

Certification of Climate Change Adaptation Portfolios of Inclusive Financial Service Providers for Scaling up Adaptation Finance for Smallholder Farmers (?CCA Certificates 4 IFSPs?)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

11002

Countries

Global (Colombia, Morocco, Senegal)

Project Name

Certification of Climate Change Adaptation Portfolios of Inclusive Financial Service Providers for Scaling up Adaptation Finance for Smallholder Farmers (?CCA Certificates 4 IFSPs?)

Agencies

IFAD

Date received by PM

2/9/2023

Review completed by PM

4/13/2023

Program Manager

Aloke Barnwal

Focal Area

Climate Change

Project Type

MSP

PIF **CEO Endorsement**

Part I ? Project Information

Focal area elements

1. Does the project remain aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as presented in PIF (as indicated in table A)?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEF Sec, 4/13/23:

Cleared.

GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

- a) This project title is long and wordy. Can the title be shortened to be clearer and more memorable?
- b) The LoE from Colombia has not yet been uploaded.

Agency Response

5 April 2023

Thanks for the review and suggestions. Here below our answers:

- a) The project has an acronym 'CCA Certificates 4 IFSPs' that should make it easier to refer to. The title of the project cannot unfortunately be changed at this stage, because it will imply to resign all the co-finance letters by all parties, a long process that will bring risks of delay.
- b) We are sorry for this, it has been an oversight. Please kindly find it in attachment with the present re-submission.

Project description summary

2. Is the project structure/design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs as in Table B and described in the project document?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request GEF Sec, 4/13/23:

Cleared.

GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

- a) It seems that some specificity in the outputs described at the PIF stage has been removed from the CER. E.g. Output 1.1: (1 Manual with certification process and tools description; 1 White paper on Climate Change Adaptation Taxonomy/standards for Inclusive Finance established; 1 Climate Change Adaptation Guideline; 1 Training module for use of certification for IFSPs); Output 1.2: (Report on Portfolio analysis for 3 IFSPs; Verification of portfolio content for 3 IFSPs; Certifications of climate change adaptation content for the portfolio of 3 IFSPs; 1 report on lessons learnt during the first pilot); etc. Please clarify if all the deliverables indicated in the outputs at the PIF stage will still be delivered. If so, please ensure all the deliverables indicated in the PIF are also referred to somewhere in the CER.
- b) Please see comments on innovation, below in the review sheet.

Agency Response

5 April 2023

Thanks for your review. Here below our answers:

- a) The outputs present in the PIF have been accidentally deleted in Table B of the CER. Thanks a lot for having pointed this out. They were nevertheless kept, all identical to the PIF, in the project logframe in the CER, in the section 3) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project?. We have re-included the full list in Table B. We confirm indeed that all the deliverables indicated in the outputs at the PIF stage will still be delivered. All the deliverables indicated in the PIF are now also referred in the CER, both in Table B, as well as in the logframe in the section 3) the proposed

alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project?.

b) Thanks for this feedback, please see our answer in the comments on innovation, below in the review sheet.

3. If this is a non-grant instrument, has a reflow calendar been presented in Annex D?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response
Co-financing

4. Are the confirmed expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented, with supporting evidence and a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified and meets the definition of investment mobilized, and a description of any major changes from PIF, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
GEF Sec, 4/20/23:

Thanks. Comment cleared.

GEF Sec, 4/20/23:

Further information is requested.

Please include the date in the letter of support for the co-financing from BNP Paribas or explicitly mention from which date to which date the co-financing will be available (for recurrent expenditure of \$80,000 and investment mobilized of \$150,000).

Agency Response

10 May 2023

Thanks for the remark. The date in the letter of support for the co-financing from BNP Paribas is now included in the updated co-finance letter.

GEF Resource Availability

5. Is the financing presented in Table D adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

Yes, via the Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation, through which this project accesses both LDCF and SCCF resources.

Agency Response

Project Preparation Grant

6. Is the status and utilization of the PPG reported in Annex C in the document?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

Cleared. PPG has not been requested.

Agency Response

Core indicators

7. Are there changes/adjustments made in the core indicator targets indicated in Table E? Do they remain realistic?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEFSEC 5/16/2023- Comment cleared.

GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

Yes, the indicators are the same as at PIF stage.

GEFSEC 5/10/2023

The latest submission doesn't include targets of Core Indicator 1 and 2, which were there in the PIF. At the PIF stage following targets were proposed:

PIF

[Redacted]

CEO ER

ORE INDICATOR 1

Total

Male

Female

% for Women

Total number of direct beneficiaries

0
0
0
0%

CORE INDICATOR 2

Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha)

0.00

CORE INDICATOR 1	Total	Male	Female	% for Women
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Total number of direct beneficiaries	30,000	15,000	15,000	50.00%
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CORE INDICATOR 2

Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha)	1,200.00
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Agency Response

Part II ? Project Justification

1. Is there a sufficient elaboration on how the global environmental/adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers, are going to be addressed?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

Yes.

