REQUEST FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project
TYPE OF TRUST FUND:LDCF

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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change in the agriculture sector in Comoros			
Country(ies):	Comoros	GEF Project ID:[1]	4974
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP (select) (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	4926
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Fishing, Environment, Livestock, Industry and Agriculture (MPEEIA)	Submission Date:	November 2013
GEF Focal Area (s):	Climate Change	Project Duration(Months)	48 Months
Name of Parent Program (if applicable): ➢ For SFM/REDD+ ☐ ➢ For SGP ☐ ➢ For PPP ☐	n/a	Project Agency Fee ($):	899,091

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK[2]

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Trust Fund	Grant Amount ($)	Cofinancing ($)
CCA-2 (select)	Outcome 2.2 Strengthened adaptive capacity to reduce risks to climate-induced economic losses	Output 2.2.1 Adaptive capacity of national and regional centers and networks strengthened to rapidly respond to extreme weather events	LDCF	831,250	8,175,513
CCA-3 (select)	Outcome 2.1 Increased knowledge and understanding of climate variability and change-induced risks at country level and in targeted vulnerable areas	Output 2.1.2 Systems in place to disseminate timely risk information	LDCF	1,602,900	2,146,916
CCA-3 (select)	Outcome 3.1 Successful demonstration, deployment, and transfer of relevant adaptation technology in targeted areas	Output 3.1.1 Relevant adaptation technology transferred to targeted groups	LDCF	6,129,940	26,307,192
(select) (select)	Project management Cost		LDCF	426,800	1,680,000
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
		Total project costs		8,990,890	38,309,621

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

[1] Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.
[2] Refer to the Focal Area Results Framework and LDCF/SCCF Framework when completing Table A.

Project Objective: The Union of Comoros has the capacity, tools and technology to reduce the vulnerability of agricultural production systems to climate change and climate variability on Grande Comore, Moheli and Anjouan.						
Project Component	**Grant Type**	**Expected Outcomes**	**Expected Outputs**	**Trust Fund**	**Grant Amount ($)**	**Confirmed Cofinancing ($)**
Strengthening the strategic framework for adaptation to climate change in the agriculture sector and strengthening the adaptive capacity of agricultural sector institutions to provide stratgic support for climate change adaptation.	TA	Outcome 1: Agricultural support and management institutions have a strengthened strategic framework and strengthened capacity that enables them to effectively support resilience to climate change and climate variability in the agriculture sector.	Output 1.1:Strategic frameworks at national and island levels incorporate assessment of climate change risks to the agricultural sector and include appropriate targets and approaches to achieve increased resilience. Output 1.2: Agriculture sector management and support institutions at national and island levels have the knowledge and capacity to reduce the vulnerability of agricultural production systems to climate change and climate variability. Output 1.3: Inter-island, inter-sectoral and inter organisational partnerships for reducing vulnerability to climate change in the agriculture sector are functioning, and key agricultural organisations are linked in to relevant regional / international networks and facilities	LDCF	831,250	8,175,513
Production and dissemination of agrometeorological information for informed decision making in the agricultural sector	TA	Outcome 2: The Union of Comoros has strengthened its existing national meteorological service in order to implement a basic agro-meteorological system in which	Output 2.1: Weather conditions are monitored at project sites and information needs are identified; weather forecasts, including severe weather warnings, are developed,	LDCF	1,602,900	2,146,916

		meteorological data is being recorded at selected sites on each of the three islands, packaged into agricultural advisories and used by agricultural support networks and vulnerable farming communities to reduce vulnerability to climate variability and climate change.	disseminated and used by vulnerable communities to support climate resilient agriculture. Output 2.2 Comoros Meteorological Service has the capacity to use weather forecasts, seasonal climate outlooks, climate information, crop yield models, satellite and crop monitoring data, in order to support all key agricultural institutions at national, island and local levels to produce agricultural advisories that increase climate resilience in the agricultural sector. Output 2.3: A basic agro-meteorological system is designed, institutionalized, and implemented to support key stakeholders in the agriculture sector.			
Diffusion of climate resilient ago-sylvo-pastoral technologies in the most vulnerable communities	TA	Climate change resilient agricultural approaches are being effectively used and promoted by partnerships of agricultural support organisations, including CRDE, NGOS, CBOs private and public sector agencies at vulnerable sites on Grande Comore, Moheli and Anjouan; and key agricultural value chains / commodities in the Union of Comoros have increased resilience to climate	Output 3.1: Climate resilient agricultural and livestock technologies are adopted by farmers at the six pilot sites; farmers and agricultural support organisations have the knowledge and skills to sustain and replicate systems following EOP. Output 3.2: Low-cost community water-control infrastructures have been installed to fight erosion and water shortage enabling communities to collect rain water, irrigate, and	LDCF	6,129,940	26,307,192

		change.	reduce climate induced water shortage in the dry season at priority sites; farmers and agricultural support organisations have the knowledge and skills to sustain and replicate systems following EOP. Output 3.3: Key agricultural support organisations have the capacity to provide on-going climate change adaptation extension services to farmers and have established operational partnerships with each other, and with farming communities, to support climate change adaptation in vulnerable farming systems at all project sites. Output 3.4: A sustainable climate resilient agricultural inputs delivery system built on a win-win partnership between inputs supply companies and strengthened rural retailers is established at pilot sites, enabling farmers to access the right inputs, in appropriate quality, quantity and in packaging tailored to smallholders needs and resources. Output: 3.5: Sustainable alternatives to the use of wood for distillation of ylang ylang have been			

			identified, tested, and a strategy developed to replace wood as the main fuel source. Output 3.6: A 'Green certification' system is in place and operational in the Union of Comoros			
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
			Subtotal		8,564,090	36,629,621
			Project management Cost (PMC)[3]	LDCF	426,800	1,680,000
			Total project costs		8,990,890	38,309,621

C. SOURCES OF CONFIRMED COFINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME ($)

Please include letters confirming cofinancing for the projeSct with this form

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier (source)	Type of Cofinancing	Cofinancing Amount ($)
Other Multilateral Agency (ies)	UNDP	In-kind	500,000
Other Multilateral Agency (ies)	UNDP	Cash	400,000
National Government	DNSAE & INRAPE & Ministère de l'éducation national (centre de formation horticole) & ANACM	In-kind	11,141,345
Private Sector	CAPAC & Chamber of Commerce	In-kind	5,485,727
Others	Association des cadres infirmières vétérinaires (ACTIV), Groupement Bandasamlini, Diboini, GAD, Comores Verte, FNAC, SNAC, Actions Comores	In-kind	7,251,695
Other Multilateral Agency (ies)	Agricultural development support projects: BID Intensification/ diversification/ valorisation des productions agricole; FANDC/OMC/UNDP; Renforcement de système sanitaire et phytosanitaire (SPS) & CIR.	In-kind	4,200,854
Other Multilateral Agency (ies)	Environmental Support project: EU GCCA project, Programme d'appui en Union des Comores pour le renforcement de la résilience aux CC	In-kind	3,830,000

[3] PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project grant amount in Table D below.

Others	Micro finance institutions SANDUK and MECK	In-kind	5,500,000
(select)		(select)	
Total Co-financing			38,309,621

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY[1]

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/ Global	(in $)		
				Grant Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)[2]	Total c=a+b
UNDP	LDCF	Climate Change	Union of Comoros	8,990,890	899,091	9,889,981
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
Total Grant Resources				8,990,890	899,091	9,889,981

[1] In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide information for this table. PMC amount from Table B should be included proportionately to the focal area amount in this table.

[2] Indicate fees related to this project.

F. CONSULTANTS WORKING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS:

Component	Grant Amount ($)	Cofinancing ($)	Project Total ($)
International Consultants	1,578,000	0	1,578,000
National/Local Consultants	370,900	0	370,900

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

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

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROJECT DESIGN OF THE ORIGINAL PIF[4]

A.1 National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, if applicable, i.e. NAPAS, NBSAPs, national communications, TNAs, NCSA, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, Biennial Update Reports, etc.

There are no changes in project alignment with key national strategies (including NAPA, NBSAP, PRGS etc).

However, project design has strengthened alignement with the Union of Comoros core Povery Reduction and

[4] For questions A.1 –A.7 in Part II, if there are no changes since PIF and if not specifically requested in the review sheet at PIF stage, then no need to respond, please enter "NA" after the respective question.

Growth Strategy (PRGS) and with national strategic processes reviewing the PRGS and developing a new 2015-2019 PRGS/AGSDS Action Plan. The project will support the Union of Comoros to include approaches, targets & indicators in the new PRGS Action Plan which support climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector. The project will subsequently support relevant agencies and stakheolders to implement this strengthened framework at national, island and district levels.

A new decree has been developed since design of the PIF, almost a year ago. This decree establishes Rural Economic Development Centres (CRDE) as the key agencies providing agricultural extension & development support to vulnerable farming communities. There is a strong focus within the project strategy on training and capacity building within CRDE, including of trainers and on strengthening partnerships between CRDE and NGOs CBOs and other agricultural and community support groups. This supports the partnership based structure of CRDE management systems within the new decree. The objective is to build capacity directly within the core agricultural support agencies that work with rural farming communities. Project support will be focussed on six project sites and six CRDE in 29 of the most vulnerable communities. The project approach works to ensure that training results in long term capacity for CC resilience within these communities and establishes sustainable extension support systems led by CRDE that can be relicated in other areas. This differs from the focus in the PIF where training to build capacity for CC adaptation in the agriculture sector was to be delivered through the Institute of Moheli. This Institute is not currently operational and no funding sources have been identified by the Union of Comoros to re-establish the Institute. At the time of project design it is therefore extremely unlikely that the Institute will offer a training platform during the lifetime of the project.

The project document also places increased emphais on a number of important regional, continental and international strategies, many of which have been initiated since writing of the PIF. This also reflects the comments and suggestions made by the USA on the importance of establishing links to key regional & continental initiatives. These include the:

IOC regional strategy for climate change adaption, IOC regional gender policy, IOC regional food secuirty strategy,

COMESA_EAC-SADC Regional Strategy and Action Plan for mainstreaming gender in to climate change and agriculture

African Continental Framework on Climate Change.

The project will also establish links with a number of regional & continental programs, initiatives and networks including the:

Programme on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in the COMESA-EAC-SADC region

African Climate Change Knowledge Network (AAKNet)

Climate for Development in Africa (ClimDev-Africa) programme and the related regional climate service centre

Regional Initiative for Agroecology and Climate Change

African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD)

Group on Earth Observations (GEO) AfriGEOSS initiative

All of these regional and continental strategies and initiatives help to strengthen the potential for the project to achieve sustainable impact. They provide important opportunities for the Union of Comoros to establish long term international partnerships and reduce the negative impacts of its insular situation. The project will support the Union of Comoros agriculture sector to establish these international partnerships so that national organisations can contine continue to share information and knowledge following EOP. This will also increase the global impact of the project, supporting the dissemination of lessons learnt through the project, and tools developed under the project through international fora, meaning that they will then be available to benefit a wide range of countires.

Please also refer to the Project Document, Section 2: Project Strategy, Part A3: Changes Since Completion of the PIF

A.2. GEF focal area and/or fund(s) strategies, eligibility criteria and priorities. N/A

A.3 The GEF Agency's comparative advantage: N/A

A.4. The baseline project and the problem that it seeks to address: N/A

A. 5. Incremental /Additional cost reasoning: describe the incremental (GEF Trust Fund/NPIF) or additional (LDCF/SCCF) activities requested for GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF financing and the associated global environmental benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or associated adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF) to be delivered by the project:

The baseline situation is outlined in project document Section 1. Details of the project strategy and component Outcomes, Outputs and activity areas are provided in the project document Section 2 Part C and in the project's logical framework in project document Section 2, Part I.

The main changes since the PIF are outlined in project document Section 2 A3. These changes have been made to strengthen the cost effectiveness and incremental cost reasoning of the project, and the likely sustainability of GEF LDCF support through the project. As outlined in project document Section 2 A3, the main changes since the PIF are to:

* Align the project more closely with relevant national strategies and strategic processes

* Support the Union of Comoros to incorporate climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector in to strategic plans and processes, within the 2014 national PRGS review process and in development of the new 2015-2019 PRGS Action Plan. GEF LDCF funds will build understanding of, and capcity for, strategic planning to support climate change adaptation in the agriculure sector and to support strong national ownership of climate change adaptation strategies / approaches in order to achieve a more sustainable, nationally led, impact through the project.

* Build capacity for implementation of revised strategic plans to support climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector and for effective monitoring and evaluation. GEF LDCF funds will increase national partner institutions capacity for, and understanding of, climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector and enable the Union of Comoros to contine to effectively implement strategic approaches for climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector, and to monitor and evaluate impacts at national, island and local levels.

* Build the capacity of Rural Economic Development Centres (CRDE) at project sites on each of the islands and of NGO, CBO, public and private sector organisations and communities working with CRDE at project sites, in order to strengthen approaches for climate change adapatation in farming systems for vulnerable communities. In February 2013 an important decree was developed in the Union of Comoros to create Rural Economic Development Centres (CRDE). CRDE replace the agricultural advisory centres (CEA) that were in place at the time of writing of the PIF. CRDE are the key national institutions responsible for providing extension and technical support to farming communities and for supporting sustainable rural development. The establishment of CRDE is core to the GEF/LDCF CRCCA project strategy which includes, under Outcome 3, a key focus on building the capacity of CRDE to enable them to lead and guide effective extension support to farming communities at project

sites, in order to reduce the vulnerability of agricultural production systems to climate change and to increase the resilience of vulnerable communities. The project approach will strengthen CRDE and strenghten partnerships between local stakeholder groups; it will strengthen the cost effectiveness of support through the development of Climate Change Adaptation Management Plans (CCAMP) for the agriculture sector at each site, through targeted capacity building as well as through 'on the ground' support to vulnerable communities.

* Incorporate alignment of the project with regional strategies and programmes and support the Union of Comoros to establish regional links and partnerships in order to increase national access to regional expertise and resources and to reduce the negative impacts of its insular situation.

* Target capacity building/ training under the project directly within relevant agricultural support institutions. This has been done in part because the training institute cited in the PIF (Institute of Moheli) is not operational, but also because by directly targeting training and capacity building within relevant organisations, the project can more effectively ensure that training meets the needs of those organisations and that institutional capacity / systems are established (training of trainers, manuals, guidelines, information systems etc) to ensure that training and capacity building achieves a sustainable impact and will be ongoing following the end of the project.

