



## GEF-6 REQUEST FOR PROJECT ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: Least Developed Countries Fund

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**PART I:  
PROJECT**

### INFORMATION

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| Project Title: Strengthening the resilience of rural livelihoods and sub-national government system to climate risks and variability in Benin |   |   |   |
| Country(ies):   | Benin   | GEF Project ID: <sup>1</sup>                    | 5904  |
| GEF Agency(ies):  | UNDP (select) (select)  | GEF Agency Project ID:                          | 5433  |
| Other Executing Partner(s):   | Ministère du Plan et du Développement   | Submission Date:                                | <a href="#">15 June 17</a>                            |
|   |   | <a href="#">Resubmission Date</a>               | <a href="#">7 Aug 17</a><br><a href="#">12 Sep 17</a> |
| GEF Focal Area (s):   | Climate Change  | Project Duration (Months)                       | 60 months   |
| Integrated Approach Pilot   | IAP-Cities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Commodities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Food Security <input type="checkbox"/> | Corporate Program: SGP <input type="checkbox"/> |   |
| Name of Parent Program  | [if applicable]   | Agency Fee (\$)                                 | 422,750   |

### A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES<sup>2</sup>

| Focal Area Objectives/Programs | Focal Area Outcomes   | Trust Fund | (in \$)               |              |
|--------------------------------|---|------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|                                |   |            | GEF Project Financing | Co-financing |
| (select) CCA-1 (select)        | 1.1 Mainstreamed adaptation in broader development frameworks at country level and in targeted vulnerable areas | LDCF       | 621,037               | 6,700,000    |
| (select) CCA-1 (select)        | 1.2 Reduced vulnerability to climate change in development sectors  | LDCF       | 2,372,317             | 9,600,000    |
| (select) CCA-2 (select)        | 1.3 Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted Areas      | LDCF       | 1,456,646             | 13,700,000   |
| (select) (select) (select)     |   | (select)   |                       |              |
| (select) (select) (select)     |   | (select)   |                       |              |
| <b>Total project costs</b>     |   |            | 4,450,000             | 30,000,000   |

### B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

| Project Objective: Strengthening the resilience of rural livelihoods and sub-national government system to climate risks and variability in Benin |                             |  |   |            |                       |                        |
|---|-----------------------------|--|---|------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Project Components/Programs   | Financing Type <sup>3</sup> | Project Outcomes   | Project Outputs   | Trust Fund | (in \$)               |                        |
|   |                             |  |   |            | GEF Project Financing | Confirmed Co-financing |
| Component 1: Capacity development   | TA                          | Outcome 1: Climate change and gender are included in development plans and budgets at national and sub-national levels | Output 1.1: The five targeted Departments and Municipalities and all relevant Ministries have integrated gender responsive climate change adaptation in their planning and budgeting work | LDCF       | 683,000               | 6,700,000              |

<sup>1</sup> Project ID number remains the same as the assigned PIF number.

<sup>2</sup> When completing Table A, refer to the excerpts on [GEF 6 Results Frameworks for GETF, LDCF and SCCF](#) and [CBIT programming directions](#).

<sup>3</sup> Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

|   |     |   |  |       |           |            |
|---|-----|---|--|-------|-----------|------------|
|   |     |   | Output 1.2: Agricultural extension agents and local NGOs active in the 5 targeted Municipalities are trained on resilience to climate change<br>Output 1.3: Lessons learned are summarized in a repository and shared  |       |           |            |
| Component 2:<br>Resilient agriculture investments | Inv | Outcome 2:<br>Productive agricultural infrastructure and human skills are improved to cope with altered rainfall patterns | Output 2.1: At least 9 small scale climate resilient water harvesting infrastructures are designed and implemented in the 9 targeted villages<br>Output 2.2: Risks of floods and riverbanks erosion are reduced through the stabilization of slopes of critical riverbanks using at least 300ha of bamboo plantations<br>Output 2.3: Resilient practices, such as drip irrigation techniques or short cycle improved seeds, are adopted by at least 300 households in the five targeted Municipalities | LDCF  | 2,197,000 | 9,600,000  |
| Component 3:<br>Livelihoods diversification       | TA  | Outcome 3<br>communities' adaptive capacity is improved by more diversified income generating activities                  | Output 3.1: Targeted population's dependency and vulnerability to climate change effects is reduced through the introduction of alternative livelihoods for approximately 4000 persons<br>Output 3.2: All women of target population (3,281 women) are trained on alternative livelihoods to agriculture to better cope with climate change impacts<br>Output 3.3: The capacities of 300 rural entrepreneurs and 50 SMEs (aiming at 50%  | GEFTF | 1,350,000 | 13,500,000 |

|  |          |  |   |          |                  |                   |
|--|----------|--|---|----------|------------------|-------------------|
|  |          |  | women) to develop business plans in the field of sustainable craft and small scale manufacture are strengthened in order to stimulate employment and revenue increase |          |                  |                   |
|  | (select) |  |   | (select) |                  |                   |
| Subtotal                                   |          |  |   |          | 4,230,000        | 29,800,000        |
| Project Management Cost (PMC) <sup>4</sup> |          |  |   | LDCF     | 220,000          | 200,000           |
| <b>Total project costs</b>                 |          |  |   |          | <b>4,450,000</b> | <b>30,000,000</b> |

**C. CONFIRMED SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE**

Please include evidence for [co-financing](#) for the project with this form.

| Sources of Co-financing   | Name of Co-financier  | Type of Cofinancing | Amount (\$)       |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------|
| Beneficiaries             | Projet Commune du Millénaire de Bonou, pour un développement durable (PCM-BONOU)  | Grants              | 15,000,000        |
| Beneficiaries             | Projet Village du Millénaire (PMV)  | Grants              | 12,000,000        |
| Recipient Government      | Ministère du Plan et du Développement (Centre pour le Partenariat et l'Expertise pour le Développement Durable (CePED)) | Grants              | 3,000,000         |
| (select)                  |   | (select)            |                   |
| <b>Total Co-financing</b> |   |                     | <b>30,000,000</b> |

**D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES), FOCAL AREA AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS**

| GEF Agency                   | Trust Fund | Country Name/Global | Focal Area     | Programming of Funds   | (in \$)                   |   |                  |
|------------------------------|------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---|------------------|
|                              |            |                     |                |                        | GEF Project Financing (a) | Agency Fee <sup>a)</sup> (b) <sup>2</sup> | Total (c)=a+b    |
| UNDP                         | LDCF       | Benin               | Climate Change | (select as applicable) | 4,450,000                 | 422,750                                   | 4,872,750        |
| (select)                     | (select)   | ---                 | (select)       | (select as applicable) | ---                       | ---                                       | 0                |
| (select)                     | (select)   | ---                 | (select)       | (select as applicable) | ---                       | ---                                       | 0                |
| <b>Total Grant Resources</b> |            |                     |                |                        | <b>4,450,000</b>          | <b>422,750</b>                            | <b>4,872,750</b> |

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a) Refer to the [Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies](#)

<sup>4</sup> For GEF Project Financing up to \$2 million, PMC could be up to 10% of the subtotal; above \$2 million, PMC could be up to 5% of the subtotal. PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project financing amount in Table D below.

**E. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS<sup>5</sup>**

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

| Corporate Results  | Replenishment Targets  | Project Targets                        |
|--|--|--|
| *1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society  | Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares  | <i>hectares</i>                        |
| *2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)   | 120 million hectares under sustainable land management   | <i>6237 hectares</i>                   |
| *3. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services | Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins; | <i>Number of freshwater basins</i>     |
|  | 20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels                                  | <i>Percent of fisheries, by volume</i> |
| 4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path  | 750 million tons of CO <sub>2e</sub> mitigated (include both direct and indirect)                                      | <i>metric tons</i>                     |
| *5. Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern  | Disposal of 80,000 tons of POPs (PCB, obsolete pesticides)   | <i>metric tons</i>                     |
|  | Reduction of 1000 tons of Mercury  | <i>metric tons</i>                     |
|  | Phase-out of 303.44 tons of ODP (HCFC)   | <i>ODP tons</i>                        |
| *6. Enhance capacity of countries to implement MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and mainstream into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks  | Development and sectoral planning frameworks integrate measurable targets drawn from the MEAs in at least 10 countries | <i>Number of Countries:</i>            |
|  | Functional environmental information systems are established to support decision-making in at least 10 countries       | <i>Number of Countries:</i>            |

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**F. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A "NON-GRANT" INSTRUMENT? No**

(If non-grant instruments are used, provide an indicative calendar of expected reflows to your Agency and to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Fund) in Annex D.

**PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION**

**A. DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROJECT DESIGN WITH THE ORIGINAL PIF<sup>6</sup>**

A.1. *Project Description*. Elaborate on: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative

<sup>5</sup> Update the applicable indicators provided at PIF stage. Progress in programming against these targets for the projects per the *Corporate Results Framework* in the [GEF-6 Programming Directions](#), will be aggregated and reported during mid-term and at the conclusion of the replenishment period.

<sup>6</sup> For questions A.1 –A.7 in Part II, if there are no changes since PIF, no need to respond, please enter "NA" after the respective question.

scenario, GEF focal area<sup>7</sup> strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) [incremental/additional cost reasoning](#) and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, CBIT and [co-financing](#); 5) [global environmental benefits](#) (GEFTF) and/or [adaptation benefits](#) (LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

### A.1 Project Description

There have been no changes in terms of the GEF/LDCF strategic focus or eligibility since the original PIF. The proposed LDCF project is consistent with LDCF Objectives CCA-1 “Reduce vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change, including variability, at local, national, regional and global level” and CCA-2 “Increasing adaptive capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change, including variability, at local, national, regional and global level”.

However, some changes have been made in terms of the alignment of the project document with the original project design in the PIF. These changes were made based on stakeholder consultations and reflect changing national circumstances since the PIF was developed. The wording of various outcomes has been amended to make them more specific and relevant to the current national context as well as to fit stakeholders’ specific needs. However, while the exact wording of the outcomes may have changed, there has been no change in their focus and they remain based upon the same underlying principles. The consultations were used to refine the outcomes and outputs in order to achieve the desired developmental outcomes in accordance with the original PIF.

The revisions are:

- Reformulation of the components (wording): components and outcomes were redundant and confusing. The components have therefore been shortened to their essence:

| PIF   | Project document                               |
|---|--|
| Component 1: Climate responsive local and national development planning                 | Component 1: Capacity building                 |
| Component 2: Resilient livelihood investments   | Component 2: Resilient agriculture investments |
| Component 3: Enabling environment for greater climate finance for resilient livelihoods | Component 3: Livelihoods diversification       |

- Reformulation of the outcomes (wording and structure): the articulation between outcomes 2 and 3 was not clear. This has been corrected as outcome 2 is now fully focused on agriculture resilience while outcome 3 is focused on reduced vulnerability of population through diversified livelihoods.

| PIF   | Project document   |
|---|--|
| Outcome 2: Gender sensitive resilient livelihoods for the most vulnerable improved against erratic rainfalls, floods and droughts | Outcome 2: Productive agricultural infrastructure and human skills are improved to cope with altered rainfall patterns                                       |
| Outcome 3: Productive agricultural infrastructure and human skills improved for sustainable resilient agriculture                 | Outcome 3: Communities’ adaptive capacity is improved by more diversified income generating activities and enabling environment for better access to finance |

- The above-mentioned restructuring of outcomes 2 and 3 is reflected in their respective outputs as detailed under.

<sup>7</sup> For biodiversity projects, in addition to explaining the project’s consistency with the biodiversity focal area strategy, objectives and programs, please also describe which [Aichi Target\(s\)](#) the project will directly contribute to achieving..  
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**1) THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND/OR ADAPTATION PROBLEMS, ROOT CAUSES AND BARRIERS THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED**

Benin is vulnerable to climate change. Medium term climate projections for its territory indicate important risks of insufficient levels of rain, increased evapotranspiration and more rainfall variability from one year to another. Therefore, droughts are more likely to become more and more intensive. This will impose significant challenges – most notably on growing rain-fed crops, natural tree regeneration and grazing animals. The National Land Planning scheme further describes droughts, floods and late rains as three major climatic risks. Projects aiming at preserving these areas are therefore a clear priority at the Government level.

Climate change has important impact on the agricultural sector. Agro-climatic parameters are constraining for the agricultural and forestry sector, especially in the South-West and in the Far-North that suffer frequent droughts. Academic work from Boko (1988), Afouda (1990), Houndénou (1999) et de Ogouwalé (2004), are showing that rainfall decrease, reduction in the length of the agricultural season, persistence of negative anomalies, minimal temperature increase is now typical for Benin’s climate. Rainfall regimes and agricultural production systems are therefore modified.

Direct impacts of climate change on agriculture concern crop behavior, pedological modifications and yield reduction. At the crop level, phenomenon of shortening of growth cycle and premature bloom are happening, due to the increase of temperature. Besides, agricultural yield will be seriously affected by the repeated effect of rainfall deficiencies and perturbations. Hence, integration of adaptation into the agricultural sector would be crucial for reducing vulnerability of the sector.

Available evidence suggests that the most certain manifestation of climate change on precipitation is an increase in variability while the directions of changes are much more uncertain. These predicted changes in climate, despite uncertainties, are likely to have an impact on farmers who engage in subsistence or rain-fed agriculture, the landless who are usually dependent on on-farm labor opportunities, and women-headed households.

Barriers that are addressed in the theory of change remain unchanged from the PIF:

- 1. Insufficient integration of climate risks into the agriculture sector at the national and sub-national development planning (Capacity and institutional barrier)
- 2. Technical capacity constraints for climate-resilient water infrastructure design and livelihood support (Knowledge and technical barrier)
  - Low levels of extension advice for agriculture based livelihood diversification (Technical capacity barrier)
  - Limited availability and use of information on adaptation options (Information and coordination barrier)

## 2) THE BASELINE SCENARIO OR ANY ASSOCIATED BASELINE PROJECTS

LDCF funding represents an opportunity to increase the climate change resilience of the rural development objectives pursued through the PSRSA, in the Municipalities of Avrankou, Bohicon, Bopa, Ouaké and Savalou. Without the LDCF funding, the baseline intervention could turn out to be a “business-as-usual” development, and not tackle the roots of the most important constraints facing rural development in Benin where natural capital still accounts for the largest part of communities' revenues.

Benin ranks amongst the list of LDCs since 1971, exhibiting amongst the lowest indicators of socioeconomic development. The costs of adaptation are therefore prohibitive, given the Beninese government current capacity. Indeed, the INDC of Benin includes a component "Adaptation" of a total cost of USD 18,35 million for the period 2016-2030<sup>8</sup>.

The baseline scenario for the proposed project is a weak enabling environment, a lack of coordination between national authorities, local authorities and communities and a lack of capacity and resources, which will mean that endemic poverty and a lack of economic alternatives further will contribute to increase the vulnerability of rural livelihoods in the project's area.

The field studies realized have shown that, in concerned Municipalities and villages, both men and women are exposed to climate hazards in different ways and each adopt appropriate strategies to overcome such crises. However, in case of extreme shocks, poor and small household use various survival strategies, which often involve the accumulation of small debts, resorted to sharecropping arrangements with large-scale farmers, the sale of farm assets through destocking. All these strategies make household even more vulnerable to future climate shocks, creating a vicious circle. Furthermore, the livelihoods of rural populations depend on natural resources increasingly degraded (land, lake, lowlands, etc.) and on often unstable market conditions, making populations even more vulnerable.

Given its current capacity, the Government of Benin therefore seeks the support of grants for the proposed urgent adaptation actions that will benefit largely the identified impoverished and vulnerable communities. A grant financing mechanism is required for the additional investment required to support the activities of this project, namely to reduce vulnerability to climate change and strengthen the adaptive capacity of the identified vulnerable communities.

Without GEF support, Benin will be faced with losing a sustainable option for rural adaptation and long term protection brought by severe flood mitigation measures and enhanced adaptation to extreme climate events, through construction of infrastructures and water management strengthening. With new and improved features that increase resilience to climate change and by investing in the supportive development of technologies, knowledge and institutional capacities, GEF investment will help Government of Benin to strengthen the country's adaptive capacities to climate change and to develop agriculture, and to address the environment management issues.

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<sup>8</sup> <http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/INDC/Published%20Documents/Benin/1/INDC%20BENIN%20%20Version%20finale%20revue%20septembre%202015.pdf>  
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Two main projects on the ground form a baseline for this project to build on.

The first one is the project implemented by IFAD called PACER (“*Projet d'appui à la croissance économique rurale*”), supporting rural economic growth. After a first 5 year phase supporting rural entrepreneurship in 5 value chains: rice, pineapple, manioc, market gardening and soya, the project is entering this year a second five year phase on a 6,5billion FCFA budget financed by the West African Development Bank. In order to support the framework conditions for rural growth, this second phase’s expected output are:

- To renovate 250km of rural roads
- To rehabilitate 405 hectares of wetlands for rice production and market gardening
- To build 6464m2 of storage and market buildings

These activities are relevant for and complementary to some of the activities of the proposed LDCF project, but without a focus on climate change adaptation.

