



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: LDCF

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Title:	Scaling up Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) in Niger		
Country(ies):	Niger	GEF Project ID:	4701
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	4790
Other Executing Partner(s):	CENDD	Submission Date:	March 5 th 2012
GEF Focal Area (s):	Climate Change	Project Duration (months):	48
Name of parent programme: For SFM/REDD+		Agency Fee (\$):	375,000

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK:

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative grant amount (\$)	Indicative co-financing (\$)
CCA-1	Outcome 1.3 Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas	Output 1.3.1 Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability	LDCF	500,000	3,000,000
CCA-2	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		1,500,000	5,450,000
CCA-3	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		1,600,000	4,200,000
Sub-total				3,600,000	12,650,000
Project management cost				150,000	600,000
Total project cost				3,750,000	13,250,000

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: Strengthen the responsiveness and adaptive capacity of administrative/technical support services at the commune-level to enable generation of a critical mass of climate resilient communities and achieve more climate resilient economies in Maradi region, Republic of Niger

Project Component	Grant type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative co-financing (\$)
Administrative and technical support services at the commune-level trained in climate risk management	TA	Outcome 1: Effective climate risk information and management tools supplied and adopted by commune leaders, extension services and community organizations (CBOs and NGOs) to support the achievement of climate resilient economies in vulnerable communes of Maradi	a. Councillors and technical extension workers and CBOs, NGOs, and extension workers at the commune-level in each Maradi vulnerable communes trained to understand opportunities and threats associated with long-term climate change; and integrate this new learning into their programming (\$200K)	LDCF	2,000,000	UNDP: 2,750,000 UNCDF: 800,000 Care International: 450,000 Luxembourg: 2,200,000 Local governments: 50,000 Total: 6,250,000
	INV		b. Sustainable, effective communication systems established to enable communal councillors, extension services and community organizations (CBOs and NGOs) to access and use relevant climate information and hydro-meteorological advisories, high-resolution satellite data, other climate risk management tools (e.g. maps) and information on climate change impacts to drive their local/community development plans and projects. (\$750K)			
	TA		c. Communal development plans and rural/community development programmes/projects reviewed and updated to integrate effective climate risk management and enable more climate-smart investment; (\$150K)			
	TA		d. Rural producers, particularly women, engaged in climate-resilient income-generating activities transformed into viable local micro-entrepreneurs, trained to store/conservate their production where needed and enabled to access and link with district-level and national markets for sale of their products (\$300K)			
	TA		e. Rural producers, particularly women, provided with business development support and enabled to access finance from existing micro-finance institutions to sustainably support their micro-enterprises; (\$300K)			

Project Objective: Strengthen the responsiveness and adaptive capacity of administrative/technical support services at the commune-level to enable generation of a critical mass of climate resilient communities and achieve more climate resilient economies in Maradi region, Republic of Niger						
Project Component	Grant type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative co-financing (\$)
			f. CBA best practices (including gender differentiated issues) captured and widely shared/disseminated and cross-community learning on adaptation across Niger advanced to support replication in other vulnerable communities. (\$300K)			
Implementation of measures to build communities[adaptive capacities	INV	Outcome 2: Implementation of locally-designed climate-resilient livelihoods options to build the socio-economic resilience of target communities	a. Rural producers, particularly women, engaged in climate-resilient income-generating activities (CR-IGAs) through the scaling-up of currently attempted CR-IGAs (small-scale garden farming activities, small animal breeding, beekeeping, artisan, seamstresses, etc.) b. Rural producers, particularly women, adopted small-scale irrigation techniques and sustainably managed local water resources to support IGA;	LDCF	1,600,000	UNDP: 850,000 UNCDF: 3,500,000 Luxembourg: 2,000,000 Communities 50,000 Total: 6,400,000
Sub-total					3,600,000	12,650,000
Project management cost					150,000	UNDP: 200,000 Gov: 400,000 Total: 600,000
Total project costs					3,750,000	13,250,000

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
National Government	CNEDD	In-kind	400,000
Local Government	Local government and Targets communes in Maradi	In-kind	100,000
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	3,800,000
Other multilateral agency	UNCDF	Grant	4,300,000
Bilateral Agency	Luxembourg	Grant	4,200,000
CSO	Care International	Grant	450,000
Total Co-financing			13,250,000

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

A.1.1 THE GEF FOCAL AREA STRATEGIES:

This project is consistent with GEF’s Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). The proposed project is mainly aligned with Objective 2, which is focused on “increasing adaptive capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change, including variability, at local, national, regional and global levels”. Through this project, administrative and technical support services (commune leaders, extension services and community organizations) will be capacitated to support local communities to systematically manage and respond to extreme weather events (CCA- Outcome 1.3). In addition, the project will support local communities in Maradi to achieve more climate resilient economies (CCA-outcome 2.2).

The project will also deliver additional outputs such as systematizing and codifying CBA best practices identified in the target site, and widely sharing and enabling cross-community learning on adaptation to allow replication and duplication in other vulnerable communities.

A.1.2 FOR PROJECTS FUNDED FROM LDCF/SCCF: THE LDCF/SCCF ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES:

Country ownership: Niger is a Party to the UNFCCC, having ratified it on 25 July 1995. As a Least Developed Country, Niger has also prepared the National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA). The country already submitted to UNFCCC First and Second National Communications (INC in 2000 and SNC in 2009).

The INC, SNC and the NAPA provided an assessment of potentially major impacts of climate change on sectors that are essential for development in Niger, and state that building resilience of communities require urgent attention. These documents were developed in consultation with numerous stakeholders, including local communities, the public sector, the private sector, NGOs and civil society. The proposed project draws on information contain in INC/ SNC and priorities identified into the NAPA.

Compliance with programme and LDC Fund policies: The project complies with the needs identified by the country within the NAPA as articulated in several NAPA priorities. As such, the proposal is in compliance with the NAPA rules and procedures and represents the response of Government of Niger to urgent and immediate adaptation needs.

The proposed project is consistent with the strategic objective of the LDCF fund to promote the LDCs' "climate compatible" development options and support the achievement of the MDGs under conditions of climate change.

