



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

Naoko Ishii
CEO and Chairperson

October 28, 2015

Dear LDCF/SCCF Council Member,

I am writing to notify you that we have today posted on the GEF's website at www.TheGEF.org, a Project Identification Form (PIF) for a full-sized project proposal from UNDP entitled ***Ethiopia: CCA Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy plans in highland areas in Ethiopia (GEF ID : 6967)***, for funding under the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF). This PIF has been posted for Council approval by mail. Council Members are invited to review the PIF and to submit their comments (in Word file) to the GEF Secretariat's program coordination registry at gcoordination@TheGEF.org by November 25, 2015.

Following the streamlined procedures for processing LDCF proposals, Council members are invited to approve the following decision:

*The LDCF/SCCF Council reviewed the PIF entitled **Ethiopia: CCA Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy plans in highland areas in Ethiopia (GEF ID : 6967)** (LDCF Project Grant \$6,277,000) (Agency Fee \$596,315), posted on October 28, 2015 and approves it on a no objection basis subject to the comments submitted to the Secretariat by November 25, 2015.*

The Council finds that the PIF (i) is, or would be, consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures, and (ii) maybe endorsed by the CEO for final approval by the GEF Agency, provided that the final project document fully incorporates and addresses the Council's and the STAP reviewer's comments on the PIF, and that the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF/LDCF/SCCF policies and procedures.

The final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If the GEF CEO determines that there has been a major change to the present scope and approach since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.

In accordance with this decision, if the Secretariat has not heard from you in writing by November 25, 2015 we will assume that you approve the PIF.

Sincerely,


Naoko Ishii
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson

Copy to: Country Operational Focal Point, Alternates, GEF Agencies, STAP, Trustee



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF).

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: Least Developed Countries Fund

For more information about GEF, visit TheGEF.org

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	CCA Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy plans in highland areas in Ethiopia		
Country(ies):	Ethiopia	GEF Project ID: ¹	6967
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP (select) (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	5478
Other Executing Partner(s):		Submission Date:	August 21, 2014
GEF Focal Area(s):	Climate Change	Project Duration (Months)	60
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Commodities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Food Security <input type="checkbox"/>		Corporate Program: SGP <input type="checkbox"/>
Name of parent program:	[if applicable]		

A. INDICATIVE FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES²:

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
(select) CCA-1 (select)	LDCF	3,500,000	7,000,000
(select) CCA-2 (select)	LDCF	2,777,000	3,450,000
Total Project Cost		6,277,000	10,450,000

B. INDICATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective:					
Project Component	Financing Type ³	Project Outcomes	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
				GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
Capacity development	TA	Capacities enhanced for climate-resilient planning among communities, local government and central government	LDCF	800,000	950,000
Climate risk information	Inv	Anticipatory climate risk management practiced by smallholder farmers, with a focus on women and youth	LDCF	700,000	1,500,000
Adapted livelihoods	INV	Adapted and flexible income and employment opportunities generated for poor people	LDCF	4,482,000	8,000,000
Subtotal				5,982,000	10,450,000
Project Management Cost (PMC) ⁴			LDCF	295,000	
Total Project Cost				6,277,000	10,450,000

If Multi-Trust Fund project :PMC in this table should be the total and enter trust fund PMC breakdown here ()

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC and to be entered by Agency in subsequent document submissions.

² When completing Table A, refer to the GEF Website, [Focal Area Results Framework](#) which is an *Excerpt from GEF-6 Programming Directions*.

³ Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

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

C. INDICATIVE SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE, IF AVAILABLE

Please include confirmed co-financing letters for the project with this form.

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grants	150,000
Recipient Government	MERET programme	Grants	2,000,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture Budget in the 4 Regions	Grants	6,300,000
Recipient Government	CRGE facility	Grants	2,000,000
Total Co-financing			10,450,000

D. INDICATIVE TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS ^{a)}

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b) ^{b)}	Total (c)=a+b
UNDP	LDCF	Ethiopia <input type="checkbox"/>	Climate Change	(select as applicable)	6,277,000	596,315	6,873,315
Total GEF Resources					6,277,000	596,315	6,873,315

a) No need to fill this table if it is a single Agency, single Trust Fund, single focal area and single country project.