The second one is the previously known as *Projet Songhai* and now entering a second phase called PPEA (*Projet de Promotion de l'Entreprenariat Agricole*: Project to promote agricultural entrepreneurship). It is a national and regional project which general objective is to reduce rural exodus by making rural businesses more attractive. It will provide technical expertise especially to young people who wish to join the agricultural sector in the field of sustainable agriculture and livestock rearing, but without the climate change angle. This new phase of the PPEA project will also include a new focus on increasing access to finance and markets. It is implemented by the CePED, which is also the implementing partner for the current LDCF project. One of its intervention zones in Benin is the Municipality of Savalou, also covered by the current LDCF project. Here again, the activities of this project are relevant but not focused on climate change.

This LDCF initiative will ensure that climate change becomes a central issue in the planning, budgeting and execution of Government intervention and support to its rural population.

### **3) THE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO, WITH A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT**

As mentioned above, some changes have been made to outcomes and outputs in order to reflect information collected during the project preparation phase’s consultations and to facilitate implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

During the project formulation, more than 600 persons were indeed consulted at national, municipal, village and community levels regarding the best options to achieve these outcomes. The project activities are based on the needs of the key stakeholders, especially the community based beneficiaries, i.e. the most vulnerable fringe of the rural population in the priority sites. This has allowed identifying priorities in the targeted communities as well as their cost and relevance<sup>9</sup>. The detailed activities under each outcomes described under will be designed on the basis of these thorough analysis, updated during the early implementation phase of the project.

Components, outcomes, outputs and activities were designed to comply with the GEF criteria: none of the activities would have been needed and hence implemented in the absence of climate change. In other words, these activities are additional measures needed to build adaptive capacity, increase resilience to climate change and reduce vulnerability in the country.

<sup>9</sup> Bertin K. Assogba Nongnide, Ingénieur Agronome du Génie Rural, des Eaux & Forêts, Administrateur des Projets de Développement, Rapport de mission “analyse et évaluation de la vulnérabilité et variabilité climatiques dans le cadre de la formulation du projet « Renforcement de la résilience des moyens de subsistance ruraux et du système de gouvernement local aux risques et à la variabilité climatiques au Bénin », version of August 2016 and Strengthening the resilience of rural livelihoods and sub-national government system to climate risks and variability in Benin”, contribution to the project formulation, *Cosme Zounon, socio-economic expert, October 2016*  
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## Component 1: Capacity development

### Outcome 1: Climate change and gender are included in development plans at national and sub-national levels

Without LDCF financing (baseline situation): Benin is committed to addressing climate change and its effects as shown by its INDC and efforts made at national and sub-national levels. As outlined in the national expert's report<sup>10</sup>, Benin has encouraged the development and the adoption of several development instruments (plans and strategies) in various sectors of economic activity to integrate climate change. It has also set up an institutional framework for climate change issues marked by the establishment of various structures and committees. More details can be found in the executive summary of the report in Annex F.

However, according to the national expert's report<sup>11</sup>, the institutional framework is not currently truly operational and has weaknesses, in particular in the coordination and management of human resources. In the same way, despite the efforts made, the inclusion of climate change into development plans and programs at the national level remains embryonic. Furthermore, there is a lack of coordination of activities concerning different economic sectors.

At the sub-national level, the thorough evaluation of the integration of climate change considerations and evaluation tools in local planning documents carried out as a baseline study for the NAPA-1 project<sup>12</sup> of nine Municipal Development Plans (*Plans de Développement Communal*) covering the 2010/11 to 2015/16 period concludes that climate change is only addressed indirectly and partially as part of the environment section and not as a specific topic. Out of 211 actions identified as adaptation-related in the agriculture sector, 91 were assessed "compatible" (i.e., resilient to climate change), whereas 120 were not compatible. This conclusion is still valid as many of these plans are still in the process of being revised for the upcoming years.

In the same way, at the national level, several key strategies are not taking climate change adaptation into account in a satisfactory manner, as for example the Growth Strategy for Poverty Reduction (*Stratégie de croissance pour la Réduction de la Pauvreté*).

Integration of climate change considerations in official planning at national and sub-national levels will only come to reality if it reaches farmers. Extensions services and NGOs are key actors to inform and support local communities about climate change adaptation options, but their resources are limited.

Finally, coordination, communication and capitalization on lessons learnt remain a challenge, for institutional reasons but also because of lack of resources available for these activities. Indeed, in the context of an LDC country with very limited resources, these kinds of activities can be seen as less essential than the actions having direct impact on the ground, even though this reduces their potential impact and efficiency.

#### With LDCF financing (with adaptation benefits):

In this context, this project would ensure that the integration of climate change, taking gender considerations into account, in planning and budgeting at national and sub-national levels are supported as necessary until it is anchored in relevant plans and strategies.

For the Municipalities who have benefited of NAPA-1 (cf Section [Error! Reference source not found.](#) on the choice of target sites), the current project will make sure capacities acquired through that project are concretely used and capitalized on. Indeed, these Municipalities have not yet updated their Municipal Development Plans, which means the capacities acquired through NAPA-1 have yet to be applied concretely. For these municipalities, the proposed project will provide "on

<sup>10</sup> "Strengthening the resilience of rural livelihoods and sub-national government system to climate risks and variability in Benin", contribution to the report formulation, *Cosme Zounon, socio-economic expert, October 2016*

<sup>11</sup> "Strengthening the resilience of rural livelihoods and sub-national government system to climate risks and variability in Benin", contribution to the report formulation, *Cosme Zounon, socio-economic expert, October 2016*

<sup>12</sup> <file:///C:/Users/User/Dropbox/2%20UNDP/B%20C3%A9nin/NAPA/Rapport%20PANA%20Int%C3%A9gration%20OK.pdf>  
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demand” support to implement the guide to integrate climate change consideration into Municipal Development Plans, as there might be a gap between the theoretical understanding of this issue and the tool and its concrete implementation.

For other Municipalities, this project will build on the expertise and tools developed by the NAPA-1 projects in order to support them to integrate climate in their next Municipal Development Plans, thereby maximizing the efficiency and impact of the PANA-1 achievements. Indeed, these Municipalities benefit from training to develop the necessary expertise on climate change, its impacts and the corresponding adaptation strategies such as alternative livelihoods and resilient techniques. They will also be introduced to the guide to integrate adaptation to climate in Municipal Development Plans developed under PANA-1 and supported in its concrete implementation in the framework of the updating of their Municipal Development Plans.

At national level, support will be provided to the relevant Ministries as they revise national policies such as the Poverty reduction Strategy (*Document de Stratégie pour la réduction de la pauvreté*), sectoral strategies as well as the multiannual budgets (*Document de Programmation Budgétaire Economique Pluriannuelle DPPD Document de Programmation Pluriannuelle des Dépenses*).

Capacities will also be reinforced at Departmental level as this is an important planning level in Benin’s administrative organization and the relevant sectoral decentralization plans (*Plans de déconcentration et décentralisation (P2D)*) will be targeted.

The awareness and technical knowledge of relevant climate change adaptation options and of agriculture extension agents and local NGOs working with agriculture will also be strengthened in order to reach the communities. This will be achieved via preliminary sessions to train local trainers so that the appropriate expertise is widespread to experts and national and subnational decision makers beyond the duration of the project.

Finally, communication and capitalization on lessons learnt will be supported in order to maximize the efficiency and impact of the project. The UNDP will make sure the lessons learnt during the concrete implementation of the guide to integrate adaptation to climate in Municipal Development Plans are used to update this guide and make it more operational. Two forums (mid-term and final) will gather the relevant institutions for them to share experience in integrating climate change consideration in planning and budgeting. These forums will promote both exchanges within and across at the different decision levels (municipal, departmental and national) in order to reinforce coordination and communication between the different actors and enhance mutual understanding. Finally, the main implementing partners, the Ministry of Agriculture and local NGOs, will be supported to create a repository of lessons learnt in order for these lessons to be perpetuated in the practices of these actors and disseminated further.

These capacity building activities will be additional and contribute to the baseline projects general objectives, as well as the national priority, to strengthen the agriculture sector. Indeed, without a focus on reducing its vulnerability to climate change’s adverse impacts, this strengthening would not be sustainable.

The outputs under outcome 1 include:

- **Output 1.1:** The five targeted Departments and Municipalities and all relevant Ministries have integrated gender responsive climate change adaptation in their planning and budgeting work
- **Output 1.2:** Agricultural extension agents and local NGOs active in the 5 targeted Municipalities are trained on resilience to climate change
- **Output 1.3:** Lessons learned are summarized in a repository and shared

## Component 2: Resilient agriculture investments

### Outcome 2: Productive agricultural infrastructure and human skills are improved to cope with altered rainfall patterns

#### Without LDCF financing (baseline situation):

As part of the preparation phase of this project, a detailed and participatory analysis of climate risks and hazards has been undertaken at the village level in the five targeted municipalities. It shows that all five municipalities suffer from climate change induced alteration in rainfall patterns. More specifically:

- 1. Irregular rainfall, poor allocation of rainfalls, drought as well as strong winds in Bopa;
- 2. Irregular rainfall, poor allocation of rainfalls, droughts as well as high temperatures and strong winds followed by heavy rains in Ouaké;
- 3. Drought and erratic rainfall (delay, interruption, early termination) in Savalou and Avrankou; and
- 4. Invasive flooding in Bohicon, creating physical and economic damage.

As outlined in section [Error! Reference source not found.](#) Development challenge, Benin is highly dependent on rain-fed agriculture, and climate change induced alterations of rain fall patterns are therefore particularly threatening for its development and its people. Under a business as usual scenario, due to the lack of resources and capacities, farmers continue to rely mainly on non-resilient infrastructures and techniques and therefore to endure important losses due to climate events such as droughts, floods or erratic rainfalls, that are expected to become more and more frequent.

Each Municipality targeted is crossed by water, being it a lake or a river (the Ouémé river, the Ahémé lake or their tributaries), and are therefore specifically reliant on them and vulnerable to the climate change impacts on them, such as floods.

#### With LDCF financing (with adaptation benefits):

Under the alternative LDCF- funded scenario, communities' resilience to altered rainfall patterns will be strengthened.

The targeted Municipalities will benefit from at least one small-scale water harvesting infrastructure per village (i.e. at least nine in total) to help them manage erratic rainfalls. The specific type of infrastructure relevant for each target village was identified during the preparation phase<sup>13</sup> and target farmers, breeders and fishermen who are largely dependent on rain for their activities. The relevance and costs of the actions identified during the project preparation phase will be reassessed during the beginning of the implementation phase. In Municipalities that have benefited from NAPA-1, these investments can complement those made under NAPA-1 when a need has been identified in the final evaluation.

Some actions will be more innovative, such as the use of bamboos to reduce land erosion and flooding. Bamboo grows naturally in Benin and is used to build houses and fish traps, to make fire, and also to consume as food. However, experience using bamboo to prevent erosion from climate-related events such as floods or extreme winds is lacking. Under the adaptation scenario, at least 300ha of bamboos will be used to stabilize 400km of riverbanks on a 5 meter wide band on both banks and thereby reduce land erosion and flooding and further build resilience against climate change impacts.

In order to ensure the sustainability of the project, the capacities necessary to manage these infrastructures will be built, ensuring women are fully included. Here again, lessons learnt from similar activities under NAPA-1 will be used.

Beyond infrastructures, the target population will be trained in resilient agricultural practices such as irrigation techniques or short cycle improved seeds in order to further strengthen resilience to altered rainfall patterns. Short cycle improved seeds have been introduced in several villages under NAPA-1 with success, which justify the extension of such practices to villages that have not benefited from it yet. The access to adequate inputs, such as organic fertilizers, will be facilitated. Here again, women will play a key role for example by managing municipal shops that provide these agricultural inputs. These activities will usefully complement those carried out under the baseline project PPEA aiming to increase the attraction of the agricultural sector and reduce rural exodus. Indeed, the capacities and infrastructures developed by these projects will only reach their full capacities and be sustainable if the rural sector reduces its vulnerability to climate change.

The outputs under outcome 2 include:

<sup>13</sup> Bertin K. Assogba Nongnide, Ingénieur Agronome du Génie Rural, des Eaux & Forêts, Administrateur des Projets de Développement, Rapport de mission "analyse et évaluation de la vulnérabilité et variabilité climatiques dans le cadre de la formulation du projet « Renforcement de la résilience des moyens de subsistance ruraux et du système de gouvernement local aux risques et à la variabilité climatiques au Bénin », version of August 2016  
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- **Output 2.1: At least 9 small scale climate resilient water harvesting infrastructures are designed and implemented in the 9 targeted villages**
- **Output 2.2: Risks of floods and riverbanks erosion are reduced through the stabilization of slopes of critical riverbanks using at least 300ha of bamboo plantations**
- **Output 2.3: Resilient practices, such as drip irrigation techniques or short cycle improved seeds, are adopted by at least 300 households in the five targeted Municipalities**

### Component 3: Livelihoods diversification

#### **Outcome 3: communities' adaptive capacity is improved by more diversified income generating activities and enabling environment for better access to finance** Without LDCF financed intervention (baseline situation):

As outlined in Section [Error! Reference source not found.](#), **poverty** remains widespread and on the rise in Benin, with national poverty rates of 40.1% in 2015, up from 35.2% in 2009<sup>14</sup>. Benin is also very dependent on mainly rain-fed agriculture that occupies around two thirds of the population, and provides 80 % of the country's export<sup>15</sup>.

The vulnerability analysis carried out during the project preparation phase<sup>16</sup> shows clearly that the population of the nine targeted villages are very vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change. Moreover, small subsistence farmers always ranked most vulnerable, whereas activities such as manufacturing of agriculture products or cattle breeding were less vulnerable.

In the case of extreme shocks, poor and small household use various survival strategies, which often involve accumulating of small debts, resorting to sharecropping arrangements with large-scale farmers, and selling farm assets through destocking. All of these strategies make households even more vulnerable to future climate shocks, creating a vicious circle. As of 2016, the proportion of population expenditure inferior to one dollar per day in the five targeted Municipalities is: 50.4% in Avrankou, 53.0% in Bohicon, 66.6% in Bopa, in 72.2% Ouaké and 46% in Savalou and the average annual income in the targeted Municipalities is 902USD and lack access to finance, which means their adaptive capacities are very weak without the perspective of increased revenues. Furthermore, the livelihoods of rural populations depend on natural resources that are increasingly degraded (land, lake, lowlands, etc.) and on unstable markets, making populations even more vulnerable.

#### With LDCF-financed intervention (adaptation alternative):

Under the alternative LDCF funded scenario, this vicious circle would be broken by livelihoods diversification. Indeed, beyond physical vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change, poverty and the lack of economic opportunities reduces people's adaptive capacity as they have fewer means to cope. This third component aims therefore at strengthening the resilience of the target population by diversifying their economic opportunities. Building on some actions undertaken as part of component 2, such as the construction of ponds or the plantation of bamboos, it maximizes their impact.

Building on the lessons learnt through NAPA-1, which introduced such livelihoods diversification in its target Municipalities, and depending on what is most relevant in each village as identified during the PPG phase, the alternative livelihoods introduced will include cattle farming, pond fishing, aquaculture and manufacturing of bamboo products. Benin is a member of the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR)<sup>17</sup>, an intergovernmental organization registered with the United Nations that promotes bamboo as a sustainable economic opportunity as it has multiple uses in agriculture, medicine, construction etc Annex I gives further insight on the economic potential of bamboo.

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/benin/overview>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/18997.html>

<sup>16</sup> Bertin K. Assogba Nongnide, Ingénieur Agronome du Génie Rural, des Eaux & Forêts, Administrateur des Projets de Développement, Rapport de mission "analyse et évaluation de la vulnérabilité et variabilité climatiques dans le cadre de la formulation du projet « Renforcement de la résilience des moyens de subsistance ruraux et du système de gouvernement local aux risques et à la variabilité climatiques au Bénin », version of August 2016

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.inbar.int/>

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Field Code Changed

The target population will be trained in these new livelihoods opportunity, with a particular focus on woman-headed households, youth and landless farmers, and the access to necessary inputs (head of cattle, veterinary products, gear) will be insured.

As outlined in section [Error! Reference source not found.](#), gender inequality sometimes makes activities targeting women necessary. This is why all women in the targeted area will be trained in order to ensure they fully benefit from these potential alternative livelihoods and to enhance their access to decision making and finance.

Finally, the local economy will be strengthened as the project will reinforce the capacities of local entrepreneurs and Small and Medium Enterprises to extend their activities in a sustainable manner and better access finance in order to stimulate employment and growth and thereby economic opportunities for the population. As mentioned in the Project Result Framework (section VI. of the project document), based on previous experience such as the NAPA-1, the expected increase of revenue resulting of the project is 50% at project completion, with an intermediary objective of 25% increase after 3 years of implementation.

