Global Donor Platform for Rural Development

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2026 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mutual Benefits: Unpacking the strategic return on investment potential from agrifood systems

02 December 2026 | 9:00-18:00 GMT (10:00-19:00 CET)
Hybrid | Camden Court Hotel (Tivoli Room), Dublin and on Zoom

The 2026 Annual General Assembly (AGA) is the flagship event of the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development, bringing together members, partners and experts to exchange knowledge, shape strategic priorities, and collaborate on advancing sustainable agriculture and rural development.

This year, the AGA will explore the latest evidence, exchange perspectives and deepen understanding of strategic return on investment (ROI) in practice, under the theme *"Mutual Benefits: Unpacking the strategic return on investment potential from agrifood systems."*

Well-targeted investments in agrifood systems can deliver multidimensional and far-reaching returns—from poverty reduction, food security and nutrition to employment, climate resilience and stability.

These benefits are particularly important for smallholder farmers, women and young people, who are central to productive and inclusive agrifood systems. Discussions will move beyond narrow metrics to consider the broader economic, fiscal, social, environmental and strategic value of investing in resilient agrifood systems.

Your engagement, whether in person or virtually, will help shape forward-looking approaches to development finance and rural development.

An Associated Presidency Event under Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2026

The AGA 2026 provides an opportunity to:

- **Unpack ROI** across economic, fiscal, social, environmental and strategic dimensions
- **Strengthen the evidence base** on trade, capital mobilization, and geopolitical and security returns, to build a more complete and compelling investment case for key decision makers.
- **Discuss findings** and engage with the new GDPRD ROI Framing Paper, to be released at the event.
- **Identify priorities:** investment areas, value chains and financing instruments with the potential to generate high transformational returns.
- **Connect thematic areas** and link insights from land governance and rural youth employment to the broader agrifood systems investment agenda.
- **Celebrate women's leadership** as investors, producers and drivers of agrifood transformation in a session marking the 2026 Year of the Woman Farmer.
- **Network** with leaders, experts and peers.

Register: bit.ly/4C8LQmn

Event page: bit.ly/4t7lcX4

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