Financing: The project is designed to reflect the additional adaptation costs of priority actions identified in the NAPA and builds on several other projects and programmes. The co-funding for this project is also within the stated guidelines with more than \$6m in prospective funding. These amounts will be clarified during the project preparation phase. It should be noted that the among likely co-financing is twice the amount required by the LDCF guidelines for the amount of LDCF resources being requested by the Government of Niger for this project.

Institutional Synergy and Coordination: The National Council for Environmentally Sustainable Development (CNEDD) will manage the project through a Project Co-ordination Unit and will delegate specific project activities to appropriate ministries and multilateral partners, including the Ministry of Environment and Desertification Control, the Ministry of Animal Resources and Livestock Industries, the Ministry of Agricultural Development, the Ministry of Hydraulics, the Ministry of Decentralization and. Sub national authorities, parliamentarians, civil society (women and youth associations, NGOs, media, Community Based Organizations) and the private sector will be important stakeholders of the project and will be provided with adequate space to contribute. Details of the institutional arrangements will be spelt out during the PPG phase.

Monitoring and Evaluation: The implementation of the project's activities will reflect GEF monitoring and evaluation standards and procedures as well as UNDP guidelines on monitoring and evaluation of projects on adaptation policy. Details for monitoring and evaluation will be articulated during the project development phase.

A.2. NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS:

The project is in line with the major development challenges identified in the Accelerated Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (**SDRP** in French), The Rural Development Strategy (**SDR** in French), the Environmental Plan for sustainable development (**PNEDD** in French), the Niger's National Adaptation Programme of Action (**NAPA**), and UNFCCC National Communications (**INC and SNC**).

The **SDRP** advocates, by 2025, to redefine the role of different stakeholders, to develop the productive sectors, to ensure access of the poor to basic social services, promote good governance, strengthening human and institutional capacity and decentralization. In addition, the **SDR** seeks to clarify SDRP through more sectoral strategies and to provide SDRP with an 'operational content' in relation to agro-sylvo-pastoral productions and aims to (i) facilitate access to rural economic opportunities to create the conditions for sustainable economic growth in rural areas; (ii) to prevent risks, improve food security and sustainable resource management; (iii) and strengthen the capacity of public institutions and rural organizations to improve management of the rural sector. To meet these objectives, the project will support the diversification of sources of economic growth through the reduction of rural economy's vulnerability to external shocks (socio-economic conditions, natural disasters) and the dependence of the communities' livelihoods resources (agriculture and livestock) on climatic conditions. The project will also promote effective participative governance of climate change

by giving necessary information and training on climatic risk management and mainstreaming adaptation issues into local development plans

Niger has developed and implemented a national environmental plan for sustainable development (PNEDD), the purpose of which is to have a specific, unified and integrated environmental policy. The PNEDD is made up of six (6) priority programmes, including the climate change and variability programme, which specifically aims to establish the milestones for implementation of the UNFCCC in Niger. The project will support implementation of the component on information, education and training of communities support services to the problem of climate change and will help to improve the scientific and techno-logical capacity of local decision-makers.

Niger's National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) process, supported by other national processes such as the National Strategy and Action Plan for Climate Change and Variability (SNPA/CVC), established that climate change is likely to have adverse effects on the communities' livelihoods resources and consequently food security. The project will focus on key adaptation interventions that were identified in the NAPA process as being of high priority by stakeholders at national, departmental, communal and village levels. It will contribute to implement the following NAPA priorities:

- **NAPA Priority Project #6: The promotion of IGA and development of credit unions:** The objective of the project is to contribute to reduce poverty through the diversification of income revenues in target areas. In the context of the proposed project, climate-resilient income-generating activities (CR-IGAs) will be implemented through the scaling-up of currently attempted CR-IGAs (small-scale garden farming activities, small animal breeding, beekeeping, artisan, seamstresses, etc.). In addition, project beneficiaries will access finance from existing micro-finance institutions to sustainably support their micro-enterprises.
- **NAPA Priority Project #7: Water management and control:** The objective of the project is to contribute to reduce poverty and improve food security through mobilization of water. In the context of the proposed project, small-scale irrigation will be promoted and local sustainable water management adopted to support income generating activities.
- **NAPA Priority Project #14: Technical, material and organizational capacity building of rural farmers:** The objectives of the project are to (i) develop mechanisms for better management of rural sector by producers; (ii) improve and valorise producer's knowledge; and improve rural producer's capacities. In the context of the proposed project, business development support will be provided to rural producers. They will be transformed into viable local micro-entrepreneurs, trained to store/conservate their production where needed and enabled to access and link with district-level and national markets for sale of their products.

The proposed project is consistent with both the First and Second National Communications of Niger which inputs will help to establish the technical feasibility of adaptation options and measures during the preparatory phase, while avoiding duplicating other adaptation endeavours already underway across the country.

B. PROJECT OVERVIEW:

B.1. DESCRIBE THE BASELINE PROJECT AND THE PROBLEM THAT IT SEEKS TO ADDRESS:

Context and problems

In 2009, Niger benefited from funding under the LDCF "to *implement urgent and priority interventions that will promote enhanced adaptive capacity of the agricultural sector to address the additional risks posed by climate change.*" This is a pilot project in nature, in which the primary purpose of the activities supported is to demonstrate how adaptation can be addressed practically in the agriculture sector across eight vulnerable communes. The intervention includes the implementation of a set of adaptation practices at community level to enhance the resilience food security of agricultural production systems. Other programmes have been also initiated over recent years aimed at building the resilience of local

communities to climate stressors, notably in the agricultural sector. The UNDP/GEF-funded Small Grants Programme has achieved many significant successes in the field of CBA across Niger, catalyzing community engagement in meeting their adaptation challenges and initiating micro-projects to address these identified challenges, often with the support of local NGOs in implementation. A dynamic network of more than a hundred NGOs and CBOs active in community-based climate change adaptation exists in Niger (e.g. Care International, ENDA). These initiatives have demonstrated significant learning, as well as the development of a national process for addressing community-based adaptation in Niger. However, discussions with project managers, the SGP National Coordinator and local partners, have highlighted several bottlenecks to the scaling up of CBA in Niger. Among lessons learned, the following is highlighted:

