



GEF-6 REQUEST FOR PROJECT ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZED PROJECT

TYPE OF TRUST FUND GEF TRUST FUND

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Integrated Landscape Management to Enhance Food Security and Ecosystem Resilience in Nigeria			
Country(ies):	Nigeria	GEF Project ID:	9143
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	5578
Other Executing Partner(s):	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; Ministry of Environment	Submission Date:	30 November 2016
		Re-submission Date:	29 March 2017
		Re-submission Date:	3 April 2017
		Re-submission Date:	19 April 2017
		Re-submission Date:	23 May 2017
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity, Land Degradation	Project Duration (Months)	60
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Food Security	Corporate Program: SGP <input type="checkbox"/>	
Name of Parent Program	GEF Food Security IAP	Agency Fee (\$)	642,550

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
LD-1 (Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem services to sustain food production and livelihoods), Program 1 (Agro-ecological intensification) Program 2 (SLM for Climate-smart Agriculture) – <i>Outcome 1.1 Improved agricultural, rangeland and pastoral management</i> <i>Outcome 1.2 Functionality and cover of ecosystems maintained</i> <i>Outcome 1.3 Increased investments in SLM</i>	GEFTF	2,270,000	11,000,000
LD-3 (Reduce pressures on natural resources by managing competing land uses in broader landscapes), Program 4 (Scaling-up sustainable land management through the Landscape Approach) <i>Outcome 3.1 Support mechanisms for SLM in wider landscapes established</i> <i>Outcome 3.2 Integrated landscape management practices adopted by local communities</i> <i>Outcome 3.3 Increased investments in integrated landscape management</i>	GEFTF	2,948,000	30,000,000
LD-4 (Maximize transformational impact through mainstreaming of SLM for agro-ecosystem services), Program 5 (SLM Mainstreaming in Development) <i>Outcome 4.1 SLM mainstreamed in development investments and value chains across multiple scales</i> <i>Outcome 4.2 Innovative mechanisms for multiple-stakeholder planning and investments in SLM at scale</i>	GEFTF	1,921,450	16,000,000
Total Project Cost	GEFTF	7,139,450	57,000,000

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: To enhance productivity and promote sustainability and resilience of Nigeria's agricultural production systems for improved national food security.						
Project Components/ Programs	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing
Component 1: Enhancing the institutional and policy environment for achieving improved food security	TA	<p>Outcome 1: Supportive policies, governance structures and incentives in place at Federal and State levels to support sustainability and resilience of smallholder agriculture and food value chains:</p> <p><i>Indicator 1: Number of supportive policies and incentives in place at the Federal and State levels to support sustainable smallholder agriculture and food value chains</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 2: number of gender-sensitive and inclusive multi-stakeholder platforms established at Federal and State and local levels supporting sustainable agriculture</i></p> <p><u>Baseline:</u> No effective platform or network for sustainable agriculture and food security; <u>Endline:</u> A least 1 national multi-stakeholder, gender-sensitive and inclusive (men, women, youth, civil society etc.) and 2 state-based platforms</p>	<p><i>Output 1.1: Support to the implementation of The Green Alternative/Agriculture Promotion Policy to promote sustainable and resilient food and nutrition security</i></p> <p><i>Output 1.2: National and state level multi-stakeholder gender-sensitive platforms advocating sustainable agriculture and SLWM practices for improved food security</i></p> <p><i>Output 1.3: Public-Private Partnership established for major food crop (cassava, rice and sorghum) value chains for food processing, production and distribution</i></p>	GEFTF	1,000,000	10,000,000

		<p><i>advocating sustainable agriculture and SLM practices for improved food security.</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 3:</i> <i>Number of public-private partnerships (PPPs) established for food commodity value chains, particularly cassava, maize, rice and sorghum that will give a major boost to food processing, production and distribution, enhance national food self-sufficiency and food security, as well as create employment and improve the well-being of smallholder farmers.</i></p> <p><u><i>Baseline:</i></u> <i>No coherent national effort to link smallholder producers with formal market opportunities for adding value;</i> <u><i>Endline:</i></u> <i>At least 2 interstate food commodity value chains established through PPP</i></p>				
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<p>Component 2: Scaling up sustainable agricultural practices and market opportunities for smallholder farmers in the target agro-ecological zones to increase food security under increasing climate risks</p>		<p>Outcome 2: Increased land area and agro-ecosystems under sustainable agricultural practices</p> <p><i>Indicator 4:</i> <i>Number of hectares of land under gender-sensitive integrated sustainable land and water management and climate smart agricultural practices, managed by both men and women.</i></p> <p><i>Baseline:</i> Much of 24 million ha of arable land in the guinea-sahel agro-ecological zones rapidly being degraded by inappropriate agricultural practices; <i>Endline:</i> At least 385,000 ha of arable land and agro-ecosystems under improved land-use and agro-ecosystem management practices</p> <p><i>Indicator 5:</i> per cent reduction in soil erosion and increase in vegetation cover and carbon stored in target farmers' plots</p> <p><i>Baseline:</i> 35% of the 24 million ha of arable land affected by desertification, land degradation and drought; <i>Endline:</i> At least 10% reduction in soil erosion and</p>	<p><i>Output 2.1:</i> <i>350,000 ha under improved land use and agro-ecosystem management practices</i></p> <p><i>Output 2.2:</i> <i>Increased value addition and access to markets realized by beneficiary smallholder farmers</i></p> <p><i>Output 2.3:</i> <i>35,000 ha under intensive and diversified production for enhanced income and improved nutrition</i></p>	GEFTF	5,149,476	40,000,000
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		<p>20% increase in vegetation cover and carbon stored in pilot farm plots</p> <p><i>Indicator 6:</i> Percentage increase in total production of targeted value chains among participating small- and medium-scale commercial farmers (disaggregated by rice, cassava, maize, sorghum, yam, fruit trees, poultry, aquaculture and dairy and maize)</p> <p><u>Baseline:</u> Poor productivity due to absence of market information and value chains; <u>Endline:</u> At least 20% increase in production of crop or value chain</p> <p>Outcome 3: Improved youth involvement and reduced gender disparities in agricultural production for enhanced food security</p> <p><i>Indicator 7:</i> Number and percentage of women and youth who adopt new production and post-harvest technologies for rice and groundnut</p> <p><u>Baseline:</u> More than 80% of women farmers have limited access to the knowledge of</p>	<p>Output 3.1. 14,000 women and 28,000 youth incentivized to participate/engage in increased groundnut and rice production and processing for improved income and nutrition</p>			
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		<p>sustainable agricultural practices, while youth are not interested in practicing agriculture;</p> <p><u>Endline:</u> At least 50% (21,100) of targeted women and youth adopt new production and post-harvest technologies</p> <p>Indicator 8: Number of women and youth actively involved in food production and value chains for rice and groundnut</p> <p><u>Baseline:</u> Most women and youth are not fully involved or interested in agricultural production;</p> <p><u>Endline:</u> At least 60% (25,200) of targeted women and youth participate in full value chain processes for rice and groundnut</p>				
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Component 3: Knowledge, Monitoring and Assessment	TA	<p>Outcome 4: Harmonized M&E framework in place for food security information, multi-scale assessment of sustainability and resilience in production agro-ecological zones and landscapes and monitoring of global environmental benefits (GEBs)</p> <p><i>Indicator 9: Level of gender-disaggregated data on resilience and global environmental benefits of sustainable agriculture for food security</i></p> <p><i>Baseline: No and comprehensive M&E framework at the national level for monitoring and assessing food security and the resilience of ecosystems and agricultural productions landscapes in the country;</i></p> <p><i>Endline: Functional food security reporting and monitoring systems at state and community levels, using Vital Signs Framework</i></p>	<p><i>Output 4.1: Capacity in place to monitor and report on the food security situation with emphasis on its resilience and sustainability at national, state and local levels</i></p> <p><i>Output 4.2: M&E System for GEBs using the Vital Sign monitoring framework</i></p> <p><i>Output 4.3: Functional linkage with the regional Food Security IAP initiative</i></p>	GEFTF	650,000	5,500,000
Subtotal				GEF TF	\$6,799,476	55,500,000
Project Management Cost (PMC)				GEF TF	\$339,974	1,500,000
Total project costs					\$7,139,450	57,000,000

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Donor Agency	UNDP	Grant and in-kind	1,000,000
NGO	WOFAN	In-kind	500,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Jigawa State, Nigeria	Cash	500,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Jigawa State, Nigeria	In-kind	4,500,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Nasarawa State, Nigeria	Cash	500,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Nasarawa State, Nigeria	In-kind	4,500,000
Research/Academic Institution	ICRISAT	In-kind	500,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Kano State, Nigeria	Cash	500,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Kano State, Nigeria	In-kind	4,500,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Adamawa State, Nigeria	In-kind	4,500,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Adamawa State, Nigeria	Cash	500,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Benue State, Nigeria	Cash	500,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Benue State, Nigeria	In-kind	4,500,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Environment	In-kind	5,000,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Cash	5,000,000
Recipient Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	In-kind	20,000,000
Total Co-financing			57,000,000

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional / Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)	Agency Fee (b) ^{b)}	Total (c)=a+b
					GEF Project Financing (a)		
UNDP	GEFTF	Country	LD	IAP Food Security	847,432	76,269	923,700
UNDP	GEFTF	Country	BD	IAP Food Security	2,448,807	220,393	2,669,200
UNDP	GEFTF	Country	CCM	IAP Food Security	173,486	15,613	189,100

UNDP	GEFTF	IAP- set-aside		IAP Food Security	3,669,725	330,275	4,000,000
Total GEF Resources					7,139,450	642,550	7,782,000

E. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
1. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	385,000 hectares

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

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROJECT DESIGN WITH THE ORIGINAL PIF

A.1. Project Description.

The main change between the original PIF and the CEO ER is that under the project is no longer contributing to the Biodiversity Focal Area but rather addresses (agro)biodiversity objectives within the LD objectives pursued by the project, through interventions that promote increased agricultural productivity through sustainable approaches that sustainably use biodiversity and adopt climate-smart agriculture approaches in the production of global food crops such as cassava, rice, cowpea, maize and sorghum.

The following other changes were introduced at CEO ER stage to elaborate on and strengthen the strategy proposed at PIF stage:

In the PIF, Outcome 1 reads as *'Multi-stakeholder and multi-scale platforms in support of policy and institutional reform and up scaling of integrated natural resources management in place (based on the country SLM frameworks)'*. At CEO ER stage this has been revised to read as *'Supportive policies, governance structures and incentives in place at Federal and State levels to support sustainability and resilience of smallholder agriculture and food value chains'*. This revision was made to focus the component and outcome on support to multi-scale governance frameworks (i.e. policies, institutions, platforms) and to promote interventions that target the capacity of the different actors to actively support sustainable agriculture approaches through dialogue, advocacy and planning. The outputs introduced under the new outcome *Output 1.1. Support to the implementation of The Green Alternative/Agriculture Promotion Policy to promote sustainable and resilient food and nutrition security* and *Output 1.2. National and state level multi-stakeholder gender-sensitive platforms advocating sustainable agriculture and SLWM practices for improved food security* allow for a focus on supporting the implementation of new and existing policy instruments (as opposed to developing new ones) that have been recently rolled out to promote increased agricultural production, reduce the importation of key staple crops (e.g. rice) and address food insecurity in the country. Output 1.2., will therefore facilitate multi-level engagement and dialogue on these issues with a view to increasing investments in SLM, promoting uptake and adoption and monitoring the impacts of these interventions through multi-stakeholder platforms. An additional output (*Output 1.3. Public-Private Partnership established for major food crop (cassava, rice and sorghum) value chains for food processing, production and distribution*) has been added to support dialogue and action around partnerships with the private sector on the establishment of 'inclusive' value chains and increased value-addition for key crops, in line with Nigeria's own strategies and priorities on increasing local production, reducing post-harvest losses, and reducing food imports.

Component 2 wording has been expanded from *'Scaling up Integrated Approaches'* in the PIF, to *'Scaling up sustainable agricultural practices and market opportunities for smallholder farmers in the target agro-ecological*

zones to increase food security under increasing climate risks' at the CEO ER stage to elaborate on the focus of this component. This component incorporates all 'ground-level interventions', with Outcome 2 reading as *'Increased land area and agro-ecosystems under sustainable agricultural practices'*, a slight revision from the wording of the outcome in the PIF: *'Increased land area and agro-ecosystems under integrated natural resources management and SLM'*, to specify the 'INRM and SLM' approaches to be promoted by this component as *'sustainable agricultural practices'*. This outcome will focus on 3 outputs: *Output 2.1: 350,000 ha under improved land use and agro-ecosystem management practices*; *Output 2.2: Increased value addition and access to markets realized by beneficiary smallholder farmers*; and *Output 2.3: 35,000 ha under intensive and diversified production for enhanced income and improved nutrition*. These outputs allow for a focus on bringing land under SLM, increasing the value of agricultural produce and facilitating market access and diversifying production for increased income and nutrition. Outcome 2.2 in the PIF, which read *'Increase in investment flows to integrated natural resources management'*, has been dropped as a stand-alone outcome at the CEO ER because the entire project is about 'increasing investments in SLM' as an inherent outcome of the interventions at policy, farm and landscape levels. A new outcome 3 (*Improved youth involvement and reduced gender disparities in agricultural production for enhanced food security*), has been introduced at CEO ER to focus specific support to women and youth and to facilitate increased benefits from agricultural processes and value chains to these groups in recognition of their role and untapped potential in revolutionising agricultural production and enhancing household food and nutrition security by being allowed the 'space' to 'participate'. By pursuing Output 3.1 *'14,000 women and 28,000 youth empowered for increased groundnut and rice production and processing for improved income and nutrition'*, the project proposes to provide specific support to two key crops that are locally important to Nigeria agricultural sector and also make up important components of the country's food culture. The support to women's participation in the rice and groundnut value chains is particularly key to promoting household nutrition, currently at poor levels in Nigeria's poorer households.

Component 3 in the PIF (*Monitoring and Assessment*) remains the same as at PIF stage, except the term 'Knowledge' has been added (*Knowledge, Monitoring and Assessment*) to also ensure that there's a systematic approach to 'management' of the information, lessons and experiences that will emerge out of the implementation of the proposed interventions. This component initially included two outcomes: *3.1 Capacity and institutions in place to incorporate resilience into project design and implementation, and for monitoring of GEBs*; and *3.2 Framework in place for multi-scale assessment, monitoring and integration of resilience in production landscapes*. At the CEO ER stage, this component has merged these outcomes into one integrated outcome *'Harmonized M&E framework in place for food security information, multi-scale assessment of sustainability and resilience in production agro-ecological zones and landscapes and monitoring of global environmental benefits (GEBs)'*, that includes M&E for information management, assessment of resilience and sustainability at multiple scales and monitoring of GEBs. Capacity building to do these is implied in this outcome, and now specified as an output (*Output 4.1 - Capacity in place to monitor and report on the food security situation with emphasis on its resilience and sustainability at national, state and local levels*). *Output 4.2: M&E System for GEBs using the Vital Signs monitoring framework* retains the focus on monitoring GEBs as initially proposed at PIF stage. An additional output (*Output 4.3 - Functional linkage with the regional Food Security IAP initiative*) has been added to recognise and strengthen this child project's relationship with the rest of the GEF Food Security IAP initiative, including other child projects in the 11 other participating countries, through the IFAD-led 'Regional Hub' project.

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

It is projected that by 2020 half of Nigeria's agro-ecological zones (AEZs) will not be able to meet demand for food through local supply, rising to 75% by 2050 and persistently low oil prices are hampering the country's capacity to continue importing food. Despite this argument, only 40% of Nigeria's arable land is under cultivation, and the area under cultivation is decreasing, with the Ministry of Budgeting and Planning (2017)¹, estimating that the area of arable land being farmed was 6 per cent lower in 2015 (34 million hectares) than in 2007 (37 million hectares), meaning that much of it is standing idle. This partly points to decreasing productivity of land currently under cultivation, increasing demand for locally-produced crops such as rice, and therefore increasing the need for imports, and also points to the fact that some farmers are not engaging in agricultural production the way they previously did, partly due to rising production costs (input prices) as well as the role of conflicts on farmers' ability to practice agriculture, with many abandoning their land to get to safer parts of the country (e.g. urban areas). This complex and challenging situation requires significant advances in agricultural development based on strengthening smallholder

¹ Ministry of Budget & National Planning, February, 2017, Economic Recovery & Growth Plan 2017-2020.

farmers, increasing their capacity to engage in value chains and markets and reducing risk associated with their farming systems through building greater resilience.

The productivity of smallholder agriculture and its contribution to the economy, food security and poverty reduction in Nigeria depend on the services provided by well-functioning ecosystems, including soil fertility, freshwater delivery, pollination and pest control. Smallholder farming practices, in turn, affect the condition of ecosystems. In general, poverty and immediate needs have driven smallholders to put pressure on ecosystems, for example through habitat modification, over-extraction of water and nutrients, and use of pesticides. Thus, many of the productivity gains accrued to smallholder farmers in the country came with environmental externalities, leaving soils degraded and groundwater depleted, undermining the very resource base that made the revolution possible. Food production through agriculture, has, to a large extent, been achieved at the expense of reductions in other ecosystem services. Environmental degradation contributes to food insecurity, as natural ecosystems that provide most of the smallholders with food, fuel, medicine, building materials and cultural identity are being systematically degraded and destroyed, and their regenerative and strategic productive capacity jeopardized. Unsustainable land management practices lead to scarcity of water for both drinking and agriculture. Environmental degradation generates multiple negative feedbacks on food production systems, and on the livelihoods and human well-being they support. The recent outbreak of the tomato pest (Tuta Absoluta) that more or less wiped out tomato from the menu of most Nigerians could be one of such negative feedbacks from poor and environmentally unfriendly agricultural practices that had persisted in the country for a while. Ecosystem deterioration, and the resultant loss of integrity, biodiversity and valued ecosystem services, along with the risk of reduced system resiliency to future shocks, must be more adequately factored into our understanding of drivers and the complex system feedbacks that their trends induce to safeguard food security in the country. This will become even more challenging as the agricultural sector in Nigeria gets under increasing pressure to produce more food to meet the rising domestic demand and for the export market, in a bid to revive the economy whose growth has significantly slowed down following the oil crisis.

Challenges facing farmers and agro-pastoralists in Northern Nigeria are especially acute. The August 2015 Food Security and Livelihood Assessment in Northeast Nigeria by Food Security Sector Humanitarian Agencies indicated that about 31% of households experienced moderate to severe hunger. Yobe State had the highest percentage (48%) of food insecure households, due mainly to low agricultural output per household compared to other adjacent states. On average, about 37% of displaced households experienced moderate to severe hunger. Similarly, a 2016 Livelihoods and Economic Recovery Assessment report by the UNDP indicated that 46% of households in the North-eastern part of the country must borrow to eat, a challenge likely to be exacerbated by the Central Bank of Nigeria's recent decision to allow the Naira to float against the US dollar, likely to lead to a further devaluation in the currency and reduced purchasing power. In Borno State, in May 2016, some 217,000 people required emergency food assistance, and overall, some 3.2 million people across all the eight states in the North-east (Adamawa, Borno and Yobe) and North-west (Jigawa, Kano, Katsina Sokoto and Zamfara) were affected (FAO, 2016). In 2014 Nigeria ranked 152nd out of 182 on the UNDP Human Development Index. Overall, the FAO estimates some 12.9 million Nigerians are undernourished (FAO, 2015).

Some of the barriers that have been identified are as follows:

Policy challenges: The agricultural policy landscape of Nigeria is dominated by unfinished reforms, which should have provided a strong enabling environment for growth. In the last four decades these have addressed the development of institutions and public services designed to strengthen the position of independent farmers including: (i) The National Accelerated Food Production Project (NAFPP) of 1973, which sought to induce the masses of farmers to boost food production "within the shortest possible time"; (ii) the Nigerian Agricultural and Co-operative Bank (NACB) also of 1973, which was to foster growth in the quantity and quality of credit to all aspects of agricultural production including poultry farming, fisheries, forestry and timber production, and horticulture; (iii) the River Basin Development Authorities (RBDAs) that would cater for the development of land and water resource potential in Nigeria for agricultural purposes and general rural development; (iv) the *Operation Feed the Nation* (OFN) of 1976 aimed at increasing food production and eventually attaining self-sufficiency in food supply; (v) the *Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme* (ACGS) in 1977 to encourage the flow of increased credit to the agricultural sector; (vi) the *Rural Banking Scheme* (1977) to create a network of rural banks that would help to mobilize rural savings some of which would be invested in the agricultural sector; the (vii) *Commodity Boards* (1977) to promote both the production and marketing of Cocoa, Rubber, Cotton, Groundnut, Grains (for Cereals) Root Crops (for Cassava, Yam and Cocoyam), and Palm Produce (for Palm Oil and Palm Kernel); (viii) *The Land Use Decree* (1978) - intended to reform the land tenure system which was believed to constitute a formidable obstacle to the development of agriculture; (ix) the *Green Revolution Programme* (GRP) - 1979 which focused on self-reliance in food

production and the diversification of Nigeria's sources of foreign exchange through the removal of known constraints to increased production; (x) the *Agricultural Development Projects* (ADPs) which were established to, among others, provide infrastructure (including water points), farm service centres, the supply of farm inputs such as fertilizers, root crops/tubers, agro-chemicals (pesticides and herbicides), and water pumps, and extension and training (including the establishment of special plots for extension and training (SPAT) that should increase production and welfare in the small holder agricultural sector in Nigeria; (xi) the *National Agricultural Land Development Authority* (NALDA) established in 1999 to execute a national agricultural land development programme to moderate the chronic problem of low utilization of abundant farm land; and (xii) the *Agricultural Transformation Agenda* (ATA) which was launched in 2012 with the objective of delivering inputs in a reliable manner through the Growth Enhancement Scheme of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD). Recently, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has prepared a 'Policy and Strategy Document' titled (xiii) *The Agriculture Promotion Policy* (2016 – 2020) to 'build on the successes of the ATA and close key gaps. Even more recent, in February 2017, the Ministry of Budget & National Planning has released (xiv) *Economic Recovery & Growth Plan* (ERGP) (2017-2020), a medium-term plan to restore economic growth following the decline in oil revenues. Achieving agriculture and food security are listed among the execution priorities for the ERGP. The main aim of all these policy instruments was and is to unlock the potential of the agricultural sector with the major objective of accelerating the production of local staples, along the value chain of major commodities.

Major constraints to the effectiveness of past agricultural policies include: (a) the high rate of turnover of policies; (b) inconsistency in policies which combined with unpredictable policy shifts may deter private investment (e.g. shifts in policy on rice imports limiting investment in both seed rice production and paddy growing and processing); (c) the narrow base of policy formulation with little involvement of people and institutions whose lives are affected, leading to a lack of grassroots support necessary for their success; and (d) lack of managerial capacity, bureaucratic bottlenecks, corruption, and high rates of policy turnover complicating policy implementation. The recent Growth Enhancement Scheme introduced in 2012, which was designed to make fertilizer transparently available to farmers, ended up reaching a small proportion (36%) of the illiterate or semi-illiterate smallholder farmers, the majority in the country and major target of the scheme. The scheme had very low performance indices in redemption of inputs in many parts of the country².

Fragmented and overlapping institutions: To support the development and implementation of policies, a number of institutions were created, many of which supplied credit to farmers, supported technology transfer, improved seed supplies, undertook agricultural research, and addressed agricultural commodity marketing and pricing. A challenge, however, remains poor policy and program coordination, often leading to duplication of effort and wider inefficiencies in resource use among agencies and ministries, as well as between federal and state agencies, and even between states. Inadequate monitoring and follow-up of policy implementation had also encouraged loss of focus without corrective measures being taken.

