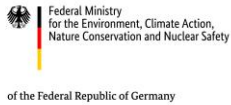


On behalf of:



IGCA Call for Proposals: Viability Gap Funding for Farmer-Centric Agrivoltaics Projects

Putting farmers at the centre of the Agrivoltaics transition

- **Implemented by:** Indo-German Cooperation on Agrivoltaics (IGCA)
- **Applications open:** 21 October 2026
- **Initial application deadline:** 31 January 2027
- **Support:** 5% to 25% of total project cost (assessed by IGCA on the proposal)
- **Eligible projects:** Farmer-centric Agrivoltaics projects of 50-500 kWp total solar installed capacity
- **Apply at:** [Online Application Form](#)

About the Call

The Indo-German Cooperation on Agrivoltaics (IGCA), implemented on behalf of the International Climate Initiative of the Federal Government of Germany, invites proposals for Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support for farmer-centric Agrivoltaics projects. The initiative seeks to encourage the establishment, expansion and demonstration of farmer-centric Agrivoltaics systems across diverse agro-ecological regions of India focusing on Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Assam and beyond, generating evidence on viable technical, financial and institutional models while strengthening farmer participation in the renewable energy transition.

At least one supported project will be owned by a women-led organization, promoting women's leadership and participation in farmer-centric Agrivoltaics development.

Support Categories

Two types of VGF support will be offered by IGCA.

1. Service Contracts

- For registered institutions and organizations, with a preference for women-led institutions
- VGF support may cover both hardware and software components, subject to a 25% ceiling

2. Direct Procurement Awards

- For individual farmers (with a preference for female farmers) and informal groups, applying on their own or through civil society partners
- Support is delivered through direct procurement of hardware by IWMI (on behalf of IGCA) and transfer of ownership to selected recipients

Who Can Apply?

Applications are invited from:

- Individual farmers
- Informal farmer groups
- Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)
- Farmer cooperatives
- NGOs and civil society organizations
- Social enterprises and startups
- Any other relevant institutions supporting rural livelihoods

Applicants should have either:

- An existing farmer-centric Agrivoltaics installation with a clear plan for expansion or enhancement to a capacity of 50-500 kWp; or
- A confirmed plan to establish a new 50-500 kWp farmer-centric Agrivoltaics project within six months of VGF award

For this call, a farmer-centric project is either a standalone installation of 50-500 kWp, or a cumulative 50-500 kWp across multiple fields that are intrinsically linked and serve a joint or similar purpose. In both cases, proposals must establish the centrality of farmers to the goals and objectives of the project.

Selection Process

The selection process will follow three stages:

- **Stage 1:** Submission of a brief project concept note through a structured online application format.
- **Stage 2:** Submission of a detailed proposal by shortlisted applicants, covering project design, financial and institutional arrangements, agricultural and energy-use plans, ownership structure and implementation timeline.
- **Stage 3:** Presentation to the IGCA Steering Committee and invited external experts for final selection and award.

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated on mutually agreed criteria and weights, along with important non-ratable parameters. The likely criteria and relative weights are:

- **Technical Design (30%):** Quality of design, size, energy use / evacuation plan, agricultural planning, implementation capacity and clear execution timeline.
- **Financial Design (25%):** Sources of funds, extent of reliance on VGF, farmers' contribution, innovations in financing sources or mechanisms.

- **Institutional Design (25%):** Farmers' ownership and stakes, community participation in design and planning, O&M mechanisms, gender and social inclusion.
- **Strategic Relevance (20%):** Scaling potential, alignment with policy priorities, demonstration effect; priority for women-led projects.

Expectations from Awardees

- Ensure meaningful farmer participation throughout project planning, design, deployment and implementation
- Maintain productive agricultural production under Agrivoltaics systems
- Track farm-level outcomes such as income, productivity, costs and risk reduction
- Document operational experiences, challenges and lessons learned
- Contribute to knowledge-sharing and dissemination activities facilitated by IGCA

Expected Outcomes

The programme is expected to generate replicable models of farmer-centric Agrivoltaics, strengthen evidence on socio-economic and environmental benefits, and support the development of policies and investment pathways for large-scale adoption of farmer-led and farmer-centric Agrivoltaics in India.

Key Dates

- **Online applications open:** 21 October 2026
- **Information sessions:** November - December 2026
- **Initial application deadline:** 31 January 2027
- **Detailed proposal submission deadline:** 31 March 2027
- **Finalists announced:** 15 April 2027
- **Final round presentations and award:** April - May 2027

How to Apply

The call is hosted on the APV portal maintained by IGCA (<https://www.agrophotovoltaics.in/>). **Apply through the online application format here: [Online Application Form](#).**

For queries, write to: International Water Management Institute, iwmi-awc2026@cgiar.org

About IGCA

The Indo-German Cooperation on Agrivoltaics (IGCA) project will accelerate the adoption and scaling of Agrivoltaics in India by integrating solar energy generation with sustainable agriculture, optimizing land use while strengthening food and energy security. It will demonstrate scalable Agrivoltaics models across diverse agro-ecological zones and develop viable business and financing mechanisms for farmers and developers. Through capacity building, knowledge transfer

and gender-inclusive approaches, it will strengthen the capabilities of farmers, developers and institutions. In partnership with central and state governments, the project aims to support policy integration and create an enabling ecosystem for the long-term mainstreaming of Agrivoltaics in India.

IGCA is implemented on behalf of the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the Federal Government of Germany. The project is jointly implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems (ISE) and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI).