PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZED PROJECT
TYPE OF TRUST FUND: SCCF

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Increasing Productivity and Adaptive Capacities in Mountain Areas of Morocco (IPAC-MAM)		
Country(ies):	Morocco	GEF Project ID:[1]	5685
GEF Agency(ies):	IFAD	GEF Agency Project ID:	
Other Executing Partner(s):		Submission Date:	24 January 2014
GEF Focal Area (s):	Climate Change	Project Duration (Months)	60 months
Name of parent program (if applicable):		Project Agency Fee ($):	618,450

A. INDICATIVE FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK[2]:

Focal Area Objectives	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount ($)	Indicative Co-financing ($)
CCA-1 (select)	SCCF	1,704,000	6,240,000
CCA-2 (select)	SCCF	3,603,000	13,300,000
CCA-3 (select)	SCCF	1,203,000	4,460,000
(select) (select)	SCCF		
(select) (select)	SCCF		
Total Project Cost		6,510,000	24,000,000

B. INDICATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: Reducing the overall climate vulnerability of beneficiaries in the target areas by increasing community resilience and climate adaptability

Project Component	Grant Type[3]	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount ($)	Indicative Cofinancing ($)
1. Early Natural Resource Adaptive Management	TA	1.1 Resource User Committees / Associations/Cooperatives are empowered to cope with climate change and undertake their own development	1.1.1 Baseline assessments, including vulnerability and state of the natural resources and their uses, completed in each target area 1.1.2 Natural resource-based management plans developed and implemented by the Users in each pilot landscape 1.1.3 Training is provided on all aspects of the project to beneficiaries with priority on women and youth	SCCF	750,000	3,417,143
2. Ecosystem services rehabilitation and optimization	INV	2.1 Natural resources use is optimized and ecosystem services are restored	2.1.1 Water and soil management / conservation improved through targeted investments 2.1.2 Adaptive irrigation techniques introduced and in use 2.1.3 Ground water uses rationalized and optimized	SCCF	1,150,000	4,945,000

[1] Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.
[2] Refer to the reference attached on the Focal Area Results Framework and LDCF/SCCF Framework when completing Table A.
[3] TA includes capacity building, and research and development.

			2.1.4 Rangelands and forests in each landscape rehabilitated through ecosystem restoration approaches			
3. Climate proofing of value chains and diversification of productive practices	INV	3.1 Adapted technologies and Diversified livelihoods for more productive and climate resilient farms and livestock practices are available to beneficiaries	3.1.1 Tailored adaptive technologies / knowledge are introduced and local post-harvest techniques are enhanced 3.1.2 Additional SAGE[4] income-generating activities supported to enhance risk-coping mechanisms 3.1.3 Community weather stations are installed and information shared among resource users 3.1.4 Introduced practices and technologies are mutually shared and transferred among communities	SCCF	4,300,0000	14,495,000
Subtotal					**6,200,000**	**22,857,143**
Project Management Cost (PMC)[5]				SCCF	**310,000**	**1,142,857**
Total Project Cost					**6,510,000**	**24,000,000**

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

Sources of Cofinancing	Name of Cofinancier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount ($)
GEF Agency	IFAD	Soft Loan	24,000,000
Total Cofinancing			24,000,000

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

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	Grant Amount ($) (a)	Agency Fee ($) (b)[2]	Total ($) c=a+b
Total Grant Resources						

[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.

E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)[6]

Please check on the appropriate box for PPG as needed for the project according to the GEF Project Grant:

	Amount Requested ($)	Agency Fee for PPG ($)[7]
• (up to)$200k for projects up to & including $10 million	63,350	6,650

4 Smart – Adaptive – Gender oriented – Environmentally friendly
5 To be calculated as percent of subtotal.
[6] On an exceptional basis, PPG amount may differ upon detailed discussion and justification with the GEFSEC.
[7] PPG fee percentage follows the percentage of the GEF Project Grant amount requested.