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

E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)⁵

Is Project Preparation Grant requested? Yes No If no, skip item E.

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee ⁶ (b)	Total c = a + b
UNDP	LDCF	Ethiopia <input type="checkbox"/>	Climate Change	(select as applicable)	100,000	9,500	109,500
Total PPG Amount					100,000	9,500	109,500

F. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS⁷

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society	Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares	(Enter number of hectares)
2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	(Enter number of hectares)

⁵ PPG requested amount is determined by the size of the GEF Project Financing (PF) as follows: Up to \$50k for PF upto \$1 mil; \$100k for PF up to \$3 mil; \$150k for PF up to \$6 mil; \$200k for PF up to \$10 mil; and \$300k for PF above \$10m. On an exceptional basis, PPG amount may differ upon detailed discussion and justification with the GEFSEC.

⁶ PPG fee percentage follows the percentage of the Agency fee over the GEF Project Financing amount requested.

⁷ Provide those indicator values in this table to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the projects per the *Corporate Results Framework* in the [GEF-6 Programming Directions](#), will be aggregated and reported during mid-term and at the conclusion of the replenishment period.

3. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services	Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins;	<i>(Enter number of freshwater basins)</i>
	20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels	<i>(Enter percent of fisheries, by volume)</i>
4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path	750 million tons of CO _{2e} mitigated (include both direct and indirect)	<i>(Enter number of tons)</i>
5. Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern	Disposal of 80,000 tons of POPs (PCB, obsolete pesticides)	<i>(Enter number of tons)</i>
	Reduction of 1000 tons of Mercury	<i>(Enter number of tons)</i>
	Phase-out of 303.44 tons of ODP (HCFC)	<i>(Enter number of tons)</i>
6. Enhance capacity of countries to implement MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and mainstream into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks	Development and sectoral planning frameworks integrate measurable targets drawn from the MEAs in at least 10 countries	<i>(Enter number of countries)</i>
	Functional environmental information systems are established to support decision-making in at least 10 countries	<i>(Enter number of countries)</i>

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

PROJECT OVERVIEW

1) The global environmental problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

Today in Ethiopia, climate change considerations are not reflected in development planning and decision making at national and local level. The expected changes in climate and its impact on livelihoods are severe in the highlands of Ethiopia, so if climate change is not addressed it is more than likely that expected development gains will not be realized. Furthermore, the impacts of weather variability and climate change will not be uniform across the country: some regions are more vulnerable than others. Vulnerability will depend on livelihood type and exposure to risk, both of which are highly variable even within small/local regions (Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE), Agriculture, draft). Changes in the weather patterns marked by greater variability are imposing additional risks to human development in Ethiopia. These risks are most heavily borne by farmers engaging in subsistence or rain-fed agriculture, both for landless households whose income largely derives from on-farm wage labour, and women-headed households because of their baseline vulnerability to external shocks. Hence, through this project LDCF resources will be used to strengthen the adaptive capacity and resilience of these targeted groups from the impacts of climatic variability and change.

Key underlying causes of vulnerability are multiple. Land is highly degraded due to deforestation for wood fuel and charcoal production as well as timber for construction, unsustainable farming practices, cultivation of fragile and marginal land and overgrazing, combined with rapidly increasing human and livestock populations. Such environmental degradation has resulted in changes to the water cycle, poor soil quality, and in highland areas a barren land that is devoid of vegetation cover, which is exposed to soil and wind erosion, thereby creating a self-reinforcing cycle of reduced land fertility, reduced water resources and lower crop and livestock production and productivity. Other human-caused stresses such as eutrophication, acid precipitation, toxic chemicals and the spread of exotic/invasive plant species in the rift valley lakes further reinforce this cycle (CRGE fast-track proposals).