These activities will benefit from and be additional to the activities carried out under the baseline project PPEA (previously known as Songhai project) and PACER. Indeed, PACER will contribute to better infrastructure such as rural roads and storage and market buildings and PPEA will contribute to enhancing capacities and access to markets. Both should therefore contribute to strengthening Benin’s rural economy, highlighting the relevance of the proposed LDCF’s project focus on bettering the resilience of this sector to climate change.

The outputs under outcome 3 include:

- **Output 3.1: Targeted population’s dependency and vulnerability to climate change effects is reduced through the introduction of alternative livelihoods for approximately 4000 persons**
- **Output 3.2: All women of target population (3,281 women) are trained on alternative livelihoods to agriculture to better cope with climate change impacts**
- **Output 3.3: The capacities of 300 rural entrepreneurs and 50 SMEs (aiming at 50% women) to develop business plans in the field of sustainable craft and small scale manufacture are strengthened in order to stimulate employment and revenue increase**

**4) INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING AND EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE BASELINE AND CO-FINANCING**

| Component   | Baseline Scenario (BAU without the GEF project)  | Alternative (with the GEF project)   | Incremental Benefit (generated by GEF and co-financing)   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <b>Component 1:<br/>Capacity development<br/>Outcome 1: Climate change and gender are included in development plans and budgets at national and sub-national levels</b> | The Government of Benin has demonstrated great efforts and initiatives to address climate change and its effects. The country’s INDC shows that the government is committed to implement changes regarding reducing its greenhouse gases emissions and adaptation measures to improve its resilience. However, even though they are important, those efforts will not be enough for the country to achieve its goals of reducing its population’s vulnerability to climate change consequences. Unfortunately, there is still a lack of capacity | Relevant national and sub-national ministries, as well as Municipalities and villages will have the capacity to integrate climate change risks and opportunities, as well as gender-related factors, in their annual/medium/long-term development plans and budgets; | Through this component the project will enable the integration of climate and gender factors in the planning.. The capacities of communal councils for planning and budgeting of a climate sensitive approach of development will be improved, as well as capacities of technical services to issue an environmental strategical evaluation / or a vulnerability of the planning and budgeting process evaluation. The technical capacity of agricultural extension agents and local NGOs concerning resilient subsistence to climate and sustainable assistance to |

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|   | <p>of local personnel and institutions to integrate climate factor as an element in the planning, budgeting and execution of policies and projects, both at the national and subnational levels.</p> <p>The five-year Commune Development Plans and annual Investment Programmes currently implemented in the commune-level, for example, fail in being a practical tool to guide commune councils in prioritizing, budgeting and executing development action plans. The result is, thus, an insufficient level of integration of climate related factors in the policies both in national and subnational levels, which leads to inefficiency and results below expected.</p>   |   | <p>community will also be improved.</p> <p>Technical capacities to undertake the conception and the building of climate change resilient agricultural infrastructures for at least 300 government official and registered private entrepreneurs in five Communes will be established.</p> <p>Finance and planning ministries will introduce the guidelines in order to provide guidance to line ministries to achieve the integration of climate change in their long and mid-term planning and budgeting processes.</p> <p>Furthermore, the organizational staff of the project will be trained on tools to integrate and analyze gender factors.</p> <p>Finally, coordination and communication around integration of CC to planning will be enhanced through a repository of lessons learnt managed by implementing partners and two knowledge sharing forums that will allow institutions to share experience and learn from each other.</p>  |
| <p><b>Component 2: Resilient agriculture investments</b><br/> <b>Outcome 2: Productive agricultural infrastructure and human skills are improved to cope with altered rainfall patterns</b></p> | <p>Lack of access to water, but also to resilient agricultural techniques contribute to the underlying vulnerability of farmers.</p> <p>A mix of human factors (slash-and-burn agriculture, ploughing down-slope, excessive use of chemical fertilizers, monocrop, use of the acadja fishing technique on Ahémé lake...), of natural factors intensified by climate change (drought, flooding, violent winds, precocity of rainfalls, intensity, excessive temperatures...) and sociodemographic factors (demographic growth, agricultural pressure on the lands, land conflicts...) are contributing to land degradation.</p> <p>Without project intervention, increasing land degradation will worsen the situation of rural household, creating even more poverty and vulnerability to erratic rainfalls, floods and droughts.</p> <p>Furthermore, there are</p> | <p>Under the alternative LDCF-funded scenario, communities' resilience to altered rainfall patterns will be strengthened.</p> | <p>The targeted Municipalities will benefit from small-scale water harvesting infrastructure to help them manage erratic rainfalls. the target population will be trained in resilient agricultural practices such as irrigation techniques or short cycle improved seeds in order to further strengthen resilience to altered rainfall patterns.</p> <p>Finally, floods prevention and stabilization of slopes of critical riverbanks using bamboo plantation will be realized.</p> <p>The above-mentioned realizations will allow to improve the resilience of communities to climate changes and to create a virtuous circle concerning poverty reduction.</p> <p>This intervention will be implemented following a gender mainstreaming approach, focusing on reducing women's vulnerability to climate change and on promoting their empowerment. The project aims to do so by ensuring the participation of women and its representatives in all the process of decision making and</p> |

|  |  |  |   |
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|  | important differences in the way climate change affects women and men, due to the distinct social position of women in the family and the community. Therefore, without project intervention, climate change will lead to an even lower self-sufficiency of rural households headed by women and will also alter women's allocation of tasks and time, affecting food security and nutritional well-being.   |  | implementation, making sure that their interests and opinions are taken into consideration.   |
| <b>Component 3:<br/>Livelihoods<br/>diversification<br/>Outcome 3:<br/>communities' adaptive<br/>capacity is improved<br/>by more diversified<br/>income generating<br/>activities</b> | The market is not responding effectively to environmental stress and the agricultural value chain is very vulnerable to climate hazard. Income sources for rural communities are not diversified and depend mainly on agro-pastoral communities. In particular, rural community, and particularly women, have a limited access to knowledge and finance necessary to the development of diversified activities. Without project intervention, this situation will continue: there will be no diversification of incomes sources for most households. Rural communities will remain vulnerable to adverse climate change impacts as their capacity to cope is limited, with a risk of vicious circle between mutually reinforcing vulnerability to climate change and poverty . | Rural households will be able to increase their revenue, through the introduction and the training for new income-generating activities (such as the support of entrepreneurship), as well as support to entrepreneurship, considering particularly young people and women. This will allow to reduce poverty in the targeted rural areas of Benin and thereby enhance the adaptive capacity of population to the adverse impacts of climate change. | Diversified livelihoods, such as cattle farming, pond fishing, aquaculture and manufacturing of bamboo products, will be introduced. Women will be specifically targeted in order to make sure they access to these opportunities and at least 3,000 women engaged in subsistence farming, will be trained on alternative subsistence means to agriculture in order to face better climate shocks. Furthermore, the capacities on development of business plans will be reinforced in the field of craft furnished small scale manufacture to 300 rural entrepreneurs and 50 SMEs to stimulate employment and growth. |

##### 5) GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEFTF) AND ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF)

The project is responsive to the GEF adaptation strategy, with the goal of supporting developing countries in becoming climate resilient by promoting both immediate and longer-term adaptation measures in development policies, plans, programs, projects and actions. Climate change is impacting the economy of Benin. In order to prevent these impacts, the country shall support incremental adaptation costs. There is hence a rationale for the GEF to fund adaptive activities to strengthen the resilience of the rural population of Benin.

This project has been designed in compliance with LDCF guidelines and is in line with the updated Results-Based Management Framework for the LDCF (GEF/LDCF.SCCF.9/Inf.4, October 20, 2010).

This project is also in line with Objective 1 of LDCF *Adaptation to Climate Change* focal area aiming at “reducing vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change, including variability, at local, national, regional and global levels”, with Objective 2 aiming at “increasing adaptive capacities to respond to the impacts of climate change, including variability

at local, national, regional and global levels” and with Objective 3 aiming at “promoting transfer and adoption of adaptation technology”.

The links to related expected outcomes in the LDCF Result Based Management Framework include outcome 1.1 “Mainstreamed adaptation in broader development frameworks at country level and in targeted vulnerable areas”, outcome 1.2 “Reducing vulnerability in development sectors” and outcome 2.2 “Strengthened adaptive capacity to reduce risks to climate-induced economic losses”.

Many environmental and adaptation benefits are expected to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels, among which:

- Improved living conditions of agro-pastoral communities (through diversifying and increasing production and income).
- Ensuring food security in concerned Communes and villages
- Better linkages between disaster risk management and climate change, by addressing existing vulnerabilities through development and operational planning, policy processes, and incentive systems.
- Creating a virtuous circle by reducing risks induced by flooding.
- Emphasis on a multi-level, integrated approach to pastoral and agriculture development through support and funding for a range of initiatives to help communities and households undertake income generating activities, accompanied by awareness raising, diversification of income sources, information and capacity building.
- Mainstreaming gender issues into pastoral development namely by: (i) addressing in all initiatives the specific needs of women and men (for instance, through well-tailored training programs, gender-sensitive income generation activities, etc.); and (ii) by identifying interventions that specifically target women as main beneficiaries (for instance, to better address households’ subsistence priority needs, cash transfers will be provided directly to women). For that purpose, a detailed gender analysis has been carried out with recommendations for the project implementation.

## 6) INNOVATIVENESS, SUSTAINABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR SCALING UP

The project has been designed to have a sustainable impact, at the local as well as the national levels.

Firstly, as outline in Section [Error! Reference source not found.H](#), the project addresses the key priorities of national development. It therefore benefits from strong institutional backing, which will ensure its sustainability. This is also true at the local level, as the thorough consultations led during the project preparation phase identified the populations’ needs and the project has been designed to address them.

The integrated approach taken for the design of the project also supports its sustainability: the three components (i.e., capacity building, resilient agriculture investment and livelihoods diversification) are complementary and mutually reinforcing. For example, bamboos will be used in component 2 to stabilize riverbanks and thereby reduce the risks of flood and erosion. But this new resource will feed in component 3 to create new livelihood activities based on bamboo. In this way, actions taken to reduce vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change and those to increase adaptive capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change are mutually reinforcing, multiplying thereby the incentives to be sustainable in time.

The strong focus on capacity building will also enable project sustainability. Capacity building in risk assessment, risk reduction, vulnerabilities assessment, and adaptation technologies, including development policy frameworks, training of staff, and institutional building and strengthening, will underpin the sustainability of the project outcomes. Investments



made and new techniques introduced will be coupled with building of necessary management capacities. For example, when small water harvesting infrastructure are built under component 2, functional management committees including women will be set up in order to ensure their good use and maintenance. The training the trainers approach followed also contributes to sustainability ensuring that capacity remains and can continue to be built as needed well after the end of the project. The third component of the project aims at developing higher income and better access to finance. This will in turn consolidate the project's results beyond its implementation time.

Moreover, the proposed project is building on the successes and results of the NAPA-1 project. The implementation of this project resulted in enhanced adaptive capacities of farmers, the introduction of adaptation technologies and innovation development. The terminal evaluation process of the NAPA-1 project achieved by the end of 2015 concluded that farmers keep adapting and trying new adaptation technologies even after the project implementation period, underlying their interests in sustaining project activities and adaptation investments beyond implementation period: "The activities introduced during the project implementation have created a dynamic in the villages and, with few exceptions, the population suggested that innovations of NAPA-1 would continue"<sup>18</sup>. Contrarily to the NAPA-1, the goal of the proposed project isn't to make "research-action" by testing activities in selected villages. Three municipalities (Bopa, Ouaké, Savalou) among the five selected municipalities were already part of the NAPA-1 and activities selected in this project are based on the results of this project and on the lessons that were drawn from it.

There is potential for scaling up this project upon satisfactory completion as the proposed project will focus on five municipalities (and nine villages), but Benin has declared 21 Municipalities most vulnerable to climate change (i.e., where there is an acute need to build resilience of socio-economic activities to climate change). The success of the proposed project will pave the way for its extension to these other Municipalities; this project aims to demonstrate and scale up some of the best practices in climate change adaptation in order to support the GoB in its efforts to scale up to the entire country.

Institutional capacity enhancement and technical support will facilitate the scaling up of the project by enabling relevant ministries to comprehensively and iteratively assess development needs and climate vulnerabilities, and in fine to integrate climate change adaptation into national and sub-national development and sectoral planning.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that in May 2017, Benin's Ministry of Agriculture requested assistance through the CTCN to enhance its agro-meteorological information system in order to strengthen climate resilience of its agriculture producers<sup>19</sup>. By tackling the barrier that the lack of relevant and available agro-meteorological information and capacity to use the information represents for Benin's agriculture resilience, this CTCN assistance will usefully complement the proposed project and enhance both its sustainability and its potential to be scaled up.

**A.2. Child Project?** If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.

N/A

**A.3. Stakeholders.** Elaborate on how the key stakeholders engagement, particularly with regard to [civil society organizations](#) and [indigenous peoples](#), is incorporated in the preparation and implementation of the project.

<sup>18</sup> Terminal Evaluation Report, Project title: "Integrated Adaptation Programme to combat the effects of Climate Change on agricultural production and food security in Benin (PANA-1)", UNDP / GEF (GEF ID 3704), Cotonou, Benin, October 2015.

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.ctc-n.org/news/agro-meteorological-information-system-strengthen-climate-resilience-agriculture-producers>  
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### A.3 Key Stakeholders

The main project partners and stakeholders on this project will be the ministry of Plan and Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishing, The Center of Expertise for Partnerships and Sustainable Development, the Institute for Agricultural Research Benin, Ministry of Water and Energy, Benin GEF Small Grants Program (SGP) Communities and regions.

The project will support an active partnership between the University of Cotonou and international Universities and research centers working on Climate Change Adaptation.

| Ministry / Department / Organizations                                | Role in the project   |
|--|---|
| Ministry of Plan and Development                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will preside the Orientation Committee for policies and Strategies (<i>COPS</i>) which serves as Project Technical Committee (<i>CTP</i>) through the Partnership and Expertise Center for Sustainable development (see below)</li> <li>- Will coordinate all actions in order to contribute to the success of the project's actions. This will ensure the project ownership by all members of the government</li> <li>- Will act as the National Executing Agency</li> <li>- Will represent the Government in the project</li> </ul>  |
| Partnership and Expertise Center for Sustainable Development (CePED) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will assume the function of National Project Director</li> <li>- Will prepare the technical and decision-making bodies sessions of the Project and will provide the functions of secretariat and Reporting with the support of the management unit</li> <li>- Will act as the National Directorate of the project</li> <li>- Will represent the Government in the implementation of project operations</li> <li>- Will ensure the coherence of the population's expectations with project objectives</li> <li>- Will organize the synergy with other similar projects both nationally and at the communal level</li> <li>- Will support the Project Team in the implementation of programmed activities</li> <li>- Will play a key role in South South and Triangular cooperation (SSTrC)</li> </ul> |
| Ministry of Living Environment and Sustainable Development           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will be a member of the <i>CTP</i></li> <li>- Will serve as resource institution for technical aspects of sustainable development.</li> <li>- Will provide technical assistance</li> </ul>   |

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| Ministry of Agriculture, Breeding and Fishery   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will co-preside the <i>CTP</i></li> <li>- Will serve as resource institution for technical aspects of crop production, livestock and property and also to secure training sites</li> <li>- Will provide technical assistance for water-related activities including the construction of water resource mobilization works for agro-forestry- pastoral purposes</li> <li>- Will designate a representative for the project that will assume the role and functions of the Executive or Senior Beneficiary on the draft board</li> </ul>  |
| Benin Agricultural Research Institute (INRAB) and other research institutions for bamboos promotion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will be a member of the <i>CTP</i></li> <li>- Will be making research on short-cycle and drought resistant varieties and on adapted cultivation practices, on agro-forestry for the diversification of income sources and on other appropriate technical questions</li> <li>- Will conduct research, at the farmer level, on agriculture adaptation activities related to options of cultivation diversification</li> <li>- Will be responsible for the demonstration of adapted technologies</li> </ul>  |
| Ministry of Energy, Water and Mining (Water Department)   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will be a member of the <i>CTP</i></li> <li>- Will be responsible for hydrological data collection;</li> <li>- Will provide technical assistance for water-related activities including the construction of dams</li> </ul>   |
| United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will co-preside the <i>CTP</i></li> <li>- Will provide technical assistance to various project stakeholders during the site selection workshops and project preparatory phase</li> <li>- Will be responsible for reporting the progress of the project to the GEF</li> <li>- Will be responsible for monitoring and quality assurance of the technical and financial management of the plan for the Project and in the use of project funds;</li> <li>- Will facilitate the international dissemination of knowledge and project experience</li> <li>- Will be a recipient of information and data from projects to facilitate the incorporation of the predictions of climate change in plans, extreme events management policies and programs</li> <li>- Supported the Government during the formulation of the PIF and PROJECT PREPARATION</li> <li>- Will ensure the connection between the GEF and the Government</li> </ul> |