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), FOCAL AREA(S) AND COUNTRY(IES) FOR MFA AND/OR MTF PROJECT ONLY

Trust Fund	GEF Agency	Focal Area	Country Name/ Global	(in $)		
				PPG (a)	**Agency Fee** (b)	**Total** c = a + b
Total PPG Amount						

MFA: Multi-focal area projects; MTF: Multi-Trust Fund projects.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Project Overview

A.1 Located in the North Eastern part of the Maghreb and climatically influenced by the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea, the Kingdom of Morocco is geographically defined by a vast Mountainous range in the centre, coastal planes in the North and West and by an encroaching desert in the South/South East. Morocco sits between two climatic zones: temperate in the north and tropical in the south. Rainfall can reach up to 2 meters per year, while in the southern desert and semi desert areas, average annual rainfall can be as low as 25 mm per year[8]. The stream flow from rain and snow melt from the Atlas mountain ranges, coupled with ground water basins along the coastal plains and the central valleys, provide the primary water supplies for supplementary irrigation.

Over the past 50 years the population of Morocco has tripled reaching 32,500,000 with a demographic growth of 1,41%[9] and a density of 67,59 inhabitants/Km^2. Rural population accounts for 42,96% of the total population (lowest percentage since 1960[10]). About 16.3% of the total population leaves below poverty line and about 20% of the poorest is located in the rural areas with the highest peaks in Mountainous areas.

Since 2001 Morocco experienced a steady economic growth (5%) while inflation is kept between 1% and 2%[11]. Since 2010, the Kingdom has invested in enhancing and improving national infrastructures in both urban and rural areas and in the aftermath of the "Arab Spring" the Country speeded up the reform of the state. Moroccan economy is still largely dependent on agriculture where the sector contributes between 16 and 19% of the National GNP[12]. Agriculture is practiced on 67% of the total arable land and about 41% of the total population is employed in the sector. It consumes over 83% of harvested water, but water scarcity, climate change effects, land fragmentation, postharvest losses and irregularity are major hindrances to its development.

Postharvest handling and packaging practices of horticultural and fruit crops are still poor. Major quantities of crops are lost due to different reasons among which inadequate infrastructures, poor handling of produce, little use of refrigeration, errors in the design and construction of some of the cold stores, unavailability of proper technical personnel and improper uses of the storing facilities. Significant losses are also occurring due to decay caused by improper handling and distribution. Training programs in postharvest practice are hardly available causing a clear lack of knowledge among growers, handlers (transport, storage, marketing personals), and consumers. These factors, in addition of causing important quantitative losses, also result in significant qualitative losses and reduction of the value of the production chain.

The current strain on the Moroccan environment has manifested itself in poor water and air quality, water shortage, deforestation, issues of solid waste disposal, loss of biodiversity, soil deterioration and the alarming progression of the desertification phenomenon and the deterioration of the population's living conditions[13]. Climate change poses a significant threat to Morocco's natural capital, already under extensive pressure from a pushing demography, industrial growth, tourism development and agricultural expansion.

Agriculture's value added to GDP has undergone significant fluctuations due to weather conditions from 28% in 1960 to 14% in 2007 and 16% in 2009. Thus, climate significantly influences the Moroccan economy[14]. Furthermore, in the past

[8] World Bank, 2013
9 UNDESA, 2013
10 IFAD, 2013
[11] World Bank, 2013
[12] IFAD, 2013
13 UNEP, 2013
14 World Bank 2013

decades the registered extreme weather conditions, especially high temperatures, have largely contributed in increasing post-harvest losses.

Variations of climate patterns are manifesting in increases of drought periods, rainfalls concentration and rapid circadian changes in temperature[15]. Seasonal patterns are changing and increased precipitations are reported being concentrated in October and November. Average temperatures are expected to rise between 2 and 5 degree (C) by the end of the century and rainfall is expected to drop by 30%[16] with severe impacts on both agriculture and industry . The combined effect of increasing temperature and reduction of precipitation will put extra stress on the environmental resources and increase environmental degradation.

Smallholder farmers and their families are among the first[17] to face the consequences of the forecasted negative climatic variations[18]. Increased poverty (38% of rural population against 28% national) and declined quality of life will boost the rural/urban migration trends with serious implications for the overall country stability and with immediate consequences on all aspects of the Moroccan society[19].

