Funding Proposal Template

Application Template for Fully-Developed Proposal and Project Concept Proposal[1]

PROGRAMME ON INNOVATION: LARGE GRANTS PROJECTS

REQUEST FOR PROJECT FUNDING FROM THE ADAPTATION FUND

The annexed form should be completed and transmitted to the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat by email.

Please type in the responses using the template provided. The instructions attached to the form provide guidance to filling out the template.

Please note that a project must be fully prepared when the request is submitted.

Complete documentation should be sent to:

The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
1818 H Street NW
MSN N7-700
Washington, D.C., 20433
U.S.A
Fax: +1 (202) 522-3240/5
Email: afbsec@adaptation-fund.org

[1] Single Country and Regional Concept proposals should complete Part I and Part II of the Project Proposal Template.

ADAPTATION FUND

SINGLE COUNTRY/ REGIONAL INNOVATION PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Title of Project:	Innovative Financial Incentives for Adaptation in wetland livelihoods (IFIA)
Country:	Viet Nam
Thematic Focal Area[2]:	Innovative climate finance
Type of Implementing Entity:	Multilateral Implementing Entity
Implementing Entity:	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
Executing Entities:	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)
Amount of Financing Requested:	5,000,000 (in U.S. Dollars Equivalent)

[2] Thematic areas are: Agriculture, Coastal Zone Management, Disaster risk reduction, Food security, Forests, Human health, Innovative climate finance, Marine and Fisheries, Nature-based solutions and ecosystem based adaptation, Protection and enhancement of cultural heritage, Social innovation, Rural development, Urban adaptation, Water management, Wildfire Management.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AF	Adaptation Fund
AFD	Agence Française de Développement
AMD	IFAD-funded Project for Adaption to Climate Change in the Mekong Delta in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh Provinces
APR	Annual Project Report
ARIF	Adaptation Research Innovation Fund
BDS	business development services
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CG	Collaborative Group
CIEM	Central Institute for Economic Management
CPC	Commune People's Committee
CSAT	IFAD-funded Climate Smart Agriculture Transformation Project
DARD	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
DFCD	Dutch Fund for Climate Change and Development
DONRE	Department of Natural Resource and Environment
DPC	District People's Committee
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
E2F	Enterprise to Farmer training
EA	Entrepreneur Association
EM	Ethnic Minority
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
F2F	Farmer to Farmer training
FA	Financing Agreement
FPIC	Free Prior Informed Consent
FSF	Farmer Support Fund
FSS	Financial Self Sufficiency
FU	Famer's Union
FUF	Famer's Union Fund
GAP	Gender Action Plan
GDI	Gender Development Index
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GII	Gender Inequality Index
GIS	geographic information system
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation
GNI	Gross National Income
GoV	Government of Viet Nam
GRC	Grievance Redress Committee
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
GSO	General Statistics Office
HDI	Human Development Index
IDH	The Sustainable Trade Initiative

IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
IFI	international financial institutions
IFIA	Innovative Financial Incentives for Adaptation in Wetland Livelihoods (proposed project)
IMHEN	Viet Nam's Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Climate Change
IP	Indigenous Peoples
IPSARD	Institute for Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development
ISA	International auditing standards
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KM	Knowledge Management
LURC	land use right certificate
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MDIRP	Mekong Delta Integrated Regional Plan
MFI	Micro Finance Institution
MIE	Multilateral Implementing Entity
MONRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSE	Micro and Small Enterprises
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NCCS	National Climate Change Strategy
NDC	National Determined Commitment/Contribution
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Products
NTP NRD	National Target Programme for New Rural Development
ODA	Official development assistance
OER	Operating Efficiency Rate
OSS	Operational Self Sufficiency
PAR	Portfolio at risk
PAR	Participatory Action Research
PCR	Project Completion Report
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PIM	Project Implementation Manual
PMU	Project Management Unit
PPC	Provincial People's Committees
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PWD	People with disabilities
RCP	Representative Concentration Pathway
RDMT	IFAD Resilience Design and Monitoring Tool
REDD+	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
RFS	Rural Finance Specialist
SBV	State Bank of Viet Nam
SC	Subcomponent
SCG	Savings and Credit Groups

SECAP	IFAD's Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures
SEDP	Socio-Economic Development Plan
SEDS	Socio-Economic Development Strategy
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SMEF	SME Fund
ToC	Theory of Change
ToT	Training of Trainers
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USP~~US$~~	Unidentified Sub-Projects~~United States Dollar~~
VGGS	Viet Nam Green Growth Strategy
VND	Vietnamese Dong
WB	World Bank
WDF	Women's Development Fund
WU	Women's Union

A. Project Background and Context

Provide brief information on the problem the proposed project is aiming to solve, including both the regional and the country perspective. Outline the economic social, development and environmental context in which the project would operate in those countries. Describe the problem the proposed project is aiming to solve. Write this as a concise problem statement: The current situation, the desired future, and the gap between the two. Provide brief further information on the current situation including both the regional and the country perspective. Outline the economic social, development and environmental context in which the project would operate in those countries. Describe the climate change vulnerabilities impacting the country/region as well clearly explain the problem area that would be the focus of the innovation.

1. **Problem the proposed project aims to solve.** Climate change is severely affecting the Mekong Delta region in Viet Nam and is posing threats to the biodiversity, natural resources and production systems based on which poor and vulnerable small-scale producers depend for their rural livelihoods[3]. Key climate change risks in the project area include sea level rise, saltwater intrusion, increased intensity of storm surges and coastal floods, rising temperatures hence evaporation, increasing frequency of heavy rainfalls and dry spells, and scarcity of fresh water[4]. Saltwater intrusion due to sea level rise in the Mekong Delta region reaches up to 10 km inland affecting soil and water quality and lowering overall agricultural productivity[5]. In addition, projections suggest that rice production will be affected by floods that will provoke production losses equivalent to 2.7 million metric tons per year[6]. Aquaculture is also heavily impacted with salinity intrusion harming the brackish and freshwater hatcheries.

2. In response to such issues and to increase climate resilience in the Mekong Delta region, adaptation options such as afforestation and reforestation, biodiversity conservation measures, awareness raising and capacity development on climate change, co-management of mangrove forests, sustainable aquaculture production, among others, are being piloted in coast wetlands by private sector entities[7] and local communities[8] as part of the Government's REDD+ policies[9]. In addition, the Government is implementing the Mekong Delta Plan since 2013 to improve water resource management in the region[10] but barriers persist for innovation to keep up with the accelerating climate change impacts and upscaling of proven adaptation business models.

3. Working with public and private stakeholders in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces, the project will promote innovations in financing products and mechanisms to support wider adoption and scaling up of sustainable wetland and mangrove forest management and other coastal adaptation initiatives. The project will build on IFAD's extensive network of partners and collaborators in the two provinces, including private sector entities, micro-finance institutions, provincial and district governments, research institutions and small-scale producers engaged in eco-aquaculture and eco-tourism.

4. **Socio-economic context.** Viet Nam has been on a sustained path of transformation from a low-income country to a middle-income country since the launching of its *Doi Moi* (renovation) process in 1986. Viet Nam's

[3] Changes in the frequency and severity of extreme events are likely to have major social and economic consequences, as shown by the drought event of 2015–2017 and the flooding regularly experienced in the Mekong Delta throughout the 1990's and 2000's. See World BankWorld Bank, 2021. Climate Risk Vietnam Country Profile, World Bank, 2021. Available at: https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/15077-Vietnam%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf

[4] Viet Nam's Updated Nationally Determined Contribution. 2020. Available at: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-06/Viet%20Nam_NDC_2020_Eng.pdf

[5] USAID, 2017. Climate Change Risk in Vietnam: Country Fact Sheet. Available at: https://www.climatelinks.org/sites/default/files/asset/document/2017_USAID_Vietnam%20climate%20risk%20profile.pdf

[6] Ibid.

[7] Examples include private sector entities such as MangLub Vietnam, engaged in sustainable mangrove management in collaboration with the local government. Available at: https://manglubvietnam.com/en/trang-chu-english/

[8] For example, the Government in collaboration with GIZ has promoted the co-management of mangroves in three districts of Soc Trang and Ca Man provinces under the Integrated Coastal Management Programme, benefiting 12031,203 households with 950 ha of mangrove forests brought under co-management. Available at: https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/18661.html

[9] Available at: https://www.un-redd.org/multi-media-stories/sustainable-wood-trade-lower-mekong-review

[10] World Bank, 2021

macro-economic development record over the past 30 years is remarkable. Economic and political reforms have spurred rapid economic growth and development and transformed the country from one of the world's poorest nations to the fourth largest economy in ASEAN. Viet Nam achieved lower-middle-income status in 2010, with its per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) reaching US$ 3,529 in 2020. Average GDP growth in the 2016-2019 period reached 6.8%, much higher than the average rate of the five years in the 2011-2015 period (5.91%)[11].

5. The COVID-19 pandemic has uncovered vulnerabilities affecting Viet Nam's economic development in 2020-2021. The GDP growth in 2020 declined to 2.9% as compared with the pre-pandemic growth level of 7% in 2019[12]. Recent government policies have focused on recovery by investing in public infrastructure, promoting access to finance, enhancing labour productivity and expanding the use of digital technology. Agriculture remains one of the strategic economic sectors, accounting for 18% of total domestic gross production. The proportion of poor households according to the country's multi-dimensional poverty standards decreased from 9.88% in 2015 to 3.75% in 2019 and to less than 3% in late 2020[13]. The vast majority of the poor (86%) belong to ethnic minorities (EM) residing in remote and mountainous areas. In the Mekong Delta region, poverty head count ratio stands at 5.9%, due to the high population density. Poor households rely on informal sources of income, e.g., small household enterprises and occasional wage employment. Earnings in these sectors are typically variable and tend to be lower than in the formal sector.

6. Viet Nam has made progress across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The country's SDG index score in 2020 is 71.1 out of 100 and is higher than the regional average in East and South Asia (65.7). The total expenditures for social security, hunger elimination and poverty reduction in Viet Nam increased from VND 4,304 billion in 2014 to VND 7,303 billion in 2016. As of 2016, over 18.3 million health insurance cards were issued for free treatment to the poor. The health sector in Viet Nam has showed great efforts to focus on the development of the domestic health-care system by improving its efficiency and quality. The quality of life has been constantly improving through enhanced access to basic social services[14]. In 2018, 90% of the population has improved access to water supply on their premises and 89% enjoyed improved sanitation facilities, while 100% of the urban population and 98% of the rural population have access to electricity.

7. **Geography and environmental context.** Located on the eastern margin of the Indochinese Peninsula, Viet Nam covers 331,236 km² (290 persons per km²)[15] and has a coastline of 3,260 km. Viet Nam's long coastline, geographic location, and diverse topography and climate contribute to being one of the most hazard-prone countries of Asia and the Pacific Region[16]. Given that a high proportion of the country's population and economic assets are located in coastal lowlands and deltas, the World Bank ranked Viet Nam among the countries likely to be the most affected by climate change. Without effective adaptation measures, by the end of the 21st century, an estimated 12 million people will face permanent floods, primarily concentrated in the country's two low-lying mega-river deltas. In addition to the threat of permanent floods, livelihoods in Viet Nam's low-lying areas face major challenges from saline intrusion, which has already forced land-use changes, abandonment, and reduced yields in many provinces (WB, 2019).

8. **Climate baseline**. Viet Nam has a tropical climate zone, with the entire country experiencing the effects of the annual monsoon. Due to its long territorial stretch in latitudes and diverse topography, Viet Nam witnesses significant climatic differences among the regions across the country[17]. In the northern region, average temperatures range from 22–27.5°C in summer to 15–20°C in winter, while the southern areas have

[11] https://en.nhandan.vn/economy1620
[12] https://www.gso.gov.vn/en/data-and-statistics/2021/01/viet-nam-economy-in-2020-the-growth-of-a-year-with-full-of-bravery/
[13] https://en.nhandan.vn/economy1620/
[14] Viet Nam third biennial updated report to the UNFCCC, BUR3. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, 2020
[15] Viet Nam is the third most densely populated country in Southeast Asia after the Philippines (363 people per km²) and Singapore (8,292 people per km²).
[16] Viet Nam is ranked 91 out of 191 countries by the 2019 INFORM Risk Index based on its high exposure to flooding (ranked 1st together with Bangladesh), tropical cyclones and their associated hazards (ranked 8th), and drought (ranked 82nd).
[17] The third national communication of Viet Nam to the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate change (NC3). Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, 2019.

a narrower range of 28–29°C in summer to 26–27°C in winter. The annual average rainfall varies sharply among regions, ranging around 600 mm and 5,000 mm and most commonly around 1,400 mm and 2,400 mm. About 80-90% of total rainfall accumulates in the rainy season. Annual rainy days last from 60 to 200 days and differ among regions. The annual average relative humidity is about 80-85%. The mainland is divided into seven climatic regions, including the Northwest, the Northeast, the Red River Delta, the northern Central, the southern Central, the Central Highlands and the Southern region. The Northwest has the lowest average temperature, approximately from 16.1°C to 23.2°C while the South has the highest and constantly high temperature all over the year, commonly between 25.2°C and 27.6°C[18].

9. The provinces of the proposed project "Innovative Financial Incentives for Adaptation in Wetland Livelihoods" (IFIA), i.e., Tra Vinh and Ben Tre, are located within the Southern climate region, which has two main seasons – the rainy and the dry season – influenced by the coastal climate. The rainy season starts from May to October/November, while the dry season starts from November to April. The average temperature has ranged from 25ºC to 30ºC in the past 10 years (2010 - 2020). The month with the lowest average temperature is January (24ºC–26ºC), while the month with the highest temperature is April (28–33ºC). Trends in average annual maximum temperature at Ba Tri station (Ben Tre province) during 1979-2020 and Cang Long station (Tra Vinh province) during 1978-2020 increased at a rate equivalent to 0.042ºC and 0.051ºC, respectively. In Ben Tre province, average annual rainfall ranges from 1,200 mm to 1,500 mm. Rainfall tends to decrease as one moves inland from the sea. The distribution of average annual rainfall within the province varies by area, corresponding to 1,500 mm on the coast, from 1,200 mm to <1,500 mm in the mid-province, and <1,200 mm in the upper (north-western) region, with the highest monthly rainfall occurring in October (average of approximate 280 mm). The dry season lasts for 5 months, with the lowest monthly rainfall occurring in January, February, and March, and accounts for 10 to 20% of total annual rainfall. In Tra Vinh province, the average annual rainfall ranges from 1,430 mm to 1,640 mm. The distribution of annual rainfall within the province varies by area, with the highest rainfall found in the districts of Cau Ke (inland) and Duyen Hai (coastal), ranging from 1,700 mm to 1,756 mm, and the lowest rainfall found in the area of Tra Vinh City, with about 1,420 mm. Highest and lowest monthly rainfalls occur in October and February, respectively. From 1958 to 2018, on average, rainfall in the Southern region, including Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces, had an increasing trend at a rate of 1.87% per decade[19].

10. **Water resources**. The average annual flow of surface water in Viet Nam is about 830-840 billion m^3, of which 57% is concentrated in the Mekong River Basin, more than 16% in the Hong-Thai Binh River Basin, about 4% in the Dong Nai River Basin, and the remainder in other river basins. Most of Viet Nam's major river systems are transboundary rivers. Approximately 63% of surface water (520-525 billion m^3) flows in from neighboring countries, and only about 37% of surface water (310-315 billion m^3) is from domestic sources. Viet Nam has a relatively large potential for groundwater resources, concentrated in the Red River, Mekong River deltas and Tay Nguyen region. Total potential groundwater reserves are estimated at 63 billion m^3 per year[20]. The availability of both surface and ground water resources in the Mekong Delta is becoming increasingly problematic as climate change impacts, such as sea levels, flood tides, and saline intrusion, are on the rise, while water demand increases from industrialization, urbanization, agriculture/aquaculture, and changing lifestyles. In addition to climate change and sea level rise factors, the Mekong Delta is also strongly affected by Viet Nam's upstream neighboring countries, whose activities exercise significant influence on water resources and on the river's ecosystem.

11. The source of surface water for Ben Tre province is the Mekong River (Tien River), which divides into four branches running through the province to the sea. All the rivers flow from the northwest to the southeast. The Ham Luong is the largest of these, carrying the largest volume of water within its average width of 1,200 to 1,500 m and depth of 12 to 15 m. At its mouth, its average width is about 3,000 m. The Mekong River exhibits large variations throughout the year, and from year to year. The annual flood season occurs in the period July-November, and accounts for 90% of the total annual flow. The low flow season runs from December to May and provides only 10% of the total annual flow. The lowest flows generally occur in the months of March and

[18] Viet Nam third biennial updated report to the UNFCCC, BUR3. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, 2020
[19] National Climate Assessment Report, 2021. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.
[20] Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, 2019. The third national communication of Viet Nam to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

April. A single flood peak usually occurs between late September and early October. In years with relatively high floods, there may be two distinct flood peaks. In addition to rivers, the province also has an extensive network of some 6,000 km of interconnecting canals, and ditches that water the interior of the province.

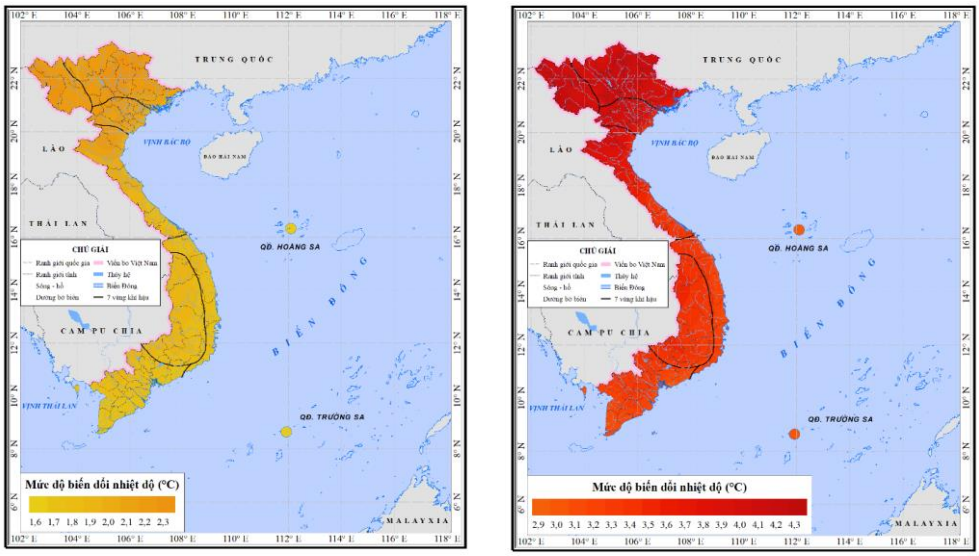
12. In Tra Vinh the surface water supply comes from its two major rivers: Co Chien and Hau. The Hau River's width averages from 2.5 - 3.0 km, and its depth from 7-13 m, while the flow during the year averages 1,154 to 12,434 m^3/h. The Co Chien River, a major branch of the Mekong River, has a width from 0.8 to 2.5 km, and an average depth of 4 – 14 m, and the flow during the year ranges between 1,814 and 19,540 m^3/h. There are also several major tributaries (e.g., Cai Hop, An Truong, Can Chong rivers) and canals (e.g., Tan Dinh, Bong Bot, Tong Long canals). In total, there are over 600 km of large canals, with another 2,000 km of primary and secondary canals that essentially cover the entire province, supplying irrigation water in the dry season, and serving as drainage in the rainy season.

13. Despite this abundance of surface water resources, both Ben Tre and Tra Vinh experience shortages of fresh water, especially in the dry season. The natural variability in the river flow regime, combined with increasing water use in the upstream countries and the Mekong Delta itself, are making the water supply for agricultural and domestic use in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh unreliable. In addition, surface water resources in both provinces are significantly affected by saline intrusion, and inland rivers and canals are affected by saline water and alum. In recognition of the suite of problems for freshwater supply, the water supply zoning of Mekong Delta Integrated Regional Plan (MDIRP) places both Ben Tre and Tra Vinh into "Category III", which is the lowest category due to the high impacts of salinity and insufficient flow, accompanied by raw water supply systems, limited use of groundwater and low application of desalinization technology[21]. In general, groundwater in the Mekong Delta is widely distributed through seven aquifers whose water storage capacity is moderate. The brackish groundwater reserves in these aquifers far exceeds freshwater reserves. Still, the fresh water aquifers, which provide a water quality generally suitable for drinking and consumption, are very important sources of freshwater domestic use and irrigation.

14. **Future climate change.** According to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) climate change projections, the average temperature in Viet Nam is expected to increase by 1.2–1.7°C under RCP4.5 and by 1.7–2.3°C under RCP8.5 by the middle of the XXI century. At the end of the XXI century, temperature in Viet Nam is expected to increase by 1.6–2.4°C under RCP4.5 and by 3.2–4.2°C under RCP8.5[22]. For Tra Vinh and Ben Tre, the annual mean temperature is likely to increase by 1.3°C by 2050 and 1.7°C by the end of the century compared to the baseline period from 1986-2005, respectively (Figure 1). Extreme temperatures are also predicted to increase, compared to the same baseline period in all regions of Viet Nam. In Tra Vinh, annual droughts often cause production issues, with the number of dry days ranging from 10 to 18 consecutive days[23]. Cau Ke, Cang Long and Tra Cu districts are less drought-prone. The Tieu Can district is facing drought at the beginning of the crop season (June and July), and the remaining districts such as Chau Thanh, Cau Ngang and Duyen Hai are experiencing drought in the middle of the crop season (July and August), which severely affects agricultural production. The frequency and intensity of heatwaves (consecutive periods with hot conditions) are projected to increase by end-of-century, while the number of hot days (daily maximum temperature of >35°C) is projected to increase in the whole region. From 1978 to 2020 (43 years), drought occurred almost every dry season with an average length of about 4 months, and sometimes lasting over 5 months. In line with this trend, some projections by regional models foresee that short-term droughts (3 to 4-month consecutive periods with a rainfall deficit) are expected to occur more often.

[21] Royal HaskoningDHV and GIZ, 2020. Mekong Delta Integrated Regional Plan. Mekong Delta Master Plan. Reference: MDIRP-RHD-D4-XX-RP-Z-0007. 16 November 2020.
[22] Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, 2021. Climate change scenarios.
[23] IHCCS, 2018. Report on "Developing provincial climate change scenarios to map climate change risks and vulnerable areas" in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre, with supports from the Sub-Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Climate Change, Institute of Hydrometeorological and Climate Change Sciences

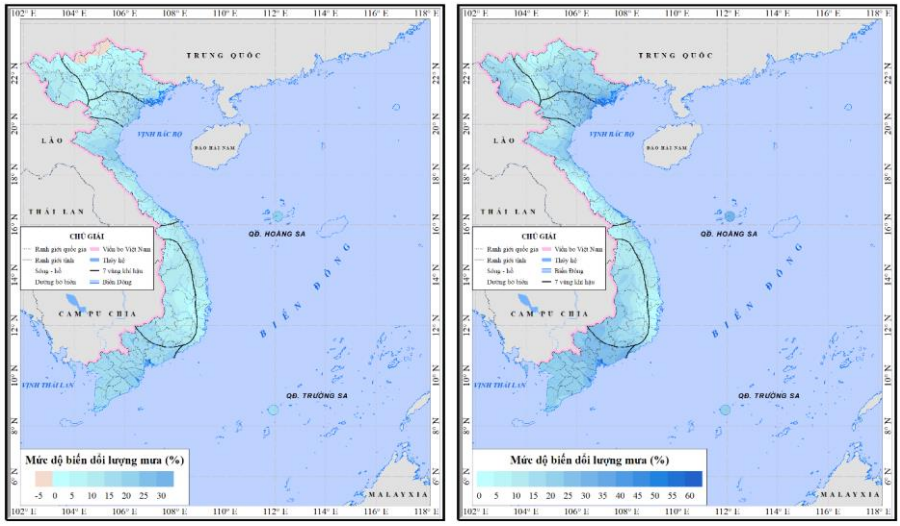
Figure 1: Changes in the mean annual temperature according to the RCP8.5 Scenario, in order, by mid-century and end of century[24]



15. In terms of rainfall, the MONRE analysis projects that future annual rainfall, including extreme rainfall, may increase in all regions under both RCP4.5 and RCP8.5. The increases for the whole country may be 10–15% by the mid-century and 10–20% at the end-century under RCP4.5. In the mid-century under RCP8.5, annual rainfall is projected to increase by 10–15% for almost all Viet Nam, and by 20–30% in some islands and coastal stations. Annual rainfall in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh is likely to increase by 17.9% and 16.7% by 2050 respectively (Figure 2). According to the scenario RCP4.5, by the middle of the century, Rx1day and Rx5day are likely to increase nationwide at the rates of 13-20% and 10-20%, respectively, while the scenario RCP8.5 indicates an increase of 15-25% for both Rx1day and Rx5day. Generally, the increase in rainfall extremes may be significantly greater than the projected increases in annual rainfall.

[24] Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, 2021. Climate change scenarios

Figure 2: Changes in annual rainfall according to the RCP8.5 Scenario, in order, by mid-century and end of century



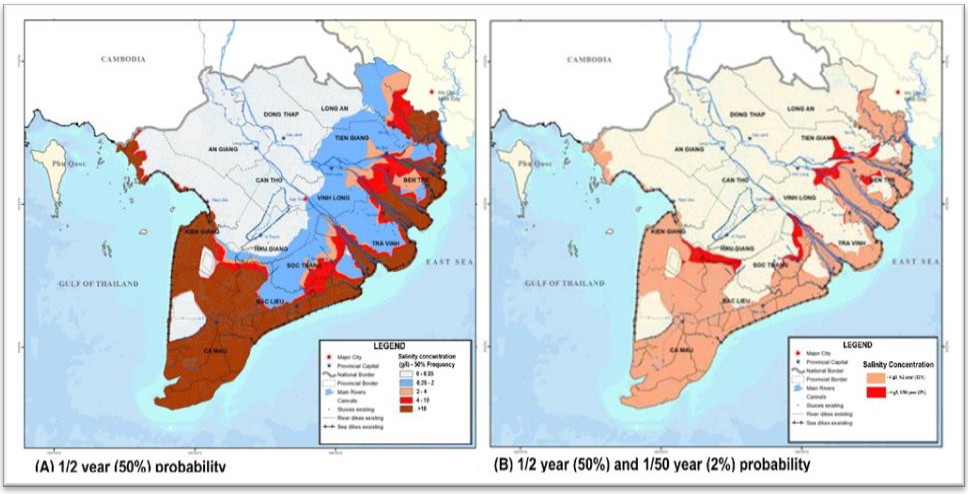
16. **Tidal influence and salinity intrusion**. Due to tidal movement, the low-lying flat topography and the very dense network of canals, the Mekong Delta is prone to salinity intrusion. The magnitude of salinity depends mainly on several factors such as low discharges from the upstream river, water storage capacity during the ending time of the flood season or the early period of the dry season, coastal water level conditions, and water use situation[25]. In discussing salinity, two figures should be kept in mind: i) 0.25 g/l, considered the upper limit for domestic and industrial water supply[26]; and ii) 4 g/l, being the concentration at which rice and other saline sensitive crops are affected[27].

17. Figure 3A[28] shows the spread of salinity intrusion in a near-normal year, with a return period of 2 years, based on model simulations. It suggests that a maximum annual salinity of 4 g/l intrude about 45 km inland in the Hau River, and about 50-55 km inland in the estuary branches of the Tien River. For large areas in the coastal provinces, the maximum salinity levels are over 10 g/l. Under more extreme conditions, with lower river discharges in the dry season, the salinity intrusion will increase. Figure 3B shows the difference in salinity intrusion between a high and an average year using the 4 g/l isolines as an indicator. Compared to the flows in the average dry season, the high scenario's 20 to 30% reduction in dry season flow volumes results in salinity intrusion progressing about 15 km further up river on both the Hau and Tien Rivers, affecting significantly greater areas of the project provinces. According to a study of the Institute for Meteorology, Hydrology and

[25] Dung Duc Tran, Man Minh Dang, Bui Du Duong, William Sea, Thang Tat Vo, 2021. Livelihood vulnerability and adaptability of coastal communities to extreme drought and salinity intrusion in the Vietnamese Mekong Delta. International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction 57 (2021) 102183.
[26] Royal HaskoningDHV and GIZ, 2020. Mekong Delta Integrated Regional Plan. Mekong Delta Master Plan. Reference: MDIRP-RHD-D4-XX-RP-Z-0007
[27] Tamura, T., Nguyen, V.L.O anh Ta, T.K., Bateman, M.D., Gugliotta, M., Anthony, E.J., Nakashima, R., and Saito, Y. 2020. Long-term sediment decline causes ongoing shrinkage of the Mekong delta, Viet Nam. Scientific Reports | (2020) 10:8085 | https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-64630-z
[28] Royal HaskoningDHV and GIZ, 2020. Mekong Delta Integrated Regional Plan. Mekong Delta Master Plan. Reference: MDIRP-RHD-D4-XX-RP-Z-0007

Climate Change (IMHEN) conducted in 2021[29], Ben Tre is ranked at a high risk of salinity intrusion while Tra Vinh is ranked at very high risk.

Figure 3: Salinity intrusion in an average year (A), and in an average and a high year (B)



18. In addition, sea level rise, land subsidence and activities such as dam building are expected to further aggravate salinity intrusion. Since the saline and brackish conditions are determining the agricultural and aquaculture potential, unless salinity control measures are taken or alternative sources of fresh water are accessed, many farmers in the coastal zone can be expected to either use groundwater as a supplementary source for freshwater or to dilute the salinity content of brackish water for irrigation usage. This will be an additional risk to the delta and can be a dangerous development in extremely low-lying areas. A relative sea level rise of 50 and 100 cm would respectively cause 14.9% and 47.3% of the land area of the Mekong Delta to fall below mean sea level (MONRE, 2021)[30]. Depending on the location, such areas will have substantial drainage challenges in case of extreme rainfall, river flooding or storm surges, because there would not always be sufficient gradient for drainage, especially in areas further inland. Regardless of what action is taken on groundwater extraction, possibly by 2030 and very likely by 2050, major flood protection and pumping for drainage will be needed in cities and towns, and also in rural areas, depending on land use and transitions in production practices.

19. **Drought**. Drought is among one of the frequent and serious hazards facing Viet Nam. The Central Highlands and the Mekong Delta region are considered the most affected areas. At present Vietnam faces an annual median probability of severe meteorological drought of around 4%, as defined by a standardized precipitation evaporation index (SPEI) of less than –2[31]. According to the RCP8.5 scenario, the number of drought months increases over most of the country and tends to decrease in a part of the Northwest, Central and southern most regions of the South. The Mekong Delta and the target project provinces figure as “hot spots”, meaning locations with a high annual drought susceptibility[32].

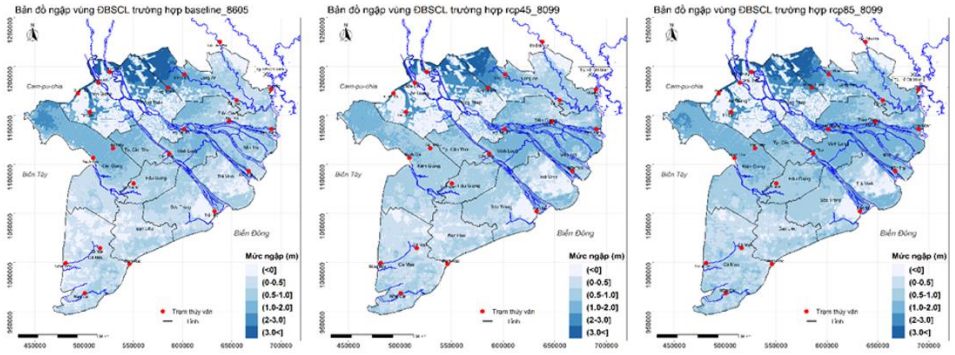
[29] Ministry of Natural Resources, 2021. National Climate Assessment.
[30] Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, 2021. Climate Change Scenario.
[31] WBG Climate Change Knowledge Portal (CCKP, 2019). Climate Data-Projections. URL: https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/vietnam/climate-data-projections
[32] UNDRR, 2020. Disaster Risk Reduction in Viet Nam - Status Report 2020. UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and Asian Disaster preparedness Center.

20. In Ben Tre, saline intrusion and drought (which often go hand in hand) are a matter of concern. The 2019-2020 drought resulted in a salinity level of 5 g/l penetrating through Ben Tre into the upstream provinces, resulting in substantial losses in the agricultural sector, and causing some 86,900 households lacking potable water. The 2016 drought and its resulting saline intrusion had been the worst until the 2019-2020 event.

21. In Tra Vinh, drought also occurs frequently[33]. While the Cau Ke, Cang Long, and Tra Cu districts are less drought-prone, for the Tieu Can district drought is more common at the beginning of the cropping season in June and July. In the remaining districts (Chau Thanh, Cau Ngang, and Duyen Hai), when drought occurs, it is more commonly in the middle of the cropping season in July and August, with a serious impact on agricultural production.

22. **Flood risks**. Coastal zone and low-lying deltas of Viet Nam are facing a high risk of flooding due to climate change and sea level rise. According to the updated climate change scenarios published by MONRE in 2021[34], if the sea level rises by 80 cm, about 8.4% and 31.94% area of Red River Delta and Mekong Delta, respectively, will be at risk of flooding. The coastal zone of the Mekong Delta is most prone to flooding because of its low terrain. The areas with the highest exposure are those adjacent to the major rivers, outside of river dykes, along the coast, and in low-lying areas inland. Figure 4 shows the flooding maps of the Mekong Delta derived from scenarios RCP4.5 and RCP8.5 and the baseline scenario. The assessment of flood risk utilized a design flood based on the flood event experienced in 2000.

Figure 4: Flood risk of Mekong River Delta a) baseline 1986-2005, in order, RCP4.5 (2080-2099), RCP8.5 (2080-2099)



23. According to these climate change scenarios (MONRE, 2021), the predicted flood impacts and risks in Ben Tre are not high and are well distributed among the districts. The districts that are most likely to be impacted are Cho Lach, Giong Trom, Ba Tri, Binh Dai, Chau Thanh, and Thanh Phu, and the largest inundated area is likely to be Thanh Phu, while Cho Lach district has the largest percentage of flooded area (about 18%). In Tra Vinh, the areas with the highest risks are projected to be Chau Thanh, Duyen Hai, Tra Vinh city, Cau Ke and Cang Long districts. The largest inundated district is Chau Thanh with 20.4% of flooded area and smallest areas are Cang Long and Cau Ngang districts, with 6% of flooded area.

24. **Riverbank and coastal erosion.** Riverbank and coastal erosion is widespread throughout the Mekong Delta region. Particularly, the coastal districts of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre suffer from serious riverbank erosion, which is adversely affecting the lives of local communities occupying the riversides. In Tra Vinh, more than 19 dangerous riverbank sections, totaling more than 13 km in length, have been identified as under threat from

[33] DONRE Tra Vinh, 2016-2020. Annual reports from the province DONRE during 2016-2020
[34] Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, 2021. Climate change scenarios.

ongoing erosion. In the coastal zone and on occupied islets in the rivers, there are 13 communes with 4,705 households that have been identified as requiring resettlement due to erosion, although none has been resettled so far. Strong northeast monsoon winds associated with high tides, rising sea levels, cyclones induced storm surges, heavy rains, and overexploitation by sand mining operations within and near the river channels have all contributed to accelerated riverbank and coastal erosion, with the associated destruction of houses, loss of agricultural lands, and increasing likelihood that entire communities will need to resettle outside of vulnerable areas. Climate change is expected to interact with cyclone hazard in complex ways, leading to increased wind speed and precipitation intensity[35] together with increased sea levels, which can in turn exacerbate riverbank and coastal erosion. Currently, the provinces are pursuing "soft solutions", such as mobilizing local communities to respond to natural disasters, mapping and local zoning of vulnerable areas, putting up warning signs in vulnerable areas, and revegetating/planting forests, among others. Due to resource limitations and the high costs of engineered "hard solutions", the provinces are seeking central government's support for the construction of additional protection works such as embankment, dykes, and dams.

25. **Gender**. Viet Nam is advanced in protecting women's rights legally, but implementation lags behind, especially in rural areas. As of 2022, persistent gender gaps include: a widening sex ratio at birth in the context of son preference; stereotypes on gender-appropriate fields of study and streaming into a narrow range of occupations; vulnerable, unprotected and low paid employment among women; bias against women in leadership, especially with respect to holding executive positions or in public office at the commune level; a high prevalence of domestic partner violence, alongside the low availability of support services; and societal expectations that women are responsible for unpaid care work in the home and obliged to balance this with paid work - in the face of a limited child and elderly care support services. There is also greater acknowledgement of the extent to which patriarchal norms restrict women's choices[36].

26. Emerging concerns include: women's rebound and recovery from COVID-19 in workforce participation and business; women's access to skills, qualifications and jobs in an increasingly digitalized economy requiring labour literacy in new technologies; gender wage and pension gaps leading to impoverishment in later life; urban development that reflects women's realities and preferences; women's mobility to new income opportunities in the agricultural sector; and low involvement of women in information and capacity-building, decision making and plans relating to climate change resilience. Most important is the need to consider how greater inequalities persist for certain groups of women and girls, such as women from EM groups, women living with disabilities, rural or migrant women, and single mothers[37]. The extent to which these general gender trends are also occurring in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh is detailed in the specific gender assessment conducted by the project and presented in **Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment**~~**Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment**~~ **and mainstreaming**, proposing gender-responsive implementation and monitoring arrangements in the context of climate change adaptation.

27. **Youth**. In Viet Nam, young persons aged 16-30 account for 22% of the country's population. High youth unemployment poses the most significant concern. Informal contracts are the norm for most young wage workers and over half of employed youth receive earnings below the average wage. Skills mismatch affects half of the working youth. As a group affected by climate change, youth often face difficulties in transiting from traditional agriculture to modern and sustainable methods of production. Although vocational education and training in agriculture provides some technical knowledge, young people face additional challenges from lack of financial resources and access to land. Young women and those coming from ethnic minorities are more vulnerable.

28. Climate change ranks among the most important dynamics shaping livelihoods of young people now and in the future in Viet Nam. According to a recent survey conducted by UNDP in Viet Nam (2021)[38], the four major bottlenecks encountered by youth in climate action are skills limitations, technological limitations, lack of

[35] Climate Risk Country Profile: Viet Nam, 2021. The World Bank Group and the Asian Development Bank.
[36] Australian Aid, ADB, ILO and UN WOMEN, 2021. *Country Gender Equality Profile Viet Nam 2021* available at https://vietnam.un.org/en/153151-country-gender-equality-profile-viet-nam-2021
[37] Ibid.
[38] Linh Le (UNDP Viet Nam) and Alex Nguyen. Report Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam (May, 2021) available at https://www.undp.org/vietnam/publications/report-youth-climate-action-viet-nam

support from stakeholders, and financial constraints. Youth in remote areas, ethnic minorities (EM), youth with disabilities and high school students struggle even more than others in accessing opportunities to hone their skills and build sustainable projects. For more details, see **Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment and mainstreaming.**

29. **Ethnic minority groups**. Vietnam is a multi-ethnic country with 54 recognized ethnic groups, of which 53 are ethnic minority groups. The population in the country is 96.2 million people, of which the Kinh people (ethnic Vietnamese) make up 82.1 million people, or 85.3% of the country's total population. The remaining 53 ethnic minorities have 14.1 million people, accounting for 14.7% of the country's total population. These 53 ethnic minority groups are scattered over mountainous and remote areas spreading from the North to the South, though some, such as the Khmer Krom, Hoa and Lao, are concentrated in the cities or lowlands. Among ethnic minority groups, the most populated are Tày (1.85 million people), Thái (1.82 million), Mường (1.45 million), Mông (1.39 million), Khmer (1.32 million) and Nùng, (1.08 million). The smallest ethnic groups are the Si La (909 people), Pu Peo (903), Ro Mam (639), Brau (525) and O Du (428). All recognized EM are Vietnamese citizens and the law prohibits discrimination against them. However, these groups remain disproportionately the poorest citizens. The Government has provided special programmes to improve education, health facilities and expand road access and electrification of rural communities and villages. However, some local officials restrict access to schooling and prevent members of some EM groups from obtaining household registration papers[39].

30. The Viet (Kinh) people account for 86% of the Tra Vinh project area total population. The remaining percentage consists primarily of the Khmer ethnic minority group in. Khmer EM people live mainly in Tra Cu, Cau Ke, Tieu Can and Cau Ngang districts, the latter being an IFIA district. The religion of Khmer EM people in Tra Vinh is Hinayana in Buddhism. Their main livelihood is extensive agriculture, dominated by rice farming, husbandry and working to earn wage, and traditional handicraft activities. These activities are seasonal and carried out at household level. The Khmer in Tra Vinh do not use land according to their customs, but the Vietnamese law. The current granting of the land-use right certificate (LURC) is issued to 99% of land users as of 2019. In addition to Khmer EM people, in Tra Vinh province there are also Hoa and Cham ethnic groups although they represent a small number of the total population. The cultural features of these EM groups are similar to those of Kinh group in Tra Vinh[40].

