



# PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)<sup>1</sup>

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: LDCF

## PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Title:	Flood Control and Climate resilience of agriculture infrastructures in Oueme Valley		
Country(ies):	Benin	GEF Project ID: <sup>2</sup>	5232
GEF Agency(ies):	AfDB (select) (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Agriculture	Submission Date:	2012-12-20
GEF Focal Area (s):	Climate Change	Project Duration (Months)	60
Name of parent program (if applicable):		Agency Fee (\$):	684,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>			

## A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK<sup>3</sup>:

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
CCA-1 (select)	Outcome 1.1: Mainstreamed adaptation in broader development frameworks at country level and in targeted vulnerable areas	Output 1.1.1: Adaptation measures and necessary budget allocations included in relevant frameworks	LDCF	3,200,000	30,000,000
CCA-1 (select)	Outcome 1.2: Reduced vulnerability to climate change in development sectors	Output 1.2.1: Vulnerable physical, natural and social assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	LDCF	2,600,000	6,000,000
CCA-2 (select)	Outcome 2.3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level	Output 2.3.1: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities	LDCF	700,000	3,000,000
CCA-3 (select)	Outcome 3.1: Successful demonstration, deployment, and transfer of relevant adaptation technology in targeted areas (climate-resilient agricultural infrastructure	Output 3.1.1: Relevant adaptation technology transferred to targeted groups	LDCF	350,000	3,000,000
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)	Others		(select)		
Sub-Total				6,850,000	42,000,000
Project Management Cost <sup>4</sup>			LDCF	<b>350,000</b>	2,000,000
<b>Total Project Cost</b>				7,200,000	44,000,000

## B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

<sup>1</sup> It is very important to consult the PIF preparation guidelines when completing this template.

<sup>2</sup> Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

<sup>3</sup> Refer to the reference attached on the [Focal Area Results Framework](#) when filling up the table in item A.

<sup>4</sup> GEF will finance management cost that is solely linked to GEF financing of the project. PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project grant amount.

**Project Objective: To improve and secure agricultural outputs through making agricultural infrastructure climate resilient in Oueme Valley - Benin**

Project Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Cofinancing (\$)	
Making agricultural infrastructure climate-resilient	Inv	-Increased climate resilience of rural infrastructures -Improved agricultural productivity -Improved livelihood security for rural population	-Flood protection infrastructure for agriculture scheme  - Food crops storage and other agriculture related infrastructure are climate proofed  -Introduction of climate change varieties and agriculture techniques promoted	LDCF	5,125,000	30,000,000	
Capacity building and promotion of improved agriculture management system	TA	-Increased adaptive capacity of agriculture officers, farmers and water user Associations  - Local authorities, NGOs and civil society are aware of the challenges and the climate change impacts associated with floods and needs for management	Training in climate change adaptive practices for farmers associations to enable them to sustainably manage in the context of changing availability under climate changes  Awareness campaigns on the impact of climate change and how to manage uncertainty. .	LDCF	1,725,000	12,000,000	
	(select)			(select)			
	(select)			(select)			
	(select)			(select)			
	(select)			(select)			
	(select)			(select)			
	(select)			(select)			
	(select)			(select)			
	(select)			(select)			
	(select)			(select)			
Sub-Total					6,850,000	42,000,000	
				Project Management Cost <sup>5</sup>	LDCF	350,000	2,000,000
<b>Total Project Costs</b>						7,200,000	44,000,000

**C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME IF AVAILABLE, (\$)**

Sources of Cofinancing	Name of Cofinancier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
National Government	Gouvernement de Benin	In-kind	4,000,000
GEF Agency	AfDB	Soft Loan	40,000,000
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	

<sup>5</sup> Same as footnote #3.

(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
<b>Total Cofinancing</b>			44,000,000

**D. GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY<sup>1</sup>**

<b>GEF Agency</b>	<b>Type of Trust Fund</b>	<b>Focal Area</b>	<b>Country Name/Global</b>	<b>Grant Amount (a)</b>	<b>Agency Fee (b)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Total c=a+b</b>
AfDB	LDCF	Climate Change	Benin	7,200,000	684,000	7,884,000
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)(select)	(select)				0
<b>Total Grant Resources</b>				7,200,000	684,000	7,884,000

<sup>1</sup> In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide information for this table

<sup>2</sup> Please indicate fees related to this project.

## **PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION**

### **A. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:**

#### A.1.1 the GEF focal area/LDCF/SCCF strategies /NPIF Initiative:

The project seeks to promote adaptation in Benin by ensuring that agricultural infrastructure planned under a business-as-usual scenario is modified so as to be resilient in the face of climate change.

This project is aligned with the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for GEF-5, particularly with the CCA 1: Reduce vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change, including variability, at local, national, regional and global level and CCA-2 : Increase adaptive capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change, including variability, at local, national, regional and global level and with CCA 3: Promote transfer and adoption of adaptation technology a strong focus in infrastructure protection to climate change impacts.

#### A.1.2. For projects funded from LDCF/SCCF: the LDCF/SCCF eligibility criteria and priorities:

Country Eligibility: The Republic of Benin is classified as LDC and has completed its NAPA;

Project Endorsement : The project has been endorsed by the GEF Operational focal point

Country ownership and priority In terms of country ownership it should be noted that the President of the Republic of Benin has addressed on September 2012 a letter to the African Development Bank requesting short and long term support to find a solution to the impact of climate change, particularly floods by exploring the opportunities of financing dikes, water retentions in future activities. Therefore the proposed project provides resources to meet the “additional costs” that are superimposed to development costs to reduce the impacts of climate change and increase resilience.

#### A.1.3 For projects funded from NPIF, relevant eligibility criteria and priorities of the Fund:

#### A.2. national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, if applicable, i.e. NAPAS, NAPs, NBSAPs, national communications, TNAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, etc.:

The NAPA for Bénin was submitted in January 2008. Among the identified priorities, the proposed project responds to the followings:

- o Support for income-generating activities;
- o Development and enhancement of the Ouémé valley hydro-agricultural potential;
- o Hydro-agricultural lowlands development.

The project is also fully aligned with the National Communication for Bénin, which was published in 2011. The report stresses the fact that Oueme river basin will become more vulnerable to droughts and floods. For the agriculture sector, in addition to the need of “climate change alert system (UNDP project), the national communication calls for a better water management through agriculture infrastructures. This project is fully aligned with those concerns and recommendations.

In order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) objectives, Benin adopted in 2011, the Strategy for Poverty Reduction recorded in the document entitled National Strategy for Growth Poverty Reduction (SCRP 2011-2015).

To revitalize the agricultural sector, Benin is part of the process of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) with the adoption of the Strategic Plan for Agricultural Sector Revival (PSRSA), the National Plan agricultural investment (NIPA), the signing of the pact NEPAD / ECOWAS and the adoption of a priority investment Agricole (PIA-2011-2015). The baseline project is part of the PIA, therefore fully aligned with sectorial national strategies

## **B. PROJECT OVERVIEW:**

B.1. Describe the baseline project and the problem that it seeks to address:

### **Introduction – Problem to address by the baseline**

The agriculture sector employs about 70% of total employment in Benin, contributes over 32% to the formation of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and provides 80% of export earnings. Crop production is dominant with a contribution of 24.1% of the total output, while livestock and fisheries contribute respectively to 5.9% and 4.2% of the national agriculture production. The agriculture sector is characterized by the predominance of small farms, the extreme vulnerability due to climate variability and climate phenomena, and low productivity. This weakness of the sector is reflected by a strong dependence of the country vis-à-vis the outside world in terms of rice, vegetable products, fish, eggs and meat, and a continuing decline in the production of pulses (cowpea and groundnut) and sorghum. The food security balance is chronically in deficit. Food crops (sorghum, maize, rice, etc...) cover more than 80% of national food needs, but still face several constraints, resulting in food insecurity. Despite numerous hydro-agricultural potential which the country abounds, over 205,000 hectares of lowlands and 117,000 hectares of floodplains, the agricultural sector is characterized by low productivity, generating a high prevalence of poverty in rural areas, increased in the valleys of major rivers available in the country

Thus, the sector still faces various constraints including dependence on climatic conditions and lack of water control infrastructure and opening up of marketing production areas. This constraint is underlying the defective condition of feeder roads linking production areas to areas of high consumption.