- Limited local governance of climate changes to support communities' resilience: Local authorities are a key component of local development and poverty alleviation in Niger. They have shown an obvious comparative advantage, and can trigger collective efforts at grassroots level to build population resilience to disasters. Strengthening the capacity of commune leadership and technical decentralized services in Niger's vulnerable communes to scale up is critical to meeting adaptation challenges.
- All existing community-based adaptation programmes are limited in geographical extent and lack sufficient resources to comprehensively finance adaptation activities. They do not encompass a sufficient number of communes and thus do not generate a critical mass of climate-resilient rural producers capable of inspiring and effecting transformative change across communities and the productive landscape. In this context, scaling up and/or replication of adaptation efforts in vulnerable communes in Niger have been inadequate to ensure climate resiliency at the broadest landscape scale.
- There is limited finance for local communities and their institutions, where the effects of climate change are most apparent. Furthermore, the adaptation finance that is available for local authorities is often tied up in 'application based' funds that require local governments to apply to specific institutions for resources with rules and conditions attached.

In summary, all existing community based adaptation programmes are limited in geographical extent, they do encompass or include enough of the communes and do not generate a critical mass of climate-resilient rural producers capable of inspiring transformative change in neighbouring communities and catalysing the scaling up of adaptation efforts in vulnerable communes in Niger.

Underlying causes of the problem

Development in Niger is constrained by extreme poverty. Factors exacerbating this poverty include malnutrition, high levels of child mortality, limited primary school education opportunities, limited access to technology, disease pandemics, ecosystem degradation and regional conflicts. Food security and water availability are likely to be severely compromised by rising temperatures and greater variability in rainfall. Droughts have led to a decrease in agricultural production, a concomitant increase in grazing pressure on declining pastoral ecosystems (which are diminishing in size due to agricultural encroachment), and consequently an increase in soil erosion on a large scale. Climate change exacerbates loss of soil, which in turn further reduces agricultural productivity. As a result of livestock sensitivity to drought cycles, milk production has been reduced from 107 litres of milk/person/year to 30 litres milk/person/year – even with an external contribution estimated at 6,000 tons milk/year. Livestock numbers have been shown to drop by up to 50 % during serious drought periods in Niger. Many rural communities in Niger obtain their water from natural ponds or lakes. An increase in the frequency of droughts as a consequence of climate change has already resulted in the desiccation of numerous ponds, a process that is likely to intensify.

Experience in Niger with decentralization has more often than not failed to meet the expectations of improved governance and efficiency of services of the country's population. This has been attributable in part to factors involved in the design and implementation of decentralization (lack of resources, weak on the ground capacity, poor commitment at the national level and lack of appropriate coordination among development partners), as well as issues related to the transparency and

participatory nature of the process (in terms of inadequate information flows, the absence of a democratic culture and insufficient participation of civil society) from reaching full maturity.

The Preferred Solution and Barrier Analysis

The natural continuation to the first LDCF project is to start a process of scaling up of proven adaptation practices at the sub-national/provincial levels to catalyze climate-resilient development in the most vulnerable sectors (agriculture, water livestock). A critical mass of rural communities becomes resilient to climate change stressors, including variability, commune-wide through the scaling up of CBA initiatives, thereby generating synergies among communities in terms of knowledge, social capital and sub-regional economies, as well as creating landscape level resilience benefits. This phase will likely continue to include investments in adaptation activities directly on the ground, but will also include policy support aimed at helping countries to mainstream adaptation into local/regional policies and planning, creating the capacity necessary to absorb and utilize adaptation technology transfer, and supporting a process to achieve more climate resilient economies.

However, scaling up community-based adaption, in the context of a non-mature decentralization process, poses challenges that can hamper the development of climate adapted local governance. The barriers to increasing the resilience of Niger's regions to climate change are related to the biophysical environment, the availability of financial resources and institutional capacity. Yet practical adaptation and resilience requires local governments to improve their adaptive capacity and apply their existing mandates to deal with the immediate and long-term resilience issues that confront them. The main barriers are presented below.

- Social forces and resources available at the local level are not mobilized and organized around the issues of climate change adaptation by commune leaders. Despite recognition of the critical role of local institutions in facilitating adaptation of rural populations to climate change, little systematic analysis has been done to identify the factors of successful performance in strengthening climate resilience, the roles of different local institutions in climate adaptation, the features of institutions that are important for successful adaptation and the support they require to enhance their role in facilitating adaptation;
- Local communities have insufficient capacity to implement identified climate-resilient activities/practices across landscapes commune/wide;
- Insufficient access to markets and to financing to transition to and sustain climate-resilient alternative income-generating activities;
- Information is currently lacking on how and under which conditions area-based and decentralized development approaches can help reduce climate change-related vulnerability, enhance adaptive capacity, and promote sustainable livelihoods;
- Climate risk information, adaptation options and knowledge are not shared and disseminated as widely as needed to enable cross-communal learning. Cross-cutting efforts to codify and disseminate CBA good practices are insufficient, and knowledge-sharing among vulnerable communities on how to address a changing climate is poor. Only a limited number of organized efforts to ensure such cross-community learning are currently happening across Niger's vulnerable communities.

Baseline Project(s) that the project will build on include:

The UN Maradi Joint Programme (MJP- total budget of \$106,900,000 co-financing to this LDCF Project is \$12,000,000):

The United Nations Agencies and other bilateral and multilateral partners signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of the Republic of Niger, with a view to formulating and implementing a joint programme in the region of Maradi (MJP 2011-2013). The intervention strategy for the joint programme focuses on three main areas and one cross-cutting area of activity, namely: (i) improved food security, production and income; (ii) greater availability and accessibility of basic social services, and population growth control; (iii) consolidation of local governance; and (iv) cross-cutting strategies. The proposed LDCF project will support and supplement the MJP through funding of additional costs associated with modifying baseline development programmes to include and promote resilience to climate change.