The long term preferred solution is to build sustainable and climate-resilient economic growth among vulnerable communities, targeting 8 highland areas in Ethiopia. This will involve taking the essential elements of the participatory and capacity development approach of the MERET (Managing Environmental Resources to Enable Transitions) programme, but addressing identified weaknesses by adding strong elements of requirements for

climate change adaptation (e.g. alternative livelihoods, crop diversification, resilient agricultural practices, better water management and irrigation), capacity development of Woreda and regional government (technical training and mentoring for participatory vulnerability assessments, environmental impact assessments, cost-benefit analysis of climate smart investments, no regrets interventions, integrating climate change risks and opportunities in development planning and budgeting). Additionally this involves addressing participatory monitoring, impact assessment and action learning in order to assess what makes for successful adaptation and growth strategies in highland areas across different climate and agro-ecological zones, cultural traditions and agricultural practices, as well as strengthening of learning pathways to national policy processes.

In this context, several barriers prevent Ethiopia from achieving the preferred long-term solution.

- a) *Limited understanding and awareness of climate change risks and opportunities.* The understanding of climate change, its manifestation and its impacts on rural communities is still limited to a few experts and decision-makers. On the ground, a number of un-related trends (e.g. local deforestation) are blamed for broader climatic phenomena such as delayed onset and increasing unpredictability of rain fall. The ways in which individuals react to climate stress will be shaped largely by what is deemed appropriate and acceptable behavior and by their knowledge base. Traditional means of reacting to climate stress and shock may no longer be appropriate but without sufficient understanding of climate change, adaptation may not be yet seen as important, resulting in reactive responses and vulnerability.
- b) *Low institutional capacity.* The capacity at woreda level to support adaptation of local communities is limited. They currently do not, in their extension support to local communities, take into account expected changes in timing and intensity of rainfall and additional run-off, nor know what to do about extreme events such as intense thunderstorms which can cause flooding. These institutions are inefficient because of weak policies, procedures, resource management, organization, leadership, and communication. The LDCF resources will contribute to solve problems associated with these institutional weaknesses by developing human resource frameworks covering policies and procedures for recruitment, deployment and transfer, incentives systems, skills development, performance evaluation systems, and ethics and values.
- c) *Insufficient understanding of environmental and green growth parameters at the national and sub-national development planning level.* At present, the public administration system does not have the sufficient technical capacities to identify green, climate resilient growth parameters as development planning take place. Promoting climate resilient livelihood opportunities in Ethiopia requires, among other things, the appropriate policy incentives and signals to drive both planned and autonomous adaptation. There is no formal mechanism in place for technical officers in key line Ministries such as agriculture, planning and finance/economy to integrate climate vulnerability variables into specific development plans or budgets. Development planning priorities identified through the current dialogue process, remain exclusively based on business-as-usual without taking into considerations additional risks imposed by climate change.
- d) *Low levels of extension advice for agriculture based alternative livelihood.* Government extension workers at woreda level have limited technical expertise and knowledge to support the implementation of impactful adaptation options. There is an inability to set vulnerability reduction targets on the basis of needs and available (and reliable) funding, to identify climate change adapted investment actions, source technical expertise and financial means to implement the plan, and revise the development/investment plans for the next cycle based on the assessments of the previous investments. The extent to which smallholders receive meaningful agricultural advice from extension workers will affect the extent to which new techniques and adaptation practices are understood and adopted. The limited capacity of national and sub-national institutions dedicated to extension support translates to an inability to use their planning and support mechanisms and the resultant development of investment plans, as a guiding tool for driving planned adaptation.

2) The baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects,

Implemented for over 20 years, the MERET programme, in close collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture, started out as a centralised rural land rehabilitation programme. By 2005 it had evolved into a decentralised sustainable land management and livelihoods improvement programme, implemented in 450 watersheds, 72 woredas and 5 Regions

in Ethiopia, including Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP and Tigray. It provides food assistance and technical assistance to achieve higher agricultural productivity. The two basic operating principles that have evolved are community based participatory watershed development and community capacity building. A cost benefit analysis carried out by WFP in 2005 showed a rate of return of 13.5% over 25 years, assessing benefits such as soil depth, crop productivity, woody biomass production and gully control. Another positive effect detected by the qualitative evaluations has been women's empowerment and a balancing of gender relations (Tango, 2012. MERET impact evaluation). The programme is viewed as a model for watershed development by GoE and development partners alike, and has been influential in establishing the 'Community-based Participatory watershed development' methodology. However this project does not bring in a climate change adaptation angle in its objectives and approach. LDCF funds, through outcome 3, will be used to strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacity of rural livelihoods by ensuring that climate change concerns are taken into account.