Weak or non-existent value chain approaches: Effective food value chains have the potential to enhance on-farm incomes and improve the availability and stability of food supplies for consumers. With increased incomes, other essential services, including health and education, become more accessible. More income can also enable dietary diversification, reducing the risk that smallholders rely solely on their own production for food and nutrition security. At present smallholders produce about 80% of the food consumed in the country, but participate only weakly in supply markets. Because smallholders typically control very small areas of land and are therefore unable to produce significant marketable surpluses of food after satisfying family requirements, it is difficult, if not impossible, for most of them to enter value chains as individual farmers. When considered as more compact groups of farmers, however, engagement in value chains becomes a more viable proposition, particularly in terms of supplying commercial quantities of food to (small and large) urban markets. Yet many smallholder farmers remain outside of organized groups and therefore continue to lack the ability to influence markets and policies at the state and federal levels.

Insecure land tenure and conflict over land weakening investments in agriculture: Land ownership in Nigeria is not clearly defined, and where it is owned, usually this is by men, and the rich elite. In the traditional farming system, size of land is generally small and fields are highly fragmented, partly as a result of inheritance laws and also due to

² The Growth Enhancement Support Scheme (GES) delivers government-subsidised farm inputs directly to farmers via GSM phones. It was envisaged the scheme would be powered by an electronic distribution channel based on a voucher system. The scheme guarantees registered farmers eWallet vouchers which they can use to redeem fertilisers, seeds and other agricultural inputs from agro-dealers at half the cost, the other half being borne by the federal government and state government in equal proportions.

practices of shifting cultivation and bush fallow. The distribution is however highly skewed. Agriculture is therefore characterized by mostly small-scale farming carried out by peasant farmers with an average of about 2 hectares of land which are usually scattered holdings. Competition and conflict over land resources, for agriculture and for grazing, are therefore not uncommon. Security threats to agricultural investment include cattle rustling, kidnapping, and destruction of farmlands by herdsmen.³ The Federal Government will encourage States to adopt critical measures to ensure the success of the ERGP, e.g., by ensuring the availability of land required to transform the agriculture sector.

Poor agricultural and land and water management practices: Poor land and water management have degraded soil and water resources in the project area and increased the vulnerability of rainfed agriculture to climate change and variability. More sustainable, water-smart and climate-adaptive practices, including more efficient irrigation systems, and more rainwater and groundwater harvesting, can increase resilience and productivity. In addition, more planting of indigenous species of vegetation cover can support more sustainable re-greening efforts in conjunction with improved soil management. Other measures include reducing slash-and-burn practices and supporting crop and livestock diversification in conjunction with improved rangeland management, such as enabling access to drought-resistant crops and livestock feeds. Providing early warning/meteorological forecasts and related information will also support better farmer decision-making.

Weak integration of youth and women in agriculture: As contributors of up to 80% of agricultural labour, women play key roles in food production and income-earning, natural resource management and as decision makers on household food and nutrition security in the landscapes of northern Nigeria. These roles are not, however, fully recognized, resulting in their disempowerment. As a result of low recognition, women frequently have more limited access to land and sources of finance, reduced access to new practices and technologies and fewer market opportunities. In many parts of the northern Nigeria, as a result of more limited access to land as compared to men, women cannot practice in larger-scale agriculture and are therefore unable to benefit from economies of scale. Furthermore, women tend to face greater challenges when it comes to securing credit. They may lack experience in applying for credit and, without assistance and support, can find it difficult to access funding. Women's access to companies marketing farm implements is also limited, because these companies often target larger farmers (usually men). Lack of market research and information can also limit market opportunities, where women may be confined to local markets in which prices are generally lower than in larger, urban markets.

Gender-defined roles may also hinder access to transport and logistics, prejudicing women's capacity to sell farm produce efficiently and in time. The age-gender gap is also important. Youth participation in land-based sectors is very low, largely because of the perception that activities in primary production are characterized by drudgery, minimal financial (cash) returns and are therefore meant for the least educated in society. Youth's insufficient access to knowledge, information and education, as well as their limited access to land and financial services also limits their productivity and capacity to acquire the necessary skills. The government has, however, recognized the untapped potential of youth in Nigeria, and is, through recent policy pronouncements, planning to make concerted efforts towards improving women and youth's participation in entrepreneurial initiatives in the agricultural sector.

Lack of quality information to assess sustainability and resilience: Targeted action to eradicate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition is only possible if it is understood why people are deprived. This requires sufficiently robust evidence and an adequate capacity to analyse, interpret and communicate this evidence to decision-makers. Given evidence is frequently dispersed, a common monitoring and reporting framework is needed to ensure coherence. Nigeria has considerable food and nutrition security data generated by government ministries, civil society organizations, private-sector organizations, academia and development agencies, but non-consolidation leaves decision makers without a proper understanding of complex food security and nutrition determinants and outcomes.

A.1.2 The baseline scenario and associated baseline projects

Nigeria has huge, largely untapped, agricultural growth potential, with an abundance of arable land and water, and a domestic market of some 170 million people – the largest in Africa. Only 40% of the 84million hectares of arable land in the country is cultivated⁴. This potential requires considerable investment given that some 90 per cent of agricultural production remains rain-fed. Agricultural production is dominated by about 15 million smallholders who account for over 90 percent of the national food production. Smallholders, mostly subsistence producers, account for

³ Ministry of Budget & National Planning, February, 2017, Economic Recovery & Growth Plan 2017-2020.

⁴ GEMS4, Mapping of Rice Production Clusters in Nigeria, April 2017.

80% of all farm holdings, which on average are about 2.5ha per holding or less. This subsistence system is characterized by use of simple farm tools, small farm holdings, restricted access to credit facilities and low agricultural inputs, inadequate storage facilities, significant post-harvest losses, insecure markets for post-harvest products and exploitation of farmers by the middlemen.⁵

The need is great, however. Nigeria remains a food deficit country relying on cereal imports (mostly rice⁶ and wheat) that were forecast to exceed seven million tonnes in 2016 in order to maintain food security for its population. Current production of rice, which is increasingly becoming important for the food basket of an average household, stands at about 5.7million metric tonnes annually, against a demand of 7million metric tonnes, and imports have increased in the recent past, with Nigeria currently the second largest importer of rice in the world. As farmers push cultivation into new lands and/or reduce fallow intervals, soil fertility declines, particularly where there are no compensatory inputs in the form of organic fertilizers. Over time, land degradation results, undermining long-term farming-system viability. This also exposes farmers to shocks, particularly in agro-pastoral production ecosystems. In fact, food insecurity and poverty remain the two top development challenges in Nigeria. Some 69% of Nigerians still live below the universal poverty line of \$1.25per day and food insecurity rose from about 18% in 1986 to about 41% in 2004, to about % in 2016.

Overall, Nigeria remains a food deficit country. Coupled with problems of production and productivity, dwindling oil revenues hamper Nigeria's ability to import food. This complex and challenging situation requires significant change in the way farming is developed, with an emphasis on integrated solutions that build greater capacity to produce more within systems that are more environmentally sustainable.

There is a substantially large portfolio (exceeding \$200 million) of baseline programs and projects currently under implementation in Nigeria, on which this project will build, and constitute the investments on the ground in Nigeria at the different sites where the project interventions will be implemented. A few of these will form part of the co-financing for the proposed GEF-financed project. The key ones ongoing and planned in the project area (Northern Nigeria) are as follows:

Table 1: Baseline programs and projects ongoing in Nigeria and project area

Region/Geographic focus and lead institution	Project/Program and objective	Amount and time frame
1. National - Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development (FMARD) - Department of Agribusiness, Processing and Marketing Development <i>In partnership with the Nigeria Agribusiness Group (NABG)</i> Supported by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa – Micro Reforms for African Agribusiness (MIRA)	Name: Planning and Coordination of Micro Reforms for African Agribusiness in the Federal Republic of Nigeria Objective: To measurably improve policy and regulatory environments for investing in local agribusinesses that sell inputs to, or buy outputs from, poor smallholder farmers in Nigeria.	\$298,826 over 36 months, starting in February 2016
2. National - Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development (FMARD), National Agriculture Seed Council (NASC) and Agribusiness, Processing and Marketing Development Supported by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) – Micro Reforms for African Agribusiness (MIRA)	Name: Articulating, Monitoring and Supporting Implementation of Seed Policy and Regulatory Reforms in the Federal Republic of Nigeria Objective: To measurably improve policy and regulatory environment to promote investment in local agribusinesses that produce and supply certified seed of improved varieties and hybrids to smallholder farmers in Nigeria	\$190,103 over 36 months, starting in February 2016

⁵ <http://eprints.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/6653/1/icadi16pp182-187.pdf>

⁶ At the present time the country is the largest rice importer in Africa (FAO/GIEWS, Brief, April 2016)

<p>3. Selected states (<i>including Kano State in North-West Nigeria</i>) - Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development</p> <p><i>In partnership with the African Development Bank</i></p>	<p>Name: Agricultural Transformation Agenda Support Program Phase-I (ATASP-I)</p> <p>Objective: To increase, on a sustainable basis, the income of smallholder farmers and rural entrepreneurs that are engaged in the production, processing, storage and marketing of the selected commodity value chains of rice, cassava and sorghum.</p>	<p>\$83.20mil (\$72,39mil – loan; \$10,39mil –grant) over 5-years. Program not yet started.</p>
<p>4. Northern Nigeria - Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development (FMARD)</p> <p>Supported from the UK through the Department for International Development (UK-DFID)</p>	<p>Name: PROPCOM Mai-karfi (Making rural markets work for the poor)</p> <p>Objective: PROPCOM Mai-karfi aims to increase the incomes of 650,000 poor men and women in northern Nigeria by: (a) stimulating sustainable, pro-poor growth in selected rural markets; and, (b) improving the position of poor men and women within these market systems, to make them more inclusive for poor people. It will build on the positive experience of its predecessor programme called PROPCOM. The programme will work in at least eight rural markets, both agricultural and non-agricultural, and in each the programme will use in-depth analysis to identify priority constraints, and develop and implement interventions that address them. Propcom Mai-karfi is currently working in Agriculture mechanization, Agric inputs, Agribusiness franchise (Babban Gona), Poultry health, Shea nut, electronic warehouse receipting, soap and hand washing markets.</p>	<p>£27 million over 7 years (2012-2018)</p>
<p>5. Katsina State – European Union</p>	<p>Name: Farmer managed renewable energy production: Improving the fuel wood balance in Katsina State</p> <p>Objective: The project foresees the reforestation of 7 out of 12 degraded Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Katsina State, Northern Nigeria through tree planting and Agro-forestry. This includes encouraging new income generating activities and energy efficient practices through the production and commercialisation of mud cook stoves.</p> <p>It also aims to put in place the right conditions for an increased use of renewable energy (RE), a more efficient use of energy, and for small scale commercially viable solutions for flared gas utilisation.</p>	<p>€5.875million over 4 years (September 2014 - September 2018)</p>
<p>6. Northern Nigeria - Co-funded for the by Oxfam and the European Union</p>	<p>Name: PRO-ACT (Pro resilience action – European Union Support to Food Security and Resilience in Northern Nigeria).</p> <p>Objective: To improve Food Security, Food Nutrition and Resilience of vulnerable groups in Kebbi and Adamawa States of Northern Nigeria.</p>	<p>11 million Euros over 4 years (2016-2020)</p>
<p>7. Kano, Jigawa, Katsina Adamawa States - Federal Ministry of</p>	<p>Name: Competitive African Rice Initiative (CARI)</p>	<p>€3 million over 4 years (2013-2017)</p>

<p>Agriculture and Rural development (FMARD)</p> <p>Supported by GIZ (German International Cooperation)</p> <p><i>This is a regional project covering Nigeria, Tanzania, Ghana, Burkina Faso (including other parts of Nigeria).</i></p>	<p>Objective: African rice producers with an income below US\$2/day increase their income substantially through integration into competitive and sustainable business models.</p> <p>Up to 100,000 farmers benefitting in Nigeria, ~25% women supported.</p> <p>Focus on sustainable business models for farmers and farmer based organizations, sustainable rice production and diversification, improved linkages, efficiency of milling, competitive marketing, quality standards, access to finance, enabling environment and advocacy.</p>	
<p>8. Nigeria: Kano, Katsina – Ministry for Budget and National Planning, FMARD, NIRSAL. Agricultural Development Programmes at State level.</p> <p><i>This is a regional project covering Ghana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Togo (including other parts of Nigeria)</i></p>	<p>Name: Sustainable Smallholder Agribusiness (SSAB) in Western and Central Africa</p> <p>Objective: 364.600 African smallholders have increased their income and food supply from diversified production sustainably.</p> <p>Farmer Business School, training so far 72,300 (total 316,000) producers mainly in cocoa producing regions of Nigeria trained; Access to quality inputs, financial services, strengthening of producer organizations, support to make extension on food production more cost-effective, training on healthy nutrition.</p>	<p>€3million disbursed so far for Nigeria (2014-2018)</p>
<p>9. Kano State (for maize), Benue and Nasarawa (for rice) - Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development (FMARD)</p> <p>Supported by GIZ (German International Cooperation)</p>	<p>Name: Green Innovation Centres for the Agriculture and Food Sector</p> <p>Objective: Innovations in smallholder farm businesses and up- and downstream agribusinesses in selected rural regions have improved income for smallholder farming enterprises, employment and regional food supply.</p> <p>Maize, rice, cassava and Irish potato value chains (VC) have been selected as relevant innovations and demand sinks exist. Intervention areas: (1) VC Partnership & Knowledge Platforms for innovation management and skills development involving VC actors & service providers, (2) Training of service provider on cost-effective dissemination of innovations and rolling-out trainings for VC enterprises and (3) Scaling-up of inclusive business models including an innovation fund. Innovative media and IT solutions will be used in all intervention areas.</p>	<p>€7million from 2015 to 2017</p>
<p>10. National - Nigerian government via the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD)</p> <p>Supported by the German government via KfW Development Bank, and the Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority</p>	<p>Name: Fund for Agricultural Finance in Nigeria (FAFIN)</p> <p>Objective: The Fund for Agricultural Finance in Nigeria (FAFIN) is an innovative agriculture-focused investment fund that provides tailored capital and technical assistance solutions to commercially-viable small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and Intermediaries across the agricultural sector in Nigeria</p>	<p>FAFIN has an initial 10-year life extendable for three additional 1 year periods.</p> <p>FAFIN's target fund size is US \$100 million</p>

	using quasi-equity, equity and debt instruments to structure investments. The Fund invests in such enterprises as part of its mission to catalyze agriculture-led inclusive economic growth in Nigeria, and increase the amount of commercial capital available for agriculture in the country.	currently with \$34 million committed capital from its first close. Average investment size is US\$ 3-5 million.
11. 15 States in Nigeria, including: Kano, Benue, Jigawa and Nassarawa - Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD) Supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	Name: Maximizing Agricultural Revenue and Key Enterprises in Targeted Sectors (MARKETS) II Objective: This activity links farmers with agro-processors to provide incentives to adopt improved technology on commodity value chains, improved harvest and post-harvest handling, and an increased sale of crops in new markets. The focus value chains are rice, cassava, sorghum, cocoa, and aquaculture, with two sub-value chains of maize and soy chains for fish feed production.	\$60million over 5 years (2012-2017)
12. National - Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD) Supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	Name: Feed the Future Nigeria Livelihoods Project Objective: To build the capacity of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to develop evidence-based policies and improve the implementation and monitoring of the agricultural sector program.	\$12.5million over 5 years (July 2015 – July 2020)
13. 8 States, including Kano and Jigawa	Name: Feed the Future Nigeria Agro-inputs Project Objective: To ensure that smallholders have access to quality inputs delivered via the private sector. It will train 1300 agro-input dealers so they can be certified by standards set by the Government of Nigeria. Also, the project will help farmers adopt new technologies such as soil and crop specific fertilizer blends through demo trials across 8 states.	\$3million over 3 years (2014-2017)
14. National – Strategic Grain Reserve	Name: USDA Nigeria Agriculture Capacity Building Program Objective: The Nigeria Capacity Building Program provides Nigeria with specialized technical assistance to increase agricultural production by reducing post-harvest losses for grains.	\$2.5million over 5 years (2014-2019)

Table 3 below (The baseline situation vs. the GEF alternative scenario), outline the baseline situation and how the GEF alternative scenario contributes to improving on the baseline situation to generate multiple ecosystem, resilience, livelihoods and food security benefits from the agriculture production sector.

A.1. 3) Proposed alternative scenario

An integrated approach should address both the socio-economic and environmental drivers of food insecurity, and in so doing support and strengthen agri-food value chains, help scale up sustainable land and water management practices through better extension support and work more closely with youth and women small holders. This will boost domestic production and help ‘wean’ Nigeria off food imports. It will also support reforms in input supplies and provide orientation towards agri-business and promote value-addition in the product chain for smallholders. In addition, it can adopt a targeted, region-specific approach and enhance the policy and institutional enabling environment for achieving improved food security in a sustainable, resilient and inclusive value chain manner.

This project contributes to the GEF's Land Degradation objectives 1, 3, and 4 (1- Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem services to sustain food production and livelihoods; 3 - Reduce pressures on natural resources by managing competing land uses in broader landscapes; and 4 - Maximize transformational impact through mainstreaming of SLM for agro-ecosystem services). The Land Degradation programs include Program1 - Agro-ecological intensification; 2 - SLM for Climate-smart Agriculture; 4 - Scaling-up sustainable land management through the Landscape Approach; and 5 – SLM Mainstreaming in Development.

Table 2 below summarises the barriers faced by Nigeria's agricultural production sector, and are behind the current country current constraints to produce enough food to meet domestic demand.

Table 1. Barriers and Proposed Solutions to Sustainable and Resilient Food Security in Nigeria		
	<i>Barrier</i>	<i>Proposed solution</i>
1	Inconsistent, uncoordinated, and inappropriate policies that are discouraging agricultural growth; Fragmented and overlapping institutions; Weak or non-existent value chain approaches	<p>(i) Enhance the policy and institutional enabling environment for achieving improved food security and integrate sustainable, resilient and inclusive value-chain approaches. The project will engage the various stakeholders on the implementation of the new/recent Agricultural Promotion Policy, also coined 'The Green Alternative' to facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue on how to take the proposed plans and initiatives forward, and to support the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to deliver on these promises, as well as to empower stakeholder groups, through these platforms, to seek delivery of these services from the service providers.</p> <p>(ii) The development of inclusive and sustainable value chains lies in removing the obstacles between production areas and markets. In many areas, farmers experience difficulties to transport inputs to the farm and also to take the harvest to the market due to poor access roads. Post-harvest losses are significant, unfair market practices often lead to profit losses for farmers. These barriers require significant interventions at the legal and policy levels, as well as infrastructure, extension advice and availability of information to support decisions making along the entire value chain. There are multiple views as to where the solutions should come from. The PPG stakeholder consultation processes have demonstrated that often farmers' dependence on the government for solutions and support is limited, and they often rely on their own bargaining power to influence the markets and prices. The project will support these cooperatives to strengthen their bargaining power and advocate for better markets and prices. It will also work with State level structures to promote local-level solutions to these challenges (e.g. support to community-managed storage facilities to reduce post-harvest losses).</p>
2	Poor agricultural and land management practices	(iii) scale up sustainable land and water management (SLWM) and climate- and water-smart agricultural (CSA/WaSA) practices that will ensure both environmental and social development benefits at farm and landscape level. The project will support the scaling up and demonstration of SLWM and CSA/WaSA approaches, particularly among smallholder farming systems, the most numerous, within the context of resilient ecosystems for resilient food systems and livelihoods.
3	Poor participation of youth and weak integration of the role of women in agriculture	(iv) reduce gender disparities in agricultural production through women-specific economic empowerment schemes; scale up youth involvement in agriculture using IITA Youth Agripreneurs scheme and similar programmes. The project will also seek collaboration and learn from the African Development Bank's Enabled Youth Programme to promote similar approaches to engaging the youth in agriculture. The project will also support State governments, where relevant and

		appropriate to explore mechanisms to put in place incentives to facilitate the increased participate of youth and women in agriculture.
4	Lack of systematic, regularly updated and comparable information to assess sustainability and resilience	(v) Improve monitoring and assessment. There is a variety of initiatives in Nigeria to measure the impacts of the multitude of initiatives currently undergoing in Nigeria. Some of these involve simple innovation and technologies that can be simply used, even by illiterate farmers, and those without access to sophisticated technologies. They also include smart, real-time applications that capture simple data and information that can be quickly made accessible to those in decision-making. The project will seek out these initiatives, and especially those ongoing at the local levels, within the States and LGAs where the project will operate, to support uptake and institutionalization of these innovations.
5.	Disruption of agricultural activities by conflict, often violent and deadly. An example is the long-standing conflict between nomadic pastoralists and sedentary farmers, resulting in abandonment of agricultural activities and loss of livestock, and often loss of life.	(vi) At State levels, where the activities of the project will be driven from, the project will facilitate multi-stakeholder platforms, as proposed under Output 1.2. to facilitate dialogue around issues of conflict and its role in promoting poverty and insecurity, including food insecurity and seek to bring together conflicting camps within the locality to share perspectives and views and seek collaborative solutions for mutual beneficitation instead of confrontation. There is a clear need for State authorities and communities to engage in a sincere conversation about the conflicts between pastoralist and sedentary farmers, and other competing land uses that escalate to competition and conflict. The governance of access and control over resources, including land, water and grazing resources, requires careful and coordinated responses that are grounded in an understanding of the historical, socio-cultural and ethnic dimensions that make them complex. For this reason, UNDP will utilize the services of internal experts on conflict resolution and mediation (through the services of a Peace and Development Advisor located in the UNDP Nigeria Country Office), to support these multi-stakeholder dialogues that focus in particular on issues of land governance and crop-livestock productions.
6.	Insecure land tenure – The current challenges outlined by the Agriculture Promotion Policy (2016-2020) include: the fact that 95% of agricultural lands are not titled, effectively nullifying their capacity to be treated as collateral for financial transactions; the Land Use Act is not conducive for agricultural activities (e.g. short-term lease does not allow for agricultural loans, particularly small holder farmers); an inherent gender bias against access to ownership of land by women; and unclear rules and governance regarding management of land for use in farming versus grazing for nomadic cattle populations.	(vii) There's recognition by many stakeholders that until land issues are addressed, insecurity of land tenure, and the inability of farmers to use the land they farm as assets and collateral for accessing services and inputs (e.g. financing), the lack of investments in agriculture will always persist, and have wider negative implications for agricultural production and food security. Some of the solutions proposed by the new Policy include: Facilitating the recognition and entitlement of land ownership by formal or customary means to assist collateralization; and Farmer/land registration (identity, location, landholding and soil mapping), and low cost, web-based and digital mechanisms for verifying the existence of such titles. The project will work with State governments, building on the support of the DfID-GEMS3 programme on Systematic Land Titling and Registration (SLTR) and where appropriate, support the upscaling of these initiatives. Through Output 1.2, the project will also support dialogue at State level, around the implementation of these policy decisions at State level.

The overall goal of the project is to foster sustainability and resilience for food security in northern Nigeria through addressing key environmental and social-economic drivers of food insecurity across three agro-ecological zones. *The project's overall strategy and impact pathways for addressing the barriers outlined above are described in detail in the PRODOC, section III-Strategy (pages 14-16).* This will be achieved via three interrelated components: **Component 1** will provide support to the implementation of the Agriculture Promotion/The Green Alternative for

achieving increased agricultural production and improved food security; **Component 2** will scale up sustainable land and water management (SLWM) and climate-smart agricultural (CSA) practices, targeting women and youth groups in particular; and **Component 3** will put in place an effective and functional monitoring, assessment and knowledge-sharing system to evaluate the impact of project interventions on food production and household and ecosystem resilience, including global environmental benefits. The components and outcomes of the project are briefly discussed below. *A full description of the expected results is in section IV (Results and Partnership) of the UNDP PRODOC (pages 21-37) and further details are also provided in the Project Results Framework (Annex A of the CEO ER – pages 44-49).*

Component 1: Enhancing the institutional and policy environment for achieving improved food security:

Appropriate policies and institutions are necessary conditions for agricultural productivity and growth, a critical aspect of food production. Institutions operating effectively at multiple levels will be central to sustainable and resilient food systems. The national food security landscape in Nigeria consists of unfinished policy and institutional reforms, which are envisaged to have created an ‘enabling environment’ for improved food security. Following the underperformance of the oil sector, the government has realized the great need of supporting other economic sectors if the national economy is to recover from the shocks that have severely curtailed the gains from the oil sector. The government has therefore recently (February 2017) launched an Economic Recovery and Growth Plan, which, among others, will promote growth and increased productivity and gains from the agricultural sector. In 2016, the FMARD also unveiled The Green Alternative, a medium-term Agriculture Promotion Policy (2016-2017). It is envisaged that through these two policy pronouncements, the agricultural sector will receive the deserved attention from policy and budgeting processes. The project will, therefore focus its support on the implementation and continued ‘roll-out’ of the new agriculture policy to the relevant implementation structures (i.e. State and LGA levels).