CARE International's project "Adaptation Learning Programme/Demonstrating Adaptation in the Department of Dakoro, Niger" (Co-financing to LDCF Project: \$450,000): This project aims to reduce the impacts of climate variability and climate change on vulnerable households in the Department of Dakoro (Maradi Region). This will be achieved through five objectives: building capacity on CBA and integrating adaptation into projects, developing a global portfolio of CBA projects, demonstrating models of best practice, integration of adaptation into CARE projects in climate-sensitive sectors, knowledge-building on adaptation for CARE staff and partners, and outreach to the global climate change adaptation community. Technical and communications tools developed by CARE will be an input to support the identification, understanding, quantification and assessment of the degree to which a rural community is vulnerable to climate change and variability, and its capacity to cope and adapt to anticipated impacts.

United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)' project "Support to Local Economic Development in the Maradi region, Niger" (Co-financing to LDCF Project: \$3,300,000): The objectives of the project are to promote local economic development to reduce food insecurity and vulnerability of target groups and promote sustainable financial services to facilitate access of poor communities to credit schemes. The LDCF project can use the already existing financial flows to link to regular governmental fiscal transfers and build on existing management structures thereby limiting any extra burden and maximizing administrative and financial efficiency.

B.2. Incremental/Additional cost reasoning: DESCRIBE THE INCREMENTAL (GEF TRUST FUND) AND THE ASSOCIATED Global environmental benefits TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT:

The Government of Niger requests the LDCF to finance the additional costs of strengthening the responsiveness and adaptive capacity of administrative/technical support services at the commune-level to enable generation of a critical mass of climate resilient communities and achieve more climate resilient landscapes and economies in Maradi Region. The choice of this region, the poorest of Niger, is justified by the paradox that makes this old "economic capital", one where human development indicators remain weak. According to the National Consumption Budget of the National Institute of Statistics (INS, 2008), the incidence of poverty in the Maradi region is 73.4% against a national average of 59.5%. This low level of human development is also exacerbated by a population growth of 3.73%, one of the highest in the country. In addition, Maradi's Region is identified by the NAPA as one of the regions most vulnerable to climate changes in Niger. The LDCF project will develop and integrate a complementary strategy to promote territorial development in the context of climate change and attendant vulnerabilities. The approach of the project is to develop an integrated and complementary strategy to promote territorial development in the context of climate change and attendant vulnerabilities.

Component 1: Administrative and technical support services at the commune-level trained in climate risk management

Baseline:

The UN Maradi Joint Programme is designed to enhance the capacity of local decision-makers, CBOs and extension services to undertake development planning, support improved coordination between institutions as well as improve participation of communities, specifically women and youth, in decision-making relating to local development. Particular attention is paid to stimulating behavioural adjustments that translate into a sustained increase in production, gender equity and the role of women in economic and socio cultural life. The Programme also works to strengthen existing local governance mechanisms in (i) establishing emergency management systems to prevent and manage food crises and natural disasters; and (ii) building capacity of communities to sustainably manage key natural resources. These interventions are expected to contribute towards improved food security, production and income. These interventions are part of a key strategy underpinning the implementation of the Framework for Accelerated MDGs at the regional level. Moreover, the Programme seeks to enhance the delivery of key services through public-private partnerships, both at the national and international levels, as well as through traditional institutional partnerships supported by bi-lateral and multi-lateral cooperation, including initiatives to be financed through decentralized cooperation.

In Madarounfa and Guidan Roumji in (southern Maradi), CARE is actively engaged in strengthening community based organizations' (CBO) capacities to initiate, develop and execute local development plans in partnership with NGOs,

associations and COFOs (Commissions foncieres in French - translated as Land Tenure Commissions). This support is provided as part of CARE's priorities on strengthening the capacities of local communities for sustainable management of their natural resources and conflict prevention and resolution.

The total funding available through these projects for the achievement of baseline development goals is US\$6,250,000.

However, the social forces and resources available at the local level are not well mobilized and organized around the issues of climate change adaptation. Despite recognition of the critical role of local institutions in facilitating adaptation of rural populations to climate change, little systematic analysis has been done to identify the factors of successful performance in strengthening climate resilience, the roles of different local institutions in climate adaptation, the features of institutions that are important for successful adaptation and the support they require to enhance their role in facilitating adaptation. Priority initiatives identified within the framework of NAPA do not integrate proactive participation by local authorities and communities into proposed adaptation plans. While, it is expected that a system for disaster management will be established, it is not yet specified if climate information will be available to local decision-makers, grassroots communities and technical services to better plan and sustainably manage the risk of natural disasters. Despite the presence of many warning indicators, there is no clear threshold that triggers appropriate responses (especially for drought and pricing data). There is no reference to the impacts of climate change on planned investments and how to address these in the MJP.

Consequently, any form of adaptation to risks resulting from climate change is strongly favoured and supported and will be managed by local authorities, responsible for all aspects of local governance, including environmental governance.

Additionality: The LDCF project is seeking to strengthen the capacities of commune leaders, extension services and community organizations (CBOs and NGOs) to support the achievement of climate resilient economies. The additional costs will be met with GEF-LDCF support (US\$2,000,000).

Specifically, the LDCF-financed project will train councillors and technical extension workers at the commune-level in each of Maradi's vulnerable communes to understand the opportunities and threats associated with long-term climate change and integrate this new learning into their programming. Local actors need and deserve to know why they might have to take different decisions or call on different or additional resources in conducting their livelihoods. The project will give relevant knowledge to local stakeholders to allow them to understand the changing risk context, how it may affect them, and what they can do to prepare and protect them.

The LDCF project will also support the establishment of sustainable, effective communication systems to enable communal councillors, extension services and community organizations (CBOs and NGOs) to access and use relevant climate information and hydro-meteorological advisories, high-resolution satellite data, other climate risk management tools (e.g. maps) and information on climate change impacts to drive their local/community development plans and projects. This system will be linked to a system for disaster management supported by partners (UNCDF). Local governments need information to take decisions that will reduce their vulnerability to current and future climate risks. The table below gives examples of the types of information that the project will provide in order to support them to make informed local-level adaptation decisions, as well as some of the tools, toolkits and frameworks available for gathering and organizing this information. The project will build on the lessons from UNDP's and CARE International's portfolios of CBA projects that demonstrate models of best practice.