The baseline for the SCCF intervention is IFAD's new "*Programme de Development Rural des Zones de Montagne*" (PDRZM), that shall indicatively start at the end of 2014 for a period of 15 years. The programme's objective is to reduce the vulnerability of the rural population of the Mountains in the provinces of *Sefrou, Azilal, Tinghir* and *Ouarzazate* increasing land productivity, diversifying livestock production, reducing post-harvest losses; and developing local marketing capacities. Key outcomes will include: increases in the number of small enterprises; increase of productivity by investing in modern chain management, products preservation, handling and packaging; and reduction of rain fed hectares.

The GEF's SCCF funding represents an opportunity to increase the scope of the rural development objectives pursued through the PDRZM in the provinces of *Sefrou* and *Azilal* in light of the expected negative impact of climate changes on the already fragile rural agriculture sector in Morocco.

Without the SCCF funding, the baseline intervention could turn out to be a "business-as-usual" development project, and not tackle the roots of the most important constraints facing rural development in Morocco where natural capital still accounts for the largest part of communities' revenues.

Contributing to the Moroccan strategies to reduce the vulnerability of rural citizens[20] and integrating the IFAD's baseline contribution, the SCCF intervention has the goal of reducing the overall climate vulnerability of beneficiaries in the target areas by increasing community resilience and climate adaptability. The intervention aim at addressing beneficiaries and their families as productive units holding a share of the natural capital available to the community. Due to the particular social and cultural conditions of the target beneficiaries[21-22], the project will tackle the entire "productive family" capitalizing on an horizontal and gender oriented approach that will increase the productivity and climate resilience of the family rather than its individuals. The project will have three main components: (**1**) Early Adaptive Natural Resource Management; (**2**) Climate Proofing of the value chains and; (**3**) Sustainable, Adaptive, Gender Oriented and Environment oriented (SAGE) diversification of local production.

The SCCF intervention, IPAC-MAM, will complement IFAD's baseline programme by introducing an innovative participatory planning process involving smallholder farmers, and other natural resource users in mixed rangeland, forest and rain-fed agriculture landscapes, through the development of early adaptive management plans aimed at strengthening resilience, reducing vulnerability, increasing productivity and conserving or restoring the natural resource base and knowledge. This will be followed by the implementation of investment plans for adaptation and vulnerability reduction, based on the priority measures identified by the communities through the planning exercise. The design and implementation of the plans will be coupled with enhanced preparedness to climate risk, thanks to the capacity building and development effort and the setting up of an early warning system for natural hazards and extreme events, that will be made available to the rural actors in the project area.

The foreseen activities will support the development of proper conditions to ensure the following outcomes: (*i*) Resource User empowered to optimize the use of available natural capital guarantying the long term efficiency and resilience of

15 Born et al. 2006, Moroccan Climate in the Present and Future: Combined View from Observational Data and Regional Climate Scenarios
16 FAO, 2013
17 75% of rural inhabitants depend from agriculture. Mountainous communities, 30% of rural population, are considerate being 1 and a half time poorer that other rural communities. IFAD, 2013
18 The last major draught caused a drop in the agricultural GDP of 45% and of 8% in the National one. http://www.ccmaroc.ma/maroc/pnrc-doc/Agr_foret.pdf
19 http://elibrary.worldbank.org/doi/pdf/10.1596/9780821397718_CH02
20 Ref: B1: consistency of the project with National strategies and plans.
21 Bossert et al. 2003 - Exploratory Study of Social Capital and Social Programs in Morocco. Politics and Governance Group Harvard School of Public Health. Progress JSI Morocco.
22 Hart David M., 2000 -Tribe and Society in Rural Morocco. Frank Cass Publisher, UK.

available ecosystem services and increasing rural productivity; (*ii*) Natural resource base planning is sustainable and contributes to vulnerability reduction and rational management of local natural capital; (*iii*) Adapted technologies and Diversified livelihoods for more productive and climate resilient farms and livestock practices are available to beneficiaries; and (*iv*) a long term climate/energy/socio-economic database of micro scale climate change effects on rural populations is created and in use by local and international Universities and research institutes.