The present Government recognizes the imperative for a coherent policy approach to agricultural reforms and transformation of the sector for improved food security. In the new policy, the vision of the present administration is to draw on lessons of past policy actions *“with a view to implementing a socially responsible agricultural programme, in order to replace oil as the major source of foreign exchange earnings, in addition to the traditional role of agriculture in providing food security, employment and livelihood improvement”*.

In support of this, Component 1 will work with the FMARD to support the implementation of the new policy to the 7 States, and ensure that support to the agricultural sector within these States drives forward this vision and that the relevant implementation structures are support to best deliver on their mandates. Support will also focus on the operationalization of national- and state-level multi-stakeholder platforms or organs to advocate and promote food security for all within sustainable and resilient food systems. Regular advocacy will also ensure that the imperative for food security is given highest priority by government and presents opportunities for integrating food security issues into national development planning to help sustain and multiply impacts over time. Thus, this component will also support appropriate institutional frameworks at federal, state and landscape levels to influence and promote sustainability and resilience in the use of the natural resources for enhanced food production.

This component will particularly strengthen the existing institutional arrangements that allow stakeholders at national and landscape levels to work together towards: (i) building sustainable agricultural innovation systems with a strong gender-sensitive focus on making knowledge and technology available to female farmers, in particular; and (ii) advocating the imperative for sustainability and resilience issues to be mainstreamed into the development of the country’s agriculture and food production systems at national, state and community landscape levels.

Outcome 1: Supportive policies, governance structures and incentives in place at Federal and State levels to support sustainability and resilience of smallholder agriculture and food value chains: Building on the new Agriculture Promotion Policy (2016-2010), and working with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and other relevant ministries, agencies and departments, required national capacity will be strengthened to improve the policy, legal and institutional frameworks and landscape for the mainstreaming of sustainability, resilience and market approaches to policies and strategies on food security at national, state and target agro-ecosystem levels. The following two outputs will via the project’s intervention help achieve the country’s need for an enabling environment that not only promote cooperation between public and private investors in food systems, but also focus on resilience, equity and sustainability.

✓ **Output 1.1: Support to the implementation of The Green Alternative/Agriculture Promotion Policy to promote sustainable and resilient food and nutrition security:** The project will support the following key activities:

Support government in its roll out and implementation of the new Agriculture Promotion Policy (2016:2020), in partnership with civil society and the private sector. The new policy takes forward the Agriculture Transformation Agenda (ATA) and is given further legitimacy by the new (2017) Economy Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP), a high-level strategy document prepared by the Ministry of Budget and Planning. The project will focus the support to Federal-State dialogue and engagement on the key tenets of the policy and how they can best be supported through State planning and budgeting processes and agricultural extension support. In addition to supporting the implementation of this policy, the project will continue to provide support to the implementation of other environment conservation policy and legal frameworks, with a focus on promoting the mainstreaming of SLM and biodiversity conservation into the agricultural sector and raising awareness on the role of healthy ecosystems in the performance of the agricultural sector. The project will therefore put in place mechanism that will: (a) link the programmes and actions of various sectors to make Nigerians more food secure, considering among others issues of gender equality; and (b) promote resilient agro-ecological systems for food production and value chain approaches to achieve food and nutrition security in the country. Support will also be provided to government to monitor and evaluate the performance of relevant national- and state-level institutions in the various areas of food production and value chains in order to identify gaps and bottlenecks and promote efficiencies.

✓ **Output 1.2: National and state level multi-stakeholder gender-sensitive platforms advocating sustainable agriculture and SLWM practices for improved food security:** Although there are a number of platforms including Voices for Food Security (VFS), HEDA Resource Centre, Association of Small Scale Agro Producers in Nigeria (ASSAPIN), and Grow Africa among others, supporting the mainstreaming of policies and programmes to strengthen small- and medium-scale agricultural producers to increase productivity and seize opportunities in value chains, overall governance and advocacy for food security by government and non-state actors remains weak. Critical issues in the sector include ineffective decision-making. A platform for campaigns and policy advocacy on food security and production in Nigeria will enable consistent advocacy for a fairer deal for small-scale farmers and for improvements in decision making on food production, processing and distribution. To achieve this output, the project will:

- Work with the Federal Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development and Environment, Voices for Food Security Coalition, Women Farmers' Advancement Network (WOFAN) and other proven NGOs to facilitate and establish a multi-stakeholder platform that can lead the advocacy for sustainable and resilient food and nutrition security at a national level;
- Replicate the establishment of multi-stakeholder advocacy organs at State levels in the seven participating states and at the landscape level initially among 14 local governments and 26 communities to assist over time in wider cross-sector, planning, and interventions with communities for enhanced advocacy, learning and practice; and
- Build and/or strengthen the capacities of government and other organs to drive advocacy on sustainable and resilient food and nutrition security in Nigeria, as well as influence and promote sustainability and resilience in using natural resources for enhanced food production and global environmental benefits through food security on a sustainable basis.

✓ **Output 1.3. Public-Private Partnerships established for major food crops (cassava, rice and sorghum) value chains for food production, processing and distribution:** this output will support dialogue and action around partnerships with the private sector on the establishment of 'inclusive' value chains and increased value-addition for key crops, in line with Nigeria's own strategies and priorities on increasing local production, reducing post-harvest losses, and reducing food imports as outlined in its various policy pronouncements.

Building on national policy to support farming and processing of cassava into cassava flour and policy decisions to promote local production of rice and other crops, this output will support dialogue and action around partnerships with the private sector – from supply chain inputs in support of sustainable intensification, to the establishment of growers' associations and better communication and agreements between growers and processors, including to substantially reduce post-harvest losses. This move to a more inclusive and sustainable value chain will support increased value-addition for this key crop, providing for

more and better quality production, further price stability and greater support for farmers, particularly women smallholders.

This output will support the process required for cassava, rice and sorghum and other key value chains to be supported by the project (e.g. groundnut processing initiatives planned under Output 3.1), to develop beyond the subsistence level, and to evolve in a manner that also benefits smallholder farmers. The process will involve support to a participatory supply chain diagnosis, planning and implementation to analyse the constraints and opportunities in the development of local supply to an off-taker, using an approach proposed by the African Agribusiness Supplier Development Programme (AASDP)⁷, developed by UNDP's team working on African Facility for Inclusive Markets (AFIM), which identifies specific steps that need to be put in place to support farmers. This support will be provided for the selected commodities with a view to improving the benefits to farmers and ensuring that both supply and demand sides of the supply chain are improved. A key constraint for smallholder production systems in Nigeria is the lack of or limited availability of services, facilities and infrastructure that smallholders need to make agriculture profitable. Lack of road transport networks from the rural to the urban areas, the high costs of transport, the unavailability of storage facilities and lack of access to finance, often due to lack of assets such as land, are few of the key constraints to the full development of agricultural value chains. By employing the AASDP model, the project will closely engage the different stakeholders to dialogue about these issues and to find collective solutions that can facilitate a fairer, sustainable and more inclusive agribusiness supply chains. As outlined in the AASDP Toolkit, the phases involved in agribusiness supplier development include:

- *Supply Chain Diagnostics* – The objective of this stage is to assess the supply chain of each identified focal commodity and look at the constraints along that chain and what has created barriers for the smallholder farmers of the commodity from engaging in commercial activities and supplying to the off-takers.
- *Supply Chain Development Planning* – following the diagnosis, strategies will then need to be developed and translated into practical supply chain implementation plans, backed by partnership agreements between stakeholders.
- *Supply Chain Development Implementation* – an important aspect of this is the selection of strategies and business models that will empower small suppliers in the supply chain, including the following:
 - Upgrading as a chain actor: the farmers become specialists with a clear market orientation;
 - Adding value through vertical integration: the farmers move into joint processing and marketing in order to add value;
 - Developing chain partnerships: the farmers build long-term alliances with buyers that are centred on shared interests and mutual growth; and
 - Developing ownership over the chain: the farmers try to build direct linkages with consumer markets.

Through support under this output, smallholder farmers and producers will be capacitated to sustain the new value addition activities and partnerships beyond the life of the project. The sustainability of the supply chain will depend on continued support from other stakeholders, such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and other support structures to get all stakeholders in the value chain, especially farmers, to a point where they can independently sustain the partnerships. To implement the work on support to the development/improvement of value chains, the project will draw on the in-house experience and technical expertise of the AFIM/Private Sector Development Team, based in Addis Ababa, at the UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa and with the team implementing the AFIM AASDP activities at the country level. AFIM is already part of the Food Security IAP, through the specific technical support that UNDP will deliver through the IFAD-led Regional Hub Project.

Component 2: Scaling up sustainable agricultural practices and market opportunities for smallholder farmers in the target agro-ecological zones to increase food security under increasing climate risks

⁷ See UNDP Regional Service Center for Africa, 2013/14, African Agribusiness Supplier Development Programme (AASDP) Toolkit: Growing inclusive agri-food value chains benefitting African farmers and SMEs

The productivity of smallholder agriculture and its contribution to food security depends on the services provided by well-functioning ecosystems, including soil fertility, freshwater delivery, pollination and pest control. Smallholder farming practices, in turn, affect the condition of ecosystems, which may be negative, through habitat modification, over-extraction of water and nutrients, and use of pesticides. This also depends on how developed the market chains for agricultural products are.

The demand on agriculture to feed Nigeria's increasingly urbanized population will continue to grow, placing additional pressure on available land and other natural resources. The savanna agro-ecological zones of northern Nigeria that constitute the main grain food basket of the country have undergone constant degradation due to inappropriate agricultural practices and increasing pressure from rapidly growing human and animal populations, as well as increasing climate change impacts. Unless properly managed, fresh water may well emerge as a key constraint to meeting future food security in the region. Scaling up sustainable agricultural intensification among smallholder farmers can support enhanced food security, environmental protection and poverty reduction through adopting farming practices that maintain the resource base on which smallholders depend, enabling these resources to continue supporting future food security.

For the sustainability of farmers' interests, improved agricultural production must be accompanied by improved marketing of their products. Farmers' inability to market produce means lack of income for production inputs, consumer goods and immediate cash requirements and reduced willingness to produce more. One means to integrate smallholders into the market is by increasing the value-added of smallholder products at different stages of the food value chain (production, processing, trading). Niche markets for traditional crops grown under traditional, non-intensive practices could play an important role in creating pro-poor market opportunities.

This component will facilitate the adoption of appropriate and existing sustainable and climate-smart agricultural practices for staple crop production systems to complement the country's food security initiatives and help in the development of domestic and export markets. The objective is to increase output and help commercialize eight targeted commodity value chains including groundnuts, maize, rice, sorghum, cowpea, yam, poultry, dairy, fruit trees and aquaculture. The project will maximize the approach and expand on the successes of existing initiatives such as Commercial Agriculture Development Project (CADP), USAID's Project on Maximising Agricultural Revenue and Key Enterprises in Targeted Sites (MARKETS); the UNDP Agribusiness Supplier Development Programme (ASDP); the Growth Enhancement Scheme (GES) as well as grower activities undertaken with a range of national and international processors. It will also partner with institutions such as IITA and ICRISAT to deliver outputs.

Outcome 2: Increased land area and agro-ecosystems under sustainable agricultural practices: With over 90% of its agricultural production rain-fed, Nigeria's smallholder agriculture is very vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The effects of climate-induced environmental changes on smallholder crop production are compounded by local land and wider ecosystem degradation. However, smallholder agriculture, given the application of appropriate and sustainable farming practices and an enabling governance and infrastructure environment, can be sustainable and contribute to both mitigation and adaptation of climate change and land degradation trends. A critical entry point is wide adoption by smallholder land users of integrated natural resources management (INRM), sustainable land and water management (SLWM) and climate-smart and water-smart agricultural practices that will ensure that increased food production meets the needs of the country's increasing population whilst also improving the health and resilience of agro-ecosystems in savanna agro-ecological zones. Sustainable smallholder management systems and agricultural practices, including but not limited to conservation agriculture, agroforestry, sustainable rangeland management, integrated pest management, precision agriculture, drip irrigation, collective crop rotation systems and co-cultivation systems have many desired positive effects on ecosystems of the savanna of northern Nigeria. They include reducing soil erosion, increasing forest cover, rehabilitating degraded areas through restoration activities, maintaining soil fertility and nutrients, and improving soil moisture retention. These can make a positive contribution to improving agricultural production among smallholders.

This outcome will ensure that wide and sustainable adoption of improved land use and agro-ecosystem management practices by farmers and herders in targeted communities is replicated in other areas to enhance their local and global environmental benefits. The following are the three outputs resulting from the project interventions.

- ✓ ***Output 2.1: 350,000 ha under improved land use and agro-ecosystem management practices:***
Wide adoption of smallholder sustainable and resilient agricultural management systems with positive effects on ecosystems for improved food production involves working with a cross-section of state and non-state

stakeholders to build a critical mass of change agents who can demonstrate the benefits of these practices to smallholder farmers (men and women) in project areas. The project will target working with about 50,000 small- to medium-scale farmers per community to establish 350,000 ha of land under improved sustainable agricultural practices for improved and sustainable productivity. The multi-stakeholder platform will be used to bring additional hectares of land under sustainable agricultural practices. The project will support the following key *activities*:

- Identify suitable crops and sustainable agricultural practices for each project site.
- Support training and field visits within Nigeria and, where appropriate and cost-effective, to centres and areas outside the country (e.g. Songhai Centre, Keita region in Niger) by 140 selected smallholder farmers (two per community) to learn more about the most sustainable agricultural practices suitable to their landscapes.
- In pilot sites demonstrate the viability and benefits of identified sustainable agricultural practices through a Centre in each of the 14 LGAs, choosing selected crops under INRM, SLWM and CSA practices for sustainable and resilient food security, with benefits and lessons widely disseminated.
- Use on-farm demonstrations and other appropriate delivery mechanisms that enhance mutual learning and sharing to pilot the Songhai model in each of the 14 LGAs.
- Train 350 (five per community) agricultural extension workers (AEWs) on sustainable agricultural practices, including peer-learning and farmer field school approaches (with at least 50% of trainees being women) to facilitate the replication of sustainable agricultural best practices among 50,000 small- to medium-scale farmers (at least 50% women).
- Support the multi-stakeholder platforms as agents of change to reach other farmers and raise awareness on the benefits of sustainable agricultural practices for enhanced national sustainable and resilient food security.

✓ **Output 2.2: Increased value addition and access to markets realized by beneficiary smallholder farmers:** Markets are important drivers for agricultural growth, including the food production sector. Improved market linkages and increased market information to smallholder farmers can enhance food productivity and security. Enabling small- and medium-scale farmers to participate in value chains can accelerate their economic transformation through gains associated with enhanced productivity and the development of new activities. In the new Agriculture Promotion Policy (2016-2020) emphasizes the importance of market development to stimulate agricultural production on a sustained basis, as well as stimulating supply and demand for agricultural produce by facilitating linkages between producers and consumers. This includes stabilizing the market for agricultural produce through a guaranteed minimum price regime for critical commodities. Declining global crude oil prices and resulting depreciation of the local currency has increased both imported food and fuel prices and led to increasing demand for local cereals in Nigeria. This is an opportunity for the project and other national initiatives to empower small- and medium-scale farmers to rise up to the national challenge. There is also an ongoing initiative for a contractual agreement between Kebbi and Lagos States for the establishment of food commodity value chains that will give a quantum leap to food processing, production and distribution and explore areas of comparative advantage to create value for both states. Crucial lessons for other states may emerge out of this. To deliver this output, the project will build on the successes of MARKETS and GES and the foundation being laid by the ASDP to improve productivity and access to markets and finance for small- and medium-scale farmers in northern Nigeria through the implementation of the following activities, targeting several value chains per local government area, to be agreed during the inception stage following detailed assessments:

- Assess the current state of smallholders' commodity production and competitiveness as well as identify stakeholders in the supply chain.
- Assess the availability of potential traders and develop concrete business ideas with them to involve smallholders.
- Facilitate the establishment of commodity cooperative groups or associations.
- Using leverage from the ASDP initiative, and in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Nigeria Agribusiness Group (NABG), and the Nigeria Incentive-Based Risk-Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (NIRSAL), facilitate or use a platform for information, knowledge and business development that can provide services to value chain actors, including linking smallholders and traders.

- Increase productivity of farmers as out-growers through improved access to inputs (e.g. high-yielding quality seeds, cheaper technologies) and facilities such as community-managed storage facilities to reduce post-harvest losses and reduce the costs of getting to the market.
- Link partners to identified sources of inputs, and facilitate access to credit and markets.
- Strengthen or build capacities of producers, processors and marketers to maintain an efficient supply chain.
- Support additional capacity strengthening of the food commodity value chain between Kebbi and Lagos States and share lessons, through a value chain roundtable, with other states in Nigeria to facilitate additional state-based food commodity value chains between the producing states in northern Nigeria and consuming states in the south.

✓ **Output 2.3. 35,000 ha under intensive and diversified production for enhanced income and improved nutrition:** Malnutrition levels in Nigeria are increasing, even at the same time as production increases. Interventions targeting household utilization of food and nutrition are critical to changing the situation. Crop diversification for more cash crops, for which there is an increasing demand from consumers, is one option available to increase incomes above poverty levels. Increasing household incomes would ensure food and nutrition security. It would also influence household dietary diversity through the production of crops for own consumption and the sale of agricultural crops that affect household incomes and household food purchasing decisions. This output would promote the diversification of crops growing and where the agro-ecological conditions allow, support the cultivation of high-value crops. Crop diversification can improve resilience in a variety of ways: by engendering a greater ability to suppress pest outbreaks and dampen pathogen transmission, which may worsen under future climate scenarios, as well as by buffering crop production from the effects of greater climate variability and extreme events. This output would also promote mixed crop-livestock production systems where livestock, particularly small ruminants, and poultry, are integrated within the crop farming system. The following are the main activities of the output:

- Identify and explore potential for intensification, processing and marketing opportunities for each of the 70 communities through an understanding of livelihood and operating environments of current and alternative whole-farm crop/livestock production systems.
- Design and implement a diversified alternative livelihood package for each community (to cover at least 500 ha per community), taking into consideration the available crop and livestock resources and sustainable agricultural practices applicable to each community site.
- Facilitate the installation of post-harvest and processing infrastructure, including cold chain and cold storage facilities for perishable products (e.g. onion and tomato) and develop locally-suitable and accessible food processing and post-harvest technologies that support product promotion.
- Design market-based mechanisms for each of the packages that provide smallholders with proper incentives to invest in Sustainable Land and Water Management practices.

Outcome 3: Improved youth involvement and reduced gender disparities in agricultural production for enhanced food security: Women have over the years established more defined roles in agriculture. In Nigeria, they are involved in agricultural production, processing and utilization, but their roles have been significantly affected by socio-economic factors such as income, education and access to infrastructure and finance. In order for agriculture to advance and enhance food production, gender-sensitive policies and services tailored to women in value chains need to be developed. Involving youth in agriculture also offers important pathways to income generation and employment. This component will support interventions promoting the increase in participation of youth in agriculture and will also contribute to reducing gender inequalities within the agricultural sector.

With focused and female-targeted interventions through the project, an expected outcome will be the removal of constraints affecting women's ability to improve efficiency in agriculture and to engage in profitable stages of the food value chains. Women smallholders will be specifically incentivized through improved access to skills, finance, markets and information that can contribute to reducing barriers to participating in agriculture. The project will work closely with WOFAN (Women Farmers' Advancement Network), an NGO specifically working with women and youth on various aspects of economic development, including agriculture. WOFAN is currently working with women and youth to promote participation in rice and groundnut production, processing and marketing, and supports a revolving fund through which women smallholders can access finance and other inputs to scale up improved production practices, and to also raise awareness on food and nutrition security at household and community levels. WOFAN also works with ICT literate youth to develop easily accessible food and nutrition security monitoring tools that can easily be used by illiterate members of the community and avail data and information to decision-makers.

Through this component/outcome, WOFAN will be supported to scale up its own activities and provide support to more women and youth.

✓ **Output 3.1. 14,000 women and 28,000 youth incentivized to participate/engage in increased groundnut and rice production and processing for improved income and nutrition:** The consumption of rice and groundnuts is countrywide. Their utilization provides good opportunities for the creation of zero waste systems along their value chains, thereby making them environment-friendly. This output will be delivered by upscaling ongoing initiatives by WOFAN in partnerships with CARI, IITA Youth Agripreneurs and ICRISAT, and by implementing the following activities:

- Engage WOFAN to identify and work with “influencers and supporters” (LGAs, ADPs, government agencies, religious, traditional and political leaders) to drum up support for the project and mobilize communities to establish a critical mass of support.
- Facilitate the access of women and youth to high-yielding varieties of groundnut and rice.
- Enhance women and youth farmers’ knowledge of improved small scale groundnut and rice production and processing technologies, including complementary crop management practices
- Enhance seed production and marketing at a large scale.
- Enhance farmers’ knowledge and diffuse improved aflatoxin management technologies.
- Create linkages between women and youth groups and seed and agricultural input companies to serve as distributors in their locales.
- Train women and youth groups on the use of power tillers for production and threshers for processing and encourage them to provide post-harvest services.
- Identify and integrate women and youth groups into the out-grower schemes.
- Adopt the IITA Youth Agripreneur model to equip youths in project areas with knowledge on modern agricultural practices and entrepreneurial skills that will make them self-dependent and able to create wealth.

Component 3: Knowledge, Monitoring and Assessment

A common and harmonized framework of information for food and nutrition security encompasses the following aspects: (i) ensuring that high quality data, statistics and information are available and easily accessible across sectors for monitoring and analysis of the food and nutrition security situation across the country, particularly the vulnerable parts; (ii) ensuring that available food and nutrition security data, statistics and information are credible, well-analysed and meet the needs of a variety of decision-makers in a timely manner for policy formulation and investment decisions aimed at hunger eradication; and (iii) strengthening institutional structures for easy exchange and coordination of information for consensus building and harmonised approaches, among others. This component of the project will support the development of human and institutional capacities for integrated monitoring and analysis of the food and nutrition security situation at federal, state and local/landscape and even regional levels through the establishment of a harmonized M&E framework for food security information, multi-scale assessment of sustainability and resilience in production agro-ecological zones and landscapes and monitoring of global environmental benefits (GEBs). It also supports the improvement of national systems for the increased flow of data and information across sectors through the National Bureau of Statistics.

The emphasis is on learning whether the interventions proposed in this project will have positive impacts on food system resilience and the generation of GEBs, such as protection of fragile ecosystems, wildlife, improved soil carbon and water resources. This will include evaluating changes in provision and use of ecosystem services of the savanna ecosystem, the impact of value chain development and empowerment of women in production as they contribute to making Nigeria more resilient and food secure. Modern monitoring and evaluation tools such as the Vital Signs (VS) monitoring system and Resilience Atlas mapping will be used. To monitor the food and nutrition security, the work will support the uptake of monitoring systems such as the IPC 2.0 (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification) through FEWSNET.