Information for adaptation	Climate-specific tools	Generic tools
Climate forecasts, predictions and projections: <i>Information regarding anticipated weather forecasts, seasonal weather predictions and projected long-term climate trends are essential for understanding current climate-related hazards and potential future hazards.</i>	Scientific & indigenous / quantitative (e.g. <i>seasonal weather forecasts formulated in the context of traditionally available knowledge</i>)	
Monitoring tools (high resolution satellite maps and radar data): <i>Provision of real-time information to community-based decision-makers and communities at risk important to enable them to monitor the evolution of detected climate risks and opportunities</i>	Scientific (high resolution satellite maps and radar data)	
Natural hazards and environmental assessments: <i>Information on the environmental/hazard profile of target communities is needed to provide explanations for current environmental change and deviations from past practice, as well as identification of possible new trends for better-targeted and designed solution finding by local decision-makers</i>	Scientific/quantitative: <i>wind, rainfall and temperature data (historic and current)</i> Indigenous/qualitative: <i>traditional knowledge</i>	Scientific/quantitative/qualitative (geological hazard maps, hydrological maps local rainfall and flood level records) Qualitative: <i>participatory local hazard maps</i>
Vulnerability and capacity assessments: <i>Support identifying, understanding, quantifying and assessing the degree to which a rural community is vulnerable to climate change and variability, and its capacity to cope and adapt to anticipate impacts.</i>	Climate Vulnerability & Capacities Assessments (<i>Red Cross vulnerability and capacity assessment, CARE international climate vulnerability and capacity</i>)	
Livelihood analysis <i>Understanding of the livelihood context in a rural community (its human, natural, financial, physical and social capitals) and how these assets could be affected by climate change helps identify potential sources of vulnerability and possible responses.</i>	CRiSTAL (<i>community-based risk screening tool – adaptation and livelihoods</i>)	Participatory rural appraisal tools (e.g. stories and oral histories, household surveys, etc.)
Local coping and adaptation strategies <i>Rural communities have established strategies for coping with historic climate variability, and might be introducing new strategies to adjust to new climatic experiences.</i>		

Technical and communications tools developed by CARE will support the identification, understanding, quantification and assessment of the degree to which a rural community is vulnerable to climate change and variability, and its capacity to cope and adapt to anticipated impacts.

Based on the climate information/tools provided, the project will support the review and updating of communal development plans and rural/community development programmes/projects to integrate effective climate risk management and enable more climate-smart investment. Various weather scenarios and contingency-based adaptive strategies should also be gradually integrated into the decision-making process. This will require an integrated and efficient planning method, which includes public and private dimensions. The formulation and implementation of incentive measures (concerning ad hoc financial instruments, for instance, but also appropriate parameters allowing for the assessment of the institutional performance of local authorities) could greatly ease and speed up the revision or amendment of council investment plans. This review will link to UNCDF/UNDP components on consolidation of local governance.

Consortia of stakeholder organizations (CBOs, NGOs, extension agency, communal governance) will be established to support the development and implementation of coherent adaptation strategies and projects at the communal level.

Rural producers, particularly women engaged in climate-resilient income-generating activities, will be transformed into viable local micro-entrepreneurs, trained to store/conservate their production where needed and enabled to access and link with district-level and national markets for sale of their products.

Finally, CBA best practices (including gender differentiated issues) will be captured and widely shared and disseminated, and cross-community learning on adaptation across Niger will be fomented to allow replication and duplication in other vulnerable communities. At the level of homogenous agro-ecological zones with their own weather features and specific production systems or sub-systems, it will be necessary to capture a set of context-specific measures geared towards mitigating the socio-economic impact of climate change. In this light, there is also the need to better integrate local environmental knowledge and best practices in devising adaptive strategies.

Component 2: Implementation of measures to build communities' adaptive capacities

Baseline: The United Nations System is contributing to the strategic response of challenge posed by poverty in Maradi. The Joint Programme is designed to implement, at the regional level, activities that align with and advance progress towards the achievement of outputs reflected in the: (i) the Accelerated Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (DPRS); (iii) the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF); and (iv) the Paris Declaration. The overall objective remains poverty reduction and the achievement of MDG-related targets in the region, through: (i) the improvement of agro-pastoral activities, sustainable management of natural resources, prevention and mitigation of food crises and natural disasters, (ii) improving access for vulnerable populations to basic social services and quality of their participation in the control of population growth; (iii) promoting development at the community level, local governance, human rights and gender equity. In addition, social safety nets for the most vulnerable will be established to protect and sustain their livelihoods and thus promote their empowerment. It is expected that vulnerable communities will increase productivity and profitability of their production systems, develop income generating activities, access to employment, credit (woman and youth) and possess the capacity to manage their activities. The total cost of the baseline project is estimated to be US\$4,400,000.

However, the MJP is intervening in the most climate vulnerable region in Niger (NAPA). From the 1960s to date, rainfall has fluctuated dramatically in the Maradi region. Available data shows that precipitation has not declined steadily, but rather experienced strong variations. Thus, over the past forty years, Maradi was affected by four droughts qualified as moderate, six severe droughts and four extreme droughts, though the intensity of each drought varies according to the area. While the Maradi Region has eight conventional banks and 21 operational microfinance systems (33 points services), there is still insufficient access to markets and to financing to transition to and sustain climate-resilient alternative income-generating activities.

Under these conditions, climate change will limiting factor for the development of the region and the MJP (in particular results that it is seeking to achieve) is no longer going to be effective without considering climate change in local development strategies. As climate change manifests and increasingly impacts the communities' livelihood resources, regional efforts on poverty reduction is likely to be undermined and hamper the achievement and certainly the sustainability of MDG targets. There is a need to more effectively address the serious vulnerability of Maradi households and communities to ecological, economic, climate and food crises of all sorts. Within this perspective, any action in the area of climate change is necessarily an investment aimed at building household and community resilience, enhancing their adaptation mechanisms and avoiding neglect of land and village development priorities. The challenge is to establish structural, systemic, and sustainable support that meaningfully recognizes and addresses climate change challenges.