The other main externally funded baseline programme is the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP), operating in Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP and Tigray, which provides cash payments to support households with enough income (cash/food) to meet their food gap and thereby protect their household assets from depletion and a cash for work scheme to build community assets to contribute to addressing root causes of food insecurity. Results have so far been considered good (closing of food gap from 3.6 months to 2.3 months in 2010, increases in assets, falls in distress sales of assets). Relevant GoE initiatives include mass labour mobilization where communities volunteer to work on land rehabilitation usually over a 60 day period. Many activities are similar to those implemented by MERET but because they do not entail food for cash assistance to produce outputs that are considered of lower technical quality (Tango, 2012. MERET impact evaluation).

Other baseline initiatives working in identified Woredas or in neighbouring areas are as follows:

- The Canadian marketing project in Rike, Amhara;
The IRI/ENACTS project with the National Meteorological Agency of Ethiopia
- The GIZ project in Oromiya
- The World Bank SLM project
- USAID and GIZ in Oromiya
- Tigray: USAID grant on environmental entrepreneurship;
- GCCA in Tigray, Amhara and Oromia
- JICA in Oromiya on water supply, irrigation and environmental rehabilitation;
- A range of other NGO-led activities focused on health, family planning, education, water supply, alternative energy technologies and livelihoods.

These projects are all working on baseline development issues that are the foundation for strengthening resilience to climate change. They are in necessarily bounded geographical areas, taking different starting points (technology, land management, markets, basic needs), but three things are missing that are central to adaptation efforts: i) techniques and methods for anticipating climate variability and responding in a flexible manner and ii) information on the cost-effectiveness of these investments in building resilience and their transferability to different geographical contexts iii) effective capacity development and learning pathways from practice to policy development in order to support replication of successful approaches.

Coordination with above baseline projects:

The design of this LDCF project will take into account the aforementioned baseline development projects. All LDCF financed activities will be undertaken in conjunction with or by institutions and individuals involved in these projects. A Project Steering Committee will be the first point of coordination as the members are mostly Govt staff that are responsible for the implementation of the above described projects. Ethiopia is implementing the CRGE Facility which will act as a nodal agency for climate change related projects in the country. The project team will aim to take up the best of practices and experiences from existing projects working in the relevant Woreda and surrounding areas for inclusion in the project design, thereby leveraging baseline investments. The project team will build on the baseline initiatives, to strengthen flexibility of design for resilience to climate change, capacity development in order to promote community-led initiative and scaling up, as well as action research for strong results data collection and learning. UNDP is closely working with this institution and will ensure coordination between the

proposed LDCF financed project activities and those of the baseline projects. In addition, lessons learned and best practices will be shared. Regular UNDP-Govt follow up coordination meetings, involving project level staff, will be conducted to ensure that all activities are aligned with relevant ongoing projects in the country.

3) The proposed alternative scenario, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project,

The project focuses on the agricultural sector due to its importance to national income and livelihoods of the most vulnerable. Among the five key factors for building resilience set out in the CRGE agricultural strategy document, three of these will be directly addressed by this project: i) Human capital formation ii) Sound management of natural capital iii) Building market institutions. This project will directly address these factors through a programmatic and innovative partnerships approach. The project will also directly address two of the four main pillars in the Green Economy Strategy: i) improving crop and livestock production practices for higher food security and farmer income while reducing emissions and ii) protecting and re-establishing forests for their economic and ecosystem services. Therefore in the process of promoting adaptation and economic resilience to climate change, the project also expects to contribute towards Ethiopia's sustainable economic growth aspirations, in line with the CRGE aims. The project aims to promote transformational change by building human capacity through skills development and knowledge transfer and promoting household-level business and employment opportunities through market incentives and support services.