The intervention will support local user associations / cooperatives / groups adopting natural resource management to restore and enhance local ecosystem such as forests, water bodies and landscape and to introduce adequate technologies to improve production and reduce post-harvest losses. Through tailored and participative investments, associated with professional training and involving local youth and women, the project will (**A**) support soil conservation activities (i.e. retaining wall, afforestation), (**B**) introduce water conservation and management practices for farmers and herders (i.e. irrigation schemes, solar wells and solar pumps), (**C**) enhance local extension services (i.e. meteorological stations, climate adaptive farming assistance), (**D**) introduce tailored post-harvest technologies (i.e. solar heating of barns / storage rooms, climate proofing of production / transformation infrastructures); (**E**) provide certified professional training to women and youth in order to create agricultural spin-of and local employment of youth and women and (**F**) ensure community to community technology and knowledge transfer to capitalize and maximize projects' best practices and lesson learned.

The described activities will allow beneficiaries to address directly climate adversities by increasing production and overall quality of available natural capital (water, non-timber products, crops and livestock)[23] allowing therefore a better bargain power[24] and diversified investments. Furthermore, as expenditures on gas, water and electricity represent almost one tenth of the rural poor's budget (8%)[25], the foreseen strategy aims at reducing farming expenditures and reducing loss due to inadequate postharvest practices increasing therefore potential investments in more climate adaptive crops and technologies and reducing dependency from aid and money lenders. Finally, thanks to the new practices and technologies, the SCCF intervention will decrease dependency on forest wood for heating and other domestic/farming purposes as only 39% of the rural poor have access to electricity and or gas[25] providing therefore economically sound alternatives to charcoal and other forest unsustainable products.

Thanks to the introduction of the meteorological stations, the SCCF intervention will as well enable target communities to maximize investments in adaptive NR management of their regions. The installed devices will guarantee capillarity of the Moroccan meteorological services (VIGIOBS)[26] supporting producers with key information that will allow a better use of water, fertilizers and other agronomic inputs facilitating, among the others, the shift to organic and permaculture productions. The system demonstrated as well, in areas similar to the target ones, its validity in mitigating climate related adversities like forest fires[27], frosts and/or extreme precipitations[28].

Furthermore, the SCCF contribution will enhance smallholders adaptation by ensuring market oriented early response to environmental stresses and by climate proofing the agricultural value chain. Adaptive natural resource management, SAGE[29] business oriented diversification and adequate adaptive technologies will be the core of the contribution. This innovative approach will involve the stimulation of income-generating activities as well the creation of green jobs and business development opportunities for the whole community contributing as well to increase resilience against land grabbing practices and the consequent rooting out of entire communities bosting once more urban migration.

In this framework, reduction of post-harvest losses associated with renewable energy and other climate proofing techniques is among the most effective means for increasing food security, improving nutritional status of the population and reducing the use of natural resources. The increase in the availability of food by decreasing losses is more sustainable, easier and less expensive compared to increasing productivity with business as usual approaches. This is especially true for Morocco because of rural vulnerability, limited good agriculture land, soil problems and very limited water resources. In the mountain areas of rural Morocco, conventional systems and technologies are more sensible to climate variation because of inadequate design and poor energetic management of the monitored available post-harvest infrastructures. Significant levels of refrigeration and heating are needed to slow down spoilage and maintain pre-harvest freshness and flavour of ripe fruit and vegetables. The refrigeration and transformation systems usually operate at their heaviest load

23 http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/pubs/ansci/beef/as1564.pdf
24 http://www.dairy-sustainability-initiative.org/Files/media/GreenPaper_submissions/20110713/DfT_Mark%20and%20Joanne%20Seng_SE%20Qld_Solar%20Hot%20Water%20reduces%20costs%20in%20the%20dairy_2011.pdf **[REFERENCE REPORTED TO UNDERSTAND THE TECHNOLOGY - NOT FOR SCIENTIFIC REFERENCE NOR PRICES]**
25 http://www.oecd.org/countries/morocco/42022186.pdf
26 http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/IMOP/publications/IOM-104_TECO-2010/P1_21_Issara_Morocco.pdf
27 http://www.cimafoundation.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=323:libano&catid=129:progetti-en&Itemid=807&lang=en
28 http://www.drihm.eu/