Outcome 4: Harmonized M&E framework in place for food security information, multi-scale assessment of sustainability and resilience in production agro-ecological zones and landscapes and monitoring of global environmental benefits (GEBs): A major outcome of the project is a functional monitoring and assessment framework for food security information that will enable Nigeria to report regularly on its efforts to foster sustainability and resilience in production agro-ecological zones and landscapes and also report on the global environmental benefits of the interventions. Institutional structures will be strengthened for easy exchange and

coordination of information for consensus building and harmonised approaches. The following are its three critical outputs:

✓ **Output 4.1: Capacity in place to monitor and report on the food security situation with emphasis on its resilience and sustainability at national, state and local levels:** Required capacity to monitor and report on food security at all levels in Nigeria will be built or strengthened through a number of activities. These include: (i) facilitating a Research Unit on food security in the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to regularly update information on the food security situation in the country; (ii) reviewing existing information systems related to food security, identify gaps and recommend ways for enhancing effectiveness; (iii) facilitating the establishment of an effective and functional National Food Security Information System (NFSIS) and the integration of the IPC and FEWSNET reporting tools on food security monitoring to ensure that there's an early warning systems in place to build household and community resilience against hunger and famine, and to respond to emergencies in a timely manner, when they occur; (iv) creating a national platform for interaction among various state-based food security networks to report and advocate regularly on the food security situation in Nigeria.

The project will work with many stakeholders of varied interests in agriculture, food security and food value-chains to obtain key data and information. Emphasis will be placed on obtaining gender-disaggregated socio-economic and environmental data. In addition to field data, real time data on land cover changes, water usage and quality, biodiversity and carbon sinks and stock values of concerned ecosystems will be collected using satellite imagery, GIS and the Internet through the support to institutions such as the European Space Agency (ESA) and similar institutions. Expertise will be sought to integrate the data collected for monitoring and evaluation into a national framework for the savanna ecosystem using the platform provided by the new Resilience Atlas technology (<http://www.resilienceatlas.org>). In line with the other contemporary resilient food security projects, a project page for Nigeria will be developed on the Resilience Atlas to store baseline data. This will be updated regularly as the Resilience Atlas will be used as a learning tool to disseminate project implementation, progress, achievements.

✓ **Output 4.2: M&E System for GEBs using the Vital Signs monitoring framework:** To establish a functional M&E system to measure the local and global environmental benefits of the project at the landscape level, the project will work on: (i) developing the M&E plan for the project; (ii) conducting physical and socio-economic baseline surveys for participating states and project communities/sites; (iii) undertaking regular inter-sectoral mapping of the state of land and water resources to monitor land degradation of the target landscapes using GIS and other monitoring tools; (iv) monitoring change in the soil and plant carbon content at least twice during the life of the project; (v) undertaking regular assessment of the effectiveness of introduced SLWM and agro-biodiversity practices in providing local adaptation and global mitigation benefits and improved food production; and (vi) monitoring project performance in terms of outputs and impact. The project will use the expertise of the *Vital Signs* framework and protocols for monitoring the global environmental benefits and assessing impact within each project site through comparison of outcomes before and after project inception.

✓ **Output 4.3: Functional linkage with the regional Food Security IAP initiative:** Being part of a regional initiative, the project will participate in all regional meetings and project initiatives and undertake exchange visits to share best practices to enhance sustainable and resilient food security in the region. It will also submit on a regular basis country project implementation reports to the regional platform to maintain a functional linkage with the regional IAP. The project will also develop and share knowledge products on lessons learned from the Nigeria child project on various topics and use the platform provided by the regional initiative to share them.

A.1. 4) Additional Incremental Cost Reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, GEF TF and co-financing

The project's TOC recognizes that food security is the product of both socio-economic and environmental drivers. Addressing these drivers requires both coherent policies and institutions that influence the ability of farming households to foster sustainable food security and address critical shocks (e.g. climate change and conflicts) in order to enhance the resilience of food production systems. A landscape approach to management is key, integrating resilience of land-use systems, natural resource management and livelihood security.

The proposed solutions for Nigeria's agricultural sector in terms of increasing productivity, as outlined in the national strategy Vision 20:2020 for instance, are biased towards solutions that can have potentially-damaging impacts on the environment (e.g. clearing of virgin land and increased use of fertilisers), and could also increase the inequalities in access to opportunities to benefit from the agricultural sector's growth. For instance, in its effort to promote food self-sufficiency and reduce dependence on rainfall for agricultural productivity, the government plans to increase irrigated arable land from 1% in 2009 to 25% by 2020. This strategy, while important for the country's ability to achieve its food security goals and reduce dependence on imported food commodities, will significantly affect the country's water resources and other ecosystems, if not carefully managed.

Investment of US\$7,139,450 GEF Trust Fund resources in the project will enable the establishment of key components in tandem with in-kind contributions from government, which are significant, as indicated in section A.1.2. above. Without these inputs, the current trajectory in agricultural production growth, and the practices used, that leave many behind (e.g. poor women and youth) and have the potential to significantly affect the integrity of landscapes and ecosystems (e.g. reduced productivity of land due to lack of investments in maintaining their health), could significantly affect the future of many households to produce food and feed themselves. It will be less likely that effective policy processes and system-wide support to food security institutional development and action will be possible, one which integrates the value of ecosystems into production practices, and seeks to bring on board inclusive approaches and value chains that benefit men, women, youth and smallholder producers. This support will also underpin the scaling up of existing government initiatives and, thereby, underscore the additionality of the GEF contribution through the project. This scaling up is particularly important in terms of achieving benefits at a landscape level and for the sustainability of ecosystems, and for making agricultural value chains more inclusive. The costs of inaction are likely to be substantial, including continued degradation in vulnerable environments in combination with the persistence of low input-output smallholder farming. These costs will accumulate over time and hinder pathways out of poverty, food insecurity and exacerbate climate vulnerability for large sections of the population, with a particular impact on women farmers and young people.

Studies carried out in the highly-populated Kano Close-Settled Zone and the surrounding region indicate that in certain places, intensification of agricultural practices, in association with effective land and natural resource management, can take place with little degradation. The dual benefits of improved production and longer-term landscape sustainability and preservation of key natural capital at scale can also substantially improve Nigeria's food production situation, a key wider goal in light of substantially-increased food import costs.

The project's intervention is explicitly designed to accelerate the adoption of proven sustainable agricultural practices that have been present in many parts of the sudan-sahel agro-ecological zone of Nigeria but have yet to be adopted at scale. The GEF intervention will enable this scaling up, including greater value addition and access to markets by the users of the natural capital base in the target agro-ecological zones (including farmers, pastoralists and people using natural capital for manufacturing products). This will also assist in reducing the "gender gap" in agriculture by specifically targeting women to enhance their income security and productivity. Lessons learned will be widely disseminated outside the project area to smallholder farmers in other agro-ecological zones of Nigeria (e.g. guinea savanna and guinea forest) to enable their involvement in scaling-up post-project, thereby improving sustainable and climate-resilient food production and national food security.

The use of market-based mechanisms will provide incentives for, and facilitate the adoption of, mainstreaming practices and involvement by the private sector. Where feasible this scaling up will work alongside other initiatives such as the UNDP-supported African Facility for Inclusive Markets (AFIM) in order to build links to the private sector, focusing in particular on key value chains such as fruit and vegetable production and dairy production for growing urban areas. *The description of Output 1.3 under section IV (Results and Partnerships) of the PRODOC explains in detail the process that will be followed to support the selected value chains to develop beyond subsistence level.*

In total the GEF intervention will cost US\$7,139,450 million (GEF Trust Fund), and this investment will catalyze significant resources at national and local levels, some of which have not been quantified. It is considered highly cost effective given the huge value of enhancing food security and ecosystem services in the 14 sites and 70 communities, as well as factoring in the anticipated demonstration effects and uptake and dissemination of best practice at a national level in programming and policy. The table below shows how the GEF investment will enhance existing investments by government and other partners, and describes the incremental value of the GEF alternative.

Table 3: The baseline situation vs. the GEF alternative scenario

Component	Baseline Scenario	GEF alternative scenario
<p>Component 1: Enhancing the institutional and policy environment for achieving improved food security</p>	<p>In the baseline situation, there is extensive focus on augmenting food production, with limited attention to the resilience of the ecosystems on which that production relies. In the north of Nigeria, where food insecurity is most pronounced, there are significant development interventions ongoing and planned by different partners, but many of these are planned in a segmented or fragmented manner, with development partners targeting interventions towards their sector of choice. The Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is faced with the challenge of putting in place a coherent policy approach to agricultural reforms and transformation, and most importantly increase sustainability and resilience in the food sector. There is poor policy and program coordination, often leading to duplication of effort and wider inefficiencies in resource use among agencies and ministries, as well as between federal and state agencies, and even between states. This has weakened the capacity and ability of producers, especially smallholder farmers, to fully participate and benefit from many of the investments Nigeria has made in the agricultural sector. At present smallholders produce about 80% of the food consumed in the country, but participate only weakly in supply markets. Because smallholders typically control very small areas of land and are therefore unable to produce significant marketable surpluses of food after satisfying family requirements, it is difficult, if not impossible, for most of them to enter value chains as individual farmers.</p> <p>Leaving smallholder farmers behind and not fully participating in agricultural value chains presents sustainability challenges to Nigeria's agricultural sector, and food security in particular. A more coordinated approach is needed, one that recognizes the role of smallholder farmers in growing and sustaining agricultural production in Nigeria, and in contributing to food and nutrition security, and purposefully increases opportunities for them to participate and equally benefit from the country's extensive investments in the</p>	<p>The GEF alternative will enhance the policy and institutional enabling environment for achieving improved food security and integrate sustainable, resilient and inclusive value-chain approaches. When smallholders are considered as more compact groups of farmers, engagement in value chains becomes a more viable proposition, particularly in terms of supplying commercial quantities of food to (small and large) urban markets. The policy landscape is poised to facilitate action towards these solutions, but often weak implementation hinders progress towards achieving expressed goals. There is a growing need to coordinate action at sector, landscape, farm and market levels throughout the country. The bulk of this action needs to be coordinated at State and LGAs levels, where planning and budget allocation decisions are made. The project will therefore target these decision-making platforms and focus support on the operationalization of national- and state-level multi-stakeholder platforms or organs to advocate and promote food security for all within sustainable and resilient food systems. A platform for campaigns and policy advocacy on food security and production in Nigeria will enable consistent advocacy for a fairer deal for small-scale farmers and for improvements in decision making on food production, processing and distribution. The project will therefore: work with government and non-government stakeholders to facilitate and establish a multi-stakeholder platforms that can lead the advocacy for sustainable and resilient food and nutrition security at a national level; support wider cross-sector, planning, and interventions with communities for enhanced learning and practice; and support capacity building for advocacy and local level dialogue on sustainable and resilient food and nutrition security in Nigeria.</p> <p>The project will support the establishment of Public-Private Partnerships for major food crop value chains, including cassava, rice and sorghum in support of Nigeria's own strategies and priorities on increasing local production, reducing post-harvest losses, and reducing food imports. Support will focus on growing these value chains beyond the subsistence level, and to evolve in a manner that also benefits smallholder farmers. The process will involve support to a participatory supply chain diagnosis, planning and implementation to analyse the constraints and opportunities in the development of local supply to an off-taker, using an approach proposed by the African Agribusiness Supplier Development Programme (AASDP), developed by UNDP's team working on African Facility for</p>

	<p>sector.</p> <p>Recently the government has launched an Agriculture Promotion Policy (2016:2020) to address the challenges with food production in the country, focusing mostly on increasing output. This policy and strategy, also known as The Green Alternative, seeks to position Nigeria to become not only food secure, but also food self-sufficient, and a future exporter of food. This potential is there, and remain untapped due largely to the country's inability to effectively coordinate its massive investments in agriculture and coordinate action towards the overall objective. With the dwindling revenue from oil exploitation, there is increasing recognition that agriculture holds a significant potential to feed the country, absorb a large portion of the unemployed youth and increase the country's export earnings. This is also outlined in the recent Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (February 2017), which requires the agricultural sector to rise up to the challenge.</p> <p>For the medium-term, these are the instruments that will guide the country's investments in this area.</p>	<p>Inclusive Markets for (AFIM).</p> <p>Contributing to the implementation of the new Agriculture Promotion Policy/The Green Alternative will enable Nigeria's agricultural sector to respond in a coherent manner to national food needs and transformations required for the country's agri-food systems and value chains.</p> <p><i>US\$1,000,000 of the GEF resources will support work under this component/outcome.</i></p>
<p>Component 2: Scaling up sustainable agricultural practices and market opportunities for smallholder farmers in the target agro-ecological zones to increase food security under increasing climate risks</p>	<p>The baseline situation is characterized by an agricultural production sector that puts pressure on ecosystems, for example through habitat modification, over-extraction of water and nutrients, and use of agro-chemicals for food production. The savanna agro-ecological zones of northern Nigeria that constitute the main grain food basket of the country have undergone constant degradation due to inappropriate agricultural practices and increasing pressure from rapidly growing human and animal populations, as well as increasing climate risk. Productivity gains have thus accrued to smallholder farmers but at an expense, with environmental externalities that have left soils degraded and groundwater depleted, undermining the very resource base that made the revolution possible. With the current push to increase food production, growth in the sector will increasingly present the challenge of how to reduce the harm on ecosystems and landscapes. Environmental degradation contributes to food insecurity, as natural ecosystems that</p>	<p>In the alternative GEF scenario, food and agricultural production practices would integrate the value of ecosystem services and support their resilience to ensure that the impact on landscapes is minimized. The project will therefore support the scaling up of sustainable land and water management (SLWM) and climate- and water-smart agricultural (CSA/WaSA) practices that will ensure both environmental and social development benefits at farm and landscape level. A wide range of land and water management practices that can address land degradation and increase long-term agricultural productivity have been identified. These include increasing soil organic matter and improving soil structure, thereby helping to reduce soil erosion and improve water infiltration and the efficiency of water use and nutrient uptake, promoting agroforestry, and mixed crop-livestock production systems and imparting skills, supporting access to inputs, finance, particularly for women, to promote participation in sustainable agriculture and food production practices and in the development of food value chains. The benefits of these improved land and water management practices to farmers and rural economies include higher crop yields, increased supplies of other valuable goods such as firewood</p>

	<p>provide most of the smallholders with food, fuel, medicine, building materials and cultural identity are being systematically degraded and destroyed, and their regenerative and strategic productive capacity jeopardized. Unsustainable land management practices lead to scarcity of water for both drinking and agriculture. Environmental degradation generates multiple negative feedbacks on food production systems, and on the livelihoods and human well-being they support.</p> <p>In Nigeria, women are involved in agricultural production, processing and utilization, but their roles have been significantly affected by socio-economic factors such as income, education and access to infrastructure and financial services, underpinned by cultural barriers. For agriculture to advance and enhance food production, gender-sensitive policies and services tailored to women in value chains need to be developed. Involving youth in agriculture also offers important pathways to employment, income generation, food security and sustainable development.</p> <p>Left unchecked, this will worsen the food insecurity situation by leaving many smallholder producers vulnerable to the effects of ecosystem degradation and unable to respond adequately to the negative impacts of climate change.</p>	<p>and fodder, increased income and employment opportunities, and resilience to climate change. Scaling up sustainable agricultural intensification among smallholder farmers can support enhanced food security, environmental protection and poverty reduction through adopting farming practices that maintain the resource base on which smallholders depend, enabling these resources to continue supporting future food security. The project will provide support to bring 35,000 hectares of existing farmland under improved land use and agro-ecosystem management practices, working with about 50,000 small- to medium-scale farmers, half of whom will be women. Sustainable intensification and diversification options will also be identified and supported, together with alternative income generation activities, animal husbandry, small-scale irrigation based on sound water management interventions, processing and marketing opportunities to complement crop production and further promote resilience of households.</p> <p>This component will also support interventions promoting the increase in participation of youth to agriculture and will also contribute to reducing gender inequalities that impede the achievement of food security in the project areas. With focused and female-targeted interventions through the project, an expected outcome will be a contribution to the removal of constraints affecting women's ability to improve efficiency in agriculture and to engage across value chains.</p> <p>For the sustainability of farmers' interest, improved agricultural production must be accompanied by improved marketing of their products. Farmers' inability to market produce means lack of income for production inputs, consumer goods and immediate cash requirements and reduced willingness to produce more. One means to integrate smallholders into the market is by increasing the value-added of smallholder products at different stages of the food value chain (production, processing, trading). Niche markets for traditional crops grown under traditional, non-intensive practices could play an important role in creating pro-poor market opportunities.</p> <p>This component will facilitate the adoption of appropriate and existing sustainable and climate-smart agricultural practices for staple crop production systems to complement the country's food security initiatives and help in the development of domestic and export markets. The objective is to increase output and help commercialize eight targeted commodity value chains including groundnuts, maize, rice, sorghum, poultry, dairy, fruit trees and aquaculture.</p>
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		<i>US\$5,149,476 of the GEF resources will support this component.</i>
Component 3: Knowledge, Monitoring and Assessment	<p>In the baseline situation, there's a lack of a systematic regularly updated and comparable information to assess sustainability and resilience. Targeted action to eradicate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition is only possible if it is understood why people are deprived. This requires sufficiently robust evidence and an adequate capacity to analyse, interpret and communicate this evidence to decision-makers. Given that evidence is frequently dispersed, a common monitoring and reporting framework is needed to ensure coherence. Nigeria has considerable food and nutrition security data generated by government ministries, civil society organizations, private-sector organizations, academia and development agencies, but non-consolidation leaves decision makers without a proper understanding of complex food security and nutrition determinants and outcomes.</p>	<p>The project will support the establishment and institutionalization of a harmonized M&E framework for food security information, multi-scale assessments of sustainability and resilience in agro-ecological zones and landscapes and monitoring of global environmental benefits (GEBs). Institutional structures will be strengthened for easy exchange and coordination of information for consensus building and harmonised approaches. A key aspect of this is the capacity to monitor, analyse, report, disseminate information, and most importantly integrate data and evidence into decision-making processes, particularly at planning and budget allocation stages. The project will therefore support the set up or strengthen a research unit that will regularly update information on the food security situation in the country; review existing information systems related to food security, identify gaps and recommend ways for enhancing effectiveness; facilitate the establishment of an effective and functional National Food Security Information System (NFSIS) and a national database on sustainable and resilient food security. Food security information networks at state level in various agro-ecological zones will be key to ensuring that real-time collection and analysis of data is conducted in order for responses to be made in times of emergencies and to build resilience into production systems to ensure that the incidences of these emergencies and shocks are reduced. A national platform for interaction among various state-based food security networks to report and advocate regularly on the food security situation in Nigeria will also be supported, to scale up the impacts of similar actions at State and LGA levels.</p> <p>For purposes of monitoring the short- to medium terms impacts of this project's interventions, an M&E system will also be put in place to measure the local and global environmental benefits of the project at landscape level. Results and data generated from these monitoring systems will be used to demonstrate the value of integrated approaches for both the resilience of ecosystems in production landscapes, as well as contributions to increasing food production and security. Knowledge generated from these processes will also be widely shared with the countries participating in the GEF FSIAP at the regional level, and be used to inform future upscaling and programming efforts around similar issues, both within and outside Nigeria.</p> <p><i>US\$650,000 of the GEF funds will contribute towards supporting work under this component.</i></p>

A.1. 5) Global Environmental Benefits

This project is part of **GEF Integrated Approach Pilot: Fostering Sustainability and Resilience for Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa**, ‘targeting agro-ecological systems where the need to enhance food security is linked directly to opportunities for generating global environmental benefits.’⁸ The program is expected to foster sustainability and resilience for food security by creating or strengthening institutional frameworks, scaling up integrated approaches, and monitoring and assessment of global environmental benefits. The proposed interventions under the Nigeria project are directly linked to this program, and is expected to promote sustainable management of land and water resources in particular, in northern-Nigeria’s agricultural production landscapes.

Anticipated technologies and practices to improve land-use sustainability include soil and water management to improve water retention and fertility. The approach focuses on linking these improvements to providing value chain incentives that encourage organic matter retention in soils. Nigeria’s natural resources are substantial, but under pressure, including serious soil exhaustion and degradation. Managing and supporting landscapes in an integrated manner within the three key agro-ecologies that form the focus for this project is of immediate national and longer-term international interest. This means that the basket of benefits accruing from success in project implementation will spill over into wider ‘transnational public goods’, a key consideration in assessing cost efficiency and effectiveness.

The expected local socio-economic and environmental benefits anticipated from the project interventions, and their linkages to global environmental benefits expected from the wider Food Security IAP, are described in detail below under section *A.7 Benefits* (page 33) and in the Project Results Framework (Annex A) of this document.

A.1. 6) Innovativeness, sustainability and scaling-up

The project has substantial opportunity for sustainability and scaling up in the context of Nigeria’s current move to achieve food self-sufficiency. In large part this is driven by declining global crude oil prices leading to significant reduction in Nigeria’s export earnings. The resulting depreciation in the Naira (NGN) against the US dollar has increased both food import costs and fuel prices, leading to increased demand for local cereals in Nigeria.

For example, to reduce the \$4 billion annual wheat import bill, the Government has embarked on a cassava flour substitution policy to replace some of the wheat flour used in bread and confectionaries. As a result several major Nigerian bakeries have shifted to the incorporation of 20% high quality cassava flour in bread production which is boosting local demand. To accelerate production of high quality cassava flour to meet this demand, the government is supporting the private sector to access cheap financing that will enable the establishment of 18 large-scale cassava-processing plants. To further scale up nationwide production and commercialization of cassava bread, a \$60 million cassava-bread fund has been established.

The cassava value chain is one of the most significant in the country and is now being transformed. In Kogi State, about 15,000 ha is being developed by Cargill to produce cassava starch and reduce Nigeria’s imports. In Kwara State, the Flour Mills of Nigeria has established plants to turn cassava starch into sweeteners to reduce sugar imports. Nigeria has also secured a total of 3.2 million MT of cassava chips for export to China opening up potential new markets. At the same time, the introduction of new tropical wheat varieties that are heat tolerant has provided for increased yields of 5-6 tons per ha – up to six times more than yields previously obtained by farmers. The government is also focusing on substituting for wheat important, and plans to produce at least 2.5 million MT of wheat and reduce wheat imports by 50% in coming years.

More widely, there is renewed interest in local food processing rather than the import of prepared products. This includes substantial engagement by the private sector. Teragro, a local private firm, has established a \$6 million plant to process oranges into concentrate and Dansa Foods, another local private firm, is investing \$35 million to establish a tomato processing plant. The company is also investing \$45 million to set up a 6,000 ha pineapple plantation and processing plant, including a focus on marketing to Europe, support for which includes a fresh produce value chain development program launched in partnership with the Ministry of Aviation. The challenge is in reducing transport times to ensure quality, which therefore includes building cargo airports to enhance competitiveness in the export of fresh produce.

⁸ <http://www.thegef.org/topics/food-security>

At the same time, Nigeria is also recapitalizing palm oil plantations by providing nine million free high-yielding improved oil palm seedlings to smallholder farmers and plantation estates in the country, which is linked to encouragement for private sector investments in new palm oil processing plants. In cocoa, the government target was to double production by 2015, including involving distribution of 3.5 million pods of high yielding cocoa hybrids to smallholder farmers and additional support for production inputs. Smallholder cocoa farmers earned \$900 million in foreign exchange in 2014. The private sector has also expanded its processing capacity for value addition to cocoa beans.

The investment environment in smallholder farmers is therefore rapidly evolving with opportunities for value chain engagement in a range of commodities. This project will support the enabling of farmers to intensify their production of key commodities in a sustainable manner, both providing for greater levels of production to feed into emerging markets whilst avoiding the need for expansion of farmland and therefore encroachment on other important environmental resources.

A.2. Child Project

This is a child project under the Food Security Integrated Approach Pilot. Some 70 communities in 14 LGAs have been selected reflecting three major agro-ecologies of the northern part of the country's Savannah Zones. Diverse systems of production will reflect important opportunities for learning that can be shared more widely in different parts of the country. The Nigeria Child IAP will contribute to the regional hub project on 'Cross-Cutting Capacity Building, Knowledge Services and Coordination'.

