates, 15 interviews published on the website, 6 podcast submissions.

4. Membership base is consolidated

Outcome: Increased resources and representation for greater impact.

Outputs and activities:

4.1. Strengthen advocacy:

- Update the Platform's advocacy toolkit and value proposition materials.
- Conduct outreach to prospective members, including non-traditional donors.

Indicators: 1 updated toolkit

5. Delivery capacity secured and improved

Outcome: The Secretariat operates effectively to support the Platform's goals.

Outputs and activities:

5.1. Sustain secretariat staffing and resources:

- Maintain funding for key Secretariat positions.
- Recruit additional consultants and interns as needed.

Indicators: 3 core staff positions funded, 1 senior consultant, 2 junior consultants.

5.2. Implement a results-based approach:

- Develop and monitor annual work plans and TWG-specific plans.

Indicators: 1 results-based work plan, 4 TWG plans.

Annex I

2026 Calendar of key Platform activities

- **January:** Webinar on The Value of Adopting a Systems Approach for Agrifood Financing; ECOSOC Partnership Forum Side Event.
- **February:** Donor Briefing on the Agrifood Systems Accelerator Initiative; Consultation on member priorities for Strategic Plan; Board meeting and coordination alongside IFAD Governing Council.
- **April:** Donor Roundtable on ROI and value-for-money; GDWGL participation in the World Bank Land Conference.
- **May:** Kofi Annan Commission on Food Security Donor Gathering (Presence of the SDG 2 Roadmap Working Group).
- **June/July:** Engagement in G7 Leaders' Summit, publication of the Annual Report, informal Board meeting.
- **Q3:** Senior Managers Meeting; potential in-person meetings of TWGs; contributions to the CFS.
- **Q4:** Annual General Assembly (AGA); Board meeting.
- **Ongoing:** Webinars/roundtables, TWG meetings, knowledge product development.

Annex II

ARD, Food Systems & Nutrition-related Events in 2026

Event	Date	Location	Comments
Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) 2026	14 – 17 January	Berlin, Germany	
World Economic Forum	19 – 23 January	Davos, Switzerland	
IFAD Governing Council 2026 (GC49)	9 - 12 February	Rome, Italy (IFAD HQ)	GDPRD Board meeting alongside
62 nd Munich Security Conference (MSC 2026)	13 – 15 February	Munich, Germany	
Second International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD+20)	24 – 28 February	Cartagena, Colombia	Presence of GDWGL members
FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (LARC 39)	2 – 6 March	Brasília, Brazil	
Asia and the Pacific Food Systems Forum 2026	16 - 19 March	Manila, Philippines (ADB HQ)	
FAO Regional Conference for Africa (ARC34)	13 – 17 April	Nouakchott, Mauritania	
World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings	13 – 18 April	Washington, DC	
2026 ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development Follow-Up (FfD Forum)	20 – 24 April	New York, NY (UN HQ)	
147 th Session of IFAD Executive Board	22 – 24 April	Rome, Italy (IFAD HQ)	
World Bank Land Conference 2025	29 April – 1 May	Washington, DC	Presence of GDWGL members
ADB Annual Meetings	3 – 6 May	Uzbekistan	
G7 French Presidency Meeting	18 – 19 May	Paris, France	
Kofi Annan Commission on Food Security Donor Gathering	May TBC	Italy	Presence of the SDG 2 Roadmap Working Group
Finance in Common G7 HL Special Event	20 May	Paris, France	
G7 Leaders' Summit (52 nd G7 Summit)	14 – 16 June	Évian-les-Bains, France	Under the French Presidency

Event	Date	Location	Comments
Hamburg Sustainability Conference	29 – 30 June	Hamburg, Germany	
Europe-Asia Economic Summit	29 – 1 July	Davos, Switzerland	
High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development	6 – 15 July	New York, NY	
Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCCD COP17)	17 – 28 August	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	
Africa Food System Forum	September, dates TBD	Rwanda	
148 th Session of IFAD Executive Board	15 – 17 September	Rome, Italy (IFAD HQ)	
UN General Assembly (UNGA81)	8 – 22 September	New York, NY	
New York Climate Week	20 – 27 September	New York, NY	
World Bank/IMF Annual Meeting	12 – 18 October	Bangkok, Thailand	
World Food Forum	12 – 16 October TBC	Rome, Italy (FAO HQ)	World Food Day included on 16 October
CFS 53	19 – 23 October TBC	Rome, Italy (FAO HQ)	
UNFCCC COP 31	November	Türkiye	
UN Water Conference	2 – 4 December	Abhu Dhabi	
149 th Session of IFAD Executive Board	8 – 10 December	Rome, Italy (IFAD HQ)	
G20 Leaders' Summit	14 – 15 December	Miami, Florida	Under the US Presidency
FAO Council	TBD - December	Rome, Italy (FAO HQ)	
FAO Regional Conference for Europe and Central Asia	TBD	Dushanbe, Tajikistan	