Additionality: LDCF resources will be used to support local communities to implement identified climate-resilient activities/practices in a phased approach across a critical mass of vulnerable communities. The additional costs will be met with GEF-LDCF support (US\$2,100,000).

On the one hand, the project will support the introduction of innovative measures and the dissemination of traditional practices that increase adaptive capacity to climate change. Rural producers, particularly women, will be engaged in climate-resilient income-generating activities (CR-IGAs) through the scaling-up of current CR-IGAs (small-scale garden farming activities, small animal breeding, beekeeping, artisan, seamstresses, etc.). The project will also support CR-IGAs identified through CBA micro-projects formulated by local governments, CBOs and NGOs (Output 1.e). They will also adopt small-scale irrigation techniques and sustainably manage local water resources to support IGA. This will involve larger or more sophisticated investments in climate resilient technologies and practices and in income-generating activities that are resilient to more frequent and intense food security threats. These on-site investments will not only demonstrate

appropriate climate risk management approaches, they will also bring direct relief to the most vulnerable communities in Maradi. At each site, a participatory and community-centred approach will be adopted, based on a profound analysis and understanding of each community’s vulnerabilities and adaptation needs in excess of local capacities, one derived from preliminary Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments, and the project will provide overall guidance (towards climate change resilience) and provide technical and scientific support to the process. This output will be implemented in close coordination with the FAO and Luxembourg activities.

Business development support will be provided and will enable them to access finance from existing micro-finance institutions to sustainably support their micro-enterprises. Lending funds will be provided (through communes) to help community organizations (CBOs, women’s groups, etc.) to build and sustain their climate-resilient income-generating activities. Returns will be saved or reinvested or some combination of both. Families will build and diversify assets, so that they have more than one means of livelihood. UNCDF expertise on inclusive finance will support target beneficiaries to manage finances and link with existing financial services in Maradi.

B.3. DESCRIBE THE SOCIOECONOMIC BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS, INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF GENDER DIMENSIONS, AND HOW THESE WILL SUPPORT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT BENEFITS. AS BACKGROUND INFORMATION, READ [Mainstreaming Gender at the GEF](#):

Economic benefits: project beneficiaries will identify and implement technical practices aimed at enhancing agricultural activities with animal husbandry (agro-pastoralism), as well as supporting extra-agricultural productive activities in rural areas. These will enable poor households and those particularly vulnerable to climate change to earn sufficient income to offset the risks to their agricultural systems from climate change. In relation to financial benefits, the project will improve the provision of appropriate and sustainable financial services (micro-finance) to poor and particularly vulnerable households to climate change (which would otherwise be left on the side-lines in any conventional approach). The project will finance at least 1,000 climate-adaptive income-generating micro-projects in the areas of agriculture, fisheries and pastoral activities benefiting nearly 200,000 people of which 80 percent are women, and improve their income by over 10 percent. Taking into account the size of the beneficiary families, it is estimated that about 500,000 people will have directly or indirectly benefited from this project. Estimated volume of microfinance credit to support climate-resilient IGAs will be about US\$1,000,000 (supported by GEF and by other partners through co-financing). The table below gives examples of direct and indirect benefits and their sustainability (to be developed during the preparatory phase).

Direct socio-economic benefits	Indirect socio-economic benefits	Sustainability
<p>Employment in climate-resilient income-generating activities (CR-IGAs: small-scale garden farming activities, small animal breeding, beekeeping, artisans, seamstresses, etc.). The project will finance at least 1,000 climate-adaptive income-generating micro-projects in the areas of agriculture, fisheries and pastoral activities benefiting nearly 200,000 people of which 80 percent are women, and improve their income by over 10 percent</p> <p>Increase in incomes through increased agricultural productivity and commercialization of products</p>	<p>Better prevention of malnutrition leading to better health conditions</p> <p>Increased solidarity and social capital through the creation and enhancement of various women’s groups</p> <p>Greater mutual trust among populations and the communities in the framework of climate change;</p> <p>Diversification of assets and means of livelihoods</p>	<p>Capacity building of target beneficiaries on business administration</p> <p>Support to beneficiaries to access finance from existing micro-finance institutions to sustainably support their micro-enterprises</p>

Social benefits: secure the enormous potentials of existing solidarity networks and local mutual aid systems, and strengthen the legal role of civil society organizations in rising above the adverse effects of climate change. In addition setting up adequate sensitization, information and training programmes on climate change – policies and strategies will

likely not produce concrete results if there is no prior awareness of the risks and opportunities of climate change and variability; and policies and strategies may not produce concrete results if there is no prior awareness of the population and decision-makers of the existence of climate change and its impact on local livelihoods. In relation to natural capital: build resilience and productivity of natural resources (through sustainable land management), in order to support vulnerable household livelihoods and underpin local adaptive strategies to climate change, depending on the target area's agro-ecological characteristics.

Gender dimension: The specific needs of women producers will be considered at all stages of project design, from preliminary Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments to project implementation, and particularly when developing climate-resilient income-generating activities (that will be designed to meet their needs), sustainable mechanisms for transmission of climate and weather forecasts (that will be important to their decision-making imperatives and delivered using channels that are relevant to them) and also updating regional plans/programmes and projects. At the same time, recognition will be given to women's comprehensive knowledge of and experience with respect to, for example, seed selection, medicinal plants, local hydrology, and community transformation, as well as coping strategies that can promote adaptation to climate change. In the political framework, the review and updating of plans, programmes and strategies will integrate not only men's but also women's knowledge, experiences and adaptation needs. Information about climate change and adaptation measures must therefore be designed and disseminated in gender-sensitive ways and be combined with explicit efforts to ensure that women and girls – especially those who are poor or have been denied the right to an education – can easily have access to and absorb the necessary information.