Indeed, the low rate of development of agriculture condemns Benin to be dependent on weather conditions and the isolation of large areas with high agricultural potential – lack or poor state of rural roads. This situation constitutes a major obstacle to the improvement of productivity and marketing of agricultural products.

### **The Baseline project**

Ouémé valley disposes of a high agricultural potential which remains under valued due to lack of interventions. A project to support the rehabilitation of rural infrastructure in the valley of the Ouémé is fully justified.

Objective - The objective is therefore to develop the infrastructure of production and commercialization of low and medium Ouémé valley for the promotion of promising sectors for food security and growth.

Area of Intervention: The project area covers an area of 4770 km<sup>2</sup>, 1.4 million people

and covers 14 municipalities spread over three departments: Zou, Atlantic and Ouémé. It is a very fertile valley located along the river Ouémé, with significant potential hydro agricultural

Project Description: The project operates in three sectors; rice, maize and vegetable crops, identified priority at the PIA. The project is structured in three components: (i) development of agricultural infrastructure, (ii) Capacity building support structures for the production, and (iii) project management. Gender issues and environmental protection will be integrated across the board to all these components

*Component A: Development of agricultural infrastructure:* This component responds to the needs for structural investments, which are identified as a priority under the PIA. This component seeks to ensure the modernization of the means of production, processing and marketing. These investments will focus on: (i) water for agricultural (shallow, small and medium scale irrigation), (ii) processing infrastructure, storage / preservation, marketing and transportation (roads), and ( iii) equipment agricultural production and processing.

*Component B: Capacity Building:* This component delivers the agricultural extension activities and advisory support services to farmers. Successful experiences of farmers organizations and agricultural trade (OPA) in the field will be capitalized and strengthened. Improved methods of preservation and storage of agricultural products will be popularized among farmers, processors and traders to reduce post-harvest losses and avoid food poisoning due to pesticides registered each year in Benin. Distribution channels for agricultural food products will be improved. The program's activities also support the use of storage facilities undertaken in component A. This component will also contribute to ensure the supply component; the agriculture inputs and the establishment of a contracts system between producers and private operators.

*Component C: Project Management:* This component will provide technical and financial management of the project. It covers the planning and coordination of the implementation of interventions, management of human, financial and material resources, monitoring and evaluation of the project as well as the M&E AfDB requirements.

- B. 2. incremental /Additional cost reasoning: describe the incremental (GEF Trust Fund/NPIF) or additional (LDCF/SCCF) activities requested for GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF financing and the associated global environmental benefits (GEF Trust Fund/NPIF) or associated adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF) to be delivered by the project:

Climate change is expected to lead to more frequent, more extremes and in the case of Benin more unpredictable occurrence of extreme episodes of rainfalls, such as the already suffered heavy floods in 2012 : temporal distribution of rainfall and floods.

It is important to note that flooding from the Ouémé River is essential to ensure agriculture productivity in the project area. In fact, flooding of the Ouémé River allow to recharge silt fertile lowlands allows recharge silt fertile lowlands. However, those floods, which have increased because of climate change, are larger and increasingly recurrent putting at risk agriculture activities, practices and crops, provoking food

insecurity and rural population exodus.

In this context, LDCF funding is sought to adapt agriculture infrastructure in the area to climate change and climate variability. The LDCF project will reduce the vulnerability of the baseline infrastructures to floods in particular and increase the adaptive capacity of farmers to climate change in order to better deal with the related uncertainty.

In order to achieve this objective the project is structured into three components:

Component 1 Making agricultural infrastructure climate-resilient

This component is the core element of the project and it seeks to increase the climate resilience of rural infrastructures and in particular of agriculture related assets and activities. This will result in a secured agriculture productivity and in the improvement of the security of rural communities livelihood. At this stage the following activities has been identified:

- Rural infrastructures/activities are more resilient to extreme floods:
- Agriculture infrastructure such as dykes are built to protect the baseline agriculture assets such as the agriculture scheme
- The foods crops storage and other basic rural infrastructures will be climate proofed (flood-resistant grain stores, run-off channels in feeder roads, etc)
- Introduction of agriculture practices and varieties adapted to the climate change (early maturing seeds, seeds adapted to higher salinity, etc) – Facilitation on the introduction and dissemination of research results.
- Risk mapping and risk management: Flows management and flood safeguards measures are developed (hydrological modeling, GIS, risk mapping, etc)

