

THE AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS (AFS) ACCELERATOR

A woman wearing a vibrant, patterned headscarf and a matching colorful shirt is smiling as she sorts through a large pile of fresh vegetables. The vegetables include bright orange carrots, green cucumbers, and red tomatoes. The background shows more produce, including green beans and various types of squash, suggesting a bustling market or farm stand. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter.

March 2026

Introducing the AFS Accelerator

A Collaborative Model for Agrifood Systems Transformation



Primary Aim

Through more rapid, demand-driven collaboration, support governments and stakeholders to design, scale and implement inclusive, sustainable, and resilient agrifood systems transformation.



Current Members

FAO, GAIN, the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, AGRA, Netherlands Food Partnership, GIZ, Akademiya2063, Expertise France, FIAP, and the SUN Movement Secretariat.

A Critical Need for Transformation



Global Hunger

Despite progress, 673 million people currently face hunger, underscoring the need to step up efforts to ensure access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food.



Hidden Economic & Environmental Costs

Over USD 10 trillion annually is lost due to environmental degradation and health burdens linked to conventional practices.



Climate Change Nexus

Accounting for around 1/3 of GHG emissions, agrifood systems play a crucial role in both adapting to and mitigating climate change globally.



Implementation Gap

Encouragingly, many governments have national pathways, yet transformation efforts are hindered by fragmented action and insufficient funding. For example, only 7% of global climate finance is allocated to these systems.

Transforming our agrifood systems is a high priority imperative given the profound and interconnected challenges we face.

ACCELERATOR OVERVIEW

Objective: supporting governments and stakeholders to design, scale and implement inclusive, sustainable, and resilient transformations

Steps:

- First, it will analyze the agrifood system requests of the countries. What is the state of the system and what is holding back their priorities?
- Second it will identify and develop a financeable action-- or set of actions-- that can transform the country's agrifood system to deliver their priorities.
- Third, it will crowd in financing for these actions



Providing Tools for Coordination and Diagnosis

Sourced from across all partners, the Accelerator offers comprehensive tools for governments to coordinate initiatives, diagnose needs, and leverage resources for optimal impact.

Fostering Support Systems

It expands engagement with private sector, knowledge institutions, and development banks to strengthen coherent support ecosystems for strategic actions.

Bridging Financial Gaps

The Accelerator helps governments move from planning to co-investment, connecting them with development finance and business partners.

The Value Proposition: Overcoming Key Inefficiencies



Fragmentation

Offers a unified platform for partner alignment around country-led priorities, reducing transaction costs and enhancing synergy.



Evidence-to-Investment Gap

Bridges the gap between national priorities and investment-ready programs by de-risking opportunities and facilitating actionable investment.



Misaligned Existing Resources

Empowers governments to redirect existing financial flows towards higher-impact, sustainable practices for greater effectiveness.