B.4. INDICATE RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS THAT MIGHT PREVENT THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES FROM BEING ACHIEVED, AND IF POSSIBLE, PROPOSE MEASURES THAT ADDRESS THESE RISKS

Risk	Level	Mitigation actions
Heavy administrative red tape slows down investments and financial support destined for vulnerable and poor communities/households	M	The project will use the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) mechanisms which are notable for their rapid review and approval of micro-projects and efficient delivery of project funding directly to grantees. The SGP has supported a large number of projects which have achieved many significant successes in the field of CBA across Niger, catalysing community engagement in meeting their adaptation challenges and initiating micro-projects to address these identified challenges. Innovative tools developed under the CBA project will be used to reach a wide audience in vulnerable communes.
Limited management and monitoring capacities of field-based endeavors by communes and technical support staff affect quality of implementation	M	Technical and managerial capacity building will be carried out to manage, monitor and supervise field-based adaptation activities throughout the commune.
Limited extension of community-based adaptation programmes	M	A primary goal of the project is to build a critical mass of communities in a specific geographic area of the country capable of building resilience in their production systems and consequently across the broader landscape. CBA best practices (including gender differentiated issues) will be captured and widely shared and disseminated, and cross-community learning on adaptation across Niger will be fomented to allow replication and duplication in other vulnerable communities.
Limited finance available for local communities and their institutions.	M	Local development plans will be reviewed to enable more climate-smart investment to be supported by partners engaged under the MJP.

B.5. IDENTIFY KEY STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT INCLUDING THE PRIVATE SECTOR, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES, AS APPLICABLE:

<u>Key stakeholders</u>	<u>Expected roles</u>
CNEDD	Project Coordination
Ministry of Environment and Desertification Control, the Ministry of Animal Resources and Livestock Industries, the Ministry of Agricultural Development, the Ministry of Hydraulics and the Ministry of Decentralization	Administrative and technical support
Regional/Local Government : Governor and Councils	Expects to benefit directly from the project’s capacity building activities
Civil society women and youth associations Community Based Organizations NGOs media	Individual and group capacity building in climate change Implementation of project activities Peer-to-peer knowledge exchange Support the creation and production of informative material about climate change and cattle-raising (leaflets, guide books, videos, etc.)
MJP Partners	Partnership for the execution of activities in the project sites.

B.6. OUTLINE THE COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES:

Partners	Interventions
UNDP-GEF LDCF-1/Resilience project	<p>The overarching goal of the project is to enhance adaptive capacity to climate change in the agriculture and water sectors, with the objective being to implement long-term adaptation measures that increase agricultural productivity, food security and water availability. The project’s expected outcomes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • resilience of food production systems and/or food insecure communities enhanced in the face of climate change; • institutional capacity of the agricultural and water sectors enhanced, including information and extension services to respond to climate change, including variability; • Lessons learned, documented and disseminated, and a knowledge management component established. <p>Experiences of the project in the Maradi region will serve to scale up CBA initiatives, particularly technologies developed for resilience of food production systems and/or food insecure communities (Component 2). Communication and planning on CC tools developed by the project will be widely used in components 1. As adaptation projects are coordinated by the CENDD, a synergy and coherence will be ensured.</p>
UNDP/JAPAN: African Adaptation Programme	<p>The objective of the project is to mainstream climate change adaptation across key sectors and into development processes in Niger. This is addressed through the following five outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Dynamic, long-term planning mechanisms to manage the inherent uncertainties of climate change introduced. – Leadership capacities and institutional frameworks to manage climate change risks and opportunities in an integrated manner at the local, regional and national levels strengthened.

Partners	Interventions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Climate-resilient policies and measures implemented in priority sectors. – Financing options to meet national adaptation costs expanded at the local, national, and regional levels. – Knowledge on adjusting national development processes to fully incorporate climate change risks and opportunities generated and shared across all levels. <p>Information and planning on CC tools developed by the project will be widely used in components 1. As adaptation projects are coordinated by the CENDD, a synergy and coherence will be ensured.</p>
WB/COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMME 2	<p>The project’s development objective is to improve rural communes’ capacity to design and implement in a participatory manner Communal Development Plans (CDP) and Annual Investment Plans (AIP) and thereby contribute to enhance rural livelihoods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Component A: Capacity Building. Improved Capacity of communes to address priority needs of communities, mobilize adequate resources; implement and monitor local development activities; Improved institutional and legal framework for participatory local development. – Component B: Local Investment Fund. Communes and Communities receive and account for micro-project funds in timely and transparent manner. <p>The project will learn from the experience of the WB on Fund mobilization (component 3).</p>
WB/PPCR	<p>The Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) is funded by the Strategic Climate Fund (SCF). Niger’s PPCR investment strategy involves mainstreaming climate resilience into development strategies; expanding sustainable land management initiatives and integrating them into planning and budgeting processes; updating the quality of weather and climate information and making it publicly available; and improving monitoring and evaluation methodologies.</p> <p>Studies on the definition of intervention areas of the Project were conducted, but not yet validated by the Government. However, the Maradi region is one of intervention area and activities centered on the sustainable land management and social protection activities. Detailed plans of these activities are under development. During the preparatory phase, discussions with IFAD and World Bank will take place to ensure that duplication is avoided and synergies are maximized.</p>
The Agro-sylvo-pastoral Exports and Markets Development Project	<p>Aims to strengthen and support the agro-sylvo-pastoral sector and covers the following components: inter-professional coordination, building the capacities of producer organizations, marketing of agro-sylvo-pastoral products and training of economic agents. Linked to another Bank project (the Private Irrigation Promotion Project, PIP2), component C of this project relating to securing of irrigation systems for onion production calls for particularly important measures to address adverse effects of climate change. This includes developing or rehabilitating 2,000 hectares through the building or restoration of public infrastructure (boreholes, artesian wells, retaining reservoirs, etc.). The project will benefit from the experiences gained with the adapted irrigation systems (component 2) and the development of viable market for local producers (component 3).</p>

During the PPG phase, in-depth consultations will be undertaken to establish partnerships and practical modalities for linking and collaborating with the above ongoing initiatives so that duplication is avoided, and that LDCF resources build on the progress and successes achieved to date by these initiatives. A strategy and plan for collaboration with relevant ongoing and planned initiatives will be prepared during the preparatory phase, including defining the roles and responsibilities of critical stakeholders.