Agency Response

2. Is there an elaboration on how the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects were derived?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

Yes.

Agency Response

3. Is the proposed alternative scenario as described in PIF/PFD sound and adequate? Is there sufficient clarity on the expected outcomes and components of the project and a description on the project is aiming to achieve them?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

Yes.

Agency Response

4. Is there further elaboration on how the project is aligned with focal area/impact program strategies?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

Yes.

Agency Response

5. Is the incremental reasoning, contribution from the baseline, and co-financing clearly elaborated?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

Yes.

Agency Response

6. Is there further and better elaboration on the project's expected contribution to global environmental benefits or adaptation benefits?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

Yes.

Agency Response

7. Is there further and better elaboration to show that the project is innovative and sustainable including the potential for scaling up?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEF Sec, 4/13/23:

Thank you. This is cleared.

GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

Further information is requested:

This project has a strong potential for innovation. However, the sub section on innovation in the CER (within Section 7 on innovativeness, sustainability, and potential for scale up) is quite thin. Please briefly expand on the explanation of why each of the elements already listed in this section are needed and innovative to move the climate resilient microfinance community forwards.

Agency Response

5 April 2023

Thanks a lot for the feedback.

The subsection innovation within Section 7 on innovativeness, sustainability, and potential for scale up, has now been expanded by including in each element innovation why they are needed and why they are innovative to move the climate resilient microfinance community forwards.

Project Map and Coordinates

Is there an accurate and confirmed geo-referenced information where the project intervention will take place?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEF Sec, 4/13/23:

Cleared. Thank you for the clarification and explanation.

GEF Sec, 2/15/23:

Not yet. Is it possible to provide better geo-referencing/mapping for the regions of the project sites in the three countries, within the Portal entry?

Agency Response

5 April 2023

Thanks for the feedback.

Unfortunately, as discussed in the CER, the actual local of the project intervention, within each country, will be available only during the project implementation phase. Indeed the actual regions of the projects sites in the three countries depend on: the IFSPs that will participate to the project, and their actual allocation of agriculture portfolio for smallholders within each country.

As described in the CER the selection of IFSPs is part of the project implementation, respectively:

- Activity 1.2.1: Select 3 IFSPs (for the first round of certification as part of the Output 1.2)
- Activity 1.3.1: Preparation portfolio certification of up to 12 IFSPs (for the second round of certification as part of the Output 1.3)

Child Project

If this is a child project, is there an adequate reflection of how it contributes to the overall program impact?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

n/a

Agency Response

Stakeholders

Does the project include detailed report on stakeholders engaged during the design phase? Is there an adequate stakeholder engagement plan or equivalent documentation for the implementation phase, with information on Stakeholders who will be engaged, the means of engagement, and dissemination of information?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEF Sec, 5/10/23:

Thanks. Comment cleared.

GEF Sec, 4/20/23:

Further information requested.

While recognizing the global nature of this project, the stakeholder engagement plan does not really outline engagement with civil society and local communities during project implementation. Please provide some additional information on the project's approach to engagement with relevant civil society organizations and consultations with local communities and groups.

GEF Sec, 2/15/2023:

Further information is requested:

a) With regards to the section on stakeholders, specifically on the point of 'roles and responsibilities?', we note indication that CBIFI will coordinate the projects. But given BNPP is the Project Execution partner for this project, please revise this to clarify that BNPP will coordinate the relevant project stakeholders.

b) With regards to the stakeholder engagement table (2.3), specifically on the responsibility and role of BNPP, to be consistent with other sections of the CER, please clarify that BNPP is lead Executing partner of the project, which involves coordinating the technical inputs of the others including CBIFI.

Agency Response

10 May 2023

Thanks for this suggestion.

Additional information on the how the project intends to engage with civil society Organizations during project implementation are now included in the table under section "2.3 Stakeholders participating to the project implementation".

5 April 2023

Thanks a lot for your feedback, points a and b are addressed in the CER under 2.3 Stakeholders participating to the project implementation on pages 67 and 68.