during the summer daytime hours when electrical costs and outdoor temperatures are the highest[30]. From the perspective of the proposed SCCF intervention these are ideal condition to exploit fully the potential of renewable energies and adaptive technologies transforming a limiting factor into a production asset. Therefore investments in adaptive and climate change resilient post-harvest technologies, using appropriate and tailored retrofitting techniques combined with renewable energies, will contribute in ensuring the ideal preservation conditions while reducing the overall cost of post-harvest practices (largely due to fuel and engines maintenance). The reported inappropriate design and the use of conventional energy sources requires large investments of farmers and cooperatives reducing therefore their bargain power towards the market and contributing to the depletion and deterioration of the available natural capital. Furthermore, the foreseen climate change variations (increases of temperatures and reduction of rain) will contribute in reducing farmers investment and coping capacities while including climate proofing of the post-harvest component of the value chain will largely contribute in reducing of the overall farmers' vulnerability. If farmers are not able to invest in adequate post-harvest equipment, their ability to reduce losses will be limited. Ensuring stabilized cooling and processing environments will increase the quality of the products and will allow farmers to increase their chances of accessing the remunerative organic and sustainable oriented agro-food markets. Finally, thanks to the foreseen technologies and practices, farmers will have the capacity to shift from business as usual resource users to modern and resilient agro-entrepreneurs contributing as well in ensuring the long term economic and financial sustainability of the intervention

The SCCF contribution 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 (early warning system) and through national plans and policy dialogue at the provincial and regional level (*Fes-Boulman* and *Tadla-Azilal*). Furthermore, the SCCF contribution will ensure that all the PDRZM baseline investments in the field of post-harvest ensure that proper climate adaptive technologies are adopted so to guarantee the complete climate proofing of the value chain and ensure an optimized and sustainable cycle of the rural agricultural chain where the entire cycle is not only climate secured but contributes as well to GHG reduction and market opportunities.

The use of the above described technologies and practices will as well ensure the participation of current and new entrepreneur that will be involved in all phases of the project providing de facto new market opportunities and green jobs for the entire communities. In this framework the project will have the largest contribution of the private sector that will participate with in kind contributions related to knowledge sharing and to technical assistance provided to local farmers cooperatives and new entrepreneurs. Additionally, the SCCF intervention will ensure training and capacity development along the entire production and distribution chain ensuring the highest participation, among the others, of women as they historically contributed an important role in the production and availability of food in the sub-region. Recently, the role of women has increased in the postharvest sector, through their employment in processing plants and in packinghouses of horticultural crops. The project will ensure effective education programs for women handling of food, hygiene and processing.

The project is therefore innovative and transformational as it ensures the full integration of private sector and cooperatives in a process that will support the transition from "*Business as Usual*" to climate adaptive and diversified agriculture ensuring leverage and scaling up of IFAD's investment.

IFAD's baseline contribution will focus on increased productivity, value addition and marketing, including outcomes such as increased marketing of primary and secondary products. The baseline contribution will also make sure that the lessons learned and innovative approach promoted by the SCCF are mainstreamed at the Central level and replicated, by the very same beneficiaries, in other region and provinces of the country where IFAD is active. Furthermore the selected innovative approach is in line with the Morocco's adopted policies and investments for the sector31as it will increase food security of vulnerable families and smallholders in rural areas of the Country and will contribute to the stabilization of food's price inflation due to shortages of domestic production[32].

The SCCF intervention will address the most important roots causes of environmental and socio-economic degradation in the target areas by supporting highly innovative adaptation and vulnerability reduction plans that will increase the resilience of target mixed rangeland, forest and agriculture landscapes, while decreasing the vulnerability, enhancing risk preparedness, and bringing tangible economic benefits to the target rural communities with a special focus on women and youths of both sex.