Baseline initiatives have also changed since the PIF was written over a year ago. A number of the baseline projects and initiatives cited in the PIF have not in fact materialised, or will end prior to CRCCA project start up, while other relevant projects and initiatives have been initiated and provide important opportunities for partnership. This baseline is core to the GEF/LDCF CRCCA project strategy, providing the basis on which the project will achieve the ‘additionality’ of capacity building for climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector. Changes to the baseline situation and consultations with stakeholders during project design have highlighted the need to make a number of modifications to Outputs proposed in the PIF under the three CRCCA project Outcomes as outlined in project document Section 2 Part A3. The strategic approach developed for the CRCCA project has been adapted from that outlined in the PIF in order to build on the opportunities evident at the time of design. The UNCDF-UNDP Support programme for inclusive finance in the Comoros (PAFIC) will end in 2013 before project start. These changes have therefore changed the 'baseline' situation on which the project will build and the initaitives wth which it will partner.

In line with the objectives of the GEF LDCF, the CRCCA project addresses urgent and immediate climate change adaptation needs, focussing on the Comorian agriculture sector. It contributes directly to LDCF Objectives 2 and 3 working to increase Comoros’ adaptive capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change, to reduce vulnerability, and to support and promote the transfer and adoption of adaptation technologies.

There is an urgent need for support to the agriculture sector in the Union of Comoros to support adapatation to climate change and climate variability. The Comoros islands are vulnerable to a range of natural hazards: hydro-meteorological (including tropical storms, floods, sea level rise), geophysical (volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, landslides) and biological (epidemics of viruses and bacteria). The country's vulnerability is compounded by a low national capacity for response to climate change impacts. On each of the three islands, agricultural production systems are highly vulnerable to climatic impacts, and this vulnerability is exacerbated by the use of unsustainable agricultural techniques and approaches which are contributing to land degradation, deforestation, erosion, increased flooding and drought in a number of vulnerable areas. The levels and capacity of the agricultural extension service are low and farmers have poor access to inputs and information that could help them to reduce their vulnerability to climate change and climate variability. Most agricultural production systems are rain-fed, and therefore very sensitive to climatic hazards. Erratic rains, combined with shortening and shifting of the rainy season affects cropping areas and crop calendars. The virtual absence of drainage and terracing systems increases the vulnerability of crops and livestock to heavy rains, strong winds, and contributes to the high levels of erosion, flooding and land slides. The absence of irrigation systems increases exposure of crops and livestock to drought. The Union of Comoros doesn not have an agro-meteorological system and farmers do not have access to accurate weather forecasts or climatic predictions on which to plan and manage agricultural activity throughout the year. All of these factors in turn impact on the food security and livelihoods of rural communities and on the sustainability of natural resource use.

The Union of Comoros has limited financial and human resources, including limited information, tools and techniques to support adaptation to climate change in the agriculture sector. The current baseline situation is not addressing the vulnerability of farming communities to climate change and climate vulnerability; additional support is required to

build the capacity of key agricultural support agencies, to strengthen key strategies and to address priority issues at vulnerable sites, in order to test and demonstrate the potential of climate change adaptation approaches. GEF LDCF funds within the CRCCA project will be used to address urgent and immediate climate change adaptation needs and to establish sustainable strategies and capacity to support long term capacity adaptation in the Union of Comoros. GEF LDCF funded initiatives will build on and partner with baseline development initiatives that are financed by domestic, bilateral and other multilateral sources. The total US$ cost of current and committed baseline initiatives over the lifetime of the project is US$37,409,621. UNDP will in addition contibute US$900,000 co-financing to support acheivement of the Alternative Strategy under this CRCCA project: US$400,000 of this co-financing will be in cash and US$500,000 in-kind.

The Alternative Strategy to be supported by the GEF LDCF, through the CRCCA project, will cover the 'additional cost' of building institutional capacity, strengthening strategic frameworks, and establishing tools and techniques to support the Comorian agriculture sector in adapting to climate change and climate vaiability. The total cost of this adaptation alternative requested from GEF LDCF is US$8,990,890. The GEF LDCF Alternative will build the capacity of key national and island level agricultural support organisations to enable them to achieve effective, long term adaptation of agricultural systems to climate change. This includes strengthening national and island level strategies and action plans in support of climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector and building knowledge and capacity of key agricultural support agencies for effective implementation of those plans. The CRCCA project will support Comorain agriculture institutions to link in to regional and international networks, facilities and iniatives, enabling the Union of Comoros to continue to draw on global climate change issues and adaptation opportunities following EOP, and encouraging the Union of Comoros to share lessons and solutions from the project, internationally. The GEF LDCF Alternative will also establish an agro-meteorological system in the Union of Comoros, providing farmers and agricultural support agencies with critical weather forecasting and climatic information. The project will directly support 29 highly vulnerable communities to increase their resilience to climate change at six project sites. At each of these sites the lack of information available to farmers and agricultural support agencies and the low levels of capacity for climate change adaptation currently results in a lack of alternatives for farming communities whose primary concern is securing short term food security for their families. LDCF GEF resources will help to address these issues and to ensure that agricultural support organisations and farming communities have the knowledge, skills and tools they need to adapt farming systems to climate change. The CRCCA project will also support key agricultural value chains to increase their resilience to climate change and will build incentives for the establishment of climate change resilient agricultural systems. The total cost of this adaptation alternative is Total: US$9,390,890 comprising US$8,990,890 of GEF LDCF funds and US$400,000 UNDP cash co-financing.

The CRCCA project has three overall Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Section 2, part 2 of the project document summarises the baseline situation pertinent to Outcome 1. The baseline cost for Outcome 1 is US$8,092,179. UNDP will contribute additional co-financing of US$83,334 to support Outcome 1. The total estimated overall co-financing contribution to Outcome 1 over the life of the project is therefore US$8,175,513 (US$8,092,179 from national agencies and US$83,334 from UNDP)

Under Outcome 1, the CRCCA project supports the Union of Comoros to strengthen national and island level strategic frameworks for reducing vulnerability to climate change and climate variability in the agriculture sector. It also strengthens the capacity of key agricultural institutions to implement these strategic approaches, and to engage more effectively in partnerships to support climate change adaptation processes at national, island and international levels. Under Outcome 1, the 'adaptation alternative' will support the Union of Comoros to develop, establish and implement a co-ordinated, inter-sectoral, inter-institutional, and inter-island approach to achieving increased resilience of agricultural production systems to climate change. The cost requested from GEF LDCF for achieving this adaptation alternative under Outcome 1 is US$831,250. Section 2, Part C of this project document, details the project implementation strategy related to this cost, Part J gives a break-down of the project budget.

Under Outcome 1 the project will support the Union of Comoros to incorporate strategic objectives, targets and indicators that strengthen climate change resilience in the agricultural sector, into the framework of the new 2015-2019 PRGS/AGSDS Action Plan. The project will support DNSAE to strengthen national and island level agricultural development frameworks so that these include climate change adaptation approaches and targets. It will concurrently build the capacity of key institutions to implement integrated approaches which reduce the

vulnerability of rural farming communities and agricultural enterprises to climate change. CRCCA outputs and activity areas under Outcome 1 will align with and strengthen implementation of the PRGS/AGSDS and the NAPA. Throughout this process the project will build the understanding of key stakeholders on the key relevance of climate change resilience in the agriculture sector for food security, poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability.

Output 1.1 provides support for the establishment of 'strategic frameworks at national and island levels, which incorporate assessments of climate change risks to the agricultural sector, and include appropriate targets and approaches to achieve increased resilience'. Under Output 1.1 the CRCCA project will support the Union of Comoros to effectively incorporate climate change resilience in the agriculture sector, within the framework of the 2014 PRGS review and new 2015-2019 PRGS/AGSDS Action Plan. It will subsequently support the Agriculture Divisions on each island to incorporate climate change adaptation approaches and targets in to island level agricultural development planning.

Output 1.2 focuses on supporting key agricultural institutions to implement the strategic approaches developed under Output 1.1. Activities areas under Output 1.2 will include knowledge transfer and training in vulnerability and risk assessment, strategic planning, adaptation approaches, monitoring and evaluation for climate change adaptation. There is currently very little capacity for climate change risk analysis, vulnerability assessment, adaptation opportunities, monitoring and evaluation amongst agricultural organisations. Output 1.2 will build the capacity of key organisations, including public, NGO and private sector organisations, at national, island and local levels, to ensure they have the knowledge and capacity necessary to work together to implement strategic plans in order to strengthen the resilience of the agriculture sector to climate change and climate variability.

Output 1.3 focuses on the key issue of coordination, partnership building and exchange of expertise and information. It builds on the need for improved co-ordination mechanisms, outlined in the NAPA and re-affirmed in the SNC. Output 1.3 supports key national, island and local level organisations to establish operational partnerships for reducing vulnerability to climate change in the agriculture sector. It also supports the Union of Comoros to establish links with regional / international networks and institutions. This in turn helps to ensure continued learning and information exchange, and to reduce the negative isolating impacts of Comoros' insular situation. Output 1.3 works to achieve the situation whereby at the end of the project: 'Inter-island, inter-sectoral and inter organisational partnerships for reducing vulnerability to climate change in the agriculture sector are functioning, and key agricultural agencies are linked in to relevant regional / international networks and facilities.'

Outcome 1 works synergistically with Outcomes 2 and 3 and builds on current baseline initiatives to achieve the overall project Objective. Under Outcome 1, by the end of the project (EOP), key agricultural organisations at national and island levels will be working within an integrated, strategic framework that supports resilience to climate change in the agriculture sector; they will have the necessary knowledge and capacity to be able to implement and promote these strategic approaches, monitor and evaluate their effectiveness, and will be working in partnership with other sectors, through effective inter-island co-ordination mechanisms, and will be actively participating in regional and international networks and facilities. Outputs 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 work together to achieve the Outcome 1 result whereby at the end of the project: Agricultural support and management institutions have a strengthened strategic framework and strengthened capacity that enables them to effectively increase resilience to climate change and climate variability in the agriculture sector.

Outcome 2: Section 2, part C of the project document summarises the baseline situation pertaining to Outcome 2. The baseline cost for Outcome 2 is US$2,063,583. UNDP will also contribute co-financing of US$83,333. Total estimated co-financing for Outcome 2 over the life of the project is therefore US$2,146,916. CRCCA project support under Outcome 2 will enable the Union of Comoros to establish an operational agro-meteorological system. There is currently no agro-meteorological capacity in the Union of Comoros. By the end of the project the Comorian agro-meteorological and decision support system will package information into agricultural advisories and disseminate these to agricultural extension officers, agricultural organisations and to farmers, to enable them to use climatic data to plan and manage agricultural activities. The cost requested from GEF LDCF for achieving the adaptation alternative under Outcome 2 is US$1,602,900. Section 2, Part C of the project document, details the project implementation strategy related to this cost, Part J gives the budget break-down.

Outcome 2 of the CRCCA project will establish a real-time meteorological observation network covering the most vulnerable areas and, based on this, an operational agro-meteorological system delivering agricultural advisories to

farming communities to reduce their vulnerability to climate variability and climate change. Major climatic risks for farmers are represented by heavy rains, floods and strong winds, as well as extended dry periods causing drought conditions, the impacts of these climatic events can be reduced by providing advance weather information to farmers and agricultural support groups, enabling them to plan and prepare strategies to adapt to the forecasted conditions. To help reduce vulnerability, short-time weather forecasting for vulnerable areas is an important priority for CRCCA project support under Outcome 2.

The project support strategy under Outcome 2 presents a logical, cross-sectoral and sequential framework in order to establish agro-meteorological capacity in Comoros. It includes three core Outputs which aim to support the Union of Comoros to address the following barriers:

Low institutional, technical, and logistical capacity for meteorology including a weak information base (Output 2.1)

Low human capacity for meteorology, climatology and agro-meteorology, the lack of linkages between climate information producers and end-users such as agricultural extension services and farmers, in order to reduce the vulnerability of the agriculture sector to climate variability and climate change (Output 2.2)

The lack of an agro-meteorological structure and related analytical capacity, a lack of awareness on the importance of climate information and the lack of a communication and information dissemination programme (Output 2.3)

Through Outcome 2, the CRCCA project will address these barriers by: (i) establishing a well-functioning national meteorological network capable of generating real-time meteorological warnings for vulnerable areas; (ii) developing institutional capacities within the Comoros Meteorological Service, the Agriculture Department of MPEEIA DNSAE, CRDE, SNAC, FNAC, FNAC-FA and INRAPE, for the use of climate information to support adaptation and resilience in agricultural communities, vulnerable to climate variability (particularly extreme weather events) and climate change; (iii) developing basic agro-meteorological capacity at the national level (iv) developing capacity in agro-meteorology in each of the islands to support the agricultural extension institutions through enhanced use of climate data; (v) strengthening national climate change policies/strategies with the support of reliable climate data.

Outcome 3: Section 2, part C of the project document summarises the baseline situation pertaining to Outcome 3. The baseline cost for Outcome 3 is US$26,223,859. UNDP will contribute additional co-financing of US$83,333 to Outcome 3. Total estimated co-financing for Outcome 3 over the life of the project is therefore US$26,307,192. Under Outcome 3, the CRCCA project will train agricultural support agencies, NGOs, vulnerable farming communities, professional agricultural organisations, micro-finance institutions and agricultural businesses in the application of climate resilient agricultural strategies, tools and techniques at a series of pilot sites. Outcome 3 will support 29 vulnerable farming communities and associated agricultural support agencies at 6 project sites to directly reduce the climate related vulnerability of farming systems and farming livelihoods. It will also support key agricultural value chains in Grande Comore, Moheli and Anjouan to increase resilience to climate change and will create incentives for the establishment of sustainable agricultural production systems. The direct application of tools and techniques ‘in the field’ will strengthen the capacity of key institutions and farmers by a ‘learning through doing’ approach and will demonstrate the potential benefits of climate change resilient strategies to strengthen livelihoods and incomes. ‘Training of trainers’ within key institutions and the synergy with strategic results achieved under Outcome 1 and agro-meteorological results achieved under Outcome 2 will ensure that local level impact is sustainable and replicable to other areas. The cost of achieving the adaptation alternative under Outcome 3 that is requested from the GEF LDCF is US$6,129,940. Section 2, Part C of the project document, details the project implementation strategy related to this cost and Part J gives the budget break down.