31. **Project Area**. As indicated, the geographical area of the IFIA project lies within two of the country's coastal provinces most severely affected by climate change in the Mekong Delta region, notably Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces. The two provinces were primarily selected based on the social and climate vulnerability assessment carried out by the design team and on the following criteria: (i) environmental degradation and climate vulnerability; (ii) presence of wetland areas / mangrove forests; (iii) incidence and intensity of poverty; and (iv) potential for resources' leverage and operational synergies with the IFAD-funded project *Climate Smart Agricultural Value Chain Development in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh Provinces* (US$ 136.38 million)[41] as described in **PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION~~PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION~~.** The same criteria, combined with sub-national government priorities and recognized complementarities with ongoing development initiatives in climate adaptation, were used to select seven coastal districts[42] out of 14 districts in the two provinces (see ~~31.~~32.**Table** 2: Population in the targeted districts of Ben Tre and Tra Vinh provinces disaggregated by sex (district data)~~**Table 2**~~). The result of the targeting process was validated through consultations with national and sub-national stakeholders and local communities in a gender-inclusive manner (see **Section II - I. Consultative Process).**

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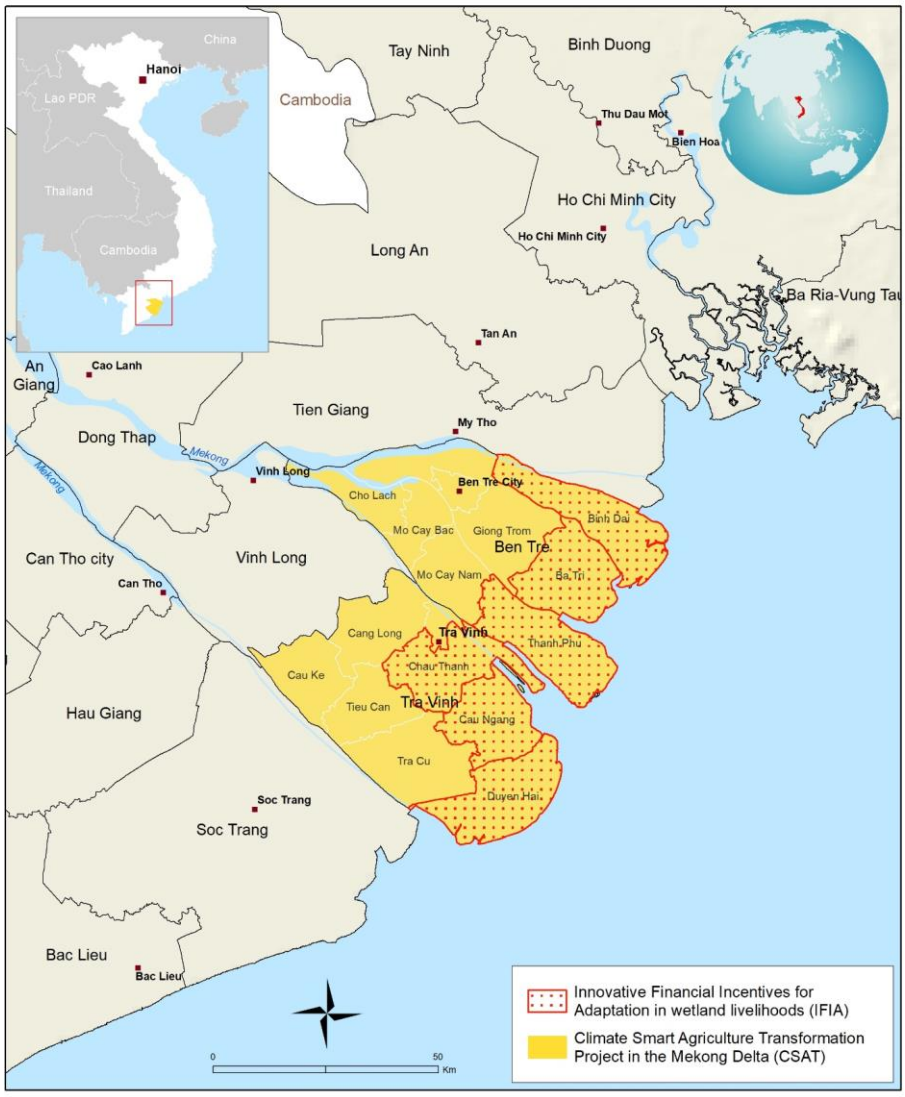
[39] Country Policy and Information Note Viet Nam: Ethnic and religious minority groups. IAGCI,2022
[40] Ethnic Minorities Development Plan (Issued with Decision No. /QD-UBND in 2019 by the People's Committee of Tra Vinh)); https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/ru/376231578545298006/pdf/Ethnic-Minorities-Development-Plan-for-Tra-Vinh-Province.pdf
[41] CSAT project design report is available at: https://www.ifad.org/en/web/operations/-/project/2000002335
[42] The seven target coastal wetland districts are: Duyen Hai, Duyen Hai Town, Cau Ngang and Chau Thanh in Tra Vinh; and Binh Dai, Ba Tri, and Thanh Phu in Ben Tre.

Figure 5: Project area



The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IFAD concerning the delimitation of the frontiers or boundaries, or the authorities thereof.

IFAD *Map compiled by IFAD* | 04-08-2022

Table 1: **Population in the targeted provinces (Ben Tre and Tra Vinh) disaggregated by sex, age, ethnicity (PHC, 2019)**

Province	Population								
	Total	Male	%	Female	%	EM	%	Youth	%
Tra Vinh	1,009,168	496,858	49%	512,310	51%	318,231	32%	191,904	19%
Ben Tre	1,288,463	630,492	49%	657,971	51%	1,001	0%	220,767	17%
TOTAL	**2,297,631**	**1,127,350**	**49%**	**1,170,281**	**51%**	**319,232**	**14%**	**412, 671**	**18%**

Table 2: **Population in the targeted districts of Ben Tre and Tra Vinh provinces disaggregated by sex (district data)**

Province	Selected Districts	Population						% living wetland area (estimate)	Climate vulnerability level
		Individuals (number, percentage)					Corresponding HH		
		Total	Male	%	Female	%			
Tra Vinh	Duyen Hai	78,444	39 271	50%	39 173	50%	20,749	62%	Medium-High
	Duyen Hai Town	48,210	24 619	51%	23 591	49%	13,668	49%	High
	Cau Ngang	121,254	59 851	49%	61 403	51%	37,507	34%	High
	Chau Thanh	144,040	70 930	49%	73 110	51%	39 711	24%	Medium-High
Sub-tot	*4*	*391 948*	*194 671*	50%	*197 277*	50%	111 635		
Ben Tre	Binh Dai	137 304	68 208	50%	69 096	50%	43,031	29%	Medium-High
	Ba Tri	184 734	91 742	50%	92 992	50%	55,155	18%	High
	Thanh Phu	127 841	63 107	49%	64 734	51%	38,222	27%	Medium-High
Sub-tot	*3*	*449 879*	*223 057*	50%	*226 822*	50%	136,408		
TOTAL	**7**	**841 827**	**417 728**	**49%**	**424 099**	**51%**	**248,043**	**35%**	

~~32.~~33. **Target groups**. As indicated in Table 2, the estimated total population of the project area is 841,827 individuals (of which 51% are female), or about 248,043 households (HH). Within the project area, the project will specifically target about 21,000 climate-vulnerable individuals, corresponding to about 6,000 HH, living in the wetland/mangrove areas (tot. 15,276 ha) of the project area. The direct beneficiaries include small-scale agriculture producers and community groups engaging in aquaculture, agriculture, non-timber forest production or eco-tourism, driving restoration and conservation of mangrove wetlands (at least 50% female and 30% youth, of which 50% are intended to be girls). The project will also target the vulnerable HH that will indirectly benefit from the innovative climate-adaptive instruments enabled by the project such as the Adaptation Research Innovation Fund (ARIF) and the systematic learning and scaling through policies and programmes.

~~33.~~34. **Targeting of women, youth and EM groups.** At the outreach level, the proposed IFIA Project's end target includes at least 50% of females (10,500 women), 30% of youth (6,300 individuals 16-30 years old), of which 50% are girls (3,150) and 30% EM groups (only in Tra Vinh). The project activities will be implemented with an explicit gender focus engaging women and young people fully as participants and active agents by adopting membership and leadership quotas and enabling measures - including training approaches - that facilitate their participation, capacity and voice. In particular, under component 2, the project will seek to identify the differentiated climate change impacts on men and women, boys and girls, and support their capabilities to adapt to these for decision-making and policy purposes. A detailed description of IFIA gender and youth

mainstreaming activities is provided in Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment and mainstreaming~~Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment and mainstreaming~~.

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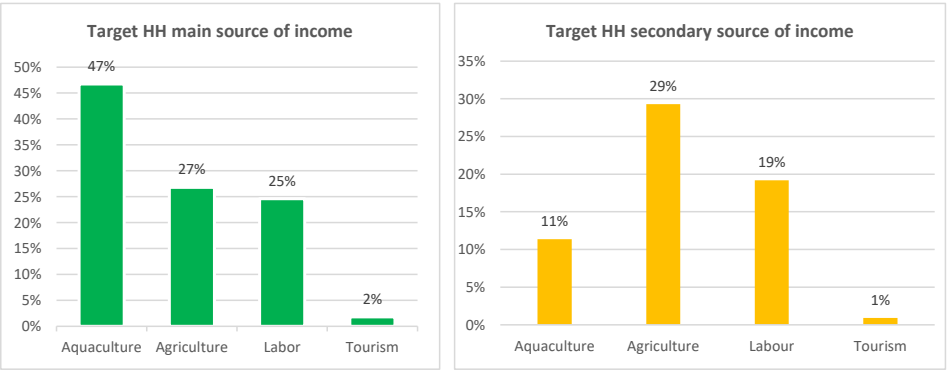
~~34.~~35. Regarding the Khmer EM groups present in Tra Vinh, mainly in the Cau Ngang district, the project complies with IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples (2009). IFIA project staff will acknowledge and build upon the asset of Khmer cultural distinctiveness and consult Khmer people to obtain their free, prior and informed consent at every step of the implementation. The project will strive to empower EM by assuring their informed participation in all project-supported activities. It will identify available opportunities to enable EM communities to value their products and engage in markets on more profitable terms. Finally, IFIA will support EM groups in enhancing the resilience of the ecosystems in which they depend for their livelihoods and developing innovative adaptation measures.

~~35.~~36. **Livelihood analysis of the target groups**. In April 2022, the IFIA design team conducted a gender-sensitive poverty and livelihood analysis of the proposed project area interviewing 104 potential beneficiaries (approximately 375 HH)[43], of which 54% are women (see **Annex 3. List of stakeholders consulted**). Of the 375 HH interviewed, 59% are poor and near poor and 41% belong to better off households. Most of the respondents live in wetland areas (81%). Most of them live in a medium permanent house made of concrete, wood, bamboo, and grass/iron roofing, and they have access to electricity through the power grid. The survey revealed that 43% of respondents attained only primary education, 30% reached secondary, and 15% had post-secondary education. At least 13% of respondents have no formal education, suggesting the need for skills training courses – especially girls and women and EM[44] - in localities most affected by climate change.

~~36.~~37. The main income generating activity among the interviewed HH is aquaculture (47%), followed by agriculture (27%), labour (25%) and tourism (2%, only in Ben Tre).

Figure 6: Main income generating activities of potential target groups (IFIA gender-sensitive poverty and livelihood analysis, Apr 2022)



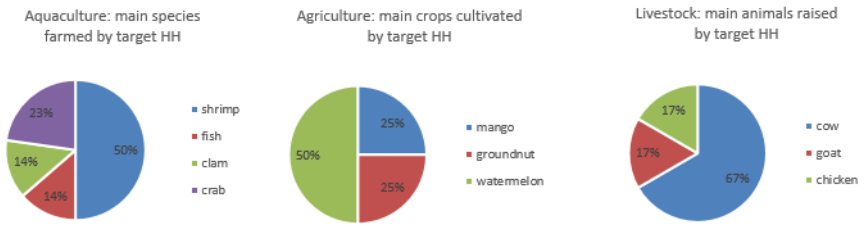
~~37.~~38. **Aquaculture**. Respondents mainly practice extensive aquaculture (64%). The main species farmed are shrimp (50%), fish (14%), clam (14%) and crab (23%) and they are mainly sold to traders/middlemen (81%) and private individuals (18%). Only 2% is sold to industry. In terms of gender, women's participation in aquaculture is 18% (of which 3% youth), with fish farming being regarded mainly as men's work. The main fish

[43] Forty-nine living in the province of Tra Vinh (i.e., Duyen Hai town; Chau Thanh; Cau Ngang; Duyen Hai districts) and fifty-five living in the province of Ben Tre (Ba Tri, Thanh Phu, Binh Dai districts).
[44] EM are present only in Tra Vinh province (32% of total provincial population according to the 2019 PHC).

species HH caught during the last high season in 2021 are Tilapia, Flathead grey mullet, Scatophagus Argus, Crab, and Sea fish.

~~38.~~39. **Agriculture**. The second main income generating activity is agriculture (27%), encompassing production of fruit and nuts i.e., watermelon (50%), mango (25%) and groundnuts (33%), which is often integrated with raising of cows (67%), goats (17%) and poultry (17%). Agricultural and livestock products are mostly sold to traders/middlemen (78%), followed by private individuals (17%) and direct access to market (6%). In term of gender, agricultural and livestock activities are mainly carried out by men (84%), while women are mostly engaged in unpaid family work and informal selling of agricultural products harvested by the HH. According to the respondents, their agricultural production has decreased to some extent over the past years due to increased saline intrusion in coastal areas caused by climate change and, as a result, most respondents demonstrated interest in increasing and improving their climate adaptive capacities to reduce their agricultural loss.

Figure 7: Main production of potential target groups (IFIA gender-sensitive poverty and livelihood analysis, Apr 2022)



~~39.~~40. The secondary source of income reported by the interviewed HHs is mainly agriculture (29%), followed by aquaculture (11%), labour (19%) and tourism (1%). While participation in tourism is relatively low among the respondents, they all are aware of the eco-tourism potential in the region and are highly interested in participating in tourism activities (64%) to increase their income. Collaboration with private sector entities is also seen favorably as a means to (i) adapting to climate change; (ii) promoting economic diversification; and (iii) increase skills and knowledge on sustainable businesses. In this regard, the main concerns raised by women and girls include: (i) lack of skills and knowledge on preparation of business plans; and (ii) lack of time due to the burden of unpaid care work, suggesting the need for specific gender-responsive activities aiming at addressing the root cause of these issues (see IFIA gender responsive activities in **Table 21: Gender, Youth and EM Mainstreaming in IFIA Components in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh**~~**Table 2119: Gender, and Youth and EM Mainstreaming in IFIA Components in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh**~~). To adapt to climate change, Ben Tre and Tra Vinh provincial governments are focusing on developing more nature-based tourism products to attract visitors and improve local incomes in an eco-friendly manner[45].

~~40.~~41. **Natural resources and production**. Out of 104 respondents, 59% reported to have access to land, forests, water or water bodies/fishing pond for production purposes (contracted forestland, aquaculture land, agriculture land, rice land, mangrove wetland, and lands for perennial crops, cash crops, and fruit trees). Almost

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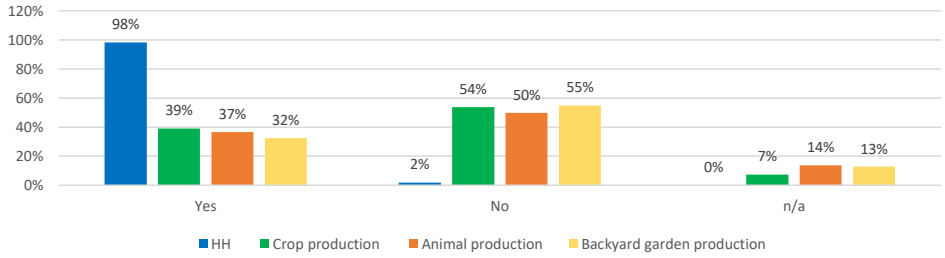
[45] See news on emerging interest of Ben Tre and Tra Vinh in ecotourism and river-based tours at https://en.vietnamplus.vn/ben-tre-emerging-as-destination-of-ecotourism/233421.vnp; https://www.vietnamtourism.org.vn/travel-guide/destination-in-vietnam//ben-trehuge-potential-ecotourism-to-vietnam.html; https://vietnamnews.vn/sunday/features/1229591/tra-vinh-province-focuses-on-developing-nature-based-tourism.html; to cite some.

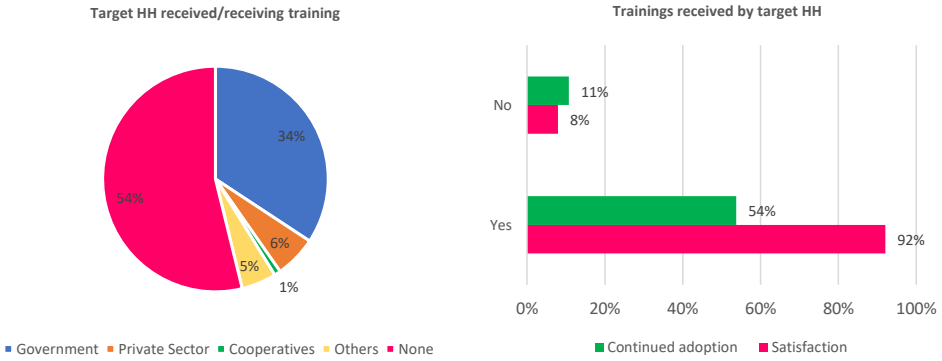
all respondents (98%) have access to water for HH needs, but only 39% for crop production, 37% for animal production and 32% for backyard garden production.

Figure 8: Target groups' access to fresh water all month of the year by needs categories (IFIA gender-sensitive poverty and livelihood analysis, Apr 2022)



41.42. In terms of capacity building and support to production, 46% of the respondents declared to have received inputs/improved technologies/technical assistance for their production in the past (mainly from Government, with only 6% by private sector). Overall, the level of satisfaction is very high (92%) and 54% of respondents continue to use inputs or receive improved technologies or technical assistance in support of their economic activities.

Figure 9: Interviewed households (%) who have already received training to improve their production in the past disaggregated by training provider, continued adoption of learned practices and level of satisfaction (IFIA gender-sensitive poverty and livelihood analysis, Apr 2022)

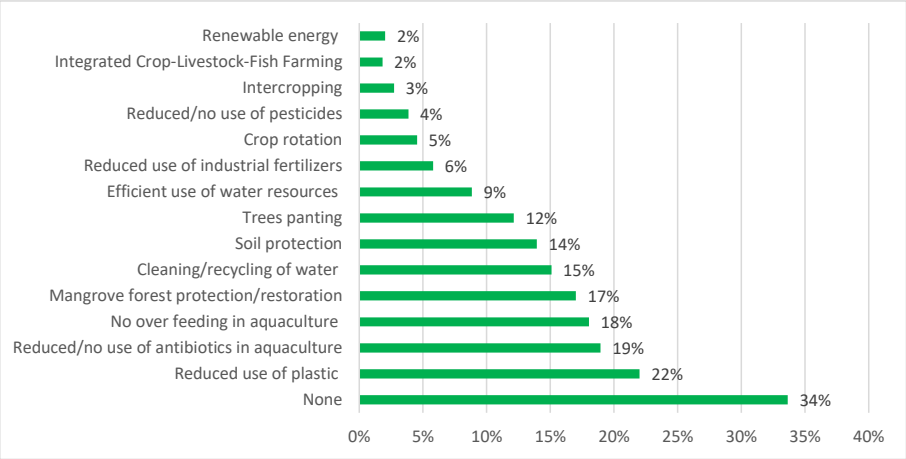


42.43. **Financial Services**. While out of 104 respondents 74% have never participated in any financial literacy training programmes, 75% accessed soft loans (or in some cases grants) mainly to purchase inputs (47%), productive assets (16%), housing (14%) and business investment (12%). The survey also revealed that men (55%) tend to make decisions about what to do with the money or item from loan/grant. The findings suggest the need for more financial literacy training programmes, especially for women and girls in the target area.

~~43.~~44. The main credit and saving institutions known in the community are the Women's Development Fund (41%), the Farmers' Support Fund (29%) and the Small Medium Enterprises Support Fund (12%). Most of the respondents (76%) have little awareness of the financial products that IFIA would like to pilot in the project area but expressed strong interest in collaborating with other small-scale producers, community groups, research institutions, private sector entities and other actors to develop new adaptation technologies and practices in aquaculture.

~~44.~~45. **Environmental sustainability and climate resilience**. About 56% of the respondents have received training or advice on the management of climate related risks but not many on practices to conserve and sustainably use the wetland/mangrove forest (87%). The participation in activities or the use of practices that support the conservation and rehabilitation of wetland/mangrove forest is still very low (13%). The survey revealed that 87% of respondents have been applying technologies or practices for management of climate related risks based on training received.

Figure 10: Interviewed households' adopted environmentally sustainable technology or practices (IFIA gender-sensitive poverty and livelihood analysis, Apr 2022)



~~45.~~46. Finally, about 88% of respondents declared that they have not significantly changed their livelihood activities despite the negative impact of climate change. This is mainly due to inadequate conditions (e.g., aging, lack of time due to the burden of unpaid care work, lack of skills), limited job opportunities and knowledge to introduce changes in the livelihood activities, which suggest the need for more capacity building on wetland / mangrove forest conservation in the target area.

B. Project Objectives

List the main objectives of the project.

~~46.~~47. The project objective is to pilot, systematize learning and institutionalize financing instruments for scaling up adaptation in coastal livelihood activities (e.g., eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, and non-timber forest products – NTFP – from mangroves) that contribute to the wetland and mangrove forest conservation and sustainable use. This will be achieved through:

i. Incentivising private sector engagement with small-scale coastal producers in joint innovation processes in adaptation technologies; and
ii. Promoting innovations in financing products and mechanisms to support wider adoption of sustainable wetland and mangrove forest management and other coastal adaptation initiatives in livelihood activities.

47.48. The project will build on IFAD's extensive network of partners and collaborators in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces, including private sector entities, micro-finance institutions, provincial and district governments, research institutions, and small-scale producers engaged in eco-aquaculture and eco-tourism.

C. Project Components and Financing

Fill in the table presenting the relationships among project components, outcomes, outputs, and countries in which activities would be executed, and the corresponding budgets.

Table 3: Project components and financing

Project/Programme Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Countries	Amount (US$)
Component 1: Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland livelihoods (US$ 3,660,224)	**Outcome/ Subcomponent 1.1**: Adaptation research innovation fund (US$1,100,000)	**Output 1.1.1.** Adaptation research innovation fund designed and operated	Viet Nam	100,000
		Output 1.1.2. Participatory action research innovation grants provided (at least 15)	Viet Nam	1,000,000
	Outcome/ Subcomponent 1.2: Innovations in financial incentive mechanisms (US$2,560,224)	**Output 1.2.1.** Financial resources for wetland management and development mobilized and converged	Viet Nam	100,000
		Output 1.2.2. Innovative financial	Viet Nam	2,460,224

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~~Project/Programme Components~~ | ~~Expected Outcomes~~ | ~~Expected Outputs~~ | ~~Countries~~ | ~~Am (U~~

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~~Component 1: Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland livelihoods~~

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~~Subcomponent 1.1: Adaptation research innovation fund~~ | ~~Adaptation research innovation fund designed and operated~~

		products for farmers in FG and SMEs developed and piloted		
Component 2: Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programs (US$510,283)	**Outcome/ Sub-component 2.1:** Learning and assessment of adaptation financing mechanisms (US$240,000)	**Output 2.1.1.** Household resilience score card applied to monitor the broader adaptation impacts of investments	Viet Nam	240,000
	Outcome/ Subcomponent 2.2: Policy reforms and institutionalization (US$270,283)	**Output 2.2.1.** Policy relevant knowledge products (at least 10) packaged, disseminated, and replicated	Viet Nam	150,000
		Output 2.2.2. Policy agenda at national and provincial levels supported through policy dialogue (at least 10) and TA for mangrove forest management and FIM - related policies (at least 2)	Viet Nam	120,283
6. Project/Programme Execution cost				437,788
7. Total Project/Programme Cost				4,608,295
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)				391,705
Amount of Financing Requested				5,000,000

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~~Participatory action research innovation grants provided (at least 15)~~

	~~**Subcomponent 1.2**: Innovations in financial incentive mechanisms~~	~~Financial resources for wetland management and development mobilized and converged~~		
		~~Innovative financial products for farmers in FG and SMEs developed and piloted~~		
~~**Component 2:** Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programs~~	~~**component 2.1:** Learning and assessment of adaptation financing mechanisms~~	~~Household resilience score card applied to monitor the broader adaptation impacts of investments~~		
	~~**Subcomponent 2.2**: Policy reforms and institutionalization~~	~~Policy relevant knowledge products (at least 10) packaged, disseminated, and replicated~~		
		~~Policy agenda at national and provincial levels~~		

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		~~supported through policy dialogue (at least 10) and TA for mangrove forest management and FIM - related policies (at least 2)~~		

~~6. Project/Programme Execution cost~~ **Formatted:** Right

~~7. Total Project/Programme Cost~~ **Formatted Table**

~~8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)~~ **Formatted:** Right

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~~**Amount of Financing Requested**~~ **Formatted:** Right

Project/Programme Components	**Expected Outcomes**	**Expected Outputs**	**Countries**	**Amount (US$)**
Component 1: Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland livelihoods (US$ 3,660,224)	~~**Outcome/**~~ **Subcomponent 1.1**: Adaptation research innovation fund (US$1,100,000)	**Output 1.1.1.** Adaptation research innovation fund designed and operated	Viet Nam	100,000
		Output 1.1.2. Participatory action research innovation grants provided (at least 15)	Viet Nam	1,000,000
	~~**Outcome/**~~ **Subcomponent 1.2**: Innovations in financial incentive mechanisms (US$2,560,224)	**Output 1.2.1.** Financial resources for wetland management and development mobilized and converged	Viet Nam	100,000
		Output 1.2.2. Innovative financial products for farmers in	Viet Nam	2,460,224

		FG and SMEs developed and piloted		
Component 2: Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programs (US$510,283)	~~**Outcome/**~~ **Sub-component 2.1:** Learning and assessment of adaptation financing mechanisms (US$240,000)	**Output 2.1.1.** Household resilience score card applied to monitor the broader adaptation impacts of investments	Viet Nam	240,000
	~~**Outcome/**~~ **Subcomponent 2.2**: Policy reforms and institutionalization (US$270,283)	**Output 2.2.1.** Policy relevant knowledge products (at least 10) packaged, disseminated, and replicated	Viet Nam	150,000
		Output 2.2.2. Policy agenda at national and provincial levels supported through policy dialogue (at least 10) and TA for mangrove forest management and FIM - related policies (at least 2)	Viet Nam	120,283
6. Project/Programme Execution cost				437,788
7. Total Project/Programme Cost				4,608,295
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)				391,705
Amount of Financing Requested				5,000,000

D. PROJECTED CALENDAR

Indicate the dates of the following milestones for the proposed project

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project/Programme Implementation	June 2023
Mid-term Review (if planned)	January 2026

Project/Programme Closing	June 2028
Terminal Evaluation	December 2028

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. PROJECT COMPONENTS

Describe the project components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities, how these activities would contribute to climate resilience.

~~48.~~49. The project will support two related technical components:

Component 1: Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland livelihoods. This component is supporting the demonstration of two innovation pathways for up-scaling financing for adaptation in coastal wetland areas for small-scale producers and communities through two subcomponents (SC): SC 1.1 Adaptation research innovation fund; and SC 1.2 Innovations in financial incentive mechanisms.

Component 2: Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programs. This component will support the institutionalization of component 1 innovations through two subcomponents: SC 2.1 Learning and assessment of adaptation financing mechanisms; and SC 2.2 Policy reforms and institutionalization.

Figure 11: IFIA components, subcomponents and targeting strategy

COMPONENT 1: DEMONSTRATING INNOVATIVE FINANCE MECHANISM FOR ADAPTATION IN WETLAND LIVELIHOODS

~~49.~~50. The objective of this component is to promote results-based financing for experimental learning and applied research to boost innovations in data-driven adaptation solutions for small-scale producers and their communities in mangrove wetland areas (SC 1.1) and increase access to patient financing through innovative conditional credit products for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and small-scale producers' engaging in eco-aquaculture and eco-tourism driving restoration and conservation of mangrove wetlands (SC 1.2).

51. **Subcomponent 1.1: Adaptation Research Innovation Fund (ARIF),** Investments in agriculture, moreover with small-scale producers in high climate risk region like MKD, bear a lot of risks. Although interested, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and financial institutions (FIs) are hesitating to invest in the MKD area requiring development and implementation of adaptation solutions for the investments to be viable under the current pressures caused by climate change. To incentivize private sector engagement in innovation and introduction of novel adaptation technologies and practices in the production and businesses of small-scale producers in coastal wetland communities, an Adaptation Research and Innovation Fund (ARIF) will be established. Building on experience of previous IFAD projects and lessons learnt in the region, the ARIF incentives and eligibility criteria will be designed to provide financial support to SMEs to work with research institutions and small-scale producers and community groups to: (i) unlock the potentials for investment in sustainable production activities in the coastal wetland and mangrove forest areas; (ii) climate de-risk their investments through innovation and testing of adaptation options; (iii) make use of renewable energy (e.g. solar power) reducing production costs and providing energy independency; and (iv) pave the way for scaling out and up the already tested innovations/practices supported by the financing products and services to be developed under the subcomponent 1.2.

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~~50.~~52. The Fund will be managed by MONRE in cooperation with the existing Project Management Units (PMUs) of the new IFAD-funded CSAT project in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces. The ARIF will provide Participatory Action Research (PAR) innovation grants to join proposals from partnerships between small-scale producers or community groups, research institutions and private sector companies based on a competitive call for proposals. The funding will be provided using a results based disbursement modality linked~~link~~ to achievement of milestones in the PAR and innovation process.

~~51.~~53. **Innovation gaps assessment.** In order to define priority areas for filling gaps in adaptation innovations and avoid overlap with already ongoing innovation processes, the subcomponent will first finance a study to identify adaptation innovation gaps for wetland small-scale producers and communities which will inform the establishment of eligibility criteria for possible ARIF financing. A qualified service provider with knowledge and experience in the aforementioned areas (e.g. GIZ, Deltares, or Royal HaskoningDHV) will be recruited through a competitive bidding process to undertake the assessment. Results from the IFAD-funded Project for Adaption to Climate Change in the Mekong Delta in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh Provinces (AMD) and other recent projects supported by partners (e.g., the World Bank- funded Mekong Delta Integrated Climate Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods, the GIZ-supported Integrated Coastal Management Programme) suggest that ARIF could potentially focus on the areas presented in Table 4. Since the research areas, which depend on the Innovation gaps assessment, are not identified yet at proposal submission stage, according to the AF guidelines[46] they correspond to Unidentified Sub-Projects (USP), which will be potentially identified from Table 4. The selection of the activities promoted through the ARIF research will comply with the USP risk screening, and USPs~~These areas~~ will be further assessed through the gap assessment study taking into account the acceleration in different climate change risks outpacing some of the adaptation solutions currently promoted for coastal livelihoods of small-scale producers and communities in line with the ESMP (see section M. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT AND RISKS and Annex 1 for details on the USP compliance, and a schematic overview of the process in section V. ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN of Annex 1).

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Table 4: Possible research areas under the Adaptation Research Innovation Fund (ARIF)

	CC risks	Possible research areas
1	**Changes in pests and diseases** (insects, worms, parasites, diseases and fungus)	▪ Identification of new pests and diseases attacking crops, trees, and aquaculture within and around the wetland mangrove forest, and monitoring their life cycles for better management; ▪ Develop systems of integrated pest management, and biosecurity measures to contain spread of disease; ▪ Develop systems of crop diversification and rotation; ▪ Develop business models, adapted technologies and training modules for local small-scale producers' effective production of certified healthy aquaculture seed (potentially through development of backyard aquaculture hatcheries).
2	**Temperature increase**	▪ Identification/development of heat tolerant species and varieties (including traditional); ▪ Develop business and management models for small-scale producers and communities for improving coverage and biodiversity of mangrove forest to create favorable micro-climates and prevent flood and salinity intrusion;

[46] https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/AFB.B.32-33.7_Compliance-with-ESP_Update-of-PPR_and_Guidance-for-USPs_revised.pdf

		▪ Understanding impact of increasing temperature on aquaculture production and pilot technologies and practices for adaptation including changes placement, shade management, crops and crop cycles, as well as user-friendly digital monitoring of production parameters and triggers linked to mitigating actions.
3	**Soil and water salinity increase**	▪ Identification/development of saline resistant crop, aquaculture and fodder varieties, including introduction of new economically valuable species; ▪ Testing agro-ecological (permaculture) farming models along the salinity gradient – integrating crop, tree, livestock and aquaculture; ▪ Development and testing of systems for integrated soil salinity management for crop and tree cultivation; ▪ Determining salinity threshold levels for aquaculture production and testing solutions to address salinity challenges; ▪ Testing soil moisture conservation techniques for different crops and cropping systems.
4	**Soil fertility decrease**	▪ Testing practices for integrated soil fertility management considering locally available biomass, manure and other nutrient sources and opportunities for establishing nutrient circles in integrated systems of plant crops, aquaculture and eventually hydroponic based crops; ▪ Development of business models and technologies for MSEs for the production of high quality organic fertilizers (vermicomposting, bio digester slurry, fish pond sludge, etc.); ▪ Testing of mechanisms for quality control of chemical fertilizers and improve application guidelines to optimize and minimize their use by combined with quality organic fertilizers and nitrogen fixing crops.
5	**Drought, salt water intrusion and flood risks**	▪ development and testing of water saving approaches and address barriers for adoption, Improving availability of potable water for both human and livestock consumption; ▪ development and testing of green/nature-based adaptation models for coastal ecosystems (e.g., mangrove restoration) for salinity intrusion and/or flood prevention; ▪ Mapping of storm surge risks of specific zones, communities, farmers, livelihoods and develop early warning and community disaster risk management systems.
6	**Erratic weather patterns**	▪ Scientific study of climatic changes and medium-term extreme weather prediction, especially in relation to the ENSO phenomenon; ▪ Development and testing of adult learning program on causes and impacts of climate change and resilience building options implementable by small-scale producers, MSE and coastal communities using digital learning platforms and tools as relevant; ▪ Medium-term climate scenario planning for informing socioeconomic development process.
7	**Changing livelihood options**	▪ Develop and test community and business models, technologies and practices for: ▪ Mangrove forest co-management; ▪ Eco-tourism; ▪ Eco-aquaculture combined with mangrove forest protection;

- Non-timber mangrove forest products: honey, fruit, leaves, flowers, medicinal plants;
- Applications for facilitating efficiency in marketing connecting to consumers of eco-friendly aquaculture and eco-tourism products;
- Digital solutions for facilitating learning in transition processes to eco-aquaculture deriving wetland and mangrove conservation
- Improving access to financial incentive mechanisms: carbon financing, PES, green credit, public private producer partnership.

52.54. **Establishment of the ARIF.** Led by MONRE and in cooperation with CSAT PMUs and two lead agencies in each province, namely the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) and the Department of Natural Resource and Environment (DONRE), the project will establish the ARIF according to the following steps/activities (see also illustration in figure 12a and 12b):

I. **Development of the ARIF operation manual.** An operation manual will be developed for the ARIF describing the Fund's objectives, eligibility criteria, scope, procedures, and beneficiaries taking into account the findings from the above innovation gap assessment identifying priority research areas. The manual will use a gender sensitive language and include:

- *Objective*: to promote action research and innovation with coastal communities, small-scale producers and Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE). The latter shall aim to scale up sustainable management of wetland mangrove forests and other adaptation practices linked to viable livelihood options in eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, market opportunities for eco-friendly products, and financial incentive mechanisms for mangrove conservation. The ARIF financed research and innovation grant projects will inform: (i) the implementation of SC 1.2, and (ii) the policy advocacy in SC 2.2.
- *Management of ARIF*: The project office located at MONRE will establish the management board of ARIF comprising of the Project manager, and members from the CSAT PMUs and the two lead agencies in each province, namely DARD and DONRE in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre. Detailed TORs will be developed with specific tasks assigned to each member ensuring the efficient and effective implementation of the fund.
- *Eligibility criteria*: coastal community and small-scale producers' groups and MSEs, public and private research institutions, NGOs, government agencies and private sector companies are eligible for accessing the Fund. The selection will be based on a competitive process. The proponents can include any collaborative partnerships, but should always involve small-scale producers, community groups or MSEs benefitting people from vulnerable households. Youth- and female-led MSEs and organizations with higher percentage of women and/or young people holding managing positions will be prioritized. See Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment and mainstreaming~~Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment and mainstreaming~~ for more details on gender and youth mainstreaming under component 1.
- *Scope*: refer to the possible research and innovation areas mentioned above. It is noted that adaptation research and innovation proposals should include a financial feasibility assessment of the adaptation solution that justifies the assumptions of financial viability and replicability. The proposal should clearly lay out the participatory research and innovation steps including the concept and experimentation phase and the demonstration and learning phase for adjustment and further scaling up.
- *Beneficiaries*: as indicated, small-scale producers or community groups or MSEs benefitting people from vulnerable households and prioritizing in particular women, youth and people of ethnic minorities.
- *Formats*: Formats will be designed for letters of interests, concept note and full research and innovation grant proposal. The formats will be in local language and English. Free or co-paid technical assistance and capacity building will be provided for applicants.

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- *Procedures for call for proposals*: Simple, transparent and competitive procedures will be established for the Fund's three-staged selection process including letter of interest, concept note and full adaptation innovation grant proposals (see subsequent paragraph).
- *Evaluation of proposals:* Procedures and selection criteria (see subsequent paragraph), screening tool for selection of concept notes and scoring tool will be developed to ensure a competitive and transparent selection process of the successful innovation grant proposals. The selection criteria will take into considerations gender aspects as detailed in **Table 21: Gender, Youth and EM Mainstreaming in IFIA Components in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh** ~~**Table 2119: Gender, and Youth and EM Mainstreaming in IFIA Components in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh**~~ and environmental and social risks as detailed in **Annex 1**.
- *M&E:* The system for monitoring the implementation process and achievements of the supported research and innovation grant projects during their implementation, including the adaptation and resilience building benefits and cost-revenue benefits for the different target groups as well as broader public good adaptation benefits and achievements in terms of prospective for broader uptake and scaling up.

II. **Establishment of proposal screening board.** A screening board will be established with participation of MONRE, DARD, DONRE, Entrepreneur Association (EA), Women's Union (WU), Famer's Union (FU), Research Institutes and Universities (Tra Vinh, Can Tho), including representatives of their youth associations. Where appropriate, representatives from private sector and financial institutions will be invited to do screening and reviewing the applications. The board will convene on an ad-hoc basis to review the applications of the Fund and screen them according to the agreed criteria integrated in an objective scoring tool including:

- Addressing climate adaptation challenges in coastal community livelihoods (current and new) that do not yet have proven adequate solutions for small-scale producers and community groups as identified in the Innovation Gaps Assessment
- Innovation potential and ~~Innovation~~ approach to address vulnerabilities and adaptation needs of coastal communities to climate shocks, trends, and seasonality;
- Poverty and climate vulnerability targeting;
- Focus on mangrove conservation and other adaptation measures and technologies needed for viable livelihood activities (e.g., eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, mangroves NTFP) generating environmental and socio-economic benefits for beneficiaries living within and around mangrove areas;
- Financial feasibility assessment justifying the assumptions for financial viability and replicability of the proposed innovation;
- Commitment to co-finance the research and innovation activities with in-cash and in-kind contribution (minimum 30% of innovation costs);
- Envisioning of a clear participatory innovation process from concept and experimentation phase and the demonstration and learning phase for adjustments and wider scaling up addressing adaptation innovation gaps in wetland livelihood activities and sustainable mangrove forest management (see examples in table 4);
- Sustainability and replicability.
- Management of potential environmental and social risks.

III. **Call for proposals.** As soon as the innovation gap assessment has been finalized and the research priority areas have been finally established, the PMUs will launch the call for proposals with support from DARD and DONRE using their own networks in addition to local and provincial media and social media (see **Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment and mainstreaming** for more details on how the call for proposal will aim at inclusiveness). The call will communicate clearly the scope, eligibility and evaluation criteria for the innovation grant proposals. The application process will take around 60-90 days and consist in three stages including letter of interests (to check if the consortium and the initial adaptation innovation idea is eligible in terms of intended benefits and beneficiaries), concept note (to screen for eligibility and establish a long shortlist based on the pre-established assessment criteria and ensuring a complementary mix of innovations in adaptation solutions) and full proposal (to be scored

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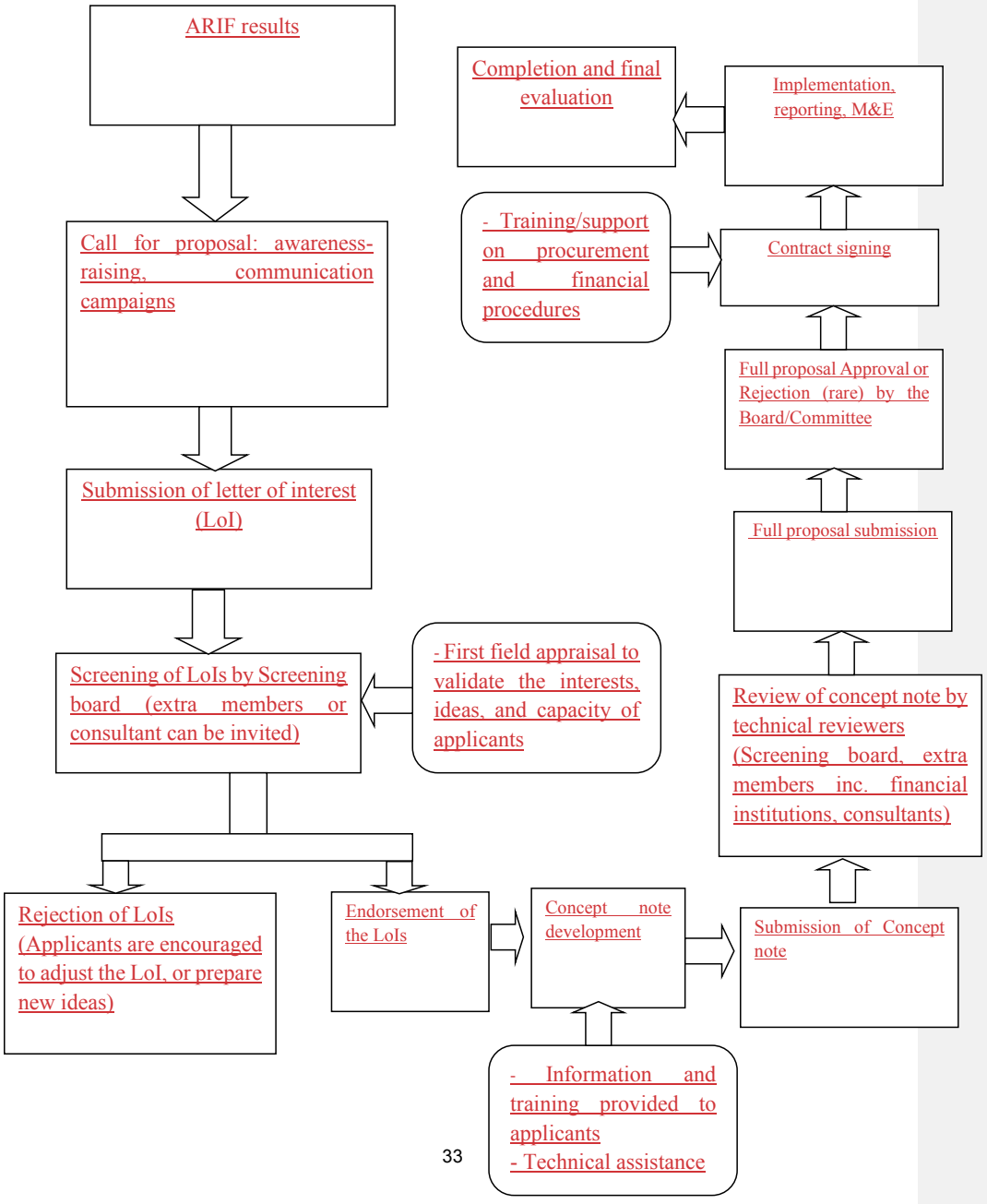
again based on the pre-established evaluation criteria and from which final grantees will be selected). At each stage, the screening board will help review and provide subsequent advice, comments for improvement. At the last stage, a technical meeting will be organized in which the recipients are required to present the ideas, the screening board members will provide comments and suggestions. Only one call for proposal is foreseen at the beginning of the project. However, if not enough eligible research and innovation proposals are identified a second call will be done in the at the end of year two of the project.