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

UNDP's comparative advantage in implementing this project is underpinned by its Country Programme Document for the current cycle (2009-2013), in which strengthening national and local capacities for the implementation of the Accelerated Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy is given a particular emphasis. Until 2008, UNDP has supported, at local level, the implementation of instruments for planning, financing, monitoring and evaluation of communities' services. These instruments are today a reference for the operationalization of the decentralization process in Niger. In addition, targeted supports have contributed to the participation of the civil society in policy dialogue on national policies. In term of sustainable development and environment, UNDP's support is to (i) improve access of vulnerable groups to employment and credit, and promotion of AGR; (ii) and to build capacity of institutions and communities to manage sustainably the environment and natural resources. These outcomes are the main intervention areas of UNDP in the Maradi Joint Programme. Under MJP Component 1, UNDP is financing activities related to jobs creation for women and youth and to communities' capacity building to manage sustainability natural resources. Under MJP Component 3, UNDP will help to establish and operationalize planning and coordination structures and facilitate communities and CSOs, including women and youth, to participate in the process of decision making.

UNDP's comparative advantage for the proposed project lies in its long-standing experience working with different government entities to advance adaptation. UNDP is assisting 31 African countries with their Adaptation Fund programming with \$175,000,000 of grants mobilized. These resources have been complemented with \$260,000,000 of co-financing to address basic development needs. In Niger, UNDP is the Executing Agency for the GEF NAPA Project to enhance adaptive capacity to climate change in the agriculture and water sectors, with the objective being to implement long-term adaptation measures that increase agricultural productivity, food security and water availability. With a \$92,000,000 grant from the Government of Japan, UNDP is assisting 21 countries in Africa to develop a comprehensive approach to climate change adaptation. In Niger, the AAP Project is mainstreaming climate change adaptation across key sectors and into development processes in Niger. Under the "Boots on the Ground" Programme, UNDP has placed national officers in 24 Country Offices to provide climate policy support to governments. It is expected that countries will climate-proof their development paths assisted by a package of focused climate change services.

In 2005, UNDP established the Community Based Adaptation (CBA) Programme, one of the first to be approved for funding under the SPA funding window. More than 60 community-based adaptation projects are under implementation with others being developed and established by civil society organizations in all 10 countries (including Niger). These efforts have helped promote awareness among communities on the challenges of climate change. A number of innovative tools have been used for this purpose and are reaching a wide audience. CBA activities in Niger are focused on water resources, agriculture, livestock, forestry, wildlife/ecosystem management, fisheries, and health. Choice of project foci and development of the project approach will be guided by community-driven adaptation and livelihood priorities.

Country office level operations are supported by regional advisory capacity based in the UNDP/GEF Regional Centre in Pretoria. UNDP has dedicated Regional Technical Advisers focusing on supporting adaptation programming and implementation in a range of technical areas relevant to this project including disaster management, infrastructure development, and ecosystem based adaptation, capacity development, and local governance reform. UNDP's network of global Senior Technical Advisers provides additional technical oversight and leadership helping to ensure that programmes on the ground achieve maximum policy impact.

C.1. INDICATE THE CO-FINANCING AMOUNT THE GEF AGENCY IS BRINGING TO THE PROJECT:

UNDP will provide a co-financing of **US\$2,250,000** through its actions implemented under the Maradi Joint Programme (\$2,000,000) and also support to the PMU (US\$250,000).

C.2. HOW DOES THE PROJECT FIT INTO THE GEF AGENCY’S PROGRAMME (REFLECTED IN DOCUMENTS SUCH AS UNDAF, CAS, ETC.) AND STAFF CAPACITY IN THE COUNTRY TO FOLLOW UP PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

The project will contribute to the UNDAF Outcome 1 “From now to 2013, vulnerable populations enhanced their food security, contribute to sustainable management of natural resources and diversified their revenue sources” and Outcome 3 “From now to 2013, national and local institutions democratically govern, in the respect of human rights, gender equity and contribute to consolidate peace”.

The proposed project will also contribute to meeting the objectives that are set out in the UNDP Country Partnership Action Programme CPAP 2008-2013 for Niger and will be implemented within the context of the following programme support areas:

- In terms of democratic governance, UNDP is supporting the implementation of the national policy of decentralization and the sharing of technical and financial planning tools with local authorities. Under the GEF project, adaptation measures will be integrated in the local planning process (component 1).
- Under its crisis prevention and recovery programme, UNDP is building capacity for prevention and management of food crises, natural disasters and political conflicts. The project will make available to local stakeholders climate information to enable them to better deal with the impacts of CC (component 1).
- The Sustainable Development and Environment component aims to provide technical assistance to reducing extreme poverty in the framework of MDGs. Interventions will be focused on the mobilization, management, and monitoring of resources for achieving the MDGs, sustainable management of natural resources and environmental conservation. Components 2 and 3 of the GEF project will support efforts to achieve MDG 1 and 4 in Maradi through the provision of necessary means for communities to implement resilient income-generating activities. The project will also build greater resilience, institutional linkages, and improving the effectiveness, equity, and sustainability with market and innovative financial mechanisms.

The above on-going UNDP supported initiatives is a solid indication of staff capacity in the Niamey to support the proposed project. UNDP staffs are already engaged in a number of activities of relevance to the proposed project. Moreover, Country Office operations are supported by regional advisory capacity based in the UNDP Regional Centre in Pretoria. UNDP has dedicated Regional Technical Advisers focusing on supporting adaptation programming and implementation in a range of technical areas relevant to this project including disaster management, infrastructure development, ecosystem-based adaptation, capacity development, and local governance reform. Our network of global Senior Technical Advisors provide additional technical oversight and leadership helping to ensure that programmes on the ground achieve maximum policy impact.


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):

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE
Malam Gata Zouladaini	Commissaire chargé du Développement	Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances	09/04/2011

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

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

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Yannick Glemarec Executive Coordinator UNDP/GEF		March 5 th 2012	Mame Dagou Diop (G-LECRD)	+27 12 354 8115	mame.diop@undp.org