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|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will provide support to the Project Management Unit (<i>Unité de Gestion du Projet, UGP</i>) for the implementation of project components</li> <li>- Will mobilize and coordinate the support of international partners through a global network</li> </ul>   |
| Municipalities  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will play a vital role in securing demonstration sites</li> <li>- Will be key beneficiaries and will participate in the planning and implementation of project interventions in Municipality</li> <li>- Will be key players in all phases of the formulation, implementation, evaluation and monitoring of the project</li> </ul>   |
| Universities, Agriculture vocational schools and the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, and apply ecology laboratory | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Acted as resource institutions during the PIF et PPG</li> <li>- Will disseminate knowledge in the field of climate change resilience among young generations of agricultural entrepreneurs</li> </ul>   |
| Local Communities/CBOs  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will be the key beneficiaries and will participate in the planning and implementation of project interventions at the community level</li> <li>- Will be key partners in the planning and implementation of project interventions at the community level, as a member of the Technical Support Mechanism (<i>Mécanisme d'appui technique</i>)</li> <li>- Will participate in a series of briefings and awareness raising workshops at project start organised under the leadership of local authorities and making sure that all groups are included (women, youth, poor)</li> <li>- Will be recruited for the relevant project activities, such as infrastructure building and will benefit in this framework of the relevant capacity building.</li> <li>- Will be involved in multi-stakeholders' platform at the municipal and regional levels, under the project Management units</li> </ul> |
| Small Grant Programme (UNOPS-UNDP)  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will define, in collaboration with the national leadership of the Project Management Unit, the Environmental Quality/ poverty reduction interface, and in terms of capacity-building of communities and vulnerable groups, while effectively involving all parties concerned</li> <li>- Will support local initiatives, following a program approach, and by focusing on niche themes and geographical concentration which optimize the effectiveness and efficiency of interventions</li> <li>- Will ensure an accompaniment to CSOs/ CBOs project beneficiaries which will enhance their technical, organizational and institutional capabilities</li> </ul>  |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will contribute to enhance the potential for change that contain the internal dynamics (focusing on concrete activities and broader issues, role of leaders, learning through exchange, emulation, self-diffusion of innovation, involvement of rural actors in local democracy, improvement of social relations ...) while intensifying patrimonial negotiations to optimize the use of livelihoods</li> <li>- Will contribute to strengthen the quality of partnerships between CSOs/CBOs and Municipalities to increase the consistency of interventions with the Communal Development Plans and to ensure municipal support</li> <li>- Will ensure the sustainability of the achievements and knowledge, through the organization of periodic meetings of exchanges between stakeholders as the basis of participatory analysis and enrichment of the diversity of knowledge and experience</li> </ul> |
| United Nations Volunteers programme  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will bring a substantial support for the project through:</li> <li>- The provision of qualified human resources for the promotion of national and international volunteering</li> <li>- The Monitoring of activities of volunteers on the Project intervention sites</li> <li>- The strengthening of the work of volunteering at community level and at the communal level in the project intervention areas</li> </ul>  |
| ANOPER ( <i>Association Nationale des Organisations Professionnelles d'Éleveurs de Ruminants</i> ) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rural organization with 35 000 breeders in 48 local authorities (75% of the territory of Benin), it will share expertise with the project management unit on living and working conditions for farmers of ruminants in Benin and will come in support concerning activity 2.3.7, by helping drawing limits for paths corridors</li> </ul>  |
| <i>Africaine des Garanties du Bénin</i>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Role in the project: partnership with banks to facilitate operation credit to vulnerable groups at bearable interest rate and this in a local economy context;</li> </ul>  |

A.4. [Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment](#). Elaborate on how gender equality and women's empowerment issues are mainstreamed into the project implementation and monitoring, taking into account the differences, needs, roles and priorities of women and men.

#### **A.4 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.**

Even though the Constitution of Benin affirms equality between men and women and progress is being made to enhance **gender equality**, this issue **remains a challenge in Benin**. As outlined in Section [Error! Reference source not found.](#),<sup>ii</sup>,

Benin ranks 144 out of 187 countries on the Gender Inequality Index<sup>20</sup>, with only 7,2% of seats at the Parliament held by women and only 15,8% of the female population over 25 having at least some secondary education, against 30,1% for men. The country is in group 5 of the Gender Development Index<sup>21</sup>, meaning it has only attained low equality in Human Development Index (HDI) achievements between women and men (absolute deviation from gender parity of more than 10 percent).

**As a result, men and women are impacted differently by climate change and require different things to build their adaptive capacities.** In order to better understand these differences and to design the project to tackle them accordingly, **an extensive consultation has been led during the project preparation phase** in the 5 targeted Municipalities and synthesized in a report<sup>22</sup>, which executive summary can be found in Annex F. The report confirms that in the 5 targeted Municipalities, men and women are impacted differently by climate change impacts due to their different social roles in the society. Women have for example less access to land. Another example reported by several women in different targeted municipalities is that they are the one who are cleaning up after a flood, therefore carrying more of the work burden implied, beyond economic and other losses implied by the flood. The report also highlights that gender is an important parameter to be taken into account, but is intersectional, meaning there are parameters that can worsen or minimize the gender unbalance such as age, wealth, social position, handicap. These parameters must be kept in mind when designing a project.

This consultation led to the identification of the elements of activities addressing the vulnerability of women and synthesized in an **action plan to integrate gender to the project**<sup>23</sup>. According to this action plan, **the current project has been carefully designed both to mainstream gender in all its components, outcomes, outputs and activities and corresponding M&E indicators, but also to target women specifically when needed.** Experience shows that setting targets to reach women in all activities is important, but that these targets can be difficult to achieve, for example because of women's social roles. Thus, in outcome 3 concerning livelihood diversification, output 3.3 will aim at having at least 50% of women trained as part of the entrepreneurs and SME training, but output 3.2 will train specifically women in livelihood diversification as not so many women are currently entrepreneurs or head of SMEs, but this will give them a chance to become one and better access finance. In the same way, some infrastructures, for instance some food products storage rooms to be built in Bohicon will be managed by women's groups in order to reinforce these groups and empower women, as they traditionally have less access to management positions.

**From the project organisation's point of view, 50% of the operational organization staff for the implementation of the project will be composed of women,** in order to make sure women are fully involved in the implementation and management bodies of the project. **The operational organization staff will also be trained to be able to use tools for analysis and integration of gender issues.** These measures will **ensure that specific impacts on women and other vulnerable groups will be kept in mind in the implementation of the project.**

This attention to gender and the concrete implementation of the Gender Action Plan are clearly reflected in the **gender specific indicators** used in the Project Results Framework presented in section [Error! Reference source not found.](#)<sup>24</sup>.

As an element of context, according to the fourth General Census of Population and Housing<sup>24</sup> from 2013, **the targeted population of this project in the nine villages comprises 3,281 women between 15 and 54 years old**<sup>25</sup>.

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<sup>20</sup> <http://hdr.undp.org/en/composite/GII>

<sup>21</sup> <http://hdr.undp.org/en/composite/GDI>

<sup>22</sup> Zariatou Brisso, gender expert, "Intégration du genre dans le projet de "renforcement de la résilience des moyens de subsistance ruraux et du système de gouvernement local aux risques et à la variabilité climatique", version of August 2016.

<sup>23</sup> Idem

<sup>24</sup> INSAE, Quatrième Recensement Général de la Population et de l'habitation (RGPH), Disponible en ligne : <http://www.insae-bj.org/recensement-population.html>

<sup>25</sup> According to the Census, within the nine targeted villages, there is a population of 12,936 residents of both genders, among which there are 6,684 women (51.66 % of the total population of the nine (9) villages selected for the project). Among this population of women, 3,281 women are between 15 and 54 years old<sup>25</sup>.

A.5 Risk. Elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.(table format acceptable):

### A.5 Risks

The risks that might prevent the project for achieving its objectives are well identified and presented in the table below. Some risks were added since the PIF. Mitigation possibilities have been elaborated and are presented as well.

| IDENTIFIED RISKS AND CATEGORY | IMPACT  | LIKELIHOOD | MITIGATION MEASURES  |
|-------------------------------|---|------------|--|
| Organizational                | Unavailability of requisite human resources and data  | Low        | The issue of the unavailability of requisite human resources will be mitigated by recruitment of international consultants who will work closely with in-country counterparts (MAEP) and by targeted capacity building activities. Training activities of local personnel will also be part of all aspects of the work and the relevant institutions will be encouraged to expand the staff base if it is weak in particular areas.  |
|                               | Work progresses in a compartmentalized fashion and there is little integration, e.g., government departments refuse to share data and information                       | Low        | This risk is always present in a project such as this. By ensuring that capacity is built across a range of departments and implementing 'quick win' measures early, these issues can be mitigated. National Steering Committee – Project Board involved at preparatory and implementation phase, regular updating of OFP, M&E and Lessons Learned, Donor coordination – Local Consultative Group, UNCT, CCA, UNDAF  |
|                               | Limited capacity within relevant Ministries/insufficient qualified human capacity.  | Low        | A major part of the project aims to strengthen institutional and technical capacity for planning, designing and implementing local level adaptation actions. Technical and capacity building expertise will be contracted in, to work with and train local technical staff. A dedicated Project Manager will be assisted with short term national and international specialist support to ensure smooth and timely delivery of project outputs.  |
|                               | Poor provincial responses to the leadership role from MAEP  | Low        | Provincial authorities have been individually consulted during preparatory phase, and have endorsed the LDCF project. The PSC will engage with relevant provincial authorities throughout the duration of the project.   |
| Environmental                 | Extreme climate events such as floods and droughts could disrupt project activities and/or damage ecosystems and infrastructure   | Medium     | Coordination will be undertaken with partners for disaster response to ensure that disaster relief interventions are also directed towards demonstration sites impacted by extreme climatic events. Appropriate species will be used for project interventions to minimize the potential impacts in the medium and long-term. Where damage occurs before ecosystem management adaptation approaches can reduce the impacts of extreme events, supplementary infrastructural approaches and planting will be undertaken.  |
|                               | The insertion of climate change resilient species (flora) could put pressure on local ecosystems and biodiversity   | Low        | Careful analysis of targeted location's ecosystem as well as presence/absence of special status species will be undertaken prior to any insertion. If the resilient specie has potential invasive characteristics, best practices in managing the spread of said specie will be implemented, along with concomitant trainings and capacity-building of the culture's governance body.  |
| Social                        | The increased resiliency (and therefore productivity) of hitherto poor land could generate some intra/inter-communal tensions regarding access to the new, richer land. | Medium     | Specific activities to address this issue are included in the project (cf. Output 2.4 and 2.5)   |
| Social and environmental      | Irrigation work could generate real or perceived usage conflicts between communities as well as put pressure on ecosystems  | Low        | Environmental and Social studies will ensure that the design of any irrigation work does not infringe on other communities' usage of the water resource. In the same spirit, environmental studies will ensure that reserved ecological debits are respected in cases where the water withdraw is non-marginal. All such infrastructures will include a broad group of stakeholders in their design and preparation as to minimize risks of conflict. All stakeholders will have access to the governance body responsible for the infrastructure as well as formal means to voice their concerns. |
|                               | The preparation, construction and operation of some hydrological infrastructures aimed at increasing resiliency could have temporary                                    | Low        | Environmental and social studies conducted prior to any infrastructure work susceptible to have an impact will identify best mitigation measures. As a general rule, contractors will have to follow the general guidelines described in the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)   |

| IDENTIFIED RISKS AND CATEGORY | IMPACT   | LIKELIHOOD | MITIGATION MEASURES  |
|-------------------------------|--|------------|--|
|                               | detrimental effects on physical, biological or human environments. |            | and develop site-specific mitigation measures. This latter element will be part of the capacity-building effort targeted at contractors. Also, surveillance and monitoring will be performed by villagers with the help of qualified authorities and/or specialists. Finally, with regards to risks posed by the presence of water reservoirs on health and safety (drowning risks and vector-based diseases proliferation), the relevant authorities will be brought into play to raise awareness on those risks and include new infrastructures in their ongoing disease control measures. |

A.6. *Institutional Arrangement and Coordination.* Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

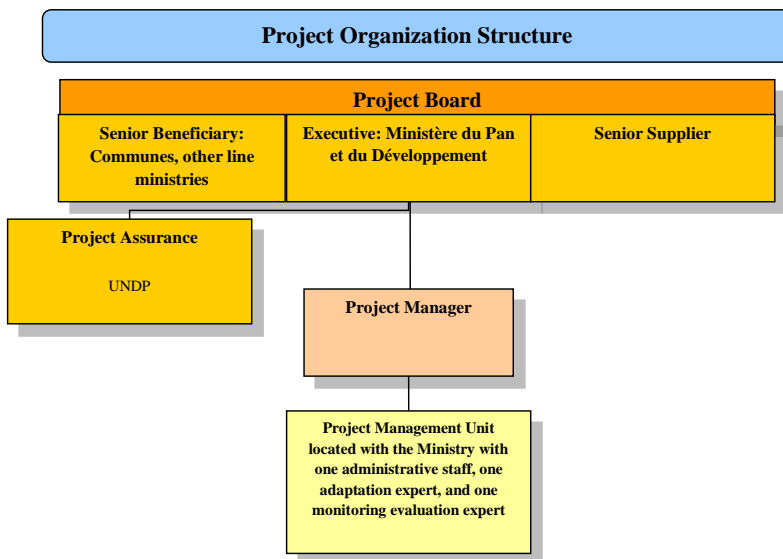
### A.6 Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

*The project will be managed by an organization structure as follows:*

The project will be implemented following UNDP’s national implementation modality, according to the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between UNDP and the Government of Benin, and the Country Programme.

The Implementing Partner for this project is the CePED. The Implementing Partner is responsible and accountable for managing this project, including the monitoring and evaluation of project interventions, achieving project outcomes, and for the effective use of UNDP resources.

The project organization structure will be as follows:





The Project Board (also called Project Steering Committee) is responsible for making by consensus, management decisions when guidance is required by the Project Manager, including recommendation for UNDP/Implementing Partner approval of project plans and revisions. To ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. In case a consensus cannot be reached within the Board, final decision shall rest with the UNDP Programme Manager.

The Project Manager will run the project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the Implementing Partner within the constraints laid down by the Board. The Project Manager function will end when the final project terminal evaluation report, and other documentation required by the GEF and UNDP, has been completed and submitted to UNDP (including operational closure of the project).

The project assurance roll will be provided by the UNDP Country Office. Additional quality assurance will be provided by the UNDP Regional Technical Advisor as needed.

In terms of coordination, two mechanisms are worth mentioning:

- At the national level, a coordination committee has been created in June 2015<sup>26</sup> (*«Comité de Pilotage du sous Programme Environnement, Changement Climatique, Energie et Développement Durable »*) to ensure the national leadership and ownership of all projects and programmes implemented by UN agencies in the sectors of Environment, Climate change, Energy and Sustainable Development. This Committee oversees all projects in these areas and the proposed LDCF project will be no exception. As detailed in the legal text, on the Benin Government side this Committee is composed of one representant of each relevant Ministry and it convenes at least twice a year. The project team will submit all the information required to the Committee and implement the recommendations it may have regarding coordination.
- At the operational level, the UNDP as developed a synergy matrix and a synergie plan that is systematically used and developed for every project starting, and reviewed periodically. This tool allows to prevent duplication and helps concentrate efforts and resources by screening all relevant projects in order to identify synergies at all levels (activities, resources mobilised, events organised...).

These mechanisms will contribute to ensure good coordination with relevant ongoing projects as described in the baseline section.

In addition, an informal working group (called "Comité de synergie") including GIZ NAP and UNDP Environment staff has been set up. It convenes once a month to coordinate the respective activities, share knowledge and information and avoid duplications.

There is at this stage no GCF project implemented in Benin but a GCF NAP support project is to be submitted by the UNDP to the GCF. Should the GCF Board approve this project, it will have a Common Steering Committee with the GIZ NAP support project to which the UNDP staff involved in the proposed LDCF project will participate in, alongside relevant Ministrie and actors (such as NGOs, FTPs, the private sector...). This single steering committee aims to ensure effective coordination and harmonization.

Additional Information not well elaborated at PIF Stage:

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<sup>26</sup> As established by the Arrêté interministériel 2015 n° 042/MEGCCRRPNF/MERPMEDER/DC/SGM/CTJ/DPP/SA from June 12th, 2015  
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*A.7 Benefits.* Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)?

#### **A.7 Benefits**

Adaptation actions are selected to offset the predicted impacts of climate change on rural communities. The costs of the actions that will be undertaken within the project and the costs- implication of climate variability are also considered. As stated above, Benin is among the most vulnerable countries to climate change. Climate change and its impacts are a tremendous threat to the welfare of the population; it can lead the country into a vicious cycle of poverty if the necessary measures to promote adaptation, capacity building and resilience are not taken rapidly.

The project will be beneficial at both the national and local level, by increasing the rural population's resilience to climate change.