Diverse Incentives

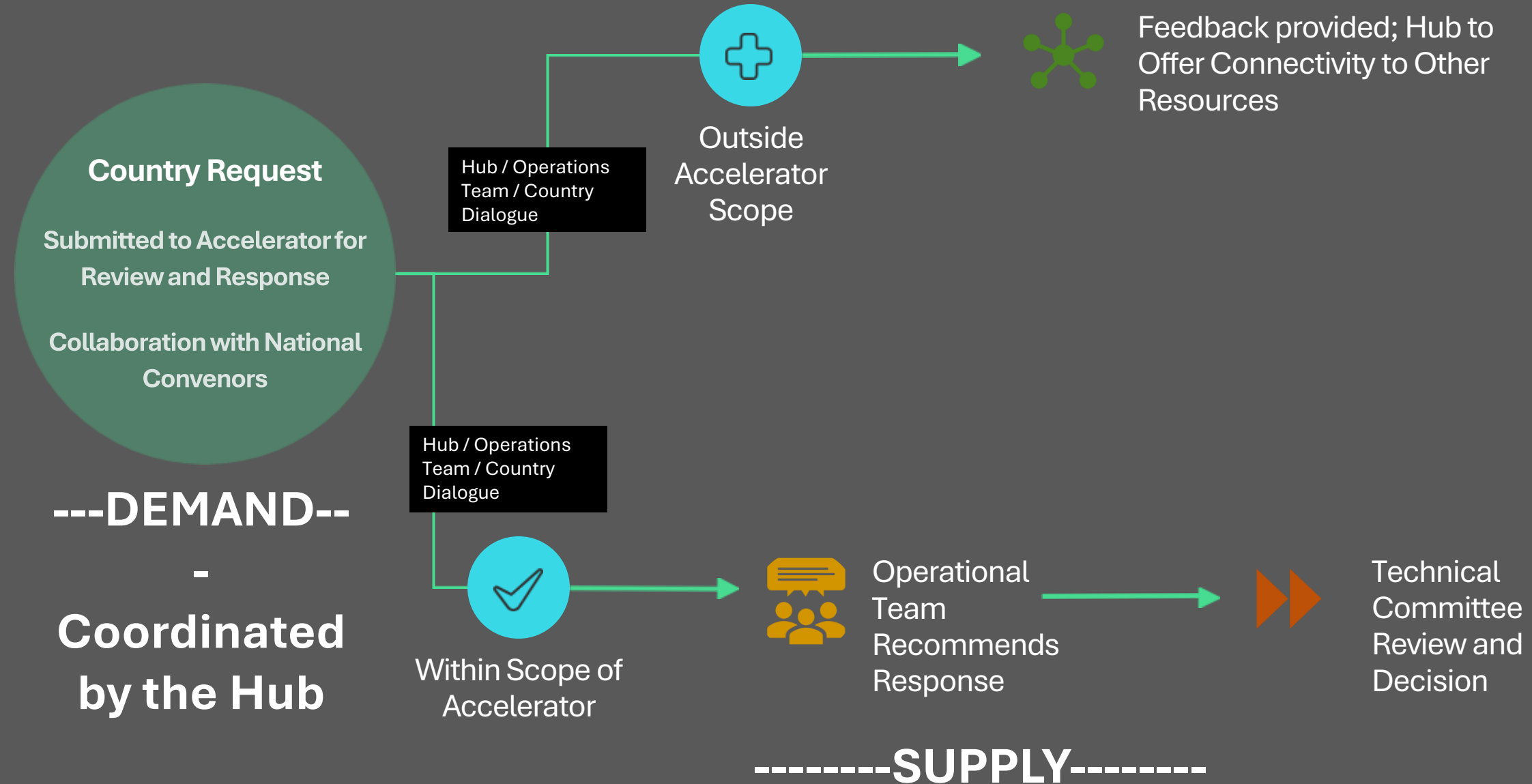
In a rapidly evolving landscape for development cooperation, the incentives for enhanced partnership need to be clear. The Accelerator seeks to link across the incentives among different sets of actors behind government objectives.

How It Works: A Demand-Driven, Collaborative Model

Outlining the Accelerator's streamlined, country-led process.