The ‘adaptation alternative’ to be implemented through the CRCCA project under Outcome 3 supports Comoros in developing climate resilient agricultural systems in order to strengthen vulnerable farming livelihoods to adapt to climate change and climate variability. It will build capacity ‘on the ground’ at the local level to establish effective agricultural approaches and techniques which increase the resilience of vulnerable farming communities, and of value chains / agricultural commodities to climate change and climate variability. Outcome 3 partners with CRDE, NGOs, CBOs, SNAC, FNAC, professional agricultural associations, research institutions, MFIs and key public and private sector organisations at a series of priority, vulnerable sites and within key agricultural value chains. The project will build the capacity of key agricultural organisations and strengthen partnerships between them at each site, supporting them to implement climate change adaptation systems through a series of contractual service

agreements, and through training and direct technical support, in order to achieve real 'on the ground' impact. The results and increased awareness achieved through the project at each site will demonstrate the social and environmental benefits of climate change resilience, in a range of agricultural productions systems, supporting both the sustainability and replicability of project results. Outcome 3 builds on and partners with a number of important ongoing initiatives to support the 'additionality' of climate change adaptation at priority sites and within priority agricultural value chains as described in project document Section 2 Part A4.

Outcome 3 builds on the strengthened strategic framework, awareness and capacity established under Outcome 1, and on capacity built under Outcome 2 which makes crucial agro-meteorological information available to farmers and agricultural organisations. Experience generated under Outcome 3, in turn, supports adaptive management of the project; monitoring of social and environmental impact by the project team and partners at each site feeds back to guide overall project implementation. Experience and knowledge generated under Outcome 3 will provide key information for the development of climate change adaptation approaches that meet the needs of farmers and agricultural support organisations, in order to reduce differing vulnerability to climate change and climate variability at different sites and to achieve positive social and environmental impact across different priority sites on Anjouan, Grande Comore and Moheli.

Through Outcome 3 the CRCCA project will demonstrate the potential social and environmental benefits of adaptation approaches; this will include demonstrated improvements in the efficiency and level of production by farmers and reduction of climate related risks, thereby improving vulnerable communities' food security and incomes. Six key Outputs work to achieve the overall result under Outcome 3:

Output 3.1: Climate resilient agricultural and livestock technologies are adopted by farmers at the six pilot sites; farmers and agricultural support organisations have the knowledge and skills to sustain and replicate systems following EOP.

Output 3.2: Low-cost community water-control infrastructures have been installed to fight erosion and water shortage enabling communities to collect rain water, irrigate, and reduce climate induced water shortage in the dry season at priority sites; farmers and agricultural support organisations have the knowledge and skills to sustain and replicate systems following EOP.

Output 3.3: Key agricultural support organisations have the capacity to provide on-going climate change adaptation extension services to farmers and have established operational partnerships with each other, and with farming communities, to support climate change adaptation in vulnerable farming systems at all project sites.

Output 3.4: A sustainable climate resilient agricultural inputs delivery system built on a win-win partnership between inputs supply companies and strengthened rural retailers is established at pilot sites, enabling farmers to access the right inputs, in appropriate quality, quantity and in packaging tailored to smallholders needs and resources.

Output: 3.5: Sustainable alternatives to the use of wood for distillation of ylang ylang have been identified, tested, and a strategy developed to replace wood as the main fuel source.

Output 3.6: A 'Green certification' system is in place and operational in the Union of Comoros

The implementation approach under Outcome 3 strengthens partnerships to support vulnerable communities to adapt farming systems to climate change and variability. The focus of support under Outputs 3.1 to 3.4 will be on building the capacity of local agricultural organisations to support vulnerable farming communities at project sites, and to monitor the social and environmental impact of that support. Capacity will be built within key agricultural support agencies to enable them to continue to train their staff, implement farmer field schools, undertake extension support and monitor and evaluate climate change vulnerability and adaptation effectiveness following EOP, to support sustainable impact at each project site. CRDE will be encouraged to take a lead role in the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural extension support at project sites, working closely with local NGOs, CBOs, SNAC, FNAC, MFI and producers associations, supported by the CRCCA project team and specialists. Outputs 3.5 and 3.6 focus on increasing the resilience of key value chains to climate change related impacts. Output 3.5 will be implemented in direct partnership with ylang-ylang distilleries to identify sustainable alternatives to the use of wood for distillation of ylang-ylang and to pilot these approaches. Output 3.6 will be implemented with all segments of the main agricultural value chains in the Union of Comoros including farmers, producers associations, national regulatory bodies, exporters, transporters, packaging and marketing groups, in

order to support the main agricultural value chains to adapt to climate change and variability, and to increase the value of agricultural products farmed and produced using climate change resilient, sustainable production systems.

Section 2, Part D of the project document outlines Project Management arrangements. Co-financing contributions to project management total US$1,680,000; this includes US$850,000 of UNDP co-financing for project management and an estimated US$830,000 contribution from national agencies; DNSAE will provide use of office space and operational resources for the Project management team who will be based within DNSAE in Grande Comore, ANACM will provide office space and operational resources for the agro-meteorological advisor within CMS. Project management co-financing support will also include the time and work inputs of the Project Director within DNSAE for overall oversight of project implementation and of management staff and resources at the island level within IPEC and CRDE. UNDP will provide direct project management support services totalling US$140,973.88 as detailed within the Letter of Agreement between MPEEIA DNSAE and UNDP, appended in annex 5. In addition to the services detailled in the LOA, UNDP will provide a further US$709,026 co-financing contribution to project management. LDCF GEF funding of US$426,800 (4.74% of total GEF LDCF funds) is requested to support project management. This includes for the hiring of a project manager, management support staff and dedicated project management equipment and running costs, as detailed in the budget in Part J of the project document.

The Adaptation Alternative to be suppoted by the GEF LDCF aligns with and directly supports implementation of the NAPA, drawing on the vulnerability analyses and the more recent review of vulnerability and priority issues completed for the 2nd UNFCCC communication. It also aligns with and supports achievement of PRGS objectives and development of the new 2015-2020 PRGS Action Plan. Project design has drawn on the recommendations of the PRGS 2011 review and in particular the ‘need to support small farmers with alternative resources that will enable them to manage natural resources sustainably and better adapt to climate change'.

A.6 Risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and measures that address these risks:

As with any initiative this project design is based on a number of assumptions and risks which may impact on achievement of intended results in the timeframe of the project. Successful achievement of project Outcomes, in line with the approach laid out in the project document, requires the project management team to regularly monitor risks and assumptions, and to adapt project management accordingly, as part of ongoing monitoring and adaptive management. The project’s logical framework lists the key risks and assumptions that have been identified at the time of project design. Annex 20 to the project document provides a Risk Log. None of the identified risks are currently assessed to be critical. New risks may emerge during the lifetime of the project, or the level of risk may change. The project management team is responsible for assessing and monitoring risks and developing appropriate response mechanisms.

UNDP undertook an assessment of the project management risks / financial management capacity of all potential partners in the Union of Comoros in 2008; these have been annexed to the project document within Annex 6, UNDP found there to be an elevated risk within the main implementing partner MPEEIA DNSAE for the management of funds and resources and they have therefore put in place operating systems with this national partner to manage this risk effectively. These management agreements are attached as Annex 5a. For this specific CRCCA project, UNDP have signed a letter of Agreement (LOA) with DNSAE which outlines the specific role of UNDP in supporting management of the project and project resources. The LOA is attached as Annex 5a

Overall, risks have been reduced since design of the PIF. Risk mitigation has been increased in the project strategy, as outlined in the project document, through: strengthened alignment with national plans and strategic processes; more effective targeting of capacity building support and training within relevant institutions, to support institutional capacity building; a strengthened partnership approach between organisations to support resource efficient, integrated management for climate change adaptation that has strong 'ownership' by local stakeholders; and increased alignment with regional strategies and programs to reduce the negative effects associated with the Union of Comoros' insular situation. The baseline situation has also strengthened since the PIF was written, increasing opportunities for the project to establish operational partnerships with on-going initiatives.This is outlined in Section 2, part A4 of the project document. The reduced focus within the project strategy on incorporating micro-finance activities linked to the PAFIC project, which will now end before the start of the CRCCA project, has also reduced related risks.

As identified in the PIF, there remains a risk that the private sector may be unwilling to invest in climate change resilient technologies. Uncertainty over climatic impacts/ risks and over the potential financial costs/benefits of climate resilient technologies can limit companies' willingness to engage and invest in adaptation measures. As companies' investment decisions are based on assessments of costs versus benefits, they may be reluctant to commit to significant upfront investments given uncertainties around potential short term and long term risks/ benefits. Often companies are not fully aware of long and short term climatic risks. The institutional and strategic context in which companies operate can significantly influence private sector engagement. The project will work to strengthen the strategic and institutional context supporting climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector in the Union of Comoros, thereby strengthening private sector confidence in investing in climate change resilient technologies. GEF LDCF support will also increase awareness amongst the private sector, all along the value chain, of the potential financial benefits of investment in sustainable, climate change resilient technologies / approaches and of the risks to agricultural value chains in the Union of Comoros from climate change and climate variability. Demonstration and pilot initiatives supported under the project will establish strong incentives for private sector investment in climate change resilient technologies by demonstrating the potential added value of products produced using climate resilient 'green' technologies and by supporting producers' organisations to link in to new market opportunities.

Also as identified in the PIF there remains a risk that communities may be reluctant to change current farming systems in order to adopt more climate resilient methods, until they are convinced of potential socio-economic benefits. This risk has been greatly reduced by the participatory project design process; project outputs and activity areas were identified through direct consultation with communities and local support organisations, in order to ensure that proposed project activities address priority issues and needs, and have the support of key local beneficiaries. Annex 1 provides a summary of these assessments. It will be essential that project implementation continues to be undertaken through a highly participatory, consultative, gender sensitive approach, as outlined in the project document. If project implementation is undertaken in partnership with communities at the project sites, this will ensure that GEF LDCF funds are used to address priority needs in order to support real socio-economic benefits. Social and environmental impact assessment has also been built in to project implementation and in to project monitoring and evaluation to ensure ongoing assessment of risks, benefits and impacts linked to all relevant project activities. Under Outcome 3, the project will be implemented through strategic partnerships at project sites involving all key stakeholder groups (including CRDE, NGOs, CBOs, farmers associations, women's associations, private and public sector groups and micro finance institutions.) As outlined in the PIF, a sound understanding of the local context is essential to effective implementation of project support and the fact that activities will be implemented through partnerships of local organisations, already on the ground at the project sites, supports this. Through this approach the project will also strengthen the existing platform providing support to vulnerable communities, building capacity for climate change adaptation and increasing communities' confidence in climate change adaptation approaches. The project will, where ever viable, build on local knowledge and identify ways to strengthen traditional approaches and systems in order to make these more climate change resilient, rather than introducing totally new approaches to farming. Ongoing awareness raising and training through the project will increase communities' understanding of climate change related risks and of opportunities to reduce those risks. Many of the expected communication products will be produced in the local language and will cater for both literate and illiterate audiences; here again a strong focus will be placed on ensuring gender equality and access to information and training, particularly considering the large percentage of women farmers. Last but not least, demonstration and pilot initiatives supported under the project will demonstrate the potential benefits of climate change resilient farming approaches, and, alongside capacity building and awareness raising support, will enable communities and local support organisations/networks to replicate approaches both during the project and following EOP.

There is also a risk however that the project can not demonstrate the benefit (in terms of increased levels of production / increased income) of farming techniques adapted to climate change, during the life time of the project. Project design was undertaken through a process of consultation with all key stakeholder groups and proposed activities /outputs in the project document target priority issues / vulnerabilities through approaches that can achieve real impact during the life of the project. Villagers and agricultural support organisations have expressed a strong interest / desire in receiving support and for the approaches to address priority issues outlined in the project document. The participatory, gender sensitive approach to project implementation outlined in the project document will ensure that the project addresses the key vulnerabilities and capacity building needs of beneficiaries and is

therefore likely to result in a demonstrable (qualitative and quantitative) beneficial impact. Project indicators and targets (when taken together) provide a SMART approach to measuring impact that will enable the project team to measure and demonstrate impact over the life of the project. Ongoing monitoring and adaptive management will enable the project team to adapt project support / interventions and to develop effective partnerships with baseline projects, in order to achieve real, beneficial impacts for stakeholder groups. The project team should at all times be aware of the impact of CC adaptation measures on community livelihoods and on private sector investors and should prioritize support that provides direct benefits to meet priority climate change adaptation needs, in order to increase the likelihood of continued use following EOP and hence sustainability. Partnerships with baseline projects supporting livelihoods, agricultural development and private sector development, increase the likelihood that overall beneficial impacts will be achieved for stakeholders during the life of the project.

The potential risk of natural disasters impacting on project implementation and results also remains relevant to project implementation. The Union of Comoros is at risk from a number of natural risks, including cyclones, volcanic eruptions, flooding and tsunamis. Clearly all of these may have an impact on the implementation of project activities. The project management team will remain in contact with regional and national disaster preparedness agencies and initiatives, to continually monitor risks and support disaster preparedness and response in project areas if necessary.

Other assumptions and risks not identified in the PIF but relevant to project implementation include the following:

Risks

Political elections are due to be held during the lifetime of the project and this may cause disruption to project implementation. Comoros is a fragile state with a long history of political and institutional instability. There have been over 20 coups or coup attempts since it declared independence from France in July 1975, in fact during the design process for this project there was an attempted, but luckily unsuccessful, coup. Since 2001, under the new reconciliation and governmental framework, the situation in the Union of Comoros has been relatively stable. The last elections were held in 2010 and were considered to have been free and fair. The 2010 election process appears to have broken the cycle of instability in the Comoros islands. However, there remains a risk that the election process may cause delays to project implementation. The exact timing of the presidential elections is not currently known, although this is likely to be in 2016, the assumption that there will be some level of delay to project implementation has been built in to project design, with leeway for considerable flexibility around the timing of activities in the second and third years of project implementation. At the time of design, there is also the assumption that the elections will not result in significant political, institutional or socio-economic turmoil, however, the project management team should monitor the political situation closely and develop a risk management strategy if there is any indication that the election process may result in medium or high risk to project implementation. The project has also been designed on the assumption that 'political will' to support climate change adaptation in the agriculture remains under the new government, and that the new government will continue to follow the national Poverty Reduction and Growth Strategy (PRGS) and continue to honour international treaties and conventions.