#### *Economic Benefits*

From an economic perspective, the implementation of the project will generate agricultural revenues. As mentioned in the Project Result Framework (section VI. of the project document), as of 2016, the proportion of population expenditure inferior to one dollar per day in the five targeted Municipalities is: 50.4% in Avrankou, 53.0% in Bohicon, 66.6% in Bopa, in 72.% Ouaké and 46% in Savalou and the average annual income in the targeted Municipalities is 902USD. Based on previous experience such as the NAPA-1, the expected increase of revenue resulting of the project is 50% at project completion, with an intermediary objective of 25% increase after 3 years of implementation.

Moreover, the construction phase will generate temporary direct and indirect jobs in the 5 selected Communes. Furthermore, this project targets sectors (agriculture in particular) that contribute greatly to the economy in Benin in terms of GDP and employment, and by supporting these sectors and improving their resilience, the project will contribute to supporting Benin's economy.

It will create opportunities for rural livelihood diversification leading to increased economic security and less reliance on climate-sensitive rural activities. Under the alternative scenario of the project, the periods of inactivity/unemployment due to the lack of irrigation and periods of food insecurity will be reduced in the targeted Municipalities and communities. The enhanced financial literacy that is expected as a result of component 3 training should lead to better access to finance. This will benefit the communities' economic growth, help reducing poverty and develop their livelihoods.

It is expected that the introduction of new adaptive practices and appropriate technological package into crop production that will increase productivity in the long run. This will help rural communities and farmers to improve their overall production and better manage risks from droughts or floods.

#### *Social Benefits*

The project will improve the adaptive capacity of the most vulnerable community members and most disadvantaged groups. The social benefits from this project are therefore manifold, since, with the acquired greater economic power, the concerned beneficiaries and communities will be able to invest in healthcare and education. Enhanced nutrition will be experienced by beneficiaries – through improved food supplies and a greater diversity of food available. With stronger health, beneficiaries will be able to engage more fully in livelihood activities.

Cohesion within and between communities is an integral part of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) of the project, which is detailed in Annex D of the project document. By reducing the pressures on physical and biological environments, the project will mechanically reduce the amount of issues that communities face and need to deal with. This should enable communities to focus on bettering their living conditions rather than manage through difficult situations.

For instance, the construction of small dams and ponds to increase water access for agriculture and herds in Zakanmè (Bohicon), in Kadolassi (Ouaké), in Alitokoum (Ouaké), and in Awouiankamè (Savalou) will improve water supply networks in villages and prevent floods. Water resources will be more easily available and will be used for agriculture,

husbandry and human consumption. It will reduce the variability of food security and improve the health of humans and animals.

However, the potential risks to cohesion that may arise from the project are also identified: there are risks that the new infrastructures will create temporary tensions between villagers, and also between communities in the case of irrigation work and lowland development. This risk will be mitigated by the inclusive implementation process as well as inclusive and representative governance structures for the infrastructures set up, with among, other things a focus on involving and empowering women.

#### Environmental benefits

This project will have several environmental benefits, notably by improving land, soil and water management, mitigating land erosion and introducing improved agro-sylvo-pastoral practices and techniques (sustainable land management, fight against erosion and fertilization, soil regeneration through local techniques, etc.).

Agroforestry measures will be developed as a follow-up to PANA-1, which builds on agricultural resilience and food security.

**A.8 Knowledge Management.** Elaborate on the knowledge management approach for the project, including, if any, plans for the project to learn from other relevant projects and initiatives (e.g. participate in trainings, conferences, stakeholder exchanges, virtual networks, project twinning) and plans for the project to assess and document in a user-friendly form (e.g. lessons learned briefs, engaging websites, guidebooks based on experience) and share these experiences and expertise (e.g. participate in community of practices, organize seminars, trainings and conferences) with relevant stakeholders.

## **A.8 Knowledge Management**

Capturing and sharing knowledge and lessons learned will constitute an important component of the project and an essential way to ensure sustainability and replicability of project achievements. Learning and knowledge sharing therefore constitutes a specific outcome, outcome 1.3, which plans that the lessons learnt during the concrete implementation of the guide to integrate adaptation to climate in Municipal Development Plans are used to update this guide and make it more operational. It also plans two forums (mid-term and final) that will gather the relevant institutions for them to share experience in integrating climate change consideration in planning and budgeting. These forums will promote both exchanges within and across at the different decision levels (municipal, departmental and national) in order to reinforce coordination and communication between the different actors and enhance mutual understanding. Finally, the main implementing partners, the Ministry of Agriculture and local NGOs, will be supported to create a repository of lessons learnt in order for these lessons to be perpetuated in the practices of these actors and disseminated further.

Results from the project will also be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention zone through several existing information sharing networks and fora. In addition, the project will participate, as relevant and appropriate, in UNDP/GEF sponsored networks, organized for senior personnel working on projects that share common characteristics. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to project implementation through lessons learned. The project will identify, analyze, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects. Identifying and analyzing lessons learned is an ongoing process, and the need to communicate such lessons as one of the project's central contributions is a requirement to be delivered not less frequently than once every 12 months. UNDP/GEF shall provide a format and assist the project team in categorizing, documenting and reporting on lessons learned.

### - B. Description of the consistency of the project with:

**B.1 Consistency with National Priorities.** Describe the consistency of the project with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions such as NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCS, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.:

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The Government of Benin has taken decisive measures for the protection and preservation of the environment and the fight against the adverse effects of climate change. Under these measures and with UNDP's support for several years, Benin has successfully conducted: (i) the completion of the Initial National Communication and the Second National Communication on Climate Change; (ii) the process for the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) with priority sectors: agriculture and food security, renewable energy, water resources, health, and the protection of the coastal areas facing rising sea levels; (iii) national capacity development process in terms of adaptation of the economy and water security for resilient development to climate change in Africa; (iv) management of natural resources in general, and in particular the development, protection and restoration of sacred forests and gallery forests along the rivers; (v) the establishment of an early warning system and the production of information on trends and climate scenarios to consider for the long-term national development planning and sectoral strategies.

The three components of the present project contribute to operationalize the different policies which Benin has adopted in terms of mitigation and adaptation, especially by focusing on agro-pastoral activities.

The different policies are related to this project's components as follows:

- 1- The **National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA Benin)**, developed in 2008 in accordance with the Decision 28/CP.7 establishes national programs of action with adaptation purposes; it further describes measures to improve and rehabilitate water sources
- 2- The **National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process**, which is supported by UNDP since 2013 and by GIZ most specifically on the scientific aspects of production, collection and analysis of climate data on the period 2016-2019. By building capacities at the national, regional and municipal levels and helping these government levels to anchor climate change adaptation in their planning and budgets. By building capacities at the national, regional and municipal levels and helping these government levels to anchor climate change adaptation in their planning and budgets, and sharing the tools, best practices and lessons learnt with NAP related projects through the informal working group set up for this purpose (called "*Comité de synergie*"), the proposed LDCF project will contribute to Benin's NAP.
- 3- The **Low Carbon Development and Climate Resilience Strategy 2016-2025**, which seeks to address the need to strengthen the resilience of farming systems through community-based adaptation measures
- 4- The **Strategic Plan for the Recovery of the Agricultural Sector 2011-2015**, developed to promote irrigation schemes and basic infrastructure related to climate change and the agricultural sector recovery
- 5- The **Multiyear Budget and Economic Programming Document** (« Document de Programmation Budgétaire et Économique Pluriannuelle ») which sets the main priorities for 2017: (i) investment in large-scale agriculture programs (ii) development and revitalization of the territory to boost the economic and social development of the country.
- 6- **Benin's INDC (2015)**, which aims to increase efforts to reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change on human ecosystems while increasing the resilience of local population in the context of global warming.
- 7- The **Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (2012)**, which offers a framework for continued dialogue and efforts to enhance the effectiveness of development cooperation, which might in turn be very beneficial for countries like Benin.
- 8- The **2006-2015 Development Prospects**, which describe the strategic outlook for the medium-term development plan of the country. These Prospects are derived from the ENPLT, but also take into account the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Although this documentation has not yet been officially approved by the Government, it established the technical basis for the development of two other crucial documents – the Strategic Development Orientations ("Orientations Stratégiques de Développement (OSD)") and the Growth Strategy for Poverty Reduction ("Stratégie de Croissance pour la Réduction de la Pauvreté (SCRP)");
- 9- The **Growth Strategy for Poverty Reduction** ("Stratégie de Croissance pour la Réduction de la Pauvreté (SCRP)") 2007-2009 is based on the MDGs which Benin endorsed while implementing the Poverty Reduction Strategy 2003-2005. This document set the basis to develop the United Nations Framework for Development Assistance (« Plan cadre des Nations Unies pour l'aide au développement (UNDAF)») 2009-2013;
- 10- The **Strategic Investment Plan on Sustainable Land Management**, developed by the Ministry of Quality of Life and Sustainable Development in 2010, which aims to create optimal conditions for mobilizing actors and resources for the prevention of land degradation to preserve the productive areas and therefore contribute to the fight against poverty. The reforestation of the banks of water sources through bamboo revegetation activities proposed through this

Component is both a mitigation and an adaptation measure that will furthermore help implementing the NAPA engagements and the Low Carbon Development and Climate Resilience Strategy 2016-2025.

Regarding project alignment and knowledge management, it is important to mention two LDCF funded projects on which lessons learned the current project will build:

The SAP/IC project, that aims at providing early warning and climate information to the public and more specifically to farmers via agromet advisories, is also important to mention. It began in 2013 and will end in 2017, targets the development of a national disaster management capacity based on anticipation from reliable and effective alerts, and contributes to an adjustment and an optimization of the sectoral planning and policy / national adaptation strategies to climate change. Infrastructures such as limnometric or agro-climatic stations will also be installed. The proposed project will therefore build on the results of it in order to address barriers related to climate information and early warning.

The NAPA-1 project. The National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) ended in 2016 in Benin. This programme provided a process for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to identify priority activities that respond to their urgent and immediate needs to adapt to climate change, those for which further delay would increase vulnerability and/or costs at a later stage. In Benin, the goal was to increase the abilities of governmental agencies to insulate urban and rural populations from the adverse effects of climate change, through improved capacity building and project identification. In particular, the main human vulnerabilities and livelihood impacts identified for Benin were the reduced agricultural production, water shortage and/or groundwater depletion, increased disease and/or other health problems and food security issues. In particular, the programme allowed achieving following results:

- 1. development of planning and response capacities of sectors linked to climate change by ensuring that national and municipal development plans as well as sectoral policies and associated budgets incorporate adaptation needs ; ii) the expertise and environmental support that communities must have in order to effectively adapt to adverse weather conditions; iii) the sharing of experiences in adaptation at local, national and international levels.
- 2. The soil mulching which limits the evaporation of water in the soil which renders it useful for cultivation. This protects the floor and limits the growth of weeds. Crop residues and straw gradually decompose and mineralize the soil which releases nutrients available to crops and increased yields.
- 3. Mobilization from surfaces waters in order to adapt to climate change in the most vulnerable villages from the Center and the North
- 4. Implementation of a climatic risks forecast and alert system for food security in 4 agro-ecological vulnerable areas
- 5. Rainfall posts and/or stations are installed according to WMO standards, in a park closed with reinforced concrete pillars and locked doors, ensuring optimal safety to the equipment. These advanced equipments reinforce the meteorological park of Benin and are an important support operated by PANAI, and strengthen the climate observations in Benin, especially in areas where such information was mildly available with regard to the reference stations.
- 6. Significant support of PANAI to communities in the provision of equipment, fish farms, appropriate tools, various supports and shelters. Whether in groups and/or individually, these investments have been important in the light of very low or no investment real powers of these beneficiaries. It's actually a tailored "mini-Marshall Plan" for every site, aimed at enabling beneficiaries to boost their take off of a vicious circle in which the lack of resources often hampers a correct start of the crop year.
- 7. Replanting offast growing forest species. The plantations are the pride of the beneficiaries, whether communal or individual, as some are veritable islands of forest.
- 8. Operationalization of phenological observations of crops on plots identified for this purpose, performed by an on-site observer trained for this purpose. Such information was used to inform the monthly bulletin of agrometeorological information

**THE PRESENT PROJECT WILL USE THE LESSONS LEARNED THROUGH THE NAPA PROGRAMME TO EXPEND GEOGRAPHICALLY THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS PROGRAMME IN VULNERABLE VILLAGES. IT ALSO AIMS TO ADD**

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**INNOVATIVE APPROACHES, IN ADDITION TO THE ONES DEVELOPED IN THE PANA, TO FIGHT THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE, FOR EXAMPLE BY USING BAMBOOS TO STABILIZE THE RIVERBANKS**

**C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M & E PLAN:**

The project results as outlined in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation to ensure the project effectively achieves these results.

As shown in the detailed budget (section of the Prject document), M&E activities are fully budgeted and spread as follow:

|                                |              |              |               |              |               |                |    |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|----|
| International Consultants      | -            | -            | 30 000        | -            | 33 000        | 63 000         | 24 |
| Local Consultants              | -            | -            | 8 100         | -            | 8 100         | 16 200         | 25 |
| Contractual Services-Companies | -            | -            | 1 000         | -            | 2 000         | 3 000          | 26 |
| Professional Services          | 3 000        | 3 000        | 3 000         | 3 000        | 3 000         | 15 000         | 27 |
| Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs  | -            | -            | 1 000         | -            | 2 000         | 3 000          | 28 |
| Training, Workshops and Confer | -            | -            | 2 000         | -            | 4 000         | 6 000          | 29 |
| <b>Total Outcome 4</b>         | <b>3 000</b> | <b>3 000</b> | <b>45 100</b> | <b>3 000</b> | <b>52 100</b> | <b>106 200</b> |    |

**Outcome 4: Knowledge Management and Monitoring& Evaluation (total: 106,200 USD)**

- 24 MTE: costs of contracting the services of an international senior mid-term evaluation consultant (10 weeks @US3000/wk)  
Final Evaluation: costs of contracting the services of an international final senior evaluation consultant (11 weeks @US3000/wk)
- 25 MTE: costs of contracting the services of a local mid-term evaluation consultant (9 weeks @US900/wk)  
Final Evaluation: costs of contracting the services of a local evaluation consultant (9 weeks @US900/wk)
- 26 Translation of evaluation reports from French to English (or vice versa)
- 27 Annual audit 3000USD per year
- 28 Printing of evaluation reports or material based on these reports for knowledge sharing
- 29 Restitution workshop of the MTE for the key stakeholders  
Restitution workshops for key stakeholders, partners and other interested parties for knowledge sharing

The monitoring plan is as follow (cf Annex B of the project document):

| Monitoring  | Indicators   | Description  | Data source/Collection Methods                             | Frequency  | Responsible for data collection | Means of verification | Assumptions and Risks   |
|---|--------------|--|--|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Project objective:</b><br><br><b>To support resilient agriculture, livelihoods and mainstream climate risk considerations into national and sub-national planning processes so that local communities are less vulnerable to climate change.</b> | Indicator 1: | Vulnerability assessments show decrease in vulnerability in all 9 villages as per the methodology used in the preparation phase vulnerability assessment <sup>27</sup> . | <i>Survey in local communities in each target villages</i> | During MTE and Final Evaluation<br><br>Reported in DO tab of the GEF PIR | <i>Project Manager</i>          | <i>M&amp;E report</i> | <p>As all impact indicators, this indicator is precious to follow up on the general objective of the project but is also influenced by many variables outside of the project.</p> <p>The effects of the projects are strong and quick enough to be reflected in a decrease in vulnerability and other factors are not too important to impede attribution.</p> <p>All targeted villages participate actively and implementation goes well</p> |
|   | Indicator 2: | Target population's average annual income level<br><br><i>Data disaggregated by sex</i>  | <i>Activity reports</i>                                    | Annually<br><br>Reported in DO tab of the GEF PIR                        | <i>Project Manager</i>          | <i>M&amp;E report</i> | <p>902 USD (586,000 FCFA)</p> <p>Currently, the proportion of population expenditure is less than one dollar per day in the five municipalities concerned is:<br/>Avrankou: 50.4% - Bohicon: 53.0% - Bopa: 66.6% - Ouaké: 72.0 % And Savalou: 46.0%.</p> <p>As an impact indicator, attribution can prove challenging, Qualitative data will have to be collected in order</p>  |