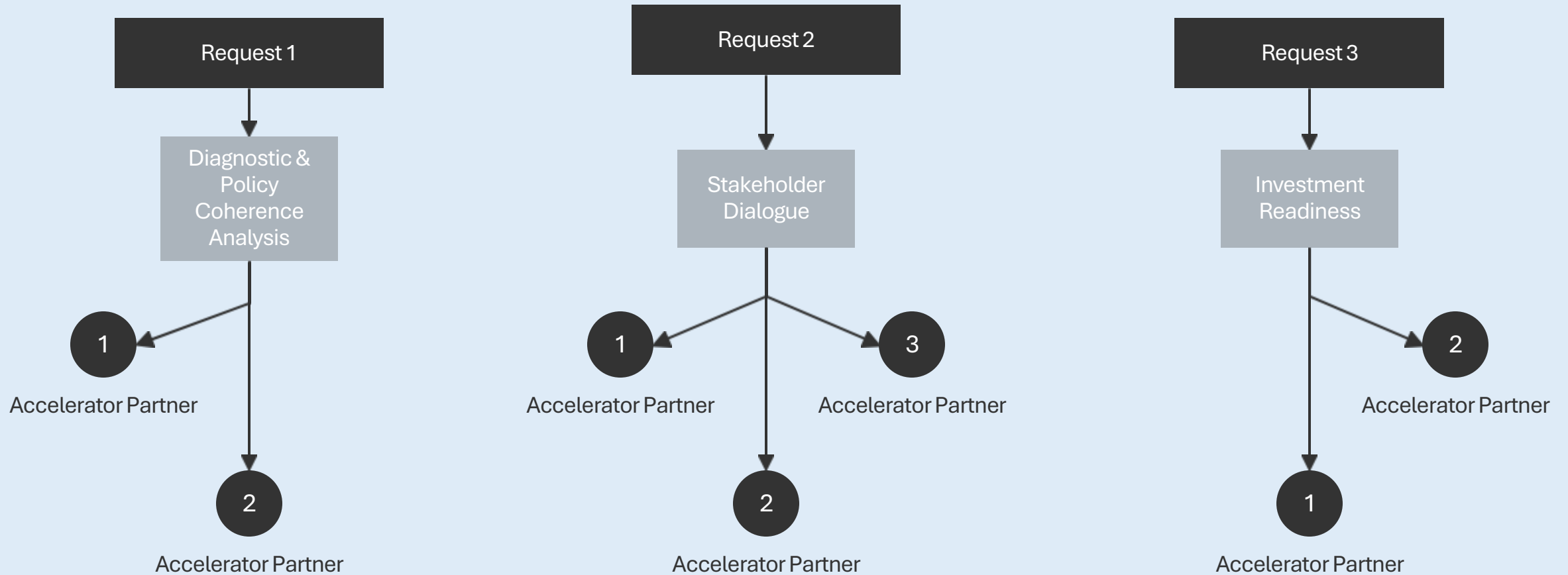


Accelerator Review Process



Example of Country Response Decision

One Country Can Make Multiple Requests, Each Requiring a Different Response



What Makes the Accelerator Different?

Highlighting the unique aspects of the Accelerator's approach.



Evidence-Based

Solutions emerge from sound analysis, not predetermined templates. The approach in each country reflects its unique context, priorities, and political economy.



Systems Approach

The Accelerator leverages the breadth of its partners' expertise to embrace a systems approach, driving integrated actions that create synergies across different sectors



Multi-Stakeholder Design

Each member of the Accelerator brings invaluable expertise and experience to bear, around an approach that reduces transaction costs and increases coherence and impact.



Equity-Focused

Prioritizes the inclusion and empowerment of women, youth, and smallholders, recognizing them as key agents of change.



Pace and Responsiveness

Requests are immediately acknowledged and reviewed rapidly. The response time to any request is intended to be within 20 days and no later than two months of receipt.



Enabling Efficiency and Transparency: Trust Fund for the Agrifood Systems Accelerator

The Trust Fund will follow FAO rules and be **managed by the UN Food System Coordination Hub**.

The Trust Fund will set up **standing arrangements with Accelerator partners** to channel funding rapidly to the most appropriate agency(ies) to deliver support. All decisions of the funding under the Trust Fund will be allocated and prioritized based on a detailed work plan agreed by the TC.

The Trust Fund offers a streamlined, strategic approach that enhances coordination and results.

The financing model is highly flexible: donors may fund the entire programme, individual components, or co-finance new or existing ones tailored to thematic or geographic interests.

In addition, donors can finance partners directly, but all financing will be consolidated

Monitoring and reporting are consolidated, giving partners and donors a clear view of impact across multiple countries and sectors.

The Path Forward: Scaling with Discipline

Rollout Strategy: Phased Approach



Initial Engagement

Engage the initial cohort of countries to refine mechanisms and demonstrate impact.



Dynamic Evolution and Scale

Evolve and scale as a dynamic platform, adapting to external environment and internal capabilities. Aiming to positively respond to at least 10 countries by end of 2026.



Key Success Metrics

Monitor progress through key performance indicators, including country request responses, financing mobilized, technical assistance delivery time, government satisfaction, and evidence of coordination gains.

Thank you

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Let's transform agrifood systems together.