Component 2 Capacity building and promotion of improved agriculture management system

*Capacity Building:* As a complement to component 1 , this component provides the required capacity building to farmers , associations to enable them to sustainably manage their resources particularly the improved infrastructures and adapt their activities to the current context of changing availability under climate change. Officers and local authorities will also been sensitizing along with NGOs and civil society on the impacts of climate change and the need for action. In addition, awareness campaigns in climate change adaptation will also be undertaken. The topics will be defined in consultation with the associations and farmers during project preparation and execution but the proposed subjects will be water management techniques, including flood management and sustainable land management

*Policy intervention:* The baseline project through its activities will ensure inclusion of budget for promotion of agro-hydro infrastructures. The LDCF resources will be additional to this baseline activity by promoting the consideration of climate change into those activities by promoting the required policy formulation, guidelines, etc

The activities under the capacity building and the policy formulation will significantly contribute towards the sustainability of the project outcomes and will provide knowledge products on flood risk management, cultural practices (planting seasonal changes affected by climate change, etc) that will be disseminated nationally and in the international arena.

M&E - The project takes into consideration the M&E needs and reporting requirements, those are embedded in the project component and at CEO endorsement a fully budgeted M&E plan will be provided.

- B.3. Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the Project at the national and local levels, including consideration of gender dimensions, and how these will support the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund/NPIF) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF). As a background information, read [Mainstreaming Gender at the GEF.](#)":
- Agriculture is the predominant economic sector in Benin, and this project aims to improve the socio-economic conditions of farmers through improving the climate resilience of infrastructure, enabling transfer of climate-resilient farming practices, and empowering small-scale farmers with knowledge about climate change and how best to adapt to climate adverse effects.

The project will contribute at the local level in the following:

- Empowerment of smallholders and other stakeholders to cope with climate change related risks
- Contribute in the reduction economic and livelihoods losses at the community level from unpredictable climatic events.
- Improved agricultural outputs will enhance the livelihoods of the communities, raising their incomes and hence further improve productivity and quality of life.
- Employment opportunities: expanded agricultural facilities and programmes will result in the creation of more long-term job opportunities.

At the national level the increase of agriculture production - by the baseline – and the reduction on climate change potential impacts will contribute to:

- Mitigate the instability associated to climate change impacts - floods, drought etc -, contributing to the local and national economy Contribution of agriculture to local and national economy will be less unstable and less prone to climate change related factors
- Food insecurity alleviation
- Reduction of risk of conflicts due to food scarcity or high food prices
- The decline of agricultural price volatility risks
- Sustainable use of water and soil resources

Particular emphasis will be placed on the contribution of infrastructure to improve access to basic social services and resilience to climate change. Those basis services will have a significant impact on women vulnerability. In addition to that, and in order to diversify women revenues, 500 hectares of market gardening with partial water control is proposed on the baseline intervention and will be enhanced with the climate change adaptation component These actions will also enhance the ability to adapt to extreme weather events such as floods and / or dry periods that undermine the productivity of farms. In the past, the focus was primarily on upstream activities in the agricultural sector without taking sufficient account of the downstream activities. This strategy will focus more on the value chain, marketing and the strengthening of links between



production areas and markets.

- B.4 Indicate risks, including climate change risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design:

The expected results cannot be achieved if the various departments involved in the agriculture and rural development arena are not fully engaged. In this sense, the main risk identified is the capacity of the Government of given priority (i) to agriculture as a driver of economic diversification and (ii) to improve food security in the country. In order to achieve this, and in addition to the necessary budget allocation, at the institutional level, the Government has launched the process of creating an Agency in charge of the promotion of the hydro-agriculture infrastructures.