The project has 3 components:

Component 1 will focus on providing technical training to Government officers in integrating climate change risks and opportunities in their routine development planning and budgeting work. Climate smart tools, methods and mentorship will be made accessible with LDCF financing. With additional technical capacity and knowledge, national and sub-national Ministries of Agriculture, Finance and Economic Development and Environment will have the capacity to integrate climate change risks and opportunities in their annual/medium/long-term development plans and budgets.

Component 2 is focused on strengthening the capacity of the local administration and communities to take into account climate information in their planning processes. For this to happen, it is important that local weather and climate information is used and applied for risk management by integrating observations from Automated Weather Stations with ongoing satellite/station monitoring initiatives (ENACTS) and establishing data collection and analysis protocols, to develop weather-information decision-support tools (short term and seasonal) with and for farmers, and to have a two year period of testing, adjustment and evaluation with recommendations for scale-up.

Component 3 will support government efforts to pursue sustainable and climate-resilient economic growth among vulnerable communities in 8 highland areas in Ethiopia. This component will focus on the diversification of rural livelihood opportunities in highland areas into ones that are climate resilient. Resources will be used to demonstrate and assess what makes for successful adaptation and growth strategies in highland areas across different climate and agro-ecological zones, cultural traditions and agricultural practices, as well as strengthening of learning pathways to national policy processes.

4) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing;

The project will achieve its results through a series of well designed partnerships that will facilitate transfer of knowledge and experience to the project sites. As most of adaptation actions need to be designed, planned and executed at the sub-national levels, it is critical to ensure that resilience to changing climate conditions is mainstreamed into national and sub-national planning and budgeting processes. The sub-national administrations need to have the adequate capacity to identify climate risks and solutions for them. The proposed project components, aim at building capacities and increasing the preparedness of national and sub-national authorities to effectively identify, sequence and combine available resources for climate change adaptation while addressing most urgent priority actions identified in the Ethiopian NAPA. Contributing to the strategies of Ethiopia to reduce the vulnerability of rural citizens and integrating the baseline contribution, the LDCF intervention aims to reduce the overall climate vulnerability of beneficiaries in the target areas by increasing community resilience and climate adaptability.

This LDCF initiative will develop and implement a 2 year training programme customized to the needs of the Regional State and Woreda: the PPG phase will identify training needs in the 8 Woredas and 8 sub cities, for the range of subjects needed over the course of two years as well as determining the best partnership modality. The training programme will take up the gaps and weaknesses identified in the implementation of the MERET programme such as integration of biological and physical soil and water conservation technologies, and strengthening of the life-cycle assessment of land-based adaptation measures, including environmental health risks of water structures. This approach will have the advantage of providing continuity and progression in the learning process (rather than one-off events which have limited value) as well as helping to build professional links between trainees. It will help to manage the problem of drops in capacity due to natural processes of staff turnover. Because of the programmatic focus, a mentoring process is also envisaged whereby participants will be expected to deliver certain outputs such as action plans, watershed management plans, business plans among others between trainings. Once implementation starts, it is anticipated that the training programme will be developed in a participatory way with Woreda level officers and Development Agents in order to ensure their practicality, acceptability and utility to stakeholders. An effective capacity building strategy that trains sufficient numbers of government staff particularly at the regional level is expected to support the scaling up effort of the project activities. Training among farmers is expected to generate demand to adopt innovative practices. A linked output to this will be the annual forum of regional and Woreda level officers, Development Agents and community representatives to exchange experiences and innovations. The capacity development approaches will be replicable to other Woredas and regions.

The project preparation and design phase will establish with the CRGE facility what kinds of environmental, social impact and financial data would be useful to inform the CRGE strategy concerning climate change risks. Environmental monitoring should establish measurements for surface water and ground water changes and changes in biodiversity. An impact assessment across selected regions and woredas in the highland areas will test the transferability of results across project areas. Performance results (costs and effectiveness) from this project will inform the national process of developing a climate change financing strategy. Project insights into how to set sectoral baseline values and targets for one project area will also feed into the national evidence base and help build the strategic platform to pave the way for greater volumes of climate finance to be distributed through government systems. In this way, the project investment is expected to contribute to the design of a system aimed at leveraging much larger climate finance flows. The LDCF funds will cover the incremental cost related to the production of the adaptive and participatory plans, the capacity building/development work needed for their development and implementation, the field investments for adaptation and vulnerability reduction, and the enhanced preparedness to climate risk, both at field level (linking with early warning systems) and through national plans and policy dialogue at the provincial and regional level.

5) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)

LDCF funds in component 1 will deliver concrete adaptation benefits in terms of building the capacity of the Government of Ethiopia to adapt to climate change. At least 80 regional council members in all 8 woredas, and 240 technicians will be trained in the latest tools and methods for climate risks assessments, cost benefit analysis of climate change risks and opportunities. This will allow the Government of Ethiopia to prepare improved climate resilient development plans and budgets. The Government officers trained will benefit from close mentoring to address climate change risks and vulnerability assessments helping them generate sustainable climate resilient local plans that are consultative and gender sensitive.

As agriculture is the mainstay of the rural economy, it is expected that project indicators and targets will be related to resilient agricultural methods that seek to reduce production losses from climate change impacts. Outcome 1 will provide hands on training to at least 160 agricultural extension officers in climate resilient agriculture and livelihoods technics such as drip irrigation, crop diversification, entrepreneurship development, and sustainable assistance to communities. Local NGOs too, will benefit from this training to continue to play their development role and provide better climate smart services to the communities. The project will contribute to improving the policy environment by assisting the MOFED and the MEF to introduce guidelines to direct sector ministries to integrate climate change in their medium and long term planning and budgeting processes.

Component 2 will deliver a community-based climate forecast and decision support tool to promote weather monitoring by farmers and communities themselves, and enhance anticipatory adaptation in agricultural production. This will involve strategically placing automated weather stations to provide local weather and climate observations

in key communities. Information from these stations will be both transmitted to NMA for further processing and product development, as well as being used by local extension officers and farmers for monitoring and co-exploring the local impacts of weather and climate on agricultural production. The latter will be further enhanced by promoting the monitoring of rainfall by farmers using low cost plastic rain-gauges. Observations transmitted to NMA will be used to enhance the local accuracy of current satellite-station rainfall products, thus helping to improve the usefulness of these products and reducing reliance on weather stations in the future. Additionally, the development of suitable information products (mixing weather and climate observations and forecasts with other non-climate information e.g. commodity and market-related prices/costs) for agricultural risk management in each region will be developed in partnership with local farmers and extension officers.

LDCF resources in Component 3 will target at least 250,000 (direct and indirect) farmers who currently do not have secure access to irrigation, land-poor farmers, women-headed households, and the landless so that their livelihoods are made more resilient to an increasing variability in rainfall patterns under a changing climate. Investments in small-scale rural infrastructure, especially on-farm water management infrastructure for agricultural purposes, are thought to deliver high economic return given their low level of current irrigation coverage. Government officers in the 8 regions will receive technical training on the economics of adaptation, climate resilient planning and will be supported to integrate this knowledge in their medium and long term development plans.

Potential economic benefits to the beneficiaries are expected to be high as the project will promote diversification of their livelihoods, for at least 13,000 women, men and youth by introducing adaptive agricultural best practices. Effectiveness of targeting the most vulnerable populations in rural areas will be enhanced through the use of objective tools that will be embedded in the vulnerability assessments (VRA), mapping of access to irrigation and use of resilient agricultural techniques.

6) Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

Integrated watershed management and landscape management plans for adaptation and vulnerability reduction including women, pastoralists, and farmers is a highly innovative action in Ethiopia. Another innovative measure of the LDCF intervention is the empowerment of rural communities to better deal with extreme climate events and hazards, thanks to the link up of a user-friendly early warning system (EWS) and natural resources management oriented livelihoods diversification. Communities and local entrepreneurs will contribute to the project investing not only their time and facilities but by providing as well their indigenous knowledge and labour. The participative approach and the empowerment of grassroots beneficiaries aside with state authorities and Ethiopia's research institutes and universities is also a guarantee for the long-term sustainability of the intervention. The adoption of new plans, no regret interventions and policies at the State level, together with the increased attention of the Ethiopian authorities to the adaptive and resilient agriculture/rural sector since 2007, are all elements in favour of the sustainability of the proposed initiative. In order to identify accurately what works an effective impact assessment strategy using the randomized control trials (RCT) methodology will be used to ensure the best practices and lessons are accurately captured. The strategy will include working meetings on sharing, cross learning between Woredas and scaling up to ensure that the lessons and best practices from the baseline projects and from this initiative are efficiently disseminated. LDCF funds will be used to create the best conditions for scaling up of activities by making sure best practices and lessons learned are shared among partners, important stakeholders and the govt of Ethiopia. LDCF funds will be used to leverage partners who might be able to invest in additional adaptation. This includes the private sector such as coffee and Teff grower associations, farmers, and exporters of agricultural produce. An effective capacity building strategy that trains sufficient numbers of government staff at the national and sub-national level is expected to support the scaling up effort of the project activities. Based on the above, the project will be able to ensure scaling of activities takes place successfully.

A.2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society and indigenous people? (yes /no) If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project design/preparation:

During the design phase, representatives of the various Government ministries, Civil Society, NGOs, women representatives, the private sector, will be invited to review and contribute to the refining of the outputs and activities of this project. Once comments from all the stakeholders have been incorporated, a more detailed national consultation workshop will take place to broaden the participatory engagement and discuss the details of the project. This consultation really aims allow input from all the concerned stakeholders on the implementation plan and modalities so that the project is inclusive and represents the needs and perceptions of its beneficiaries. Finally a

validation workshop will take place for all the stakeholders to review and approve the final framework of the project and its specific outputs and activities. The project will support an active partnership between University of Addis Ababa and international Universities and research centres working on Climate Change Adaptation. The target groups in the implementation areas will include: (i) small crop producers and subsistence farmers; (ii) pastoralists and small agro-pastoralists; (iii) rural women, particularly in female-headed households, (iv) local cooperatives and association; and (v) youth. The main project partners and stakeholders on this project will be the Ministry of Environment and Forests, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Ministry of Agriculture, the Institute for Agricultural Research Ethiopia, Ministry of Water and Energy, Woredas and Communities.

A.3. Gender Considerations. Are gender considerations taken into account? (yes /no). If yes, briefly describe how gender considerations will be mainstreamed into project preparation, taken into account the differences, needs, roles and priorities of men and women.

In order to ensure that gender consideration are taken into account in the project preparation phase, specific efforts will be made to consult with women groups and representatives at the various consultation workshops planned during the PPG. Vulnerability and risk assessments, particularly of women headed households, will be done to prepare a baseline and to capture the needs, roles and differences of women and men on the project. During the design and planning phase, gender mainstreaming will be central to the logic of the intervention. Initiatives that improve the sustainable management and rehabilitation of rangeland, agricultural livelihoods and those that aim at improving the reliability and value of returns to agricultural production should improve the resilience of both women and men to climate related shocks, and create opportunities for building self-reliance. Given women’s often particular vulnerabilities (e.g., limited livelihood options, restricted access to education and information services, and insufficient means to recoup assets) to disasters and other climate change effects, it is critical to ensure that their roles, needs, priorities and contributions are explicitly taken into account in climate change responses. Engaging in both the informal and formal sectors, women also play a key role in their communities as entrepreneurs and community networkers. As such, they play a critical role in helping reduce and respond to climate change effects. The project will support more equitable decision-making through the involvement in local natural resource governance structures which can build a solid platform for engaging with district service providers such as the woreda councils. When preparing livelihoods diversification plans and climate change adaptation options for Ethiopia, the project needs to ensure that they are conducted in a gender-responsive manner, wherein they identify the climate risks, vulnerabilities, roles, needs, priorities and opportunities of all stakeholders/end-users within the identified communities, including both women and men. Such gender-responsive assessments encourage a gender approach from the outset, as well as provide baseline data for monitoring. The project impact must be gender sensitive and coordinate closely with the Ministry for Women Affairs. Project outcomes and outputs have been designed to involve and benefit both women and men end-users.