The Constitution of the Union of Comoros divides the responsibilities of the Union and those of the autonomous islands. The islands have exclusive responsibilities for certain issues while others are shared by both the Assembly of the Union and the Assemblies of the islands. There is however reported to be a lack of clarity on these shared responsibilities and this can lead to conflicts of interpretation between the islands and between an island and the Union government. The areas of shared responsibilities are: interior security, education, health, water and energy, postal and telecommunication service, transportation, navigation and meteorology, environment, agriculture, fisheries, craft, tourism, and legislation. The central structure of the Union and those of the autonomous islands is complex, and this can result in a lengthy process for the development and adoption of new laws and resolution of conflicts. The potential for conflicts between the islands and the complexity of the overall system is a risk to efficient project implementation. This risk can be mitigated by the establishment of strong local ownership of project outcomes and activities on each island, during project implementation. The project has been designed to support existing systems and particularly to align with the framework of the PRGS and the NAPA. The focus is on building the capacity of relevant institutions on each island, and at the national level, to carry out roles that they are mandated to do, and to support different institutions to work together to achieve results more effectively. This implementation approach should significantly reduce the risk of conflict, the project is not aiming to design new

rules or laws, but rather to support and strengthen existing strategic frameworks. By working to establish effective stakeholder involvement and ownership on each island, particularly by the Direction of Agriculture within each Island Production and Environment Commission, and at project sites by CRDE, the project team will ensure that these key institutions establish strong ownership of project outcomes and activities, and have increased capacity to achieve outcomes. This in turn will work to support the sustainability of project impacts. The project manager and CTA should ensure that adequate time and resources are spent ensuring effective stakeholder involvement on each island and at each project site in order to establish strong ownership of project activities and results with key stakeholder agencies.

There is a potential risk that individuals sent for international training under the project do not return to work in key institutions in the Union of Comoros and that project support does not therefore contribute to build capacity within key institutions. This risk will be minimised by the fact that responsible institutions employing those staff have guaranteed to ensure that all individuals sent on international training courses are long term staff (of CMS, CRDE) who have signed long term contractual agreements with those agencies. There is also a risk that those trained under the project, subsequently use their new expertise to set up as independent consultants within the range of international development projects being supported in the Union of Comoros, rather than staying as core members of those national institutions. The project approach has reduced this risk by a) ensuring that staff trained overseas have signed long term contracts with the institutions for whom they work and that training is awarded to those that guarantee to remain in the institutions for at least 5 years following the training course, and to train others within the institution and b) by focusing overall project support on building institutional capacity within key pubic and private sector institutions, NGOs and CBOs and on training of trainers within those organisations. Project design is focussed on building sustainable institutional capacity and has not channelling the majority of support through national consultants as is often the case in 'development projects'. Lessons learnt from other projects have shown that projects which include a plethora of national consultancy jobs can reduce sustainable impact in the long run, by creating incentives for skilled staff to leave national insitutions and jump from one consultancy job to another within donor funded projects, leaving key national institutions without the skilled staff they need to operate effectively.

Risk management strategies to ensure that equipment provided under the project will be maintained during and following the end of the project have been included in the project strategy: prior to purchase of any equipment, the project management team / UNDP CO will ensure that: a) adequate budget provisions are allocated by the national agency responsible for the equipment to support operation and maintenance of equipment each year (including after EOP) and b) clear roles and responsibilities for operating, maintaining and ensuring the safety of equipment are established. This is particularly important within Outcome 2 where significant equipment will be provided under the project to establish an agro-meteorological system. Also within Outcome 3 where significant equipment will be provided to support 'greener', more climate change resilient value chains. The risk of theft or damage to equipment provided under the project will be minimised by ensuring that responsibility is allocated for all equipment and effective guardianship/surveillance systems are in place.

There is a risk that current low capacity amongst key agriculture sector support agencies limits the extent to which the project has an impact in strengthening climate change adaptation capacity in the agriculture sector in the Union of Comoros. In particular CRDE are newly formed and their financial & technical sustainability is as yet unknown. In order to reduce the potential impact of the low level of capacity of national institutions and local experts, the project implementation approach relies on support from a range of international experts; the support role of these experts is clearly targeted at building local capacity, through training (and training of trainers) within local institutions, the development of guidelines and information systems, and support to stakeholder groups to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate climate change adaptation tools and techniques (learning through doing). Each international expert's role will be clearly targeted at building the capacity of key agriculture sector institutions at national, island and local levels, so that by the end of the project these institutions will have the capacity to continue to support climate change in the agriculture sector independently (of the project), and to replicate project approaches trialled at pilot sites, to other areas. Through international experts and the provision of equipment, the project will support local agricultural agencies to develop knowledge, systems, tools and techniques to support CC adaptation in the agriculture sector. The implementation approach supports partnerships between different agencies, so that they can work together to maximize use of different skill bases and resources. At pilot sites key stakeholder groups will be supported to develop climate change adaptation management plans (CCAMP) to guide

the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of climate change adaptation initiatives in the agriculture sector, during and following the project. The project will work closely with baseline and partner initiatives at national and local levels which are also supporting capacity building in other related areas; the overall result being to increase institutional capacity without overburdening organisations. Staff from CRS and CRDE will additionally receive support from the project to undertake overseas training that will significantly build their capacity to lead the Union of Comoros in achieving climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector.

There is currently no agro-meteorological capacity / service in the Union of Comoros and there is a risk that this may limit the extent to which a functional agro-meteorological service can be established in 4 years. The project aims to support the Union of Comoros to strengthen existing meteorological capacity to establish basic agro-meteorological capacity under Outcome 2. This Outcome has been designed based on an assessment of current capacity and of opportunities to strengthen that capacity to support the Union of Comoros to establish a basic, functional agro-meteorological system that the country can then gradually develop and strengthen. Capacity exists in meteorology and for the operation and maintenance of equipment. There is also a strong commitment within CMS to establishment of agro-meteorological capacity, which is a as yet unrealised core part of its mandate as an organisation. GEF LDCF support will provide CMS with external, international expertise through: a) a long term advisor who will gradually build capacity and guide establishment of an agro-meteorological service; b) Training for CMS staff overseas to establish local expertise in agro-meteorology; c) Establishing / strengthening links with international facilities, including researching the opportunity for the Union of Comoros to receive ongoing support for agro-meteorology through south-south co-operation with a French speaking nation such as Morocco; d) Provision of technical equipment & systems, and ensuring that capacity has been established to maintain and operate these systems during and following the end of the project.

Assumptions

The PRGS revision process and development of the new 2015-2019 PRGS Action Plan is scheduled to take place in 2014 and the scheduling of activities under the project, to support the integration of agricultural climate change adaptation mechanisms, indicators and targets in the new PRGS Action Plan, has been scheduled to align with national processes. This is a key opportunity for project support, and the assumption has been made that the project will be cleared and initiated in time to enable support to national strategic review and revision processes. Support under Outcome 1 has been designed to align with these key national processes. The project's MTE will be held after the revision of the PRGS and should review whether any changes need to be made to project activities to support the new PRGS Action Plan.

Support for inter-sectoral and inter-island management of climate change risks to agricultural production systems in the Union of Comoros is currently based on the assumption that national and island level sustainable development and/or climate change adaptation committees will be established as is planned, and that these will become operational during the life of the project. If they are not established, the project will need to place increased emphasis on other mechanisms (consultation, workshops, support for integrated planning and monitoring frameworks) which support and encourage effective inter-sectoral and inter-island coordination and partnership in support of climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector.

Project design has also been based on the assumption that UNDP Country Office will effectively and actively support project implementation in line with functions outlined in the Delegation of Authority by UNDP-GEF, on time, and with due diligence and transparency, according UNDP and GEF rules and regulations. Project design has been based on the assumption that UNDP will effectively provide information, support and oversight to the project management team and contracted specialists, will effectively communicate with the project team and specialists, and effectively support monitoring and evaluation, as outlined in this project design document. It also assumes that UNDP will effectively collaborate with and support the implementing partner DNSAE, and other key national stakeholder organisations, baseline and partner initiatives.

GEF LCDF projects are designed to build on the existing 'baseline' in order to catalyse climate change adaptation. This project is no exception in its support to strengthen national capacity for increased resilience to climate change in the agriculture sector. Achievement of project results is therefore based on the assumption that baseline and partner initiatives will be effectively implemented and will work synergistically with the CRCCA project. In the Union of Comoros, public finances are characterized by a chronic budget deficit. Over recent years imports have continued to increase, worsening the trade balance. Weak internal resources are buffered mainly by official development

assistance from international agencies on the one hand, and private transfers from the Comorians living overseas, (estimated at about 20 billion KMF/ year), on the other. The importance of establishing effective operational partnerships with donor funded baseline projects has been built in to the implementation strategy. A key risk management mechanism that has been built in to design of the project, is the strong focus placed on the 'sustainability' of capacity building support. The project will work in direct partnership with national institutions in order to strengthen capacity for climate change adaptation within the framework of existing strategies, institutional mandates and the resources available to those institutions. A training of trainers and learning through doing approach will ensure that members of beneficiary institutions will continue to be able to support climate change adaptation following the end of the project, with minimal requirement for increased public sector finances.

A.7. Coordination with other relevant GEF financed initiatives

The main GEF financed initiative currently being implemented in the Union of Comoros is the project for capacity building in water resources management towards adaptation to climate change (ACCE). The Goal of this GEF LDCF Full-Size project is to adapt water resource management in the Union of Comoros to climate change. The project Objective is 'to reduce the risk of climate change on lives and livelihoods from impacts on water resources in Comoros'. The project is working on the three islands of the Union of Comoros to achieve the following three Outcomes

1: Institutions at a national (i.e. Ma-Mwe and ANACM) & community (i.e. UCEA and UCEM) level strengthened to integrate climate change information into water resources management.

2: Water supply and water quality improved for selected pilot communities to combat impacts of climate change.

3: Awareness and knowledge of adaptation good practice increased for continued process of policy review and development.

The CRCCA project will build on the awareness raising, training and infrastructure support provided through the ACCE project to improve irrigation and climate change resilient use of water resources in agricultural systems, at the six project sites, thereby further increasing beneficial impacts on vulnerable communities' livelihoods. The CRCCA and ACCE project teams and partners will work closely together to achieve project Outcomes. Capacity building support under the CRCCA project will enable CRDE and farming communities to more effectively and efficiently manage water resources and to use technologies and farming strategies that will decrease climate change related risks.

Outcome 2 of the CRCCA project which establishes agro-meteorological capacity in the Union of Comoros, builds on and works directly with key outputs of the ACCE project. The CRCCA project will provide additional resources to complement the existing activities under the ACCE project in order to support CMS to produce climate and meteorological information on adverse weather events and climate risks for the agricultural sector. The ACCE project is supporting the installation of automatic weather stations (AWS) and related hardware and software and for water resource management in a number of areas; the CRCCA project will provide additional AWS, hardware and software to further increase CMS capacity and to establish a functional agro-meteorological system in the Union of Comoros. CMS currently only works with CRDE in the collection of rainfall data, on each of the three islands. With the support of the CRCCA project, CMS will work closely with Rural Economic Development Centers (CRDE) at each of the six project sites to gain a clearer understanding of farmers information needs and of the most effective means of communicating information. A training-of-trainers (ToT) approach will build capacity within CRDE to support farmers in the use of climate and weather forecast information to plan and manage their agricultural activities

Five pilot sites have been selected in the framework of the ACCE component "improvement of water supply and water quality, with regard to adaptation to climate change". The pilot sites (Bandasamlini - Sangani and Diboini in Grande Comore, Mbatse-Hoani in Moheli, Lingoni-Pomoni and Nioumakele Bas in Anjouan) are among the pilot sites also identified for the CRCCA project. Both projects will work together to increase the resilience of these vulnerable communities to Climate Change.

The CRCCA project will also build on the achievements of and initiatives supported through the GEF Small Grants Facility which is supporting sustainable development at a number of project sites and will continue to support projects throughout 2014.

B. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NOT ADDRESSED AT PIF STAGE:

B.1 Describe how the stakeholders will be engaged in project implementation.

Project document Section 2, Part C outlines the project implementation strategy in detail, and the engagement of key stakeholder groups in project implementation under each Output. Annex 7 provides further detailed information on the roles and responsibilities of each key stakeholder group in project implementation.

Project document Section 2 Part B outlines the core principles of project design and implementation and stresses the importance of a participatory, consultative, gender sensitive approach that establishes strong ownership of all project activities and outputs and builds capacity for climate change adaptation in key stakehoder organisations to ensure a sustainable impact following the end of the project (EOP).

GEF LDCF funds will provide support to key agricultural organisations and vulnerable farming communities in the Union of Comoros in order to build their capacity for climate change adaptation through a participatory, consultative, gender sensitive approach.

Implementation of project activities will be undertaken by national organisations, the lead Implementing Partner is the MPEEIA DNSAE. Under Outcome 3 project activities will be implemented at project sites through partnerships between local agricultural and environmental support organisations / associations and vulnerable farming communities. GEF LDCF funds will be used to provide technical support and training to key agricultural and environmental support organisations at national, island and local levels and to support these key stakeholder organisations to provide direct assistance and training to vulnerable farming communities in order to establish capacity for effective climate change adaptation at each project site; a strong emphais in the project implementation approach is placed on supporting key stakeholder groups to 'learn through doing' through a fully participatory, gender sensistive approach. Training, including 'training of trainers' within key agricultural support organisations will be provided through the project in a range of priority areas to ensure that key organisations have the capacity to continue to maintain capacity and to train trainers following EOP. Support to farming communities will be delivered through farmer field schools, demonstration and pilot plots and through direct on-farm support to address priority issues for vulnerable communities, including the establishment of water control infrastructures, irrigation systems, imporved agricultural input supply and improved facilities for climate change adaptation within local extension support organisations.

The project implementation approach places a strong emphasis on stengthening partnerships between key stakeholder groups to support integrated, resource and cost efficient systems for climate change adaptation.

The implementation approach involves all key stakeholder groups in the design and implementation of project activities ensuring that relevant national, island, district and community organisations have strong 'ownership' of all project outputs, including strategic plans, systems, tools and techniques and that they have a sound understanding of the importance of climate change adaptation, and the skills and tools to engage actively in project implementation and to continue to work together to achieve national and local strategic climate change adaptation targets, following the end of project.

The project's participatory, consultative approach enables the project team and partners to develop approaches, systems, tools and techniques that meet stakeholders needs and align with and strengthen national, island and local level strategies and plans. A strong focus is placed on achieving gender equality and on effective engagement of

women in project planning, implementation and monitoring.