Outcome 1.1: *Science and Policy Interface (SPI) to support dialogue and advocacy for mainstreaming of ecosystem services, climate resilience and gender sensitive approaches to food security at national and regional levels in place and operational* – The Nigeria project is supporting platforms at different levels that enable stronger policy and planning support more sustainable food production systems; under Component 3, Outcome 4 it is supporting ways of building learning and knowledge development into these platforms as well as improving capacity to monitor and report on food security at different levels and in an integrated manner; this includes gender-disaggregated monitoring;

Outcome 1.2: *A scientific knowledge support interface that provides options to promote and underpin innovations for sustainability and resilience of agroecosystems in a food security context in place and operational* – Learning will be built into the Outcome 3 arena for improved youth involvement and reduced gender disparities in agricultural production, including identification and removal of constraints affecting women smallholder's ability to improve efficiency in agriculture and engage in value chains;

Outcome 2.1 *Multiple benefit innovative practices that generate or safeguard ecosystem services in the food value chains and food production systems promoted* – the project will contribute to innovation in value chain development, including understanding impacts on GEBs (and addressing safeguards and mitigation efforts) through working closely under Output 4.2 with the Vital Signs monitoring framework. The multi-stakeholder platforms will be used as vehicles to share and disseminate information on monitoring signals received;

Outcome 2.2 *Wide-scale and enhanced uptake of INRM to foster sustainability and resilience in production landscapes and agroecosystems* – the child project will extensively implement sustainable land management practices in its support to smallholders, including through improved crop diversification and supporting the design and implementation of alternative livelihood packages for communities under Output 2.3;

Outcome 3.1 *Framework in place for multi-scale monitoring and assessment of ecosystem services and socio-economic benefits* – Under Component 3, the Nigeria child project will work closely with Vital Signs to generate baseline and on-going monitoring data for the status of food security and ecosystem services. This will include, where feasible, full gender data disaggregation.

A.3. Stakeholders. Identify key stakeholders and elaborate on how the key stakeholder's engagement is incorporated in the preparation and implementation of the project. Do they include civil society organizations (yes ☒ /no ☐)? and indigenous peoples (yes ☒ /no ☐)?

The main stakeholders are government, represented by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs); Universities and Research Institutions; Civil Society Organizations, local user organizations and beneficiary farmers (men, women

and youths). The Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) will lead implementation of the project as the Implementing Agent, supported by the Ministry of Environment, which is the GEF Focal Ministry and the competent institution on environmental conservation and management issues. The strategic direction of the project will be overseen by a National Steering Committee comprising representatives of: the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (Chair); Federal Ministries of Environment; Water Resources; Finance and Women Affairs; National Planning Commission; The Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN); other relevant Universities and Research Institutes; and at least two proven NGOs, with one being a women's NGO, (WOFAN), All Farmers Association of Nigeria as well as the private sector.

An inception workshop organized to further identify key stakeholders for the project and look critically at their interlinked roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the project was followed by a series of consultations with high-level officials of the Federal Ministries of Environment, Agriculture and Rural Development, Water Resources and Women Affairs. These meetings were aimed at briefing officials on the project context as well as helping to identify key current government initiatives that could contribute to baseline information for the project. This also assisted in informing government on their expected roles and responsibilities during project formulation, including facilitating co-financing. To further strengthen inputs into the project, a stakeholders' workshop on the *Theory of Change* was organized between 23 and 24 March 2016 to seek inputs on critical change elements required to make the project's outputs resilient and sustainable. Further to this, another stakeholder meeting of representatives of government, research institutions, NGOs, ADPs and FADAMA initiatives and communities in the targeted project area of Adamawa, Benue, Gombe, Jigawa, Kano, Katsina and Nasarawa States was organized in Kano between 1 and 2 June 2016 to seek grassroots inputs into the project. Two national-level stakeholder meetings were subsequently convened in Abuja in June 2016 and May 2017 to provide further input into the design process (summary outputs of which are provided in the annexes).

The table below lists the stakeholders that have been identified and their proposed roles in the implementation of the project. Stakeholder identification and engagement will be an ongoing process during project implementation. During the Inception Workshop, further stakeholders will be identified and protocols for their engagement discussed.

Stakeholder	Relevant roles within the project
Lead national partner - Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	To chair the Steering Committee that will oversee the strategic direction of the project. It will also house the project and provide a large proportion of in kind contribution by the Government.
Ministries participating in the project - Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; (ii) Federal Ministries of Environment; Water Resources; Women Affairs; Budget and Planning (National Bureau of Statistics).	Participate in the implementation of project pilots, as well as provide technical and advisory services. In addition to these general roles, the National Bureau of Statistics will be engaged to play a key role in facilitating a national data base, KM and M&E System for food security in the country.
Participating State and Local governments	Main beneficiaries who will also support the implementation of the project in their respective States and Local Government areas, including monitoring. Will also provide appropriate co-financing in cash or in-kind for project implementation.
Land user organizations (forest, water, pasture/rangeland, etc.), village administrations, farmers, and local communities representing over 6 million smallholder farmers in the project areas.	These local communities across the seven selected states are the critical managers and users of agro-pastoral ecosystem resources in the project area. They are also the direct beneficiaries of the project. Those that will be trained and empowered in sustainable, resilient and value-chain approaches to agricultural and food production will assist in community mobilization and advocacy as well as training of community members. At least 50% of direct beneficiaries will be targeted to be women stakeholders.
Private sector actors, including multinational corporations and Nigerian companies active in the	In the context of Nigeria's food production landscape, this group of stakeholders is key as it holds the key to

different stages of the food value chain (production, sourcing, transportation, processing, imports, marketing, input supplies etc).	revolutionizing the development of the country's food value chains in several agricultural supply chains. They have the potential to influence policy, action and markets, provide capacity and skills to farmers at all levels of the food value chain. There is therefore increasing need to formally engage these actors in the dialogue and decisions about the agriculture sector and food production processes and practices.
NGOs, including associations of women farmers	In addition to advocacy, civil society organizations, particularly women's NGOs, will be trained to assist in community mobilization and advocacy as well as training of community members.
Agriculture Universities and Research institutions (national and international)	They shall be engaged on a regular basis to provide the results of research breakthroughs and technical inputs towards improving knowledge sharing and global networking in sustainable, resilient and value-chain approaches.
Multilateral organizations UNDP/IFAD, DfID, USAID, JICA, GIZ and others	There's a large number of bilateral and multilateral efforts and support within the agribusiness sector in Nigeria. Significant work has been done by this sector to generate data and information, provide capacity building, influence policy-making processes and outcomes and stimulate public private partnerships Will provide additional technical and/or financial support to the project. There's an increasing need to collaborate and learn from each other, complement each other's efforts to ensure better coordination and reduce the burden on the government partners and other beneficiaries.

A.4. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. 1) did the project conduct a gender analysis during project preparation (yes ☒ /no ☐)? 2) did the project incorporate a gender-responsive project results framework, including sex-disaggregated indicators (yes ☒ /no ☐)? and 3) what is the share of women and men direct beneficiaries (women 60%, men 40%)?

In the savanna agro-ecosystem of northern Nigeria, women are involved in agricultural production, processing and utilization, but their role has been significantly affected by socio-economic factors such as income, education and access to infrastructure. Though women constitute a large portion of the farming population (about 75%), women's possibilities in agriculture are hindered by formal and traditional rules and relationships, many of which render major gender inequalities at a local level. Women farmers work alongside their male counterparts with some clear divisions of labour, including men clearing land and felling trees, gathering and burning bush, and making ridges, while women engage in planting, weeding, harvesting, on-farm processing, and the selling of farm produce.

Generally, women are involved with the production of food crops such as maize, sorghum, millet, cowpea, melon, pepper, cassava, and vegetables and small-scale animal production including small ruminants and poultry. Women's involvement across value chains is largely limited to processing mostly in an informal manner, with little income generation, if any. In terms of access to financing, information and training, inputs and land, women are constrained by socio-cultural norms. According to the 2012 'Gender in Nigeria' report by the British Council, women own 4% of land in the North-East, and just over 10% in the South-East and South-South; overall, less than 10% of Nigerian women own land. The lack of land ownership lies at the heart of gender inequalities, thereby significantly reducing the chances for women's access to financing because this reduces their access to collateral. It also hampers their ability to inform decisions about what food is grown, and therefore affecting the food consumption and dietary decisions of many households, particularly female-headed households.

For smallholder agriculture to advance, gender-sensitive policies and services tailored to women within agriculture production and food value chains are required. This need has led the project to establish a gender-specific outcome on *enhancing gender equality in food security* as part of component 2. The expected key outcome (Outcome 3) of this

intervention is **reduced gender disparities in agricultural production and improved food security for poor women and men**. Women leaders and women NGOs in the project sites will be fully engaged to deliver outputs that can lead to key project outcomes and assist in removing some of the constraints affecting women's ability to improve equal participation and efficiency in agriculture in a sustainable and resilient manner and support their involvement across value chains. Women farmers will be specifically empowered through improved farming practices that will ultimately increase yields and family income. Furthermore, the project will create substantial employment opportunities for rural women and small scale entrepreneurs in food value-chains of the various agro-ecosystems of the guinea-sudan-sahel savanna agro-ecological zone.

Gender Action Plan (to be detailed during the early inception period)	
Project Outputs	Suggested gender mainstreaming actions
<i>Output 1.1: Support to the implementation of The Green Alternative/Agriculture Promotion Policy to promote sustainable and resilient food and nutrition security</i>	The process of supporting the implementation of the new Agriculture Promotion Policy will support advocacy work to facilitate action on gender and women's empowerment as outlined in the policy. A gender analysis and audit of the role, participation and benefits for women (including income generation and employment) in agriculture will be conducted in the early stages of implementation, to establish a baseline in order to inform interventions and better track the impacts of such interventions during the life of the project. The analysis will also ensure that gender sensitive development is embedded within the policy implementation processes. The review will extend to efforts towards establishing a National System for Food and Nutrition Security, with a specific focus on gendered issues of equality in FNS at all levels, from national to household levels.
<i>Output 1.2: National and state level multi-stakeholder gender-sensitive platforms advocating sustainable agriculture and SLWM practices for improved food security</i>	In supporting the establishment of a multi-stakeholder platforms to facilitate dialogue and advocacy on sustainable agriculture and resilient FNS, a specific gender-sensitive approach will include: a) ensuring gender-sensitive program and decision making is included in the purpose of such an organ; b) that sufficient resources are apportioned to advocacy messages specific to issues of gender equality and gender transformation (within which the empowerment of women smallholders will be central); and c) that this is also replicated down to lower levels. This should include support to the integration of gender-specific institutions and organizations working both in public and private spheres. Key messaging resulting from these advocacy processes will be assessed and monitored for future gender sensitivity and awareness.
<i>Output 1.3.: Public-Private Partnership established for major food crop (cassava, rice and sorghum) value chains for food processing, production and distribution</i>	This output will pay special attention to the role women smallholders' play in cassava, rice and sorghum production, but also to the role women commercial farmers and business operators play within wider value chains and markets for these key commodities. Within the public-private partnerships, a women's empowerment partnership will be established to support and contribute to enhancing the role women entrepreneurs play in the market, from producers, to wholesalers and traders, and end users (both consumers and utilizers of the product, e.g. for milling and/or to produce cassava chips and other snacks). Lessons will also be learnt on upscaling/expanding these approaches to other commodities such as rice.

<i>Output 2.1: 350,000 ha under improved land use and agro-ecosystem management practices</i>	Central to this output will be ensuring gender-parity in selecting and working with change agents, including the selection of 140 smallholder farmers to receive training on sustainable agricultural practices. Specific training activities will be targeted to women farmers, recognizing the key constraints and challenges that they face. Similarly, gender parity will be sought in training of AEWs to facilitate replication of sustainable agricultural best practices. In monitoring the impacts and results, the project will ensure gender-disaggregation of data.
<i>Output 2.2: Increased value addition and access to markets realized by beneficiary smallholder farmers</i>	In addressing ways and means of enhancing value addition, the project will place specific emphasis on gender-sensitive approaches including specific forms of gender-sensitive advice and support that enhances the capacity of women farmers to participate in, gain from and shape future directions in value chain development (e.g. being central to feedback loops on early impacts achieved by the project). Capacity building efforts under the output will specifically focus on ways of empowering women smallholders in practical aspects of supply chain management.
<i>Output 2.3. 35,000 ha under intensive and diversified production for enhanced income and improved nutrition</i>	Key gender equality and crop diversity relationships will be examined, with the purpose of identifying the crop configurations that support empowerment of women farmers and enhance their income-earning potential and capacity to enhance food and nutrition security at household level. Specific inputs will include building in gender-sensitive development of 'alternative livelihood packages', supporting the uptake and use by women smallholders of processing equipment and designing in the empowerment of women smallholders to the development of market-based mechanisms.
<i>Output 3.1. 14,000 women and 28,000 youth empowered for increased groundnut and rice production and processing for improved income and nutrition</i>	This output explicitly targets women and youth farmers through groundnut and rice production and processing activities. The specific packages around high-yielding varieties and knowledge development and diffusion, amongst other activities, will be established in partnership with WOFAN and other support agencies. This output will be central to the wider set of gender-sensitive approaches carried out under the project.
<i>Output 4.1: Capacity in place to monitor and report on the food security situation with emphasis on its resilience and sustainability at national, state and local levels:</i>	All activities under this output will seek to establish systems and methods of collecting and using gender-disaggregated data and building this into NFSIS (Nutrition and Food Security Information System), both at national and state level. The national platform will, moreover, seek to influence policy-level thinking on agricultural development, gender norms and challenges and the wider task of achieving household food and nutrition security.
<i>Output 4.2: M&E System for GEBs using the Vital Sign monitoring framework:</i>	All data collection and collation under this output will include gender disaggregation and, where feasible and appropriate, explicit efforts at gender-sensitive (and focused) mapping in relation to GEBs, including, if possible linkage to mapping of value chains, where this is geographically feasible and useful.
<i>Output 4.3: Functional linkage with the regional initiative:</i>	Through the services of a gender consultant employed under the Nigeria child project, strong linkages to gender activities undertaken by the other 11 Child Projects will be established. This will include sharing the provision of gender-disaggregated data for holding in a

A.5 Risk:

Possible risks and proposed mitigation measures are summarized in the following table:

Project risks					
Description	Type	Impact & Probability	Mitigation Measures	Owner	Status
1. Limited political support for fostering sustainability and resilience in national food production systems for enhanced security and mainstreaming climate change issues in agricultural development.	Political	P = 3 I = 3	Work with legislators on the finalization of the draft national bill on food security and pursue the implementation of National Agricultural Resilience Framework (NARF), as well as ensure proactive interactions with decision makers on different issues on climate change to ensure adequate funding.	FMARD, FME, PCU	Reducing
2. Limited capacity of smallholder farmers to adopt INMR, SLWM and CSA practices and technologies and potential high costs of scaling-up	Environmental Organizational	P = 3 I = 2	Extensive engagement with local communities to identify opportunities relating to community needs and local knowledge, as well as the use of trained local extension workers to impart knowledge and practical demonstrations and to explore less costly and socially acceptable methods of increasing production.	FMARD, FME, NAERLS, PCU	Reducing
3. Climate extreme events (e.g. droughts and floods) could affect the project activities on the ground, as well as threaten crop and livestock production, thereby curtailing the food value chain aspects of food security	Environmental Operational Financial	P = 3 I = 2	The project will adopt best INRM, SLWM and CSA, including information from early warning systems to mitigate the impacts of climate risks.	FMARD, NIMET, Project Coordinating Office	Increasing
4. Modeling the	Strategic	P – 2	Strengthen capacities	FME,	Reducing

vulnerabilities of the agro-ecological systems to the vagaries of climate change requires finer spatio-temporal resolutions than currently available because of inherent uncertainties.	Environmental	I - 2	within the implementation of NARF to generate scenarios at finer scales and reduce uncertainties for improved decisions on enhancing the sustainability and resilience of the country's food production and security.	FMARD, Cooperating Research Institute	
5. Poor coordination between key institutions implementing the project at Federal, State and local levels.	Operational Organizational	P = 2 I = 2	The project will put in place a well-designed coordination mechanism, and ensure regular stakeholder consultations during implementation.	PCU	Reducing
6. Little interest by the private sector in engaging in INRM, SLWM and CSA practices in the food value chain development	Environmental Financial Operational	P = 4 I = 4	Capitalising on the ongoing engagement of private sector is a precondition for the success of the project. There is growing local and international demand for products grown under sustainable systems (e.g. organic vegetable and dairy)	Project Board, MEFCC, Regional Bureaus	Reducing
7. Potential delays in project approval, fund release and disbursement	Operational	P = 3 I = 3	GEF, UNDP and national executing agency will undertake constant dialogue to facilitate project implementation.	UNDP, PCU	Reducing
8. Fluctuation in the exchange rate may affect the available resources for project implementation.	Financial	P = 3 I = 3	Develop and implement an appropriate workplan with timeline and concrete deliverables to avoid undue prolonged project implementation period and periodically monitor the exchange to ensure that fluctuations are taken into consideration during planning and budgeting.	UNDP, PCU	Increasing
9. Conflict and security situation	Political	P=5	Put in place mechanisms to	UNDP, PCU	Increasing

in northern Nigeria and the Middle Belt worsen and hinder implementation of project activities	Operational	I=5	facilitate peace-building dialogue among conflicting groups to promote collaborative solutions for agricultural production by demonstrating the potential benefits of increased agricultural productivity for livelihoods and food security. The project will rely on the technical and expert support from other parts of UNDP and donor community. The project will also develop and implement a contingency plan (as necessary and in discussion with the relevant government authorities) based on advanced warning indicators that enables safe removal of staff and alternative site selection in other parts of the region.		
10. Potential expansion of agriculture into new habitats/ conversion of new land for cultivation	Environmental	P=3 I=2	Currently agriculture is practiced in only 40% of Nigeria's arable land, but there's still need to acknowledge that increasing agricultural production includes and in many cases requires expanding land under cultivation, including to new previously unconverted landscapes and ecosystems. The project itself is not planning to promote this but will largely support intensification within the areas already under production, and promote SLWM practices. Support will be provided to poor farming households to	UNDP, PCU	Increasing

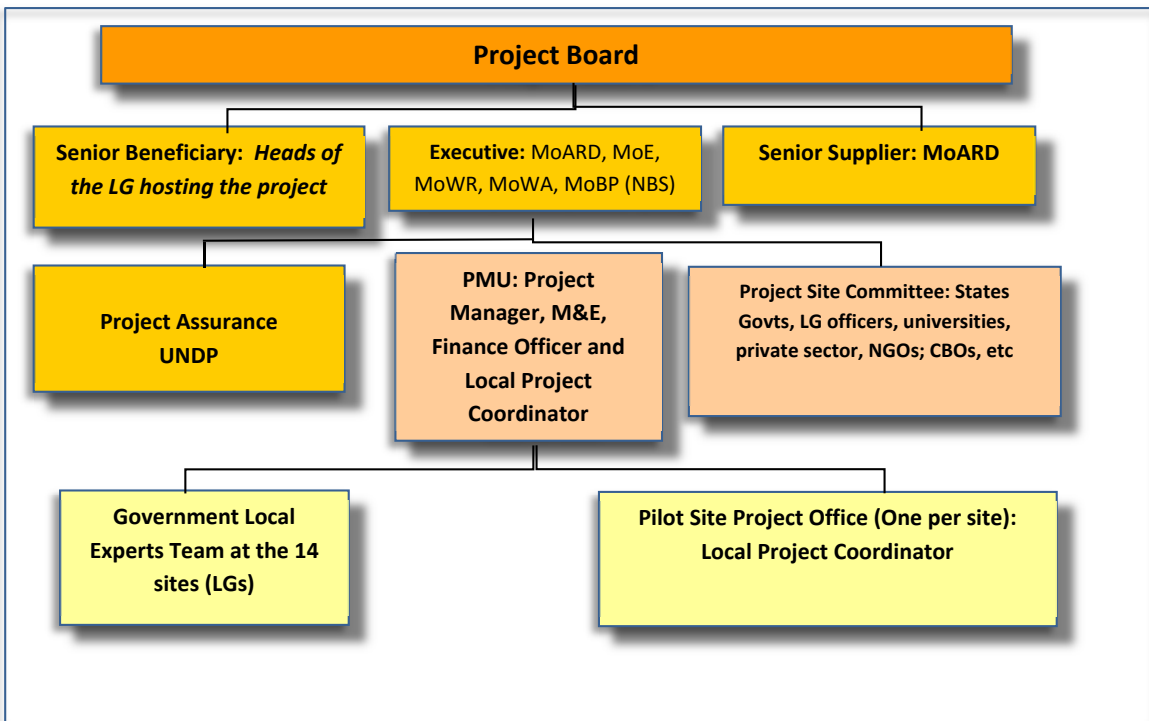
			sustainably produce food in their existing land holdings. Where possible, the project will also support the reclamation of abandoned, previously cultivated land for agriculture, and again 'sustainable and climate-smart' approaches will be promoted for use in these landscapes, demonstrating that approaches such as conservation agriculture can in fact support the 'land reclamation' to increase productivity (i.e. to increase soil productivity).		
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A.6. Institutional Arrangements and Coordination.

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

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

The project organisation structure is as follows:



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

The Project Board consists of:

- Executive Director, MoARD, Chair
- UNDP (Co-Chair)
- MoE Technical Expert
- MoWR
- MoWA
- MoBP
- State Representatives
- Local Government representatives
- Representatives of pilot sites
- Project Manager (Secretary)

The Project Management Unit (PMU) will consist of the Project Manager, a Monitoring and Evaluation Officer and a Finance and Administration Officer, and a Local Level Coordinator supporting implementation at the site level. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development will avail technical officers at both the central and site levels who will advise the technical design and implementation of project interventions. The ministry will also avail office space for and support to the PMU.

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

The **project assurance** role will be provided by the UNDP Country Office specifically Muyiwa Odele, under the supervision of the Country Direct for Programs. Additional quality assurance will be provided by the UNDP Regional Technical Advisor as needed.

Governance role for project target groups: The project governance arrangements will have Project Site Committees made up of States Governments, Local Government officers, universities, private sector, NGOs; CBOs representatives to provide guidance to the design of interventions and in some cases oversee implementation of activities. The guidance provided by these committees will be taken up to the PMU through the site coordinators and will ultimately reach the Project Board through the Project Manager and representatives of such target groups who sit within the Project Board.

UNDP Direct Project Services as requested by Government (if any): UNDP has been requested by the government to provide direct project services for this project, relating to procurement of goods and services for establishing the Project Management Unit. These services, and their cost, have been outlined in the Letter of Agreement (see annex K in the Prodoc) to be signed between government and UNDP, prior to the signing of the PRODOC between UNDP and government.

Agreement on intellectual property rights and use of logo on the project's deliverables and disclosure of information: In order to accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF for providing grant funding, the GEF logo will appear together with the UNDP logo on all promotional materials, other written materials like publications developed by the project, and project hardware. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by the GEF will also accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF. Information will be disclosed in accordance with relevant policies notably the UNDP Disclosure Policy and the GEF policy on public involvement.

Project management: The project will be implemented in 7 states of Nigeria, and site level activities will be overseen by a few officers covering a number of regions, with extensive support from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development officers already located in those locations. The Ministry will also provide support (operations and logistics) to the PMU and integrate the project activities within the Ministry's own portfolio.

A.7 Benefits. Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits?

The project plans to directly and indirectly benefit at least 1 million people through improved land and water management practices in the north of Nigeria. About 50,000 of these 1 million people will be directly targeted by the project (14,000 women, 28,000 youth will be targeted through outcome 3) through the different project interventions. Through outcome 2, the project plans to reduce soil erosion by 10% and increase vegetation cover by 20%, increase the production of key crops (e.g. rice, cassava, maize, sorghum, yam, groundnuts, fruits trees, poultry, aquaculture and dairy and maize) by 20%, increase sales by 20% promote the adoption of improved land-use and agro-ecosystem services in at least 385,000 hectares of arable land. Through more inclusive agricultural production processes (e.g. more inclusive value chains) the project plans to support increased participation of women and youth in agriculture, and therefore reduce disparities in participation and therefore beneficitation from the sector. The major socio-economic benefits to be delivered are: a) more long-term environmental sustainability and resilience of food production systems to achieve improved national food security; b) Enhancing the institutional and policy environment for achieving improved food security; and c) Scaling up sustainable agricultural practices and market opportunities for smallholder farmers in the target agro-ecological zones to increase food security even under increasing climate risks.