<sup>27</sup> Bertin K. Assogba Nongnide, Ingénieur Agronome du Génie Rural, des Eaux & Forêts, Administrateur des Projets de Développement, Rapport de mission "analyse et évaluation de la vulnérabilité et variabilité climatiques dans le cadre de la formulation du projet « Renforcement de la résilience des moyens de subsistance ruraux et du système de gouvernement local aux risques et à la variabilité climatiques au Bénin », version of August 2016  
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|   |              |   |   |  |                        |   |   |
|---|--------------|---|---|--|------------------------|---|---|
|   |              |   |   |  |                        |   | to be able to attribute an increase totally or partially to the project.  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Component 1: Capacity development</li> <li>- Outcome 1: Climate change and gender are included in development plans at national and sub-national levels</li> </ul> | Indicator 3: | <p>Indicator 3:<br/>Number of Municipalities that have considered climate change and gender in their PDC (communal development plan) and PAI (Annual investment plan)</p> <p><i>Data including how gender is integrated</i></p> | <p><i>Review of PDC and PAI</i></p> <p><i>Consultation with national and sub-national government officials within MPD and MAEP to determine extent of adoption of climate change and gender considerations in plans, strategies, policies, programmes and budgets</i></p> | <p>Annually</p> <p>Reported in DO tab of the GEF PIR</p> | <i>Project Manager</i> | <p><i>M&amp;E report, PDC and PAI</i></p> | <p>The PDC of 3rd generation are being finalized, will require that UNDP take practical steps to ensure the inclusion of aspects of climate change and gender in the PDC before validation.</p> <p>All Municipalities willing to incorporate budget lines for activities related to climate change, including gender perspective.</p> |
|   | Indicator 4: | <p>Number of extension agents and NGOs skilled to deliver adaptation</p>  | <p><i>Survey within NGOs and extension services Activity reports</i></p>  | <p>Annually</p> <p>Reported in DO tab of the GEF PIR</p> | <i>Project Manager</i> | <i>M&amp;E report</i>                     | <p>Trained trainers will stay in position and use their training actively to train further people themselves</p>  |



|  |              |  |   |  |                        |                       |   |
|--|--------------|--|---|--|------------------------|-----------------------|---|
|  |              | extension and TOTS.<br><i>Data disaggregated by sex</i>  |   |  |                        |                       |   |
| <p>- Component 2: Resilient agriculture investments</p> <p>- <b>Outcome 2: Productive agricultural infrastructure and human skills are improved to cope with altered rainfall patterns</b></p> | Indicator 5: | <p>Number of operating financed water infrastructures per municipality, including management</p> <p><i>Data disaggregated by sex for management (and if possible age, wealth and handicap)</i></p>     | Field visits                            | Annually Reported in DO tab of the GEF PIR | <i>Project Manager</i> | <i>M&amp;E report</i> | <p>All infrastructures identified as relevant can be built according to the proposed timeline (no lack of human capital or other resources)</p> <p>Target population including women are willing and able to participate in managing the financed water infrastructures</p> |
|  | Indicator 6: | <p>Number of people who master and use climate resilient techniques promoted by the project (e.g. drip irrigation, short cycle seeds ...)</p> <p><i>Data disaggregated by sex (and if possible</i></p> | Field visits, survey in target villages | Annually Reported in DO tab of the GEF PIR | <i>Project Manager</i> | <i>M&amp;E report</i> | <p>All households in the area of intervention are committed to participating in the project activities and are adopting climate resilient technologies and practices.</p>   |

|  |              |  |   |  |                        |                       |   |
|--|--------------|--|---|--|------------------------|-----------------------|---|
|  |              | <i>age, wealth and handicap)</i>   |   |  |                        |                       |   |
| - Component 3: Livelihoods diversification<br>- Outcome 3: communities' resilience is improved by more diversified income generating activities and enabling | Indicator 7: | Number of women engaged in subsistence agriculture trained / strengthened on alternative livelihoods to agriculture<br><br><i>Sex specific data</i>  | Survey in target villages, survey within women groups | Annually Reported in DO tab of the GEF PIR | <i>Project Manager</i> | <i>M&amp;E report</i> | Women will be willing and able to engage in training  |
|  | Indicator 8: | number of farmers who have better access to finance as a result of training and more diversified activities<br><br><i>Data disaggregated by sex (and if possible age, wealth and handicap)</i> | Survey in target villages, survey within MFIs         | Annually Reported in DO tab of the GEF PIR | <i>Project Manager</i> | <i>M&amp;E report</i> | Micro finance institutes are sensitive to better finance literacy and willing and able to lend to the trained farmers |

|  |     |     |  |   |                              |                             |  |
|--|-----|-----|--|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| environ-<br>ment for<br>better<br>access to<br>finance                   |     |     |  |   |                              |                             |  |
| <b>Mid-term GEF Tracking Tool (if FSP project only)</b>                  | N/A | N/A | Standard GEF Tracking Tool available at <a href="http://www.thegef.org">www.thegef.org</a> Baseline GEF Tracking Tool included in Annex. | After 2 <sup>nd</sup> PIR submitted to GEF        |                              | Completed GEF Tracking Tool |  |
| <b>Terminal GEF Tracking Tool</b>  | N/A | N/A | Standard GEF Tracking Tool available at <a href="http://www.thegef.org">www.thegef.org</a> Baseline GEF Tracking Tool included in Annex. | After final PIR submitted to GEF                  |                              | Completed GEF Tracking Tool |  |
| <b>Mid-term Review (if FSP project only)</b>                             | N/A | N/A | To be outlined in MTE inception report   | Submitted to GEF same year as 3 <sup>rd</sup> PIR | <i>Independent evaluator</i> | Completed MTE               |  |
| <b>Environmental and Social risks and management plans, as relevant.</b> | N/A | N/A | Updated SESP and management plans  | Annually  | Project Manager UNDP CO      | Updated SESP                |  |



Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP and UNDP Evaluation Policy. While these UNDP requirements are not outlined in this project document, the UNDP Country Office will work with the relevant project stakeholders to ensure UNDP M&E requirements are met in a timely fashion and to high quality standards. Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements (as outlined below) will be undertaken in accordance with the GEF M&E policy and other relevant GEF policies.

In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed during the Project Inception Workshop and will be detailed in the Inception Report. This will include the exact role of project target groups and other stakeholders in project M&E activities including the GEF Operational Focal Point and national/regional institutes assigned to undertake project monitoring. The GEF Operational Focal Point will strive to ensure consistency in the approach taken to the GEF-specific M&E requirements (notably the GEF Tracking Tools) across all GEF-financed projects in the country. This could be achieved for example by using one national institute to complete the GEF Tracking Tools for all GEF-financed projects in the country, including projects supported by other GEF Agencies.

#### **M&E Oversight and monitoring responsibilities:**

**Project Manager:** The Project Manager is responsible for day-to-day project management and regular monitoring of project results and risks, including social and environmental risks. The Project Manager will ensure that all project staff maintain a high level of transparency, responsibility and accountability in M&E and reporting of project results. The Project Manager will inform the Project Board, the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF RTA of any delays or difficulties as they arise during implementation so that appropriate support and corrective measures can be adopted.

The Project Manager will develop annual work plans based on the multi-year work plan included in Annex A, including annual output targets to support the efficient implementation of the project. The Project Manager will ensure that the standard UNDP and GEF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring the results framework indicators are monitored annually in time for evidence-based reporting in the GEF PIR, and that the monitoring of risks and the various plans/strategies developed to support project implementation (e.g. gender strategy, KM strategy etc..) occur on a regular basis.

**Project Board:** The Project Board will take corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results. The Project Board will hold project reviews to assess the performance of the project and appraise the Annual Work Plan for the following year. In the project's final year, the Project Board will hold an end-of-project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to highlight project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences. This final review meeting will also discuss the findings outlined in the project terminal evaluation report and the management response.

**Project Implementing Partner:** The Implementing Partner is responsible for providing any and all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary and appropriate. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes, and is aligned with national systems so that the data used by and generated by the project supports national systems.

**UNDP Country Office:** The UNDP Country Office will support the Project Manager as needed, including through annual supervision missions. The annual supervision missions will take place according to the schedule outlined in the annual work plan. Supervision mission reports will be circulated to the project team and Project Board within one month of the mission.

The UNDP Country Office will initiate and organize key GEF M&E activities including the annual GEF PIR, the *independent mid-term review* and the independent terminal evaluation. The UNDP Country Office will also ensure that the standard UNDP and GEF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality.

The UNDP Country Office is responsible for complying with all UNDP project-level M&E requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP.<sup>28</sup> This includes ensuring the UNDP Quality Assurance Assessment during implementation is undertaken annually; that annual targets at the output level are developed, and monitored and reported using UNDP corporate systems; the regular updating of the ATLAS risk log; and, the updating of the UNDP gender marker on an annual basis based on gender mainstreaming progress reported in the GEF PIR and the UNDP ROAR. Any quality concerns flagged during these M&E activities (e.g. annual GEF PIR quality assessment ratings) must be addressed by the UNDP Country Office and the Project Manager.

The UNDP Country Office will retain all M&E records for this project for up to seven years after project financial closure in order to support ex-post evaluations undertaken by the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) and/or the GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO).

**UNDP-GEF Unit:** Additional M&E and implementation quality assurance and troubleshooting support will be provided by the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor and the UNDP-GEF Directorate as needed.

**Audit:** The project will be audited according to UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable audit policies on NIM implemented projects.<sup>28</sup>

#### **Additional GEF monitoring and reporting requirements:**

**Inception Workshop and Report:** A project inception workshop will be held within two months after the project document has been signed by all relevant parties to, amongst others:

- a) Re-orient project stakeholders to the project strategy and discuss any changes in the overall context that influence project implementation;
- b) Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting and communication lines and conflict resolution mechanisms;
- c) Review the results framework and finalize the indicators, means of verification and monitoring plan;
- d) Discuss reporting, monitoring and evaluation roles and responsibilities and finalize the M&E budget; identify national/regional institutes to be involved in project-level M&E; discuss the role of the GEF OFP in M&E;
- e) Update and review responsibilities for monitoring the various project plans and strategies, including the risk log; Environmental and Social Management Plan and other safeguard requirements; the gender strategy; the knowledge management strategy, and other relevant strategies;
- f) Review financial reporting procedures and mandatory requirements, and agree on the arrangements for the annual audit; and
- g) Plan and schedule Project Board meetings and finalize the first year annual work plan.

The Project Manager will prepare the inception report no later than one month after the inception workshop. The inception report will be cleared by the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser, and will be approved by the Project Board.

<sup>28</sup> See guidance here: <https://info.undp.org/global/popp/frm/pages/financial-management-and-execution-modalities.aspx>

GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR): The Project Manager, the UNDP Country Office, and the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor will provide objective input to the annual GEF PIR covering the reporting period July (previous year) to June (current year) for each year of project implementation. The Project Manager will ensure that the indicators included in the project results framework are monitored annually in advance of the PIR submission deadline so that progress can be reported in the PIR. Any environmental and social risks and related management plans will be monitored regularly, and progress will be reported in the PIR.

The PIR submitted to the GEF will be shared with the Project Board. The UNDP Country Office will coordinate the input of the GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders to the PIR as appropriate. The quality rating of the previous year's PIR will be used to inform the preparation of the subsequent PIR.

Lessons learned and knowledge generation: Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention area through existing information sharing networks and forums. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to the project. The project will identify, analyse and share lessons learned that might be beneficial to the design and implementation of similar projects and disseminate these lessons widely. There will be continuous information exchange between this project and other projects of similar focus in the same country, region and globally.

GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools: The following GEF Tracking Tool(s) will be used to monitor global environmental benefit results:

The baseline/CEO Endorsement GEF Focal Area Tracking Tool(s) – submitted in Annex D to this project document – will be updated by the Project Manager/Team and shared with *the* mid-term review consultants and terminal evaluation consultants (not the evaluation consultants hired to undertake the *MTR* or the *TE*) before the required review/evaluation missions take place. The updated GEF Tracking Tool(s) will be submitted to the GEF along with the completed Mid-term Review report and Terminal Evaluation report.

Independent Mid-term Review (MTR): An independent mid-term review process will begin after the second PIR has been submitted to the GEF, and the MTR report will be submitted to the GEF in the same year as the 3<sup>rd</sup> PIR. The MTR findings and responses outlined in the management response will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project's duration. The terms of reference, the review process and the MTR report will follow the standard templates and guidance prepared by the UNDP IEO for GEF-financed projects available on the UNDP Evaluation Resource Center (ERC). As noted in this guidance, the evaluation will be 'independent, impartial and rigorous'. The consultants that will be hired to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the UNDP-GEF Directorate. The final MTR report will be available in English and will be cleared by the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser, and approved by the Project Board.

Terminal Evaluation (TE): An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities. The terminal evaluation process will begin three months before operational closure of the project allowing the evaluation mission to proceed while the project team is still in place, yet ensuring the project is close enough to completion for the evaluation team to reach conclusions on key aspects such as project sustainability. The Project Manager will remain on contract until the TE report and management response have been finalized. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and guidance prepared by the UNDP IEO for GEF-financed projects available on the UNDP Evaluation Resource Center. As noted in this guidance, the evaluation will be 'independent, impartial and rigorous'. The consultants that will be hired to undertake the assignment will be

independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the UNDP-GEF Directorate. The final TE report will be cleared by the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser, and will be approved by the Project Board. The TE report will be publicly available in English on the UNDP ERC.

The UNDP Country Office will include the planned project terminal evaluation in the UNDP Country Office evaluation plan, and will upload the final terminal evaluation report in English and the corresponding management response to the UNDP Evaluation Resource Centre (ERC). Once uploaded to the ERC, the UNDP IEO will undertake a quality assessment and validate the findings and ratings in the TE report, and rate the quality of the TE report. The UNDP IEO assessment report will be sent to the GEF IEO along with the project terminal evaluation report.

**Final Report:** The project’s terminal PIR along with the terminal evaluation (TE) report and corresponding management response will serve as the final project report package. The final project report package shall be discussed with the Project Board during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lesson learned and opportunities for scaling up.

**Mandatory GEF M&E Requirements and M&E Budget**

| GEF M&E requirements   | Primary responsibility                                    | Indicative costs to be charged to the Project Budget <sup>29</sup> (USD) |              | Time frame   |
|--|---|--|--------------|--|
|  |   | GEF grant  | Co-financing |  |
| Inception Workshop   | UNDP Country Office                                       | USD 11,000   |              | Within two months of project document signature        |
| Inception Report   | Project Manager   | None   | None         | Within two weeks of inception workshop                 |
| Standard UNDP monitoring and reporting requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP             | UNDP Country Office                                       | None   | None         | Quarterly, annually                                    |
| Monitoring of indicators in project results framework  | Project Manager   | Per year: USD 4,000  |              | Annually   |
| GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)  | Project Manager and UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF team | None   | None         | Annually   |
| NIM Audit as per UNDP audit policies   | UNDP Country Office                                       | Per year: USD 3,000 – 5,000  |              | Annually or other frequency as per UNDP Audit policies |
| Lessons learned and knowledge generation   | Project Manager   |  |              | Annually   |
| Monitoring of environmental and social risks, and corresponding management plans as relevant | Project Manager<br>UNDP CO                                | None   |              | On-going   |
| Addressing environmental and social grievances   | Project Manager<br>UNDP Country Office<br>BPPS as needed  | None for time of project manager, and UNDP CO                            |              |  |

<sup>29</sup> Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff time and travel expenses.  
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| GEF M&E requirements  | Primary responsibility                                    | Indicative costs to be charged to the Project Budget <sup>29</sup> (USD) |              | Time frame                                       |
|---|---|--|--------------|--|
|   |   | GEF grant  | Co-financing |  |
| Project Board meetings  | Project Board<br>UNDP Country Office<br>Project Manager   |  |              | At minimum annually                              |
| Supervision missions  | UNDP Country Office                                       | None <sup>30</sup>   |              | Annually   |
| Oversight missions  | UNDP-GEF team   | None <sup>30</sup>   |              | Troubleshooting as needed                        |
| Knowledge management as outlined in Outcome 4   | Project Manager   | 1% of GEF grant  |              | On-going   |
| GEF Secretariat learning missions/site visits   | UNDP Country Office and Project Manager and UNDP-GEF team | None   |              | To be determined.                                |
| Mid-term GEF Tracking Tool to be updated by (add name of national/regional institute if relevant)     | Project Manager   | USD 10,000   |              | Before mid-term review mission takes place.      |
| Independent Mid-term Review (MTR) and management response   | UNDP Country Office and Project team and UNDP-GEF team    | USD 20,000 - 30,000  |              | Between 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> PIR. |
| Terminal GEF Tracking Tool to be updated by (add name of national/regional institute if relevant)     | Project Manager   | USD 10,000   |              | Before terminal evaluation mission takes place   |
| Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE) included in UNDP evaluation plan, and management response        | UNDP Country Office and Project team and UNDP-GEF team    | USD 30,000 - 60,000  |              | At least three months before operational closure |
| Translation of MTR and TE reports into English  | UNDP Country Office                                       | USD 2,000 – 10,000   |              |  |
| <b>TOTAL indicative COST</b><br>Excluding project team staff time, and UNDP staff and travel expenses |   | USD150,000   |              |  |

<sup>30</sup> The costs of UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF Unit's participation and time are charged to the GEF Agency Fee. GEF6 CEO Endorsement /Approval Template-August2016

**PART III: CERTIFICATION BY GEF PARTNER AGENCY(IES)**

**A. GEF Agency(ies) certification**

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies<sup>31</sup> and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for CEO endorsement under GEF-6.

| Agency Coordinator, Agency Name                       | Signature   | Date (MM/dd/yyyy)     | Project Contact Person | Telephone        | Email Address                 |
|---|---|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Adriana Dinu<br><br>Executive Coordinator<br>UNDP-GEF |  | <del>09/12/2017</del> | Benjamin Larroquette   | +251 115 170 775 | Benjamin.Larroquette@undp.org |