All key stakeholder groups and agencies are represented within the Project Board & Island Technical Committees. Please refer to Section 2 Part D for a description of project management and execution arrangements and for a descripton of the roles of the national Project Board and Island Technical Committees. TOR for the national Project Board and Island Technical Committees are provided in Annex 9 to the project document. The project will support each island to establish Island Technical Committees (ITC) whose role will be to provide advice on project implementation on each island. ITC will be established over the course of the project as permanent advisory groups supporting climate change adapataion in the agriculture sector on each island following EOP; ITC will therefore continue to guide the Union of Comoros in achieving island level climate change adaptation targets for the agriculture sector.

The implementation of project support at each of the project sites through partnerships between CRDE, NGOs, CBOs public and private sector organisations, led by CRDE works to establish a a partnership framework for climate change adaptation that will also continue to sustain climate change adaptation approaches at each project site following EOP and that will provide pilots for replication to other areas.

Outcome 1 stengthens the strategic framework for climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector, supporting the national PRGS revision process and the establishment of effective approaches and targets for climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector within the new 2015 to 2019 PRGS Action Plan. It also strengthens key agricultural and environmental institutions capacity to implement that strategic framework, through an integrated partnership based approache between sectors and between islands, in order to achieve climate change adaptation targets. The project team will use a highly consultative approach to support key stakeholder institutions and national teams in their strategic planning processes.

Outcome 2 will be implemented through Comoros' Meteorological Service and will esablish a basic national agro-meteorological system for the Union of Comoros, building capacity to ensure sustainability following EOP.

Here again the consultative, participatory approach ensures that the information systems developed to support farmers will meet their needs and will be deliviered through a system, and in a format, that is easily accessible to them, and can be easily maintained and developed by ANACM CMS following EOP.

Outcome 3 will pilot a series of climate change adaptation approaches at six highly vulnerable project sites, activities will be implemented through partnerships between the key stakeholder organisations at these sites to address farmers priority climate change adaptation needs. GEF LDCF funds will be used to build the capacity of local stakeholder organisations and of farming communities for effective climate change adapatation within agricultural systems as described in the project document under Section 2, part C.

The project will establish partnerships with a number of baseline initiatives, supporting the 'additionality' of climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector to these initiatives. Please refer to project document Section 2: Project Strategy, Part A4: Establishing Partnerships and Achieving 'Additionality' to key baseline projects and initiatives for further details. And to project document Section 2 part A5 for further details of how the project will establish synergies with regional and international initiatives.

B.2 Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the Project at the national and local levels, including consideration of gender dimensions, and how these will support the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund/NPIF) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF):

The project ‘Enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change in the agriculture sector in Comoros’ (CRCCA) delivers direct adaptation benefits to the Union of Comoros agriculture sector at national, island and

local levels. Project Document Section 2, Part C describes the socio-economic benefits that will be delivered by the project at national, island and local levels under each Outcome, in detail.

Agriculture is a cornerstone of the Comorian economy and for national food security. Women are responsible for 70-80% of household production. Eighty percent of crops are used for subsistence and for sale in local markets. On average households support seven people or more on one to two hectares of land. Despite this, local food production covers only 49% of consumed food. The agriculture sector is also important to the national economy, contributing 44.7% to GDP and generating 90% of export revenue, the latter mainly through the production of vanilla, ylang ylang and cloves. Potentially cultivable space is almost fully utilized and is highly degraded; there is strong competition for the available land, which generates conflicts between communities. More than 57%of arable land is considered degraded. The low productivity of agricultural land and shortage of land is also increasingly leading to the penetration of agriculture in to forested areas. Forests are disappearing at a rate of 400 ha per year Climate change impacts on the agriculture sector are siginificant in the Union of Comoros and exacerbate the vulnerability of the rural poor. Low agricultural productivity is linked to loss of top soil, ineffective irrigation and poor farm management, which in turn is linked to the low technical capacity of producers, the lack of any agro-meteorological information or climate forecasting, a lack of knowledge and tools, unsustainable farming techniques, low levels of investment and a lack of awareness of climate change risks and of techniques to reduce vulnerability.

The CRCCA project will build adaptive capacity and access to information and adaptation technologies in one of the sectors most vulnerable to climate change, this will have the associated impact of increasing the sustainability of farming systems, supporting more sustainable natural resource management and contributing to improve production levels and therefore to reduce food insecurity and increase revenues from agriculture.

The CRCCA project builds on recent socio-economic climate change and agriculture sector data and analysis, works with current baseline initiatives and aligns with relevant strategies and strategic planning and evaluative processes. GEF LDCF funds will be used to strengthen the strategic framework and to build the capacity of key agricultural support institutions and vulnerable farming communities in order to increase the resilience of agricultural production systems to climate change and climate variability, in each of the three islands in the Union of Comoros. This will support increased food security, poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability at project sites and support Comoros to replicate benefits nationally both through the strengthened national strategic framework and through replication of beneficial impacts achieved at the project sites. The project will also support the Union of Comoros to establish important links to regional and continental networks, helping to reduce negative socio-economic impacts of its insular situation.

National level support will deliver long term socio-economic benefits by strengthening climate change adaptation targets and approaches within the national Poverty Reduction and Growth Strategy (PRGS) and 2015 to 2019 PRGS Action Plan and related agricultrue strategy. The capacity of key national agencies to achieve those targets will be built through an integrated, parthership based approach to climate change adaptation between sectors and islands, to support long term, resource efficient socio-economic benefits for the Union of Comoros (Outcome 1). The CRCCA project will establish a national agro-meteorological system (Outcome 2) that will provide critical climate data and forcasting information to vulnerable farming communities. 29 vulnerable communities at 6 project sites will be supported through the project to increase food security, improve income generation and to establish more sustainable, climate resilient agricultural production systems (Outcome 3). At each of these sites the project will establish a sustainable agricultural extension support system, providing climate change adaptation support to farmers. Detailed information on the types of socio-economic benefits that will be achieved for farmers and agricultural support organisations at project sites is described in the project document under Section 2, part C.

The project will work to demonstrate the social, economic and environmental benefits of climate change adaptation to farmers and to local and national agricultural and environmental organisations, and will build capacity for climate change adaptation at all levels. The increased awareness and capacity generated through Otucomes 1, 2 and 3 will enable the Union of Comoros to sustain positive social and environmental impacts following EOP and to replicate climate change adaptation approaches to other areas.

Social and Environmental Impact (SEI) assessment is fully integrated in to the project document. GEF LDCF funds will be used to support effective SEI related to all relevant project components as described in project document Section 2, Part C and to support effective ongoing monitoring of social and environmental impacts of the project;

GEF LDCF funds will also be used to build capacity amongst key organisations at national and local levels to ensure that they have the skills and tools to monitor social and environmental impacts following EOP and that social and environmental impact assessment has been incorporated as standard proceedure within all climate change adaptation initiatives in the agriculture sector.

Global benefits that will be delivered through the project include global sharing of information including tools and techniques and lessons learnt. The project team will share all project results and lessons learnt through international fora, including the regional agri-bio internet portal. The project will develop climate change adaptation guidelines for the agriculture sector that will be useful for other small island states, and for small scale farming systems globally. A short film will be produced highlighting case studies under the project and this again will be streamed on-line to enable international audiences to learn from project experience, through a high impact, visual format. Lessons learnt from the project will be written up in a publication at EOP, which will be published and streamed on-line ensuring that national and international audiences can build on and learn from the lessons of the CRCCA project.

The CRCCA project will be implemented at a highly opportunistic time, in that it coincides with the review of the PRGS and development of the 2015-2020 PRGS Action Plan. The project will support the Union of Comoros to establish a long term strategic framework that includes operational areas, targets and indicators which work to reduce the vulnerability of the agriculture sector to climate change. It will support key national institutions to implement that strengthened strategic framework, increasing institutional capacity on all three islands, towards achieving increased resilience of vulnerable farming communities to climate change and climate variability.

The project's implementation approach strongly supports the achievement of sustainable, positive, socio-economic and environmental impacts and is based on a number of key operational principles:

Achieving gender equality is a core project operating principle. Women are responsible for 70-80% of agricultural production activities and project targets under all three Outcomes specify that at least 30% of persons supported under the project must be women. Project implementation approaches will place a strong emphasis on achieving gender equality, ensuring effective participation by women in project activities, effective consideration of their development needs and concerns, and ongoing assessment of the different vulnerabilities of women and men to climate change. Active womens groups and associations exist at all project sites and the project will work with these groups to develop gender sensitive approaches to increase the resilience of women to climate change in the agriculture sector. Comoros' commitment to achieving gender equality is outlined in its Poverty Reduction and Growth Strategy (PRGS) and gender policy framework as well as within the United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2008-2012 (UNDAF-Comoros). Project design has placed a strong emphasis on ensuring effective consultation with men and women and on understanding the different agricultural development and climate change issues and concerns of men and women.

An effective participatory approach: A key focus of project impact is on capacity building and on establishing effective adaptation approaches, through the transfer of appropriate knowledge, tools and technologies. The project design process involved consultation with a wide range of stakeholder groups and participatory vulnerability assessments with farming communities. During project implementation the project team will support broad participation from all relevant stakeholders to ensure that implementation approaches are well targeted to meet stakeholders' needs and to establish strong ownership of project outcomes by national partners and beneficiaries. A strong emphasis will be placed on identifying the information and capacity building needs of key stakeholder groups in the design of all training activities and information products under the project. The inclusion of all of the three islands enables the development of climate change adaptation approaches that will be relevant across the different social, environmental and management contexts within the Union of Comoros. The participatory, decentralised approach to project implementation will help to ensure that each island, and region within that island, has ownership of the adaptation process. The emphasis placed on inter-sectoral and inter-island communication and integrated management will support the sharing of lessons learnt and collaboration. This is critical to support sustainability of project impact, a core principle and key consideration in project design.

Vulnerability assessment: Identification of the project's initial pilot sites was undertaken through a process of consultative vulnerability assessment. Details of this process and of the results are given in Annex 1. In summary, the process involved i) assessment of the vulnerability analyses completed in the NAPA and in subsequent mapping exercises under ACClimate project. Consultation at the CRCCA project initial stakeholder planning

workshop to assess whether the national assessment and identification of zones outlined in the NAPA remained valid. The selection of communities / areas was further refined through a vulnerability scoring process on each island. In depth consultation with these communities was then undertaken using participatory vulnerability assessment techniques. This process enabled the design team to select project sites on each island. The stakeholder validation workshop confirmed site selection. Consultative vulnerability assessments will continue to be used throughout project implementation, building on the approaches used in design. This will guide adaptation responses supported under the project and enable the project teams to assess project impact towards reduction of vulnerability at project sites. It will form a core part of the project's ongoing monitoring and evaluation of progress and impact.

Principles of adaptive management will be applied in implementation of the project. Regular assessment of the effectiveness of adaptation and capacity building mechanisms supported under the project will be undertaken as part of ongoing monitoring. The lessons learnt at the local level will feed back to inform the development of training programs and strategic approaches at the agency level. Sound monitoring and adaptive management are essential for achieving sustainable impact under the project.

Alignment with relevant national strategies and frameworks: the project has been designed to ensured close alignment with relevant national strategies and frameworks. Project managers will ensure that the project continues to support and align with core national strategies, policies and frameworks throughout implementation. Support for, and close alignment with, the Union of Comoros Poverty Alleviation and Growth Strategy (PRGS) ensures that project results work to support national poverty alleviation, food security and environmental sustainability priorities, and that strategic support to the agriculture lies within this overall national guiding framework.

Replicability: The development of climate change adaptation approaches, training programs and support to strengthen the strategic framework for climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector in the Union of Comoros has been designed on a principle of 'replicability'. This feeds in to the 'sustainability' principle outlined below. The project will not just deliver a 'one off' training package, but will ensure that capacity building at all levels works to establish sustainable systems that increase resilience to climate change in the agriculture sector. Replication will be promoted at national, island and local levels and dissemination of lessons learnt from the project will support learning at all of these levels, as well as regionally and internationally.

Ensuring that support provided under the project can be replicated following the end of the project is a key principle. Capacity building and training will enable institutions to more effectively carry out the tasks they are mandated to achieve; training packages will include 'training of trainers'; the project will support agricultural institutions to join international networks to ensure ongoing knowledge transfer and exchange; case studies and lessons learnt from the project will be clearly documented for use by future national and international initiatives; and the climate change adaptation approaches, tools and techniques implemented at local demonstration and pilot sites will enable vulnerable communities and CRDE to continue to replicate these systems following the end of the project. All of the above contribute to the replicability of project support mechanisms and hence to the sustainability of project outcomes.

Sustainability: Achieving sustainable impact has been a major consideration in the design of this project. All of the above principles work towards this end objective. Effective participatory, gender sensitive approaches and vulnerability assessments, ensure that project support is designed to meet beneficiaries' needs and that all key partners and beneficiaries have strong ownership of project outcomes. Adaptive management, through effective monitoring and evaluation, ensures that project implementation builds on ongoing assessment of project results impact and lessons learnt, as perceived by beneficiaries and partners, to enable fine tuning of activities and the implementation approach. Alignment with and support for key national strategies and plans ensures that the project operates within the framework of nationally agreed priorities towards long term objectives and targets.

There are different aspects of sustainability including institutional, socio-economic, and environmental. It is essential for the project management team to assess and monitor the likely sustainability of all aspects of project support during implementation, in order to ensure that sustainable outcomes are achieved. Capacity built for ongoing monitoring and evaluation by national institutions under the project helps to ensure that institutions are able to continue to monitor the effectiveness and sustainability of their actions following EOP, and to improve effectiveness. Achieving increased capacity to effectively reduce the vulnerability of agricultural production systems to climate change and climate variability requires an overriding focus on the sustainability of all areas of

project support. Capacity building and technology transfer under the project will only be 'effective' in the long term if it helps to establish sustainable systems, institutions and approaches. One crucial consideration here is that the 'solutions' and approaches introduced by the project must be appropriate to the financial and technical resources available in the long term. Co-financing commitments are an important indication of this and therefore of the likelihood of sustainable outcomes following EOP.

This project will learn from the lessons of previous projects and will ensure that all training and capacity building activities build the strength of institutions, communities and inter-institutional, inter-community and inter-island cooperation mechanisms. A lesson learnt from past initiatives is that projects should not use their substantial financial and human resources to introduce measures that are too expensive or too sophisticated to be maintained beyond the project life, given the resources that are likely to be available locally. .