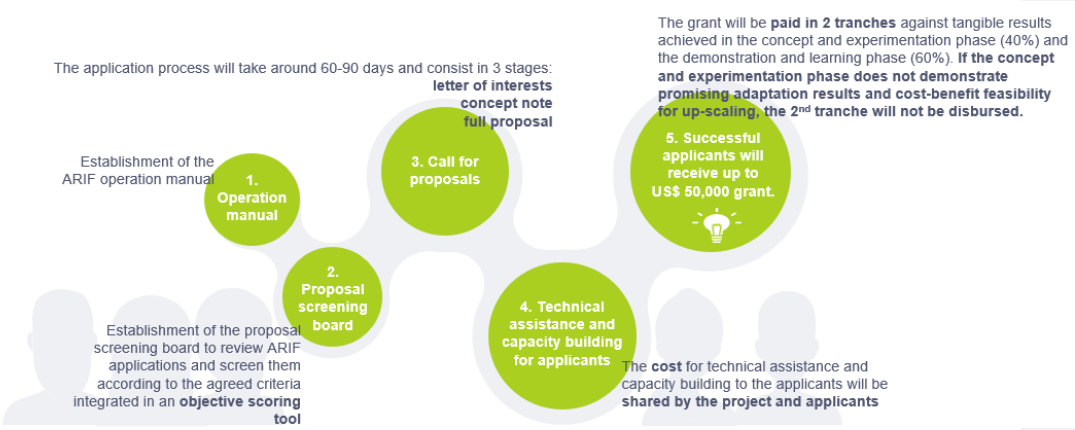
Figure 12a: ARIF research and innovation grant approval and implementation process



IV. **Technical assistance and capacity building for applicants**. In order to support applicants to formulate feasible proposals, technical assistance and/or capacity building will be provided. PMU will provide a roster of experienced service providers that the applicants may use to prepare their application, or PMU can help identify service providers for applicant where needed. The cost for technical assistance and capacity building to the applicants will be shared by the project and applicants (sharing portion will be developed in the manual with a preferable ratio of 50%-50%).

V. **ARIF implementation, M&E, and reporting.** Successful applicants will receive up to US$ 50,000 grant. The grant will be paid in two tranches against tangible results achieved in the concept and experimentation phase (40%) and the demonstration and learning phase (60%). If the concept and experimentation phase does not demonstrate promising adaptation results and cost-benefit feasibility for up-scaling, the second tranche will not be disbursed. The proponents are required to co-finance (in cash and in kind) at least 30% of total budget of the research and innovation project. The proportion of in cash and in-kind contribution will be specified and detailed in the ARIF manual. Based on the lessons learnt of the previous IFAD funded AMD project, MSE and research institutions will be required to contribute at least 50% of the co-financing amount in cash, while community, especially vulnerable community, is required to contribute less than 15% cash. According to the manual, applicants will be responsible for following the M&E and reporting system established by the project with agreed criteria and milestones along the implementation of the proposal.

Figure 12b: IFIA's Adaptation research innovation fund (ARIF) under SC 1.1



53.55. **Subcomponent 1.2: Innovations in financial incentive mechanisms**. IFAD-funded projects in Viet Nam confirm rural enterprises' and small-scale producers' high demand for and difficulties in accessing financial services. Providing financial services to production and livelihood activities for scaling up sustainable wetland forest management as an important coastal adaptation measure is an even bigger challenge. Building on IFAD experiences in working with and strengthening existing proven finance, credit and savings institutions, such as the Women's Development Fund (WDF), the Farmers' Union Support Fund (FSF) and the SME Fund (SMEF), the project will support: (i) mobilization and convergence of financial resources from existing financing institutions and mechanisms for wetland sustainable management and development, and (ii) development of innovative financial products tailored to the needs of MSE and small-scale producers engaged in coastal

wetland livelihood activities (e.g. eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, mangrove forest NTFP) driving wetland forest restoration and sustainable use.

~~54.~~56. Results from the previous IFAD-funded AMD project indicate that the institutional capacities of government agencies and mass organizations (WU and FU) are strong in terms of timely delivery and quality of financial services and products. The AMD used participatory, market oriented and climate change sensitive plans at provincial, district and commune levels under which the WU through the WDF had a strong role in terms of capacity building and provision of loans to poor women. The AMD also cooperated with the FU to scale out technical extension notably the Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) model. Strong institutions ensured that the capacity and investments have been properly operated, maintained, and replicated (see results in subsequent paragraph).

~~55.~~57. The adaptation and innovation gap analysis and the further innovations developed and supported by the adaptation research and innovation grants in sub-component 1.1 will provide tested adaptation innovations (e.g., technologies, practices and business and management models) for livelihoods in coastal wetlands, that will demand suitable financial services and products to be scaled up. Promoting convergence of existing financial resources and innovations in financial products and services to meet this demand is the main objective of this sub-component 1.2. Small-scale producers and MSE who participate in the on-farm demonstrations supported by the adaptation research and innovation grants (SC 1.1) will be among the first movers wishing to access tailored financial products for further adoption of adaptation innovations. They will also serve as demonstration farmers for others to learn from and as such facilitating the further up-scaling process.

58. In order to have a time effective project implementation SC 1.2 activities can be started in parallel with the implementation of research and innovation grants in SC 1.1. The promoting of convergence of existing financial sources can start as soon as the adaptation innovation gap analysis has been done as the first activity of SC 1.1. While the innovation grant proposals are being evaluated and implemented the WDF and other potential MFI partners can be assessed for readiness to participate in a financial product innovation process and capacity eventual capacity gaps can be addressed. Preliminary results from the implementation of the research and innovation grants and their implications for innovations needed in financial products can be discussed in exchanges between the grantees (MSEs, small-scale producers and community groups) and the WDF/ MFIs. A such early exchange as well as the results from the mapping of existing adaptation technologies and business models (as part of the adaptation innovation gap analysis SC1.1) will allow for the financial product innovation process to start even before the research and innovation grants have rendered final results.

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~~56.~~59. To ensure that all activities under this sub-component are properly supported with technical expertise, planned and executed, the project will recruit a senior Rural Finance Specialist (RFS) to oversee and manage this sub-component during the project period.

~~57.~~60. **Promoting convergence of existing financial resources.** The project will engage with existing financing programs, establish linkages, and present good business cases and broader public good adaptation benefits emerging from the adaptation innovation grants in SC 1.1 to mobilize more resources for sustainable wetland management and adaptation in wetland livelihood activities supporting the development in wetland communities. Together with the IFAD-funded CSAT project in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre, IFIA project will take on the role of facilitator and leverage linkages between formal financial institutions and SMEs and producers within and around wetland areas. An ecosystem of financial institutions (formal and informal) have been identified to complement the IFAD and AF resources and boost financing for the adoption innovative adaptation technologies and practices in wetland management and livelihoods as follows.

- **Women Development Fund (WDF).** IFAD, through the AMD project, supported the establishment and operations of the WDFs in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh provinces, with oversight from the provincial WU. The WDF is the provincial level umbrella structure for ca. 2,500 Saving and Credit groups (SCG) per province, of which approximately 500 SCGs are in the IFIA project areas. These SCGs provide financial services (savings and loans) to poor, low-income women at commercial terms combined with capacity building. The results have been impressive in terms of increased income and improved social status of poor, rural women within their families and society. The WDFs in

both provinces have applied for registration as a formal Micro Finance Institution (MFI) with the State Bank of Viet Nam (SBV), as required by recent laws. Current loan portfolio amounts to VND 125 billion (US$ 6 million) in Ben Tre, and VND 75 billion (US$ 3.5 million) in Tra Vinh. Besides savings, the WDFs offer the financial services: (i) a loan from the SCG to an individual household of up to VND 35 million (US$ 1,500)/household/year, and (ii) loan to start-up and SME with maximum VND 200 million (US$ 9,000) for each/year. These IFAD partners are particularly well-positioned to collaborate with the IFIA project to achieve its financing objectives for both beneficiary groups.

- **Collaborative Group (CG) Revolving Ffund** under the AMD project. During the AMD, 1,200 CGs (~ 300 CGs in IFIA project areas in each province) received a matching grant of US$ 3,500/group. The returns from the grant investments were used to set up a revolving fund that enabled CGs to continue and roll out investments for farm inputs on a growing basis over years.
- **Farmer's Support Fund (FSF).** The Farmer Union (FU) manages an FSF of VND 20 billion (US$ 900,000) in each province. The FSF operation is similar to the WDF providing credit to FU members through their Farmer Collaborative Groups (CG). Each member can borrow up to VND 20 million (US$ 900) per year.
- **Payment for Ecosystem Service (PES) Fund**, under Decree 147/2016/NĐ-CP, each province established a PES fund compensating the forest protection efforts of farmers with an amount of US$ 15 – 20 per hectare per year. This is considered low and not sufficient to the efforts of forest protectors. With participation of MONRE, DONREs, DARDs and through the initiatives of policy reforms (component 2), IFIA will introduce new innovative financing mechanisms, such as carbon financing and increased financing for co-management groups against achieved forest rehabilitation and conservation targets, and facilitate the policy advocacy for institutionalization of such mechanisms.
- The **Start-up Support Fund** managed by the Department of Planning and Investment in Ben Tre. The fund exists in Ben Tre province with contribution from enterprises and other donors. Current portfolio averages at VND 8 billion (US$ 360,000). The fund provides start-up grants to new businesses of up to VND 100 million (US$ 4,500).
- The **SME Support Fund** managed by the Department of Industry and Trade in Tra Vinh province. The fund with current portfolio of VND 7 billion (US$ 350,000) provides grant of maximum VND 300,000 (US$ 14,000) to SMEs that promote climate smart technology including ICT (E-extension, E-commerce).
- The project will also collaborate with the Canadian Government funded SME development project in Tra Vinh (2015-2023). The project provides technical and financial support to SMEs to engage in coconut and eco-tourism value chains. This includes business development services (BDS) to SMEs, SME support matching fund (US$ 500,000), start-up seed fund (US$ 50,000), and SME loans channeled through the WDF (US$ 80,000).
- The **Dutch Fund for Climate Change and Development (DFCD)** with total budget of Euro 160 million covering different developing countries, including Viet Nam, has a special focus on the Mekong Delta. The fund provides credits to lead enterprises for value chain development with each package up to Euro 5 million soft loan and Euro 45,000-150,000 grant for capacity building and BDS. Currently, this fund already provided financial support (Euro 450,000) to promote eco-shrimp/mangrove forest shrimp in Tra Vinh province, opening up a huge potential for promoting co-management in wetland management.
- **Private sector engagement.** IFAD has rich experience engaging with private sector in agriculture development through promotion of public-private-producer partnership modality arrangements. The IFIA will build on IFAD experience through engagement of private sector in developing and upgrading mangrove forest related products (e.g., honey, medicinal herbs, and aquaculture). There is increasing international demand on certified eco-products (e.g., ethnic minorities produce organic honey, eco-shrimp[47], ethic shrimp). There is an increasing number of enterprises interested in entering this field such as the Minh Phu company[48], which purchased certified eco-products with premium paid back to producers and forest owners.

[47] https://minhphu.com/vi/operation-farm/
[48] https://minhphu.com/vi/trang-chu/

58.61.With CSAT, IFIA will enter into cooperation agreements with each of the above funds at the beginning of the project. The cooperation contracts/MoUs will outline the criteria (including social inclusion and climate resilience), amounts, costs and conditions for funding training and investment finance (grant or loan) for producers, producer groups and SMEs (prioritizing women-led enterprises).~~MSEs and SMEs.~~ The arrangements would be regularly reviewed and updated. During project implementation, IFIA will identify and partner with additional financial institutions which are relevant and interested in collaborating with the project. IFIA will facilitate and ensure that the above financial services will reach out to project areas and that the project beneficiaries, including climate vulnerable small-scale producers and enterprises living within and around the mangrove forest areas, will have facilitated access to those selected resources.

59.62.**Innovation in financial products**. With the objective to facilitate innovations in financial products and services meeting the needs of adaptation investments of small-scale producers and SME~~MSE~~ in wetland areas, the project will work with interested and carefully selected MFI partners (see list in previous paragraph) and provide technical assistance to develop and pilot new innovative financial products. This will allow these MFI partners not only to incorporate climate risk into their loan portfolios but also proactively incentivize the adoption of adaptation technologies and practices in wetland livelihood activities (e.g., climate smart farming, eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, mangrove NTFP) which are driving wetland forest restoration and sustainable use.

60.63.Considering the remarkable results achieved by the WDF and its umbrella grassroots structure established supported by previous IFAD co-financed projects in the Ben Tre and Tra Vinh provinces, the WDF has been selected as the key partner MFI for leading on the innovation process for new results focused financial products for wetland adaptation. In particular their proven capacity to follow up small loans with effective technical support services that boost women's access to technology and knowledge will be an asset for a successful innovation process and at the same time continue to enable a gender empowerment approach across the Mekong Delta (see **Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment and mainstreaming**~~**Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment and mainstreaming**~~). During project implementation, the PMU may also consider to partner with other MFIs who express a particular interest in engaging in the financial project innovation tailored to the objectives of IFIA.

61.64.The project will provide US$ 200,000 in technical assistance to the WDFs for financial product concept development and experimentation, followed by US$ 800,000 in credit line seed capital for demonstration and learning with small-scale producers and SMEs. The main innovation will be in the conditionality of the credit product and its payment in tranches to the client against meeting milestones in adoption of adaptation technologies and practices in their production and service provision and in terms of wetland forest areas under restoration and sustainable use. Likewise, innovations will be needed in setting grace periods tailored to the time it will take for adaptation benefits to materialize in the returns to the investment in adaptation technologies and practices. The subcomponent will implement the following activities:

- *Assessment of WDF and other MFIs readiness to participate in product innovation.* To assess the current operations, institutional and staff capacities and readiness of the WDF and its network of SCGs to engage in the development of innovative wetland adaptation financing products, the criteria in table 5 will be applied (to be further developed during the projects start-up phase to ensure a proper due diligence process).

Table 5: Suggested criteria for MFI assessment

Criteria

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1. Social outreach	**3. Efficiency**
Number of borrowers	Operating efficiency rate (OER)
Total portfolio	Cost per borrower
Loan size	**4. Risk management**
2. Profitability	Portfolio at risk (PAR)
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	Write-off ratio
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	

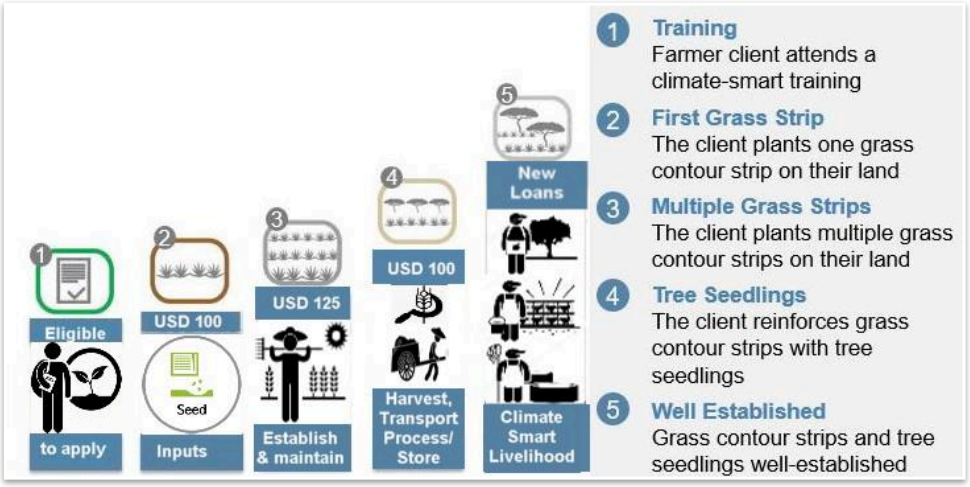
The results of the assessment using the criteria in table 5 will confirm the capacity of the WDF to absorb additional seed capital. It is noted that both the WDFs of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre already conducted independent financial and social assessment of their operations with positive results. An additional qualitative assessment will be done of their capacities to manage an experimentation, demonstration and learning process for the development of new innovative financial products to support wetland management and adaptation in wetland livelihoods. Based on the results of this assessment capacity building activities will be provided by the IFIA to accompany the WDF and strengthen their ability to innovate.

- *Design of innovative financial product for SME*. WDF Tra Vinh is currently implementing a pilot credit programme for SME focusing on climate smart agriculture production and processing. The programme was evaluated recently by an independent evaluator as an efficient and effective program. Meanwhile, during the design of IFIA, SMEs confirmed high demand for this product due to its flexibility and less bureaucracy (no collateral, less paper work). Building on this success, IFIA will top-up about 30% of the seed capital in Tra Vinh (US$ 800,000) to the programme and add wetland adaptation focused criteria for implementation including the financing of: (i) production, processing and marketing of eco-aquaculture within and around wetland areas that demonstrate application of practices for mangrove forest conservation; (ii) development of mangrove NTFP including honey, fruit processing; (iii) development of eco-tourism businesses that demonstrate mangrove forest conservation; (iv) adoption of adaptation technologies and practices in crop and livestock systems with demonstrated co-benefits for sustainable management of wetland ecosystems. A detailed manual for implementation of the product will be developed at the first year of project implementation including further details on financing eligibility criteria based on the table 5 and the results of the SC 1.1 adaptation innovation grants. IFIA will replicate this in Ben Tre province.
- *Design of innovative financial products for small-scale producers supported by SCG*. As indicated, there are around 500 well-established SCGs in the project areas in each province. During the IFIA design, all visited SCGs expressed high interest in participating in new lending attached to eco-aquaculture, mangrove restoration, and wetland related livelihood activities. Technical assistance will be recruited to help WDF evaluate the capacity of SCGs, the needs for restructuring or expansion of the SCGs, and the design of a new micro-credit product that fits with the needs of local small-scale producer and community groups. The financial product should allow small-scale farmer clients to borrow on the condition that they adopt climate adapted agricultural, forestry, and aquaculture practices that support the strengthening of resilience capacities of farming and ecosystems in the wetland areas. The financial products will be designed to be disbursed in

tranches against simple and easy to measure indicators of intermediate results in adopting the adaptation and resilience building practices. To this end, simplified production system-specific guidelines on appropriate adaptation practices and technologies and steps and intermediate results for their implementation will be developed, tested, validated, and institutionalized for the principal on-farm production systems within the agro-ecological zones in which the WDF operate. Grace periods and installments for the repayment of the credit will be aligned with the stepwise implementation period ensuring sufficient time for adaptation benefits to materialize in terms of more stable and increased production and income. Figure 13 below presents an example for designing an innovative financial product where disbursement is linked to intermediate results in this particular case in the implementation of climate-smart soil management practices by the integration of grass and tree contour strips.

~~62.~~65. Sufficient technical assistance and capacity will be arranged to help both WDF, SCGs, SME and small-scale producers to build capacity, provide technical support in adaptation technologies and practices relevant for coastal wetland livelihood activities, and develop viable/bankable business/production plan for SMEs and WDF supported SCGs accessing to the credit product. With capacity building and investments in systems by IFIA, the implementation responsibility should be progressively transferred to the management of the WDFs. The PMU will carefully and continuously monitor the progress in the WDFs in managing the innovative financial products against clearly defined outcome/output indicators. In the event the process falls behind the schedule agreed on in the strategic plans, IFIA/IFAD will provide additional expertise to put the process on the right track so that the achievement of the operational and financial sustainability targets to be set for the whole IFIA period is not jeopardized.

Figure 13: An example of the innovative adaptation credit product[49]



[49] Adapted from F3 Life, 2018

COMPONENT 2: SYSTEMATIC LEARNING AND SCALING THROUGH POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

~~63.~~66. The objective of component 2 is to apply innovative tools for resilience monitoring and measurement of adaptation investment impacts and assess the effectiveness of the adaptation financing mechanisms (SC 2.1), and provide support for policy reforms and programs that can institutionalize and complement the adaptation finance mechanisms to increase their outreach (SC 2.2).

~~64.~~67. **Subcomponent 2.1: Learning and assessment of adaptation financing mechanisms.** This subcomponent will apply the IFAD Resilience Design and Monitoring Tool (RDMT) tailored to the different beneficiary groups of the project. The RDMT uses a project tailored household survey to collect data for a household resilience scorecard and index, which will be triangulated against remote sensing data and GIS to map actually occurring climate shocks and stressors and systematically monitor the broader adaptation impacts of investments beyond the direct beneficiaries of the project. This will allow for systematic learning for strengthening the effectiveness of the adaptation financing mechanisms and provide recommendation for their institutionalization.

~~65.~~68. The RDMT tool, recently developed by IFAD, represents an innovative approach to measure practically and comprehensively resilience of rural households in a specific project context. The tool is currently being tested in more than 20 IFAD-funded projects and each of those is providing crucial knowledge on the effectiveness of resilience building interventions in different rural contexts and the overall understanding of resilience enhancing pathways in adaptation projects.

~~66.~~69. The tool has seven simple sequential steps (Figure 14 below), including:

i. **Step 1:** risks identification organised in four risk clusters, i.e., (i) climate change and degraded ecosystems; (ii) lack of governance and insecure access and tenure to land and other natural resources; (iii) insecure access to markets, market fluctuations and other economic factors and; (iv) risks related to social and cultural exclusion drivers limiting participation in economic and livelihood development activities. For this adaptation, IFIA main focus will be on the Climate change and degraded ecosystems risk cluster;

ii. **Step 2:** Vulnerability analysis of the different project target groups against the identified risks;

iii. **Step 3:** Design of the project intervention aimed at addressing the identified risks and vulnerabilities;

iv. **Step 4:** Definition of the expected results if the resilience building including adaptation interventions are adopted by project participants (the adaptation theory of change);

v. **Step 5:** Formulations of adoption monitoring questions for each resilience building intervention, to check if they have been adopted;

vi. **Step 6:** Formulation of result monitoring questions, to check if the adoption of the resilience building interventions is producing the expected results in terms of enhanced resilience capacities as foreseen in the Theory of Change (ToC);

vii. **Step 7:** Data analysis and calculation of the household Resilience Index. The tool uses a unified scoring system with (0) being no adaptation/no resilience results, (1) being partial adoption/partial resilience results, and (2) being full adoption/full resilience results. This step has as main objective to identify lessons learned and recommendations for improved investment targeting for enhanced adaptation and resilience building.

Figure 14: Steps of the IFAD Resilience Design and Monitoring Tool (RDMT)

A. Risk Type	B. Specific risks (Step 1)	C. Vulnerability (Step 2)	D. Project interventions (Step 3)	E. Expected results (Step 4)	F. Adoption monitoring questions (Step 5)	H. Result monitoring questions (Step 6)	I. Resilience Index (RI) (Step 7)
Climate and degraded ecosystems	Soil and water salinity increase	No use of saline resistant crop varieties & aquaculture seeds	The project will test and promote saline resistant crop varieties and aquaculture seeds in rotational and intercropping systems	Increased or stabilised production in areas affected by soil or water salinity	Do you have access to locally adapted saline resistant crop varieties and aquaculture seeds? No: 0 Yes: 1	In the last two years has soil and/or water salinity affected your production? Yes, 1/2 or more of crops negatively affected by soil salinity: 0 Yes, 1/3 of aquaculture affected by water salinity: 1 No, few or no crops affected by salinity: 2	
Lack of governance and insecure access and tenure to land and other NR							
Social and cultural exclusion drivers							
Insecure access to markets, market fluctuations and other economic factors							

~~67.~~70. The implementation of the RDMT will produce the outputs detailed below.

~~**Project level:**~~

~~68.~~71. The RDMT has been used in the design stage to strengthen the project's ToC around resilience, making sure it systematically addresses the underlying causes of identified vulnerabilities to the climate change induced shocks and stressors in the coastal areas in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces. As such it has supported the identification of potential innovation areas to enhance the resilience building capacities (anticipatory, absorptive and adaptive) of rural coastal communities, presented in SC 1.1 table 4.

~~69.~~72. During the implementation, the RDMT resilience scorecard will convert qualitative information into quantitative data[50] and allow for the calculation of a household resilience index, and provide the project with a solid understanding of effectiveness of the adaptation innovations and adaptation credits ~~interventions~~ in addressing the causes of vulnerabilities. The scorecard will be used at two levels: ~~The disaggregated analysis of the baseline data from the household resilience survey will allow for data-driven implementation, including adjustments of the ToC and better geographical and content investment targeting of the adaptation innovation and scaling financing mechanism.~~

~~70. The application of the RDMT household survey again at the end of the project will allow the project to monitor the project's logframe resilience indicator and contribute to the final impact assessment on enhancement of beneficiaries' resilience capacities. By combining adoption and result scores, the RDMT will produce a **household resilience index** which will be compared between baseline and completion of the project. The index, expressed in percentage, will be used for measuring the logframe indicator: "Number of households with at least 20% percentage point increase in their resilience index value at the end of the project".~~

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[50] The tool uses a unified three-point scoring system to convert qualitative observations into quantitative data (0-1-2). (0) = No adoption / no reduction in the impacts of shocks and stressors; (1) = Partial adoption / moderate reduction of impacts of shocks and stressors; (2) = Full adoption / significant reduction and even improvement in household welfare levels despite shocks and stressors.

Beneficiary level:

~~71.~~73.The tool will be used to assess the results of the concept and experimentation phase of the innovation partnerships supported by the ARIF (SC 1.1) and the beneficiaries supported by the different financial incentive mechanisms for adaptation (~~under the~~ SC 1.2)~~.~~ They will be trained to use the tool to design their proposals and monitor the effectiveness of their adaptation innovations. ~~The project will develop a mobile application for the RDMT to make it easier to use by project participants. The application will include a taxonomy of adaptation interventions based on the findings of the studies on research priorities in SC 1.1 (table 4), which will be extended and consolidated with the input from beneficiaries. The application will also be used by the PMU and financial incentive funds administrators to structure and validate the implementation progress and results of the innovation grant partnerships, and incentive financing. This will facilitate the evaluation of the results achieved with the first tranche of funds to unlock the second tranche of funds.~~During the training they will be supported in developing RDMT resilience scorecards tailored to their livelihood, risks and vulnerability conditions. This will support them in: identifying their vulnerabilities; how the adaptation innovations or the investment of the adaptation credit funding will support them in addressing these vulnerabilities; and how they can monitor if the adaptation measures they are adopting are actually effective. Supported by the IFIA M&E officer, the scorecard can then be applied to calculate their resilience index at the beginning of their innovation process or implementation of their adaptation credits, at the midterm, and in the end. This will allow them to follow their progress in adapting and building resilience and eventually continue to use the tool in the future.

74. The project will develop a mobile application for the RDMT to make it easier to use by project participants. The application will include a taxonomy of adaptation interventions based on the adaptation innovation gap study, the climate risks analysis made as part of this document, and the identified ~~findings of the studies on~~ research priorities in SC 1.1 (table 4), which will be extended and consolidated with the input from beneficiaries. The application will also be used by the PMU, ~~and~~ the WDF and other MFI partners ~~financial incentive funds administrators~~ to structure the credit payments and validate the adaptation benefits achieved as well as the ARIF administrators to monitor ~~implementation progress and~~ the results of the innovation grant partnerships, and incentive financing. This will facilitate the evaluation of the results achieved with the first tranche of funds to unlock the second tranche of funds.

Project level:

75. In addition, the IFIA M&E officer will apply the resilience scorecards as part of the projects baseline survey and end-line survey to a sample of beneficiaries, representative of the different beneficiary groups of small-scale coastal producers and communities, as well as corresponding control groups. The data will be aggregated and analyzed in the projects M&E system and triangulated against GIS and remote sensing data. Together with the results reported and observed by the research and innovation grantees and by the WDF and other partner MFIs~~–~~, IFIA's M&E and knowledge management unit will develop knowledge products documenting the effectiveness of the different adaptation technologies, practices and business models as well as technical and financial requirements for their upscaling. Based on the same data, the IFIA M&E and knowledge management unit will also conduct comparative analysis of ~~the~~ successful~~–~~ and non successful adaptation innovation grants and adaptation credits to identify conditions for successful and unsuccessful adaptation innovations.

76. The application of the RDMT household survey at the end of the project will allow the project to monitor the project's logframe resilience indicator and contribute to the final impact assessment on enhancement of beneficiaries' resilience capacities.

Knowledge generation for policy:

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~~72.~~77. The RDMT, and especially its climate and degraded ecosystems risk cluster, combined with remote sensing and GIS data will ~~also~~ provide the Government and its partners with resilience data at household, landscape and ecosystem levels linked to farmers' adoption or non-adoption of different livelihood activities and adaptation technologies, practices and business models in ~~, such as farmers' adoption and resilience outcomes of~~ agricultural, aquaculture and eco-tourism and parameters such as ~~practices and activities,~~ mangrove and other vegetation cover, floods and degraded areas, status of soil and water salinity among others. By triangulating data on household resilience disaggregated by geographical area and main livelihood activities, with GIS data available in the region, such as Normalized Difference Vegetation Index, runoff index, and flood risk water scarcity index inter alia, the project will be able to create resilience maps, to identify the hotspots of vulnerabilities and communities and areas with higher resilience. The resilience maps will allow future project and governmental programmes to adopt a better data-driven approach to resilience building of rural communities in the region.

~~73.~~78. The tool can also provide key insights and data to improve PES schemes, linked to adaptation and resilience benefits generated and documented. Resilience building intervention producing the best results in specific region/district will be systematically integrated into governmental data-management systems, facilitating the improvement of context tailored PES schemes.

~~74.~~79. **Subcomponent 2.2: Policy reforms and institutionalization**. This subcomponent will support MONRE in the development of knowledge management and policy development strategies based on the outcomes of Components 1 and 2 and other adaptation projects and initiatives for coastal wetland areas. It will focus on scalable approaches through knowledge products packaging and communications, and country-level policy reforms. Institutionalization of the innovations in the incentive financing mechanism implemented in component 1 will be a core part of this subcomponent.

~~75.~~80. As a new arrangement in MONRE implemented projects, this project will be implemented in close collaboration between MONRE and the provinces with CSAT PMUs in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre implementing part of the project. This arrangement is building on previous and on-going experiences in IFAD-supported projects with similar province implementation in close collaboration with the MARD. This will insure local ownership and a two-way flow of information and feedback between central and local level (province, district, commune, and village). The project is designed in the special context with wetland and mangrove forest receiving increasing attention due to their recently recognized invaluable roles in prevention of land erosion and subsidence, damages from storm surge, salt-water intrusion, and flood; and in sequestration of carbon (four - five time higher than in inland forests).

~~76.~~81. The project's knowledge management will be an essential element for delivery of project objectives, especially for learning related to climate change adaptation and sustainable wetland management. The knowledge management will be fed by the crucial project M&E system systematically documenting results and learning from the results of the adaptation innovation grants and the adaptation financial products (SC 2.1). Two approaches will be taken by the project: (i) a knowledge management programme within the project for purposes of supporting learning within and between project subcomponents; and (ii) support for a broader program of knowledge management aimed at informing government decision-makers and influencing policies to institutionalize the innovations achieved in incentive financing mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland areas.

~~77.~~82. The "within project" knowledge management activities would build upon the experience with the prior projects and support the CSAT PMUs to continue to carry out a programme of (i) exchange visits to other similar projects, programmes, (ii) integration of project learning into capacity building activities for the target groups and into community meetings, training courses and workshops in the communes; (iii) sharing of success stories through newspapers, television and with AF and IFAD; (iv) "information corners" in project areas; (v) training of project staff in communication skills and; (vi) maintenance of online information services.

~~78.~~83. The data management system will ensure that all reporting is completed and that information, reports and data are available in suitably accessible formats. Evidence based learning is an important output supported by the project's knowledge management system generating evidence for effectiveness of financing mechanism

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for scaling up mangrove conservation and sustainable management as well as other successful adaptation measures. Lessons may be about approaches that do not work as well as those that do. In order to manage the knowledge and information of the project, the following activities will be conducted:

i. *Documenting lessons learnt, best practices and cases of success*: The project will collect, analyze, and select all available relevant information to document lessons learnt, best practices and cases of success. It could be based on information collected from baseline studies and results from the application of the RDMT survey, project progress reports, meetings and interviews, monitoring and evaluation reports, outputs evidence provided by targeted groups, market and value chain entities and other involved parties.

ii. *Developing and delivering lessons learnt study*: Based on the information collected along project implementation, the KM Officer (at Central project office – MONRE) will develop an end of project Lessons Learnt Report, analyzing the documented lessons learnt, best practices and cases. It will be first submitted to AF and IFAD, and once feedback has been incorporated, if any, the report will be shared widely.

iii. *Knowledge and experience packaging for dissemination:* The project will produce communication materials summarizing success stories to be distributed through networks, and through policy dialogue, especially related to CC adaptation policies, wetland sustainable management conducive to effective planning and investment. Based on analysis of the documented information, and the reports, material for dissemination will be produced at the end of the project; a mid-term Lessons Learnt Report might be developed. A short film about the project combining before and after footage will be shared with target groups, policy makers and other stakeholders. Recommendations and actions for market and value chain development will be developed.

~~79.~~84. For the broader knowledge management objectives, policy reforms and institutionalization, the project's community presence, experience and knowledge of component 1 and SC 2.1 will be the basis for a systematic and structured learning and knowledge dissemination process for pro-poor, climate smart wetland sustainable management. Among others, the goal would be to inform both Provincial-led implementation efforts and to bring "learning-from-the-field" into national policy discussions. For the former, supporting provincial governments through learning is extremely important given the decentralization of fiscal resources and management responsibilities to them and their needs to learn in near-real time in order to improve practices, methodologies, efficiencies and outcomes. For the latter, at the national level there is significant unmet stakeholder demand for consultation on policy implementation and "learning-from-the-field" in support of high-level policy dialogue.

~~80.~~85. The ultimate agenda for policy reforms and institutionalization will require consultation with key stakeholders. An example of potentially relevant work would be as follows.

i. MARD's Action Plan Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Agriculture (including forestry) and Rural Development Sector is heavily focused on "hard" approaches (e.g., concrete grey dike) for planned adaptation. "Soft" approaches (e.g., nature-based solutions, mangrove forest as a green dike) and autonomous adaptation equally important, particularly for diverse small-scale producers (rural finance, eco-aquaculture) receive only limited attention. Efforts to date to systematize learning on soft approaches (e.g., from CBDRM processes) have been largely ad hoc, collecting anecdotal evidence of ongoing small-scale producers' adaptation. Through the project's support for analysis of adaptation solutions and monitoring/evaluation of small-scale producers' behavior and rural household resilience, a more systematic approach can be taken to capture substantive information on farm and land use management practices and land use shifts that could support "response to climate change knowledge management" and learning-from-the-field.

ii. The Environmental Protection Law, developed by MONRE, promulgated in 2020, provides an important framework for mangrove forest co-management and for carbon financing. However, there are no concrete examples and practices on the above. Further, the Law mentions the

role of private sector engagement in ensuring the win-win in between biodiversity conservation and economic development, but only limited examples have materialized so far. With the grants for adaptation research and innovation, there is room for facilitating partnerships between small-scale producers and private sector actors that again will bring practices from the field informing policy implementation.

iii. The Decree 147/2016/ND-CP on payment for forest ecosystem services (PEFS) only addresses the possibility of payment based on water catchment (taxing the hydropower companies) to which mangrove forest was excluded. While wetland is a large carbon pool, mangrove forest can sequester carbon four or five times higher than inland forests, this potential has not been unpacked. Among others, rural finance, eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, this is an important area for the policy advocacy in the context that the GoV is now amending/updating the PEFS Decree.

~~81.~~86. Finally, SC 2.2 will support the existing Climate Change Offices (under management of DONRE) in the two provinces. The purpose would be to enhance the office's capacity to function as climate change "knowledge node" and technical secretariat for PPC/Climate Change Steering Committee in areas of:

i. Coordination of provincial climate change adaptation in sustainable wetland management agenda;
ii. To serve as clearinghouse for climate change-related information/activities;
iii. Develop cross-sectoral agendas for capacity building;
iv. Networking among stakeholders to enhance knowledge management (identification, documentation and dissemination of good practices, lessons learned);
v. Coordinate policy studies; and~~,~~
vi. Organize (i) stakeholder forums for the purpose of reviewing lessons and generating discussion on policies and strategies for climate change response; (ii) technical forums for advising policy-makers on priority issues and (iii) high-level forums for~~-~~ key national, regional, provincial, ODA and FDI actors for policy discussions and coordination/ leveraging of investment resources.

~~82.~~87. See **Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment and mainstreaming** for more details on how C2 will aim at inclusiveness.

B. INNOVATION

B.1 Describe how the project would promote new and innovative solutions to climate change adaptation, such as new approaches, technologies, and mechanisms.

~~83.~~88. While there are policies in place categorizing the wetland forest in conservation forest (no activities allowed), protection forest (NTFP can be exploited), and production forest (requires 70% plantations and 30% intensive shrimp farming), wetland mangrove forest restoration at scale requires a combination of financing instruments for upscaling sustainable business models. The Government has for the last decade advanced significantly in the REDD+ policy and instruments, which will support actors in perusing zero deforestation value chains primarily by accessing PES and carbon credit financing.

~~84.~~89. While PES and carbon credits are innovative financing sources, and are receiving much attention, **micro finance products tailored to adaptation, restoration and green business needs** is largely an unexplored area, which needs to be advanced in parallel. Existing microfinancing institutions specialized in serving rural populations of small-scale producers and SMEs (e.g., WDF, FSF, and SMEF) could offer a strong vehicle for the **provision of patient, revolving credit capital earmarked to businesses that support wetland forest restoration as a much needed wetland community and public good adaptation measure. At the same time the financing should also cover businesses mediate need for adopting technologies and practices that reduces their vulnerability to climate risks**.

~~85.~~90. The proposed IFIA project will therefore complement on-going initiatives in Viet Nam by focusing on: (i) providing highly competitive financing to boost innovation, experimental learning and applied research to develop data-driven adaptation solutions to keep up with the accelerating climate change challenges in coastal

communities' livelihoods (SC 1.1); and (ii) partnering with existing rural microfinance institutions offering capital to pilot innovative financing products for, in particular, extensive eco-aquaculture and wetland eco-tourism linked to mangrove restoration and adaptation of coastal wetland livelihoods (SC 1.2).

B.2 Describe how the project aims to roll out successful innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies and/or describe how the project aims to scale up viable innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies.

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~~86.~~91. The proposed innovative financing approach has the potential to be a game changer for wetland forest management. The financing mechanism will help unpack the livelihood potentials in the wetland (e.g., co-management, eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, mangrove NTFP) that have "no-harm" to mangrove forests but enhance their conservation. The innovative financing products introduced by the project are built on thorough studies of the needs for sustainable wetland forest management, and are either integrated or in partnership with existing institutions. They will be priced, designed and tested appropriately, to ensure their take up and sustainability.

~~87.~~92. In scaling up and scaling out innovations, the key driver is provincial peoples' committees and their counterparts at district and commune levels supported in C2. Over the lifetime of the project, scaling up can be achieved through: (i) institutional strengthening, training and capacity building of existing line agencies and local authorities, as needed; (ii) integration of planning, budgeting, implementation and governance of project into regular government processes at commune, district and provincial levels; (iii) broad-based reform for financial institution and private-sector development to ensure the expansion of household incomes and asset-generating opportunities, particularly for poor people; and (iv) a strengthened M&E system, focusing on achievement of outcomes and efficient allocation of resources, as opposed to narrower, more output-led project-based approaches (SC 2.1).

~~88.~~93. With a view to scaling up innovations to other provinces, experience will be shared through participation in regional workshops and through "sharing events" linking provincial experiences. At the regional level, parallel financing and co-financing opportunities will be identified with international financial institutions (IFIs) interested in investing in wetland forest management. Partnerships with other programs and agencies for technical cooperation are critical to the introduction of innovation (e.g., the Governments of Germany – GIZ project on mangrove restoration, the World Bank project on sustainable agriculture transformation). As IFAD continues to promote innovation in market-oriented reforms in the agriculture sector and in climate change adaptation, working with various organizations to support these areas is crucial.

~~89.~~94. Finally, project design includes a specific SC (2.2) for knowledge management and dissemination and policy advocacy for policy reforms and institutionalization of the project innovations. The activities are specifically designed for MONRE - from identification and packaging knowledge, through policy dialogue - to update and institutionalization of the innovations. A learning mechanism will be established within the MONRE policy platform for the incorporation of lessons and the scaling up of pilots. Moving the project investments towards a more programme-based approach will enable the achievement of a stronger operational linkage between AF/IFAD and Viet Nam's National Target Programmes.

C. Economic, Social and Environmental Benefits

Describe how the project would provide economic, social, and environmental benefits, with particular reference to the most vulnerable communities, and vulnerable groups within communities, including gender considerations. Describe how the project would avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

~~90.~~95. Direct investments in small-scale producers and enterprises of eco-tourism and eco-aquaculture are expected to yield economic benefits, such as increased income, improved financial viability of enterprises, increased production and process productivity, reduced production and processing costs and thus transaction costs, and increased market prices for bio-aquaculture commodities.

~~91.~~96. Adequate Socio-Economic Development Planning (SEDP) at province, district and commune levels, capacity building on climate change adaption practices, policy advocacy, access to financial services, and job creation are all likely to have indirect benefits. These will result in better targeting of beneficiary groups including climate vulnerable smallholder farmers living within and around the wetland areas in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces, more efficient and effective resource usage, and more inclusive investment decision-making, optimizing the project's financial and economic impacts on beneficiaries and a wide variety of stakeholders.

~~92.~~97. The project will promote innovations that will effectively support management of the wetland mangrove forest with equitable benefit sharing, with the goal of reducing workload, creating an enabling environment for decent employment opportunities, and increasing and diversifying incomes for the target groups, particularly poor households, over time. Women, especially those who are over 35 years old with minimal opportunities for factory jobs, and young farmers who have limited access to affordable credit could invest in eco-aquaculture and wetland eco-tourism.

~~93.~~98. The reduction of climatic vulnerabilities and the promotion of community resilience in the project area would be the social benefits derived from the IFIA project. Farmers, EM, women, and youth will benefit from sustainable farm production (shrimp, clam, crab, fish) in coastal wetland areas, and increased income across the target groups through participation in climate-smart agriculture practices. In addition, the project will enhance local communities' adaptive capacity by improving policy, planning, and management procedures that contribute to the development of incentives for ownership among key stakeholders.