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<sup>31</sup> GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF and CBIT GEF6 CEO Endorsement /Approval Template-August2016

**ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK** (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

| <p><b>This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s):</b> ) SDG 8 – Promote sustained inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; SDG 12 – Achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; SDG 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; and SDG 15 – protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.</p> |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| <p><b>This project will contribute to the following UNDAF/Country Programme Outcome 6:</b> By 2018, institutions and populations of the intervention municipalities are able to better manage their environment, their natural and energy resources, the impacts of climate change, and natural disasters</p>  |   |   |   |   |   |
| <p><b>This project will contribute to the following UNDP Strategic Plan Output 5.3:</b> Gender responsive disaster and climate risk management is integrated in the development planning and budgetary frameworks of key sectors (e.g. water, agriculture, health and education)</p>   |   |   |   |   |   |
|  | Objective and Outcome Indicators  | Baseline  | Mid-term Target   | End of Project Target   | Assumptions   |
| <p><b>Project Objective:</b></p> <p><b>To support resilient agriculture, livelihoods and mainstream climate risk</b></p>   | <p>Indicator 1: Vulnerability assessments show decrease in vulnerability in all 9 villages as per the methodology used in the preparation phase</p> | <p>Preparation phase vulnerability assessment:</p> <p>This figures can be updated during the first year of implementation</p> | <p>Average vulnerability is reduced by 10% in all PANA-1 villages and 20% in non PANA-1 villages</p> <p>(the relevance of this target shall be assessed</p> | <p>Average vulnerability is reduced by 30% in all PANA-1 villages and 50% in non PANA-1 villages</p> <p>(the relevance of this target</p> | <p>As all impact indicators, this indicator is precious to follow up on the general objective of the project but is also influenced by many</p> |

|   |  |              |  |  |   |
|---|--|--------------|--|--|---|
| <b>considerations into national and sub-national planning processes so that local communities are less vulnerable to climate change</b> | vulnerability assessment <sup>32</sup> .   |              | during the first year of implementation) | shall be assessed during the first year of implementation) | variables outside of the project.<br><br>The effects of the projects are strong and quick enough to be reflected in a decrease in vulnerability and other factors are not too important to impede attribution.<br><br>All targeted villages participate actively and implementation goes well |
|   | Indicator 2: Target population's average annual income level<br><br><i>Data disaggregated by sex</i> | 902 USD/year | 25% increase                             | 50% increase   | 902 USD (586,000 FCFA)<br><br>Currently, the proportion of population expenditure is less than one dollar per day in  |

<sup>32</sup> Bertin K. Assogba Nongnide, Ingénieur Agronome du Génie Rural, des Eaux & Forêts, Administrateur des Projets de Développement, Rapport de mission "analyse et évaluation de la vulnérabilité et variabilité climatiques dans le cadre de la formulation du projet « Renforcement de la résilience des moyens de subsistance ruraux et du système de gouvernement local aux risques et à la variabilité climatiques au Bénin », version of August 2016  
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|  |   |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|
|  |   |  |   |   | <p>the five municipalities concerned is:<br/> Avrankou: 50.4% -<br/> Bohicon: 53.0% -<br/> - Bopa: 66.6% -<br/> Ouaké: 72.0 %<br/> And Savalou: 46.0%.</p> <p>Qualitative data collected is sufficient to attribute increase partly or totally to the project</p> |
| <p><b>Component 1: Capacity development</b></p> <p><b>Outcome 1: Climate change and gender are included in development plans at national and</b></p> | <p>Indicator 3: Number of Municipalities that have considered climate change and gender in their PDC (communal development plan) and PAI (Annual investment plan)</p> <p><i>Data including how gender is integrated</i></p> | <p>0 (to be confirmed during the first 6 months of implementation)</p> | <p>All targeted Municipalities that will be in the process of reviewing their PDC and/ or PAI during this period (to be confirmed during the first 6 months of implementation) have taken steps to integrate climate change</p> | <p>All targeted Municipalities that have reviewed their PDC and/ or PAI during this period (to be confirmed during the first 6 months of implementation) have integrated climate change and gender in</p> | <p>The PDC of 3rd generation are being finalized, will require that UNDP take practical steps to ensure the inclusion of aspects of climate change and gender in the PDC before validation</p>  |

|   |  |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| <b>sub-national levels</b>  |  |   | and gender in these documents  | these documents  | All Municipalities willing to incorporate budget lines for activities related to climate change, including gender perspective.           |
|   | Indicator 4: Number of extension agents and NGOs skilled to deliver adaptation extension and TOTs.<br><br><i>Data disaggregated by sex</i>   | 100   | Numerical targets will be established during the inception phase of the project, based on the relevant assessments.                            | Numerical targets will be established during the inception phase of the project, based on the relevant assessments.                    | Trained trainers will stay in position and use their training actively to train further people themselves                                |
| <b>Component 2: Resilient agriculture investments</b><br><br><b>Outcome 2: Productive agricultural infrastructure</b> | Indicator 5: Number of operating financed water infrastructures per municipality, including management<br><br><i>Data disaggregated by sex for management (and if possible age, wealth and handicap)</i> | 0 (precise targets per Municipalities to be updated from project preparation phase vulnerability analysis during the first 6 months of the project) | At least 50% of the planned infrastructure per municipality is operational, as well as the capacities to operate them in a sustainable way and | At least 90% of the planned infrastructure per municipality is operational, as well as the capacities to operate them in a sustainable | All infrastructures identified as relevant can be built according to the proposed timeline (no lack of human capital or other resources) |

|   |  |           |  |  |  |
|---|--|-----------|--|--|--|
| <b>e and human skills are improved to cope with altered rainfall patterns</b>                       |  |           | including women  | way and including women  | Target population including women are willing and able to participate in managing the financed water infrastructures   |
|   | Indicator 6: Number of people who master and use climate resilient techniques promoted by the project (e.g, drip irrigation, short cycle seeds ...)<br><br><i>Data disaggregated by sex (and if possible age, wealth and handicap)</i> | 340       | IAt least 3080 =t 50% of target population mastering and using climate resilient techniques promoted by the project              | I6,163 =100% of target population mastering and using climate resilient techniques promoted by the project                 | All households in the area of intervention are committed to participating in the project activities and are adopting climate resilient technologies and practices. |
| <b>Component 3: Livelihoods diversification</b><br><br><b>Outcome 3: communities' resilience is</b> | Indicator 7: Number of women engaged in subsistence agriculture trained / strengthened on alternative livelihoods to agriculture<br><br><i>Sex specific data</i>   | 720 women | At least 1640 = 50% of women in target population) women engaged in subsistence agriculture trained/ strengthened on alternative | 3281 women (=100% of women in target population) engaged in subsistence agriculture) trained / strengthened on alternative | Women will be willing and able to engage in training   |

|  |  |   |  |  |   |
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| <b>improved by more diversified income generating activities and enabling environment for better access to finance</b> |  |   | livelihoods to agriculture   | livelihoods to agriculture   |   |
|  | Indicator 8: number of farmers with access to finance as a result of training and more diversified activities<br><i>Data disaggregated by sex (and if possible age, wealth and handicap)</i> | 0 | At least 40% of people trained through the project who requested a loan got it | At least 75% of people trained through the project who requested a loan got it | Micro finance institutes are sensitive to better finance literacy and willing and able to lend to the trained farmers |



**ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS** (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

| STAP comments received at PIF stage  | Response to comments at CEO endorsement stage   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. STAP would appreciate fuller details on which climate change projections will be used in the proposed project, including the time frame(s) of interest and why particular model(s) were chosen. It would be helpful to know who will choose the models and how the projections will be communicated to the stakeholders. It also would be helpful to incorporate different possible future socioeconomic development pathways when considering which adaptation options could be more resilient in coming decades.</p>   | <p>The choice of climate models and climate change projections will be more clearly defined during the first year of implementation. The models will be chosen by the Department of hydro- meteorology and in consultation with local stakeholders. Multiple systems will be used to communicate climate change information to the stakeholders. Technical and scientific knowledge on climate change risks and opportunities will be provided through training and capacity building exercises. Specifically, economics of adaptation, like better understanding of cost benefits analysis of climate change investments will be thought. Climate and weather information will be delivered to farmers and local beneficiaries via local TV, radio, extension services, SMS when possible, websites, social media.</p>   |
| <p>2. Component 1 states it will include developing and providing climate smart tools, methods, and mentorships. It would be helpful for the full project proposal to include details about these methods and tools, how it will be determined that they are appropriate, the extent of stakeholder engagement in that determination, and how they will be deployed, monitored, and evaluated.</p>   | <p>Component one has been further detailed in the PD. It builds on tools and methods used during the PANA-1 project and will further refine them to include feedback in order to improve their effectiveness further. Details about monitoring and evaluation are found in the PD in Section VI – Project Results Framework.</p>  |
| <p>3. STAP cautions that implementation of irrigation channels and drainage systems for flood prevention are associated with increased rates of malaria in other regions. It would be important for the project to include the Ministry of Health as a key stakeholder and to possibly include a health expert to consult on potential adverse health consequences of different types of agricultural infrastructure. Further, the technical training could include a component to raise awareness of the potential health impacts of adaptation activities in agriculture.</p>  | <p>This comment has been well noted and the health aspect has been included in the design of outcome 2 , including in the relevant training.</p>  |
| <p>4. In the full proposal, STAP suggests providing additional information on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How community needs and preferences will be determined and taken into account in the project outputs.</li> <li>The indicators that will be used for monitoring and evaluating how the project is doing.</li> <li>How best practices and lessons learned will be determined and shared within the project and more broadly.</li> <li>The design, conduct, monitoring, and evaluation of the mentoring program.</li> <li>The objective tools that will be embedded in the VRA.</li> <li>The design, conduct, monitoring, and evaluation of the incentive mechanism.</li> </ol> | <p>Extensive consultations has been led during the project preparation phase in the 5 targeted Municipalities allowing to identify needs and preferences, as well as cost efficient measures.</p> <p>In the project document (PD) the units of measurement have been outlined, along with targets for each of the proposed outputs. Details of these indicators and targets are found in the PD in Section VI – Project Results Framework. Best practices will be identified through participatory monitoring of interventions at community-level. Regular interaction between extension agents and farmers, along with two knowledge-sharing forums, and a repository of lessons learnt managed by implementing partners will ensure that best practices are disseminated across management levels and between project sites. As detailed in section V. i) Cost efficiency and effectiveness of the Project document, the cost-effectiveness of interventions has been an integral factor in the design of the project. Consultation with communities, local administrators,</p> |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>g. How the resilience of agricultural techniques will be determined.</p> <p>h. How the project will coordinate with on-going initiatives.</p>           | <p>as well as lessons learnt from previous projects such as the PANA-1 have guided the design of the proposed climate change adaptation interventions.</p> <p>Concretely, in terms of project design, this focus on cost effectiveness and efficiency meant for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ That an integrated approach between component 2 and 3 has been chosen and refined during the project preparation phase. Indeed, it has been considered to focus the project only on reducing the communities' vulnerability (component 2) or only on improving their adaptive capacities by supporting livelihood diversification (component 3). However, NAPA-1 experience as well as analysis showed that an integrated approach is much more cost effective. Indeed, if one takes the stabilization of river banks to reduce the risk of floods and erosion as an example, one alternative approach would have been to use mechanical stabilization methods such as laying rip-rap. However, the bamboo approach has been chosen, not only because it is more environmentally friendly, but also because it is much more cost-efficient: in the long term, due to the revenue generation of the bamboo collected, its cost could even be negative (i.e. it would generate more revenue than the initial investment and the maintenance). Moreover, the revenue generation provides incentive for proper maintenance, which in turns also increases the cost effectiveness.</li> <li>+ That a "training of trainers" approach is used for capacity building activities whereby extension agents will undergo technical capacity building in order to be able to train other people. This is a cost-effective approach as it maximizes the number of beneficiaries to reach a wider audience as the trainers themselves will further disseminate climate change concepts amongst local communities, ensuring sustainability and scalability.</li> </ul> <p>Regarding project activities, resilient techniques introduced as a part of component 2 will for example include mulching. Indeed, qualitative and quantitative data collected on NAPA-1 showed that they were a cost efficient and profitable way of combating soil erosion. NAPA-1 beneficiaries praised the activity<sup>33</sup> and the data shows that for gombo production, mulching increased the gross profit margin by 300% and the benefit generated by 100USD of investment was 220USD for beneficiaries who adopting mulching against 50USD for those who did not.</p> |
| <p>5. STAP encourages including an explicit activity to develop a plan for scaling-up, including the amount of human and financial resources required.</p> | <p>Activities for a scale up will be developed during the project implementation.</p>  |

<sup>33</sup> Terminal Evaluation Report, Project title: "Integrated Adaptation Programme to combat the effects of Climate Change on agricultural production and food security in Benin (PANA-1)", UNDP / GEF (GEF ID 3704), Cotonou, Benin, October 2015. GEF6 CEO Endorsement /Approval Template-August2016

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>6. STAP appreciates the comprehensive efforts to include gender throughout the PIF and looks forward to further development of this aspect in the full project proposal. However, it was surprising given this strong focus that the Ministry for Women Affairs was not listed as a key stakeholder.</p> | <p>The strong focus on gender has been kept during the project preparation phase as illustrated by the development of a gender action plan by a gender expert, which has been integrated into the design of the PD to ensure equal benefits for all. Details are outlined in the PD Section V – subsection iv – <i>Mainstreaming gender</i>. Additionally, the project indicators and targets (outlined in Section VI – Project Results Framework) are gender disaggregated. Thus, through monitoring and evaluation, the impact of the project on the livelihoods of women will be recorded so as to guide the design of future projects.</p> |
|---|--|

## STAP Scientific and Technical screening of the Project Identification Form (PIF)

Date of screening: March 09, 2015

Screener: Kristie Ebi

Panel member validation by: Anand Patwardhan

Consultant(s):

### 4.1. PIF Information (Copied from the PIF)

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| FULL SIZE PROJECT                | LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND   |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>GEF PROJECT ID:</b>           | 5904   |
| <b>PROJECT DURATION:</b>         | 5  |
| <b>COUNTRIES:</b>                | Benin  |
| <b>PROJECT TITLE:</b>            | Strengthening the Resilience of Rural Livelihoods and Sub-national Government System to Climate Risks and Variability in Benin |
| <b>GEF AGENCIES:</b>             | UNDP   |
| <b>OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS:</b> |  |
| <b>GEF FOCAL AREA:</b>           | Climate Change   |

## II. STAP Advisory Response (see table below for explanation)

Based on this PIF screening, STAP's advisory response to the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agency(ies): **Concur**

### III. Further guidance from STAP

STAP welcomes the UNDP proposal "Strengthening the resilience of rural livelihoods and sub-national government system to climate risks and variability in Benin." The proposal aims to build capacities and increase the preparedness of national and sub-national authorities to effectively identify, sequence, and combine available resources for addressing climate change adaptation, while addressing the country's highest priority actions identified in the Benin NAPA. STAP appreciates UNDP submitting a comprehensive, clear, and concise PIF.

STAP looks forward to further details in the full proposal. Issues that should be addressed in the full proposal include:

1. STAP would appreciate fuller details on which climate change projections will be used in the proposed project, including the time frame(s) of interest and why particular model(s) were chosen. It would be helpful to know who will choose the models and how the projections will be communicated to the stakeholders. It also would be helpful to incorporate different possible future socioeconomic development pathways when considering which adaptation options could be more resilient in coming decades.
2. Component 1 states it will include developing and providing climate smart tools, methods, and mentorships. It would be helpful for the full project proposal to include details about these methods and tools, how it will be determined that they are appropriate, the extent of stakeholder engagement in that determination, and how they will be deployed, monitored, and evaluated.
3. STAP cautions that implementation of irrigation channels and drainage systems for flood prevention are associated with increased rates of malaria in other regions. It would be important for the project to include the Ministry of Health as a key stakeholder and to possibly include a health expert to consult on potential adverse health consequences of different types of agricultural infrastructure. Further, the technical training could include a component to raise awareness of the potential health impacts of adaptation activities in agriculture.
4. In the full proposal, STAP suggests providing additional information on:
  - a. How community needs and preferences will be determined and taken into account in the project outputs.
  - b. The indicators that will be used for monitoring and evaluating how the project is doing.