Environmental sustainability is a core principle of project support, consistent with GEF Objectives; the project objective to increase capacity to reduce vulnerability to climate change in the agriculture sector will only be effective in the long term if the approaches developed under the project are environmentally sustainable. By increasing resilience to climate change in the agriculture sector, and increasing awareness of key issues and risks at all levels, the project will have a corresponding impact in strengthening the environmental sustainability of agricultural production systems.

B.3. Explain how cost-effectiveness is reflected in the project design:

The project builds on and partners with key baseline initiatives, aligns with national strategies, supports strategic review processes and focuses all Outcomes and Outputs on building the capacity of key agricultural support institutions, vulnerable farming communities and farmers associations / organisations to ensure that impacts are sustained following EOP. Project support is strategically targeted to address priority issues and achieve cost effective and sustainable impact: the consultative and participatory design and implementation approach ensures that project support meets key stakeholder needs and develops ownership of climate change adaptation approaches, tools and techniques, building sustainable capacity to meet those needs; close alignment with national and island strategies, plans and strategic process also supports sustainable impact (a key consideration in cost-effectiveness) by ensuring that strategic support for climate change adapatation in the agriculture sector will be maintained in the long term.

By working directly with and through key agricultural support agencies the project ensures that a) they have strong ownership of the solutions developed through the project; b) the project helps to build their understanding of and skills for climate change risk assessment and adaptation, c) works directly to 'train trainers' in the organisations directly engaged with vulnerable farming communities and d) directly builds capacity in agricultural support agencies and farmers associations (including womens associations). All external support engaged by the project is targeted at building the resources and skill base of local organisations, to ensure that at EOP key agricultural agencies and farming communities are able to replicate systems, tools and approaches, have the capacity to adapt farming systems to climate change and climate variability and can continue to build on the knowledge base which the project has achieved.

A strong emphasis is placed on integrated and adaptive management, drawing on issues highlighted in the NAPA and SNC. The Union of Comoros is a small island with very limited resources. In providing support for integrated and adaptive management the project will support the Union of Comoros to establish a strategic approach to climate change adaptation that achieves coordinated planning, monitoring and evaluation between sectors and between islands. This in turn will help to establish cost effectiveness both for the project and for the Union of Comoros in the long term.

The project builds on a number of important baseline initiatives which provide important co-financing for project implementation. It also forms strong partnerships with a number of initiatives that are not considered as part of co-financing. Effective partnership with baseline and partner initiatives is core to cost effectiveness in the CRCCA project. The project strategy works with and alongside ongoing development initiatives to catalyse support for climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector. In

addition, project management is encouraged to leverage additional co-financing where ever possible throughout the life of the project, and to actively participate in the design processes of new initiatives to ensure that these work to strengthen overall capacity for climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector in the Union of Comoros. Section 2 Parts A1 to A5 provide further detail and analysis of how the project builds on the exisiting baseline situation to achieve cost effectiveness and to support sustainability of project Outcomes.

C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M &E PLAN:

For the M&E Plan and Budget please refer to Part D 'Project Monitoring and Evaluation', and Section 2, Part I which outlines the Project's Logical Framework. An guideline Output level monitoring tool is also attached as Annex 19. This provides key output level indicators and targets and has been developed as a discussion and guidance document for the Project's inception workshop. Table 9 gives the budget for the M&E Plan.

PROJECT MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established UNDP/GEF procedures and will be led by the project management team and the UNDP Country Office in partnership with the National Project Director. The Logical Framework Matrix within this project document provides performance indicators and targets for project implementation along with their corresponding means of verification. The LDCF Adaptation Monitoring and Assessment Tool (AMAT) also provides important M&E indicators and will be completed at the mid-term evaluation and terminal evaluation through a consultative process. Annex 20 of this project document provides a guideline output level monitoring and evaluation tool and should be developed further with key stakeholders as part of the implementation, monitoring and evaluation plan at the inception workshop. The project document, AMAT, logical framework and associated indicators and targets, will form the basis on which the project's Monitoring and Evaluation system will be built, as part of the project implementation plan to be developed at the project’s inception workshop,

Key project executing organisations will be directly involved in monitoring and evaluating activities, outputs and outcomes, and all beneficiary and stakeholder groups will be consulted, using a gender sensitive approach. The monitoring process itself will serve as a learning and capacity building platform for the project’s main executing agencies. The project will also train key implementing partners in monitoring and evaluation tools and techniques including for social and environmental impact assessment. Principles of adaptive management will be applied in undertaking six monthly and annual reviews of the effectiveness of project implementation mechanisms. Other stakeholder agencies such as INRAPE, the University of Comoros and DNEF may be invited to participate in regular monitoring activities. Two key external independent evaluations will be commissioned, one at the mid term of the project, the other at the end of the project. Establishment of the project’s monitoring and evaluation process will involve the following steps:

Project Inception Phase

A Project Inception Workshop will be held during the first two months of project start. It will be conducted with the full project team, project director, key agencies involved in implementation at national and island levels, representatives of relevant government, NGO and community based organisations, co-financing partners, UNDP-CO and representation from the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit, as appropriate. It is important that all key local stakeholder agencies take part in the Inception Workshop to enable establishment of a common vision and ownership of the project execution strategy. This should include all CRDE, NGOs, farmers associations and baseline projects at proposed project sites. The Inception Workshop is crucial to building ownership for the project results and to plan the first year annual work plan.

The Inception Workshop will provide an opportunity for all parties to understand and clarify their roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project's decision-making and implementation structures, including reporting and communication lines, and conflict resolution mechanisms. The project's decision-making and implementation structures and the Terms of Reference for project staff, the Project Board and Island Technical Committees will be discussed, in order to clarify the responsibilities of each during the project's implementation phase.

An important focus of the Inception Workshop will be to reach agreement on the project implementation framework at each of the project sites under Outcome 3, and on the roles and responsibilities of the different project stakeholder groups at each site, through a series of 'organisational service agreements'. Service agreements at each site should clearly outline the targets and results to be achieved at each site, following the approach, results and targets outlined in this project document under Outcome 3, and within the logical framework. All key stakeholder organisations should be involved in achieving project results at each of the sites, as outlined in the approach proposed in this project document. It will be essential for organisations and baseline projects involved at each site to establish clear partnership agreements, outlining roles and responsibilities and a clear implementation framework and approach for achieving intended results at the inception workshop, and for the project to subsequently monitor implementation of these agreements and impact towards achieving results. Sustainable project results can not be achieved by one group alone- a key result of the CRCCA project under Outcome 3 will be the establishment of effective partnerships for climate change adaptation, between agricultural management and support organisations, and initiatives, at project sites. Closely linked to this is capacity building of these organisations and of farmers and community associations, to achieve sustainable climate change resilience in agricultural production systems at each site. The Inception Workshop will be an important vehicle through which the overall framework of partnership for project implementation will be established and at which agreements will be forged between CRDE, NGOs, CBOs, INRAPE, private sector groups and baseline/partner projects at each site. It will be an important forum for discussion and agreement on the organisational service agreements that specify these implementation partnerships between stakeholders at project sites, the project management team, DNSAE and UNDP. Implementation of project activities at project sites should not start until partnership agreements have been forged.

A key task of the Inception Workshop will also be the preparation of the project's first Annual Work Plan on the basis of the project's logframe matrix and the Project Document. Specific targets and progress indicators for the first year of implementation, together with their means of verification, will be developed and will form part of the Annual Work Plan. These should be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timebound (SMART) and should help the project team and partners to assess whether project implementation is proceeding at the intended pace and in the right direction to meet logframe targets and indicators. Targets and indicators for subsequent years will be defined annually as part of the internal evaluation and planning processes undertaken by the project team in consultation with all key project stakeholders.

The logical framework (logframe) will also be reviewed at the Inception Workshop. Progress and performance indicators will be fine tuned in consultation with key stakeholders and with support from UNDP-CO and assisted by the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit. All indicators must adhere to the SMART criteria. The inception workshop report will clearly outline any changes made and why these have been proposed. An Output and Activity Monitoring and Evaluation Plan will also be developed at the Inception Workshop.

The Inception Workshop will also: (i) enable discussion between project staff and all key project stakeholders (including organisations and baseline projects) with the UNDP-GEF 'expanded team' which will support the project during its implementation; (ii) detail the support services and complementary responsibilities of UNDP-CO and RCU staff vis à vis the project team; (iii) provide the opportunity for a detailed overview of UNDP-GEF reporting and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) requirements, with particular emphasis on the annual Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs) and related documentation, the Annual Project Report (APR), Tripartite Review Meetings, mid-term

and terminal project evaluations and the GEF LDCF Adaptation Monitoring and Assessment Tool (AMAT). The Inception Workshop will also provide an opportunity for UNDP to inform the project team and national counterparts and partners of project related budget reviews, planning and mandatory budget re-phasing. It will provide the basis on which the project team will develop an operational plan.

An Inception Workshop report is a key reference document and must be prepared and shared with participants to formalize various agreements and plans decided during the meeting.

Monitoring responsibilities and events

A detailed schedule of project review meetings will be developed by the project management team, in consultation with project implementation partners and stakeholder representatives. This will be incorporated in the Project Inception Report. Such a schedule will include: (i) tentative time frames for Tripartite Reviews, Steering Committee Meetings, Technical Committee meetings and (ii) project related Monitoring and Evaluation activities.

Day to day monitoring of implementation progress will be the responsibility of the Project Manager (NPM) based on the project's Annual Work Plan and its indicators, and the project document and logical framework. The NPM will inform UNDP CO, the Project Director and UNDP RCU of any delays or difficulties faced during implementation so that the appropriate support or corrective measures can be adopted in a timely and remedial fashion. They will also inform UNDP CO and RCU of any significant change of circumstance which impacts upon project rationale or approach. Measurement of Outcome indicators may require specific studies to be undertaken.

Quarterly Monitoring:

Progress made shall be monitored in the UNDP Enhanced Results Based Managment Platform.

Based on the initial risk analysis submitted, the risk log shall be regularly updated in ATLAS. Risks become critical when the impact and probability are high. Note that for UNDP GEF projects, all financial risks associated with financial instruments such as revolving funds, microfinance schemes, or capitalization of ESCOs are automatically classified as critical on the basis of their innovative nature (high impact and uncertainty due to no previous experience justifies classification as critical).

Based on the information recorded in Atlas, a Project Progress Reports (PPR) can be generated in the Executive Snapshot.

Other ATLAS logs can be used to monitor issues, lessons learned etc... The use of these functions is a key indicator in the UNDP Executive Balanced Scorecard.

Annual monitoring:

Annual Project Review/Project Implementation Reports (APR/PIR): This key report is prepared to monitor progress made since project start and in particular for the previous reporting period (30 June to 1 July). The APR/PIR combines both UNDP and GEF reporting requirements. The APR/PIR includes, but is not limited to, reporting on the following:

Progress made toward project objective and project outcomes - each with indicators, baseline data and end-of-project targets (cumulative)

Project outputs delivered per project outcome (annual).

Lesson learned/good practice.

AWP and other expenditure reports

Risk and adaptive management

ATLAS QPR

Portfolio level indicators (i.e. GEF focal area tracking tools) are used by most focal areas on an annual basis as well.

Annual Audits will also be undertaken by the Project Manager, with support from UNDP CO, the CTA and Project Director. These will assess levels of project expenditure and co-financing contributions over the year to make sure that these are on track.

Tripartite Review (TPR) is the highest policy-level meeting of the parties directly involved in the implementation of a project. It will be held with the Project Board (PB) .The project will be subject to Tripartite Review at least once every year. The first such meeting will be held within the first twelve months of the start of project implementation. The Project Manager will prepare an Annual Project Report (APR), with support from the Chief Technical Advisor and will submit it to UNDP-CO, UNDP-GEF RCU and subsequently to the PB at least two weeks prior to the TPR for review and comments. APR/PIR will be used as one of the basic documents for discussions in the TPR meeting. The project manger will present the APR/PIR to the TPR, highlighting policy issues and recommendations. Separate reviews of each project component may also be conducted if necessary. The TPR has the authority to suspend disbursement of funds if project performance benchmarks are not met. Benchmarks will be developed at the Inception Workshop, based on the logframe, project implementation plan, proposed delivery rates, and processes for assessing achievement of outputs.

Periodic Monitoring through site visits:

UNDP CO and the UNDP RCU will conduct visits to project sites based on the agreed schedule in the project's Inception Report/Annual Work Plan to assess first hand project progress. Other members of the Project Board may also join these visits. A Field Visit Report/BTOR will be prepared by the CO and UNDP RCU and will be circulated no less than one month after the visit to the project team and Project Board members.

Mid-term:

The project will undergo an independent Mid-Term Evaluation at the mid-point of project implementation (insert date). The Mid-Term Evaluation will determine progress being made toward the achievement of outcomes and will identify course correction if needed. It will focus on the effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation; will highlight issues requiring decisions and actions; and will present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. Findings of this review will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project's term. The organization, terms of reference and timing of the mid-term evaluation will be decided after consultation between the parties to the project document. The Terms of Reference for this Mid-term evaluation will be prepared by the UNDP CO based on guidance from the Regional Coordinating Unit and UNDP-GEF. The management response and the evaluation will be uploaded to UNDP corporate systems, in particular the UNDP Evaluation Office Evaluation Resource Center (ERC). The relevant GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools will also be completed during the mid-term evaluation cycle.

End of Project:

An independent Final Evaluation will take place three months prior to the final Project Board meeting and will be undertaken in accordance with UNDP and GEF guidance. The final evaluation will focus on the delivery of the project's results as initially planned (and as corrected after the mid-term evaluation, if any such correction took place).

The final evaluation will look at impact and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental benefits/goals. The Terms of Reference for this evaluation will be prepared by the UNDP CO based on guidance from the Regional Coordinating Unit and UNDP-GEF.

The Terminal Evaluation should also provide recommendations for follow-up activities and requires a management response which should be uploaded to PIMS and to the UNDP Evaluation Office Evaluation Resource Centre (ERC). The relevant GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools will also be completed during the final evaluation.