~~94.~~99. Farmers living within and around the mangrove forests rely on a small amount of allocated agricultural land for farming, with minimal opportunities for off-farm activity. Farmers are not allowed to manage or exploit mangrove forests because they are considered a state-owned resource. The initiative can handle the challenge of fostering on-farm and off-farm activity in mangrove forests by bringing government, private sector, and community players together to establish and implement mutually beneficial management agreements. IFIA will fill knowledge gaps in developing viable livelihood options for local communities living in and around mangrove forest areas in the face of sea level rise, rising salinity, erosion, temperature, and water stress, as well as making climate change concerns explicit in the provincial, district, and commune planning and resource allocation processes. Using IFAD's experience in the Mekong Delta region, the project will identify successful and adaptable coastal wetland management activities, which will be followed by (i) practice identification, (ii) assessment and analysis of the practices, and (iii) practice selection and packaging. These practices will include effective mangrove management and sustainable livelihood options from mangrove forests.

~~95.~~100. The project will work to change gendered power dynamics by addressing societal norms, practices, attitudes, beliefs, and value systems that operate as structural barriers to women's and girls' economic empowerment and inclusion, and access to climate adaptation knowledge. By establishing membership and/or leadership quotas (50% women and 30% youth, of which 50% are intended to be girls) in activity groups, as well as adopting enabling measures such as training approaches that increase their participation, activities will be implemented with an explicit gender focus, engaging women and young people fully as participants and beneficiaries. IFIA will ensure that also people with disabilities (PWD) living in the target area, if any, will benefit from project activities through specific targeting approaches and closer engagement, ensuring their voices are heard, and project activities are tailored to their needs. IFIA will track PWDs at the outreach level in the M&E system.

~~96.~~101. All consultation processes during implementation will take into account EM groups and their goals and needs for improved livelihoods, which will be identified and addressed within their cultural context and rights. When dealing with members of EM groups due diligence and Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) shall be used in line with IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples. District implementation teams will be gender-balanced, and members will be able to communicate in ethnic local languages. Project extension agents who speak the languages of EM groups will be recruited, and local ethnic officials of communes in target project areas will be mobilized and mentored.

~~97.~~102. An Assessment of the Social, Environmental, and Climate risks and impacts was conducted in accordance with national environmental laws, policies, and regulations, the Agricultural Restructuring Program

and Resolution 120, and the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy. The Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) details the mitigation actions to address the risks and impacts identified during the assessment (**Annex 1**). In accordance with directions from the Government, the project emphasizes demand-driven participatory techniques. In the event of adverse climate occurrences such as heavy rain associated with strong wind, the two provinces' administrations have extensive expertise and well-established response processes. These calamities have been well-managed in the recent past, with impacted people receiving assistance in the aftermath. The IFIA will supplement disaster risk reduction efforts by promoting resilience in advance of disasters and facilitating rapid recovery after natural disasters.

~~98.~~103. The project is built on a social empowerment model, in which local people are fully involved in the planning process, identifying and implementing their top socio-economic development priorities. The project planning process is based on the existing SEDP framework, which was pioneered by IFAD 15 years ago and is now fully institutionalized and funded by the local government. Through the project's co-management structure, which ensures full participation and empowerment of all stakeholders, including the poor, the near-poor, youth, smallholder farmers, ethnic minorities, and female-headed households, the project's social impacts on community empowerment will be long-term. Through their participation in social awareness, capacity-building training courses, planning, and direct co-management activities, the project's direct and indirect targeting techniques will generate social development outcomes that are sustainable for these vulnerable groups. Increased climatic variability and risks (i.e., sea-level rise, erosion, drought, abnormal heavy rain, salinity intrusion, water shortage and landslides, among other things) may cause problems for the project's target groups and ecosystems, particularly those in coastal communes. The SEDP's gender-equitable community-based mangrove forest management planning will address such challenges, and the Innovative Financial Incentives for Adaptation, will encourage ways that support adaptation to the changing climate.

D. COST-EFFECTIVENESS

Describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project and explain how the regional approach would support cost-effectiveness.

~~99.~~104. **Lessons learned and upscaling.** IFIA will be cost-effective through scaling up and scaling out the best practices and lessons learned throughout the region related to co-management and financial incentive mechanisms. Introduction of climate adaptation and remunerative innovations will help demonstrate that it is possible to simultaneously improve biodiversity, increase production, hence income of farmers, and save significantly transaction costs. By replicating best practices, the project aims to create an enabling environment for a long-term sustainable approach to climate change adaptation. The innovative investments will also assist in reducing future risks and financial impacts of increasingly frequent climate events.

~~100.~~105. **Partnership with CSAT.** Although formulated as a stand-alone project, IFIA will be implemented in close partnership with the upcoming IFAD-funded CSAT project from the provincial down to the grassroots level. It will benefit from saving time and effort getting approval and sharing resources and delivery structures. This partnership will boost the cost-effectiveness of both interventions, particularly as there will be a joint management structure and a linked M&E framework. Minimal additional staffing and management costs will be required for the proposed project. Other benefits expected are improved coordination and communication and the application of common procurement and supervision procedures (reducing costs). In financial terms, CSAT will contribute US$ 349,314 to shared costs that are going to support the delivery of the AF financing (see Table 6).

~~101.~~106. **Cost-effectiveness through CSAT integration.** In alignment with the CSAT, IFIA aims at facilitating the participation/empowerment as well as exploring co-financing by public institutions, co-investing by agribusinesses, and financial and in-kind contributions by target communities. These co-financing sources are integrated into the district and commune-level SEDP. The SEDP process will support and guide how the natural resources co-management mechanism will achieve the intended community development goals. At this moment it is foreseen that through the SEDP, the following major co-financing sources will be mobilized: (i) Public sector including the National Target Programme (NTP) for New Rural Development; NTP – Sustainable Poverty Reduction; NTP – Development of Ethnic Minorities; the IFAD-funded CSAT project; Bilateral

cooperation agencies such as the Netherlands, GIZ, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and International NGOs such as DFCD and the Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH); (ii) Private sector entities including fisheries production and processing/trading enterprises and cooperatives with financing from the FSF, Start-up Support Fund, SMEF; and (iii) Target communities' contributions with microfinance services by the Women's Development Funds and the Social Policy Bank, among others.

~~102.~~107. The successful models, tools and knowledge products generated under IFIA from its lessons learned and experience will be also disseminated for replication though the training and capacity building network of CSAT. IFIA will benefit from the implementation of complementary project interventions in the project areas and sharing knowledge management and policy advocacy activities and networks in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces.

~~103.~~108. **Co-financing and contribution of stakeholders.** Co-financing of beneficiaries (business, farmers) and the Government of Viet Nam is committed through the consultative process. Applicants for PAR innovation grants in SC 1.1 will contribute at least 30% of total budget of the proposal and share 50% of the technical assistance costs, which is expected to generate a total value of US$ 478,571 from beneficiaries (farmers, research institutes and businesses). Businesses participating in the grant application partnership are expected to make both in-cash and in-kind contribution, while farmers and research institutes are likely to contribute in kind. On top of additional financing for implementation, the contribution will ensure that the technology and adaptation models to be developed will be based on the practical needs and knowledge of farmers and businesses, and demonstrate the potential for commercialization and marketability if proved successful. In the project management subcomponent, over US$ 26,000 contribution will be expected from the Government, mainly in working hours and salary of key management staff (part-time national project director and accountant), equipment, management support and operating costs at the PMU based in MONRE. Details of the contribution of non-AF financiers are provided in the Table 6 below.

Table 6 : Non-AF financiers' contributions

~~Outputs/ activities by components~~	~~IFAD CSAT project co-funding~~	~~Government of Viet Nam~~	~~Beneficiaries~~	~~Total budget~~
-	-	-	-	-
~~1. Component 1: Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland livelihoods~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~478,571~~	~~478,571~~
~~Outcome/ Subcomponent 1.1: Adaptation research innovation fund~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~478,571~~	~~478,571~~
~~Output 1.1.1. Adaptation research innovation fund properly designed and operated~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~50,000~~	~~50,000~~
~~Technical assistance and capacity building for applicants~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~50,000~~	~~50,000~~
~~Output 1.1.2. Participatory action research (PAR) innovation grants provided (at least 15)~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~428,571~~	~~428,571~~
~~PAR grants~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~428,571~~	~~428,571~~
~~Sub-total Component 1~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~478,571~~	~~478,571~~
~~Project management~~	~~349,314~~	~~26,841~~	~~-~~	~~376,155~~
~~National project management unit (NPMU) MONRE~~	~~-~~	~~26,841~~	~~-~~	~~26,841~~
~~Project director - part-time, financed by GOV~~	~~-~~	~~6,421~~	~~-~~	~~6,421~~
~~Project chief accountant - part-time, financed by GOV~~	~~-~~	~~6,~~	~~-~~	~~6,421~~

				PAR grants	-	-
				Sub-total Component 1	-	-
				Project management	**349,314**	**26,841**
				National project management unit (NPMU) MONRE	-	26,841
				Project director - part-time, financed by GOV	-	6,421
				Project chief accountant - part-time, financed by GOV	-	6,420
				Equipment and management support	-	6,000
				Operating costs (office costs, travel, communication, MIS, etc.)	-	6,000
				NPMO - PPMU coordination meetings (quarterly, online/ offline)	-	2,000
				Ben Tre	174,657	-
				Provincial Project Director - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	6,421	-
				FM and procurement staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	6,421	-
				M&E staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	13,758	-
				Strategic management staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	59,620	-
				Equipment and management support - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	55,474.09	-
				Operating costs - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	32,963	-
				Tra Vinh	174,657	-
				Provincial Project Director - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	6,421	-
				FM and procurement staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	6,421	-
				M&E staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	13,758	-
				Strategic management staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	59,620	-
				Equipment and management support - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	55,474.09	-
				Operating costs - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	32,963	-
				Sub-total Project management	**349,314**	**26,841**
				-		
				3. TOTAL NON-AF FINANCIERS CONTRIBUTIONS	**349,314**	**26,841**
				-		
			421			
~~Equipment and management support~~	~~-~~	~~6,000~~	~~-~~	~~6,000~~		
~~Operating costs (office costs, travel, communication, MIS, etc.)~~	~~-~~	~~6,000~~	~~-~~	~~6,000~~		
~~NPMO - PPMU coordination meetings (quarterly, online/ offline)~~	~~-~~	~~2,000~~	~~-~~	~~2,000~~		
~~Ben Tre~~	~~174,657~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~174,657~~		
~~Provincial Project Director - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project~~	~~6,421~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~6,421~~		
~~FM and procurement staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project~~	~~6,421~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~6,421~~		
~~M&E staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project~~	~~13,758~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~13,758~~		
~~Strategic management staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project~~	~~59,620~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~59,620~~		
~~Equipment and management support - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project~~	~~55,474.09~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~55,474~~		
~~Operating costs - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project~~	~~32,963~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~32,963~~		
~~Tra Vinh~~	~~174,657~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~174,657~~		
~~Provincial Project Director - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project~~	~~6,421~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~6,421~~		
~~FM and procurement staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project~~	~~6,421~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~6,421~~		
~~M&E staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project~~	~~13,758~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~13,758~~		
~~Strategic management staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project~~	~~59,620~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~59,620~~		
~~Equipment and management support - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project~~	~~55,474.09~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~55,474~~		
~~Operating costs - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project~~	~~32,963~~	~~-~~	~~-~~	~~32,963~~		
~~**Sub-total Project management**~~	~~**349,314**~~	~~**26,841**~~	~~-~~	~~**376,155**~~		
-						

~~3. TOTAL NON-AF FINANCIERS CONTRIBUTIONS~~	~~349,314~~	~~26,841~~	~~478,571~~	~~854,726~~
Outputs/ activities by components	**IFAD CSAT project co-funding**	**Government of Viet Nam**	**Beneficiaries**	**Total budget**
1. Component 1: Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland livelihoods	-	-	**478,571**	**478,571**
Outcome/ Subcomponent 1.1: Adaptation research innovation fund	-	-	478,571	478,571
Output 1.1.1. Adaptation research innovation fund properly designed and operated	-	-	50,000	50,000
Technical assistance and capacity building for applicants	-	-	50,000	50,000
Output 1.1.2. Participatory action research (PAR) innovation grants provided (at least 15)	-	-	428,571	428,571
PAR grants	-	-	428,571	428,571
Sub-total Component 1	-	-	**478,571**	**478,571**
Project management	**349,314**	**26,841**	-	**376,155**
National project management unit (NPMU) MONRE	-	26,841	-	26,841
Project director - part-time, financed by GOV	-	6,421	-	6,421
Project chief accountant - part-time, financed by GOV	-	6,420	-	6,420
Equipment and management support	-	6,000	-	6,000
Operating costs (office costs, travel, communication, MIS, etc.)	-	6,000	-	6,000
NPMO - PPMU coordination meetings (quarterly, online/ offline)	-	2,000	-	2,000
Ben Tre	174,657	-	-	174,657
Provincial Project Director - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	6,421	-	-	6,421
FM and procurement staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	6,421	-	-	6,421
M&E staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	13,758	-	-	13,758
Strategic management staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	59,620	-	-	59,620
Equipment and management support - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	55,474	-	-	55,474
Operating costs - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	32,963	-	-	32,963
Tra Vinh	174,657	-	-	174,657
Provincial Project Director - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	6,421	-	-	6,421
FM and procurement staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	6,421	-	-	6,421
M&E staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	13,758	-	-	13,758
Strategic management staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	59,620	-	-	59,620
Equipment and management support - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	55,474	-	-	55,474
Operating costs - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	32,963	-	-	32,963
Sub-total Project management	**349,314**	**26,841**	-	**376,155**
3. TOTAL NON-AF FINANCIERS CONTRIBUTIONS	**349,314**	**26,841**	**478,571**	**854,726**

~~104.~~109. **Cost-effectiveness measured against project alternative.** IFIA's cost-effectiveness measured against project alternative is presented in the Table 7 below.

Table 7: IFIA cost-effectiveness measured against project alternative

Component	Cost (US$)/ No. of beneficiaries	Losses Averted / Benefits Generated	Alternative to Project
1. Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in	US$ 3,660,224~~600,000~~ / Direct	Fund for SC 1.1 will be used to set up ARIF, an innovative research financing mechanism that will deliver at least 15	Smallholder farmers in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh in the Mekong Delta are among those who suffer most from

coastal wetland livelihoods	• 6,000 households (21,000 people, 30% poor-near poor, 30% ethnic minorities[51], 50% women, 30% youth, of which 50% are female) from financial resources and improved livelihood • 100 research applicants • 100 SME Indirect • 7,500 households from capacity building • 19,000 households[52] from improved protection from 5,000 hectares of regrown or newly-planted coastal forest area	innovative adaptation models completed, of which 10 will be replicated. It will directly benefit 1,000 smallholder HH, at least 15 businesses and 15 research institutes. Smallholder farmer HH will participate directly in ARIF, in partnership with research institutes and businesses. They will receive new technologies and adaptation models to cope with key CA challenges, including pest and diseases, negative changes in temperature, soil and water salinity, soil fertility, drought, saline water intrusion and flood risks, erratic weather patterns and work out adaptive livelihood options. Fund for SC 1.2 will help improve access of smallholder households to patient financing for livelihood improvement and wetland management through: (i) more capacity and outreach of existing financial facilities to the project area (US$ 5 million expected commitment to benefit at least 2,000 HH), and (ii) launch of new innovative green financial products (70% of US$1.6 million top up seed capital from AF funding to benefit at least 4,000 households). On the part of businesses, improved access to credit will be provided to rural businesses from the project areas and they will benefit for another new innovative financial product for SME (30% of US$1.6 million top up seed capital from AF funding to benefit at least 40 enterprises). The awareness and adaptation capacity will be improved at the same time for households and businesses directly participating in research grants and/ or use of financial resources for investment, or indirectly through training, capacity building and dissemination activities during	climate change adverse impacts, including saltwater intrusion, intensifying drought and temperature, and accelerating storms and flooding. Rice and fruit production, which are the most valuable farm products in the two provinces, are most sensitive to and badly hurt by extreme climate conditions. HH living within and around mangrove forest are marginally exposed to sea level rise, coastal erosion and more frequent damages of their croplands, fishing and aquaculture resources and assets. Quite a few suitable adaptation measures and livelihood solutions have been innovated and promoted, but for upscaling they need further development in technologies and practices that adapt to accelerating CC challenges. Rural enterprises and smallholders have high demand for financial services, but find them extremely difficult to access. Conventional financial services are even more inaccessible for mangrove forest livelihood improvement and management, due to lack of awareness and perceived higher risks.

[51] In Tra Vinh
[52] From outside mangrove forest areas

		and after research and FIM interventions in both sub-components. AF funding in Component 1 will contribute to about 5,000 hectares of mangrove forest being restored and sustainably managed. They will provide improved adaptive protection to about 70,000 hectares of arable area with 19,000 smallholder households outside the coastal wetland area in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh, who make most income from rice and fruit cultivation and are prone to CC-related risks.	
2. Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programs	US$ 510,2831,008,295 / Direct • 6,000 households in two provinces from resilience monitoring tool • 3,000 people at all levels from knowledge products Indirect Nationwide from national policy reform and institutionalization	Funding for SC 2.1 will support tailoring and application of IFAD innovative RDMT scorecard for resilience design and M&E. The tool, adopting a sequence of seven simple steps from design to final evaluation, will help address holistically the identified risks and vulnerabilities in the project target groups and provide a solid understanding of effectiveness of the interventions on different target groups as well as the broader impact beyond the project direct beneficiaries. The RDMT will be applied to 6,000 households in the project area. They will benefit from holistic tailored interventions that focus on their risk clusters which would be expected to better address the underlying causes vulnerabilities, and maximising the impact. A number of reports, studies on efficiency and effectiveness the adaptation interventions and of the broader adaptation impacts of investments will also be completed. Funding for SC 2.2 will serve smooth knowledge dissemination. The project models, tools, lessons learned and experience will be packaged into various knowledge products for an increased awareness about viable adaptation livelihood options and co-management in the mangrove forest areas. They will directly benefit 3,000 people at all levels	In the current scenario there is very limited awareness about suitable adaptation measures for the coastal wetland areas of Viet Nam. There is also little understanding and controversial argument about climate change – related risks and the root causes to the mangrove forest area in particular, and to the Mekong Delta provinces in general. A few tools to measure vulnerability and resilience of the local people are applied variably from project to project, from province to province and in many cases they are unclear. Evidence-based policy making is being promoted in the country by development partners and projects. However, there is often a big challenge to generate reliable data to back up the process. Disconnection, lack of communication or information flow between the national policy making bodies at the central level and the provinces and lower level (districts, communes) make the evidence-based policy making a more daunting task. It is also the case in the field of natural resource

	through the information sharing and policy dialogue events. The funding will also be used to create two-way flow of information and feedback between the central and local levels (province, district, commune, village). The knowledge generated from the project will assist this process by promoting promote data-driven policy advocacy. 10 policy relevant knowledge products will be packaged and shared, at least 10 policy dialogue events organised at central and provincial level. It is expected that at least 2 related policies in mangrove forest management and financial incentive mechanism reformed or institutionalised. That will expand the project benefits far beyond the project target groups to reach all population in the mangrove forest area nationwide.	management and environment.

E. STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Describe how the project is consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, including, where appropriate, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications, or national adaptation programs of action, or other relevant instruments, where they exist. If applicable, please refer to relevant regional plans and strategies where they exist.

~~105.~~110. At the macro level, the project's overall objective is to support for climate change adaptation and green growth in Viet Nam through innovations in adaptation technologies and practices to develop sustainable eco-aquaculture and eco-tourism, which benefit smallholder farmers and leverage the private sector. IFIA's objective and strategy are fully aligned with the national sustainable development strategies and socio-economic development action plans at the national level as follows:

- **National Sustainable Development Strategy in Viet Nam for 2020-2030** (Government's Resolution 136/NQ-CP on 25th September 2020). The national strategy aims at maintaining sustainable economic growth aligning with social advancement, equality and environmental, ecological protection, effective management and use of natural resources, proactive responses to climate change, ensuring people equally participate and benefit from development. Private sector and smallholder farmers are particularly the priorities for improved engagement and participation in the national strategy. In addition, the national sustainable development strategy 2020-2030 identified its objectives as identical to the project objectives, such as "sustainable management and development of forests, conservation of biodiversity, and development of ecosystem financing services".

- **National Plan on Climate Change Adaptation for the period 2021-2030, a vision to 2050**. The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) aimed at mitigating vulnerability and risks driven by climate change through strengthening resilience capacity of the country's economic, natural and social systems, ensuring social advancement and reducing damage/loss due to increasing disasters and climate extremes caused by climate change. It also aimed at reducing GHG emissions on a

roadmap basis, pledging implementation of international treaties in climate change, monitoring sources of emissions, enhancing GHG removals, developing carbon market and low carbon economies, reaching to net zero carbon emissions by 2050 as stated by the Viet Nam Prime Minister at the recent COP 26. The project objective and strategy are strongly aligned with the NAP and its National Determined Commitments (NDCs). The project implementation will contribute to realizing NDCs of Viet Nam.

- **Viet Nam Forest Development Strategy 2021-2030 with visions to 2050** (approved by Prime Minister Decision No. 523/QD-TTg on 1st April 2021). The main goals of the strategy are to: (i) develop the forestry as a major economic sector; (ii) protect and develop sustainable use of forest resources; (iii) ensure broad and equal participation of all stakeholders including the private sector and smallholder farmers in forestry activities; (iv) mobilize innovative and inclusive financial resources; and (v) utilize advanced and modern technologies.

- **Vietnam Plan for implementation of the Paris Agreement** (issued in 2016). The plan's main focus was to: (i) mitigate greenhouse gas emissions (GHG); (ii) promote adaptation to climate change; (iii) organize resources; (iv) establish open and transparent information systems; and (v) build and improve policies and institutions. Different ministries, including MONRE, and insurance agencies were assigned to assess climate change risk levels and vulnerabilities, and to define adaptation needs and solving problems related to losses and damages. Results contributed to update country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

- **Viet Nam's Nationally Determined Contribution to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** (updated in 2020). The NDC builds on strategies addressing Viet Nam's mitigation and adaptation needs. Mitigation targets focus on GHG reductions for the 2021-2030 period concerning the energy, agriculture, land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF), and waste sectors. The main measures related to the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector include: (i) improving energy-saving and energy-efficient technologies, and reducing energy consumption; (ii) changing the fuel and energy structure in industry and transportation; (iii) shifting passenger and cargo transportation models; (iv) promoting efficient exploitation of renewable energy sources and increasing their proportion in energy production and consumption; (v) reducing GHG emissions through sustainable agricultural development, and improving the effectiveness and competitiveness of agricultural production; (vi) managing and developing sustainable forests, enhancing carbon sequestration and environmental services, and promote the conservation of biodiversity associated with economic development and increasing incomes for forest-dependent communities and people; (vii) managing waste; and (viii) reducing GHG emissions by replacing construction materials and improving the cement and chemical production processes together with reducing the consumption of halocarbons (HFCs). Adaptation actions are based on strategic tasks having the potential to improve adaptive capacity, enhance resilience, and reduce climate change risks. The strategic tasks are consolidated in the NAP and the National Action Plan on Climate Change, and include: i) enhancing adaptation efficiency through strengthening state-level management and resources; ii) increasing the resilience and adaptive capacity of communities, economic sectors and ecological systems; iii) reducing disaster risks and minimizing damages, increasing the comping mechanisms with natural disasters and climate extremes due to climate change. At the Mekong Delta sub-national level, one of the many key policy instruments relevant to the proposed project is the **Mekong Delta Transformation Strategy (MDS 2013-2020) issued through the Government Resolution number 120**. Implementing this strategy, the Government Decision 324/QG-TTg approved the **Master Programme for Sustainable and Climate-resilience Agricultural Development in Mekong Delta** region towards to 2030, with a vision to 2045. Both the strategy and the master programme for the Mekong Region aimed at addressing the increasing threats of climate change and unsustainable use of natural resources in this region, especially the mangrove forest destruction. Boosting the private sector investment and engagement, mobilizing the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups is the major strategic element of the regional development strategy and action

plan for the Mekong Delta. The project therefore is fully aligned to the sub-national level development strategy and action plans.

- **National Strategy on Climate Change in Viet Nam for the period to 2050** (approved by Prime Minister Decision No. 896/QD-TTg on 26th July 2022). The national strategy aims to reduce vulnerability and risk to the effects of climate change through improving the resilience and adaptive capacity of natural, economic and social systems, and reducing damage from natural disasters and climate extremes increase due to climate change. It also aims to achieve the goal of net zero emissions by 2050, actively contribute responsibly with the international community to protect the earth's climate system; improve the growth quality and competitiveness of the economy.
- **Viet Nam's Technology Needs Assessment (TNA)** conducted in 2012 identified the following main adaptation technologies for increasing the resilience of the main sectors: i) Agriculture - crop breeding and agroforestry; ii) Water resources - rainwater harvesting; and iii) Coastal zone – sea dykes and coastal wetland rehabilitation. IFIA is strongly aligned with coastal wetland rehabilitation.

~~106.~~111. The project will therefore align with and complement most national sustainable development strategies and socio-economic development programmes in Viet Nam. More importantly, the project will assist both the national policy makers and regional implementation managers to find innovative solutions for implementation of those policies. Current challenges for implementation of the national and regional policies remain in the areas of adaptation technology research and replication, as well as provision of rural finance services for private sector and smallholder farmers to foster the climate change adaptation innovative strategies. The project design therefore is fully supported by the Government since it will assist the MONRE and two provinces in the Mekong Delta in the implementation of the above-mentioned national/regional strategies and programmes.

F. National Technical Standards and Environmental Social Policy

Describe how the project meets relevant national technical standards, where applicable, such as standards for environmental assessment, building codes, etc., and complies with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

~~107.~~112. The project will comply with Viet Nam's national technical standards (as outlined in its laws and regulations) as well as the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund. Additionally, the IFIA project must ensure that all activities implemented under the two components fully align with national legal and policy frameworks and the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy. In addition, the project is designed to support the upcoming review of the Government's Support Program to Respond to Climate Change (SP-RCC) 2016-2020, which provides policy reforms for effective implementation of climate change and green growth actions prioritized in the 2016–2020 SEDP, National Climate Change Strategy (NCCS), Viet Nam Green Growth Strategy (VGGS), and NDC and the NAP to Climate Change in the period of 2021 – 2030, vision to 2050. The SP-RCC is recognized under Viet Nam's Plan for Implementation of the Paris Agreement (PIPA) as the platform for climate policy dialogue. The project is designed consistent with the Law on Environmental Protection 2020, approved by Law No. 72/2020/QH14 dated 17 November 2020, which provides an adequate system to address adverse environmental risks and impacts of projects. Supporting the implementation of the Law is Decree No. 08/2022/NĐ-CP dated 10 January 2022.

~~108.~~113. **Compliance with the Law**. The Law on Environmental Protection 2020 was passed in Law No. 72/2020/QH14 dated November 17, 2020, which regulates environmental protection activities; rights, obligations and responsibilities of agencies, organizations, communities, households and individuals in environmental protection activities. This Law regulates the use, management and protection of natural resources in the interest of ecological safety and economic development. It determines the rights of ownership of natural resources; provides for the basic principles and organizational structure for the management of natural resources, including State cadasters, provisions for standards and licenses for the exploitation of natural resources, economic and financial measures; fees/charges for the use of natural resources; administrative competencies; list of renewable and non-renewable resources; and list of national and local natural resources. The Law on Environmental Protection also provides content related to wetlands, including

information on the environment (article 114), payment for natural ecosystem services (article 138), and criteria for classifying investment projects (article 28). The project will fully comply with all legal requirements and particularly those related to wetland management.

~~109.~~114. The Law on Forestry was passed in the legal document No. 16/2017/QH14 dated November 15, 2017, which provides regulations on the management, protection, development and use of forests; processing and trading of forest products. The Law on Forestry provides regulates forestry planning, management, protection, development and use of forests; rights and obligations of forest owners; Forest valuation, investment and finance in forestry; Science and technology, international cooperation in forestry; and State management of forestry and rangers. IFIA focuses on the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of wetland mangroves forests, so it complies with the provisions of the Forest Law.

~~110.~~115. **Compliance with national programmes**. The Program of Sustainable Forestry Development Goals for the 2016-2020 period was approved in Decision No. 886/QD-TTg dated June 16, 2017. The overall objective of this programme is to improve the productivity and quality of forests in the project area. In doing so, the programme expects to contribute toward ecosystem protection and build disaster resilience. The programme will also support livelihood improvements through activities that create jobs, increase incomes and reduce the incidence of hunger and poverty. These efforts to improve the livelihoods of people engaged in forestry highlight IFIA's intent to help achieve the overall objectives of this programme.

~~111.~~116. The National Programme on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions through Limiting Forest Deforestation and Degradation, Enhancing Carbon Stocks and Sustainably Managing Forest Resources up to 2030 was approved in Decision No. 419/QD- TTg on April 5, 2017. The overall goal of the REDD+ programme is to protect and improve the quality of natural forests while expanding its coverage and improving the quality of planted trees. Additionally, the programme prioritizes green growth and integrates national targets on GHG emissions reduction into forest protection and development. REDD+ will also aim to attract international support by approaching the market for carbon credits. The REDD+ programme sets a target that by 2030, the national forest cover will reach 45% and stabilize the natural forest area at least equal to the area achieved in 2020. The activities of the IFIA project will contribute support to achieving the above objectives.

~~112.~~117. The National Adaptation Plan for climate change for the period 2021-2030, with a vision to 2050 (NAP) was approved by Decision No. 1055/QD-TTg dated July 20, 2020, issued by the Prime Minister. The NAP aims to reduce the risk and vulnerability of citizens to the impacts of climate change by strengthening their resilience and adaptive capacity. It promotes the integration of climate change adaptation measures into the strategy and planning system central to the working of communities, economies and ecosystems. These goals are well aligned to the activities and objective of the IFIA project.

~~113.~~118. The National Strategy on Green Growth for the period 2011- 2020, vision to 2050 (approved under Decision No 1658/QĐ-TTg released on 1st October 2021) aims to help promote economic restructuring in tandem with growth model reform, and achieve economic prosperity, environmental sustainability, and social equality in line with the commitments taken during the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26). The activities of sustainable use and forest restoration in the IFIA project will increase GHG absorption, contributing to the implementation of a green growth strategy.

~~114.~~119. On July 24, 2020, the Prime Minister approved Viet Nam's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Update, which sets a target to reduce national GHG emissions by 9% compared to the scenario. Normal development (BAU) is based on domestic resources, and the unconditional contribution can be increased to 27% if Viet Nam receives international support. In the updated NDC, Viet Nam has allocated mitigation targets to five sectors, notably energy, agriculture, industrial processes, land use, land use and forestry change (LULUCF) and waste for the period 2021-2030. The climate change adaptation component identifies strategic tasks to improve climate change adaptation capacity, enhance resilience and reduce risks caused by climate change, contributing to achieving climate change adaptation. The activities of the IFIA project will contribute to the implementation of both the GHG mitigation (increasing carbon removals through forest restoration) and climate change adaptation components of the updated NDC.

G. DUPLICATION

Describe if there is duplication of project with other funding sources, if any.

~~115.~~120. The design built on the lessons learned from previous and ongoing initiatives in area of innovative climate finance in Southeast Asia in general, and Viet Nam in particular. The design team consulted with all relevant governmental institutions (at communal, district, provincial and central level) and local partners (NGOs, international institutions, etc.) to ensure integration of lessons into the proposed project and synergies allowing economies of scale.

~~116.~~121. Referring to the Compendium of Donor-supported Programmes in Mekong Delta (recently issued by the GIZ), there will not be any duplication of the project with the other partner's or Government programmes/projects. There are other initiatives aimed at the common objectives of developing sustainable eco-system in the coastal provinces of Mekong Delta. However, this project's innovations in ICT-Based data-driven management and in provision of rural finance services through partnership with WDF under the VWU are unique. IFAD is a unique agency dedicated to supporting the WU and WDF development in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh for the past 15 years. Distinctive features of IFIA include: (i) the project will provide highly competitive financing to boost innovation, experimental learning and applied research to develop data-driven adaptation solutions to keep up with the accelerating climate change challenges in coastal communities' livelihoods; and (ii) partnering with existing rural microfinance institutions offering capital to pilot innovative financing products for, in particular, extensive eco-aquaculture and wetland eco-tourism linked to mangrove restoration.

~~117.~~122. While there is no duplication in the project approach and activities, IFIA will ~~need to~~ ensure harmonization and integration with National Target Programmes and like-minded partner-supported projects in the region. During implementation, participation by the Project Management and IFAD Country Office in the existing Mekong Delta Working Group will play a key role in coordinating existing and future projects to avoid duplication of activities and capitalize on lessons learnt and knowledge sharing among complementary projects. IFAD is an active participant in the Mekong Delta Working Group in Vietnam as the structure guaranteeing more coordinated efforts by the Government and the Development Partners to implement an ambitious adaptation plan at scale in the Mekong Delta. This is also an essential consideration for how IFAD cooperates with other partners to improve capacity and delivery in the Mekong Delta region.

~~118.~~123. Table 8 summarizes recently completed, ongoing or upcoming projects in the Mekong Delta Region as well as the areas for potential complementarities and synergies with IFIA.

Table 8: List of relevant potentially complementary projects

Partner / Project name	Project Description	Geographic overlap	Areas for complementarity & synergies
IFAD/ Climate Smart Agricultural Value Chain Development in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh Provinces (CSAT) (2022-2027; Total Project Cost US$ 136.38 million; IFAD Financing: US$ 42.99 million) https://www.ifad.org/en/web/operations/-/project/2000002335	The project consists of two components: ▪ Component 1: effective provincial & regional coordination for sustainable and inclusive rural transformation; and ▪ Component 2: inclusive, remunerative, and climate-smart value chain established.	Yes (although IFIA focuses on coastal wetland areas)	▪ Shared Project Steering Committee (PSC), integrated with the Province Coordination Boards for the National Target Programme for New Rural Development (NTP NRD) and NTP for Ethnic Minority Development (only in Tra Vinh). ▪ Shared PMUs for day-to-day project Management. ▪ Implementation of activities aiming at the same objective (climate-adapted agriculture transformation) through the national SEDP and VCAP planning process. ▪ CSAT IFAD loan focuses on infrastructure, while IFIA AF grant focus on piloting and upscaling financing instruments for scaling up adaptation in coastal livelihood activities (e.g., eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, and non-timber forest products – NTFP – from mangroves) that contribute to the wetland and mangrove forest conservation and sustainable use.
AFD / Scientific Study upon coastal erosion in three provinces including Tien Giang and Ca Mau provinces (CVN1191, 2018-20, EUR 1 million)	▪ The Study provides a strong scientific basis for erosion/accretion process in Lower Mekong Delta (Tien Giang and Ca Mau provinces) and Central Coastal area (Quang Nam province) to identify structural (including restoration of forest belts) and non-structural measures to implement in the framework of a future investment programme.	No	▪ Report of the AFD study should be an important input for IFIA implementation ▪ Building co-management for mangrove reforestation is optimum approach for erosion prevention

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	▪ Experimental studies/computations/modelling and simulations (waves, coastal currents, sediment transport) and shoreline protection measures identification.		
AFD/ Inequalities and environmental changes in the Lower Mekong River Basin including Mekong Delta (2019-20, UER 80,000) https://www.afd.fr/en/carte-des-projets/inequalities-and-environmental-changes-lower-mekong-river-basin	▪ The project aims at building scientific base for policy action as well as identifying non-investigated research questions through: Scoping the existing knowledge on inequalities and environmental change in the Mekong region; and building a dashboard for operational recommendations through a systematic review.	No	▪ The AFD study report is reviewed by the IFIA project design team ▪ The report serves as solid rationale for innovative co-management of natural resources through solving the inequality issues in the Mekong region
AFD- Resilient solution for coastal erosion prevention in Ca Mau province (CVN1219, 2021-2025, EUR 23.7 Million)	▪ Construction of 18,24 km of sea dike on the Western coast of Ca Mau ▪ Grey and green infrastructures combination ▪ Integrated management of coastal zones and support for the local population in their mangrove management and economic activities	No	▪ Cooperation with this AFD project is recommended in order to learn and share approaches/plans and results/experience
AusAid - Aus4Innovation - Protecting mangrove aquaculture in the Mekong Delta (AQUAM Project, Ca Mau Province) 2020 -2022; AUD 500,000 https://research.csiro.au/aus4innovation/activities/	▪ This project aims to deliver an AI /IT solution to monitor the health of the mangrove area, thus supporting a sustainable mangrove – agriculture ecosystem, including fisheries, biodiversity, carbon sequestration, coastal protection and resilience to climate change.	No	▪ Report of the AusAid-supported study should be an important input for the AF project implementation
CIDA/ Tra Vinh SME Development Project 2014 – Dec 2022	▪ This project aims to increase economic opportunities for poor rural women and men, including ethnic minorities, in the province of Tra Vinh. The project contributes to developing and implementing key priorities of the	Yes	▪ IFIA will continue to support for further development of the SME Development Fund ▪ Cooperation with this CIDA project is recommended in order to learn and

CAD 11 Million; h ttps://www.facebook.com/smetravinh.vn	province's five-year Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Development Plan.		share approaches/plans and results/experience ▪ Reports of the project should be an important input for IFIA implementation
KfW - Integrated Coastal Protection and Mangrove Belt Rehabilitation Project, Ca Mau and Kien Giang Province 2020 – 2026, Kien Giang and Ca Mau provinces, EUR 18 million	▪ Objective: to mitigate negative impacts of climate change, sea-level rise and human activities for effective, economic and sustainable coastal protection in the project areas. ▪ Components: -Component 1: Sea dyke restoration: to build and consolidate existing sea dykes to get grade 2 sea dykes for salinity prevention, tide and sea-level rise, natural calamities, storms prevention and mitigation, and wave intensity reduction to create alluvial grounds for afforestation. - Component 2: Forest rehabilitation and development: To plant, protect and develop coastal protection forests to improve the effectiveness of the coastal protection forest system and to increase the value of biodiversity.	No	▪ Cooperation with this KfW project is recommended in order to learn and share approaches/plans and results/experience
KfW Coastal Erosion Protection (Integrated Coastal Management) Mekong-Delta III ***Under design phase*** ODA Loan and Grant; EUR 65,000,000	▪ Objective: Integrated coastal protection to improve adaptation and resilience to climate change. ▪ Proposed Components: (i) the rehabilitation and expansion of infrastructure for coastal protection (e.g., gabion, T-Fence, smaller locks, inland water infrastructure) (ii) the rehabilitation and protection of mangrove forests. ▪ Covering Kien Giang, Ca Mau, Bac Lieu, Soc Trang, Tien Giang, Ben Tre and Tra Vinh Provinces	Yes	▪ Opportunities for synergy in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh provinces ▪ Cooperation with this project is recommended in order to learn and share approaches/plans and results/experience
GEF grant US$ 6 Million	▪ Project Objective: "To support the transformation of rice-dominated landscapes in the Mekong Delta towards sustainable, adaptive and resilient models of production and landscape management that deliver multiple environmental and social benefits". Component 1. Enabling environment for integrated	No	▪ Cooperation with this project is recommended in order to learn and share approaches/plans and results/experience

	rice-landscape management (ILM) Component 2. Promotion of sustainable food production practices & responsible gender-sensitive commodity value chains that contribute to ILM and GEBs Component 3. Conservation, management and restoration in forests, wetlands and farming systems to favour ecosystem services Component 4. Knowledge Management and M&E		
GIZ/BMZ - Mekong Delta Climate Resilience Programme – MCRP Covering all 13 Mekong provinces Phase 1: 01/2019 -12/2021 Phase 2: 1/2022 - 12/2025 ODA US$ 18.35 million Project link: https://mcrp.mard.gov.vn/Pages/TrangChu.aspx	▪ Objective(s): The climate-resilient management of natural resources in coastal areas of the Mekong Delta is improved to ensure sustainable development in the region. ▪ Components (1) Institutional strengthening: Support the establishment and operation of an institutional framework to facilitate regional coordination of climate-resilient development in the Mekong Delta; (2) Climate-resilient investment planning: Improve investment planning at regional level for the climate-resilient and gender-sensitive management of water resources in urban and rural areas through technical support on developing feasibilities; (3) Innovative technologies, coastal & river erosion interventions: Apply innovative technologies and interventions to combat coastal and riverbank erosion	Yes	▪ Cooperation with this project is recommended in order to learn and share approaches/plans and results/experience
GIZ -Mangrove Rehabilitation/Tackling Climate Change Together (TCCT) Viet Nam Sept 2020 – May 2023; Grant EUR 903,308.04; https://www.ergo.com/en/Microsites/tacklingclimatechange/Start/Boosting-eco-systems	▪ Objective: To successfully rehabilitate 35 hectares of mangrove coastal protection forest of the Mekong Delta and to better protect 560 households from climate change and coastal erosion ▪ Components: 1. Mangrove Rehabilitation 2. Enable communities to manage the rehabilitated forests ▪ Covering Soc Trang and Ben Tre provinces	Yes (Only Ben Tre)	▪ Cooperation with this project is recommended in order to learn and share approaches/plans and results/experience

USAID - Mekong Delta Coastal Habitat Conservation Activity 2022 – 2024 ODA US$ 2,900,000	▪ The project will test the use of hybrid-NBS, combining hyper-intensive RAS technology and multi-trophic/multi-species integrated mangrove-shrimp production in response to the coastal squeeze ▪ Covering Kien Giang, Soc Trang, Bac Lieu provinces	No	▪ Cooperation with this project is recommended in order to learn and share approaches/plans and results/experience
UN-HABITAT - AF/ Enhancing the resilience inclusive and sustainable eco-human settlement development through small scale infrastructure interventions in the coastal regions of the Mekong Delta in Viet Nam 2020-2023 AF grant: USD 6,345,292	▪ The main objective of the proposed project is "to enhance the resilience, inclusive and sustainable eco-human settlement development through small scale infrastructure interventions in the coastal regions of the Mekong Delta in Viet Nam." ▪ Covering Bac Lieu and Tra Vinh (only two communes)	Partial (only Tra ihn, although the UN-HABITAT project is implemented only in 2 communes of Tra Vinh and the project will complete while IFIA will start)	▪ IFIA implementation will draw lessons from the completion of UN-HABITAT – AF and scale up successful elements as relevant. IFAD and UN-HABITAT are active members of the U.N. Country Team and regularly meet to discuss and share experiences of our respective country programmes.
UNEP/ Mekong EbA South: Enhancing Climate Resilience in the Greater Mekong Sub-region through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in the Context of South-South Cooperation (Thailand, Viet Nam) (proposal approved in 2021; 3 years project) AF grant: USD 7,000,000	▪ The overall objective of the project is to strengthen awareness and action of governments and communities in the GMS to adapt to climate change using ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) ▪ Covering Thailand, Viet Nam	tbc	▪ Complementarity & synergies to be investigated at start-up phase during stakeholder consultation

UNESCO / Groundwater resources in the Greater Mekong Subregion: Collaborative management to increase resilience (Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand, Viet Nam) (proposal approved in 2021; 3 years project) AF grant: US$ 4,898,775	▪ This proposal seeks to address this institutional and governance challenge through implementing a transboundary groundwater collaboration. The objective is to establish effective regional capacities, partnerships and network in the Greater Mekong Subregion for the sustainable management and utilization of groundwater resources as an adaptation response to protect people, livelihoods, and ecosystems from climate change impacts. ▪ Covering Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand, Viet Nam	tbc	▪ Complementarity & synergies to be investigated at start-up phase during stakeholder consultation

H. LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

Describe the learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned.