[30] http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/files/datastore/234-1386.pdf (page 31)
31 Ministry of Fishery and Agriculture– Plan Maroc Vert, 2009.
32 IISD, 2013 - Food Price Inflation and Food Security: A Morocco case study

The best practices and lessons learned, produced through the SCCF intervention, will be mainstreamed into the wider IFAD country programme and will build in the policy dialogue. The proposed intervention has enormous potential for scaling up and replication, since the depletion of natural resources due to climate change, unsustainable agriculture and livestock practices are widely recognised as the main root causes of environmental degradation in Morocco, and because IFAD is among the largest financer of rural and agricultural development in the Region.

The creation of Users Groups including herders, farmers and forest users and the development and implementation of integrated landscape management plans for adaptation and vulnerability reduction is a highly innovative action in Morocco, where the deployment of available natural capital is boosting urban migration with unprecedented proportions[33]. Another innovative measure of the SCCF intervention is the empowerment of rural communities to better deal with extreme climate events and hazards, thanks to the set-up of a user-friendly early warning system (EWS) and SAGE business oriented diversification. Communities and local entrepreneurs will contribute to the project investing not only their time and facilities but providing as well their knowledge and labour. IFAD is working on EWS for rural communities is several countries, and lessons learned will be mainstreamed into the project. The participative approach and the empowerment of grassroots beneficiaries aside with state authorities and Morocco's research institutes and universities is also a guarantee for the long-term sustainability of the intervention. The adoption of new plans and policies at the State level, together with the increased attention of the Moroccan authorities to the agriculture/rural sector since 2003, and the long-term commitment of IFAD in the country, are all elements in favour of the sustainability of the proposed intervention.

A.2. Stakeholders. Identify key stakeholders (including civil society organizations, indigenous people, gender groups, and others as relevant) and describe how they will be engaged in project preparation:

The geographic target of the SCCF intervention will be the Regions of *Fes-Boulman* and *Tadla-Azilal*, which have been identified as priority areas of intervention through IFAD's preliminary climate change assessment.

The target groups within these areas will include: (i) small crop producers and subsistence farmers; (ii) pastoralists and small agro-pastoralists including beekeepers; (iii) rural women, particularly in female-headed households, (iv) local cooperatives and association; and (v) youth.

The main project partners will be: The Ministries of Agriculture and Environment, The Moroccan Agency for Renewable Energy, the Moroccan Reforestation Agency, the Moroccan National Centre for forestry Research, the National Meteorological Service of Morocco, the Moroccan State University; local governments; and community organizations / cooperatives.

IFAD has a solid on-going partnership with the Moroccan Government, which will be extended to all relevant state agencies during project preparation. Furthermore, the project will support an active partnership between Moroccan state University and international Universities and research centres working on Climate Change Adaptation.

A.3 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):

Risk	Proposed Measures
Policy and institutional risks: coordination among national institutions is often problematic and their capacities are limited.	The intervention will contribute to addressing these issues through a sustained capacity building and engagement effort. Policy dialogue will give priority to emphasising the criticality of increased commitment to climate proofing the value chains to decrease climate change vulnerability, increase productivity, generate revenues, and contribute to food security.
The ability of the existing institutional and policy/legal context to drive a successful wider implementation of the up-scaling efforts that the project is aiming at.	This risk will be mitigated by putting significant efforts to create an enabling environment for mainstreaming and up-scaling the introduced innovations to value-chain development and planning. The successful examples at the national level and beyond will be built upon. The private

33 Rural population is at its historical lowest pick.

	sector and policy makers will be targeted in awareness campaigns and involved in the planning of investment choices in order to ensure a buy-in at all levels. The creation of businesses will ensure sustained contribution to food security
Complexity of the chosen approach: the participatory development approach that drives the intervention is highly dependent on the quality of the staff deployed in the field teams, the provision of adequate incentives and the participation of women in the process. Cultural traditions may prejudice the project's attempts to give women a greater voice.	The intervention will build on effective and efficient project management units established during the previous IFAD projects. The trust and relationships built with communities in the target would increase the likelihood of success in achieving the project' objectives. The approach of seeking win-win situations with investments that can clearly benefit all concerned users will be an incentive for dialogue and conflict resolution among different segments of the rural communities.