The main risk and lessons learned that has been identified as the results of exchanges with other donors, development agency and from previous projects are:

RISK	LEVEL	MITIGATION MEASURE
weak capacity of national enterprises to undertake hydro-agriculture works	Medium	Adequacy of national procurement modalities to the national capacities
lack of involvement of beneficiaries in the initial projects design	Medium	The beneficiaries are not fully involved in the baseline project but the GEF component will reinforce the communities engagement
lack of expertise of irrigation practice by beneficiaries	Medium	The project will include a capacity building element. Officers, communities and producers association responsible will be trained.
lack of maintenance of irrigation networks and drainage difficulties	High	The baseline project will ensure that the country allocates resources in the budget. In addition to that the creation of the Agency for the promotion of agro-hydro infrastructures will partly mitigation this recurrent aspect
High operating cost and pumping stations management	Low	Expensive solutions at operating and maintenance stage will not be promoted
Land tenure insecurity that hardly induce producers to invest	Medium	The involvement of beneficiaries, authorizes and ayant-droit at earliest stage will be the key factor to find solutions
access difficult in the rainy season due to tracks/ rural roads not practicable	Medium	The Rural roads proposed under the baseline project will be “climate” proof

- B.5. Identify key stakeholders involved in the project including the private sector, civil society organizations, local and indigenous communities, and their respective roles, as applicable:

A meeting organized by the leader of the Agriculture TFP (Technical and financial partners), the Embassy of Belgium (CTB) Group Technical Agriculture, was held on February, 2012, chaired by the Director of the DPP “*Directeur de la Programmation et de la Prospective*” and the MAEP (*Ministere de l’Agriculture, de l’Elevage et de la Peche*) in the presence of a representative of the CAA - *Caisse Autonome d’Amortissement*, technical advisors and managers of the MAEP. Discussions and inputs from the CTB, UNDP, GIZ, FAO, IFAD and Dutch Cooperation has been considered. One of the key observations was the need to better reflect the relative synergy of actions between the various stakeholders in the sector.

In addition to those international partners, other relevant governmental and non-governmental bodies are, the Beninese Agency for the Environment that will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Plan; the Health Departmental, for advocacy against water-borne diseases and the agricultural Research Institute that will undertake research development activities. Also *parastatals* or private/consulting firms will provide project activities such as irrigation scheme works and rehabilitation of rural roads. In addition to consulting firms, the project will use the services of NGOs in literacy training and farmer organizations, implementation of defense works and land reclamation, and health and environmental awareness. As part of activities to promote agricultural entrepreneurship and agribusiness development ACAP VO will utilize the expertise of the Songhai center for training of young promoters.

- B.6. Outline the coordination with other related initiatives:

The main technical and financial partners in the field of agricultural and rural infrastructure, especially irrigation schemes are the World Bank, BADEA, BOAD, the German Cooperation, Belgian Cooperation and IFAD. Other bilateral partners are involved through community planning in the context of support for agricultural industries. The current leaders of this community if the Belgian cooperation therefore at the sector level the coordination will be ensured by the TFP Agriculture. The table below presents a mapping of the interventions of the different partners.

<i>Financier</i>	<i>Projects</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Comments</i>
<b>National Budget and other financiers</b>	PUASA	10 billion FCFA	National	Ended on December 2011
	PDAVV	3,6 billion FCFA	Niger, Mono, Oueme, Coufoo and Pendjari Valleys	Development of agriculture entrepreneurship - 5300 ha
	PREPIM	1,35 milliards FCFA	Niger Valley	Rehabilitation of the Malanville irrigation scheme (650 ha)
<b>World Bank and National Budget</b>	PADA	US\$ 31 m	National	Development of 9.000 ha
	PPAAO	US\$16,8 m (Benin Contribution)	National	Development and dissemination of technologies Specialization in the value chain of agricultural products
	PDREGDE	US\$9 m (Benin Contribution)	CerPA Borgou Alibori	Development of 250 ha of small irrigated perimeters in the floodplain and 78 ha