The long-term benefits to be established as a result of this project include more food secure households, more environmentally-secure landscapes and a set of stronger institutional mechanisms with which to continue to establish greater food security and environmental sustainability. These benefits translate into supporting GEBs through establishing conditions that encourage communities to increase rather than reduce stocks of environmental assets within shared landscapes in order to increase increased productivity within key value chains.

A.8 Knowledge Management

The project will develop a strong knowledge management framework in order to ensure impacts and influence is captured effectively, key knowledge and experience is documented and shared at all levels, including with the region hub project, and to provide lasting and substantial documentation of lessons learned.

In general, a common and harmonized framework of information for food and nutrition security encompasses the following aspects: (i) ensuring that high quality data, statistics and information are available and easily accessible across sectors for monitoring and analysis of the food and nutrition security situation; (ii) ensuring that available food and nutrition security data, statistics and information are well-analysed and meet the needs of a variety of decision-makers in a timely and credible manner for policy formulation and investment decisions aimed at hunger eradication; and (iii) strengthening institutional structures for easy exchange and coordination of information for consensus building and harmonised approaches, among others. Component 4 of the project supports the development of human and institutional capacities for integrated monitoring and analysis of the food and nutrition security situation at federal, state and local/landscape as even regional levels through the establishment of a harmonized M&A framework for food security information, multi-scale assessment of sustainability and resilience in production agro-ecological zones and landscapes and monitoring of global environmental benefits (GEBs). It also supports the improvement of national systems for the increased flow of data and information across sectors through the National Bureau of Statistics.

The emphasis is on learning whether the interventions proposed in this project will have positive impacts on food system resilience and the generation of GEBs, such as carbon benefits and GHG emission reductions. This will include evaluating changes in provision and use of ecosystem services of the savanna ecosystem, the impact of value chain development and empowerment of women in production as they contribute to making Nigeria more resilient food secure. Modern monitoring and evaluation tool such as the Vital Signs (VS) monitoring system and Resilient Atlas mapping will be used.

Under Output 4.1, required capacity to monitor and report on food security at all levels in Nigeria will be built or strengthened through a number of activities. These include: (i) facilitating a Research Unit on food security in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to regularly update information on the food security situation in the country; (ii) reviewing existing information systems related to food security, identify gaps and to recommend ways for enhancing the effectiveness; (iii) facilitating the establishment of an effective and functional National Food Security Information System (NFSIS) and the establishment of a national data base on sustainable and resilient food security; (iv) establishing food security information networks at state level in various agro-ecological zones; and (v) creating a national platform for interaction among various state-based food security networks to report and advocate regularly on the food security situation in Nigeria.

In all project activities, emphasis will be placed on obtaining gender-disaggregated socio-economic and environmental data. In addition to field data, real time data on land cover changes, water usage and quality, biodiversity and carbon sink and stock values of concerned ecosystems will be collected using satellite imagery, GIS and the Internet. Expertise will be sought to integrate the data collected for monitoring and evaluation into a national framework for the savanna ecosystem using the platform provided by the new Resilience Atlas technology (<http://www.resilienceatlas.org>). In line with the other contemporary resilient food security projects, a project page for Nigeria will be developed on the Resilience Atlas to store baseline data. This will be upgraded regularly as the Resilience Atlas will be used as a learning tool to disseminate project implementation, progress, achievements and gaps in the project region.

Where feasible, the project will take a stakeholder-driven approach to knowledge management through the use of appropriate multi-stakeholder platforms, including learning and practice alliances in the 14 LGAs. This will help to ensure relevance to local needs and also support more inclusive capture of local stakeholder – particularly farmer-level – experiences.

A strong emphasis will be placed on interdisciplinary approaches between biophysical and social science, with a particular focus on understanding relationships between social and environmental systems, including decision-making power and issues of equality (including gender, income and group identity).

B. Description of the consistency of the project with:

B.1 Consistency with National Priorities:

This project is consistent with Nigeria's current drive and priority of achieving food self-sufficiency and agriculture remains a key component of Nigeria's economy, accounting for an average of 23% of the GDP between 2010 and 2014 and employing about 60% of the active population. Vision 20:2020 - the country's Economic Transformation

Blueprint⁹ - the Agricultural Transformation Agenda, and other policy documents including the National Climate Change Policy and Responsive Strategy, National Agricultural Resilience Framework and the new Agricultural Policy for Nigeria (currently under review). Building sustainable food production systems that meet the future food security needs of Nigerians form the core of these approaches. The intertwined, but complex, relationships between poverty, food insecurity and climate change denote a significant task facing Nigeria as it seeks to achieve and sustain the objectives of its Vision 20:2020, as well as tackle the key sustainable development goals of ending poverty (SDG1), ending hunger (SDG2) tackling climate change (SDG13), and protecting its ecosystems and promoting their sustainable use (SDG 15).

The Government recognizes the need to improve local production to meet dwindling imports and has a number of ongoing initiatives aimed at making Nigeria food secure, including embarking on a major transformation in key agricultural value chains 'from farm to the table'. The Agricultural Transformation Agenda, launched in 2011, aimed to add 20 million MT of food to domestic food supply by 2015 and to stimulate the creation of 3.5 million jobs along different agricultural value chains. The Growth Enhancement Scheme provides subsidized inputs to farmers through the Electronic Wallet System and currently has about 10 million registered farmers. Large-scale commercial farming is being supported and a number of private foreign investors (e.g. Dominion Farms, Olam) are already producing rice, including establishing 14 large-scale integrated rice mills to make well-packaged, long grained parboiled rice available to the local market. National strategy Vision 20:2020 recognises that there's a need to create a new generation of farmers, by incorporating modern technology, especially ICT (e.g. farmer information call service), incentives (scholarships, grants, softloans), and professionalising agriculture to attract youths and new graduates into agricultural production, processing and marketing in order to sustain agricultural growth through the entire agriculture value chain.

Within the specific framework of GEF-supported initiatives in the country, the project will engage with the following:

- WB/GEF Project (GEF ID 4907): Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Management Project (NEWMAP: 2012-2020), the main objective of which is to reduce the country's vulnerability to soil erosion in targeted sub-watersheds towards achieving greater environmental and economic security, as well as contribute to enhancing the resilience to soil erosion and associated climate variability and change, while raising capacities to promote long-term climate-resilient, low-carbon development;
- De-risking Renewable Energy NAMA for the Nigerian Power Sector (GEF ID 5345): This UNDP-implemented, GEF-financed project will support the Government of Nigeria to develop a Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) for the Nigerian Power Sector using the de-risking approach, which will be validated through the implementation of a 100 MW PV project.

The project will also capitalise on lessons learned from the implementation of WB/GEF Project (GEF ID 3384) (Nigeria-Scaling up Sustainable Land Management Practice, Knowledge and Coordination), which focused on mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management (SLM) in Nigeria's agricultural sector through capacity building and knowledge management.

At a national level, the project will build synergies with the ongoing national initiative (The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI) for Nigeria), which is operating in the project area sudan-sahelian agro-ecological zones and which seeks to rehabilitate thousands of hectares of degraded pastures whilst implementing sustainable pasture management practices to enhance carbon storage and sequestration, as well as improve rural livelihoods and opportunities for sustainable development among local farmers/animal-breeders. This approach complements the IAP's sustainable agriculture's approach for resilient food production. Other national and state-based initiatives, such as the National Special Programme for Food Security (NSPPS) and National Agricultural Resilience Framework will be fully engaged and lessons drawn from their implementation to guide the project. Partnerships will be built with states (e.g. Kebbi and Lagos) and private sector actors (e.g. Dangote Farms) to facilitate the establishment of food commodity value-chains. Active and credible NGOs, such as All Farmers Association of Nigeria and Women Farmers Advancement Network will be fully engaged to facilitate the implementation of the project at community level for impact and sustainability. Research institutions at national (e.g. the National Cereal Research Institute) and international (e.g. IITA, ICRISAT) research institutions as well as international demonstration centres in the sub-region (e.g. Songhai Centre, Porto Novo) will be fully engaged to support evidence-based approaches to resilience-building in food security.

⁹ <http://www.nationalplanning.gov.ng/images/docs/NationalPlans/nigeria-vision-20-20-20.pdf>

C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M & E PLAN: The project results as outlined in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation to ensure their achievement. Supported by Component 3 - *Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Assessment*, the project monitoring and evaluation plan will also facilitate learning at different levels and ensure knowledge is shared and widely disseminated to support the scaling up and replication of project results. Project-level monitoring and assessment will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP and UNDP Evaluation Policy. While these UNDP requirements are not outlined in this project document, the UNDP Country Office will work with the relevant project stakeholders to ensure UNDP M&E requirements are met in a timely fashion and to high quality standards. Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements (as outlined below) will be undertaken in accordance with the GEF M&E policy and other relevant GEF policies.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Lessons learned and knowledge generation: Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention area through existing information-sharing networks and forums. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to the project. The project will identify, analyse and share lessons learned that might be beneficial to the design and

implementation of similar projects and disseminate these lessons widely. There will be continuous information exchange between this project and other projects of similar focus in the same country, region and globally.

GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools: The following GEF Tracking Tool(s) will be used to monitor global environmental benefit results: GEF-6 Food Security IAP - Tracking Tool for Child Projects. The baseline/CEO Endorsement GEF Focal Area Tracking Tool(s) – submitted as Annex D of the PRODOC – will be updated by the Project Manager/Team (not the evaluation consultants hired to undertake the MTR or the TE) and shared with the mid-term review consultants and terminal evaluation consultants before the required review/evaluation missions take place. The updated GEF Tracking Tool will be submitted to the GEF along with the completed Mid-term Review report and Terminal Evaluation report.

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

Terminal Evaluation (TE): An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities. The terminal evaluation process will begin three months before operational closure of the project allowing the evaluation mission to proceed while the project team is still in place, yet ensuring the project is close enough to completion for the evaluation team to reach conclusions on key aspects such as project sustainability. The Project Manager will remain on contract until the TE report and management response have been finalized. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and guidance prepared by the UNDP IEO for GEF-financed projects available at the UNDP Evaluation Resource Center. As noted in this guidance, the evaluation will be 'independent, impartial and rigorous'. The consultants that will be hired to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the UNDP-GEF Directorate. The final TE report will be cleared by the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser, and will be approved by the Project Board. The TE report will be publicly available in English on the UNDP ERC.

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

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

GEF M&E requirements	Primary responsibility	Indicative costs to be charged to the Project Budget^[1] (US\$)	Time frame

^[1] Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff time and travel expenses.

		GEF grant	Co-financing	
Inception Workshop	UNDP Country Office	USD 11,000	None	Within two months of project document signature
Inception Report	Project Manager	None	None	Within two weeks of inception workshop
Standard UNDP monitoring and reporting requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP	UNDP Country Office	None	None	Quarterly, annually
Monitoring of indicators in project results framework	Project Manager Implementing partner and other relevant stakeholders	Per year: USD 5,000 (5x5,000=25,000)	USD 100,000 in kind from government officers	Annually
GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)	Project Manager and UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF team	None	None	Annually
NIM Audit as per UNDP audit policies	UNDP Country Office	None	USD4000 x 5y=\$20,000 (\$4,000 per year)	Annually or other frequency as per UNDP Audit policies
Lessons learned and knowledge generation	Project Manager Implementing partner	USD 10,000	USD 100,000 in kind from government officers	Annually
Monitoring of environmental and social risks, and corresponding management plans as relevant	Project Manager UNDP CO	None	USD 10,000	On-going
Addressing environmental and social grievances	Project Manager UNDP Country Office BPPS as needed	None for time of project manager, and UNDP CO	None	Costs associated with missions, workshops, BPPS expertise etc. can be charged to the project budget.
Project Board meetings	Project Board UNDP Country Office Project Manager	USD 15,000	USD 5,000	At minimum annually


GEF M&E requirements	Primary responsibility	Indicative costs to be charged to the Project Budget ^[1] (US\$)		Time frame
		GEF grant	Co-financing	
Supervision missions	UNDP Country Office	None ^[2]	USD 7,000	Annually
Oversight missions	UNDP-GEF team	None ⁹	USD 5,000	Troubleshooting as needed
<i>Knowledge management as outlined in Outcome 4 (1% of GEF grant)</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USD 70,000</i>	<i>USD 50,000</i>	<i>On-going</i>
GEF Secretariat learning mission's/site visits	UNDP Country Office and Project Manager and UNDP-GEF team	None	None	To be determined.
<i>Mid-term GEF Tracking Tool to be updated</i>	Project Manager Implementing Partner	<i>USD 5,000</i>	<i>USD 3,000</i>	<i>Before mid-term review mission takes place.</i>
<i>Independent Mid-term Review (MTR) and management response</i>	UNDP Country Office and Project team and UNDP-GEF team	<i>USD 55,000 (for both international and National consultants)</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>Between 2nd and 3rd PIR.</i>
<i>Terminal GEF Tracking Tool to be updated</i>	Project Manager Implementing Partner	<i>USD 5,000</i>	<i>USD 3,000</i>	<i>Before terminal evaluation mission takes place</i>
Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE) included in UNDP evaluation plan, and management response	UNDP Country Office and Project team and UNDP-GEF team	<i>USD 55,000 (for both international and national consultants)</i>	<i>None</i>	At least three months before operational closure
<i>Translation of MTR and TE reports into English</i>	<i>UNDP Country Office</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>As required. GEF will only accept reports in English.</i>
TOTAL indicative COST		<i>USD 235,000</i>	<i>USD285,000</i>	
Excluding project team staff time, and UNDP staff and travel expenses 3-5% of GEF grant NOT total budget				

PART III: CERTIFICATION BY GEF PARTNER AGENCY(IES)

^[2] The costs of UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF Unit's participation and time are charged to the GEF Agency Fee.

A. GEF Agency(ies) certification

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies¹⁰ and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for CEO endorsement under GEF-6.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Adriana Dinu, UNDP-GEF Executive Coordinator.		November 30, 2016	Phero K. Kgomotso UNDP Technical Advisor	251-912- 503309	phero.kgomotso@undp.org

¹⁰ GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, and SCCF

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

<p>This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): SDG 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture SDG 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts SDG 15 Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</p>					
<p>This project will contribute to the following country outcomes included in the UNDAF/Country Programme Document: UNDAF Outcome 3.3 Nigeria's productive system is value-linked chain driven, productivity enhancing, sectorally-linked and inclusive, based on green and relevant technology, supported by robust private sector-friendly investment policies that provide gender-friendly opportunities and promote rural economic development by 2017. UNDAF Outcome 4.3 By 2017, Nigeria's environmental vulnerability to negative effects of economic activities, urbanization and climate change is reduced through efficient use of natural resources, a reformed regulatory framework aligned with Nigeria's international commitments, enforced at Federal, State and local levels by strengthened institutions, private sector and population that are environmentally conscious and taking action towards environmental sustainability.</p>					
<p>This project will be linked to the following output of the UNDP Strategic Plan: Output 1.3: Solutions developed at national and sub-national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste.</p>					
	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Assumptions
<p>Project Objective: To enhance productivity and promote sustainability and resilience of Nigeria's agricultural production systems for improved national food security.</p>	Mandatory indicator 1: Number of additional people (smallholder farmers) benefitting from strengthened livelihoods through solutions for management of natural resources, ecosystems services, chemicals and waste	About 35 million people are threatened by desertification and land degradation in the project area, with more than 50% food insecure	At least 500,000 farmers benefit directly and indirectly from improved land and water management practices for sustainable agriculture by beneficiary farmers introduced under the project.	At least 1,000,000 farmers benefit from improved land and water management practices for sustainable agriculture by beneficiary farmers.	Political stability to sustain current interest in transforming agriculture for enhanced food security. Willingness to implement relevant policies (e.g. Agricultural Transformation Agenda, Agricultural Policy, Climate Change, Environment etc.).
	Mandatory indicator 2: Number of jobs and improved livelihoods created through management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste, disaggregated by sex, and rural	Agriculture and food security related activities employ about 20 million people in the project area-	At least an additional 50,000 jobs created in the food value chains for rice, sorghum, maize, groundnuts	At least an additional 100,000 jobs created in the food value chain rice, sorghum, maize, groundnuts	Willingness by farmers to accept required behavioural change in areas of sustainable agricultural

	and urban		and cassava	and cassava	production, processing and consumption.
	Mandatory indicator 3: Number of smallholder farmers practicing climate resilient sustainable agriculture and with increased access to food and improved nutrition disaggregated by sex.	About 20 million smallholder farmers (60 % women) actively involved in agriculture	At least 500, 000 smallholder farmers (60% women, 40% men) practice climate-resilient sustainable agriculture and have enhanced food security through increased access to food security and improved nutrition.	At least 1 million smallholder farmers (60%women, 40% men) practice climate-resilient sustainable agriculture and have increased access to food security and improved nutrition	Adequate capacity for project implementation.
Component 1: Enhancing the institutional and policy environment for achieving improved food security					
Outcome 1 Supportive policies, governance structures and incentives in place at Federal and State levels to support sustainability and resilience of smallholder agriculture and food value chains <i>Output 1.1: Support to the implementation of The Green Alternative/Agriculture Promotion Policy to promote sustainable and resilient food and nutrition security</i> <i>Output 1.2: National and state level multi-stakeholder gender-sensitive platforms advocating sustainable agriculture and SLWM</i>	Indicator 4 Number of supportive policies and incentives in place at the Federal and State levels to support sustainable smallholder agriculture and food value chains	No effective national policy on food security. No effective national policy on food security / sectoral policies that indirectly address issues of sustainability and resilience of food security.	Draft of (i) National Food and Nutrition Security Policy (NFNSP), and (ii) National System for Food and Nutrition Security (NSFNS)	National Sustainable Food Security Resilience Framework (NSFSRF) with an implementation action plan	Political willingness to streamline existing policies and legislate. Adequate national capacity for policy formulation and implementation Inter-Agency collaboration and willingness of different stakeholders to work on common platforms.
	Indicator 5: Number of gender-sensitive and inclusive multi-stakeholder platforms established at Federal, State and local levels supporting sustainable agriculture.	No effective platform or network for sustainable agriculture and food security.	At least 1 national multi-stakeholder, gender-sensitive and inclusive (men, women, youth, civil society etc.) and 7 state-based platforms advocating sustainable agriculture and	At least 1 national multi-stakeholder, gender-sensitive and inclusive (men, women, youth, civil society etc.) and 7 state-based platforms advocating sustainable agriculture and	

<i>practices for improved food security</i>			SLM practices for improved food security.	SLM practices for improved food security	
<i>Output 1.3: Public-Private Partnership established for major food crop (cassava, rice and sorghum) value chains for food processing, production and distribution</i>	Indicator 6: Number of public private partnerships (PPPs) established for key food commodities, particularly cassava, maize, rice and sorghum that will give a major boost to food processing, production and distribution, enhance national food sufficiency and food security, as well as create employment and improve the well-being of smallholder farmers.	No coherent national effort to link smallholder producers with formal market opportunities for adding value.	At least one interstate food commodity value chains established through PPP.	At least 2 interstate food commodity value chains established through PPP.	
Component 2: Scaling up sustainable agricultural practices and market opportunities for smallholder farmers in the target agro-ecological zones to increase food security under increasing climate risks					
Outcome 2. Increased land area and agro-ecosystems under sustainable agricultural practices. <i>Output 2.1: 350,000 ha under improved land use and agro-ecosystem management practices</i> <i>Output 2.2: Increased value addition and access to markets realized by beneficiary smallholder farmers</i>	Indicator 7: Number of hectares of land under gender-sensitive integrated sustainable land and water management and climate smart agricultural practices, managed by both men and women.	Much of the 24 million ha of arable land in the guinea-sudan-sahel agro-ecological zones rapidly being degraded by inappropriate agricultural practices.	At least 100,000 ha of arable land and agro-ecosystems under improved land use and agro-ecosystem management practices.	At least 385,000 ha of arable land and agro-ecosystems under improved land use and agro-ecosystem management practices.	Political willingness and adequate funding for the implementation of relevant policies and strategies (e.g. Agricultural Transformation Agenda, Agriculture Policy, National Action Plan to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought, National Climate Change Policy and National Adaptation Plan)
	Indicator 8: % reduction in soil erosion and increase in vegetation cover and carbon stored in target farmers' plots.	35% of the 24 million ha of arable land affected by desertification, land degradation and drought	At least 5% reduction in soil erosion and 10% increase in vegetation cover and carbon stored in pilot farm plots	At least 10% reduction in soil erosion and 20% increase in vegetation cover and carbon stored in pilot farm plots	Farmers are ready for the required behavioural change for the wide adoption of INRM, SLM

<i>Output 2.3. 35,000 ha under intensive and diversified production for enhanced income and improved nutrition</i>	Indicator 9: Percentage increase in total production of targeted value chains among participating small- and medium-scale commercial farmers (disaggregated by rice, cassava, maize, sorghum, groundnuts, poultry, and dairy and maize) – final value chains to be decided at inception stage	Poor productivity due to absence of market information and value chains	At least 10% increase in production of crops	At least 20% increase in production of crops	and CSA practices Groups are well organized. Willingness of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to play a lead role.
Outcome 3 Improved youth involvement and reduced gender disparities in agricultural production for enhanced food security <i>Output 3.1. 14,000 women and 28,000 youth empowered for increased groundnut and rice production and processing for improved income and nutrition</i>	Indicator 10: Number and percentage of women and youth who adopt new production and post-harvest technologies for rice and groundnut	More than 80% of women farmers have limited access to the knowledge of sustainable agricultural practices, while youths are not interested in practicing agriculture.	At least 20% (8,400) of targeted women and youth adopt new production and post-harvest technologies	At least 50% (21,100) of targeted women and youth adopt new production and post-harvest technologies	Government recognition of the imperative for targeted and special women's initiatives to reduce gender disparities in the agricultural sector Development and implementation of a gender-sensitive <i>National Sustainable and Resilient Food Security and Food Value Chains Framework</i>
	Indicator 11: Number of women and youth actively involved in food production and value chains for rice and groundnut	Most women and youth are not fully involved or interested in agricultural production	At least 30% (12,600) targeted women and youth participating in full value chain processes for rice and groundnut	At least 60% (25,200) of targeted women and youth participate in full value chain processes for rice and groundnut	Willingness of women and youth to take part in project activities
Component 3: Knowledge, Monitoring and Assessment					

<p>Outcome 4. Harmonized M&E framework in place for food security information, multi-scale assessment of sustainability and resilience in production agro-ecological zones and landscapes, including monitoring of global environmental benefits (GEBs)</p> <p><i>Output 4.1: Capacity in place to monitor and report on the food security situation with emphasis on its resilience and sustainability at national, state and local levels</i></p> <p><i>M&E System for GEBs using the Vital Signs monitoring framework</i></p> <p><i>Functional linkage with the regional Food Security IAP initiative</i></p>	<p>Indicator 11: Level of gender-disaggregated data on resilience and global environmental benefits of sustainable agriculture for food security</p>	<p>No and comprehensive M&E framework at the national level for monitoring and assessing food security and the resilience of ecosystems and agricultural productions landscapes in the country</p>	<p>Functional food security reporting and monitoring system at national level, using the Vital Signs Framework</p>	<p>Functional food security reporting and monitoring systems at state and community levels, using Vital Signs Framework</p>	<p>Recognition of the imperative for adequate data and effective monitoring tools for planning and decision making</p>
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ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

Compilation of Comments submitted by Council members on the June 2015 Work Program	
Regional (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda) :	
Fostering Sustainability and Resilience for Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa -An Integrated Approach (IAP-PROGRAM) (Lead agency: IFAD; CI, FAO, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$106,359,290) (GEF ID 9070)	
<p><i>Comments from Germany:</i> Suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project proposal: Germany welcomes the PIF, particularly as it takes a long-term perspective on sustainability and resilience of food-systems, promotes broad up-scaling of Sustainable Land Management (SLM) practices, integrates the (agro-) biodiversity and land degradation agendas and focusses on smallholders. The proposal is highly relevant for the economic and social development and stability of the region and it marks an important step forward in advancing paradigms of agricultural policies. However for finalisation of the project documents Germany suggests the following:</p>	
<i>General suggestions:</i>	UNDP Responses
Land tenure issues are mentioned as major barriers for Integrated Natural Resources Management (INRM) in certain contexts but the programme does not address these. It is recommended to support ongoing land policy reform processes where possible, particularly through capacity development of local level institutions.	In Nigeria the land reform situation has been under national review since 2009. It remains a contentions and charged topic. The national strategy Vision 20:2020 recognises that the problem of food security is compounded by the nature of land tenure systems, and that there is need for government to facilitate the acquisition of farmlands and title holdings for agricultural production through an intensive review of the Land Use Act. Certainly, land issues will form part of the wider analysis, particularly in respect of access to key resources for new value-chains. However, given the issue is so broad and complex, it is not a central feature of the work but any required support will be provided under Component 1 as part of facilitating dialogue on and review of policies on food security and nutrition. Land reform issues will form part of multi-stakeholder deliberations at different levels, particularly in terms of access to land for women smallholders and ways of ensuring greater equality of access to land resources.
Technical innovation needs to be fully adapted to physical and socio-economic conditions at target group level (critical example: Biogas in regions with extreme lack of biomass). Piloting exercises should as far as possible be redesigned in favour of broad application of simple technologies. Particular emphasis needs to be given to up-scaling of organic fertilization technologies and management of biomass.	The project will focus on simple technologies because in essence it is targeting poor households, and poor subsistence farmers in some of the most vulnerable parts of Nigeria, characterized by illiteracy among farmers, small land-holdings and lack of access to financial resources. Technologies that will be adopted will therefore be those that are cheap, accessible and locally-acceptable.
Rain fed agriculture and upland parts of the landscapes need not to be neglected. Both, livelihood perspective and value chain approach can therefore be considered within the landscape framework.	The project focuses largely on rain-fed landscapes, including mixed crop-livestock or agro-pastoral livelihood systems. In these landscapes both value chains and livelihoods perspectives combine, for instance in the project focus on groundnut value chains.