The terminal tripartite review (TTR) is held in the last month of project operations. The project manager is responsible for preparing the Terminal Report (TR) with support from the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) and Argo-meteorology Advisor (AMA) and in close consultation with the Project Director. The TR will be submitted to UNDP-CO, UNDP GEF's Regional Coordinating Unit and subsequently to the Project Board (PB). It shall be prepared in draft at least two months in advance of the TTR meeting in order to allow for full review of the document, and will serve as the basis for discussions in the TTR. The terminal tripartite review considers the implementation of the project as a whole, paying particular attention to whether the LDCF GEF project has achieved its stated Objective, Outcomes and Outputs and has contributed to the broader development goal. The TTR meeting decides whether any actions are still necessary to achieve the project Objective, particularly in relation to the sustainability of project results. It acts as a vehicle through which lessons learnt can be captured to feed into other projects under implementation or formulation.

Project Monitoring Reports

The Project Manager, with the support of the Chief Technical Advisor, and Agro-meteorological Advisor (AMA), and in conjunction with the UNDP-GEF CO, RCU and Project Director will be responsible for the preparation and submission of the following reports that form part of the monitoring process. Items (a) through (f) are mandatory and strictly related to monitoring, while (g) through (h) have a broader function and the frequency and nature of these reports is to be defined and agreed throughout implementation.

a) Inception Report

A Project Inception Report will be prepared immediately following the Inception Workshop, to be submitted within 3 months of the project start-up date. It will include a detailed First Year/ Annual Work Plan divided in quarterly time-frames, detailing the activities and progress indicators that will guide implementation during the first year of the project. Alongside key activities, this Work Plan will include the dates of specific field visits by the UNDP-CO and/or the Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU), as well as time-frames for meetings of the project's decision making structures. The Report will also include a detailed project budget for the first full year of implementation, prepared on the basis of the Annual Work Plan. This will include monitoring and evaluation activities to enable effective measurement of project performance during the targeted 12 months time-frame.

The Inception Report will include a more detailed narrative on the institutional roles, responsibilities, coordinating actions and feedback mechanisms of project related partners, as agreed in the Inception Workshop. It will outline progress to date on project establishment and start-up activities. It will also include an update of any changed external conditions that may effect (positive or negative) project implementation or that change the project baseline. It will highlight any new opportunities for project partnership / co-financing and propose an approach to ensure that the project works to maximise partnership opportunities. It will also confirm the status of risks and assumptions. As an annex to the Inception Report, the project manager will prepare a draft Reports List, detailing the technical reports that are expected to be prepared during the course of the Project, and tentative due dates. When finalized, the Inception Report will be circulated to UNDP Country Office and to the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit, who will review it, and provide comments within two weeks. The report will then be circulated to all key project executing and stakeholder organisations who will be given a period of one calendar month in which to respond with comments or queries.

b) Annual Project Report (APR)

The Annual Project Report (APR) is a UNDP requirement and part of central oversight, monitoring and project management. It is a self-assessment report by project management to UNDP CO and provides input to the country office reporting process, as well as forming a key input to the Tripartite Project Review (TPR). An APR will be prepared by the project manager supported by the CTA and AMA, on an annual basis, to reflect progress achieved in meeting the project's Annual Work Plan. The APR also assesses overall project performance towards achieving Outcomes through Outputs, to achieve intended GEF LDCF project 'additionality' to the baseline, supporting climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector. The APR will be submitted to PB / TPR members at least two weeks prior to the TPR meeting.

The format of the APR is flexible but should include the following:

An analysis of project performance over the reporting period, including activities undertaken, results achieved and information on the status of progress towards achieving Outputs and Outcomes.

The stakeholder groups involved in the project during the year and how they were involved.

Identification of key beneficiary groups and how they benefited, as well as assessment of any unintentional negative impacts of the project.

The constraints experienced in progress towards results and the reasons for these. Identification of the three major constraints to achievement of results. Remedial action proposed to overcome these constraints in the next year's work plan.

The status of risks and assumptions identified in the Project Document and identification of any new risks or assumptions.

Analysis of any change of circumstance / change to the project baseline that may affect (positive or negative) project implementation.

The identification of new opportunities for project partnership or co-financing and a proposed approach to ensure that the project works to maximise partnership opportunities.

An overall assessment of the levels and types of expenditure in relation to that outlined in the Project Document / budget and in the Annual Work Plan / budget and the reasons for any derivations from budget levels and types planned. Remedial action proposed in the next year's work plan. AWP, CAE and other expenditure reports (ERP generated).

As assessment of the level of co-financing committed to the project during the year, indicating levels of co-financing and agency / organisation and comparison with levels committed to the project.

Lessons learnt. How the project will build on successes and learn from failures.

An assessment of the likelihood of sustainability of project results and how the project implementation approach is working to achieve sustainable results. Any changes proposed to the project approach, to increase the likelihood of sustainable impact.

Clear recommendations for future project orientation.

c) Project Implementation Review (PIR)

The Project Implementation Review (PIR) is an annual monitoring process mandated by the GEF. It is an important management and monitoring tool for project managers. Once the project has been under implementation for a year, a Project Implementation Review report must be completed by the UNDP CO together with the project management team. The PIR should however be agreed upon by the project management team, the executing agency (DNSA), UNDP CO, UNDP RCU and the PB. It should be discussed at the PB / Tripartite Review TPR meeting.

PIRs are collected, reviewed and analyzed by the RCU who provide comments and ensures that they have been filled in correctly. They are then sent to the focal area clusters at the UNDP/GEF headquarters. The focal area clusters supported by the UNDP/GEF M&E Unit analyse the PIRs by focal area, theme and region for common issues/results and lessons. The focal area PIRs are then discussed in the GEF Interagency Focal Area Task Forces in or around November each year and consolidated reports by focal area are collated by the GEF Independent M&E Unit based on the Task Force findings. In light of the similarities in content of both APR and PIR, UNDP/GEF has prepared a harmonized format for reference.

d) Quarterly Progress Reports

Short reports outlining main updates in project progress and key issues/constraints encountered will be provided quarterly by the project manager, in consultation with the CTA, AMA, project director and relevant stakeholders. It will then be sent to the local UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF RCU. Quarterly reports form the basis for discussions between UNDP CO and the project director.

e) Periodic Thematic Reports

As and when called for by UNDP, UNDP-GEF RCU, the Project Board, or Project Director, the project team will prepare Specific Thematic Reports, focusing on specific issues or areas of activity. The request for a Thematic Report will be provided to the project team in written form by UNDP and will clearly state the issue or activities that need to be reported on. These reports can be used as a form of lessons learnt exercise, for specific oversight in key areas, or as troubleshooting exercises to evaluate and overcome obstacles and difficulties encountered. UNDP is requested to minimize its requests for Thematic Reports, and when such are necessary will allow reasonable timeframes for their preparation by the project team.

f) Project Terminal Report

During the last three months of the project, prior to the Terminal Evaluation (TE) the project team will prepare the Project Terminal Report. This comprehensive report will:

Summarize all activity areas and associated Outputs implemented by the Project, the results achieved, or not achieved, in relation to those intended in the Project Document (reporting against Output and Outcome statements, targets and indicators);

Any changes made to project implementation following the mid term evaluation, why these changes were made and whether proposed results were achieved;

The implementing agencies, key project stakeholders and the project beneficiaries - how they were involved and what impact the project has had for them;

How the project worked in synergy with associated baseline activities;

Lessons learnt;

Project implementation approach structures and systems;

The likelihood of sustainable impact from project impacts and analysis of any potential risks to sustainability.

An assessment of project expenditure per Output and per Outcome over the life of the project, based on the annual audits prepared as part of annual project reports (APR). Any changes in levels and types of expenditure in comparison to those proposed in the Project Document and in associated Annual work plans will be fully explained.

An assessment of the level of co-financing committed to the project, over the life of the project, indicating levels of co-financing and agency / organisation.

Any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability and replicability of Project results prior to the end of the project, and by national partners, following the end of the Project.

g) Technical Reports (project specific)

Technical Reports are detailed documents covering specific areas of analysis within the project. As part of the Inception Report, the project team will prepare a draft Reports List, detailing the technical reports planned during the course of the Project, and tentative due dates. Where necessary this Reports List will be revised and updated, and included in subsequent APRs. Technical Reports are often prepared by external consultants and should be comprehensive, specialized analyses of clearly defined areas of research or analysis within the framework of the project. These technical reports will represent, as appropriate, the project's substantive contribution to the information and knowledge base, and may be an important part of the project's overall contribution to developing tools, approaches, best practice and lessons learnt at local, national and international levels.

h) Project Publications (project specific)

Project Publications whether written or visual can form an important mechanism though which the project disseminates results and achieves impact. 'Publications' may be scientific, technical or informational documents, journalistic articles, multimedia publications, training or documentary films, and radio programmes. Publications may be summaries or compilations. The project management team will determine the most appropriate mechanisms for publication and dissemination, based on the Project Document, intended impact and stakeholder consultations. Key considerations will be intended beneficiaries/audience, their levels of literacy, their information needs and the likely impact of publications in meeting those needs.

Learning and knowledge sharing:

Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention zone 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 project implementation though lessons learned. The project will identify, analyze, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects. There will be a two-way flow of information between this project and other projects of a similar focus.

Audit

The project will be audited in accordance with UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable audit policies.

Communications and visibility requirements:

Full compliance is required with UNDP's Branding Guidelines. These can be accessed at http://intra.undp.org/coa/branding.shtml, and specific guidelines on UNDP logo use can be accessed at:

http://intra.undp.org/branding/useOfLogo.html. Amongst other things, these guidelines describe when and how the UNDP logo needs to be used, as well as how the logos of donors to UNDP projects needs to be used. For the avoidance of any doubt, when logo use is required, the UNDP logo needs to be used alongside the GEF logo. The GEF logo can be accessed at: http://www.thegef.org/gef/GEF_logo. The UNDP logo can be accessed at http://intra.undp.org/coa/branding.shtml.

Full compliance is also required with the GEF's Communication and Visibility Guidelines (the "GEF Guidelines"). The GEF Guidelines can be accessed at: http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/C.40.08_Branding_the_GEF%20final_0.pdf. Amongst other things, the GEF Guidelines describe when and how the GEF logo needs to be used in project publications, vehicles, supplies and other project equipment. The GEF Guidelines also describe other GEF promotional requirements regarding press releases, press conferences, press visits, visits by Government officials, productions and other promotional items. Where other agencies and project partners have provided support through co-financing, their branding policies and requirements should be similarly applied.

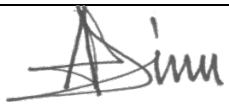
PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

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

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE *(MM/dd/yyyy)*
Ali Mohamed Soilihi,	Permanent Secretary, GEF Operational Focal Point	vice Presidency in charge of the ministry of Production, Environment, Energy, Industry and Handcraft	04/13/2012

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF criteria for CEO endorsement/approval of project.

Agency Coordinator, Agency Name	Signature	Date *(Month, day, year)*	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Adriana Dinu, Officer-in-Charge, and Deputy Executive Coordinator, UNDP/GEF		Nov 21, 2013	Henry Rene Diouf UNDP/GEF Regional Technical Advisor (Green-LECRDS)	+27 83 442 9989	henry.rene.diouf@undp.org

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).

Please refer to logical framework in the project document Section 2, Part I

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).

Response to Review of the PIF by the Foreign Affairs Office of Global Change of the U.S. Department of State

'The **United States** appreciates the importance of this project concept for Comoros. Climate and weather information, data, and forecasts are critical for decision-makers fom government ministries to farming households—as they seek to adapt and reduce the potential adverse impacts of climate change on the agricultural sector. We are pleased to see the emphasis that the Agency has placed on ensuring that climate information, services and trainings are communicated to various "end users" in the agriculture sector through multiple innovative channels. We also support the efforts under Output 1.2 to integrate adaptation into development plans and sectoral strategies and plans. We appreciate the Agency's efforts to ensure that the project benefits women. We also appreciate the Agency's acknowledgement of the importance of liaising with projects on early warning systems in other countries in the region, and we encourage such coordination.

To effectively achieve the focal objectives of the project concept, however, we request that the Agency make several significant improvements to the proposal before CEO endorsement:

- There is little mention of how users will be engaged in the process from the beginning to ensure the products are user driven and meeting user needs. Farmer participation is only mentioned in the context of developing agriculture technologies and through feedback provided to the CEAs. We request that the Agency provide more information about how feedback from the farmers will be solicited and how community members will be involved in the design and implementation of the project.

Response: engagement of 'end users' in the project is core to the overall implementation approach described throughout the Project Strategy: it is also one of the core principles guiding project design and implementation as follows:

''An effective **participatory approach**: A key focus of project impact is on capacity building and on establishing effective adaptation approaches, through the transfer of appropriate knowledge, tools and technologies. The project design process involved consultation with a wide range of stakeholder groups and participatory vulnerability assessments with farming communities. During project implementation the project team will support broad participation from all relevant stakeholders to ensure that implementation approaches are well targeted to meet the needs of 'end users' and to establish strong **ownership** of project outcomes by national partners and beneficiaries. A strong emphasis will be placed on identifying the information and capacity building needs of key partner and beneficiary groups in the design of all training activities and information products under the project. A strong emphasis will be placed on consultation with vulnerable farming communities to assess their needs and to assess the impact of project support in meeting those needs. The inclusion of all of the three islands enables the development of climate change adaptation approaches that will be relevant across the different social, environmental and management contexts within the Union of Comoros. The participatory, decentralised approach to project implementation will help to ensure that each island, and region within that island, has ownership of the adaptation process. The emphasis placed on fostering a consultative, partnership based approach to climate change adaptation between the project team and community, NGO, public and private sector groups at the local level and on inter-sectoral, inter-organisational and inter-island partnerships at the national level will support the sustainability of project impact following EOP. This is a core principle and key consideration in project design.

Achieving **gender equality**: Comoros' commitment to achieving gender equality is outlined in its Poverty Reduction and Growth Strategy (PRGS) and gender policy framework as well as within the United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2008-2012 (UNDAF-Comoros). Project design placed a strong emphasis on ensuring effective consultation with men and women and on understanding the different agricultural development and climate change issues and concerns of men and women. Project implementation approaches will continue to place a strong emphasis on achieving gender equality, ensuring effective participation by women in project activities, effective consideration of their development needs and concerns, and ongoing assessment of the different vulnerabilities of women and men to climate change.

Principles of **adaptive management** will be applied in implementation of the project. Regular assessment of the effectiveness of adaptation and capacity building mechanisms supported under the project will be undertaken as part of ongoing monitoring. Lessons learnt at the local level will directly engage farmers and community beneficiaries as well as all implementing partners and will feed back to inform the development of training programs and strategic approaches at

the agency level. Sound monitoring and adaptive management are essential for achieving sustainable impact under the project.''