A.4. Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF financed and other initiatives:

IFAD will coordinate with UN agencies wherever possible. Partnerships with regional donors including the World Bank, the African Development Bank (IsDB) and Arab Funds are being nurtured and will benefit from IFAD's framework for cooperation with IsDB for project financing. The project will coordinate with active EU and other bilateral donors active in the sector and areas of intervention ensuring as well distribution of the collected data through the appropriate research institute. The SCCF intervention will complement other relevant GEF-financed initiatives in Morocco, namely the project "*Integrating Climate Change in Development Planning and Disaster Prevention to Increase Resilience of Agricultural and Water Sectors*" implemented by WB, the project "*The Middle Atlas Forest Restoration project*" implemented by UNDP , and the project "*MENARID: Participatory Control of Desertification and Poverty Reduction in the Arid and Semi-Arid High Plateau Ecosystems of Eastern Morocco*" implemented by IFAD and .

B. Description of the consistency of the project with:

B.1 National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, if applicable, i.e. NAPAs, NAPs, NBSAPs, national communications, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, Biennial Update Reports, etc.:

The proposed intervention builds on the findings, and is closely aligned with recommendations of the first and Second National Communications to the UNFCCC (2010). It integrates key recommendations for adaptation activities in agriculture and water resource management and is fully relevant with the priority projects identified by the national strategies and the OECD Morocco Country Study.

The project has the full support of the Government of Morocco and the proposed interventions are based on priorities and recommendations of the "*Plan Maroc Vert* (PMV)" ,the "*National Plan against global warming*", the "*Programme d'Action National de Lutte contre la Desertification*" and will see the direct involvement of Moroccan relevant Authorities, State Universities and research institutions.

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

This project has been developed in conformity with the SCCF eligibility criteria. The project proposal respects the principle of country ownership having been developed in consultation with national stakeholders, as well as by taking into account all the latest and relevant studies and reports available on climate change adaptation requirements in Morocco. Also, the project has been designed to fully address the priority activities identified by the Government and it has been developed with the aim of ensuring sustainability and replicability beyond project completion.

The project design criteria have been respected by including a list and description of the project components as well as by describing the added value of the GEF intervention (additionality). The GEF component will complement activities and achievements in light of the expected impact of climate change. Co-financing requirements are

satisfied and cost-effectiveness aspects have been carefully considered. The project will be mainly investment-oriented and aims at encouraging replication and scaling-up at national level.

B.3. The GEF Agency's comparative advantage for implementing this project:

IFAD is among the largest financier of rural and agricultural development in Morocco, with over three decades of experience in supporting development in fragile environments. Its comparative advantage is based on: (i) its long-term partnership with the government; (ii) its ability to identify and focus on diversified and systemic development challenges across the country; (iii) its ability to engage stakeholders at local and national level; (iv) a well-developed framework of supervision and implementation support.

The IFAD country programme consists of several on-going projects and programmes representing US$ 194.6m in loans and grants provided by IFAD. These activities are spread across the country and include integrated community development, rural infrastructure, improved crop productivity and pro-poor export commodities. The total outreach is estimated at 3.6 million. IFAD is increasingly involved in CC adaptation, vulnerability reduction, and NRM work in Africa and at the global level, and its knowledge management framework enables and effective and prompt application of lessons learned and best practices to new interventions.

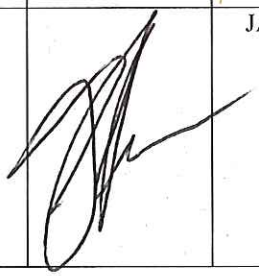
PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

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

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE *(MM/dd/yyyy)*
Mr. Mohamed BENYAHIA	GEF Operational Focal Point	Ministry of Energy Mining, Water & Environment	

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/SCCF/SCCF/NPIF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/SCCF/SCCF/NPIF criteria for project identification and preparation.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	DATE *(MM/dd/yyyy)*	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Elwyn Grainger-Jones Director, Environment and Climate Division IFAD		JAN/24/2014	Rami Abu Salman, Regional Climate and Environment Specialist	+39 06 5459 2291	r.salman@ifad.org