~~119.~~124. The effective management and dissemination of knowledge generated under Component 2: Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programmes will be necessary both for generating adaptive capacity at community and institutional levels, and to build a bridge between adaptation research, on the ground investments, and the development of policy reforms and instruments for the institutionalization of the adaptation finance mechanisms.

~~120.~~125. As such, the project will systematically capture learning and place it at the disposal of all relevant end-users within the project provinces and beyond. Monitoring and evaluation activities will capture data and information generated through:

- the application of the IFAD household resilience scorecard;
- satellite monitoring of coastal wetland areas;
- household and community level surveys to assess socio-economic outcomes deriving from livelihoods adopting production practices linked to mangrove restoration.

~~121.~~126. Access to these data and information will be essential for the project implementation team and stakeholders to strengthen the effectiveness of the adaptation financing mechanisms being promoted and provide recommendations for their institutionalization.

~~122.~~127. The M&E and Planning section of PMU will be responsible for implementing the M&E and KM activities of IFIA. The project M&E system is embedded in the project management information system (MIS) and is a key instrument for results based, evidenced based and adaptive management. Robust project data will support knowledge management and policy engagement.

~~123.~~128. The PMU will identify policy changes and institutionalization needed to increase the outreach of adaptation finance mechanisms, as well as to guarantee the sustainability of the mangrove forest management interventions. Surely, the emphasis should be on policies that further improve inclusion of women, EM and youth, while at the same time allow for the implementation of innovative coastal ecosystems management approaches, and the project will provide relevant information, best practices and lessons learnt on these areas. The project will closely cooperate with National Coordination Offices for NTPs and the ARD policy research institutions such as the Institute for Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD) under MARD and the Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM) under the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) through an ongoing IFAD-supported grant projects to upscale the project innovations through implementation of the NTPs and formulation of the agriculture sector restructuring policies. In addition, IFAD country office will facilitate collaborations with current SSTC programme on climate resilient value change development and identify other possible opportunities along the SSTC programme.

~~124.~~129. A detailed project KM plan will be implemented, which will consist of capturing, documenting and disseminating lessons learned from the project activities at both the local and the institutional levels. The project will also produce communication materials summarizing success stories, which will be distributed through the communication systems including radio, TVs, website and social media. In addition, conferences, workshops and learning routes will be organized to allow relevant stakeholders and beneficiaries to exchange experiences and learn from each other.

~~125.~~130. Project specific KM outputs will include:

- A knowledge platform on innovative financial products;
- A set of satellite maps (which will also be made available to the implementing partners/private sector);
- Tools for knowledge dissemination to small-scale producers (i.e. manuals on eco-aquaculture production, short demonstration videos, etc.);

- Policy briefs based on actual case studies and lessons learned to foster replication or scaling up of successful approaches.

I. CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

Describe the consultative process, including the list of stakeholders consulted, undertaken during project preparation, with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

~~126.~~131. During the development of the IFIA project proposal, a wide range of stakeholders have been consulted. The design team has worked closely with the MONRE which has also provided guidance throughout the entire design process. During the design mission, the design team held detailed consultation sessions with the Provincial People's Committees (PPC) of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre including all sectoral departments and units at provincial, district and commune levels to ensure that the national priorities, needs and local concerns of the provinces were correctly understood and properly integrated into the design. This consultative process has greatly benefits from IFAD's two decades of field experience gained in implementing projects in Viet Nam in general and in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces in particular.

~~127.~~132. The agencies and individuals from central to local levels involved in the consultation process included:

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)
- Provincial People's Committee (PPC) of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces
- Department of Planning and Investment of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces
- Department of Natural Resource and Environment (DONRE) of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces
- Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces
- Department of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces
- Forest Protection Sub-department of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces
- Protective and Special-Use Forest Management Board of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces
- Farmer Association; Women's Union of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces
- Provincial Border Defence Force of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces
- IFAD – CSAT Project Management Unit (PMU) of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces
- District People's Committee (DPC) of Duyen Hai town, Chau Thanh, Duyen Hai and Cau Ngang districts in Tra Vinh province; Thanh Phu, Ba Tri, and Binh Dai districts in Ben Tre province
- Aquaculture enterprises, cooperatives and business households
- Local people living within and around mangrove forests in Duyen Hai town, Chau Thanh, Duyen Hai and Cau Ngang districts in Tra Vinh province, Thanh Phu, Ba Tri, and Binh Dai districts in Ben Tre province

~~128.~~133. The IFIA project proposal is designed based on a participatory and gender-balanced approach, engaging women and young people fully as participants and active agents by establishing membership and/or leadership quotas (50% female and 30% youth, of which 50% are intended to be girls) in activity groups, as well as by adopting enabling measures including training approaches that facilitate their participation. Consultations were conducted during the period from February to April of 2022. The consultations used both in-depth individual interviews and group discussions/meetings. Both men and women participated in the consultations (32% female and 68% male on average) both separately and in mixed groups. The proposed meetings time and location were comfortable for both men and women. Before the field surveys every effort was made to schedule a plan to meet with project's target groups including climate vulnerable smallholder farmers living within and around the mangrove forest areas.

~~129.~~134. Consultation with stakeholders was conducted freely, with notification and stakeholder involvement in accordance with the Government of Viet Nam and AF guidelines. The objectives of the consultation were to: (i) inform and introduce the stakeholders about the project and its potential impacts (negative and positive impact); (ii) receive feedback from stakeholders on the basis of identified impacts; (iii) learn about social-economic conditions of stakeholders; and (iv) propose development activities to ensure that

target groups receive socio-economic benefits which are culturally appropriate to them, and thereby ensure widespread stakeholder support.

~~130.~~ The consultations were focused on developing detailed understanding of livelihood practices, challenges of local people, current policies, support services and existing adaptation measures to climate change impacts, and to gain local perspectives on possible future interventions that will improve local adaptive capacity.

~~131.~~135. During consultation, especially in the field, the interviewees were free to choose the language of communication. ~~There is an EM group (the Khmer) residing in Tra Vinh province, however all participants confirmed before the interview that they felt comfortable using the Vietnamese language.~~ Therefore, the consultations were conducted using Vietnamese language (with English translation for international members of the design team). In order to ensure inclusion of EM groups in the consultation, a local person who is fluent in both Vietnamese and Khmer languages was invited to participate in the consultation process.

~~132.~~136. The main concerns that emerged from the consultation process with stakeholders – both Kinh and Khmer (two main ethnic groups in Tra Vinh) - included: reports of increasing salinity intrusion, coastal and riverbank erosion, sea level rise, increasing temperature, scarcity of freshwater, and occurrence of destructive abnormal heavy rainfall. This is because Tra Vinh and Ben Tre are located in the lower basin of the Mekong Delta that are prone to natural hazards. Consultations with stakeholders also revealed that mangrove areas are shrinking because some mangrove species have not been able to adapt to changes in environmental conditions such as tidal inundation, increasing salinity and temperature, coastal and riverbank erosion. Sea level rise will increase salinization in estuaries and coastal areas, which is the biggest threat to the mangrove forest ecosystem. Excessive saline water and soil cause the death of the mangrove forest or the shrinking of the mangrove forest area. Increasing riverbank and coastal erosion also destroy mangrove forests.

~~133.~~137. These concerns have been integrated into the design of the project with a focus on promoting new financial incentive mechanisms to upscale eco-aquaculture and eco-tourism that drive wetland forest restoration and sustainable use. IFIA seeks to integrate climate change adaptation concerns into rural finance through working with all actors in the proposed MFI financing chain to incorporate climate risk into their loan portfolios and incentivize the adoption of climate-smart mangrove management practices by smallholders. The project will build on IFAD experience through engagement of private sector actors in developing and upgrading mangrove forest related products.

J. How the project draws on multiple perspectives on innovation

Describe how the project draws on multiple perspectives on innovation from e.g., communities that are vulnerable to climate change, research organizations, or other partners in the innovation space, in the context in which the project would take place.

~~134.~~138. Drawing on multiple perspective on innovation, IFIA design emphasizes the critical role of actors involved in the project as the drivers and shapers of innovations:

~~135.~~139. Beneficiaries. At the field level local farmers (beneficiaries) are the agent of change in view of wetland forest management. With innovative financial incentive instruments, farmers will be able to transform their livelihood practices from heavy dependence and extraction of mangrove forest to zero deforestation livelihoods. The adaptive research model (SC 1.1) will provide farmers with awareness and capacity on co-management, and economic models from sustainable wetland forest management. Two key challenges faced by farmers in their daily life as evidenced in the consultation include lack of access to credit and markets. These are at the heart of the sought project innovations. Through mobilisation of various existing financial resources (e.g. SME fund, WDF fund, Start-up fund, FSF, PES, DFCD) and establishment of the green micro credit products to SME and producers (SC 1.2), IFIA will aim to overcome such challenges. Further, the no-collateral requirements of these funds will ease the access to credit for famers. In view of market access, the public-private-producer partnership and out grower model between enterprises and farmers for various commodities including eco-shrimp, clam, and honey will bring in remarkable market opportunities for farmers.

~~136.~~140. Research institutions. Research is considered as a driver of technological applications, for marketing novel products, and as the guarantor of job creating and economic growth. Under this paradigm, research institutions are the key drivers of innovation. Research institutions are engaged in the PAR and the ARIF under subcomponent 1.1. Under the ARIF, research institutions provide direction of innovation with research models introduced, tested, and implemented with participation of private sector and local producers/farmers. The models' results are inputs and foundations for replication through the innovative financial mechanism introduced under subcomponent 1.2. It is noted that while research institutions introduce the exogenous knowledge and practice, local knowledge and experience to be leveraged by IFIA will be critically important for generating the expected innovations.

~~137.~~141. Financial institutions. They are key drivers for rolling out the innovative financial products (SC 1.2). Participating financial institutions are required to have capacity and experience in providing financial services in the region. They might not be familiar with the newly introduced products such as the green micro credit but can be supported through technical assistance and capacity building. The innovations that the financial institutions bring in are the network of client they have already built, the existing institutional arrangement they have, and their broad experience in financial service provision.

~~138.~~142. Private sector entities. The ultimate objective of the innovative financial mechanism introduced by the project is that farmers could access to credit for investment in on-farm and off-farms works that generate income for farmers. The end products that farmers produce require quality and standards as well as markets. Private sector enterprises are the key drivers for market development. The innovations that the project will bring in regarding private sector relate to public-private-producer partnerships (4P) and related out grower models in which farmers are an essential actor of a mutually rewarding partnership with other private and public entities. Through the 4P model, smallholder farmers are able to utilize their primary assets to leverage technology, premium markets, and capital from the private sector, without putting these assets at risk (e.g. the Minh Phu Aquaculture company signed contract with farmers in raising shrimp under mangrove – namely eco-shrimp with a premium of 15% of the price).

~~139.~~143. Government agencies from central to commune level. The innovations that these agencies and authorities bring in will be the scaling out and scaling up of the models introduced by the project including the ARIF (SC 1.1), and green credit (SC 1.2). The process will be implemented by the knowledge management strategy and the policy reforms and institutions (see component 2 for more details).

K. JUSTIFICATION FOR FUNDING

Provide justification for funding requested, focusing on the full cost of adaptation reasoning.

~~140.~~144. IFIA will develop scalable approaches to climate change adaptation and innovative management of coastal wetland to help conserve biodiversity, increase mangrove forests, promote adaptation measures, and improve livelihood options of local people living near the mangrove forests in the project areas. The project functions as additional climate adaptation financing to upscale the lessons learned and good practices regarding efficient and effective wetland management through analysis and packaging the practices and lessons learnt, disseminating the practices, planning the resource, capacity building, implementation, and policy advocacy.

~~141.~~145. The table below provides the existing situation and the expected additionality that the Adaptation Fund would bring in.

Table 9: Existing scenario versus project's additionality

Existing situation	Additionality
COMPONENT 1: Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland livelihoods	
SUB-COMPONENT 1.1: Adaptation research innovation fund	
Awareness deficit in mangrove management. The coastal forest areas are extremely valuable not only for biodiversity but also for commercial	- The project will fill the knowledge gaps in developing viable livelihood options for vulnerable local communities by providing, through a competitive process, up to 15 PAR

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and subsistence uses. All too often, the focus has been on mangrove planting and protection, which is a tree-oriented perspective. Instead, a mangrove ecosystem perspective needs to be facilitated so that the linkages between various types of livelihood systems and the health of the ecosystem become more prominent. This underscores the need for assessments of community needs through the design of strategies for mangrove management and protection that include a participatory coastal spatial planning approach and adaptive co-management.	innovation grants (of up to US$ 50,000 each) to partnerships among smallholders, research institutes and private companies. The suggested research priorities will focus on specific adaptation challenges to smallholder farmers in the coastal wetland in the Mekong Delta, including pests and diseases, changes in temperature, salinity, soil fertility, erratic weather patterns and adaptive livelihood options, and relevant cross-cutting themes, including integrated farming systems, processing and sustainable markets, and technical quality and impact assessment. - Applicants for PAR innovation grants must convince a screening board with representatives of the government, research community, civil society, and the private sector on: (i) Climate vulnerability; (ii) Innovations; (iii) Poverty and inclusive targeting; (iv) Livelihood options for beneficiaries living within and around mangrove areas; (v) Commitment to co-finance the research with in-cash and in-kind contribution; (vi) Sustainability and replications - Balancing stakeholders' benefits though partnership: The requirement for partnership will ensure a balance among partners (farmers, institutes, businesses) in terms of interests, costs and benefits. It will make sure the research is based on the practical needs and knowledge of the coastal wetland communities, deliver the innovation value as well as demonstrate the potential for commercial use and marketability. In any case, the PAR proposal must prove benefits to vulnerable households in the wetland areas. It is expected that the intervention will benefit: • 1,000 smallholder households directly in terms of capacity building and/ or improved livelihood through their participation in the partnership application, and • 3,000 more smallholder households[53] indirectly when the successful model is disseminated and introduced through the SEDP planning process exercised by IFAD CSAT project in the coastal districts of Ben Tre and Tra Vinh. - Innovative research financing mechanism: The 30% co-financing requirement will help ensure that target technology adopters value the potential benefits of the PAR innovation proposal and really invest in it, although AF does not ask for co-financing of activities. Over US$ 400,000 of contribution is expected from direct beneficiaries of this intervention, against US$ 1,000,000 of total research grant value. Farmers, who ~~While farmers~~ are likely to be more vulnerable group, is expected to contribute less cash (less than 15%) and mainly in workdays and experience sharing, which are more affordable for them. Meanwhile, both in-kind and in-cash contributions can be expected from businesses. This mechanism will lead to a greater level of commitment and ownership, more potential for success in the research phase as well as for adoption after that.
SUB-COMPONENT 1.2: Innovations in financial incentive mechanisms	
Poverty. In the Mekong Delta region, poverty head count ratio stands at 5.9%, due to the high population density. Vulnerability to external shocks is prevalent among households with a	Facilitation of financial resources would help stakeholders including private sectors and farmers operationalize various wetland forest management models while ensuring that the efforts and

[53] Conservatively estimated at 50% of the total households in project districts. 100% of the households will learn about the technology in the dissemination activities and SEDP process.

strong dependence on agricultural and non-wage and wage incomes. **On farm and off-farm activities:** livelihood of all farmers living along the mangrove forests are depending on limited allocated agricultural land for rice cultivation with very few opportunities for off-farm activities. They are disadvantageous compared to those living in the inner areas. Mangrove forest is considered a state-owned resource that totally exclude farmer from management and use. There is huge potential for promoting on farm and off-farm activities in mangrove forest through bringing together government, private sector, and community stakeholders to develop and implement mutually beneficial management agreements. **Gender and youth disadvantages.** Women and youth farmers in particular do not have access to affordable finance that would enable them to invest in climate-smart agriculture, especially those belonging to EM.	investments of IFIA is worth, and hence no need additional funding from Adaptation Fund.~~.~~ The IFIA will facilitate and ensure that: • At least five existing financial institutions will make their financial services reach out to project areas; • US$ 5 million or more will be committed for wetland management; • The project beneficiaries, especially the poor, the ethnic minorities, women and youth, will have adequate access to these resources. It will cover at least 2,000 households for livelihood improvement and mangrove forest management; • At least 20 enterprises well be able to access the budget for out grower models Moreover, the IFIA will top up US$ 1,000,000 ~~800,000~~ for each of the two WDF in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh, together with technical support and capacity building, to provide innovative green financial products in forms of loan to farmers and small and medium enterprises (SME). The direct benefits will include: • 4,000 smallholder households from the project area or more accessing the finance and investing in sustainable livelihoods options within and around wetland area; • At least 40 SME accessing the financial products, providing improved livelihoods for around 800 workers and/ or smallholders suppliers through the value chain linkages; • At least 4,500 households and 100 SME participating and benefiting from technical assistance and capacity building during access to finance. Both mobilisation of additional resources and establishing of adaptation micro financing products help ensure that the project sustainably achieves outputs and outcomes. The project activities will be continuously implemented and replication without additional funding •
COMPONENT 2: Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programs	
Climate and Environment risks. Viet Nam is ranked amongst the top 10 countries globally for their long-term climate risk. The Mekong Delta is considered one of the most vulnerable river deltas to climate change impacts, notably in terms of sea level rise, droughts, extreme heat, severe storms and flooding all of which are causing substantial economic and human losses. The compounded effects of global warming, the construction of 470 plus hydro-power and other dams and sand mining upstream the Mekong river system, and overexploitation of groundwater, which exacerbates land subsidence and sea level rise, have aggravated sea water intrusion in river water and cropland, which in turn increased salinity, reduced water flow, low sedimentation and reduced biodiversity. The coastal forests, including mangrove are the forefront in prevention and mitigation of various climate change risks including flood and salinity intrusion.	Application of the IFAD Resilience Design and Monitoring Tool (RDMT) will allow for systematic learning for strengthening the effectiveness of the adaptation financing mechanisms and provide recommendation for their institutionalization. • At the project level, it will strengthen the theory of change, logframe and M&E data to better address the underlying causes of vulnerabilities and maximize the impact, to support data-driven implementation, and to contribute to the final impact evaluation; • At the beneficiary level, RDMT will be trained to and used by Policy Action Research innovation grant applicants (Sub-component 1.1) and PPMUs through a mobile application to structure, validate and evaluate the results; • At the policy level, the tool will help create the resilience maps and develop a fit-for-purpose PES, which will support a better data-driven approach in future projects and government programmes as well as widespread PES deployment in the territory.

Recognition of the roles of community in coastal wetland management. Community members support mangrove conservation and understand their importance for protecting infrastructure and farms, supporting productivity, enabling food security, providing income-generation opportunities across communities, and addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation needs. However, aligning household incentives to mangrove management is not equally addressed that requires a formal recognition by the legal system of the GoV.	The component will also support the MONRE in the development of a knowledge management strategy based on the project outcomes. It will focus on scalable approaches through knowledge products packaging and communications, and country-level policy engagement. Implementation would require: • Analyse and package the results from the other sub-components into knowledge products including videos, books, pamphlets, posters, and newspapers, etc. • Organize knowledge sharing and communication events from central to local levels to disseminate the good project practices (e.g. co-management, financial incentive mechanism, engagement of private sector, climate change adaptation practices) to all relevant stakeholders. IFAD networks will play an important role for the dissemination and replication process, e.g. Mekong Delta Coordination Network. • Where appropriate, organize capacity building for application and replication of the results. • At provincial and central level, policy dialogues will be organized to communicate the project results to a policy decision-making level. Organize policy advocacy and policy development events for possible policy development (e.g. co-management policy, PFES policy). IFAD strong partnership with the Government of Viet Nam will help promote institutionalisation of the co-management practices through its ongoing and future portfolio of projects and investments as planned under its Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (COSOP) for the period 2019-2025 agreed with the Government of Viet Nam. At national level, efforts are being made by relevant ministries including Ministry of Planning and Investment, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment to scale-up, scale-out, and institutionalize the co-management practices, the PFES, and the REDD+. The project results will perfectly fit in the efforts of the ministries. By successfully advocating, project results will be institutionalised in the sense that the results will be integrated in and replicated through the policies and national target programs with annual budget allocated. This ensure sustainable outcomes and outputs of the project without additional funding required.

L. SUSTAINABILITY

Describe how the sustainability of the project outcomes has been taken into account when designing the project.

~~142.~~146. The project results and impacts will be sustainable in all institutional/policy, social, environmental, technical and economic dimensions as explained bellow.

147. **Institutional sustainability**. Innovative institutions namely the SEDP that mobilize and converge resources for wetland forest management, the natural resources co-management, the financial incentive mechanisms, and the engagement of private sector supported by the project have received high political commitment for upscaling and institutionalization by the Government at the central level including the MONRE and MARD as well as the province-level agencies. The project institutional sustainability will be achieved since the project objective as well as the project innovative strategy, approaches, management mechanism, practical models and activities are designed in coherence with the Viet Nam SEDP 2021-2025 and the National SED Strategy 2020 – 2030 with vision to 2040. Particularly, after the historical drought and salinity occurred in Mekong Delta in 2015 and 2016, the Government issued Resolution number 120/NQ-CP on the "Master Plan for Sustainable Agriculture Development to Adapt to Climate Change in the Mekong Delta Region by 2030 and

vision toward 2045". These policy documents have been used as guiding documents for preparing this project proposal.

~~143.~~148. The sustainability of in particular the ARIF as a new instrument to support adaptation research and innovations for wetland livelihood activities of SME, small-scale producers and community groups will be secured through two pathways. The first and most important one is the sustainability and scalability of the adaptation innovations financed by the ARIF grants. This will be ensured through the selection criteria and rigorous process for selection of the grant proposals (reference to part II section A paragraph 53.II) and the payment in tranches of the grant resource conditioned to that the initial concept and experimentation phase demonstrate promising adaptation results and cost-benefit feasibility for scaling up. The second pathway will be the recapitalization of the ARIF by government and other funding sources and expansion of its geographical scope to other regions in Viet Nam dependent on if it demonstrates to be an effective instrument to forge collaboration between research institutions, private sector and small-scale producers and community groups to develop innovative adaptation solutions. Component 2 of the IFIA will support the systematization of evidence of the IFIA effectiveness and recommendations for its recapitalization and eventual adjustments in its operation manual based on lessons learned during the IFIA implementation.

~~144.~~149. **Social sustainability.** The project is based on a social empowerment process: local communities are fully involved in the planning process in which they identify and implement their prioritized socio-economic development activities. The social impacts on community empowerment will also be sustainable under the project through its co-management mechanism with participation of all relevant stakeholders that ensures full participation and empowerment of stakeholders including the poor, smallholder farmers, EM and female-headed households. The project direct and indirect targeting strategies will deliver social development impacts to be sustainable for these vulnerable groups through their engagement in social awareness, capacity building training courses, planning, and direct co-management activities. Similar as for all the other IFAD-completed projects, sustainability of the results and processes initiated under the projects with community-based organizations namely the common interest groups, farmer's collaborative groups and cooperatives, natural resources co-management groups, and saving and credit groups is assured through continued engagement by the Viet Nam Farmer's Union, the Women's Union and the Youth Union after project completion.

~~145.~~150. **Economic and technical sustainability**. The project will promote innovations to ensure that the mangrove ecosystem is effectively managed with equitable benefit sharing that aims at sustainably reducing workload, creating an enabling environment for decent employment opportunities, and increasing incomes for the target groups, especially the poor households. At the same time, business models such as the public-private-producer partnership and out grower mechanisms will ensure that poor households and local communities can leverage their productive assets to gain access to capital, knowledge, technology and premium markets without putting their assets at risk.

~~146.~~151. **Environmental sustainability.** Major sustainable impacts of the project are on environment and natural resources management via: (i) improved biodiversity and associated ecosystem through co-management practices; (ii) increased area planted with mangroves which will increase carbon sequestration and provide ecosystem services such as acting as a filter for salinity; and (iii) improved community resilience, adaptation/prevention of climate change risks including salinity intrusion, hurricane and inundation.

M. Environmental and Social Impact and Risks

Provide an overview of the environmental and social impacts and risks identified as being relevant to the project.

~~147.~~152. The environmental and social screening presented in the table below provides a brief overview of the risk assessments, showing that **there are moderate to low risks related to the IFIA project**. All project activities have been designed to be in full compliance with national laws, the requirements of which are fully integrated into the government approved and overseen project screening processes as detailed in section **II F. National Technical Standards and Environmental Social Policy** as well as the ESMP in **Annex 1**. Mitigation measures to reduce vulnerability to identified risks have been integrated into the project concept, facilitating

the **moderate risk classification (category B)**. The ESMP identifies the key risks related to the project interventions and related mitigation measures to be implemented and applied to all component activities including unidentified sub-projects.

~~148.~~153. The project's target area lies within Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces, two of the country's coastal provinces most severely affected by climate change in the Mekong Delta region. The project's target groups include 21,000 climate-vulnerable individuals, corresponding to about 6,000 HH, living in the wetland/mangrove areas of Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces. Within these groups, IFIA will target at least 50% of females (10,500 women), 30% of youth (6,300 individuals 16-30 years old), of which 50% are girls (3,150) and 30% EM groups (only in Tra Vinh). The project activities will be implemented with an explicit gender focus engaging women and young people fully as participants and active agents by adopting membership and leadership quotas and enabling measures - including training approaches - that facilitate their participation, capacity and voice. In particular, under component 2, the project will seek to identify the differentiated climate change impacts on men and women, boys and girls, and support their capabilities to adapt to these for decision-making and policy purposes. Further progress in gender equality and women's empowerment through improved opportunities for women and increased participation and active engagement in adaptive coastal wetland management. Additionally, the project shall increase women's access to innovative financial services, and facilitate more opportunities for diversified livelihoods, thereby improving their visibility as economic agents. Through gender awareness campaigns, the project shall also tackle issues like gender-based violence and strengthen the capacity of partners (national, local and decentralized institutions, training centres, private sector providers and national and international NGOs) to take into account issues of gender equality and community empowerment.

~~149.~~154. A detailed description of IFIA gender and youth mainstreaming activities is provided in **Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment and mainstreaming**.

~~150.~~155. Through effective adaptation and disaster risk reduction efforts, the project aims to achieve: improved livelihoods through increased knowledge; increased community participation in adaptive coastal wetland management; increased resilience of rural households to climate, production and access to markets; enhanced personal and community security in the face of vulnerability to natural disaster and climate risks; climate change awareness raising and decision making in adaptive, gender-sensitive coastal wetland management. All of which should translate into greater resilience – both of households and of the community as a whole – and adaptive capacity in the face of uncertainty and weather/climate-related hazards.

~~151.~~156. The project design complies with national legislation and policies on forestry, climate change adaptation, land tenure, environmental management and gender. It also addresses the government's priorities as detailed in the 3rd National Communication to the UNFCCC, the National Adaptation Plan to Respond to Climate Change, Nationally Determined Contribution, National Strategy on Climate Change as well as a number of national and sectoral plans on climate change, agricultural and rural development, and socio-economic development.

~~152.~~157. IFIA aims to increase climate resilience and reduce the vulnerability of the target areas in response to rising sea levels, drought, increasing salinity intrusion, river bank and coastal erosion, water shortage, forest degradation and poverty incidence. In doing so, the project shall leverage innovative finance mechanisms for adaptation and involve private sector entities through their co-investments in wetland forest restoration. The project shall also aim to improve environmental outcomes through awareness campaigns and capacity-building activities within target groups. Activities that build technical capacities, promote farmer-to-farmer learning, emphasize soil and water conservation, and empower beneficiaries shall aid the achievement of project goals.

Table 10: Checklist of environmental and social principles

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance[54]
Compliance with the Law	X	~~*No risk*~~ No risk: IFIA complies with all applicable domestic and international laws and regulations as well as Viet Nam's national technical standards. The project will also be executed and coordinated by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Management (MONRE) which further ensure compliance with applicable national laws.
Access and Equity	X	~~*No risk*~~No risk: IFIA will ensure equal access to project activities. The project is designed to provide fair and equitable access to benefits in an inclusive manner that does not impede access to basic services and rights to anyone. IFIA targeting strategy is designed not to exacerbate existing inequities, particularly with respect to marginalized or vulnerable groups
Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups		Moderate risk: The project's target groups and the ecosystems in some project areas, especially those in coastal districts, may face problems resulting from increasing climate variability and hazards (i.e., sea level rise, salinity intrusion, increasing temperature, drought, long-lasting/heavy rain, riverbank and coastal erosions and heat wave). The SEDP integrated gender-equitable community-based mangrove forest management planning will address the aforementioned risks. Subsequently, the innovative wetland adaptation financing products (see C1.2) will help tolerate salinity intrusion and prevent erosion and heavy rain by incentivizing the adoption of adaptation technologies and practices in wetland livelihood activities (e.g., climate smart farming, eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, mangrove NTFP) which are driving wetland forest restoration and sustainable use.
Human Rights	X	~~No risk~~No risk: IFIA is designed to respect and adhere to the requirements of all relevant conventions on human rights in compliance with the ESP and where applicable promote international human rights.
Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment	X	~~No risk~~No risk: IFIA is designed and meant to be implemented in such a way that both women and men. A gender and youth assessment was already prepared and is included in Annex 4.

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[54] Further assessment will also apply to USPs

Core Labour Rights		Moderate risk: Risks related to labour rights in the country such as discriminatory practices, high gender inequality, overtime working and poor working conditions. The project will promote transparent contract arrangement including wages and benefits, hours of work, overtime arrangements and overtime compensation, and leave for illness, maternity, vacation or holiday, that at a minimum comply with national law. This includes respecting a collective bargaining agreement with a workers' organization if there is such an agreement.
Indigenous Peoples		Moderate risk: (for Tra Vinh only) Risk of social or economic impacts on the Khmer ethnic group, including threats to or the loss of resources of historical or cultural significance. IFIA~~The~~ project staff will acknowledge and build upon the asset of Khmer cultural distinctiveness and consult Khmer people to obtain their FPIC at every step of the implementation. A map informing the location of the mangrove restoration areas will be used to identify any land used by EM communities and agree with them on project activities in that area. The project will strive to empower EM by assuring their informed participation in all project-supported activities. It will identify available opportunities to enable EM communities to value their products and engage in markets on more profitable terms, while promoting meaningful consultation on matters related to cultural heritage and the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of cultural heritage, in case this is used for commercial purposes as part of project activities. Finally, IFIA will support EM groups in enhancing the resilience of the ecosystems in which they depend for their livelihoods and developing innovative adaptation measures. UPSs under the SC 1.1 engaging EM will also apply the FPIC adoption and integrate cultural heritage promotion and protection.
Involuntary Resettlement	X	~~No risk~~No risk: No involuntary resettlement is foreseen under the project.
Protection of Natural Habitats	~~X~~	~~No risk~~The project aims to restore and conserve wetlands and mangrove areas. However unintended adverse impacts may occur. Together with MONRE, IFIA will identify and report on the natural habitats and monitor that the project implementation will not encroach or affect them in any way and propose risk mitigation measures in case of any identified risk., including regarding USPs that will undergo further assessment at project start up.
Conservation of Biological Diversity	~~X~~	~~No risk~~Low risk: The project is not foreseen to have adverse impacts on biodiversity. It will however ensure that project activities are sited as far as possible from critical habitats, protected areas, or areas of ecological significance and implement measures to avoid introduction or utilization of

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		invasive alien species, whether accidental or intentional., in particular USPs under SC 1.1.
Climate Change		Substantial risk: Anticipated climate risks analysis foreseen~~Foreseen~~ increasing temperature, change in rainfall patterns, drought, riverbank and coastal erosion, and increasing risks of sea level rise/salinity intrusion, freshwater shortage. Risks for investments in livelihood options would be substantial if adaptation measures were not adopted.
Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	~~X~~	~~No risk~~Low risk: The project will be implemented in a way that meets applicable international standards for maximizing energy efficiency and minimizing material resource use, the production of wastes, and the release of pollutants through SEDP, among others. Impacts related to potential use of fertilizers and pesticides under USPs will be further assessed during implementation and related mitigation plans will be developed.
Public Health	X	~~No risk~~No risk: The project will have no negative impacts on public health.
Physical and Cultural Heritage	X	Moderate risk: (mainly for Tra Vinh) Potential threats to or loss of resources of historical or cultural significance. IFIA project staff will acknowledge and build upon the asset of Khmer cultural distinctiveness and consult Khmer people to obtain their FPIC at every step of the implementation. The project will strive to empower EM by assuring their informed participation in all project-supported activities. It will identify available opportunities to enable EM communities to value their products and engage in markets on more profitable terms. Finally, IFIA will support EM groups in enhancing the resilience of the ecosystems in which they depend for their livelihoods and developing innovative adaptation measures. UPSs under the SC 1.1 engaging EM will also apply the FPIC adoption and integrate cultural heritage promotion and protection.
Lands and Soil Conservation	X	~~*No risk*~~No risk: IFIA will promote soil conservation and avoid degradation or conversion of productive lands or land that provides valuable ecosystem services.

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PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

A. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Describe the arrangements for project / programme management at the regional and national level, including coordination arrangements within countries and among them. Describe how the potential to partner with national institutions, and when possible, national implementing entities (NIEs), has been considered, and included in the management arrangements.

~~153.~~158. At the national and provincial level, the project will be coordinated by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Management (MONRE) as its Executing Agency.

~~154.~~159. MONRE's coordination will ensure that the pilot implementation of co-management modalities supported by IFIA will be scaled up and institutionalized through the Resolution 120 on Sustainable Development in the Mekong Delta and the Master Plan for Socio-Economic Development Plan (SEDP) in the Mekong Delta 2021-2025, approved by the Prime Minister in February 2022.

~~155.~~160. To assist MONRE in project coordination and day-to-day implementation, a small Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established in accordance with the national ODA project management regulation. The PMU will mobilize technical support from the other departments under MONRE and its think-tanks, such as the IMHEN under this Ministry, to support the project implementation, particularly for the scaling up of project innovations and policy engagement. The PMU will also procure technical assistance services and other operational inputs to support project implementation. To lead the PMU, MONRE will appoint a part-time Project Director who is currently a Director or Deputy Director at MONRE. The PMU will employ a full-time Project Manager who will assist the Project Director in managing and coordinating project activities in the target provinces, attend regional coordination meetings, policy workshops, and consultations with partners to ensure harmonization with complementary initiatives in the Mekong Delta. The Project Director will ensure that at the national level, IFIA and CSAT engage in national policy dialogue and that innovations are scaled up for implementation of the country's Socio-Economic Development Strategy (SEDS) 2021-2030 and the National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2021 – 2030.

~~156.~~161. In terms of finance management, the PMU will appoint a part-time Project Chief Accountant assigned from existing accountants at MONRE. A fulltime accountant will be hired by the project to assist the Chief Accountant in day-to-day project finance management.

~~157.~~162. At the province level, IFIA will be coordinated by the CSAT Project Steering Committee (PSC), which is integrated with the Province Coordination Boards for the National Target Programme for New Rural Development (NTP NRD) and NTP for Ethnic Minority Development (only in Tra Vinh). The PSC is chaired by the Chairperson or a Deputy Chairperson of the Provincial People's Committees of Ben Tre and Tra Vinh, and is mandated to lead project implementation, ensuring coordination and integration of the project with the CSAT, all the NTPs and the other development partner-funded projects in the provinces, such as the ones being supported by WB, ADB, GIZ, JICA, Netherlands, Oxfam, and other international NGOs, etc., as described previously in this document. Provincial co-implementing agencies, project target DPCs and representatives from private sector entities are also represented in the PSC.

~~158.~~163. MONRE will assign the existing CSAT PMUs for day-to-day implementation management of the project. By the national regulation on ODA management, the CSAT Project Directors will be appointed by the MONRE as province-level Focal Persons for the IFIA implementation. The Focal Persons are mandated to integrate IFIA and CSAT activities where possible, mobilizing all the technical, financial and human resources available at the CSAT PMUs to support IFIA implementation. In particular, the following sections under the CSAT PMUs are responsible for managing IFIA implementation: (i) Strategic Management Section; (ii) Financial Management and Procurement Section; and (iii) M&E and Planning Section. Each section will appoint one officer and one alternative to be accountable for the IFIA project management in each province.

~~159.~~164. The IFAD-standard Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) will be the key instrument for planning and implementing the IFIA project. The AWPB will be prepared through a bottom-up participatory approach beginning at the province level and taking into account integration with relevant CSAT activities. After IFAD "No Objection", the AWPB will be approved by the Project Director at MONRE and Chairpersons of the PSC at the province level. Quarterly coordination meetings between the IFIA Project Director and the provincial Focal Persons will be convened to ensure national-local and inter-provinces coordination and coherence of the project implementation in line with the approved AWPB. These meetings will be organized in Ben Tre or Tra Vinh to review the project implementation performance and discuss/propose a revised AWPB. The coordination meetings will also review and discuss the project innovation consolidation, scaling up and policy engagement work plans. A mechanism for advancing and accounting funds from MONRE to the provincial CSAT PMUs as local focal points will be established to ensure accountable decentralization and smooth implementation at the provincial and local levels.

~~160.~~165. The project will utilize the same computerized accounting software as used for the CSAT project ("ANA" software), and will ensure that new staff are fully versed with the program. In order to track use of funds and budget-vs-actual amounts, including variance analysis, the project will provide interim financial reporting at quarterly intervals, within 45 days after the end of the period. A final certified statement of expenditure (SOE), covering the full project implementation period, will be submitted by the recipient before project closing date.

~~161.~~166. In line with the current structure for project audits, the project will be subject to annual external audits performed in alignment with recognized international auditing standards (ISA). Audit reports will be submitted at project level and the recipient will engage a private audit firm (chartered accountant) to conduct the annual audit. In order to avoid delays, the audit firm will be contracted in advance of the relevant period to be audited, to further allow ample time for review/comments by project management before submission. Timelines for audit reporting and submission of interim financial reports will be detailed in the relevant project documentation (Financing Agreement, PIM, etc.).

B. Financial and Project Risk Management

Describe the measures for financial and project risk management.

Risk	Inherent risk rating (H: High, M: Moderate, L: Low)	Proposed Mitigating measures	Residual risk rating (H: High, M: Moderate, L: Low)
Delays in annual plan and budget review/submission process due to complex project management structure. Budgets developed not accurately reflecting actual needs of implementing entities, hampering implementation process and progress.	M	Relevant project documentation (FA, FMFCL, PIM) will clearly outline both the process and respective timelines for project budgeting, to: (i) ensure timely consolidation of input from lower level entities, and (ii) to allow sufficient time for internal review process before submission to IFAD. Budgeted vs actual expenditures incurred will be tracked on a regular basis (minimum quarterly) and any significant deviations will be promptly followed-up on by the central PMU and provincial PMUs and adjustments made, in alignment with formalized procedures. Meetings between Recipient (MONRE) and PPMUs will be convened on a quarterly basis to ensure coherence on implementation progress and an informed budget development/tracking. Planning will be started and discussed tentatively in June in the previous year between	L

		MONRE and PPMUs to allow sufficient time for consolidation and submission.	
Deficiencies in internal control structure, negatively impacting project implementation and enhancing the risk of e.g., (i) inaccuracies in project financial reporting; (ii) improper use of project resources; and (iii) lack of oversight and tracking of financial progress.	M	An internal audit function is to be set up and management will establish procedures for close follow-up and tracking of implementation of audit recommendations, in alignment with a time bound action plan. Detailed control activities to be implemented for the project include e.g., (i) having relevant policies and procedures well documented, detailing staff responsibilities; (ii) project staff with required qualifications are assigned to the project; (iii) segregation of duties is ensured for all financial management related tasks; (iv) physical protection of assets. Supervision and monitoring during project implementation will be undertaken by the IE to ensure that prescribed guidelines and requirements are being followed, and to ensure that provisions of the Financing Agreement are adhered to. Additionally, the project will be subject to periodical reviews thorough, e.g., quarterly submission of interim financial reporting and yearly audited financial statements. Internal procedures and guidelines will be regularly reviewed and updated as required by the PMU and PPMU respectively.	L
Limited capacity of accounting software, not allowing for automatic generation of financial reports, leading to parallel manual compilation of project financial documentation. Proper segregation of duties not integrated in the system.	M	The internal accounting system to be used for the project ("ANA" software) will be customized to enable an integrated environment from which reporting by component and expenditure category can be automatically generated, and to ensure that a structure for proper segregation of duties is integrated into the system. This customization will further benefit other ongoing/new donor funded projects in the country utilizing the same software (e.g., CSAT).	L
Frequent changes in project staffing leading to a negative impact on business continuity and knowledge retention.	L	A fulltime accountant undertaking the daily financial management related tasks will support the Chief Accountant at MONRE. In the two respective PPMUs, the project will benefit from synergies from having the same PMUs assigned as for CSAT project. Staff are foreseen to be contracted for the full project duration and will not be subject to regular departmental transfers.	L
Lingering impact from COVID-19 pandemic on economy and in turn potential negative impact on timely provision of co-financing.	L	The COVID-19 pandemic situation in the country has overall been well contained and GDP growth rate expected to increase from 2.6% in 2021 to 6.5% in 2022. The Government and the two provinces are highly committed to the project, which is in turn linked to the already negotiated IFAD funded CSAT project.	L

C. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Describe the measures for environmental and social risk management, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

~~162.~~167. All IFAD-funded projects and programmes are designed in a participatory manner and consider the concerns of all stakeholders in compliance with the Fund's policies, standards and safeguards. Moreover,

IFAD's Strategic Framework calls for ensuring that projects and programmes promote the sustainable use of natural resources, build resilience to climate change and are based upon ownership by rural women and men to achieve sustainability. The project design was assessed based on social, environmental and climate assessment procedures (SECAP) at IFAD and aligns with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy at the AF.