The participation of farmers and community level organisations, including women's' associations is particularly important to the effective implementation of Outcome 3 which provides direct support at the local level at a series of project sites. A detailed participatory analysis was undertaken as part of design as it outlined in Annex 1, details of how end users will be involved in planning, implementation and monitoring of project activities is included within the project strategy under Outcome 3 (Project Document Section 2, Part C)

- Regarding Component 1:

  - § Output 1.1 tasks the Moheli Agriculture Institute with developing training programs on mainstreaming climate adaptation, undertaking climate risk assessments, using climate-resilient agriculture technologies, and adaptation options. However, it is unclear whether the Institute has the expertise to actually run these programs. We request the Agency to provide more information on how this expertise will be developed at the Institute.

Response: The project strategy no long relies on the Moheli Agriculture Institute. The design team found that this institute is not operational and is highly unlikely to become operational during the life of the project! Capacity building and training support under the project will be delivered directly to agricultural support organisations and to community farmers associations to enable them to work together to achieve climate change adaptation impacts 'on the ground' at project sites. Training to farmers will be delivered through farmer field schools, workshops and through direct implementation of climate change adaptation tools, techniques and systems on farms at project sites. Training within agricultural support / extension organisations will also be delivered directly to these organisations by technical experts and the project team, to support them in their work with farmers and to support 'learning through doing' The project will also 'train trainers' to ensure that capacity and support is maintained within key organisations and continues to be developed by those organisations following EOP. Partnerships will be strengthened between public, NGO, CBO and private sector groups to support effective use of limited resources. A strongly consultative, participatory approach will ensure that training and capacity building meets organisational and farmer's needs; regular monitoring of impact will assess the effectiveness of project support in meeting those needs and addressing priority issues. At the national level awareness and capacity will be built also through workshops and 'on the job' training, in particular to support strategic planning processes and to ensure that climate change adaptation is effectively incorporated in to key strategic plans and that key national agencies have the capacity to implement those plans and to monitor their effectiveness. At the national level also, the project will follow a strong partnership building approach supporting integrated management approaches to climate change adaptation between sectors, organisations and islands.

- Finally, with respect to section B.5:

  - § We note that ACMAD is not included in the list of regional stakeholders, despite the critical role it plays in Africa in delivering climate information services; GEO (Group on Earth Observations) and AfriGEOSS are not included in the list of stakeholders despite the role they play in coordinating the collection of earth observations in Africa; and there is no mention of the ongoing discussions with the WMO regarding the Global Framework for Climate Services—and we request the Agency consider involvement of these stakeholders in the execution of the project.

Response: Within Section 2 of the Project Document which describes the Project Strategy, Part A5 outlines the Synergies with Key Regional and International Initiatives, including ACMAD, GEO and AfriGEOSS. Emphasis has been placed within Project Design on the importance of supporting Comoros to establish links and partnerships with regional and international organisations and initiatives.

We also request the Agency to clarify if there are other efforts to improve the hydrometeorological systems in Comoros.

Response: The only other efforts to improve hydro-meteorological systems in Comoros are by the ACCE project funded by GEF LDCF, please refer to the description of the baseline situation under Outcome 2.

We request the Agency consider including civil society organizations and development partners in the B.5 table.

Response: Civil Society organisations including farmers associations, village development associations and women's associations are key development partners, in particular for the achievement of Outcome 3 as outlined in the project strategy.

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 this process.

Sincerely,
Christina

Christina Chan
Foreign Affairs Office=
Office of Global Chang=
U.S. Department of State

Response to the comments by Germany on PIF Comoros: Enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change in the agriculture sector in Comoros by Frank Fass-Met, GEF Council Member, Head Division, Climate Policy and Climate Financing, BMZ (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development)

Suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final proposal by Germany

1) Concerning output 1.2 Germany recommends looking for appropriate "entry points" for revising the national, regional and local development plans, strategies and policies and then successfully integrate climate risks and incentives to advance adaptation into those plans, strategies and policies.

Response: An important 'entry point' for revising national, regional and local development plans, strategies and policies exists in the 2014 review of the national Poverty Reduction and Growth Strategy (PRGS) and in development of the 2015 -2019 PRGS Action Plan by the Union of Comoros. This provides an exciting opportunity for the project to support the Union of Comoros to more effectively incorporate approaches, targets and indicators for achieving climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector, within the revised and new Action Plan. The project will subsequently support national partners to implement the Plan and to strengthen planning, monitoring and evaluation of climate change adaptation targets at national, island and local levels.

2) In view of the great efforts in this proposed LDCF project to conduct capacity building in component 1 and 2, Germany recommends establishing a knowledge management system in order to make knowledge available in the long-run.

Response: Output 3.3.4 establishes an information system to collect, organize and share agricultural data and information. This is described in project document Section 2, Part C. The information system developed under Output 3.3.4 consists of 3 local components (one in each island) hosted by Island Production and Environment Commissions (IPEC). The 3 components will be interconnected and will also be connected with MPEEIA's Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (SPSE). A charter for sharing data and information will be developed. Key user groups will be given access to the information system via an internet based password system. Project support will include the procurement of equipment (computers, servers, inverters, etc.) provided by the project.

Under Output 3.3.4 the CRCCA project will directly involve IPEC on each island, CRDE, relevant NGOs, DNSAE, MPEEIA SPSE, INRAPE and professional agricultural associations in the design of the system, to ensure that it meets their data needs and that they have strong ownership of the system and will be able to maintain and use it in the long run. Project support will provide training and the development of an operational manual for IPEC, CRDE DNSAE, SPSE and INRAPE to ensure that they can easily operate and maintain the system. This will help to build the technical capacities of IPEC, CRDE, NGO, INRAPE, SPSE and DNSAE staff for data collection and management, and in the operation of the system. The individuals trained will then be responsible for training others within their organisations.

Data sets will strengthen IPEC, DNSAE, INRAPE and SPSE capacity to monitor PRGS indicators relating to climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector. The information system will be completed by the end of the 2nd year of project implementation.

The project also establishes strong links to the regional agri-bio web portal which it will actively use for the exchange of data and sharing of information products and lessons learnt.

3) Germany kindly asks to indicate the criteria for selecting the "30 most vulnerable communities" in component 3.

Response: The process and criteria used for selecting the most vulnerable sites and communities are included in Annex 1. The PIF had identified that the project would support 30 vulnerable communities, but did not indicate which communities, why 30, or the location of the communities. One of the tasks of the design team therefore was to identify the most vulnerable sites and most vulnerable communities and to establish whether it would be appropriate for the project to support 30 communities over the project lifetime, and if so, which communities.
Discussions on this issue started at the initial multi-stakeholder planning workshop in Moroni. One of the working sessions in the workshop involved an analysis of the most vulnerable areas within the Union of Comoros. The vulnerable zones identified in the NAPA (undertaken in 2006) were taken as the main reference point and working group sessions assessed whether these sites were still the most vulnerable and / or whether other sites should be considered. The results indicated that, overall, vulnerable zones identified in the NAPA remained valid, although within the NAPA a number of communities had been misnamed, and a number of additional vulnerable sites were also identified.

Assessment of vulnerable areas by stakeholders at the initial planning workshop is given in the following tables:

	ZONES	**ALEAS**	**OBSERVATION**
MOHELI	**SITES PANA**		
	EST : Hagnamoida, Itsamia, SUD : Nyoumachoua, Ndrondroni	Sécheresse –dégradation du sol	Zone à élevage pastorale
	Nouveaux sites :		
	Plateau de Djandro	Affectation des terres	Zone à potentialité agricole intense
	Centre : Fomboni	Intensification agricole/ déboisement	Agglomération intense ;
	OUEST : Miringoni		Zone pluvieuse
ANJOUAN	**SITES PANA**		
	Sadapoini, Magomoni, Barakani, Hasinpao, Bandani, Sima – Bimbini, Milimajou Hadda, Mlimajou Pangani		
	NOUVEAUX SITES		
	Nord : Hajoho – Koni- Jimlime	Sécheresse	Zone à très forte dépendance à

	Dindri	Dégradation des sols Erosion	l'agriculture
	Centre : Bazimini – Mirontsi – Mjimandra – kopveni		
	Pomoni	Forte inondation érosion	
	Sud Nyumakele	Inondation ; Sécheresse	
NGAZIDJA	**SITES PANA**		
	Didjoni – Ifoundihé, Djongwé-Zidilher, Funga – Membwadjou, Madjéwéni – Bambadjani, Sidjou-Idjinkoundzi, Mtsangadjou Pidjani		
	NOUVEAUX SITES :		
	Plateau de la grille : maweni – dimadjou	fluctuation des pluies ; infrastructures détruites	
	Village sous le flanc du karthala : de hambou a Itsandra	Forte Inondation très récente	
	Chindini	Montée des eaux	
	Cote Est	Sécheresse	
	Cote Nord : Bangoi	Inondation, montée des eaux	
	Bandamadji	Inondation, montée des eaux	

The international design team also consulted previous studies and maps to draw on existing assessments of vulnerability. Information from the ACClimate project was important in the assessment of vulnerability to climate change. Field assessment reports performed by the World Food Programme (WFP) in 2006 were also important in also identifying areas in the three islands suffering from food insecurity:

- Anjouan: The island is the most food insecure and contains the most vulnerable households. The reliance on fishing (a livelihood activity strongly correlated with household poverty), in conjunction with limited and overexploited agricultural land creates a situation in which many households are unable to meet their basic needs. As a result the island is experiencing out-migration. Food insecure areas (based on consumption) are Nioumakélé and Mutsamudu while the most vulnerable (using a poverty proxy) are Mramani, Domoni and Moya.

- Grande Comore: Current indicators show that the largest island is ranked between the other two in terms of food security. The island has more developed infrastructure than the others and is the recipient of larger amounts of remittances. There is also a greater dependence on livestock production than on the other islands. Food insecure areas (based on consumption) are Fombouni, Mitsamiouli, Dembeni, and Moroni while the most vulnerable (using a poverty proxy) is Dimani.

- Mohéli: It is the least food insecure of the islands. Consequently, it may be the most vulnerable to food insecurity. Food consumption is better on Mohéli and large numbers of people from other islands are beginning to move there in search of arable land and less congested fishing areas. This is beginning to put a strain on the environment. The food insecure area (based on consumption) is Fomboni with the most vulnerable areas (using a poverty proxy) are Nioumachoua and Wanani.

Refinement of site selection to identify vulnerable / priority zones for project internvention

The next stage in the site selection process was undertaken by UNDP and the national consultant prior to the in-country design mission of the full project team. The UNDP led process aimed to further refine the identification of priority, vulnerable areas undertaken at the initial planning workshop in order to pre-select areas to be visited by the international experts during their design mission.

A couple of weeks prior to the design mission, UNDP and the national consultant met with key stakeholders on each island in a series of workshops to further refine the identification of vulnerable areas to be visited by the full project design team. The criteria used are given in the following table.

Criteria	**Importance**	**Note (Score)**
Identified in the NAPA	Yes / No	
Importance of agriculture to communities	Yes / No	
Existence of baseline initiatives	Yes / No	
Level/Type of climate change vulnerability - environmental - social - economical		
Feasibility of Adaptation -presence of institutions (agricultural / environmental / community) in the zone - capacity of the population /institutions - technical feasibility		
Presence of active associations – women	Yes / No	
Presence of active associations – men	Yes / No	

The international – national design team subsequently undertook detailed consultations with the communities in the selected areas using a number of participatory vulnerability assessment tools (VAP, AVCA and CRISTAL). A gender sensitive approach was adopted in the consultation process. The approach used for analysis of the vulnerability of community farming systems combined three tools:

- Analysis of Vulnerability and Adaptation Capacity (AVCA). This was used to analyze the vulnerability and adaptive capacity of communities to climate change;
- Community-based Risk Screening Tool-Adaptation and Livelihoods (CRiSTAL). This was used to refine the analysis of adaptive capacity of communities in relation to their livelihoods;

- Participatory Vulnerability Factors (APFV) Analysis. This refines the analysis of the factors influencing the vulnerability of communities to climate hazards.

A participatory mapping exercise enabled community groups to identify and assess the key resources they have and climatic risks they face. This assessment then fed in to a livelihoods analysis. In this communities select for each category of resources (natural, physical, financial, human and social) the three most important resources that are linked to local livelihoods, climate and adaptation. They also select the three most significant climatic risks by their impacts on livelihoods. The climate context is then analyzed to identify, for each hazard, impacts and adaptation strategies. Annex 1 gives the results of these assessments in each area.

4) With regard to the low-cost measures outlined in output 3.2, Germany suggests to consider local practices and local knowledge as possible adaptation measures. Adaptation measures based on local knowledge have the advantage of being already well known and, more importantly, broadly accepted.

Response: Design was highly consultative including assessment with community groups to identify local practices, resources vulnerabilities and capacity – and the potential to strengthen existing practices to improve climate change resilience. The development of adaptation approaches throughout implementation at project sites will be undertaken by a partnership of local farmer's associations, (including women's associations) and CRDE / NGOs working in each area with support from technical specialists and advisors. The adaptation measures implemented under the project will draw on both local knowledge and practices, and technical support of potential adaptation tools, techniques and systems, in order to identify the most appropriate tools, techniques and approaches for each area.

5) Concerning output 3.3, on establishing a climate resilient agriculture support group, Germany kindly asks to clarify in which output the "training of trainers" will take place. In the current proposal trainers are trained in output 3.1 but mentioned in output 3.3 as being a result from 3.2.

Response: Training of trainers has been extended throughout all Outcomes, in order to build capacity in key agricultural support agencies at national, island and local levels. Details are provided in Project document Section 2, Part C. Project design has included a stronger focus than incorporated in the PIF on direct training of trainers within key agricultural support agencies and in particular within CRDE. This will help to ensure that at the end of the project key agricultural extension and support groups have the capacity to continue to train staff and farmers, in order to sustain capacity within key organisations and increase the national skill base for climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector.

ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS[5]

A. PROVIDE DETAILED FUNDING AMOUNT OF THE PPG ACTIVITIES FINANCING STATUS IN THE TABLE BELOW:

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: **100,000**			
Project Preparation Activities Implemented	***GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Amount ($)***		
	Budgeted Amount	***Amount Spent Todate***	***Amount Committed***
International Consultants	40,000	34,430	5,570
Local Consultants	30,000	2,843	27,157
Contractual Services	15,000	3,884	10,246
Travel	15,000	15,870	0
Total	100,000	57,027	42,973

[5] If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue 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.

ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used**)**

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