



BIFAD Subcommittee for Minority Serving Institution (MSI) Engagement and Leadership in USAID's Agricultural, Food Security and Nutrition Policies and Programming

**Call for
Nominations**

Board for
International Food
and Agricultural
Development



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD), an advisory committee to the U.S. Agency for International Development on food and agricultural issues, is accepting nominations for a proposed Subcommittee on Minority Serving Institution Engagement and Leadership in USAID's Agricultural, Food Security, and Nutrition Policies and Programming (the Subcommittee).



Nominations are due by September 15, 2023, 5:00pm EDT. Please review the information below and submit your nomination via BIFAD's [online feedback form](#).

ABOUT BIFAD

The Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD) is a seven-member, presidentially appointed advisory board to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) established in 1975 under Title XII of the Foreign Assistance Act, as amended, to ensure that USAID brings the assets of U.S. universities to bear on development challenges in agriculture, nutrition, and food security and supports their representation in USAID programming.

Learn more at usaid.gov/BIFAD

PURPOSE OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE

BIFAD proposes to establish this permanent Subcommittee to identify how USAID can best bring the resources and capabilities of MSIs to bear on the implementation of the U.S. Government Global Food Security Strategy. Pending approval by the USAID Administrator, the Subcommittee's work will explore inclusive engagement, partnership models, and thought leadership opportunities for MSIs and advise BIFAD on approaches to elevate the strengths and perspectives of MSIs within USAID's agricultural, nutrition, and food security work.

The establishment of this Subcommittee is grounded in the recent White House Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities through the Federal Government and USAID's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategy.

The Subcommittee will offer actionable, solutions-oriented advice to BIFAD for the purpose of elevating the partnership and leadership of U.S. MSIs in ending hunger, poverty, and malnutrition.

The proposed Subcommittee has four overarching objectives:

1. Inform recommendations to strengthen USAID partnerships with MSIs as thought leaders and implementing partners in global agriculture-led growth, resilience, food security, and nutrition with the goals of ending hunger and food insecurity;
2. Create a platform for dialogue;
3. Strengthen BIFAD's collaboration with MSIs; and,
4. Identify opportunities for USAID to engage with higher education communities, particularly MSIs and underrepresented groups, to develop a diverse pipeline of future professionals in global food security, nutrition, and agricultural development.

For more information, please review the Subcommittee's draft Terms of Reference.

MEMBERSHIP PLAN

Pending approval by the USAID Administrator, Subcommittee members will be appointed in late 2023 for 1 to 3 years of service. The range of initial terms will allow the standing Subcommittee to balance new membership in the future with institutional and work stream continuity. The Subcommittee will include 7 to 11 formal members.

BIFAD aims to engage experts who can promote evidence gathering and informed recommendations that consider diverse subject matter viewpoints and incorporate the perspectives of marginalized populations. Please consider the following criteria in nominating candidates.

Organizational Representation

The Subcommittee should include members with a balance of organizational representation, with consideration for:

- The broad range of MSIs with capabilities in international development, agriculture, nutrition, and/or resilience, to include individual institutions or broader representative organizations (consortia, associations, etc.) from among the following:
 - Alaska Native-Serving Institutions
 - Asian American Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions
 - Historically Black Colleges & Universities
 - Hispanic Serving Institutions
 - Native American-Serving Non-Tribal Institutions
 - Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions
 - Predominantly Black Institutions
 - Tribal Colleges and Universities
- U.S. government entities with successful experience engaging MSIs as thought leaders and implementing partners;
- The Feed the Future Innovation Lab community, particularly an Innovation Lab management entity or local partner with demonstrated success in engaging MSIs in Feed the Future research; and
- Private firms, NGOs, or USAID implementing partners of diverse profiles.

Areas of Expertise and Experience

Members should represent a range of relevant professional fields and experiences. Example areas of expertise include:

- International agricultural and rural development;
- Technical fields related to agriculture, food security, nutrition, and resilience (preferably with international experience and/or U.S. experience in underserved communities);
- Policy, research, teaching, and/or extension in related technical areas.
- University contracts and grants administration;
- Youth, gender, and other diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility issues, possibly pertaining to recruitment and/or human resource management.

Important Considerations

- Geographic diversity; and
- A balance of university or organizational leadership, faculty, and staff, including representation of early- and mid-career professionals



NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS



Nominations are due by
September 15, 2023, 5:00pm EDT

BIFAD is accepting member nominations for the proposed Subcommittee on Minority Serving Institution Engagement and Leadership in USAID's Agricultural, Food Security, and Nutrition Policies and Programming. This public call for nominations is one of several approaches to identifying prospective members. Member selection is at the discretion of the BIFAD and its Executive Director. Members of this new Subcommittee are expected to be appointed in December 2023.

Nominations are due by September 15, 2023 at 5 p.m. EDT. Individuals are permitted to nominate themselves. **Please submit nominations at [this link](#)**, selecting "Public Call for Member Nominations: Proposed BIFAD Subcommittee on Minority Serving Institution Engagement and Leadership" to direct your message.

Please include the following:

- Nominee name
- Nominee affiliation
- (Optional) Either a) a public link to the nominee's CV or professional biography or b) a document attachment (Word or PDF) of the nominee's current CV, excluding all personal identifying information (PII) except a professional email address
- (Optional) A brief statement of the nominee's qualifications and suitability for the proposed subcommittee