~~163.~~168. The expected impact of the project on the environment will be positive. Major sustainable impacts of the project are on environment and natural resources management through: (i) increased mangrove restoration in eco-tourism and eco-aquaculture production areas; (ii) increased innovation in smart adaptation technologies and practices; and (iii) improved community resilience, adaptation/prevention of climate change risks, including salinity intrusion, drought, abnormal rainfall, sea level rise and erosion.

~~164.~~169. The project will minimize environmental and social risks by integrating a safeguarding system in:

- **Institutional processes:** Staff and partners will be guided by the IFAD Project Management Team to identify, assess, manage and/or mitigate environmental and social risks. Processes are in place for the Environmental and Social Risks to be assessed and respective. ESMPs designed and applied for the mitigation of risks related to the 15 ESPs.
- **Execution of 'soft' project activities:** Proposed 'soft' project activities have been screened for environmental and social risks during project preparation. Their design and implementation by an experienced national Service Provider will help ensure that the environmental and social risks are adapted to and context specific to the environmental and social conditions in Viet Nam.

~~165.~~170. The ESMP includes mitigation and monitoring actions and the institutional responsibilities for implementing them. The ESMP integrates a project level grievance mechanism that aims to ensure that appropriate mechanisms are in place to allow individuals and communities file a complaint if they believe they are or might be adversely affected by an IFAD-funded project/programme not complying with IFAD's SECAP. Affected individuals can also contact IFAD directly via its complaint procedure or if their grievance was not resolved at the project level. Additionally, concerns may also be brought to the attention of IFAD in cases where the persons raising the issue feel that they might be subject to retaliation if they were to approach the Lead Agency or other government agency directly. Complaints must concern environmental, social and climate issues and should not be accusations of fraudulent or corrupt activities in relation to project implementation – these are dealt with by IFAD's Office of Audit and Oversight.

D. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Describe the monitoring and evaluation arrangements and provide a budgeted M&E plan.

~~166.~~171. Project Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) will be under the oversight of the provincial PMUs, and led by the M&E officer who will work closely with the Adaptation Fund expert and implementing partners. The project M&E system will be designed to track and verify the levels of achievement of project outputs, the associated outcomes, and the success in achieving the project objective and its development goal. These levels are all causally connected as set out in the project Logical Framework. Monitoring will focus on activities/inputs, outputs, outcomes, performance and risks while evaluation will assess the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and impact on poverty reduction, business growth and environment, empowerment and partnership, sustainability, replicability, lessons learned, and knowledge up-take, all within the context of the requirements for successful climate change adaptation. In specific, the M&E system will: (i) produce, organize and disseminate the information needed for the strategic management of the project; (ii) document the results and lessons learned for internal use and for public dissemination on the achievements; and (iii) respond to the information needs of the Adaptation Fund, IFAD and the Government on the activities, immediate outcomes and impact of the project. An M&E manual that will describe a simple and effective system for collecting, processing, analyzing and disseminating data will be prepared in the first year of project implementation.

~~167.~~172. The project's MIS will be established to provide a comprehensive system of data collection, analysis and exchange. It will bring together physical and financial records with the main purpose of informing management decisions on programme matters. Quantitative measures of progress will be supplemented with qualitative information related to the acquisition of personal and shared skills, group behavior changes, target groups' perception, awareness and attitudes. The MIS will be the sole channel of programme monitoring material and form the basis of six-monthly and annual reports.

~~168.~~173. In order to ensure that a single and compatible system is implemented, the MIS will be set up centrally at project start-up and refinements will be introduced in the light of experience during the first project year. It will be based on the Logical Framework, which, together with the MIS, may be modified at Mid-term Review (MTR) to adjust the project to changing circumstances. The preparation of reporting formats for use by implementing agencies, particularly the participating communes, districts, and other partners will be part of the overall design of the MIS.

~~169.~~174. **Baseline**. The project baseline will be implemented in year one of the project. The added cost-benefit of partnership with IFAD will allow the Adaptation Fund to help mainstream climate change vulnerability assessments into the combined IFAD/AF baseline. Adaptation Fund indicators have already been specified in the PIM and will include climate change related indicators on the extent of climate vulnerability.

~~170.~~175. **Quarterly Progress Reports** will be also prepared by project implementing partners in the field, and submitted to the PMU to ensure continuous monitoring of project activities and identify challenges to adopt necessary corrective measures in due time.

~~171.~~176. **Thematic studies**: The PMU will contract or carry out thematic impact studies that will look at the impact of activities under project outcomes. Such impact assessment will include an analysis of the effectiveness of: poverty impact of co-management and financial incentive mechanism, mangrove related value chains, and mangrove management and climate change adaptation. The topics for these thematic studies will be identified in consultation with relevant government departments and other stakeholders during project implementation, taking into account the forest policies. The Monitoring Framework provides the indicators, collection methods and the usage of the processed data.

~~172.~~177. **Annual Project Report (APR)**. The PMU will prepare an APR to reflect progress achieved in meeting the project's Annual Work Plan and assess performance of the project in contributing to intended outcomes through outputs and partnership work. The format of the APR will include but not limit to the following: (i) an analysis of project performance over the reporting period, including outputs produced and, where possible, information on the status of the outcome; (ii) the constraints experienced in the progress towards results and the reasons for these; (iii) the major constraints to achievement of results; (iv) AWP and other expenditure reports; (v) lessons learned; and (vi) recommendations for future orientation in addressing key problems in lack of progress.

~~173.~~178. **Supervision** will be by IFAD (under its direct supervision framework and guidelines), with a supervision mission conducted at least once per year. Additional implementation support from IFAD on specific identified issues will be mobilized if considered necessary by the Government and IFAD or recommended by the supervision mission. The composition of the supervision missions will be based on an annual supervision plan. The supervision plan will highlight, in addition to the routine supervision tasks (fiduciary, compliance and programme implementation), the main thematic or performance areas that require strengthening and would imply deployment of additional inputs for capacity building, in-depth analytical studies or review of existing policies.

~~174.~~179. **Mid-term Review** and Completion Review: IFAD and the Government will be responsible for carrying out two full reviews of the project achievements: the MTR during Programme Year 3 and the completion review after project completion. Key questions to be addressed during the reviews on the basis of the indicators contained in the Logical Framework will include: (i) have project investments enabled coherent planning for mangrove co-management and poverty reduction; (ii) has project targeting been successful; (iii)

has the project assisted the underemployed in getting jobs and have innovative financial incentives for adaptation in wetland livelihoods been forged effectively; (iv) does the project have the expected financial service outreach; (v) has the market linked for value chains been promoted; (vi) has the project contributed good examples to the national policies related to mangrove; and (vii) how have changes in the external environment including climate change related challenges impacted on project beneficiaries.

~~175.~~180. **Project Completion Report** (PCR): At the end of the implementation period, a single, comprehensive PCR will be compiled by the PMU. The PCR will follow the AF guidelines and format for project completion reports. The assessment criteria will include: participation of the target groups, the project's strategies and approaches, relevance, finance management, efficiency, outputs delivery, effectiveness, impacts, sustainability, Innovation, scalability and replicability.

Table 11: **Budgeted M&E plan**

Category	Responsibility	Timeframe	Budget (US$)
Kick-off workshop	(central) PMU	Y1	303020,000
Baseline, Midterm, and final surveys	(provincial) PMUs	Y1, Y3, Y5	404030,000
Annual Supervision mission	IFAD/CPMU	Once a year	Co-financed by IFAD
Midterm Review	IFAD/CPMU	Y3	15,000
Thematic studies	CPMU/PPMU/external consultants	~ 08 studies	80,000
Final evaluation	IFAD/CPMU	Y5	20,000
Project Completion Report	CPMU	End of project	25,000

E. RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Include a results framework for the project proposal, including milestones, targets, and indicators.

Project objective(s)	Project Objective Indicators	Baseline	Target	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Outreach	**Direct beneficiaries supported by the project** - Female direct beneficiaries - Youth direct beneficiaries		# 21,000 persons - 10,500 females - 6 300 youth[55] (of which 3,150 are females)	• Survey data estimates based on population data in target areas • Project M&E reports • Progress reports • Baseline, mid-term, and final project evaluations	
	Indirect beneficiaries supported by the project -Female indirect beneficiaries - Youth indirect beneficiaries		#10,500 persons - 5,250 females - 3,150 youth (of which 50% are females)		
Project Objective: Pilot, systematize learning and institutionalize financing instruments for scaling up adaptation in coastal livelihood activities ~~(e.g., eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, mangrove NTFP)~~ that contribute to wetland and mangrove forest conservation and sustainable use.	Natural Asset or Ecosystem Rehabilitated (~~Ha of~~ mangrove forest) Change in state Ha rehabilitated ~~restored through either re-growth or new plantation~~		#5,000 ha of mangrove forest rehabilitated (~~restored~~ through re-growth or new plantation with sustainable management models including co-management, PES, and other forms of FIM)	• Project M&E reports • Progress reports • Baseline, mid-term, and final project evaluations	• Commitment of GoV in improvement of mangrove forest management policies in relation to co-management and FIM • Good participation of private sectors and communities in project activities • The interest of EM, women, and young people remains throughout the project implementation
	Total number of natural assets or ecosystems protected/rehabilitated~~No. of smallholder households benefiting from FIM for wetland forest management and adaptation in livelihoods~~	-			

[55] The Vietnamese Youth Law (Law no. 53/2005/QH11) defines youth as 16–30 years.

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	No. of households~~people~~ with at least 20% ~~percentage~~ point increase in their resilience index value at the end of the project		#At least 3,000~~1,200~~ households reporting increase in their resilience index value at the end of the project (~10,500 individuals, 5,250 women; 3,150 youth)	• RDMT • Project M&E reports • Progress reports • Baseline, mid-term, and final project evaluations	
	Women and youth are involved in and benefit from climate adaptive production activities through the implementation of the project's Gender and Youth Action Plan (GYAP)		#80% of GYAP activities – as reflected in the AWPB - are timely implemented every year	• Project M&E reports • Progress reports • Annual PPR • AF/IFAD Supervision/Implementation Support/Completion Mission' Reports	
Component 1: Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland livelihoods					
Outcome: Consortiums of research institutions, SMEs, wetland small-scale producers, and/or community groups are developing successful adaptation solutions for coastal wetland livelihoods	Number of new adaptation technologies, practices or business models for coastal wetland livelihoods are being adopted by small-scale producers, community groups an SMEs		At least 10 new adaptation technologies, practices or business models are being replicated	• M&E reports • Progress reports • Outcome survey	• Competent management of participatory innovation processes by consortium leaders (research institutions or SME)
Subcomponent 1.1: Adaptation research innovation fund (ARIF)					
Output. Establishment of the ARIF	ARIF established and implemented		#1 gender-responsive~~#1~~ ARIF is established and well managed by PPMU with approved manual, assigned staff, screening board, and proper procedures for implementation #100% ARIF grants' selection criteria are in line with the project GYAP #at least 30% of the ARIF screening board members are women	• M&E reports • Progress reports	• Good participation of private sectors and communities in project activities • The interest of EM, women, and young people remains throughout the project implementation

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	No. of ~~research institutions and enterprises receiving~~ ARIF grants disbursed		#At least 15 ~~institutions and enterprises receiving~~ ARIF grants are disbursed	• Progress reports • Mid-term and final project evaluations • Baseline study • Impact assessment • Thematic studies	
	No. of small-scale producer households engaged in research innovation grants		#~1000 small-scale producer households (equivalent to 3,500 individuals, 30% EM in Tra Vinh, 50% women, 30% youth, of which 50% female)~~producer (disaggregated by poverty, sex, age, ethnicity) households~~ benefited from capacity building and/or livelihood improvement through participating in the ARIF		
	No. of innovative adaptation models or technologies demonstrated throughout the ARIF		#At least 15 models or technologies demonstrated		
	No. of adaptation models or technologies replicated through project or GoV policies		#At least 10 models or technologies replicated throughout project (sub-comp 1.2, and comp 2) or GoV policy (through policy advocacy)		
Output. Technical assistance and capacity building for ARIF applicants	No. of TA, knowledge sharing events, and training provided		#Reports, studies on efficiency and effectiveness of TA and capacity building produced #at least 50% of trainees of all project-related capacity building activities are female #at least 30% of trainees of all project-related capacity building activities are youth (of which 50% are female)		
	No. of applicants received TA, information, and capacity building		#At least 100 applicants participated and benefited		

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			from the TA and capacity building		
Subcomponent 1.2: Innovations in financial incentive mechanisms					
Output. Mobilization and convergence of financial resources for wetland management and development	Agreements for partnerships/co-investment in wetland management and adaptation in wetland livelihoods		#At least 5 agreements signed, implemented, and monitored throughout the project implementation	• Progress reports • Mid-term and final project evaluations • Baseline study	• Good participation of private sectors and communities in project activities • The interest of EM, women, and young people remains throughout the project implementation
	Committed budget mobilized from~~form~~ partners for wetland management and adaptation in wetland livelihood		#At least US$ 5 million committed for wetland management and development	• Progress reports • Mid-term and final project evaluations • Baseline study • Impact assessment	
	No. of ~~project beneficiaries (~~households~~)~~ accessing mobilized resources for livelihood adaptation and mangrove forest management		#At least 2,000 households accessing mobilized resources for livelihood adaptation and mangrove forest management (equivalent to 7,000 individuals, 30% EM in Tra Vinh, 50% women, 30% youth, of which 50% female)	• Progress reports • Mid-term and final project evaluations • Baseline study • Impact assessment • Thematic studies	
	No. of enterprises accessing mobilized resources for adaptation in production systems/schemes (e.g. out-grower model) involving small-scale producers in the wetland areas		At least 20 enterprises accessing mobilized resources (prioritizing women-led enterprises)	• Progress reports • Mid-term and final project evaluations • Baseline study • Impact assessment • Thematic studies	
Output. Innovations in financial product development	Innovative adaptation financial products designed and implemented for SME and s~~m~~tall-scale producers		#2 innovative adaptation financial products designed	• Progress reports • Mid-term and final project evaluations • Baseline study • Impact assessment • Thematic studies	
	No. of enterprises accessing the adaptation financial product for SME		#At least 40 enterprises successfully access adaptation financial products and implement successfully		

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			#at least 30% are women-led enterprises		
	Small-scale producers in project areas accessing the adaptation financial products		#At least 4,0000004000 small-scale producers access the adaptation financial products and investing in adapted livelihoods within and around wetland areas (at least 50% ~~women~~female, 30% youth;)		
	No. of TA, knowledge sharing events, and training provided		#Reports, studies on efficiency and effectiveness of TA and capacity building produced		
	No. of financial product recipients who has received TA, information, and capacity building		#At least 100 SMEs and 4,500 small-scale producers have benefited from the TA and capacity building #at least 50% of trainees are female #at least 30% of trainees of all project-related capacity building activities are youth (of which 50% are female)		
Component 2: Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programs					
Outcome. Adaptation Innovations in: technologies, practice and business models; micro finance products; and incentive mechanisms are being scaled up at national level	No. of adaptation innovations replicated through project or GoV policies		#At least 10 adaptation innovations replicated throughout project (sub-comp 1.2, and comp 2) or GoV policy (through policy advocacy)		
Subcomponent 2.1: Learning and assessment of adaptation financing mechanisms					

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Output. Household resilience monitoring for learning on adaptation effectiveness of C1	RDMT household resilience matrix and scorecard tailored to project beneficiaries developed and implemented		#1 gender and youth sensitive resilience scorecard is developed and implemented #Reports, studies on efficiency and effectiveness of the broader adaptation impacts of investments beyond the direct beneficiaries of the project produced	• Progress reports • Mid-term and final project evaluations • Baseline study • Impact assessment • Thematic studies	• Good participation of private sectors and communities in project activities • The interest of EM, women, and young people remains throughout the project implementation
Subcomponent 2.2 Policy reforms and institutionalization					
Output. Knowledge management	Policy relevant knowledge products completed		#At least 10 policy relevant knowledge product packaged, disseminated, and replicated #at least 30% are on project's lessons learnt on gender and climate adaptation	• RDMT • Progress reports • Mid-term and final project evaluations • Baseline study • Impact assessment • Thematic studies	• Commitment of GoV in improvement of mangrove forest management policies in relation to co - management and FIM • Good participation of private sectors and communities in project activities • The interest of EM, women, and young people remains throughout the project implementation
	No. of people benefited from the knowledge management		#At least 3,000 people at all levels benefited from the knowledge products through the information sharing and policy dialogue events -		
Output. Policy reforms and institutionalization	No. of policy dialogue meetings held~~organized and implemented~~		#At least 10 policy dialogue events held~~organized~~ at central and provincial level #at least 5 training sessions to implementing agencies on the current main issues in terms of linkages between gender considerations and climate change provided		
	National and provincial level policy related reformed and institutionalized		#At least 2 related policies in gender-sensitive mangrove forest management and financial incentive mechanism reformed or institutionalized		

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F. Alignment with Adaptation Fund Results Framework

Demonstrate how the project aligns with the Results Framework of the Adaptation Fund.

Project Outcomebjective(s)[56]	Project Outcomebjective Indicat	Fund Outcome	Fund Outcome Indicator	Grant Amount (US$)
Outreach	Direct beneficiaries supported by the project -Female direct beneficiaries -Youth direct beneficiaries	Increased adaptive capacity of communities to respond to the impacts of climate change Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas	Number of beneficiaries (direct and indirect) 6.1 Percentage of households and communities having more secure access to livelihood assets	
	Indirect beneficiaries supported by the project -Female indirect beneficiaries -Youth indirect beneficiaries			
Project Objective: Pilot, systematize learning and institutionalize financing instruments for scaling up adaptation in coastal livelihood activities (e.g., eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, mangrove NTFP) that contribute to wetland and mangrove forest conservation and sustainable use.	Natural Asset or Ecosystem (Ha of mangrove forest) ha of mangrove forest rehabilitated) restored through either re-growth or new plantation	Outcome 5: Increased ecosystem resilience in response to climate change and variability-induced stress	5. Ecosystem services and natural resource assets maintained or improved under climate change and variability-induced stress	
	Total number of natural assets or ecosystems protected/rehabilitatedNo. of smallholder households benefiting from FIM for wetland forest management	Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas	6.1 Percentage of households and communities having more secure access to livelihood assets	
	No.N of householdspeople with at least 20% percentage point increase in their resilience index value at the end of the project	Impact: Increased resiliency at the community, national, and regional levels to climate variability and change.	6.2. Percentage of targeted population with sustained climate-resilient alternative livelihoods	

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[56] The AF utilized OECD/DAC terminology for its results framework. Project proponents may use different terminology but the overall principle should still apply

		~~**Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas**~~		
	~~Women and youth are involved in and benefit from climate adaptive production activities through the implementation of the project's Gender and Youth Action Plan (GYAP)~~			
Project Objective: Pilot, systematize learning and institutionalize financing instruments for scaling up adaptation in coastal livelihood activities (e.g., eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, mangrove NTFP) that contribute to wetland and mangrove forest conservation and sustainable use and improved livelihoods.	**Direct beneficiaries supported by the project** - Female direct beneficiaries - Youth direct beneficiaries **Indirect beneficiaries supported by the project** -Female indirect beneficiaries - Youth indirect beneficiaries	**Impact: Increased resiliency at the community, national, and regional levels to climate variability and change.**	Number of beneficiaries (direct and indirect)	
Outcome 1 : Consortiums of research institutions, SMEs, wetland small-scale producers, and/or community groups are developing successful	Number of new adaptation technologies, practices or business models for coastal wetland livelihoods are being adopted by small-scale producers, community groups an SMEs	**Outcome 8: Support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies**	8. Innovative adaptation practices are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated at regional, national and/or subnational level.	

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adaptation solutions for coastal wetland livelihoods	Women and youth are involved in and benefit from climate adaptive production activities through the implementation of the project's Gender and Youth Action Plan (GYAP)	**Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas**	6.2. Percentage of targeted population with sustained climate-resilient alternative livelihoods	
	No. of households with at least 20% percentage point increase in their resilience index value at the end of the project	**Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas**	6.2. Percentage of targeted population with sustained climate-resilient alternative livelihoods	
Outcome 2: Adaptation Innovations in: technologies, practice and business models; micro finance products; and incentive mechanisms are being scaled up at national level	No. of adaptation innovations replicated through project or GoV policies	**Outcome 8: Support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies**	8. Innovative adaptation practices are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated at regional, national and/or subnational level.	
	Total number of natural assets or ecosystems protected/rehabilitated	**Outcome 5: Increased ecosystem resilience in response to climate change and variability-induced stress**	5. Ecosystem services and natural resource assets maintained or improved under climate change and variability-induced stress	
Project Outputcome(s)	**Project Outputcome Indicator(s)**	**Fund Output**	**Fund Output Indicator**	**Grant Amount (US$)**
Component 1: Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland livelihoods				
Outcome: Consortiums of research institutions, SMEs, wetland small scale producers, and/or community groups are developing successful adaptation solutions for coastal wetland livelihoods	Number of new adaptation technologies, practices or business models for coastal wetland livelihoods are being adopted by small-scale producers, community groups an SMEs	**Outcome 8: Support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies**	8. Innovative adaptation practices are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated at regional, national and/or subnational level.	

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Subcomponent 1.1: Adaptation research innovation fund (ARIF)				1,100,000
Output. **Establishment of ARIF**	ARIF established and implemented	Output 8: Viable innovations are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated. ~~**Number of partnerships in innovation leveraged**~~	8.1. No. of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies accelerated, scaled-up and/or replicated ~~Number of innovation related partnerships created~~	100,000
	~~No. of research institutions and enterprises involved in ARIF grants disbursed~~	~~**Outcome 2: Strengthened institutional capacity to reduce risks associated with climate-induced socioeconomic and environmental losses**~~	~~2.2.1 No. of targeted institutions benefitting from the direct access and enhanced direct access modality~~	
	No. of ARIF grants disbursed~~No of smallholders households engaged in research innovation grants~~	~~**Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level**~~ Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability	~~3.2. Percentage of targeted population applying appropriate adaptation responses~~ 6.1.1.No. and type of adaptation assets (tangible and intangible) created or strengthened in support of individual or community livelihood strategies	1,000,000
	No of smallholders households engaged in research innovation grants ~~No. of innovative adaptation models or technologies demonstratedimplemented throughout the ARIF~~	Output 3.2: Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning~~**Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at**~~	~~3.2. Percentage of targeted population applying appropriate adaptation~~ 8.2. No. of key findings on effective, efficient ~~adaptation practices, products and technologies generated~~ **3.2.2 No. of tools and guidelines developed (thematic, sectoral, institutional) and shared with relevant stakeholders**	

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		local level Outcome 8: Support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies		
	No. of innovative adaptation business models or technologies developed and demonstrated No. of adaptation models or technologies replicated through project or GoV policies	Output 8: Viable innovations are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated. Number of innovations advanced Outcome 8: Support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies	Number of innovative solutions deployed, adapted or improved 8.1. No. of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies accelerated, scaled-up and/or replicated 8.2. No. of key findings on effective, efficient adaptation practices, products and technologies generated	
Output. Technical assistance and capacity building for ARIF applicants	No of TA, knowledge sharing events, and training provided	Output 3.1: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities Number of innovation "learning and sharing" initiatives Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level	3.2.2 No. of tools and guidelines developed (thematic, sectoral, institutional) and shared with relevant stakeholders Number of "learning and sharing" initiatives in innovation 3.2.2 No. of tools and guidelines developed (thematic, sectoral, institutional) and shared with relevant stakeholders	
Subcomponent 1.2: Innovations in financial incentive mechanisms				2,560,224500,000
Output. Mobilization and convergence of financial resources for wetland management and development	Agreements for partnerships/co-investment in wetland management and adaptation in wetland livelihoodsdevelopment	Output 7: Improved integration of climate-resilience strategies into country development plansOutcome 7: Improved policies and regulations	7.2. No. of targeted development strategies with incorporated climate change priorities enforced	100,000

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		~~that promote and enforce resilience measures~~		
	Committed budget mobilized from partners for wetland management and adaptation in wetland livelihood~~development~~	**Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability~~Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas~~**	6.1.1.No. and type of adaptation assets (tangible and intangible) created or strengthened in support of individual or community livelihood strategies ~~6.1 Percentage of households and communities having more secure access to livelihood assets~~	
	No. of ~~project beneficiaries (~~households~~)~~ accessing mobilized resources~~the budget~~ for livelihood adaptation~~improvement~~ and mangrove forest management	**Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability~~Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas~~**	~~6. 1 Percentage of households and communities having more secure access to livelihood assets~~ 6.1.1.No. and type of adaptation assets (tangible and intangible) created or strengthened in support of individual or community livelihood strategies	
	No. of enterprises accessing mobilized resources~~the budget~~ for adaptation in production systems/schemes (e.g ~~development and implementation of~~ out-grower model) involving small-scale producers~~models~~ in the wetland areas	Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability~~Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for~~	6.1.1.No. and type of adaptation assets (tangible and intangible) created or strengthened in support of individual or community livelihood strategies ~~6.1 Percentage of households and communities having more secure access to livelihood assets~~	

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		~~vulnerable people in targeted areas~~		
Output. Innovative financial products development	Innovative adaptation~~The innovative green~~ financial products designed and implemented for SME and small-scale producers ~~smallholder households~~	~~**Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas**~~ Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability	6.1.1.No. and type of adaptation assets (tangible and intangible) created or strengthened in support of individual or community livelihood strategies ~~6.1 Percentage of households and communities having more secure access to livelihood assets~~	2,460,224
	No. of enterprises accessing the adaptation~~green~~ financial product for SME	~~**Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas**~~ Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability	6.1.1.No. and type of adaptation assets (tangible and intangible) created or strengthened in support of individual or community livelihood strategies ~~6.1 Percentage of households and communities having more secure access to livelihood assets~~	
	Small-scale producers~~Persons~~ in project areas accessing the adaptation~~green~~ financial products ~~for smallholders~~	~~**Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas**~~ Output 6: Targeted individual and community	~~6.1 Percentage of households and communities having more secure access to livelihood assets~~ 6.1.1.No. and type of adaptation assets (tangible and intangible) created or strengthened in support of individual or community livelihood strategies	

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		livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability		
	No of TA, knowledge sharing events, and training provided	Output 3.1: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities~~Outcome 4: Increased adaptive capacity within relevant development sector services and infrastructure assets~~	3.2.2 No. of tools and guidelines developed (thematic, sectoral, institutional) and shared with relevant stakeholders ~~4.1. Responsiveness of development sector services to evolving needs from changing and variable climate~~	
	No. of financial product recipients who has~~applicants~~ received TA, information, and capacity building	Output 3.1: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities~~Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level~~	3.2.2 No. of tools and guidelines developed (thematic, sectoral, institutional) and shared with relevant stakeholders ~~3.2. Percentage of targeted population applying appropriate adaptation responses~~	
Component 2: Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programs				
~~**Outcome.** Adaptation Innovations in: technologies, practice and business models; micro finance products; and incentive mechanisms are being scaled up at national level~~	~~No. of adaptation innovations replicated through project or GoV policies~~	~~**Outcome 8: Support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies**~~	~~8.1. No. of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies accelerated, scaled-up and/or replicated~~	
Subcomponent 2.1 Learning and assessment of adaptation financing mechanisms				240,000~~300,000~~

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Output. Household resilience monitoring for learning on adaptation effectiveness of C1	RDMT household resilience matrix and scorecard tailored to project beneficiaries developed and implemented	Output 8: Viable innovations are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated. ~~**Outcome 8: Support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies**~~	8.2. No. of key findings on effective, efficient adaptation practices, products and technologies generated	
Subcomponent 2.2 Policy reforms and institutionalization				270,283~~270,507~~
Output. Knowledge management	Policy relevant knowledge products completed	Output 3.1: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities ~~**Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level**~~	3.1.1 No. of news outlets in the local press and media that have covered the topic	150,000
	No of people benefited from the knowledge management	Output 3.1: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities ~~**Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level**~~	3.1.1 No. of news outlets in the local press and media that have covered the topic ~~3.1. Percentage of targeted population aware of predicted adverse impacts of climate change, and of appropriate responses~~	
Output. Policy reforms and institutionalization	No. of policy dialogue meetings held~~organized and implemented~~	Output 7: Improved integration of climate-resilience strategies into country development plans~~**Outcome 7: Improved policies and regulations that promote and enforce resilience measures**~~	7.1. No. of policies introduced or adjusted to address climate change risks (by sector) ~~7. Climate change priorities are integrated into national development strategy~~	120,283

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	National and provincial level policy related reformed and institutionalized	Output 7: Improved integration of climate-resilience strategies into country development plans~~Outcome 7: Improved policies and regulations that promote and enforce resilience measures~~	7.1. No. of policies introduced or adjusted to address climate change risks (by sector)	

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G. PROJECT BUDGET

Include a detailed budget with budget notes, broken down by country as applicable, a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use, and an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs.

~~176.~~181. The table below presents the detailed budget of the project per activity.

Table 12: Detailed project budget per outputs

Outputs/ activities by components	AF	IFAD CSAT project co-funding	Government of Viet Nam	Beneficiaries	Total budget
1. Component 1: Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland livelihoods	3,600,000	-	-	478,571	4,078,571
Outcome/ Subcomponent 1.1: Adaptation research innovation fund (ARIF)	1,100,000	-	-	478,571	1,578,571
Output 1.1.1. Adaptation research innovation fund properly designed and operated	100,000	-	-	50,000	150,000
Preparation, set-up and operation of ARIF (including manual development, board, PR, reporting, etc.)	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Technical assistance and capacity building for applicants /a	50,000	-	-	50,000	100,000
Workshops and trainings for stakeholders	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Output 1.1.2. Participatory action research (PAR) innovation grants provided (at least 15) /b	1,000,000	-	-	428,571	1,428,571
PAR grants	1,000,000	-	-	428,571	1,428,571
Outcome/ Subcomponent 1.2: Innovations in financial incentive mechanisms	2,500,000				2,500,000
Output 1.2.1. Financial resources for wetland management and development mobilized and converged	400,000	-	-	-	400,000
Linkage and cooperation agreement with existing financial institutions	200,000	-	-	-	200,000
Outreach activities and capacity building		200,000	-	-	- 200,000
Output 1.2.2. Innovative financial products for farmers in FG and SMEs developed and piloted	2,100,000	-	-	-	2,100,000
Technical assistance for financial product development and piloting /c	393,277	-	-	-	393,277
Climate smart credit line seed capital (60% for green credit for farmers, 40% for SMEs) /d	1,600,000	-	-	-	1,600,000
Two Rural Finance Specialists (RFS) for two provinces		91,723	-	-	- 91,723
Travel costs and others for RFS	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
2. Component 2: Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programs	570,507	-	-	-	570,507
Outcome/ Sub-component 2.1: Learning and assessment of adaptation financing mechanisms	300,000	-	-	-	300,000
Output 2.1.1. Household resilience score card applied to monitor the broader adaptation impacts of investments	300,000	-	-	-	300,000
Technical assistance for application of household resilience score card (including mobile application development)	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Capacity building for stakeholders	93,277	-	-	-	93,277
Two resilience M&E officers for two provinces		91,723	-	-	- 91,723
Travel costs and others for resilience M&E officers		15,000	-	-	- 15,000

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Outcome/ Subcomponent 2.2: Policy reforms and institutionalization	270,507	-	-	-	270,507	
Output 2.2.1. Policy relevant knowledge products (at least 10) packaged, disseminated, and replicated	150,224	-	-	-	150,224	
Documentation and packaging of newly generated knowledge and experience	25,000				25,000	Formatted Table
Studies and assessment (including gender related studies as per GYAP)		70,000			70,000	
Knowledge dissemination activities	15,000				15,000	Formatted Table
Knowledge Management (KM) officer - full time 2.5 years, financed by AF grant		25,224			25,224	
Travel costs and others for KM officers		15,000		-	15,000	
Output 2.2.2. Policy agenda at national and provincial levels supported through policy dialogue (at least 10) and TA for mangrove forest management and FIM - related policies (at least 2)	120,283	-	-	-	120,283	
Policy dialogue events (05) at the provincial levels and support for Climate Change offices	50,142				50,142	Formatted Table
Policy dialogues events (05) at the national level	50,142				50,142	
Technical assistance for policy development on mangrove forest management and FIM (02)	20,000	-	-	-	20,000	
Project/Programme Execution cost	437,788	349,314	26,841	-	813,943	
National project management unit (NPMU) MONRE	333,788	-	26,841	-	360,629	
Project director - part-time, financed by GOV	-	-	6,421	-	6,421	Formatted Table
Project chief accountant - part-time, financed by GOV	-	-	6,421	-	6,421	
Project manager - full time, financed by AF grant	64,206	-	-	-	64,206	
Project accountant - full time, financed by AF grant	46,000	-	-	-	46,000	
Training and TA	29,493	-	-	-	29,493	
Equipment and management support	2,000	-	6,000	-	8,000	
Operating costs (office costs, travel, communication, MIS, etc.)		-	6,000	-	6,000	
NPMO - PPMU coordination meetings (quarterly, online/ offline)	-	-	2,000	-	2,000	
Kick-off and final workshops	30,000	-	-	-	30,000	
Audits 5 years	75,000	-	-	-	75,000	
MTR and final evaluation	35,000	-	-	-	35,000	
Project completion report	25,000	-	-	-	25,000	
Ben Tre	52,000	174,657	-	-	226,657	
Provincial Project Director - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project		-	6,421	-	-	6,421
FM and procurement staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project		-	6,421	-	-	6,421
M&E staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project		-	13,758	-	-	13,758
Strategic management staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project		-	59,620	-	-	59,620
Equipment and management support - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project		29,500	55,474	-	-	84,974
Operating costs - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project		7,500	32,963	-	-	40,463
Baseline, Midterm, and final surveys		15,000	-	-	-	15,000
Tra Vinh		52,000	174,657	-	-	226,657
Provincial Project Director - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	-	6,421	-	-	6,421	Formatted Table
FM and procurement staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	-	6,421	-	-	6,421	

M&E staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	-	13,758	-	-	13,758
Strategic management staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	-	59,620	-	-	59,620
Equipment and management support - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	29,500	55,474	-	-	84,974
Operating costs - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	7,500	32,963	-	-	40,463
Baseline, Midterm, and final surveys	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
-					
3. Total Project/Programme Cost	4,608,295	349,314	26,841	478,571	5,463,021
-					
4. Project Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable) /e	391,705	-	-	-	391,705
Financial management and control, legal and other administrative services		60,323	-	-	60,323
Project Development, Technical and Implementation Support, supervision and monitoring		331,382	-	-	331,382
GRAND TOTAL	5,000,000	349,314	26,841	478,571	5,854,726

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Outputs/ activities by components	AF	IFAD CSAT project co-funding	Government of Viet Nam	Beneficiaries	Total budget
1. Component 1: Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland livelihoods	3,660,224	-	-	478,571	4,138,795
Outcome/ Subcomponent 1.1: Adaptation research innovation fund (ARIF)	1,100,000	-	-	478,571	1,578,571
Output 1.1.1. Adaptation research innovation fund properly designed and operated	100,000	-	-	50,000	150,000
Preparation, set-up and operation of ARIF (including manual development, board, PR, reporting, etc.)	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Technical assistance and capacity building for applicants /a	50,000	-	-	50,000	100,000
Workshops and trainings for stakeholders	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Output 1.1.2. Participatory action research (PAR) innovation grants provided (at least 15) /b	1,000,000	-	-	428,571	1,428,571
PAR grants	1,000,000	-	-	428,571	1,428,571
Outcome/ Subcomponent 1.2: Innovations in financial incentive mechanisms	2,560,224				2,560,224
Output 1.2.1. Financial resources for wetland management and development mobilized and converged	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Dialogues, technical workshops, associated trainings for mobilization and convergence of resources	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Output 1.2.2. Innovative financial products for farmers in FG and SMEs developed and piloted	2,460,224	-	-	-	2,460,224
Technical assistance for financial product development and piloting /c	350,224	-	-	-	350,224
Climate smart credit line seed capital (60% for green credit for farmers, 40% for SMEs) /d	2,000,000	-	-	-	2,000,000
Hands-on consultancy for membership network development/	110,000	-	-	-	110,000

group formation and credit operation					
2. Component 2: Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programs	510,283	-	-	-	510,283
Outcome/ Sub-component 2.1: Learning and assessment of adaptation financing mechanisms	240,000	-	-	-	240,000
Output 2.1.1. Household resilience score card applied to monitor the broader adaptation impacts of investments	240,000	-	-	-	240,000
Technical assistance for application of household resilience score card (including mobile application development)	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Capacity building for stakeholders (including farmers) and implementation	140,000	-	-	-	140,000
Outcome/ Subcomponent 2.2: Policy reforms and institutionalization	270,283	-	-	-	270,283
Output 2.2.1. Policy relevant knowledge products (at least 10) packaged, disseminated, and replicated	150,000	-	-	-	150,000
Studies and assessment (including gender related studies as per GYAP)	90,000				90,000
Documentation and packaging of newly generated knowledge and experience	40,000				40,000
20,000Knowledge dissemination activities	20,000				20,000
Output 2.2.2. Policy agenda at national and provincial levels supported through policy dialogue (at least 10) and TA for mangrove forest management and FIM - related policies (at least 2)	120,283	-	-	-	120,283
Policy dialogue events (05) at the provincial levels and support for Climate Change offices	50,142				50,142
Policy dialogues events (05) at the national level	50,141				50,141
Technical assistance for policy development on mangrove forest management and FIM (02)	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Project/Programme Execution cost	437,788	349,314	26,841	-	813,943
National project management unit (NPMU) MONRE	308,788	-	26,841	-	335,629
Project director - part-time, financed by GOV	-	-	6,421	-	6,421
Project chief accountant - part-time, financed by GOV	-	-	6,420	-	6,420
Project manager - full time, financed by AF grant	64,206	-	-	-	64,206
Project accountant - full time, financed by AF grant	46,000	-	-	-	46,000
Training and TA	29,493	-	-	-	29,493
Equipment and management support	4,089	-	6,000	-	10,089
Operating costs (office costs, travel, communication, MIS, etc.)		-	6,000	-	6,000
NPMO - PPMU coordination meetings (quarterly, online/ offline)	-	-	2,000	-	2,000
Kick-off and final workshops	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
Audits 5 years	75,000	-	-	-	75,000
MTR and final evaluation	35,000	-	-	-	35,000
Project completion report	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Ben Tre	64,500	174,657	-	-	239,157

Provincial Project Director - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	-	6,421	-	-	6,421
FM and procurement staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	-	6,421	-	-	6,421
M&E staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	-	13,758	-	-	13,758
Strategic management staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	-	59,620	-	-	59,620
Equipment and management support - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	29,500	55,474	-	-	84,974
Operating costs - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	15,000	32,963	-	-	47,963
Baseline, midterm, and final surveys	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Tra Vinh	64,500	174,657	-	-	239,157
Provincial Project Director - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	-	6,421	-	-	6,421
FM and procurement staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	-	6,421	-	-	6,421
M&E staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	-	13,758	-	-	13,758
Strategic management staff - part-time, shared with and financed by IFAD CSAT project	-	59,620	-	-	59,620
Equipment and management support - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	29,500	55,474	-	-	84,974
Operating costs - cost shared with IFAD CSAT project	15,000	32,963	-	-	47,963
Baseline, midterm, and final surveys	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
3. Total Project/Programme Cost	4,608,295	349,314	26,841	478,571	5,463,021
4. Project Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable) /e	391,705	-	-	-	391,705
GRAND TOTAL	**5,000,000**	**349,314**	**26,841**	**478,571**	**5,854,726**

Notes:

a/ To be cost-shared by the project and applicants preferably at 30%-7070~~50%-50~~%

b/ Up to US$50,000 per grant, maximum 70% of cost; remaining 30% to be borne by proponents (partnerships between small-scale producers/community groups - research institutions - private companies)

c/ Two WDF in two provinces, US$ 200,000 each to cover: assessment of WDF readiness, product design for SMEs and smallholder farmers, TA and capacity building for WDF and potential borrowers

d/ Two WDF in two provinces, US$ 800,000 each, 60% for climate smart credit for farmers, 40% for SMEs.

e/ Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (IFAD).

See Sub-table 12a for more detailed breakdown

f/ the Output 1.1.1 includes compliance with USP screening requirements

Table 13: Project cycle management fee charged by the Implementing Entity

PROJECT CYCLE MANAGEMENT FEE, CHARGED OVER TOTAL PROJECT DURATION		
Activity	**Percentage**	**Amount (in USD)**
Financial Management and Legal Support	20%	78 341
Development and Preparation Activities	20%	78 341
Technical and Implementation Support, Overall Coordination	30%	117 512
Project supervision and Monitoring, Mid-Term Evaluation, Final Evaluation	20%	78 341
Audit and Overall Administration Support costs	10%	39 170
Total Implementing Entity Management Fee	**100%**	**391 705**

H. DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE

Include a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones.

Table 141413: Project Disbursement Schedule in US$

	YEAR						
	2023-24	**2024-25**	**2025-26**	**2026-27**	**2027-28**	**2028**	**TOTAL (US$)**
Scheduled date (tentative)	January 2023 (or upon signature)	June 2024	June 2025	June 2026	June 2027	June 2028	
Project costs	1 390 000	770 000	722 000	600 000	362 000	326 507	4 170 507
Project execution costs (PM costs)	98 114	89 575	88 575	76 159	63 283	22 082	437 788
Total project costs							**4 608 295**
Implementing Entity fee (8.5%)	126 490	73 064	68 899	57 474	36 148	29 630	391 705
Total AF grant funds							**5 000 000**

PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENTS AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT 57

Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement for each country participating in the proposed project / programme. Add more lines as necessary. The endorsement letters should be attached as an annex to the project/programme proposal. Please attach the endorsement letters with this template; add as many participating governments if a regional project/programme:

Dr Tran Hong Ha, *Minister* *Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment* *Socialist Republic of Viet Nam*	Date*:*

[6] Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.

B. IMPLEMENTING ENTITY CERTIFICATION

Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number and email address

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.	
Implementing Entity coordinator: Mr Tom Mwangi Anyonge *Director a.i* *Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion Division*	
Date: _08 August 2022_____	e-mail: t.anyonge@ifad.org ecgmailbox@ifad.org t.anyonge@ifad.org ecgmailbox@ifad.org
Ms Janie Rioux Senior Technical Specialist (Climate change), ECG Division	email: j.rioux@ifad.org
~~Project contact person:~~ ~~Ms Kisa Mfalila, Regional Climate and Environment Specialist~~	
~~e-mail: k.mfalila@ifad.org~~	
Mr Francisco Pichon, IFAD Vietnam Country Director	
e-mail: f.pichon@ifad.org	
e-mail: f.pichon@ifad.org	

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ADAPTATION FUND

LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT

[Government Letter Head]

[Date of Endorsement Letter]

To: The Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement for [Title of Project/Programme]

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in [country], I confirm that the above (select national or regional) project/programme proposal is in accordance with the government's (select national or regional) priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the (select country or region).

