

# FASA Fund FAQ

This list will be updated with new questions received.



	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	<b>What is the FASA Fund?</b>	The FASA Fund will invest concessional capital to investment funds addressing the financial needs of agri-SMEs in Sub-Saharan Africa. The objective is to attract private capital into agribusinesses in that region, which will in turn improve food security, economic development, and livelihoods.
2	<b>How will the FASA Fund be managed?</b>	An experienced fund manager will be appointed following a competitive selection process. An Expression of Interest is expected to be issued before the end of 2023, followed by a Request for Proposals.
3	<b>When will the FASA Fund be operational?</b>	The FASA Fund is expected to start making investments in the second half of 2024.
4	<b>I am a fund manager, can I access capital from the FASA Fund?</b>	<p>Funds investing in agri-SMEs in Sub-Saharan Africa will be eligible to receive capital from the FASA Fund. Funds also investing in other geographies and industries can still access FASA capital; however, capital from FASA will only be invested in agri-SMEs in Sub-Saharan Africa.</p> <p>FASA intends to support funds providing ticket sizes of US\$250k-US\$5m of any instrument (e.g., working capital, long term debt, mezzanine, equity).</p> <p>FASA will prioritize supporting funds experiencing high barriers to raising capital: 1st time and local fund managers, or women-led fund management teams.</p> <p>Once the FASA Fund is operational, the FASA fund manager will be responsible for originating and underwriting the agri-SME funds it invests in.</p>
5	<b>I am an agri-SME, how can I access capital from the FASA Fund?</b>	The FASA Fund will not make investments into SMEs, but into investment funds. Once these investment funds are selected, they will be listed on our website and you would need to contact those investment funds to receive capital.
6	<b>I am a bank or a microfinance institution, can I access capital from the FASA Fund?</b>	The FASA Fund will not invest directly into banks or microfinance institutions, but into investment funds.
7	<b>I am a USAID Mission, can I access capital from the FASA Fund? Or contribute to it?</b>	Currently, there is no mechanism for Missions to access capital of the FASA Fund, or for Missions to contribute to it. While the FASA Fund is not a mechanism to provide funding to Missions, Mission-funded technical assistance activities that target agri-SMEs could provide pipeline for the funds supported by FASA.
8	<b>What ticket size will the FASA Fund provide?</b>	The FASA Fund will seek to maximize the mobilization of private capital. The ticket size will depend on the total size and characteristics of the fund receiving capital.
9	<b>What instrument will the FASA Fund provide?</b>	The FASA Fund will invest in the most junior tranche of funds with the goal of crowding in more commercial capital above it. Investments will be made at concessional terms but under the expectation of being repaid.
10	<b>Will the FASA fund provide technical assistance?</b>	Yes. The FASA Fund will establish a complementary technical assistance program to provide institutional and human capacity building to strengthen the investment funds and their underlying portfolios to grow and create benefits for smallholder producers, employees, and other stakeholders.