- c. How best practices and lessons learned will be determined and shared within the project and more broadly.
  - d. The design, conduct, monitoring, and evaluation of the mentoring program.
  - e. The objective tools that will be embedded in the VRA.
  - f. The design, conduct, monitoring, and evaluation of the incentive mechanism.
  - g. How the resilience of agricultural techniques will be determined.
  - h. How the project will coordinate with on-going initiatives.
5. STAP encourages including an explicit activity to develop a plan for scaling-up, including the amount of human and financial resources required.
6. STAP appreciates the comprehensive efforts to include gender throughout the PIF and looks forward to further development of this aspect in the full project proposal. However, it was surprising given this strong focus that the Ministry for Women Affairs was not listed as a key stakeholder.

| <i>STAP advisory response</i>                                   | <i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>   |
|---|---|
| <b>I. Concur</b>  | In cases where STAP is satisfied with the scientific and technical quality of the proposal, a simple “Concur” response will be provided; the STAP may flag specific issues that should be pursued rigorously as the proposal is developed into a full project document. At any time during the development of the project, the proponent is invited to approach STAP to consult on the design prior to submission for CEO endorsement.  |
| <b>3.1. Minor issues to be considered during project design</b> | <p>STAP has identified specific scientific /technical suggestions or opportunities that should be discussed with the project proponent as early as possible during development of the project brief. The proponent may wish to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Open a dialogue with STAP regarding the technical and/or scientific issues raised.</li> <li>(ii) Set a review point at an early stage during project development, and possibly agreeing to terms of reference for an independent expert to be appointed to conduct this review.</li> </ul> <p>The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement.</p> |
| <b>3.1. Major issues to be considered during project design</b> | STAP proposes significant improvements or has concerns on the grounds of specified major scientific/technical methodological issues, barriers, or omissions in the project concept. If STAP provides this advisory response, a full explanation would also be provided. The proponent is strongly encouraged to:  |

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|  | <p>(i) Open a dialogue with STAP regarding the technical and/or scientific issues raised; (ii) Set a review point at an early stage during project development including an independent expert as required.</p> <p>The GEF Secretariat may, based on this screening outcome, delay the proposal and refer the proposal back to the proponents with STAP's concerns.</p> <p>The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement.</p> |
|--|---|

| Review Criteria                | Questions  | Secretariat Comments on Project Identification Form | Responses |
|--------------------------------|--|---|-----------|
| Eligibility                    | 1. Is the participating country eligible?  |   |           |
|                                | 2. Has the operational focal point endorsed the program?   |   |           |
| Agency's Comparative Advantage | 3. Are the Agencies' comparative advantages for this program clearly described and supported?                  |   |           |
|                                | 4. If there is a non-grant instrument in the program, is the GEF Agency(ies) capable of managing it?           |   |           |
|                                | 5. Does the program fit into the Agencies' programs and staff capacity in the country(ies)?                    |   |           |
| Resource Availability          | 6. Is the proposed Grant (including the Agency fee) within the resources available from (mark all that apply): |   |           |
|                                | ↳ the STAR allocation?   |   |           |

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|                     | 1. the focal area allocation?  |  |  |
|                     | 1. the LDCF under the principle of equitable access?   |  |  |
|                     | 1. the SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)?   |  |  |
|                     | 1. focal area set-aside?   |  |  |
| Program Consistency | 2. 7. Is the program aligned with the focal /multifocal areas/ LDCF/SCCF results framework?  |  |  |
|                     | 8. Are the relevant GEF 5 focal/ multifocal areas/LDCF/SCCF objectives identified?   |  |  |
|                     | 9. Is the program consistent with the recipient country(ies)' national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, including NPFE, NAPA, NCSA, or NAP?   |  |  |
|                     | 10. Does the proposal clearly articulate how the capacities developed, if any, will contribute to the sustainability of program outcomes?  |  |  |
| Program Design      | 11. Is the description of the baseline scenario/baseline project – what would happen without GEF financing – reliable, and based on sound data and assumptions?  |  |  |
|                     | 12. Are the activities to be undertaken by the program partners (or for which they will provide funding) sufficient given the nature of the program and is it likely that these activities (or funding) <b>will not</b> materialize if the GEF |  |  |

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|  | does not fund this program?  |  |  |
|  | 13. Are the activities that will be financed using GEF/LDCF/SCCF funding based on incremental/additional reasoning?  |  |  |
|  | 14. Is the program framework sound and sufficiently clear?   |  |  |
|  | 15. Is there a clear description of:<br>a) the socio-economic benefits, including gender dimensions, to be delivered by the program, and<br>b) how they will support the achievement of incremental/additional benefits? |  |  |
|  | 16. Is public participation taken into consideration, and the roles of the various stakeholders identified and addressed properly?   |  |  |
|  | 17. Does the program take into account potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change and provides sufficient risk mitigation measures? (i.e., climate resilience)                                  |  |  |
|  | 18. Is the program consistent and properly coordinated with other related initiatives in the country or in the region?   |  |  |
|  | 19. Is the project implementation/ execution arrangement adequate?   |  |  |
|  | 20. Is funding level for program management cost appropriate?  |  |  |
|  | 21. Is the funding and co-financing per objective  |  |  |

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|                                   |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Program Financing                 | appropriate and adequate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs?   |  |  |
|                                   | 22. Comment on the indicated co-financing.   |  |  |
|                                   | 23. Are the co-financing amounts that the Agencies are bringing to the program in line with their roles?           |  |  |
| Program Monitoring and Evaluation | 24. Have the appropriate Tracking Tools been included with information for all relevant indicators, as applicable? |  |  |
|                                   | 25. Does the proposal include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?  |  |  |
| Agency Responses                  | 26. Has the Agency responded adequately to comments from:  |  |  |
|                                   | • STAP?  |  |  |
|                                   | • Convention Secretariat?  |  |  |
|                                   | • Council comments?  |  |  |
|                                   | • Other GEF Agencies?  |  |  |
|                                   |  |  |  |
| PIF Clearance                     | <b>27. Is PIF clearance being recommended?</b>   |  |  |
|                                   | 28. Items to consider at subsequent individual project submissions for CEO endorsement.                            |  |  |
| Review Date (s)                   | First review*  |  |  |
|                                   | Additional review (as necessary)   |  |  |
|                                   | Additional review (as necessary)   |  |  |
|                                   | Additional review (as necessary)   |  |  |

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**ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS<sup>34</sup>**

A. Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

| PPG Grant Approved at PIF: <b>100,000.00</b>   |  |                             |                         |
|--|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>  | <i>GETF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Amount (\$)</i> |                             |                         |
|  | <i>Budgeted Amount</i>                 | <i>Amount Spent To date</i> | <i>Amount Committed</i> |
| <b>Project Preparation Activities Implemented:</b>                                       |  |                             |                         |
| - Capacity and needs assessment of local authorities, finance platforms and communities; |  |                             |                         |
| - Establishment of project's outcomes and indicative outputs;                            |  |                             |                         |
| - Selection of project sites;  |  |                             |                         |
| - Definition of project indicators and targets;  |  |                             |                         |
| - Stakeholders' engagement;  |  |                             |                         |
| - Assessment of risks;   |  |                             |                         |
| - Definition of management arrangements and gender mainstreaming Plan.                   |  |                             |                         |
| <b>Local consultants</b>   | 27 900,00                              | 17 767,95                   | 1 890,07                |
| <b>International consultants</b>   | 42 000,00                              | 68 046,44                   | 0,00                    |
| <b>Travel</b>  | 14 200,00                              | 7 383,14                    | 700,00                  |
| <b>Contractual service- individual</b>   | 15 900,00                              | 212,40                      | 4 000,00                |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100,000.00</b>                      | <b>93,409.93</b>            | <b>6,590.07</b>         |

<sup>34</sup> If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue to undertake the activities up to one year of project start. No later than one year from start of project implementation, Agencies should report this table to the GEF Secretariat on the completion of PPG activities and the amount spent for the activities. Agencies should also report closing of PPG to Trustee in its Quarterly Report.  
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**ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS** (if non-grant instrument is used)

Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Funds or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up)

N/A

**ANNEX E: UNDP ANSWERS TO US COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS**

Thank you for the opportunity to review the PIF entitled “**Benin: Strengthening the Resilience of Rural Livelihoods and Sub-national Government System to Climate Risks and Variability in Benin (GEF ID : 5904)**” under consideration for LDCF funding.

The United States welcomes this project proposal and appreciates UNDP’s aim to link sub-national adaptation action to national level planning efforts. As UNDP prepares the draft final project document for CEO endorsement, we encourage UNDP to:

- 1- Provide additional information on the activities and modalities UNDP plans to undertake in Component 1, including which stakeholders and decision-makers it plans to engage in the capacity building process;
- 1- UNDP : These precisions have been developed during the PPG phase and included in sections 3 of the CEO endorsement and IV of the Project Document, They are reflected by the formulation of the outputs :
- 1- Output 1.1: The five targeted Departments and Municipalities and all relevant Ministries have integrated gender responsive climate change adaptation in their planning and budgeting work
- 1- Output 1.2: Agricultural extension agents and local NGOs active in the 5 targeted Municipalites are trained on resilience to climate change
- 2- Output 1.3: Lessons learned are summarized in a repository and share

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At national level, support will be provided to the relevant Ministries as they revise national policies such as the Poverty reduction Strategy (Document de Stratégie pour la réduction de la pauvreté), sectoral strategies as well as the multiannual budgets (Document de Programmation Budgétaire Economique Pluriannuelle DPPD Document de Programmation Pluriannuelle des Dépenses).

Capacities will also be reinforced at Departmental level as this is an important planning level in Benin’s administrative organization and the relevant sectoral decentralization plans (Plans de déconcentration et décentralisation (P2D)) will be targeted.

At Municipal level, this project will build on the expertise and tools developed by the NAPA-1 projects in order to support them to integrate climate in their next Municipal Development Plans, thereby maximizing the efficiency and impact of the PANA-1 achievements. Indeed, these Municipalities will benefit from training to develop the necessary expertise on climate change, its impact s and the corresponding adaptation strategies such as alternative livelihoods and resilient techniques. They will also be introduced to the guide to integrate adaptation to climate in Municipal Development Plans developed under PANA-1 and supported in its concrete implementation in the framework of the updating of their Municipal Development Plans.

The awareness and technical knowledge of relevant climate change adaptation options and of agriculture extension agents and local NGOs working with agriculture will also be strengthened in order to reach the communities.

A training of trainers approach will be used in order to maximize impact and cost effectiveness.

Finally, communication and capitalization on lessons learnt will be supported in order to maximize the efficiency and impact of the project. The UNDP will make sure the lessons learnt during the concrete implementation of the guide to integrate adaptation to climate in Municipal Development Plans are used to update this guide and make it more operational. Two forums (mid-term and final) will gather the relevant institutions for them to share experience in integrating climate change consideration in planning and budgeting. These forums will promote both exchanges within and across at the different decision levels (municipal, departmental and national) in order to reinforce coordination and communication between the different actors and enhance mutual understanding. Finally, the main implementing partners, the Ministry of Agriculture and local NGOs, will be supported to create a repository of lessons learnt in order for these lessons to be perpetuated in the practices of these actors and disseminated further.

3- Provide more information on what criteria will be used to select the seven regions that will be targeted in Outputs 1.1 and 1.2, the communes in 2.1, and the communities in 3.1 and 3.2;

4- UNDP : As explained in details section « III. Intervention Strategy » of the Project document, a multi criteria analysis has been carried out during the project preparation phase to select the relevant regions, communes and communities . The criteria included:

- 1- Severity index in terms of poverty;
- 2- Most vulnerable agro-ecologic zones (1, 4, 5, 8) according to the NAPA35;
- 3- Demographic weight of the municipality;
- 4- Share of economically vulnerable households;
- 5- Share of households facing moderated and severe food insecurity; and
- 6- Commitment of the municipality (for the relevant Municipalities) during the implementation of the NAPA-1 project.

Following the selection of the “priority” municipalities, villages were identified, and selected based on objective criteria that were shared with municipal stakeholders. These criteria included that a village:

- 1- Is currently not executing or developing a Resilience Reinforcement Plan;
- 2- Has a high poverty severity index;
- 3- Is in a low-lying area (vulnerable area);
- 4- Has important land degradation issues; and
- 5- Contributes significantly to the agricultural production of the municipality.

The multi-criteria analysis was validated by all stakeholders during the inception workshop held in Bohicon (26-28 July 2016). A field visit was also organized. Nine (09) villages spread in five (05) municipalities and five (05) departments have been selected to benefit from the present project. All priority sites are heavily dependent on agriculture<sup>36</sup>.

<sup>35</sup> Zone 1 : Karimama, Malanville, Nord-Kandi. Zone 4 : Ouaké, Ouest-Djougou, Copargo, Tanguiéta, Matéri, Cobli, Boukombé, Natitingou, Toukountouna, Kouandé. Zone 5 : Bassila, Sud-Tchaourou, Aplahoué, Kétou, Bantè, Glazoué, Dassa, Savè, Djidja. Zone 8 : Ouidah, Abomey, Calavi, Cotonou, Sô-Ava, Lokossa, Athiémé, Comé, Grand-Popo, Sèmè-Podji, Aguégoués, Dangbo, Adjohoun

<sup>36</sup> For the description of the economic profile of each municipality and village, see the report of the national consultant Cosme Lucien Zounon, Expert National Socio-économiste, “rapport de mission de formulation du projet”, version of September 2016. GEF6 CEO Endorsement /Approval Template-August2016

6- Provide more information on how UNDP will ensure coordination among the multiple baseline projects; and, elaborate on how UNDP will cooperate and coordinate with the Government of Benin during project development and implementation to successfully achieve Output 1.5.

1-2- Output 1.5 is no longer part of the outputs but further details about coordination with Benin's authorities and with baseline projects are provided in relevant sections of CEO endorsement and project document, especially in sections A.6 of the CEO endorsement. Two mechanisms are worth mentioning:

1- At national level, a coordination committee has been created in June 2015<sup>37</sup> ("Comité de Pilotage du sous Programme Environnement, Changement Climatique, Energie et Développement Durable») to ensure the national leadership and ownership of all projects and programmes implemented by UN agencies in the sectors of Environment, Climate change, Energy and Sustainable Development. This Committee oversees all projects in these areas and the proposed LDCF project will be no exception. As detailed in the legal text, on the Benin Government side this Committee is composed of one representant of each relevant Ministry and it convenes at least twice a year. The project team will submit all the information required to the Committee and implement the recommendations it may have regarding coordination.

2- At operational level, the UNDP has developed a synergy matrix and a synergy plan that is systematically used and developed for every project starting, and reviewed periodically. This tool allows to prevent duplication and helps concentrate efforts and resources by screening all relevant projects in order to identify synergies at all levels (activities, resources mobilised, events organised...).

- These mechanisms will contribute to ensure good coordination with relevant ongoing projects as described in the baseline section.

In addition, we expect that UNDP in the development of its full proposal will:

3- Provide more information on how beneficiaries, including women, have been involved in the development of the project proposal and will benefit from this project;

1-2- A thorough consultations has been led during the project preparation phase. More than 600 persons were indeed consulted at national, municipal, village and community levels regarding the best options to achieve these outcomes. The project activities are based on the needs of the key stakeholders, especially the community based beneficiaries, i.e. the most vulnerable fringe of the rural population in the priority sites. This has allowed identifying priorities in the targeted communities as well as their cost and relevance.

In the same way, a Gender Action Plan has been developed and is implemented by the full proposal. This focus on gender has been confirmed by the LDCF Comment at CEO endorsement on item 9 : « Gender - The gender dimension has been adequately addressed, as the CEO Endorsement Request does provide gender disaggregated indicators, and gender dimensions have been mainstreamed into project design, as a result of the Gender Action Plan conducted during PPG.»

<sup>37</sup> As established by the Arrêté interministériel 2015 n° 042/MECGCCRPRNF/MERPMEDER/DC/SGM/CTJ/DPP/SA from June 12th, 2015  
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2.- Engage local stakeholders, including community-based organizations, environmental non-governmental organizations and the private sector in both the development and implementation of the program; and,

**1.-> UNDP : As mentioned above, a thorough consultations has been led during the project preparation phase. More than 600 persons were indeed consulted at national, municipal, village and community levels regarding the best options to achieve these outcomes. The project activities are based on the needs of the key stakeholders.**

- Regarding implementation, as developed in sections « A.3 key stakeholders » of the CEO endorsement and « IV. Results and partnerships » of the project document, local stakeholders, including community-based organizations, environmental non-governmental organizations and the private sector will be key in implementing this project. They will for example :

**1.->** be key partners in the planning and implementation of project interventions at the community level, as a member of the Technical Support Mechanism (*Mécanisme d'appui technique*)

**2.->** participate in a series of briefings and awareness raising workshops at project start organised under the leadership of local authorities and making sure that all groups are included (women, youth, poor)

**3.->** be recruited for the relevant project activities, such as infrastructure building and will benefit in this framework of the relevant capacity building.

**4.->** be involved in multi-stakeholders' platform at the municipal and regional levels, under the project Management units

**5.->** Clarify on how the implementing agency and its partners will communicate results, lessons learned and best practices identified throughout the project to the various stakeholders both during and after the project.

**6.-> UNDP : identification and sharing of lessons learned and best practices is an important focus of this project and is therefore the object of output 1.3 that plans the elaboration of a repository of lessons learned and best practices and two knowledge sharing forums in order to share them with all relevant stakeholder during and after the project.**

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback on this important PIF. We look forward with anticipation to seeing our feedback incorporated in the project proposal at the CEO endorsement stage of the process.

**1.-> UNDP : We hope that the answers above address all your comments in a satisfactory manner and we remain available to provide any further information necessary**