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project/programme proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project/programme will be implemented by [implementing entity] and executed by [national or local executing entity].

Sincerely,

[Name of Designated Government Official]
[Position/Title in Government]

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

I. SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

1. The remarkable macroeconomic development record over the past 30 years transformed Viet Nam from one of the world's poorest nations to a lower middle-income country. The economic and political reforms have spurred rapid economic growth and development. The economy is performing well, propelled by sustained global recovery and continued domestic reforms. Robust growth is boosting job creation and income, leading to broad-based welfare gains and poverty reduction. Viet Nam's gross domestic product is estimated to have increased by 7% in 2019. Between 2009 and 2019, the contribution to the GDP by the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors grew by 70%, from US$ 20.2 billion to US$ 34.3 billion. In contrast, agriculture's contribution to the GDP has decreased from 25% in 2000 to 15% in 2018, reflecting a profound transformation of Viet Nam's economy. The outbreak of COVID-19 has had a significant impact on Viet Nam's economic development in 2020. The GDP growth in 2020 was reduced to 2.9%[58]. The manufacturing sector collapsed and lost millions of jobs, whilst small and family businesses faced bankruptcy. In response, current GoV policies focus on recovery by boosting investments in public infrastructure, access to finance, labour productivity and use of digital technology.

2. **Poverty.** Viet Nam has made impressive progress in poverty reduction. The proportion of the population living below the national poverty line reached 6% in 2019, down by over 70% from 1993. More than 40 million people escaped poverty over the period, mainly from rapid economic growth that has created more and better jobs.[59] The remaining poor live in rural, remote, mountainous areas in Viet Nam's northern and central uplands. Most of the poor belong to ethnic minority groups. In the Mekong Delta region, the poverty headcount ratio stands at 5.9%, due to the high population density. Poor households rely on informal sources of income, e.g. small household enterprises and occasional wage employment. Earnings in these sectors are typically variable and tend to be lower than in the formal sector. Vulnerability to external shocks is prevalent among households with a strong dependence on agricultural and non-wage and wage incomes,[60] and with limited access to required water infrastructure, insurance and climate-sensitive agro-advisory services to mitigate such risks. In addition, illness, death and external shocks such as loss of employment due to COVID-19 or natural disasters can push poor and low-income families deeper into poverty. Around 400,000 smallholders in the targeted province practice fragmented, low investment, risky and low-profitable agriculture. Limited group aggregation capacities and lack of market infrastructure constrains their participation to remunerative value chains. Despite policy promoting financial inclusion, agricultural and value chain finance remains limited and it constrains farmers' ability to make required investments to meet climate challenge and value chain requirements.

3. **Agriculture.** Growth in the agriculture sector is fueled by significant export earnings from fisheries, wood and wood products, cashews, coffee, rice, rubber, black pepper, tea and cinnamon. Export earnings from agriculture reached US$ 41 billion in 2019, contributing to an agriculture trade surplus of about US$ 20 billion[61]. Agriculture's significant contribution to the economic growth and rural poverty reduction has come at a cost. Growth in the sector has been heavily subsidized by unsustainable exploitation of soil, water and forest resources, and the degradation and loss of the ecological services that they provide. In the Mekong Delta,

[58] https://www.worldbank.org/vi/country/vietnam/overview#:~:text=Kinh%20t%E1%BA%BF%20v%C4%A9%20m%C3%B4%20v%C3%A0.h%E1%BA%A3ng%20l%C3%A0%206-7%25

[59] According to the Decision No. 1614/QD-TTg of the GoV, promulgating the multi-dimensional poverty measure, poor household is a household whose per capita income does not exceed the policy poverty line (VND 1 million in Urban – VND 800,000 in rural) or exceeds the policy poverty line but lower than the minimum income standard and it is deprived in a third or more of ten indicators of basic services. Near poor household is a household whose per capita income exceeds the policy poverty line but does not exceed the minimum living standard (VND 1-1.3 million in urban, VND800,000 – 1 million in rural) and it is deprived in a third or more of ten indicators of basic services.

[60] https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/Viet Nam/overview

[61] Available online at: https://vietnam.opendevelopmentmekong.net/topics/agriculture-and-fishing/

overuse of surface and ground water is leading to water scarcity for irrigation and household use. Climate change effects like rising sea level, droughts and increasing air temperatures, have aggravated these impacts on agriculture.

4. **Climate change.** Viet Nam has been ranked among the five countries likely to be most affected by climate change. It has been estimated that climate change will reduce national income by up to 3.5% by 2050.[62] The Mekong Delta is considered one of the most vulnerable river deltas to climate change impacts, notably in terms of sea level rise, droughts, extreme heat, severe storms and flooding, all of which are causing substantial economic and human losses[63]. The compounded effects of global warming, the construction of more than 470 hydro-power and other dams, sand mining upstream the Mekong river system and overexploitation of groundwater, which exacerbates land subsidence and sea level rise, have aggravated sea water intrusion in river water and cropland, which in turn increased salinity, reduced water flow, contributed to low sedimentation and reduced biodiversity. There is reduced domestic water supply during the dry season. Due to limited climate-sensitive planning, non-climate adapted production systems and non-climate adapted infrastructure, drought disasters have affected 200,000 hectares of rice and fruit cultivation in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces and pushed 11,000 households back into poverty, while an additional 65,000 households [64] became highly vulnerable[65]. About 50% of Viet Nam's rice is produced in the Mekong Delta, with 80% being exported. Hence, the delta holds an important economic role representing an income and foreign exchange earner for Viet Nam. Saline water intrusion into cropland threatens the lucrative rice cultivation (with 3 harvests per year) and forces farmers to shift to lower productive, saline-tolerant production. This has been exacerbated with a lack or poor quality of productive infrastructures such as access roads for production areas and irrigation systems, making these infrastructures inefficient and prone to damages as a result of extreme weather events. The compounded effects of climate change and overexploitation of natural resources put agriculture at serious risks and demands policies, such as the resolution 120[66], to be implemented in a quick and effective manner.

5. **Project approach.** To address the vulnerabilities to climate change of small-scale producers and their communities, the IFIA project will be focused on the two highly impacted coastal provinces of the Mekong Delta River, i.e., Ben Tre and Tra Vinh provinces. Agricultural production in this area is highly impacted by environmental degradation due to climate change and unsustainable farming practices. The livelihoods of small-scale producers and their communities are at risk, with increasing deterioration of natural resources and biodiversity loss. Key climate risks in the two provinces include sea level rise, salt water intrusion, increased frequency and intensity in storm surges and coastal flooding, rising temperatures and related evapotranspiration, and increased frequency of extreme events such as heavy rainfalls and dry spells, leading to severe water scarcity. The lack of a wetland forest buffer from the sea and reduced vegetation cover due to exposure to wind and water erosion, as well as saltwater intrusion combined with poor soil management practice, provoke run-offs causing erosion followed by stress from prolonged dry periods, and affect groundwater resources reducing freshwater availability, rendering coastal communities extremely vulnerable to water scarcity and damages to croplands and assets. Adaptation-based climate-resilient agricultural practices, including sustainable mangrove management and eco-aquaculture, improve soil fertility management and reduce soil and water erosion.

6. The scaling up of climate adaptation solutions to sustainable mangrove management and aquaculture and fisheries production has two major constraints, including: i) the need for further innovation in adaptation technologies and practices to respond to the increasing challenges posed by climate change and include increased mangrove restoration in eco-tourism and eco-aquaculture production areas; and ii) lack of financing mechanisms to expand eco-tourism and eco-aquaculture, in particular for covering the transition costs for small-scale producers to extensive shrimp farming and technologies. To address these barriers, the project will

[62] German watch (Kreft et al, 2017) Climate Risk Country Profile: Vietnam. ADB,WB, 2020
[63] United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) Prevention Web - https://www.preventionweb.net/countries/vnm/data/
[64] Provincial People's Committees of Tra Vinh, Ben Tre – Socio Economic Development of Tra Vinh, Ben Tre in the period 2015-2020.
[65] Livelihood vulnerability index is a measure of vulnerability of farmer households in disaster-prone areas with three measurement indicators, namely, exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity - https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6676940/#:~:text=Livelihood%20vulnerability%20index%2FLVI-IPCC,exposure%2C%20sensitivity%20and%20adaptive%20capacity.
[66] https://english.luatvietnam.vn/resolution-no120-nq-cp-dated-november-17-2017-of-the-government-on-sustainable-and-climate-resilient-development-of-the-mekong-river-delta-118378-Doc1.html

link with private companies engaged in developing solutions adapting livelihoods to the new climatic and saltwater intrusion conditions, and providing technical assistance to small-scale farmers in converting to extensive eco-shrimp farming. This type of sustainable production, combined with mangrove conservation, leads to increased environmental benefits and contributes to adaptation enhancement and overall climate resilience.

7. IFIA objective is to promote innovations in financing products and mechanisms to support wider adoption and scaling up of sustainable wetland and mangrove forest management and other coastal adaptation initiatives. The project will build on IFAD's extensive network of partners and collaborators in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces, including private sector entities, micro-finance institutions, provincial and district governments, research institutions and small-scale producers engaged in eco-aquaculture and eco-tourism.

8. The IFIA design envisaged the assessment of the social, environmental, and climate risks and impacts, conducted in accordance with IFAD's 2021 Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP), national environmental laws, policies, and regulations, the Agricultural Restructuring Program and Resolution 120, the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy. This will be complemented by the development of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) that will detail mitigation actions to address the risks and impacts identified during the evaluation. In the event of adverse climate occurrences such as heavy rain associated with strong wind, the two province administrations have extensive expertise and well-established processes managing calamities and assisting affected population. The IFIA initiative will supplement disaster risk reduction efforts by promoting resilience in advance of disasters and facilitating rapid recovery after natural disasters.

9. The project is aligned with the national sustainable development strategies and socio-economic development action plans at the national level, including: i) National Sustainable Development Strategy in Viet Nam for 2020-2030; ii) National Plan on Climate Change Adaptation for the period 2021-2030, a vision to 2050; iii) Viet Nam Forest Development Strategy 2021-2030 with visions to 2050; iv) National Strategy on Climate Change for the period to 2050; v) Viet Nam's Technology Needs Assessment (2012); and vi, and v) the Mekong Delta sub-national level policy instruments, including the Mekong Delta Transformation Strategy (MDS 2013-2020) - Resolution 120, and the Master Programme for Sustainable and Climate-resilience Agricultural Development in Mekong Delta, approved by the Prime Minister in February 2022.

10. Project implementation will be coordinated by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Management (MONRE), ensuring that the pilot implementation of co-management modalities under this project will be up-scaled and institutionalized through the Resolution 120 on Sustainable Development in the Mekong Delta and the Master Plan for Socio-Economic Development Plan (SEDP) in the Mekong Delta 2021-2025.

II. LEGAL, POLICY AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

11. The Government of Viet Nam has several policies, legislations, regulatory frameworks to regulate and address environmental, social, and climate thematic areas. Following are key policies, legislations, and regulations that provide the overarching national framework for environmental, social and climate risk management for the project:

- The Law on Environmental Protection (No.55/2014/QH13) dated June 23, 2014 and Decree on Environmental Protection Planning, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Protection Plans (No. 18/2015/ND-CP) dated February 14, 2015 are key legal frameworks for environmental management in Viet Nam. The Law on Environmental Protection (LEP) provides statutory provisions on environmental protection activities; measures and resources used for the purpose of environmental protection; rights, powers, duties and obligations of regulatory bodies, agencies, organizations, households and individuals who are tasked with the environmental protection task. LEP is applicable to regulatory bodies, public agencies, organizations, family households and individuals within the territory of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, including mainland, islands, territorial waters and airspace. LEP is on regulating strategic environmental assessment, environmental impact assessment and environmental protection commitment.

- Article 11, chapter II of Decree No. 18/2015/ND-CP dated February 14, 2015 provides instruction on consultation, inspection and approval of the planning for environmental protection. Appendices I and II of the Decree list all the entities subject to requirements for carrying out strategic environmental assessment.
- The Article 13 of the Decree (No. 18/2015/ND-CP) explains the requirement of the pertaining ESIA agencies. Clause 1: the project owner or the advisory organization conducting ESIA must meet all requirements – (a) there are staff members in charge of ESIA meeting requirements prescribed in Clause 2 of this Article; (b) there is specialist staff members related to the project obtaining at least Bachelor's degrees; and (c) there are laboratories, inspection and calibration devices eligible for performing measurement, sampling, processing and analysis of environmental samples serving the ESIA of the project; if there is not any laboratory with decent equipment for inspection and calibration, it is required to have a contract with a unit capable of carrying out inspection and calibration. Clause 2: the staff members in charge of ESIA must obtain at least Bachelor's degrees and Certificate in ESIA consultancy and Clause 3: the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment shall manage the training and issuance of Certificates in consultancy of ESIA.

12. Appendix 1 provides a list of relevant national laws, regulations, standards, and technical guidelines for IFIA compliance during the project implementation.

III. ALIGNMENT BETWEEN IFAD'S SECAP AND ADAPTATION FUND ESP

13. IFAD's first SECAP was approved by the IFAD Executive Board and became effective in 2015. The SECAP was then updated in 2017 and 2021. The 2021 SECAP captures new and emerging environmental, climate change and social issues that are critical for IFAD operations. It serves as a tool to enhance the design, implementation and achievement of IFAD-supported projects and programmes, integrating environmental, social and climate (ESC) risk management, and mainstreaming development opportunities.

14. According to the 2021 SECAP, IFAD projects are assigned a risk category for environment and social risks (High, Substantial, Moderate or Low), and for climate risks (High, Substantial, Moderate or Low). Projects with "Low environment and social Risk" and "Low" climate risk do not require any further analysis. Moderate Risk projects require: (i) the final SECAP review note and ESCMP, indicating how potential risks and impacts can be avoided or mitigated; and (ii) an environmental and social monitoring programme. Projects classified Moderate Risk for climate require a basic climate analysis. For projects with High and Substantial environmental and social risks and impacts, the due diligence process entails a critical review of the documentation provided by the borrower/recipient/partner. This should involve site visits and interviews with project representatives and other stakeholders by independent environmental and social specialists. These specialists should gain first-hand knowledge of the project and meet with representatives of affected groups to discuss environmental and social concerns, and information needs. This provides IFAD with a more holistic view of the project's major environmental and social risks and impacts, and the project's mitigation resources. For Substantial Risk projects, a formal SECAP review note or abbreviated ESCMF is required. For High Risk projects, an Environmental, Social and Climate Management Framework or Environmental and Social Impact Assessment are required. These should also incorporate an ESCMP. In addition to that thematic studies or plans can be required for substantial and high risk project. These can include a Resettlement Action Framework or Plan (RAF or RAP), Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP), FPIC implementation Plan, Pesticide Management Plan (PMP), etc.

15. IFAD SECAP includes nine standards, for which detailed guidance is provided in nine corresponding Guidance Notes (GN) with: (i) an introduction to each subject, (ii) key steps, roles and responsibilities, objectives and background, (iii) criteria for environmental screening in IFAD projects; (iv) potential mitigation and adaptation plans and measures for controlling adverse impacts, (v) monitoring project implementation. The SECAP also includes a 10th guidance note that provides an overview of the importance of IFAD's mainstreaming commitments and highlights entry points for promoting mainstreaming along the project cycle. IFAD's mainstreaming commitments are related to environmental sustainability, climate finance, gender equality, women and youth empowerment and improved nutrition.

16. The following table provides some information about the relation between AF ESP Principles and IFAD SECAP (for further information, please visit https://www.ifad.org/en/-/social-environmental-and-climate-assessment-procedures.)

Table 1514: Alignment between IFAD'S SECAP and AF ESP

AF ESP Guidance Principle	IFAD SECAP Standards, Guiding Values and Principles
ESP 1 Compliance with the Law	SECAP requires that activities in the framework of the IFAD financed projects or programmes meet IFAD's safeguard policy guidance, comply with applicable national laws and regulations (labour, health, safety, etc.) and international laws and treaties, and the prohibited investment activities list produced by the International Finance Corporation is adhered to. Project design should review: (i) current national policies, legislation and legislative instruments governing environmental management health, gender and social welfare, climate change (mitigation and adaptation) and governance with their implementation structures, identify challenges, and recommend appropriate changes for effective implementation; (ii) all relevant international treaties and conventions on the environment, climate change, health, gender, labour and human rights to which the country is a signatory.
ESP 2 Access and Equity	Access and Equity is a cross-cutting issue in all the 9 SECAP standards. SECAP requires that projects and programmes ensure the participation of target groups and equitable distribution of benefits. When projects result in physical or economic displacement (affecting access and user rights to land and other resources), the borrower or grant recipient should obtain FPIC from the affected people, document stakeholder engagement and consultation process and prepare resettlement plans or frameworks. The documents must be disclosed in a timely and accessible manner at the QA or relevant implementation stage. **Standard 2 – Resource efficiency and pollution prevention** highlights that Sustainable management requires that people who are dependent on these resources are properly consulted, enabled to participate in development and share equitably in the benefits of that development, and indicates that IFAD promotes an integrated water resources management approach that seeks the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximize economic and social welfare in an equitable manner and without compromising the sustainability of ecosystems. **Standard 3 – Cultural Heritage** includes the following objective: promote the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of Cultural Heritage. **Standard 4 – Indigenous People** includes the following objective: ensure indigenous peoples obtain fair and equitable benefits and opportunities from supported activities in a culturally appropriate and inclusive manner. **IFAD's mainstreaming themes in the project cycle guidance note** highlights that projects should aim at Expanding women's economic empowerment through access to and control of productive assets and benefits.
ESP 3 Marginalised and Vulnerable Groups	Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups is a cross-cutting issue in all the 9 SECAP standards, as such groups are also the primary target of IFAD interventions. A robust SECAP process requires attention to social dimensions such as land tenure, community health, safety, labour, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, and historical factors, particularly in relation to natural resource management. It not only looks at compliance (e.g. managing potential negative impacts), but expected positive impacts and ways to maximize opportunities. To assure a good contribution to the quality of SECAP, project design should assess the socio-economic and cultural profile, including key issues relating to disadvantaged or vulnerable groups, conflict, migration, employment and livelihoods. Consultation with communities and stakeholders must be maintained throughout the project lifecycle, especially in high-risk projects. For investment projects with a projected high sensitivity to climate hazards, IFAD requires a climate vulnerability analysis which can help to improve the targeting of investment actions to include the most vulnerable and least resilient target groups.

	Other IFAD policies that support and complement this principle are: Improving Access to Land Tenure Security Policy, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy, Engagement with Indigenous Peoples Policy, Targeting Policy, Youth Policy Brief, Climate Change Strategy, Rural Enterprise Policy, Rural Finance Policy, Private Sector Strategy.
ESP 4 **Human Rights**	Human Rights is a cross-cutting issue in all the 9 SECAP standards. Among the Guiding Principles and Specific Requirements for IFAD's Social Environmental Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP), is the principle to "*support the efforts of borrowers/recipients/ partners to respect human rights, avoiding infringement on any human rights and addressing adverse human rights risks and impacts caused by clients' business activities*".
ESP 5 **Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment is a cross-cutting issue in all the 9 SECAP Standards. **IFAD's mainstreaming themes in the project cycle guidance note** provides an overview of the importance of IFAD's mainstreaming commitments (including gender equality, women and youth empowerment); highlights entry points for promoting mainstreaming along the project cycle; proposes the use of assessments which – even if they may be focused on risk assessment and management – are opportunities for mainstreaming; and provides an overview of inventories of key sources of data, tools, methods and approaches that have been found useful.
ESP 6 **Core Labour Rights**	Core Labour Rights is a cross-cutting issue in all the 9 Standards. A robust SECAP process requires attention to social dimensions such as land tenure, community health, safety, labour, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, and historical factors, particularly in relation to natural resource management. One of the guiding values and principles for SECAP is to minimize adverse social impacts and incorporate externalities. Avoid and mitigate any potential adverse impacts on health and safety, labour and working conditions and well-being of workers and local communities. The requirements set out in **Standard 5 – Labour and working conditions** are designed to achieve the following objectives: (i) Promote direct action to foster decent rural employment; (ii) Promote, respect and realize fundamental principles and rights at work through preventing discrimination and promoting equal opportunity of workers; supporting freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining; and preventing the use of child labour and forced labour; (iii) Protect and promote the safety and health of workers; (iv) Ensure projects comply with national employment and labour laws and international commitments; and (v) Leave no one behind by protecting and supporting workers in disadvantaged and vulnerable situations, including a special focus, as appropriate, on women workers, young workers, migrant workers, workers in the informal economy and workers with disabilities
ESP 7 **Indigenous People**	**Standard 4 – Indigenous People** is a cornerstone to IFAD's goal to design projects not only with the full, effective and meaningful participation of indigenous peoples but also in a manner that aligns with their distinct vision and development priorities, building sustainable partnerships with indigenous peoples. Standard 4 seeks to ensure that projects are designed and implemented in a way that fosters full respect for indigenous peoples and their human rights, livelihoods and cultural uniqueness as they define them. The need for the standard is an acknowledgement of a history of discrimination and exclusion of indigenous peoples that has limited or prevented them from directing the course of their own development and well-being. The requirements set out in Standard 4 are designed to achieve the following objectives: Promote indigenous peoples ability to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development; Ensure that programming is designed in partnership with indigenous peoples, with their full effective and meaningful consultation and participation, with the objective of seeking their free, prior and informed consent (FPIC); Ensure indigenous peoples obtain fair and equitable benefits and opportunities from supported activities in a culturally appropriate and inclusive manner; and Recognize and respect the rights of indigenous peoples to their lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources that they have traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used.

	Implementation of the requirements of Standard 4 also aims to avoid adverse impacts on indigenous peoples, their rights, lands, territories and resources and – together with affected indigenous peoples – to mitigate and remedy any adverse impacts that cannot be avoided. According to SECAP, when impacting indigenous peoples, the borrower or the grant recipient must seek FPIC from the concerned communities, document stakeholder engagement and consultation process and prepare an indigenous plan (IP). Whenever FPIC is not possible during project design, the FPIC implementation plan should specify how FPIC will be sought during early implementation. The FPIC plan and related documents must be disclosed in a timely and accessible manner at the Quality Assurance (QA) or relevant stage during implementation. IFAD SECAP promotes the Indigenous Peoples Plan as a tool to ensure that the design and implementation of projects foster full respect for indigenous peoples' identity, dignity, human rights, livelihood systems and cultural uniqueness, as defined by the indigenous peoples themselves. It also ensures that the affected groups receive culturally appropriate social and economic benefits, are not harmed by the projects, and can participate actively in projects that affect them. Other IFAD policies that support and complement these principles: Indigenous People's Policy; Targeting Policy; Gender Policy; Climate Change Strategy.
ESP 8 Involuntary Resettlement	**Standard 7 – Physical and economic resettlement** recognizes that increasing investments in the rural sector may at times involve project-related land acquisition and restrictions on land use – actions that, if improperly managed, may have adverse impacts on communities and persons, including physical displacement (relocation, loss of residential land or loss of shelter), economic displacement (loss of land, assets or access to assets, leading to loss of income sources or other means of livelihood) or both. The term "involuntary resettlement" refers to these impacts. Resettlement is considered involuntary when affected persons or communities do not have the right to refuse land acquisition or restrictions on land use that result in displacement. Throughout the process of identification, planning, implementation and evaluation of the various elements of resettlement or economic displacement and their impacts, adequate attention will be paid to gender concerns: specific measures addressing the needs of female headed households, gender-inclusive consultation, information disclosure, and grievance mechanisms will be put in place in order to ensure that women and men will receive adequate and appropriate compensation for their losses and to restore and possibly improve their living standards. Other IFAD policies that support and complement this principle are: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy, Engagement with Indigenous Peoples Policy, Targeting Policy, Land Policy, ENRM Policy, Youth Policy Brief, Climate Change Strategy.
ESP 9 Protection of Natural Habitats	**Standard 1 – Biodiversity conservation** requires identification of habitat type and applies increasingly stringent requirements based on an areas' biodiversity values. Where natural habitats are affected, IFAD-funded/supported projects and programmes will proceed only after putting in place appropriate mitigation measures to achieve no net loss, and preferably a net gain of the associated biodiversity values over the long term. This must be accompanied by a robust long-term biodiversity action plan or equivalent that describes conservation outcomes and implementation, monitoring and evaluation actions. Other IFAD policies that support and complement these principles are: Environment and Natural Resources Management (ENRM) Policy; Land Policy; Climate Change Strategy.
ESP 10 Conservation of Biodiversity	The requirements set out in **Standard 1 – Biodiversity conservation** are designed to achieve the following objectives: (i) maintain and conserve biodiversity; (ii) preserve the integrity of ecosystems; (iii) maintain and enhance the benefits of ecosystem services; (iv) adopt the use of a precautionary approach to biodiversity conservation and ensure opportunities for environmentally sustainable development; (v) ensure the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the utilization of genetic resources; and (vi) respect, preserve, and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples, and local communities relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and their customary use of biological resources.

	The main role of this safeguard standard is to avoid or, if avoidance is not possible, minimize and mitigate potential adverse social and environmental impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services associated with project-related activities. This can be seen through the promotion and requirements on the "use of a precautionary approach" as outlined throughout standard 1. Requirements of Standard 1 address risks to biodiversity and ecosystem types, with increasing stringency depending on risk levels and biodiversity values of project areas. Mitigation activities to eliminate or reduce the negative impacts of a project on biodiversity should follow the following order of preference: (1) Complete avoidance of adverse impact; (2) Reduction of impacts on biodiversity where unavoidable; (3) Restoration of habitats to their original state; (4) Relocation of affected species; (5) Compensation for any unavoidable damage. Other IFAD policies that support and complement these principles are: Environment and Natural Resources Management (ENRM) Policy; Land Policy; Climate Change Strategy.
ESP 11 **Climate Change**	SECAP asks to incorporate climate change risk analysis into projects, which are subject to an environmental, social and climate risk screening, and are assigned a risk category for climate vulnerability (substantial, high, moderate, low). The requirements set out in **Standard 9 – Climate change** are designed to achieve the following objectives: (i) ensure alignment of IFAD-supported projects with targets and priorities of countries' Nationally Determined Contributions and the goals of the Paris Agreement and other international frameworks; (ii) ensure that proposed activities are screened and assessed for climate change and disaster risks and impacts both of and to projects; (iii) apply the SECAP risk mitigation hierarchy principle of applying a hierarchy of risk management measures in project design; (iv) strengthen the climate resilience of communities and their adaptive capacity to address risks of climate change impacts and climate-related disasters; and (v) increase the ability of communities to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low GHG-emitting projects that do not threaten without compromising food production. **IFAD's mainstreaming themes in the project cycle guidance note** provides an overview of the importance of IFAD's mainstreaming commitments (including Climate change); highlights entry points for promoting mainstreaming along the project cycle; proposes the use of assessments which – even if they may be focused on risk assessment and management – are opportunities for mainstreaming; and provides an overview of inventories of key sources of data, tools, methods and approaches that have been found useful.
ESP 12 **Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency**	**Standard 2 – Resource efficiency and pollution prevention** includes requirements that aim at ensuring that IFAD-supported projects and programmes minimize, mitigate and manage any risks and potential adverse impacts that may be related to resource use and pollution, with the following objectives: (i) avoid, minimize and manage the risks and impacts associated with hazardous substances and materials, including pesticides; (ii) avoid or minimize project-related emissions of short-and long-lived climate-change related pollutants; (iii) promote sustainable use of resources, including energy, land and water; and (iv) identify, where feasible, project-related opportunities for resource-use efficiency. Standard 2 outlines a project-level approach to mitigating, minimizing and managing any risks and potential adverse impacts that may be related to resource use and pollution. IFAD requires that key principles are applied. These include a precautionary approach to addressing significant environmental and social risks and impacts through the mitigation hierarchy; the "polluter pays" principle (whereby the cost of mitigation is borne by the polluter, where relevant); and adaptive management techniques (whereby lessons are learned from past management actions and are proactively utilized to predict and improve management as the project implementation progresses).
ESP 13 **Human Health**	The requirements of **Standard 6 – Community Health and Safety** aim to ensure that IFAD-supported programs and projects avoid or minimize the risks and impacts to community health, safety and security. The requirements are designed to achieve the following objectives: (i) to anticipate and avoid adverse impacts on the health and safety of project-affected communities during the project life cycle from both routine and non-routine circumstances; (ii) to ensure that

	measures are taken to avoid or minimize community exposure to hazardous materials that be used during project activities; (iii) to promote quality and safety, and considerations relating to climate change, in the design and construction of infrastructure, including dams; (iv) to avoid or minimize community exposure to project-related traffic and road safety risks; (v) to minimize community exposure to diseases; (vi) to ensure that projects abide by the principles of "do no harm to nutrition"; (vii) to avoid risks of project-related gender-based violence, including risks of sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and abuse, and human trafficking to project-affected people and communities; (viii) to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on ecosystems services that may arise from project activities; (ix) to have in place effective measures to address emergency events; and (x) to ensure that the safeguarding of personnel and property is carried out in a manner that avoids or minimizes risks to the project-affected communities
ESP 14 Physical and Cultural Heritage	The requirements set out in **Standard 3 – Cultural heritage** are designed to achieve the following objectives: (i) preserve and safeguard Cultural Heritage; (ii) ensure that effective and active measures are taken to prevent IFAD-supported projects from altering, damaging, or removing any tangible or intangible Cultural Heritage; (iii) promote the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of Cultural Heritage; (iv) promote meaningful consultation on matters relating to Cultural Heritage. Other IFAD policies that support and complement ESP 14 are: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy, Engagement with Indigenous Peoples Policy, Targeting Policy, ENRM Policy, Climate Change Strategy.
ESP 15 Lands and Soil Conservation	**Standard 2 – Resource efficiency and pollution prevention** includes a specific focus on soil conservation, stating that *sustainable soil management is an essential element of sustainable agriculture and is central to sustainable intensification, climate -change resilience and safeguarding ecosystem services and biodiversity. The updated World Soil Charter lists nine guiding principles that guide all actions to ensure that soils are managed sustainably and that the functions of degraded soils are rehabilitated or restored. IFAD will integrate these principles into its projects, as appropriate, to ensure sustainable soil management and to promote restoration of degraded soils* Other IFAD policies that support and complement these principles: Land Policy; Targeting Policy; ENRM Policy; Climate Change Strategy.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCAIL RISK ASSESSMENT~~SCREENING AND CATEGORISATION~~

1. Risk screening and categorization of the project

17. The IFAD SECAP 2021 projects categorizes environmental and social risks and climate risks into four levels: high, substantial, moderate or low. Environmental and social risk categories can be identified by: the nature and sensitivity of the project area; the significance and magnitude of potential impacts; and the cumulative and induced impacts, whereas the climate risk categories are determined based on the climate related hazards, exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity (SECAP, 2021). The screening for IFIA was conducted following SECAP Environmental, Social and Climate Standards and AF principles to assess environmental and social impact risks.

18. **Environmental and Social Category.** The Social and Environmental Risk Category for the IFIA project is rated as **moderate (category B)** following the results of the Environmental and Social Safeguards Screening Checklist. The project will invest in activities that are small in scale with potential adverse risks and impacts that are site specific, low in magnitude, reversible and can be mitigated with known measures. Areas of moderate risk as identified in the SECAP screening include issues related to resource efficiency and pollution prevention, cultural heritage, indigenous peoples and labour and working conditions.

19. **Climate Risk Classification.** The climate risk classification for this project is rated as **substantial**. The project will be implemented in two vulnerable areas of Viet Nam witnessing high exposure to climate-related hazards including flooding, cyclones, extreme heat and wildfires as well as droughts and salinization and where the adaptive capacity of rural populations is relatively low.

20. The key environmental and social risks and impacts from the screening exercise are presented in the table below while mitigation measures have been integrated into the project. This section provides an analysis of the environmental and social impacts and risks identified as being relevant to the project and proposes a management plan that will screen ESPs, mitigate risks, and report to the AF.

Table 16 ~~15~~ - Overview of Environmental and Social Risk Assessment

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance[67]
Compliance with the Law	X	~~No risk~~ No risk: IFIA complies with all applicable domestic and international laws and regulations as well as Viet Nam's national technical standards. The project will also be executed and coordinated by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Management (MONRE) which further ensure compliance with applicable national laws.
Access and Equity	X	~~No risk~~No risk: IFIA will ensure equal access to project activities. The project is designed to provide fair and equitable access to benefits in an inclusive manner that does not impede access to basic services and rights to anyone. IFIA targeting strategy is designed not to exacerbate existing inequities, particularly with respect to marginalized or vulnerable groups.
Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups		Moderate risk: The project's target groups and the ecosystems in some project areas, especially those in coastal districts, may face problems resulting from increasing climate variability and hazards (i.e., sea level rise, salinity intrusion, increasing temperature, drought, long-lasting/heavy rain, riverbank and coastal erosions and heat wave). The SEDP integrated gender-equitable community-based mangrove forest management planning will address the aforementioned risks. Subsequently, the innovative wetland adaptation financing products (see C1.2) will help tolerate salinity intrusion and prevent erosion and heavy rain by incentivizing the adoption of adaptation technologies and practices in wetland livelihood activities (e.g., climate smart farming, eco-aquaculture, eco-tourism, mangrove NTFP) which are driving wetland forest restoration and sustainable use.
Human Rights	X	~~No risk~~No risk: IFIA is designed to respect and adhere to the requirements of all relevant conventions on

[67] Further assessment will also apply to USPs

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		human rights in compliance with the ESP and where applicable promote international human rights
Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment	X	~~No risk~~No risk: IFIA is designed and meant to be implemented in such a way that both women and men. A gender and youth assessment was already prepared and is included in Annex 4.
Core Labour Rights		Moderate risk: Risks related to labour rights in the target area include discriminatory practices, high gender inequality, overtime working and poor working conditions. IFIA will promote transparent contract arrangement including wages and benefits, hours of work, overtime arrangements and overtime compensation, and leave for illness, maternity, vacation or holiday, that at a minimum comply with national law. This includes respecting a collective bargaining agreement with a workers' organization if there is such an agreement. IFIA will also continue sensitizing communities on gender equity and equality (see Annex 4). Child labour prohibition will be a non-negotiable part of the agreement with the beneficiaries.
Indigenous Peoples		Moderate risk: (for Tra Vinh only) Risk of social or economic impacts on the Khmer ethnic group, including threats to or the loss of resources of historical or cultural significance. IFIA project staff will acknowledge and build upon the asset of Khmer cultural distinctiveness and consult Khmer people to obtain their FPIC at every step of the implementation,. A map informing the location of the mangrove restoration areas will be used to identify any land used by EM communities and agree with them on project activities in that area.~~.~~ The project will strive to empower EM by assuring their informed participation in all project-supported activities. It will identify available opportunities to enable EM communities to value their products and engage in markets on more profitable terms, while promoting meaningful consultation on matters related to cultural heritage and the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of cultural heritage, in case this is used for commercial purposes as part of project activities. ~~.~~ Finally, IFIA will support EM groups in enhancing the resilience of the ecosystems in which they depend for their livelihoods and developing innovative adaptation measures. UPSs under the SC 1.1 engaging EM will also apply the FPIC adoption and integrate cultural heritage promotion and protection.
Involuntary Resettlement	X	~~No risk~~No risk: No involuntary resettlement is foreseen under the project.
Protection of Natural Habitats	~~X~~	Low risk: The project aims to restore and conserve wetlands and mangrove areas. However unintended adverse impacts may occur. Together with MONRE, IFIA will identify and report on the natural habitats and monitor that the project implementation will not

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		encroach or affect them in any way and propose risk mitigation measures in case of any identified risk, including regarding USPs that will undergo further assessment at project start up.~~*No risk*~~
Conservation of Biological Diversity	~~X~~	~~No risk~~Low risk: The project is not foreseen to have adverse impacts on biodiversity. It will however ensure that project activities are sited as far as possible from critical habitats, protected areas, or areas of ecological significance and implement measures to avoid introduction or utilization of invasive alien species, whether accidental or intentional, in particular USPs under SC 1.1.
Climate Change		Substantial risk: Anticipated climate risks analysis foreseen increasing temperature, change in rainfall patterns, drought, riverbank and coastal erosion, and increasing risks of sea level rise/salinity intrusion, freshwater shortage. Risks for investments in livelihood options would be substantial if adaptation measures were not adopted.
Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	~~X~~	Low risk: The project will be implemented in a way that meets applicable international standards for maximizing energy efficiency and minimizing material resource use, the production of wastes, and the release of pollutants through SEDP, among others. Impacts related to potential use of fertilizers and pesticides under USPs will be further assessed during implementation and related mitigation plans will be developed.~~*No risk*~~
Public Health	X	~~No risk~~No risk: The project will have no negative impacts on public health.
Physical and Cultural Heritage		Moderate risk: (for Tra Vinh only) Potential threats to or loss of resources of historical or cultural significance. IFIA project staff will acknowledge and build upon the asset of Khmer cultural distinctiveness and consult Khmer people to obtain their FPIC at every step of the implementation. The project will strive to empower EM by assuring their informed participation in all project-supported activities. It will identify available opportunities to enable EM communities to value their products and engage in markets on more profitable terms. Finally, IFIA will support EM groups in enhancing the resilience of the ecosystems in which they depend for their livelihoods and developing innovative adaptation measures. UPSs under the SC 1.1 engaging EM will also apply the FPIC adoption and integrate cultural heritage promotion and protection.
Lands and Soil Conservation	X	~~No risk~~No risk: IFIA will promote soil conservation and avoid degradation or conversion of productive lands or land that provides valuable ecosystem services.

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Principle 1: Compliance with the Law

21. IFIA complies with all applicable domestic and international law (see section 'II-F').

22. In particular, the project is compliant with the national (i) Law on Environmental Protection 2020, which regulates environmental protection activities; rights, obligations and responsibilities of agencies, organizations, communities, households and individuals in environmental protection activities; and (ii) the Law on Forestry 2017, which provides regulations on the management, protection, development and use of forests; processing and trading of forest products.

23. The project is also designed to be compliant ~~with~~ with Viet Nam's national technical standards (as outlined in its laws and regulations) as well as the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

24. The IFIA project will ensure that all activities implemented under the two components fully align with national legal and policy frameworks and the AF ESP. In addition, the project is designed to support the upcoming review of the Government's Support Program to Respond to Climate Change (SP-RCC) 2016-2020, which provides policy reforms for effective implementation of climate change and green growth actions prioritized in the 2016–2020 SEDP, National Climate Change Strategy (NCCS), Viet Nam Green Growth Strategy (VGGS), and NDC and the NAP to Climate Change in the period of 2021 – 2030, vision to 2050. The SP-RCC is recognized under Viet Nam's Plan for Implementation of the Paris Agreement (PIPA) as the platform for climate policy dialogue. The project is designed consistent with the Law on Environmental Protection 2020, approved by Law No. 72/2020/QH14 dated 17 November 2020, which provides an adequate system to address adverse environmental risks and impacts of projects. Supporting the implementation of the Law is Decree No. 08/2022/NĐ-CP dated 10 January 2022.

25. No further assessment is required for compliance.

Principle 2: Access and Equity

26. IFIA is designed to provide fair and equitable access to benefits in an inclusive manner that does not impede access to basic services and rights to anyone. IFIA targeting strategy is designed not to exacerbate existing inequities, particularly with respect to marginalized or vulnerable groups (see Annex 4).

27. In line with national priorities, AF and IFAD's Targeting Policy, IFIA purposefully designed actions and measures to ensure, or at least significantly increase the likelihood, that all its target groups - and women and men, girls and boys, Khmer and Kinh, equally - will benefit from the climate adaptive initiatives it supports. To this end, IFIA's targeting approach included:

a. **Geographic targeting**: based on national priorities, IFIA targets two of the country's coastal provinces most severely affected by climate change, i.e., Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces. The two provinces were primarily selected based on the social and climate vulnerability assessment carried out by the design team and on the following criteria: (i) environmental degradation and climate vulnerability; (ii) presence of wetland areas / mangrove forests; (iii) incidence and intensity of poverty; and (iv) potential for resources' leverage and operational synergies with the IFAD-funded CSAT project;
b. **Direct targeting:** IFIA targets women, youth and ethnic minorities through established quotas and a number of services and resources channeled directly to them (see Annex 4, Table 19);
c. **Self-targeting:** Through C1 and C2, IFIA provides services and goods (e.g., participatory action research innovation grants; financial resources for wetland management and development; innovative financial products for farmers in FG and SMEs) that are aligned with the priorities, assets, capacities and livelihood strategies of the identified target groups (i.e., 21,000 climate-vulnerable individuals living in the wetland/mangrove areas of the project area.)

28. No further assessment is required for compliance.

Principle 3: Marginalized and vulnerable groups

29. IFIA is designed to avoid disproportionate adverse impacts on marginalized and vulnerable groups, including children, women and girls, the elderly, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, and people with HIV/AIDS, among others.

30. The IFIA design team included a Targeting, Social Inclusion and Gender Specialist and a Climate and Environment Specialist, among others. To identify vulnerable people or groups in the target area that may be disproportionately affected by the project activities, the design team undertook a gender-sensitive poverty and livelihood analysis (see section I.A, paragraphs 35-45, and Annex 4) and an environmental, social and climate risk screening detailed in this annex. When collecting data and information, the design team consulted with marginalized and vulnerable members of the local communities directly to understand their socio-economic constraints and identify the most appropriate adaptation activities that could benefit these groups. The project activities have been designed accordingly (see Annex 4, Table 19), and no negative impacts on the identified vulnerable groups are expected. To ensure this is the case, a more in depth assessment will be conducted at project start-up.

31. In addition, during project implementation, GoV and IFAD will continuously assess and consider particular impacts on marginalized and vulnerable groups and take action as needed. The responsibility for implementing and monitoring targeting methodologies will be included in the PMUs' staff TORs. A targeting and social inclusion (gender, youth, EM, PwD) specialist or focal point will be appointed in each PMU (see Annex 4, Table 19). The IFIA M&E system will collect data disaggregated by sex, age and ethnicity and monitor investments in high poverty and climate vulnerability regions and villages. The targeting strategy will be discussed at the start-up workshop, and supervision missions will include targeting and social inclusion expert.

Principle 4: Human Rights

32. IFIA is designed to respect and adhere to the requirements of all relevant conventions on human rights in compliance with the ESP and where applicable promote international human rights. Among the IFAD's SECAP Guiding Values and Principles, is the principle to "support borrowers in achieving good international practices by supporting the realization of United Nations principles expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the toolkits for mainstreaming employment and decent work".