<p>Since the non-sustainable provision of wood energy is one important element of forest and landscape degradation and since wood energy plays a key role for food security, Germany suggests addressing this theme within strategies for food security. Existing good practices for sustainable wood energy production can be up-scaled within the project component “scaling up integrated approaches for sustainability and resilience”</p>	<p>Effective biomass management (including sources of wood fuel) is central to ensuring sustainable landscapes are achieved in key agro-ecologies in northern Nigeria. Managing environmental resources – including woody biomass –will be included in deliberations under state-level and national multi-stakeholder platforms to identify points of articulation with the achievement of long-term food and nutrition security.</p>
<p>Within its special unit “One World, No Hunger” the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has launched regional programmes to which synergies and linkages could be established. These are in particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Programme on soil protection and rehabilitation for food security in Kenya, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso 2. Programme on Green Innovation Centres in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Malawi 3. Programme on food security and resilience in Burkina Faso, Malawi, Kenya and Ethiopia 	<p>The project will establish links – including through the multi-stakeholder platforms in project location states and LGs – between the programmes on soil protection and rehabilitation for food security and resilience. The project will also be closely linked to the IFAD-led ‘Regional Hub’ component of the Food Security Programme (Cross-cutting capacity building, knowledge services and coordination project for the Food Security Integrated Approach Pilot Program - GEF project 9070) and through this, exchange of knowledge, skills and experience will be done and the Nigeria project will linked to the other countries taking part in the Food Security IAP, including those supported by the BMZ programme on Green Innovation Centres, including in Nigeria.</p>
<p>Strengthening evidence of the benefits of investment into SLM is a priority issue for monitoring and research and a key motivation for investing in SLM. This is the special focus of the Economics of Land Degradation Initiative (http://eld-initiative.org/) which is preparing also a regional approach in Sub-Saharan Africa. Links and synergies could be established.</p>	<p>This is noted. Component 3 (Knowledge, Management and Assessment) is designed precisely to assess, monitor and package evidence on the benefits (for both people and the environment, in the context of resilience and sustainability) of investing in SLM. Assessments will include economic assessments and studies such as on the household income benefits resulting from inclusive value chains in specific key crops (e.g. rice, cassava and groundnuts) and the multiple benefits that also result from this (e.g. women’s empowerment, youth participation etc.). For purposes of conducting economic assessments, the project will consider utilizing methodologies such as those advanced by the ELD Initiative, combined with the Vital Signs Framework</p> <p>These links and synergies will be explored in the inception period when detailed programming of M&A will take place, building on a diverse set of approaches. Sharing via the umbrella project the benefits of investments into SLM will be a priority. The UNDP Global Policy Centre on Resilient Ecosystems and Desertification (GC-RED), based in Nairobi, will be a key partner for the UNDP-supported FSIAP projects, including the Nigeria project, and has direct linkages to the UNCCD work conducted through the ELD initiative. The expertise and technical support from GC-RED will therefore be an important ‘friend of the project’ and peer reviewer, from a Monitoring and Assessment perspective.</p>
<p>The monitoring system which will be established within the programme could be aligned with / made applicable for national monitoring systems, in order to establish / support long term monitoring of food security progress and resilience.</p>	<p>There will be sharing and integration of the M&A system with national systems, established via the stakeholder platforms at state level during the inception period. Through component 3 of the Nigeria country project, and component 3 of the IFAD-led ‘Regional Hub’ project, a multi-scale monitoring and assessment framework will be developed for</p>

	use at project, national and regional scales.
The planned budget of 35 to 120 Million USD per child project is for the envisaged implementation period of 60 month quite high. Necessary ownership of land users for SLM needs to build up; capacities of implementing partners might not be sufficiently available and needs to build up. Were these aspects analysed and considered in planning? What are options to adapt budget planning if necessary (shifts between child projects, extension of project period)?	In the Nigeria case, this level of finance is also divided over seven states within a federal system. We do not believe this therefore to be too high, though there are necessary trade-offs between geographical scope on the one hand and depth of work on the other. The project will monitor achievements against anticipated results on a periodic basis to ensure the right balance is struck.
<i>Comments from the USA</i>	
The United States welcomes this IAP Project Framework Document. We were encouraged that so many countries are actively participating in this IAP, that the process has been country driven, and that the agencies and the STAP will continue to work together to bring some of the state-of-the-art approaches into practice. The PFD, however, lacks certain critical details about stakeholder engagement strategies, particularly how multi-stakeholder frameworks will be achieved and deforestation due to expanded and intensified agriculture resulting from GEF activities will be avoided. We expect that, prior to GEF CEO endorsement of this PFD and development of child projects, all agencies involved in this project will incorporate the comments from the STAP and our specific comments below.	
There is a wide scope of activities centering on intensified agriculture, but no specificity on a framework for how these activities will proceed without impacting forest and key biodiversity areas that will be opened or face pressure from expanded agriculture. With new financing and access to markets, new lands will be opened on the periphery of high-density rural areas as populations take part in training and gain market access. Expanded agricultural production could have the unintended result of rapidly increased deforestation absent more carefully defined strategies to avert it.	Acknowledging that increasing agricultural production includes and in many cases requires expanding land under cultivation, including to new previously unconverted landscapes and ecosystems, the project itself is not planning to promote this. Instead support will be provided to poor farming households, and who have little or no access to new secure land, to sustainably produce food in their existing land holdings. Where possible, the project will also support the reclamation of abandoned land for agriculture, and again 'sustainable and climate-smart' approaches will be promoted for use in these landscapes, demonstrating that approaches such as conservation agriculture can in fact support 'land reclamation' to increase productivity (i.e. to increase soil productivity).

<p>An equally significant concern arises from the goal of creating multi-stakeholder frameworks at the national and local levels. While a necessary and laudable goal, it is also an extremely elusive one given the reality of current patterns of lands occupation and stakeholder access to resources such as credit, training and extension services across most countries of sub-Saharan Africa. We recommend that, prior to implementation of this IAP, the agencies and participating countries better define the process for creating viable and inclusive multi-stakeholder groups at national and local jurisdictions, with specific attention to including traditionally marginalized groups such as rural smallholder agriculturalists and shifting subsistence farmers who are most in need of extension services, training and improved livelihood strategies. Without this level of inclusiveness, the effectiveness of the large number of proposed activities will certainly be compromised.</p>	<p>This is noted, and indeed this subject will be discussed in great detail at the regional inception workshops to be led by IFAD, bringing together all the child projects. Equally, at the country level, through component 1 of the project, issues of governance and institutional frameworks will be further unpacked. Nigeria has a staggering number of ‘groups’ and associations bringing together different types of farmer groups, but these remain disconnected and lacking in voice and highly political. An open, multi-sectoral and inclusive platform, bringing together a different variety of stakeholders and facilitating linkages with each other and dialogue among them (e.g. CSOs with the private sector), is therefore key in this sense. An extensive stakeholder mapping and analysis will be conducted as part of Output 1.2 as part of the process of establishing these multi-stakeholder platforms to ensure they are inclusive and participatory.</p>
<p>We encourage the implementing agencies involved in this IAP to collaborate with activities funded by the World Bank’s Cooperation in International Waters in Africa multi-donor trust fund that may compliment the river basin work that is part of this project.</p>	<p>Where feasible, and where activities are implemented in key shared rivers, the project will reach out to implementing agencies involved in shared river basins, including the Niger Basin. In the case of Nigeria, coordination will be explored where CIWA is supporting, in particular through the Niger Basin Authority, in areas as such as rehabilitation and valorization of small dams, development of lowlands, agroforestry and ecosystem protection.</p>
<p><i>Comments from Canada:</i></p>	
<p>Canada welcomes this IAP and its efforts to improve food security in Sub-Saharan Africa. We welcome IFAD as the lead agency for the IAP. IFAD has strong resident in-house technical knowledge, including consideration of natural resource management and climate change, and is a thought leader on food security and agricultural transformation. In terms of the other implementing agencies, please elaborate on how UNIDO and UNDP will contribute to the food security IAP, including by discussing their plans to ensure the appropriate expertise is brought forward.</p>	<p>UNDP will provide regional and national technical expertise in support of project implementation in Nigeria. This will include specific technical knowledge on agricultural development and food security. This knowledge and expertise will be availed through the country office and via the Regional Technical Adviser. In addition, UNDP has an in-house team of experts (African Facility for Inclusive Markets) who work on agricultural value chains, and through their participation in the IFAD-led ‘Regional Hub’ component, will bring this expertise into the FSIAP, and provide specific support to country projects on making the commodity value chains more inclusive and sustainable.</p>

GEF Review Comments	UNDP Response
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7. Is the program coordinated with other related initiatives and national/regional plans in the country or in the region?	Yes. During project preparation considerable effort was made to coordinate with existing initiatives, including through meetings with stakeholders at different levels. This included analysis of existing programs in project areas on which the child project could build. In addition, effort was made to identify complementary projects in-country under UNDP-GEF (existing or recent) or implemented by other GEF Agencies on which the child project could build and/or contribute. These are outlined in Section B, above. The project will also benefit from the IFAD-led Regional Hub activities which will be coordinating the activities of all 12 child projects and ensuring cross-learning and sharing of best practice.
8. Is the program implementation / execution arrangement adequate?	Yes. The institutional arrangements outlined have been discussed and agreed with all stakeholders. Moreover the project will follow the same structure of UNDP NIM modality that all past GEF-funded projects in Nigeria have followed. Further details on partnership arrangements will be agreed during the project inception phase.
9. Does the program include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?	Yes. This is highlighted in Section C, above.
STAP Review comment	
4b. Drawing from the application of Resilience, Adaptation, Transformation and Assessment, resilience assessments can be strengthened in the GEF.	A design workshop held in Kampala and led by CSIRO enabled and encouraged the project design team (along with other country teams) to support a Resilience, Adaptation, Transformation and Assessment-led process. This training informed the design of the project during 2016.

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

Comment from STAP at PIF stage	UNDP response	Reflection in the CEO ER and PRODOC (which sections and pages)
3b. How will local knowledge and scientific knowledge be combined so they are mutually reinforcing in describing, monitoring, and assessing land degradation and environmental changes (e.g. climate risks) in ways that are pertinent to a diversity of stakeholders?	<p>This will be done through the combined use of the multi-stakeholder platforms, which will design and implement a participatory monitoring process. The role of agricultural extension officers will also be key in blending local knowledge and scientific evidence for joint application at farm level.</p> <p>As discussed under Outcome 4 (output 4.1) in the Prodoc, capacity will be built to facilitate local level collection, analysis and storing of key data and information on food security, including the establishment of a national database on food security situation in the country. The project will bring</p>	<p>See section IV (Results and Partnerships) in the Prodoc (pages 18-28), in particular discussion of Outcome 4 on pages 27-28.</p> <p>See discussion on Component 3/Outcome 4 (page 19) and section A8. on 'Knowledge Management' (page 33-34) in the CEO ER.</p>

	together a variety of stakeholders at all levels to obtain this information and this data will be used to build a national level M&E system.	
3c. What are the factors that are likely to influence the adoption of a technology (e.g. conservation agriculture, agro-biodiversity, integrated management of mixed crop and livestock systems) across a wide spatial area? Some factors to consider include labor, cost of introducing or maintaining the technology, local and cultural factors.	The project will promote sustainable technologies and methods that are already in use at the local level (i.e. locally-acceptable) and cost-effective and accessible to the majority of the beneficiaries (i.e. with low input costs). As discussed under component 3, the entry point will be to promote wide adoption of integrated natural resources management (INRM), sustainable land and water management (SLWM) and climate-smart and water-smart agricultural practices to increase food production. This will include conservation agriculture, agroforestry, sustainable rangeland management, integrated pest management, precision agriculture, drip irrigation, collective crop rotation systems and co-cultivation systems. Specific agreements will be made in the inception phase of the project to assess feasibility and cost-effectiveness of these in the different project sites. It should be noted that even though the impacts will be at landscape level, these impacts will be generated from participation of up to a million small-holder farmers who engage in agriculture in small parcels of on average plot size of 1 to 2 hectares, usually with little or limited mechanization and low access to fertilizers and storage facilities.	See Component 2 of the project (pages 22-25) of the Prodoc for detailed discussion of practices to be promoted by the project.
4b. Drawing from the application of Resilience, Adaptation, Transformation and Assessment, how can resilience assessments be strengthened in the GEF.	During the project design stage the Nigeria stakeholders were exposed to the discussions on RAPTA and these informed the design of the project. Outcome 4 of the project will explore several approaches and methods for assessing resilience at landscape and production system levels and will utilize the Vital Signs tools to conduct inter-sectoral mapping of the physical resources to monitor ecosystem health in the target landscapes.	See detailed discussion of Outcome 4 (output 4.2) on pages 26-28 of the Prodoc.
As countries and the GEF Agencies conceptualize and implement their projects, STAP recommends, therefore, addressing the following points: 7a. identify monitoring and evaluation methods to measure the scaling-up impact and process b. determine the cost-effectiveness of scaling-up	The nature of the project is that it will build on proven approaches. It will use a multi-stakeholder platform approach to identify, test, demonstrate and promote adoption of locally-acceptable, cost-effective and relevant INRM and SLM practices in agro-pastoral landscapes. Monitoring and assessment	See discussion in section IV (Results and Partnerships) in the Prodoc (pages 18-29), cost-effectives (page 33), and scaling-up (pages 36-38).

<p>c. detail how partnerships, mechanisms for policy dialogue and uptake, and effective communication between multi-stakeholders will be developed</p> <p>d. define how cross-sectoral learning will be encouraged and achieved</p>	<p>of methods, approaches, tools and the costs, benefits and lessons from the interventions that the project will introduce and pilot. Through Component 3, the frameworks will be put in place to facilitate multi-scale assessment, monitoring and integration of resilience and sustainability into production landscapes using various tools and methods such as mapping and field data collection and platforms such as the Resilience Atlas and the Vital Signs framework.</p> <p>Mechanisms have been put in place to further upscale project results. These include the establishment of multi-stakeholder and cross-sectoral platforms at local government, state and national level to enhance policy discussion (component 1) and uptake of promising results implemented under Component 2. Component 3 will facilitate cross-site and regional learning and exchange of experiences and lessons.</p> <p>Learning and sharing of experiences and lessons is a key part of the envisaged collaborative processes at the regional level, primarily through the IFAD-led 'Regional Hub' component. Partnerships (formal and informal) for joint monitoring, assessment and learning will be explored and promoted at all levels of project implementation, including local-level (community) monitoring and assessment.</p>	
<p>8. Under risks, STAP suggests adding the challenges of scaling up technologies and practices, and how the project intends to reduce this risk</p>	<p>This has been addressed, and included as risk no. 2 in the Risk table. As noted in the Risk table, mitigation measures will include detailed stakeholder discussions at the local level and joint exploration of cost-effective and locally acceptable methods for scaling up technologies and practices.</p>	<p>See section A.5 Risk in the CEO ER (pages 29-31)/ pages 34-36 of the Prodoc.</p>

Responses to comments received from the UK Council Member, dated 2 May 2017

Comment from UK Council Member	UNDP response	Reflection in the CEO ER and PRODOC (which sections and pages)
General comments		
There should be more detail about the mechanisms that will be utilised to gain the outcomes described by GEF.	The project narrative, and description of the strategy, has been better improved to show what approaches the project will promote, in particular demonstrating the linkages between healthy ecosystems and food and nutrition security at household/community levels. The section on ‘Strategy’, has been revised to highlight the major challenges faced by the agricultural sector, and the entry points and pathways to addressing them.	See pages 12-16 (Future Solutions and Strategy) in the PRODOC and section A.1.3 (<i>Proposed alternative scenario</i>) of the CEO ER (pages 17-27) for a detailed description of the challenges and how the project will address them/the alternative scenario to be supported through GEF funding. Each output describes how the project will intervene to improve on the existing baseline. The detailed description was initially not included in the CEO ER.
At several points the pre-amble of the report, it is pointed out how much land there is left in Nigeria for agricultural	The sustainable intensification approach, through Sustainable Land and Water Management and Climate Smart Agriculture interventions are what constitutes the bulk of Component 2 (<i>Scaling up sustainable agricultural practices and market opportunities for smallholder farmers in the target agro-ecological zones to increase food security under increasing climate risks</i>). The project, by its very nature, is designed to promote	See pages 22-26 of the CEO ER for a detailed description of the approaches that Component 2 will

production. It wasn't mentioned how important it was to sustainably intensify the agriculture sector as a priority rather than expand the area in which agricultural production occurs.	<p>sustainable approaches to agricultural production, and does not plan to promote expansion of agriculture into virgin lands and existing forests. It will, in contrast, promote the approaches such as agro-forestry, mixed crop-livestock systems, minimum tillage and water management interventions such as rainwater harvesting to promote increased productivity for poor and smallholder farmers who at the moment do not cultivate all the land they own due to the high costs of purchased inputs (e.g. fertilizer to promote yields). What the project will demonstrate is that it is possible to increase yields, not just by increasing area of land cultivated and increasing the use of agro-chemicals, but by adopting natural solutions and that promote healthier soils that can retain moisture, fight diseases and bring back nutrients into the soil. Due to expensive inputs and limited ownership of land and insecurity of tenure, the incentives for bringing more/new land under cultivation in Nigeria are already limited for smallholder farmers, with research showing that about 56% of rice producers in 18 States have access to an additional 1 hectare of land that they currently do not cultivate.</p> <p>It should be noted, however, that currently only 40% of Nigeria's arable land is under cultivation, and with current pressure to increase productivity for both the domestic market (to meet local demand and address food insecurity, including famine) and to raise export revenue in light on decreasing returns from oil, the Nigerian government makes plans to increase land under agriculture, including through irrigation. The project does not, however, plan to support this large-scale commercialization plans, but will rather focus on poor smallholder farmers who own 2.5 hectares of land, or less, and use subsistence and traditional tools and methods to produce food, primarily for household consumption.</p>	promote, including bringing 350,000 hectares of existing farmland under SLWM and CSA (Output 2.1 - 350,000 ha under improved land use and agro-ecosystem management practices).
There was a link to other programmes being undertaken, but no evidence that lessons were being learned from them, or that this programme would actually build upon the results of those programmes or vice versa.	This project is designed to build on existing government programmes and the substantial baseline that has been supported by other development partners. The revised description of the components/outcomes/outputs better demonstrates this, and so does the Strategy section of the PRODOC.	See pages 12-16 of the PRODOC the description of the Future Solutions and Impact Pathways.
Focused comments		
A focus on a supportive and strong policy	Indeed, Nigeria agriculture policy landscape has over the years severely been hampered by weak implementation. It is important, however, for any action and support on the	See the description of the proposed project

<p>environment is important but as the proposal points out Nigeria has a weak track record of 40 years of failed or not implemented agricultural policies. What approach will likely result in more success this time? Who else needs to be brought on board to give it greater legitimacy and incentives to succeed? The private sector perhaps? The document mentions developing a model 'similar to that of Brazil'. DFID has in facilitated a Brazil;Africa partnership developing positive links between Brazilian and African institutions. Could UNDP build upon that to positively incorporate Brazilian advice and expertise?</p>	<p>ground to be anchored on the policies and strategies promoted by government, and build on the positive results that have been achieved by other stakeholders such as development partners, NGOs and the private sector. Nigeria's agricultural discourse is significantly centered around modernization of the sector and development of the food value chains. This is largely driven by private sector investments, which the government is keen to promote. At the same time, it is important to balance this with issues of equity (e.g. increased participation and benefits to women and youth) and sustainability (with regards to approaches used and impact of the environment and the poor). With the current food and economic crisis, following the impact of the declining oil revenue on the economy, there is increasing pressure for the country to find solutions to food insecurity and the food deficits that currently faces. In light of this, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has put together an Agriculture Promotion Policy (The Green Alternative) to boost agricultural productivity and respond to the call for Nigeria to be both food secure and food self-sufficient. The government plans to roll out significant investments in this area over the coming 3 years, as outlined in the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (2017-2020).</p> <p>UNDP's strategy, as outlined under the now revised Output 1.1., is to support these government priorities, by bringing in an approach that demonstrates that sustainable agricultural production practices (e.g. SLWM and CSA) can make significant contributions to increased agricultural productivity as well as building resilient landscapes and ecosystems, to support agriculture and livelihoods, particularly for those who remain outside modernized systems of production.</p> <p>While Nigeria may have a lot to learn from Brazil in terms of modernisation of the agricultural sector, the main focus of support will be guided by the country's policies, particularly the policy on Agriculture Promotion Policy. As part of the multi-stakeholder platforms at the national level, the project may support Brazil: Nigeria dialogue on agriculture, through support from the DfID in Nigeria, and explore potential south-south partnerships and learning. Lessons could, for instance, be learnt through Brazil's More Food International programme, focusing on improving farmers' access to equipment, machinery and agricultural technologies, including tractors, through the provision of concessional credit. As Nigeria seeks to modernize its agricultural sector and grow more food, key lessons will have to be learnt from other parts of the world, on how best to do this.</p>	<p>approach in section IV of the PRODOC (<i>Results and Partnerships</i>), pages 21-36, and (section <i>A.1.3 - Proposed alternative scenario</i>), now more elaborated in the CEO ER document, pages 17-27.</p>
<p>There is insufficient attention paid to connectivity between</p>	<p>This has been highlighted as a key barrier to the development of agricultural value chains. It forms an important part of the infrastructure investments that the government, both national and States, will have to priorities, if the revolution that's planned for the</p>	<p>See description of the project outputs 1.3 (21-22) and 2.2 (24-</p>

rural areas and markets when discussing commercialisation	agriculture sector in the coming years is to take off. Through support to multi-stakeholder dialogue at the State and Local Government Areas (LGAs) levels, the project will support assessments and analysis of how value chains can be better supported to develop. This is also a key aspect of Output 1.3 (<i>Public-Private Partnerships established for major food crops (cassava, rice and sorghum) value chains for food production, processing and distribution</i>) and Output 2.2 (<i>Increased value addition and access to markets realized by beneficiary smallholder farmers</i>), recognizing, however, that the project cannot support the construction of roads, but rather can demonstrate to the policy-makers, the potential gains to be made from investing in infrastructure to improve access to markets.	25) in the CEO ER, now more elaborated.
No attention is given to food quality and safety and nutritional returns.	The project addresses this through its overall strategy on food security, an integral part of which is the quality of the food produced and whether it meets the nutritional needs of consumers. The Project Documents clearly links the issue of nutrition security to the lack of women's participation in food production and household dietary decisions, as well as the lack of diversification in crop production systems. The collaboration with WOFAN and IITA on rice and groundnuts seek to address this issue, through promoting the involvement of women in producing two of the key crops that form an important element of the Nigerian diet. IITA will support with training farmers on the management of Aflatoxin in cassava, groundnut, maize and other toxins that affect consumer decisions and preferences and health.	See description of Output 3.1 - <i>14,000 women and 28,000 youth incentivized to participate/ engage in increased groundnut and rice production and processing for improved income and nutrition</i> See pages 25-26 of the CEO ER, and pages 29-30 of the PRODOC.
There is no discussion about land rights despite their importance to investment in land.	The issue of land ownership and tenure insecurity has now been highlighted as key in contributing to low agricultural output and food insecurity. The description below has been added to the barrier section of the PRODOC: Insecure land tenure and conflict over land weakening investments in agriculture: Land ownership in Nigeria is not clearly defined, and where it is owned, usually this is by men, and the rich elite. In the traditional farming system, size of land is generally small and fields are highly fragmented, partly as a result of inheritance laws and also due to practices of shifting cultivation and bush fallow. The distribution is however highly skewed. Agriculture is therefore characterized by mostly small-scale farming carried out by peasant farmers with an average of about 2 hectares of land which are usually scattered holdings. Competition and conflict over land resources, for agriculture and for grazing,	See PRODOC pages 11-14, and CEO ER pages 17-19.