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Has the gender analysis been completed? Did the gender analysis identify any gender differences, gaps or opportunities linked to project/program objectives and activities? If so, does the project/program include gender-responsive activities, gender-sensitive indicators and expected results?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

2/15/2023:

Yes. The project will aim to contribute towards closing of gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources and generating socio-economic benefits or services for women by including in the portfolio certification climate change adaptation practices and technologies that are more often implemented or could be more easily implemented by women, as well as segment the portfolio certification per gender. This will enhance knowledge on which climate change adaptation practices and technologies better fit women's needs and contribute most to their climate resilience.

During project design and preparation, women's access to finance for climate change adaptation was assessed, as well as gender-specific climate change adaptation practices and technologies. During the project implementation, the informational material produced will include promotion of gender sensitive elements for financial decision makers in IFSPs.

Agency Response

Private Sector Engagement

If there is a private sector engagement, is there an elaboration of its role as a financier and/or as a stakeholder?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

2/15/2023:

Yes, the private sector is a key stakeholder in this project, as investors as well as IFSPs.

Agency Response

Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

Has the project elaborated on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved? Were there proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

2/15/2023:

Yes.

Agency Response

Coordination

Is the institutional arrangement for project implementation fully described? Is there an elaboration on possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project area?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEF Sec, 4/13/23:

Cleared.

2/15/2023:

Further information is requested.

With regards to Institutional arrangements (Section 6), there seems to be some confusion on roles. Given IFAD is the Implementing Agency, and BNPP is the Executing Partner, please revise appropriately the statement that "CBIFI will ensure the execution and management of the project, as well as the quality of activities and deliverables, as these are roles of IFAD and BNPP".

Agency Response

5 April 2023

Thanks a lot for the feedback. Statement revised on pages 81 to 83 (section 6)

Consistency with National Priorities

Has the project described the alignment of the project with identified national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under the relevant conventions?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

2/15/2023:

Yes.

Agency Response

Knowledge Management

Is the proposed ?Knowledge Management Approach? for the project adequately elaborated with a timeline and a set of deliverables?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

2/15/2023:

Yes.

Agency Response

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS)

Are environmental and social risks, impacts and management measures adequately documented at this stage and consistent with requirements set out in SD/PL/03?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

2/15/2023:

Yes. A Climate Risk Assessment has also been undertaken.

Agency Response

Monitoring and Evaluation

Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

2/15/2023:

Yes.

Agency Response

Benefits

Are the socioeconomic benefits at the national and local levels sufficiently described resulting from the project? Is there an elaboration on how these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of GEBs or adaptation benefits?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

2/15/2023:

Yes. The certification scheme and taxonomy to be developed through the project will help investors increase the adaptation capacity of smallholder farmers and IFSPs. Smallholders will be incentivized to expand their adaptation practices and decrease their climate risks, thereby enhancing their revenues and contributing to socio-economic inclusion.

Agency Response

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

GEF Sec, 4/13/23:

Cleared. The LoE has been uploaded.

2/15/2023:

Please upload the LoE from the OFP of Colombia.

Agency Response

5 April 2023

Thanks for this feedback, the LoE from the OFP of Colombia is now uploaded.

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request 2/15/2023:

Yes.

Agency Response

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request 2/15/2023:

PPG has not been requested.

Agency Response

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request GEF Sec, 4/13/23:
Cleared. The Agency has explained that the locations/sites will only be available as the project is implemented.

2/15/2023:

Please see earlier comment re request for georeferenced information/mapping of project sites/regions.

Agency Response

5 April 2023

Thanks for the feedback. Please kindly see the earlier answers to georeferenced information/mapping of project sites/regions.

Does the termsheet in Annex F provide finalized financial terms and conditions? Does the termsheet and financial structure address concerns raised at PIF stage and that were pending to be resolved ahead of CEO endorsement? (For NGI Only)

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

n/a

Agency Response

Do the Reflow Table Annex G and the Trustee Excel Sheet for reflows provide accurate reflow expectations of the project submitted? Assumptions for Reflows can be submitted to explain expected reflows. (For NGI Only)

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

Did the agency Annex H provided with information to assess the Agency Capacity to generate and manage reflows? (For NGI Only)

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

Is CEO endorsement recommended? (applies only to projects and child projects)

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
GEFSEC 5/16/2023

Yes, the project is recommended for CEO Endorsement

GEF Sec, 5/10/23:

Please address the comment related to Core Indicators under question number 7.

GEF Sec, 4/20/23:

Not yet. Please address review comments on Cofinance and Stakeholder Engagement.

2/23/2023:

Not yet. Please address the comments in the review sheet.

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	2/23/2023	4/5/2023
Additional Review (as necessary)	4/13/2023	5/10/2023
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/10/2023	
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/16/2023	
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

The project is well aligned with the challenge program for adaptation innovation in terms of creating an enabling environment for private sector to scale up investment in adaptation solutions for smallholder farmers.