A.4 Risk. Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design (table format acceptable):

Risks	Proposed measures
Poor co-ordination among implementing and executing agency.	Clear and adequate project management arrangements. The project will competitively recruit a project manager and four regional coordinators, one procurement officer, one Climate Change/Information Expert.
Poor sequencing of activities leading to poor performance of the project	Project manager and the 4 regional coordinators will be sent on relevant training to upgrade project management skills. Constant communication with Responsible Parties for each of the project outputs.
Limited capacity within relevant ministries/ insufficient qualified human capacity.	A major part of the project is to strengthen institutional and technical capacity for planning, designing and implementing local level adaptation actions through a programmatic, professionally designed and implemented training programme, through a recognized training service provider.

Lack of commitment from communities.	The project will avoid a ‘top down’ approach and seek to create community ownership of all pilot interventions through an extensive programme of farmer trainings and formation of CBOs as well as community consultation and involvement from inception through project implementation.
Climate hazards that are unplanned (eg pest outbreaks) may disrupt project work.	Planning for the Woreda level package of measures implementation will follow an all hazards approach in most cases. The PPG phase will take an inventory of hazards from communities and feed this into the training programme design.
Procurement delays at the Woreda level	Centralized procurement will be undertaken. A procurement specialist will be hired by UNDP. Expedited funds transfer process will be established.
Limited ownership of project activities by regional and woreda officials	All respective regional and woreda offices need to integrate the project activities into their AWP.

A.5. Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other initiatives:

The project will coordinate with other bilateral donors active in the sector and areas of intervention ensuring collection as well as distribution of the collected data through appropriate research institutes. Partnerships with regional donors including the World Bank, the African Development Bank, DFID and EU Funds are being nurtured and will benefit from UNDP’s framework for cooperation with donors for project financing. This LDCF initiative will complement other relevant GEF-financed initiatives in Ethiopia, namely the project “Strengthening climate information and early warning systems in Africa for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change – Ethiopia” implemented by UNDP, the project “Promoting autonomous adaptation at the community level in Ethiopia” implemented by UNDP, and the PSNP funded by the World Bank and DFID. Further details will be outlined in the project document submitted for CEO endorsement.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

B.1 Is the project consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions? (yes /no). If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, etc.:

Ethiopia developed a NAPA, published in 2007 in accordance with the requirements outlined in the UNFCCC COP 7, which listed 37 urgent and immediate adaptation needs; 18 of which focused on community based adaptation. Out of those needs, 11 were identified as priorities. This project will address 4 of the 11 priorities (Developing small-scale irrigation and water harvesting schemes in arid, semi-arid, and dry sub-humid areas of Ethiopia; Promoting of farm and homestead forestry and agro-forestry practices in arid, semi-arid and dry-sub humid parts of Ethiopia; Capacity building for adaptation at Federal and Regional levels; Improving and enhancing rangeland resources management in pastoral areas) with contributions to at least another 4 adaptation needs listed in the list of 37. Many of the priority climate change adaptation actions of the National Adaptation Plan for Action (NAPA) have now been taken up in one way or another, but that there remains a need to consolidate what are often isolated projects into a set of comprehensive, integrated, adaptation actions, which is what this LDCF project seeks to achieve.


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

A. Record of Endorsement⁸ of GEF Operational Focal Point (S) on Behalf of the Government(s): (Please attach the [Operational Focal Point endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template.

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Ghirmawit Haile	OFP	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY	MARCH 7, 2014

B. GEF Agency(ies) Certification

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies⁹ and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation under GEF-6.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email
Adriana Dinu, Executive Coordinator and Director a.i., UNDP/GEF		August 28, 2014	Benjamin Larroquette	+251936636877	Benjamin.larroquette@undp.org

C. Additional GEF Project Agency Certification (*Applicable Only to newly accredited GEF Project Agencies*)
 For newly accredited GEF Project Agencies, please download and fill up the required to be attached as an annex to the PIF.

⁸ For regional and/or global projects in which participating countries are identified, OFP endorsement letters from these countries are required even though there may not be a STAR allocation associated with the project.

⁹ GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, and SCCF