	<p>are therefore not uncommon. Security threats to agricultural investment include cattle rustling, kidnapping, and destruction of farmlands by herdsmen.¹¹ The Federal Government will encourage States to adopt critical measures to ensure the success of the ERGP, e.g., by ensuring the availability of land required to transform the agriculture sector.</p> <p>Table 1. Barriers and Proposed Solutions to Sustainable and Resilient Food Security in Nigeria, also includes an additional barrier and proposes solutions, as indicated below:</p> <table> <tr> <td>6.</td><td> <p>Insecure land tenure – The current challenges outlined by the Agriculture Promotion Policy (2016-2020) include: the fact that 95% of agricultural lands are not titled, effectively nullifying their capacity to be treated as collateral for financial transactions; the Land Use Act is not conducive for agricultural activities (e.g. short-term lease does not allow for agricultural loans, particularly small holder farmers); an inherent gender bias against access to ownership of land by women; and unclear rules and governance regarding management of land for use in farming versus grazing for nomadic cattle populations.</p> </td><td> <p>(vii) There's recognition by many stakeholders that until land issues are addressed, insecurity of land tenure, and the inability of farmers to use the land they farm as assets and collateral for accessing services and inputs (e.g. financing), the lack of investments in agriculture will always persist, and have wider negative implications for agricultural production and food security. Some of the solutions proposed by the new Policy include: Facilitating the recognition and entitlement of land ownership by formal or customary means to assist collateralization; and Farmer/land registration (identity, location, landholding and soil mapping), and low cost, web-based and digital mechanisms for verifying the existence of such titles. The project will work with State governments, building on the support of the DfID-GEMS3 programme on Systematic Land Titling and Registration (SLTR) and where appropriate, support the upscaling of these initiatives. Through Output 1.2, the project will also support dialogue at State level, around the implementation of these policy decisions at State level.</p> </td></tr> </table>	6.	<p>Insecure land tenure – The current challenges outlined by the Agriculture Promotion Policy (2016-2020) include: the fact that 95% of agricultural lands are not titled, effectively nullifying their capacity to be treated as collateral for financial transactions; the Land Use Act is not conducive for agricultural activities (e.g. short-term lease does not allow for agricultural loans, particularly small holder farmers); an inherent gender bias against access to ownership of land by women; and unclear rules and governance regarding management of land for use in farming versus grazing for nomadic cattle populations.</p>	<p>(vii) There's recognition by many stakeholders that until land issues are addressed, insecurity of land tenure, and the inability of farmers to use the land they farm as assets and collateral for accessing services and inputs (e.g. financing), the lack of investments in agriculture will always persist, and have wider negative implications for agricultural production and food security. Some of the solutions proposed by the new Policy include: Facilitating the recognition and entitlement of land ownership by formal or customary means to assist collateralization; and Farmer/land registration (identity, location, landholding and soil mapping), and low cost, web-based and digital mechanisms for verifying the existence of such titles. The project will work with State governments, building on the support of the DfID-GEMS3 programme on Systematic Land Titling and Registration (SLTR) and where appropriate, support the upscaling of these initiatives. Through Output 1.2, the project will also support dialogue at State level, around the implementation of these policy decisions at State level.</p>	
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Resilience is mentioned often – but resilience to	Resilience in this context refers to that of ecosystems and their ability to support agricultural production. As noted in the project documents degraded and unproductive	See the description of Component 2 -			

¹¹ Ministry of Budget & National Planning, February, 2017, Economic Recovery & Growth Plan 2017-2020.

what – essential to be specific as responses are often very different.	landscapes (as demonstrated by infertile soils, increasing desertification, ecosystems/land/soil's reduced ability to regulate floods, pests and diseases), point to the need to promote approaches that integrate environmental sustainability and mainstream biodiversity conservation and SLM, and adopt CSA in order to build the resilience of both the ecosystems and production systems against climate variability and climate changes, as well as shocks and disturbances such as droughts, pests and disease outbreaks. This is a prerequisite for building resilience into the households' own food systems, and enhance food and security.	<i>Scaling up sustainable agricultural practices and market opportunities for smallholder farmers in the target agro-ecological zones to increase food security under increasing climate risks</i> (pages 25-28 of the PRODOC and 22-26 of the CEO ER document).
No details over future expected environmental conditions are included and how these are likely to affect what can and can't be grown. It is planning for now, not the future.	This is implied in the strategy proposed under Component 2. At the inception phase of project implementation (year 1), baseline studies on the environmental and climate conditions of each of the 7 States will be conducted, in particular to inform which crop value chains the project will support. These assessments will look into the viability and suitability of current crops and their environmental requirements (e.g. types of soil, water demand) and promote those that have high potential for increasing food and nutrition security at the household levels, as a first priority, and potential for income generation through sales, as a second priority. Key to this support is also the need to consider the cultural preferences of communities and farmers in each of the States (e.g. the role of rice and groundnut in Nigerian household diets).	See above.
A major ag sub-sector is missing, livestock. There is very little in the proposal about enhanced and improved management of livestock for productivity improvement and market access opportunities. Livestock herding is particularly important in the north of the country, and traditional livestock herding populations are frequently associated	<p>This is part of <i>Output 2.3. 35,000 ha under intensive and diversified production for enhanced income and improved nutrition</i>. Intensification and diversification will particularly promote women's access to livestock, including small ruminants, as part of the strategy to promote income generation as well as access to protein and other food sources, such as meat and milk. The key strategy to support growth in the livestock sector, is to integrate goats and sheep within farming systems, for mutual benefits.</p> <p>Nigeria is still grappling with the cattle value chain, which according to the Agriculture Promotion Policy (2016-2020) has becoming a security problem. The country has not entirely clarified its position on this matter, and is yet to find mutually beneficial solutions to both farmers and pastoralists, who often clash over land. As noted in the policy: <i>'Today, the cattle value chain relies on a network of nomadic herdsman with cattle entering a brief fattening system before slaughter and processing. That supply chain however is both inefficient and a high security risk as roaming cattle increasingly is a source of friction between land owners and herdsman. In order to protect all parties, a</i></p>	See page 28 of PRODOC for description of Output 2.3, and page 25 of CEO ER.

<p>with high levels of poverty and with links to regional insecurity. An approach to ag which effectively ignores them is incomplete. Support for herders can include such elements as improving animal health care (veterinary services), better water and range management, better herd management, improved market access for animal products, including but not limited to dairy, so meat and hides and skins also.</p>	<p><i>key shift is necessary i.e. retain cattle in ranches. Thus, what is required is for the creation of a more formal ranching system that will use better processes and inputs to extract higher value from in the form of dairy, meat, and leather.'</i></p> <p>The project's priority will therefore be to focus on support to smallholder farmers, in particular women, in accessing small-stock as part of the objective of increasing access to other foods, and also generating income.</p>							
<p>The role and impact of conflict seems to be underplayed in this document. While the focus now is on north-east Nigeria and the war with BH, many other rural areas of Nigeria have suffered through conflict, e.g. the Niger Delta/Rivers State region, and conflict is frequently a driver of food insecurity and a barrier to enhancing ag productivity. This is insufficiently acknowledged in this document and by omission, the problems of effective governance in</p>	<p>This has now been addressed, and the text below has been included in the barrier section:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="533 768 1577 1373"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th><i>Barrier</i></th><th><i>Proposed solution</i></th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>5.</td><td>Disruption of agricultural activities by conflict, often violent and deadly. An example is the long-standing conflict between nomadic pastoralists and sedentary farmers, resulting in abandonment of agricultural activities and loss of livestock, and often loss of life.</td><td>(vi) At State levels, where the activities of the project will be driven from, the project will facilitate multi-stakeholder platforms, as proposed under Output 1.2. to facilitate dialogue around issues of conflict and its role in promoting poverty and insecurity, including food insecurity and seek to bring together conflicting camps within the locality to share perspectives and views and seek collaborative solutions for mutual beneficiation instead of confrontation. There is a clear need for State authorities and communities to engage in a sincere conversation about the conflicts between pastoralist and sedentary farmers, and other competing land uses that escalate to competition and conflict. The governance of access and control over resources, including land, water and grazing resources, requires careful and coordinated</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		<i>Barrier</i>	<i>Proposed solution</i>	5.	Disruption of agricultural activities by conflict, often violent and deadly. An example is the long-standing conflict between nomadic pastoralists and sedentary farmers, resulting in abandonment of agricultural activities and loss of livestock, and often loss of life.	(vi) At State levels, where the activities of the project will be driven from, the project will facilitate multi-stakeholder platforms, as proposed under Output 1.2. to facilitate dialogue around issues of conflict and its role in promoting poverty and insecurity, including food insecurity and seek to bring together conflicting camps within the locality to share perspectives and views and seek collaborative solutions for mutual beneficiation instead of confrontation. There is a clear need for State authorities and communities to engage in a sincere conversation about the conflicts between pastoralist and sedentary farmers, and other competing land uses that escalate to competition and conflict. The governance of access and control over resources, including land, water and grazing resources, requires careful and coordinated	<p>See pages 17-19 in the CEO ER (A.1.3 - Proposed alternative scenario)</p>
	<i>Barrier</i>	<i>Proposed solution</i>						
5.	Disruption of agricultural activities by conflict, often violent and deadly. An example is the long-standing conflict between nomadic pastoralists and sedentary farmers, resulting in abandonment of agricultural activities and loss of livestock, and often loss of life.	(vi) At State levels, where the activities of the project will be driven from, the project will facilitate multi-stakeholder platforms, as proposed under Output 1.2. to facilitate dialogue around issues of conflict and its role in promoting poverty and insecurity, including food insecurity and seek to bring together conflicting camps within the locality to share perspectives and views and seek collaborative solutions for mutual beneficiation instead of confrontation. There is a clear need for State authorities and communities to engage in a sincere conversation about the conflicts between pastoralist and sedentary farmers, and other competing land uses that escalate to competition and conflict. The governance of access and control over resources, including land, water and grazing resources, requires careful and coordinated						

addressing regional disparities, underinvestment and lack of government accountability which are often underlying factors contributing to regional resentment and conflict. Large areas of Nigeria are effectively a FCAS and agriculture cannot be practiced in such conditions in the same way that it is under more stable conditions. This needs greater emphasis also in the risk section.			responses that are grounded in an understanding of the historical, socio-cultural and ethnic dimensions that make them complex. For this reason, UNDP will utilize the services of internal experts on conflict resolution and mediation (through the services of a Peace and Development Advisor located in the UNDP Nigeria Country Office), to support these multi-stakeholder dialogues that focus in particular on issues of land governance and crop-livestock productions.		
	It has also been included in the Risk Management table as a critical risk that requires monitoring during project implementation:				

Description	Type	Impact and Probability	Mitigation Measures	Owner	Status
9. Conflict and security situation in northern Nigeria and the Middle Belt worsen and hinder implementation of project activities	Political Operational	P=5 I=5	Put in place mechanisms to facilitate peace-building dialogue among conflicting groups to promote collaborative solutions for agricultural production by demonstrating the potential benefits of increased agricultural productivity	UNDP, PCU	Increasing

				for livelihoods and food security. The project will rely on the technical and expert support from other parts of UNDP and donor community. The project will also develop and implement a contingency plan (as necessary and in discussion with the relevant government authorities) based on advanced warning indicators that enables safe removal of staff and alternative site selection in other parts of the region.			
There is a tension throughout this document on proposing interventions to improve	Promoting the use of environmentally damaging approaches will not be part of the project intervention. Reference to promotion of agro-chemicals and fertilisers has therefore been removed. As noted above, the project will rather support the use of ecosystem-based solutions to increasing productivity at farm level through SLWN, CSA and other proven					See the description of Component 2 - <i>Scaling up sustainable agricultural practices</i>	

<p>agricultural productivity (such as better irrigation, better use of fertilisers and other agro-chemicals) and an aspiration to be entirely environmentally benign. While ideally there are synergies to be gained, in the promotion of more commercialised agriculture without strong and enforceable environmental safeguards it is highly likely that poor environmental practices will be adopted to further commercial productivity and returns. It's unlikely that the ideal balance will be achieved in many cases. In an environment of transparent accountable governance there is hope that it could be but this is not the case in Nigeria. The document speaks of an 'abundance of arable land and water' and at other points talks about damaging fragile land and water resources. This seems to be a contradiction.</p>	<p>approaches. It is however, acknowledged that as farmers seek to increase productivity, and government policies and strategies further promote methods for increasing production, the uptake of environmentally-damaging methods might increase, particularly if awareness and education do not accompany these interventions. The project plans to therefore raise awareness about the costs and benefits of these approaches for informed decision-making at farm level.</p>	<p><i>and market opportunities for smallholder farmers in the target agro-ecological zones to increase food security under increasing climate risks</i> (pages 25-28 of the PRODOC and 22-26 of the CEO ER document).</p>
<p>Nigeria is a rapidly urbanising country and yet there is little recognition of this</p>	<p>This is embedded in the strategy to promote implementation of the Agriculture Promotion Policy (2016-2017), which largely seeks to increase agricultural productivity and access to food where it is needed.</p>	<p>See description of Output 1.1 - <i>Support to the implementation of The Green</i></p>

growing urbanisation and the increasing need to feed these expanding urban areas. A strategy for feeding the towns and cities needs to be an integral part of any support to agriculture in Nigeria. Building strong rural-urban links is critical in terms of infrastructure, market access, flows of information, flows of people, an enabled investment climate etc.		<p><i>Alternative/Agriculture Promotion Policy to promote sustainable and resilient food and nutrition security</i></p> <p>Page 23 of PRODOC and page 20-21 of CEO ER document.</p>
<p>The role of the private sector comes through weakly. If they are going to be so critical in establishing market links and value chains why they are not included in the list of stakeholders to be consulted (pages 27/28)? The DFID supported New Alliance supports a range of companies who have committed to engage more with smallholders in their supply chains, and the UK is the New Alliance lead in Nigeria. DFID colleagues in Nigeria can supply links to those companies which include major</p>	<p>Private sector stakeholders, and their role, is now better highlighted in the project documents. This group forms an important stakeholder in Nigeria's strategy for improving agricultural productivity. The focus on value chains seeks to promote the role of businesses and their operations in informing policies and strategies, increasing investments in agriculture, supporting the development of infrastructure (e.g. storage facilities), promoting value addition, providing training and services (e.g. finance). The private sector is therefore included in <i>Output 1.2 - National and state level multi-stakeholder gender-sensitive platforms advocating sustainable agriculture and SLWM practices for improved food security; Output 1.3. Public-Private Partnerships established for major food crops (cassava, rice and sorghum) value chains for food production, processing and distribution; and Output 2.2: Increased value addition and access to markets realized by beneficiary smallholder farmers.</i></p> <p>Through the multi-stakeholder platforms, the project will engage the private sector companies, through The New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition to ensure that private sector engagement and participation in dialogue about public and private sector investments in agriculture, and how national policies and strategies should best integrate this within the plans and interventions at all levels within the country.</p> <p>The Stakeholder Engagement table now includes private sector players as they were initially omitted.</p>	<p>See revised section on <i>Stakeholder Engagement</i> (PRODOC pages 32-34) and section <i>A.3. Stakeholders</i> (CEO ER pages 34-36).</p>

multinationals such as Cargill, Syngenta and Unilever as well as large number of Nigerian companies.	Private sector actors, including multinational corporations and Nigerian companies active in the different stages of the food value chain (production, sourcing, transportation, processing, imports, marketing, input supplies etc).	In the context of Nigeria's food production landscape, this group of stakeholders is key as it holds the key to revolutionizing the development of the country's food value chains in several agricultural supply chains. They have the potential to influence policy, action and markets, provide capacity and skills to farmers at all levels of the food value chain. There is therefore increasing need to formally engage these actors in the dialogue and decisions about the agriculture sector and food production processes and practices.	
Outputs need to have qualitative data attached to their use – particularly output 1.1 – there are historic reasons to expect failure, so simply creating a new institution won't ensure success. How will it be made to work this time?	<p>We agree with the point made. Output 1.1 has been revised to focus on supporting the new Agriculture Promotion Policy/The Green Alternative. It now reads as: <i>Support to the implementation of The Green Alternative/Agriculture Promotion Policy to promote sustainable and resilient food and nutrition security</i></p> <p>The following description outlines the rationale for this revision, which is in line with the comment.</p> <p>The project will support government in its roll out and implementation of the new Agriculture Promotion Policy (2016:2020), in partnership with civil society and the private sector. The new policy takes forward the Agriculture Transformation Agenda (ATA) and is given further legitimacy by the new (2017) Economy Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP), a high-level strategy document prepared by the Ministry of Budget and Planning. The project will focus the support to Federal-State dialogue and engagement on the key tenets of the policy and how they can best be supported through State planning and budgeting processes and agricultural extension support. In addition to supporting the implementation of this policy, the project will continue to provide support to the implementation of other environment conservation policy and legal frameworks, with a focus on promoting the mainstreaming of SLM and biodiversity conservation into the agricultural sector and raising awareness on the role of healthy ecosystems in the performance of the agricultural sector. The project will therefore put in place mechanism that will: (a) link the programmes and actions of various sectors to make Nigerians more food secure, considering among others issues of gender equality; and (b) promote resilient agro-ecological systems for food production and value chain approaches to achieve food and nutrition security in the country. Support government to monitor and evaluate the</p>		See pages 20-21 of CEO ER document and 23-24 of PRODOC.

	performance of relevant national- and state-level institutions in the various areas of food production and value chains in order to identify gaps and bottlenecks and promote efficiencies.	
In component 2. The objectives include 'to increase output and help commercialise eight targeted commodity value chains including groundnuts, maize, rice, sorghum, cowpea, yam, poultry, dairy, fruit trees and aquaculture.' That is ten value chains. What thought has been put into what supporting elements will need to be put in place to commercialise them – for instance infrastructure quality and refrigeration with respect to dairy and fruit products in particular.	The value chains outlined are indicative and the final choice of crops and value chains to supported will further clarified during the project implementation inception phase, following baseline assessments to be conducted in each of the 7 States to determine priority areas of support. As noted above, assessments will look into the viability and suitability of current crops and their environmental requirements (e.g. types of soil, water demand) and promote those that have high potential for increasing food and nutrition security at the household levels, as a first priority, and potential for income generation through sales, as a second priority.	
A focus of component 2 is an increase in land area under sustainable agricultural practice – but it is mentioned land is degraded – surely a focus should be on restoration rather than solely preventing further degradation? Dependency on rain fed agriculture is mentioned, but no outputs specifically mention increased irrigation, and though it is mentioned	Component 2 will support SLWM and CSA approaches in existing farmland, this include restoration of degraded farmland to make it more productive. A key element of watershed management includes a consideration of upstream and downstream conditions, integrated management of ground and surface water resources, and water harvesting (including flood control and management of soil moisture). These simple, cheap and accessible practices will form part of the package of support to smallholder famers, who generally are unable to afford sophisticated technologies such as irrigation equipment.	See description of Component 2 (pages 25-28 of the PRODOC and 22-26 of the CEO ER document).

within the narrative nothing has been said about how it will be ensured that sustainable extraction of water will take place.		
In relation to Output 3.1 an emphasis on incentivisation of youth and women with regards to agriculture would be more appropriate that 'empowered women and youth'. Although gender empowerment in agriculture is indeed important, in this case it is finding the right (economic and livelihoods) incentives to persuade youth that a better future awaits in agriculture than in migration to urban areas. This has to be tied to a more commercialised ag sector offering higher returns than engagement in the urban informal economy. There is also no discussion about women's workload in the household and its impact on women's ability to take on greater amounts of work.	<p>We agree with the suggested focus. This Output has now been revised to emphasise <i>incentivization</i> as opposed to just simple empowerment. The project will upscale the ongoing initiatives of the Women Farmers' Advancement Network (WOFAN), which is already supporting similar initiatives, with support with CARI, IITA Youth Agripreneurs and ICRISAT.</p> <p>The revised output now read as follows: <i>14,000 women and 28,000 youth incentivized to participate/engage in increased groundnut and rice production and processing for improved income and nutrition</i></p>	See pages 25-26 of CEO ER document and pages 29-30 of the PRODOC.
In relation to Output 4 (Knowledge, monitoring	This has been included as an additional tool for measuring food security, especially due to the strong links to FEWSNET – (Famine Early Warning Systems Network), currently	See PRODOC pages 30-31, and CEO ER

<p>and assessment) there is another potential tool available for monitoring and assessing food security. This is the IPC scale which is being rolled out to assess and analyse both acute and chronic food insecurity. In West Africa this is rolled out as the ‘Cadre Harmonisé’ by the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel, CILSS). However as yet, this has not been rolled out in Nigeria, but has the potential to do so. There is sufficient regional experience in neighbouring countries to consider future adoption and development in Nigeria with the support of GEF.</p>	<p>also being used to monitor the food security situation in Nigeria: http://www.fews.net/west-africa/nigeria Outcome 4 - Harmonized M&E framework in place for food security information, multi-scale assessment of sustainability and resilience in production agro-ecological zones and landscapes and monitoring of global environmental benefits (GEBs) will integrate and promote the use of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) system by the FMARD and provide support its uptake through the Nation Food Security Information System.</p>	<p>pages 26-27.</p>
<p>Table 3 speaks a lot about the different outcomes that come from GEF funding, but little about how it will actually go about doing it. How, for instance, will GEF funding lead to improved dissemination? What</p>	<p>The revised project outcomes and outputs clarify this better. The narrative in Table 3 has also been strengthened to better articulate the benefits to be generated by GEF investment.</p>	<p>See table 3 in CEO ER, pages 28-32.</p>

mechanisms? And how will it identify it has done environmentally positive things?		
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ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS¹²

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

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: \$200,000			
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Amount (\$)</i>		
	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent To date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
The following PPG Activities have been completed:			
Component A: Baseline Studies/Data Gathering	200,000.00	152,935.16	47,064.84
Component B: Integration of activities with other Projects			
Component C: Stakeholder Consultations			
Total	200,000.00	152,935.16	47,064.84

¹² If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue to undertake the activities up to one year after project start. No later than one year from start of project implementation, Agencies should report this table to the GEF Secretariat on the completion of PPG activities and the amount spent for the activities. Agencies should also report closing of PPG to Trustee in its Quarterly Report.