				downstream
<b>BAOD and National Budget</b>	PSAIA	2,5 billion FCFA	National	Development of 760 ha of lowland plains , 160 ha of shallow lowland in northern Benin and 40 ha irrigated from artesian wells (south-west of Benin)
	Food security project for the development of low-lying and storage capacity in Benin	11,4 billion FCFA (9 billion FCFA BOAD)	National	Development of 2,000 ha of low land, 300 ha of market gardens
	PHPA	5,7 billion FCFA	National	9 dams, two water reservoir and development 183 ha irrigation schemes downstream
<b>BADEA +Budget national</b>	Lower valley development project Mono (PAHV-Mono)	2,57 billion FCFA	Mono	350 ha (further studies ongoing and works are stopped)
<b>BADEA/OPEP +Budget national</b>	PAHVN-Sota	5,8 billion FCFA	Sota Valley - Niger Affluent	8 small communal irrigated areas ( périmètre irrigués villageois, PIV ) of 50ha each
<b>IDB and National Budget</b>	PAPI (Irrigation schemes )	7,0 billion FCFA	National	1500 ha of low land, 300 ha of irrigated and 4 dams
<b>CTB and National Budget</b>	FAFA	5.5 m Euros	Mono -Couffo and Atacora-Donga	Low land development of communal irrigated areas
<b>GIZ/KfW and National Budget</b>	ProAgri (PROCGRN)	4 m Euros	Atacora Donga Departments	Riz lowland development
<b>IFAD/BAOD</b>	Rural Economic Growth Support Project (PACER)	21,368 billion FCFA	National	Access road (300 km), low land development (320 ha) and support market facilities (storage facilities, infrastructures and collection and marketing areas / premises marketing)

To capitalize on best practices, explore synergies and better target interventions envisaged for the new operation, the main lessons learned can be summarized as follows: (i) the adoption of simple management techniques, manageable by the beneficiaries have been satisfactorily implemented in recent years; therefore this approach is to be considered in the context of the new operation. Heavy facilities are generally less manageable by the beneficiaries and require unaffordable operating costs and maintenance costs, (ii) the involvement of beneficiaries during the execution phase for simple works, accompanied by the necessary support and guidance can produce perform work in a timely manner and gives a better result in terms of ownership and sustainability, (iii) the use of services agencies delegated project management identified during the preparation can avoid long delays in procurement that penalize the majority of projects in the agricultural sector, (iv) access to quality seeds and agricultural inputs must be secured and consider innovative approaches such as contracting and warrantees,

and (v) reduction of post-harvest losses, the valuation of products, and employments are to be integrated in the preparation phase.

At the project level, the coordination will be undertaken by the same unit that the baseline project, at the MAEP. Nevertheless, the project will delegate partly its operational activities to an Agency for the promotion of agro-hydro infrastructure, should it be created in the meantime.

**C. DESCRIBE THE GEF AGENCY’S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT:**

**C.1** Indicate the co-financing amount the GEF agency is bringing to the project:

The estimated co-financing from the baseline project is US\$ 40 million from an AfDB soft loan. The government of Benin will also contribute to the baseline project in the form of salaries of officials involved and, the provision of local and participation activities. This contribution is estimated at 10 % of AfDB contribution, US\$ 4 million. The execution time of the activities will be aligned to the baseline project, meaning five (5) years

**C.2** How does the project fit into the GEF agency’s program (reflected in documents such as UNDAF, CAS, etc.) and staff capacity in the country to follow up project implementation:

AfDB Project Alignment — Country Strategy Paper - The intervention strategy, of the African Development Bank in Benin over the period 2012-2016, aims to strengthen the basis for a strong and inclusive growth, and to lay the groundwork for the transition to a green economy. The AfDB-Benin is based on two pillars: (i) infrastructure to support competitiveness and (ii) the promotion of good governance. In the agricultural sector, the African Development Bank has planned to contribute to the agricultural priority investment plan (PIA 2011-2015), through the development of valleys and low-lying land for irrigation and rehabilitation of rural roads. This project is therefore fully aligned with this objective and with the Bank


Staff Capacity: The project team in charge of the preparation of the baseline project is familiarized with the agriculture and rural development activities in Benin. The team leader for the baseline project and for the GEF adaptation component is also in charge of the preparation of Global Agriculture and Food Security (GAFSP) as well as the supervisor of the current agriculture and rural development portfolio. In addition to that and taking into consideration the AfDB decentralization process, full support will be provided by the Togo Field Office.

**PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)**

**A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):** (Please attach the [Operational Focal Point endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template. For SGP, use this [OFP endorsement letter](#)).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Mr Delphin Aidji	Operational focal point- General Secretary	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, HABITAT AND URBANISM	11/09/2012

**B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION**

<b>This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF criteria for project identification and preparation.</b>					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Ignacio Tourino Soto, AfDB		12/20/2012	FELLAH, HATEM	+216-71102262	H.FELLAH@AFDB.ORG