33. No further assessment of potential impacts and risks is deemed required for compliance with human rights.

Principle 5: Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment

34. IFIA is designed and meant to be implemented in such a way that both women and men:

a. *Have equal opportunities to participate as per the AF and IFAD gender policies:* at least 50% of total beneficiaries are women; 30% youth (among tot. youth, 50% are girls); 30% EM (Tra Vinh only); the ARIF will exclude requirement that prevents targeted beneficiaries from accessing microfinance (e.g., need for a land title or a woman's dependence on her husband's co-signature or an adult male guarantor) and make beneficiary contribution requirements (e.g., the provision of labour or cash) realistic, rather than inadvertently excluding some categories of resource-poor people; and so on;
b. *Receive comparable social and economic benefits:* management and financial literacy training programs will be provided to women and youth to empower their finance decisions/access to finance; the ARIF grants' selection criteria will prioritize youth- and female-led MSEs, partnerships between small-scale producers or community groups, research institutions and private companies with a higher percentage of women and youth holding decision-making positions and with gender-sensitive workplace conditions; research in areas where women and youth are predominant; the WDF is included among the project's financing institutions that will be brought together to complement the AF resources and to finance the climate resilient agriculture activities; and so on.

c. *Do not suffer disproportionate adverse effects during the development process:* Responsibility for this lies with the project director. A targeting and gender/youth specialist will be appointed in each PMU and, together with the M&E specialists and other PMUs' staff members, will support the project director with gender mainstreaming implementation ensuring women and men, girls and boys, do not suffer disproportionate adverse effects during the development process, among other things.

35. For more details, reference is made to Annex 4, particularly Table 19, which was prepared by the gender specialist of the IFIA design team together with MONRE and local authorities and in consultation with local communities, including women and men, boys and girls, of both Kinh and Khmer ethnicity.

36. No further assessment is deemed required for compliance.

Principle 6: Core Labour Rights

37. IFIA is designed to meet the core labour standards as identified by the International Labor Organization (ILO).

38. IFAD has a longstanding partnership agreement with ILO dating back to 1979 and works to promote productive, diverse, and inclusive rural economies that open doors to respectable employment and higher wages. Viet Nam has been a member of the ILO since 1992 and has ratified 25 Conventions of which 7 of 8 fundamental conventions, which are related to the fields of collective bargaining, discrimination prevention, child labor and forced labor.

39. IFIA activities aim to promote gender equity and equality. Positive discrimination in favor of women will be used to provide fair and equal opportunity to women who seek employment as labour and gain from wages earned. The project will furthermore create climate resilient employment and alternative livelihood enabling marginalized and vulnerable groups, including unemployed youth and women, to increase and diversify their income.

40. IFIA will advocate against child labour and contribute to the preparation of a policy brief entitled "Breaking the rural poverty cycle: Getting girls and boys out of work and into school", which UN agencies in Vietnam, including IFAD, are working on. Child labour prohibition will be a non-negotiable part of the agreement with the beneficiaries.

Principle 7: Indigenous People

41. IFIA is consistent with the rights and responsibilities set forth in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and other relevant international and national instruments relating to indigenous peoples[68].

[68] National legal documents on EM, from 2008 to 2017:

- **2017**: Decision No. 582/QD-TTg dated 28/4/2017 on approving the list of especially difficult hamlet, commune under III area, II area and I area of ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period of 2016 - 2020
- **2016**: Decision No. 2086/TTR-UBDT dated 31/10/2016 on Approval of the Special policy to support socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period of 2017 – 2020; Decision 2085/QD-TTg dated 31/06/2016 on Approval the Special policy to support socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period of 2017 – 2020; Decision No. 12/2016/QD-TTg dated 11/03/2016 (On the continued implementation of Decision No 30/2012/QD-TTg dated 18/07/2012 on the criteria for determining particularly difficult villages, communes in ethnic minority and mountainous area in 2012-2015) and Decision No 1049/QD-TTg dated 26/06/2014 (Promulgating list of administrative units in disadvantaged areas)
- **2015**: Decision No. 1557/QD-TTg dated 10/09/2015 of the Prime Minister on the approval of a number of indicators for the Millennium Development Goals for ethnic minority associated with sustainable development goals after 2015.
- **2014**: Decision No. 456/QD-CEM dated 07/11/2014 on the issuance of the implementation plan to raise the effectiveness and efficiency of the State management of ethnic minority affairs; Directive No.28/CT-TTg dated 10/08/2014 on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the State management of ethnic minority affairs.

42. The main ethnic minority found in the project area are the Khmer in Tra Vinh province, who comprise about 32% of the provincial population. Although language is generally not an issue due to the Khmer having largely integrated into the Kinh community and being able to communicate in Vietnamese, the project design team conducted consultations in Khmer language when needed, and the ToR for the relevant district team officers will include command of Khmer language as an asset.

43. The project approach to engagement with the Khmer ethnic minority is consistent with AF's ESP, IFAD's policy on engagement with Indigenous Peoples as well as with IFAD's SECAP Standard 4. IFAD will support ethnic minorities' participation in determining project priorities and strategies and will consult them to obtain FPIC at every step of implementation. Cultural differences will dictate the approach adopted. Local languages will be used in all village meetings, planning and extension sessions if required. District teams responsible for implementation will reflect gender balance, and their members will have command of ethnic languages. Capacity building tools, including those deriving from USPs, will be developed in the languages of the main ethnic groups and take into consideration cultural differences. Special efforts will be made to recruit project extension agents speaking ethnic groups' languages and local ethnic officers of communes in target project areas will be mobilized and mentored.

Principle 8: Involuntary Resettlement

44. As no involuntary resettlement is foreseen in any circumstance during project implementation, this aspect does not seem to be of relevance in terms of further assessment for ESP compliance.

45. No further assessment is deemed required for compliance.

Principle 9: Protection of Natural Habitats

- **2013**: Joint Circular No. 05/2013-TTLT–UBDT-NNPTNT-KHDT-TC-XD dated 18/11/2013 guiding the supported program 135 on investment in infrastructure, economic development for extremely difficult communes, borderline communes, social security area, and extremely difficult village and hamlets; Decision No. 2214/QD-TTg dated 14/11/2013 of the Prime Minister, approving the scheme for Enhancing international cooperation to support the socio-economic development of Ethnic Minorities; Decision No. 56/2013/QD-TTg dated 07/10/2013 on the amendment and supplement of some provisions of Decision No 18/2011/QD-TTg dated 18/03/2011 of the Prime Minister on the policy for prestigious people in ethnic minorities; Decision No. 29/2013/QD-TTg of the Prime Minister, dated 09/06/2008 on a number of policies to support resettlement land, cultivated land and jobs for ethnic minorities and difficult households in the Mekong delta region; Decision No. 551/QD-TTg dated 04/04/2013 of the Prime Minister, approving the program supported 135 investment in infrastructure, support for production supported program 135 on investment in infrastructure, production development for extremely difficult communes, borderline communes, social security area, and extremely difficult village and hamlets.
- **2012**: Circular No.02/2013/TT-UBDT dated 04/12/2012 guiding the implementation of some articles of Decision No. 54/2012/QD-TTg dated 04/12/2012 of the Prime Minister promulgating the loan policy for economic development for ethnic minority households with special difficulties; Decision No. 42/2012/QD-TTg dated 08/10/2012 of the Prime Minister Regarding Support for organizations and units utilizing employees that are ethnic minority people in mountainous and special difficult areas; Joint Circular No. 01/2012 / TTLT-BTP-CEM date on January 17, 1012 of the Ministry of Justice and the Committee for Ethnic Minorities on guidelines and legal assistance for ethnic minorities.
- **2010**: Decision 2123/QD-TTg dated 22/11/2010 of the Prime Minister approving the scheme on educational development for ethnic minorities; Decree No.82/2010/ND-CP dated 15/07/2010 regulating for teaching and learning the spoken and written language of the ethnic minorities in general education and continuing education centers.
- **2009**: Decision No. 61/QD-UBDT on 12/03/2009 on the recognition of the communes and districts in mountainous areas and highlands due to the adjustment of administrative boundaries.
- **2008**: Resolution No.30a/2008/NQ-CP of government, dated 27 December 2008 on the support program for rapid and sustainable poverty reduction for 61 poorest districts; Decision No. 1366/QD-TTg dated 25/09/2008 of the Prime Minister on the amendment and supplement to Decision No. 289 / QD-TTg of March 18, 2008 on the issuance of a number of policies in support of EM, social policy households, poor and nearly poor households and fishermen; Resolution No. 30a / 2008 / NQ-CP dated 20/5/2013 of the government on supporting program for rapid and sustainable poverty reduction for 61 poorest districts.

46. IFIA activities are aiming to restore and conserve wetlands and mangrove areas. The project is not going to involve ~~unjustified~~ conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats, including those that are (a) legally protected; (b) officially proposed for protection; (c) recognized by authoritative sources for their high conservation value, including as critical habitat; or (d) recognized as protected by traditional or indigenous local communities.

47. Together with MONRE, IFIA will identify and report on the national critical habitat areas. The project will monitor that the project implementation will not encroach or affect them in any way and propose risk mitigation measures in case of any identified risk, including regarding USPs that will undergo further assessment at project start up.
~~47.~~48. .

Principle 10: Conservation of Biological Diversity

~~48.~~49.IFIA is designed and will be implemented in a way that avoids any significant or unjustified reduction or loss of biological diversity or the introduction of known invasive species.

~~49.~~50.According to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), biodiversity encompasses more than just plants, animals, and microbes. It is about people and their requirements for safe access to food, medical care, clean water and air, shelter, and a healthy environment. IFIA will identify any risk and impact relating to habitat and species loss, land degradation and fragmentation, overexploitation, invasive alien species, hydrological changes, nutrient loading, pollution, incidental taking of species, potential climate change impacts, and the various values that project stakeholders and communities place on biodiversity and ecosystem services and IFIA will take preventive actions accordingly. ~~(IFAD SECAP, 2021).~~

51. The project will prioritize siting activities - including USPs - with potential adverse impacts far from critical habitats, protected areas, or areas of ecological significance, giving preference to locating activities on lands where natural habitats have already been converted. Differentiated mitigation approaches will be applied to various habitat types considering the importance of the biodiversity and ecosystems of the areas affected by the project.

The project will implement measures to avoid introduction or utilization of invasive alien species, whether accidental or intentional, and support activities to mitigate and control their further spread.
~~50. No further assessment is deemed required for compliance.~~

Principle 11: Climate Change

~~51.~~52.IFIA activities will not result in any significant or unjustified increase in greenhouse gas emissions or other drivers of climate change as the project does not finance CC drivers such as, for instance, heavy industry, large-scale agriculture, and large-scale forest products.

~~52.~~53.The Social and Environmental Risk Category for the IFIA project is rated as **moderate (category B)** following the results of the Environmental and Social Safeguards Screening Checklist. The project will invest in activities that are small in scale with potential adverse risks and impacts that are site specific, low in magnitude, reversible and can be mitigated with known measures. Areas of moderate risk as identified in the SECAP screening include issues related to resource efficiency and pollution prevention, cultural heritage, indigenous peoples and labour and working conditions.

Principle 12: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency

~~53.~~54.IFIA activities will be implemented in a way that meets applicable international standards for maximizing energy efficiency and minimizing material resource use, the production of wastes, and the release of pollutants through SEDP, among others.

~~54.~~55.No further assessment is deemed required for compliance.

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Principle 13: Public health

~~55.~~56. IFIA will have no negative impacts on public health. No further assessment is deemed required for compliance.

Principle 14: Physical and cultural heritage

~~56.~~57. IFIA is designed and will be implemented in a way that avoids the alteration, damage, or removal of any physical cultural resources, cultural sites, and sites with unique natural values recognized as such at the community, national or international level.

~~57.~~58. Viet Nam ratified the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 1987 and fulfilled one mandate to the World Heritage Committee. To date, eight properties have been inscribed on the World Heritage List and 40 State of Conservation Reports have been completed[69].

~~58.~~59. There are no national cultural heritage sites in the project area. Regarding EM cultural distinctiveness, IFIA will consult Khmer people to obtain their FPIC at every step of the implementation, including during their engagement in USPs. ~~-~~ The project will identify available opportunities to enable EM communities to value their products and engage in markets on more profitable terms.

~~59. No further assessment is deemed required for compliance.~~

Principle 15: Lands and Soil Conservation

60. IFIA is designed and will be implemented in a way that promotes soil conservation and avoids degradation or conversion of productive lands or land that provides valuable ecosystem services.

61. No further assessment is deemed required for compliance.

~~V. ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN~~

~~62.1. The project has been designed in full compliance with the Vietnamese environmental and forestry laws and relevant safeguard procedures that have been fully mainstreamed into the selection procedures under section II F of the project proposal, and will form the core element of the ESMP and provide for ongoing screening as and when project areas and activities are being defined.~~

~~63. The IFIA screening identified the activities under outcomes being implemented by IFIA and co-financed by the Adaptation Fund as requiring further action beyond what has already been integrated into the grant approval process, as described above and detailed in section II F. The PMUs will conduct the screening of each proposal and an ESMP will be prepared together with the applicant to ensure conformity to the guidelines. The PMU will work with the applicant through the consultation process described below to ensure the appropriate measures are applied to ensure compliance. Below it is reported a summary EMSP management plan and reporting requirements.~~

~~**Table 16: Summary of reporting and management plan**~~

~~ESP~~	~~ESC impacts~~	~~Mitigation/Enhancement measures~~	~~Responsible for implementation~~	~~Reporting~~
~~**ESP 3. Marginalis**~~	~~Marginalized and vulnerable~~	~~Describe the location of the critical target groups in relation to the project~~	~~PMUs~~	~~The project will conduct the screening and report as soon~~

[69] https://whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/vn

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ed and vulnerable groups	groups, especially those in coastal districts, are likely to face problems resulting from increasing climate variability and hazards.	and why it cannot be avoided, as well as its characteristics and critical value. For each marginalized and vulnerable groups, provide an analysis on the group and the extent of the impact including direct, indirect, cumulative or secondary impacts; the severity of significance of the impact; and a demonstration that the impact is consistent with management plans and affected area custodians.		as the project areas have been determined. The project will monitor and report in the biannual progress reports; annual supervision reports to IFAD as well as the annual PPR to the Adaptation Fund; MTR and final evaluation and impact assessment.
ESP 6. Core labour rights	The potential of the project to impact directly, indirectly or labour groups	Provide an analysis on the labour group and the impact/benefit of the project on the labour group, especially the marginalized and vulnerable groups including unemployed youth and women. Promotes transparent contract arrangement including wages and benefits, hours of work, overtime arrangements and overtime compensation, and leave for illness, maternity, vacation or holiday, that at a minimum comply with national law. This includes respecting a collective bargaining agreement with a workers' organization if there is such an agreement.	PMUs	The project will monitor and report in the biannual progress reports; annual supervision reports to IFAD as well as the annual PPR to the Adaptation Fund; MTR and final evaluation and impact assessment.
ESP 7. Indigenous peoples	Potential of the project to impact directly, indirectly or bring benefits to the ethnic group, including threats to or the loss of resources of historical or cultural significance.	Describe the location of the Khmer ethnic groups in relation to the project and why it cannot be avoided, as well as its characteristics and critical value. Provide an analysis on the ethnic group and the impact/benefit of the project on ethnics group, especially the Khmer ethnic group. Develop an FPIC implementation plan and acknowledge and build upon the asset of Khmer cultural distinctiveness and consult Khmer people to obtain their FPIC at every step of the implementation. Ensure the informed participation of ethnic groups in all project-supported activities taking into account cultural differences. Local languages will be used in all village meeting, planning and extension sessions if needed. District teams responsible for implementation will reflect gender balance, and their members will have command of ethnic languages.	PMU	Report on the engagement and consultation of the Khmer ethnic groups and the implantation of the FPIC plan. The project will monitor and report in the biannual progress reports; annual supervision reports to IFAD as well as the annual PPR to the Adaptation Fund; MTR and final evaluation and impact assessment.

		Capacity building tools will be developed in the languages of the main ethnic groups and take into consideration cultural differences. Special efforts will be made to recruit project extension agents speaking ethnic groups languages and in mobilizing and mentoring teachers from the ethnic schools.		
ESP 11. Climate change	Climate risks to potentially impact the project	Provide an analysis on the climate impacts and the impact/benefit of the project on adaptation capacity. The project is entirely designed with the purpose to be focused on climate change adaptation in terms of providing technical and capacity building solutions to the rural climate-vulnerable poor to adapt to climate change. Project investments are furthermore compliant with the governmental adaptation priorities for the agriculture sector.	PMU	The project will monitor and report in the biannual progress reports; annual supervision reports to IFAD as well as the annual PPR to the Adaptation Fund; MTR and final evaluation and impact assessment.
ESP 14. Physical and Cultural Heritage	Potential threats to or loss of resources of historical or cultural significance in Tra Vinh.	Acknowledge and build upon the asset of Khmer cultural distinctiveness and consult Khmer people to obtain their FPIC at every step of the implementation. The project will strive to empower ethnic groups by assuring their informed participation in all project-supported activities.	PMU	Report on the engagement and consultation of the Khmer ethnic groups and the implantation of the FPIC plan. The project will monitor and report in the biannual progress reports; annual supervision reports to IFAD as well as the annual PPR to the Adaptation Fund; MTR and final evaluation and impact assessment.

1. Costs and budgetary considerations

The costs of implementing IFIA ESMP primarily comprise staff time and logistics costs. These costs have been readily integrated into the project	Potential negative impacts on wetlands and mangrove areas.	Identify and report on the natural habitats. Monitor project activities to ensure no encroachment occurs. Site project interventions as far as possible from critical habitats, protected areas, or areas of ecological significance. Avoid introduction or utilization of invasive alien species, whether accidental or intentional.	PMU	The project will monitor and report in the biannual progress reports; annual supervision reports to IFAD as well as the annual PPR to the Adaptation Fund; MTR and final evaluation and impact assessment.

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~~budget and will subsequently be integrated into the Annual Work Plan and Budgets (AWPB).~~ **Protection of natural habitats and conservation of biodiversity**				

~~177.~~

2. Procedures for environmental, social and climate screening **and assessment of Unidentified Sub-Projects (USP):**

62. IFIA includes 'Unidentified Subprojects" (USPs) that are not yet fully defined with the exact location and activities not known at the design stage. Under Sub-component 1.1 Adaptation research innovation fund (ARIF), the project is establishing an ARIF to incentivize the private sector engagement in innovations and the introduction of innovative adaptation technologies in the production systems and businesses of small-scale producers' in coastal wetland communities. For this~~of~~ sub-component, well-defined activities on sustainable wetland management could not be identified yet. The Participatory Action Research (PAR) innovation grants it will provide on a competitive base to partnering small-scale producers or community groups, research institutions and private sector companies are yet to define the set activities to be implemented based on the most successful experiences on wetland management in terms of adaptation and climate resilience proposed by participating stakeholders. As according to the AF compliance guidelines, these activities represent the Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs) for which it is not possible to identify the associated and environmental social risk, as the nature of the activities needs to be defined and the environment in which they will take place identified. IFAD will ensure that during the identification of ARIF activities, the current ARIF-related USPs will undergo the ESP screening reflecting the same process applied for the identified activities at project submission.~~**project proposals**~~

63. The USP screening process will address Output 1.1.1. on Adaptation research innovation fund properly designed and operated. The USP ESP risks will be identified after the Innovation gaps assessment finance under SC 1.1. Possible research areas on sustainable wetland management enhancing climate adaptation and resilience promoted under ARIF are showcased in Table 15. These are based on the results from the IFAD-funded Project for Adaption to Climate Change in the Mekong Delta in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh Provinces (AMD) and other recent projects supported by partners (e.g., the World Bank- funded Mekong Delta Integrated Climate Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods, the GIZ-supported Integrated Coastal Management Programme). The selected research areas will be further assessed through the gap assessment study taking into account the acceleration in different climate change risks outpacing some of the adaptation solutions currently promoted for coastal livelihoods of small-scale producers and communities, in line with the ESMF and the GYAP.

64. IFIA PMU guided by MONRE in cooperation with the existing Project Management Units (PMUs) of the new IFAD-funded CSAT project in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces are responsible of the ARIF management. The study to identify adaptation innovation gaps for wetland small-scale producers and communities which will

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inform the establishment of eligibility criteria for possible ARIF financing, and the possible research areas ARIF will promote, will be managed by the IFIA PMU recruiting a qualified service provider with knowledge and experience in the aforementioned areas (e.g. GIZ, Deltares, and Royal HaskoningDHV). The IFIA PMU, together with IFAD's support, will then undergo an ESP screening of the selected research areas and relative activities.

Table 15 - Possible research areas under the Adaptation Research Innovation Fund (ARIF)

	CC risks	Possible research areas
1	**Changes in pests and diseases** (insects, worms, parasites, diseases and fungus)	▪ Identification of new pests and diseases attacking crops, trees, and aquaculture within and around the wetland mangrove forest, and monitoring their life cycles for better management; ▪ Develop systems of integrated pest management, and biosecurity measures to contain spread of disease; ▪ Develop systems of crop diversification and rotation; ▪ Develop business models, adapted technologies and training modules for local small-scale producers' effective production of certified healthy aquaculture seed (potentially through development of backyard aquaculture hatcheries).
2	**Temperature increase**	▪ Identification/development of heat tolerant species and varieties (including traditional); ▪ Develop business and management models for small-scale producers and communities for improving coverage and biodiversity of mangrove forest to create favorable micro-climates and prevent flood and salinity intrusion; ▪ Understanding impact of increasing temperature on aquaculture production and pilot technologies and practices for adaptation including changes placement, shade management, crops and crop cycles, as well as user-friendly digital monitoring of production parameters and triggers linked to mitigating actions.
3	**Soil and water salinity increase**	▪ Identification/development of saline resistant crop, aquaculture and fodder varieties, including introduction of new economically valuable species; ▪ Testing agro-ecological (permaculture) farming models along the salinity gradient – integrating crop, tree, livestock and aquaculture; ▪ Development and testing of systems for integrated soil salinity management for crop and tree cultivation; ▪ Determining salinity threshold levels for aquaculture production and testing solutions to address salinity challenges; ▪ Testing soil moisture conservation techniques for different crops and cropping systems.
4	**Soil fertility decrease**	▪ Testing practices for integrated soil fertility management considering locally available biomass, manure and other nutrient sources and opportunities for establishing nutrient circles in integrated systems of plant crops, aquaculture and eventually hydroponic based crops; ▪ Development of business models and technologies for MSEs for the production of high quality organic fertilizers (vermicomposting, bio digester slurry, fish pond sludge, etc.);

		▪ Testing of mechanisms for quality control of chemical fertilizers and improve application guidelines to optimize and minimize their use by combined with quality organic fertilizers and nitrogen fixing crops.
5	**Drought, salt water intrusion and flood risks**	▪ development and testing of water saving approaches and address barriers for adoption, Improving availability of potable water for both human and livestock consumption; ▪ development and testing of green/nature-based adaptation models for coastal ecosystems (e.g., mangrove restoration) for salinity intrusion and/or flood prevention; ▪ Mapping of storm surge risks of specific zones, communities, farmers, livelihoods and develop early warning and community disaster risk management systems.
6	**Erratic weather patterns**	▪ Scientific study of climatic changes and medium-term extreme weather prediction, especially in relation to the ENSO phenomenon; ▪ Development and testing of adult learning program on causes and impacts of climate change and resilience building options implementable by small-scale producers, MSE and coastal communities using digital learning platforms and tools as relevant; ▪ Medium-term climate scenario planning for informing socioeconomic development process.
7	**Changing livelihood options**	▪ Develop and test community and business models, technologies and practices for: ▪ Mangrove forest co-management; ▪ Eco-tourism; ▪ Eco-aquaculture combined with mangrove forest protection; ▪ Non-timber mangrove forest products: honey, fruit, leaves, flowers, medicinal plants; ▪ Applications for facilitating efficiency in marketing connecting to consumers of eco-friendly aquaculture and eco-tourism products; ▪ Digital solutions for facilitating learning in transition processes to eco-aquaculture deriving wetland and mangrove conservation ▪ Improving access to financial incentive mechanisms: carbon financing, PES, green credit, public private producer partnership.

65. Once the USPs are identified during project start-up and early implementation, they will undergo a screening procedure in line with AF's USP guidance document70 to identify their related environmental and social risks and impacts and ensure appropriate mitigation measures and management plans are developed and put in place. All activities will be screened against the 15 Environmental and Social Principles and 9 SECAP standards. IFIA environmental, social and climate screening and assessment of USPs will entail three steps: ~~*178.* IFIA environmental, social and climate screening entails two steps:~~

1ST STEP: PROPOSAL ELIGIBILITY SCREENING

70 https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/AFB.B.32-33.7_Compliance-with-ESP_Update-of-PPR_and_Guidance-for-USPs_revised.pdf

~~179.~~66. Eligible proposals should be classified as Moderate Risk (category B) or lower in accordance with project's overall environmental and social risk category and following AF's ESP and IFAD's SECAP. Potential risks and impacts of proposal should be: (i) predictable and expected to be temporary or reversible; (ii) low in magnitude; (iii) site-specific, without the likelihood of impacts beyond the project life cycle; (iv) have low probability of serious adverse effects to human health or the environment (e.g. do not involve use or disposal of toxic materials, routine safety precautions are expected to be sufficient to prevent accidents); and (v) easily mitigated in a predictable manner. Additionally, any proposal meeting one of more of the following screening criteria cannot be put forward for financing under the project:

- Small dam or reservoir construction (with wall above 9 m, and/or with a reservoir above 100,000 m3)
- Construction of small-scale irrigation schemes rehabilitation/development (above 300 hectares per scheme)
- New construction, rehabilitation or upgrade of rural roads (AADT above 400).

~~180.~~67. The purpose of eligibility screening is to avoid significant adverse impacts that cannot be adequately mitigated by the project. The PMU will be~~PMUs are~~ responsible for eligibility screening of sub-projects.

2ND STEP: RISKS SCREENING AND CLASSIFICATION

~~181.~~68. For proposals that are determined to be eligible for financing, an environmental, social and climate risks screening shall be carried out. At the sub-project selection stage, all proposals shall be screened and assigned an environmental and social risks category in accordance with, AF's ESP, USP criteria, IFAD's SECAP 2021 and Viet Nam's Law No. 55/2014/QH13 on Environmental Protection.

~~182.~~69. To comply with the above, the PMUs shall screen all proposals using a screening form that needs to be developed for the project. The screening form shouldshould~~can~~ be based on the AF's 15 principles and IFAD SECAP standards. as well as USP criteria~~screening checklists.~~ The screening should be prepared based on a site visit and secondary data as necessary. Sub-projects would then be assigned an environmental and social risk category.

3rd STEP: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT

~~183.~~70. In accordance with AF's ESP and IFAD's SECAP requirements, moderate risk (category B) sub-project proposals would require the preparation of a site specific Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) that include mitigation measures relative to the risks and impacts identified during the screening. For low risk (category C) proposals, an E&S instrument is not required, however, monitoring for unexpected environmental or social impacts will be conducted continuously, including on the progress of USP implementation and will be reported on annually.

V. ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

1.ESMP summary

71. The project has been designed in full compliance with the Vietnamese environmental and forestry laws and relevant safeguard procedures that have been fully mainstreamed into the selection procedures under section II-F of the project proposal, and will form the core element of the ESMP and provide for ongoing screening as and when project areas and activities are being defined.

72. The IFIA screening identified the activities under outcomes being implemented by IFIA and co-financed by the Adaptation Fund as requiring further action beyond what has already been integrated into the grant approval process, as described above and detailed in section II-F. The PMUs

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will conduct the screening of each proposal and an ESMP will be prepared together with the applicant to ensure conformity to the guidelines. The PMU will work with the applicant through the consultation process described below to ensure the appropriate measures are applied to ensure compliance. Below it is reported a summary EMSP and reporting requirements that will be updated and finalized during project start-up and early implementation.

Table 17: Summary of reporting and management plan

ESP	ESC impacts	Mitigation/Enhancement measures	Responsible for implementation	Reporting
Marginalised and vulnerable groups	Marginalized and vulnerable groups, especially those in coastal districts, are likely to face problems resulting from increasing climate variability and hazards.	Describe the location of the critical target groups in relation to the project and why it cannot be avoided, as well as its characteristics and critical value. For each marginalized and vulnerable groups, provide an analysis on the group and the extent of the impact including direct, indirect, cumulative or secondary impacts; the severity of significance of the impact; and a demonstration that the impact is consistent with management plans and affected area custodians.	PMU	The project will conduct the screening and report as soon as the project areas have been determined. The project will monitor and report in the biannual progress reports; annual supervision reports to IFAD as well as the annual PPR to the Adaptation Fund; MTR and final evaluation and impact assessment.
Core labour rights	The potential of the project to impact directly, indirectly on labour groups	Provide an analysis on the labour group and the impact/benefit of the project on the labour group, especially the marginalized and vulnerable groups including unemployed youth and women. Promote transparent contract arrangement including wages and benefits, hours of work, overtime arrangements and overtime compensation, and leave for illness, maternity, vacation or holiday, that at a minimum comply with national law. This includes respecting a collective bargaining agreement with a workers' organization if there is such an agreement.	PMU	The project will monitor and report in the biannual progress reports; annual supervision reports to IFAD as well as the annual PPR to the Adaptation Fund; MTR and final evaluation and impact assessment.
Indigenous peoples	Potential of the project to impact directly, indirectly or bring benefits to the ethnic group, including threats to or the loss of resources of historical or cultural significance.	Describe the location of the Khmer ethnic groups in relation to the project and why it cannot be avoided, as well as its characteristics and critical value. Provide an analysis on the ethnic group and the impact/benefit of the project on ethnics group, especially the Khmer ethnic group. Develop an FPIC implementation plan and acknowledge and build upon the asset of Khmer cultural distinctiveness and consult Khmer people to obtain their FPIC at every step of the implementation.	PMU	Report on the engagement and consultation of the Khmer ethnic groups and the implantation of the FPIC plan. The project will monitor and report in the biannual progress reports; annual supervision reports to IFAD as well as the annual PPR to the Adaptation Fund; MTR and final evaluation and impact assessment.

		Ensure the informed participation of ethnic groups in all project-supported activities taking into account cultural differences. Local languages will be used in all village meeting, planning and extension sessions if needed. District teams responsible for implementation will reflect gender balance, and their members will have command of ethnic languages. Capacity building tools will be developed in the languages of the main ethnic groups and take into consideration cultural differences. Special efforts will be made to recruit project extension agents speaking ethnic groups languages and in mobilizing and mentoring teachers from the ethnic schools.		
Protection of natural habitats and conservation of biodiversity	Potential negative impacts on wetlands and mangrove areas.	Identify and report on the natural habitats. Monitor project activities to ensure no encroachment occurs. Site project interventions as far as possible from critical habitats, protected areas, or areas of ecological significance. Avoid introduction or utilization of invasive alien species, whether accidental or intentional.	PMU	The project will monitor and report in the biannual progress reports; annual supervision reports to IFAD as well as the annual PPR to the Adaptation Fund; MTR and final evaluation and impact assessment.
Climate change	Climate risks to potentially impact the project	Provide an analysis on the climate impacts and the impact/benefit of the project on adaptation capacity. The project is entirely designed with the purpose to be focused on climate change adaptation in terms of providing technical and capacity building solutions to the rural climate-vulnerable poor to adapt to climate change. Project investments are furthermore compliant with the governmental adaptation priorities for the agriculture sector.	PMU	The project will monitor and report in the biannual progress reports; annual supervision reports to IFAD as well as the annual PPR to the Adaptation Fund; MTR and final evaluation and impact assessment.
Physical and Cultural Heritage	Potential threats to or loss of resources of historical or cultural significance in Tra Vinh.	Acknowledge and build upon the asset of Khmer cultural distinctiveness and consult Khmer people to obtain their FPIC at every step of the implementation. Seek alternative areas to avoid adverse impacts on cultural heritage.	PMU	Report on the engagement and consultation of the Khmer ethnic groups and the implantation of the FPIC plan. The project will monitor and report in the biannual progress reports; annual supervision reports to IFAD as well as the

		Empower ethnic groups by assuring their informed participation in all project-supported activities.		annual PPR to the Adaptation Fund: MTR and final evaluation and impact assessment.

73. The PMU will update the ESMP of the project when USPs have been identified:

- A description of the fully formulated USP, with details on the characteristics of the USP and the specific environmental and social setting in which the USP will be implemented.
- The outcome of the ESP risks identification process, identifying risks according to each of the 15 ESP principles and 9 SECAP standards.
- For each of the identified risks, a description of the subsequent impact assessment that was undertaken and the findings thereof, showing that the assessment was commensurate with the risks identified.
- The findings of the impact assessments, and the safeguard measures that have been formulated to avoid, mitigate or manage undesirable impacts.
- The updated detailed safeguard arrangements in the implementation component of the ESMP, identifying and allocating roles and responsibilities to implementation partners for the application of the ESMP. This should include an assessment or a confirmation of the required capacity and skills with the relevant implementation partners.

2. Costs and budgetary considerations

The costs of implementing IFIA ESMP primarily comprise staff time, logistics costs, costs related to the screening of sub-projects and preparation of requires studies or plans, implementation of identified mitigation measures and monitoring and reporting. These costs have been readily integrated into the project budget and will subsequently be integrated into the Annual Work Plan and Budgets (AWPB).

Consultation and Public Disclosure

~~184.~~182. The design team consulted key stakeholders at national and local levels, including practitioners in relevant line ministries (natural resources, agriculture, social affairs, planning, etc.), development agencies, civil society organizations, producers' organizations and networks, academics and the private sector (see **Annex 3. List of stakeholders consulted**). Time, location and language for consultations were chosen in such a way to ease both women and men, girls and boys participation. Male and female stakeholders were consulted separately and in mixed groups as deemed necessary.

~~185.~~183. The consultations helped identifying the existing adaptation practices to climate change impacts in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh, and the related challenges and opportunities at community level. The main concerns that emerged from the consultations include increasing salinity intrusion, coastal and riverbank erosion, sea level rise, increasing temperature, scarcity of freshwater, and destructive abnormal heavy rainfall. Gender and youth specific concerns are detailed in **Annex 4. Gender and youth assessment and mainstreaming**. The communities' perspectives on possible future interventions that will improve local adaptive capacity were identified. These challenges and opportunities have been integrated into the design of the project as described in Part II of this document. Any significant proposed changes in the project during implementation will be made available for effective and timely public consultation with directly affected communities.

~~186.~~184. Furthermore, the results of the environmental and social screening and a draft environmental and social assessment will be made available for public consultations that are timely, effective, inclusive, and held free of coercion and in an appropriate way for communities that are directly affected by IFIA. IFAD and MONRE will disclose the final environmental and social assessment to project-affected people and other stakeholders. The AF will publicly disclose the final environmental and social assessment and IFIA's performance reports through its website.

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3. Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

~~187.~~185. IFIA will adopt CSAT GRM to receive and resolve concerns and complaints of people who may be adversely affected or potentially harmed by IFIA in case the latter fails to meet the ESMP and SECAP Standards and related policies. IFIA will inform project-affected people about the existence and functioning of this mechanism in any easily understandable form and language, and to integrate it into the overall community engagement strategy.

~~188.~~186. Project-affected people may use the grievance mechanism without retribution or reprisal, and the grievance mechanism should not impede access to other judicial or administrative remedies available under national law or through existing arbitration procedures or other accountability mechanisms.

~~189.~~187. The project GRM will comprise (i) an informal mechanism at community level, and (ii) formal mechanisms at higher levels for cases that cannot be resolved at the community level.

~~190.~~188. The local, informal mechanism takes advantage of the existing, village-level grievance redress mechanism, which comprises a group of local elders and/or spiritual/tribal leaders. These are widely accepted by local communities, particularly the ethnic minority groups. The project will empower these local Grievance Redress Committees (GRC) to address any issues arising from the project. In addition, as the local resolution of a grievance may require actions and commitments from other levels of government/government agencies, the project will facilitate the necessary linkages, communications, and follow-up between the village-level mechanisms and, as necessary, district and provincial-level authorities, line agencies/departments, and/or mass organizations (Farmer's Union, Women's Union, Youth Union). At each project commune, one of the line agencies' or mass organizations' staff responsible for CSAT and IFIA implementation will be delegated as responsible for reporting on and monitoring grievances that have been brought to the local GRC. The CPCs, as the body responsible for coordination of the project at Commune-level, will delegate the person or persons to be responsible. Similarly, at the district-levels, the DPCs will delegate this same responsibility to one (or more) of the line agencies' or mass organizations' staff responsible for implementation. The responsible commune-level staff will inform the responsible district-level staff whenever a grievance is brought to the local Grievance Redress Committee. In turn, the district-level staff will inform the PMUs. In those cases where unresolved grievances are escalated to commune, district, or provincial level (see below), it will be the role of the person delegated at commune-level to facilitate and assist the complainant to register their grievance with the CPC. In those cases not resolved by the CPC. It will be their role to facilitate the complainant's registration of their grievance with the DPC. At district-level, it will then become the responsibility of the person delegated at district-level to assist the complainant with the registration of their grievance with the DPC. Should the case be elevated to the PPC, the district person will facilitate and assist the complainant to access and register their grievance with the PPC.

~~191.~~189. In those instances that cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the affected persons through the local, informal mechanisms, i.e., when it is necessary to escalate the grievance/complaint to third-party, external mediation processes as the affected individual or group is not satisfied with the process, compensation or mitigation measures, or any other issue, those individuals or groups (or their representatives or village leaders) will then avail themselves of the following, escalating steps, as necessary:

- **First Stage** - Commune People's Committee (CPC): Failing resolution at the village level, the aggrieved party will escalate their complaint to the One Door Department of the Commune People's Committee, in writing or verbally. The member of the CPC at the One Door Department will be responsible to notify the CPC leaders and the Commune GRC (chaired by the leader of the CPC) about the complaint and the reasons why it could not be resolved at the village-level. The Commune GRC will meet personally with the aggrieved party and will have 30 days following the date of receipt of the complaint to resolve it. The CPC secretariat is responsible for documenting and keeping files of all complaints handled by the CPC, and informing the PMUs of any decision made.

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- **Second Stage** - District People's Committee (DPC): If after 30 days, the aggrieved party does not hear from the CPC, or if they are not satisfied with the decision taken on their complaint, they may bring the case, either in writing or verbally, to any member of the DPC. The District GRC (chaired by the leader of the DPC), in turn, will have 30 days following the receipt of the complaint to resolve the case. The DPC is responsible for documenting and keeping files of all complaints that it handles and will inform the PMUs of any decision made.

- **Third Stage** - Province People's Committee (PPC): If after 30 days, the aggrieved party does not hear from the DPC, or if they are not satisfied with the decision taken, they may bring the case, either in writing or verbally, to any member of the PPC or lodge an administrative case with the District People's Court for resolution. The PPC has 45 days within which to resolve the complaint to the satisfaction of all concerned. The PPC secretariat is also responsible for documenting and keeping files on all complaints that it handles.

- **Final Stage** - Court of Law: If, after 45 days following the lodging of the complaint with the PPC, the aggrieved party does not hear from the PPC, or if they are not satisfied with the decision taken on their complaint, the case may be brought to a court of law for adjudication. Decision by the court will be the final decision.

~~192.~~190. All decisions emitted for the resolution of the aggrieved party's complaint must be sent to the aggrieved, and other concerned, parties and must be posted at the office of the People's Committee where the complaint is resolved. The decision/result on resolution will be available at commune-level after three days, and at district-level after seven days.

~~193.~~191. The grievance resolution process for the Project, including the names and contact details of Grievance Focal Points (i.e., the staff appointed at commune-level by the CPCs, at district level by the DPCs, and the responsible person/persons in the PMUs), will be disseminated through information brochures and posted in the offices of the People's Committees at the districts, communes, and at the PMUs.

~~194.~~192. All complaints and grievances will be properly documented and filed by the responsible Grievance Focal Points, as well as being addressed by PMUs through transparent and proactive engagement with the project communes implementing infrastructure sub-projects. These grievance documents and reports will be made publicly accessible. All costs associated with the grievance handing process incurred by the claimant and/or their representatives will be covered by the project developer. To ensure that the grievance mechanisms described above are practical and acceptable to local authorities and communities, specific cultural attributes as well as traditional-cultural mechanisms for raising and resolving complaints and conflicting issues will be intentionally incorporated into the processes and mechanisms at village, commune, and district-levels.

~~195.~~193. An interest-bearing, escrow account for compensation payments should be established at a commercial bank, and should be used when resolving grievances to avoid any excessive delays to the project, while ensuring compensation payment after the grievance has been resolved.

~~196.~~194. Communities and individuals who believe that they are adversely affected by this IFAD supported project may submit complaints to the existing project-level grievance redress mechanisms or to IFAD's established complaints procedure. IFAD's accountability and complaints procedures receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and complaints with respect to alleged non-compliance of IFAD's environmental and social policies and the mandatory aspects of its Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures in the context of IFAD-supported projects. The procedure allows affected complainants to have their concerns resolved in a fair and timely manner through an independent process. IFAD may be contacted by e-mail at SECAPcomplaints@ifad.org or via its website at https://www.ifad.org/en/accountability-and-complaints-procedures.

~~197.~~195. Affected parties may also submit their grievances to the Adaptation Fund Ad Hoc Complaint Handling Mechanism (ACHM). Complainants should use the project level grievance redress mechanism and/or

IFAD's complaints procedure as a first step. However, the Ad hoc Complaint Handing Mechanism (ACHM) of the Adaptation Fund can be directly used in cases where the Parties have failed to reach a mutually satisfactory solution through the implementing entities' grievance mechanism within a year. More information can be found in the AF website at https://www.adaptation-fund.org/projects-programmes/accountability-complaints/ad-hoc-complaint-handling-mechanism-achm/.

~~198.~~196. All grievances received and action taken on them will be put up before the CPMU and Steering Committee meetings and will also be included in the progress reports for reporting and monitoring purposes.

VI. MONITORING AND REPORTING

~~199.~~197. Project Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) will be under the oversight of the provincial PMUs, and led by the M&E officer who will work closely with the Adaptation Fund expert and implementing partners. The project M&E system will be designed to track and verify the levels of achievement of project outputs, the associated outcomes, and the success in achieving the project objective and its development goal. These levels are all causally connected as set out in the project Logical Framework. Monitoring will focus on activities/inputs, outputs, outcomes, performance and risks while evaluation will assess the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and impact on poverty reduction, business growth and environment, empowerment and partnership, sustainability, replicability, lessons learned, and knowledge up-take, all within the context of the requirements for successful climate change adaptation. In specific, the M&E system will: (i) produce, organize and disseminate the information needed for the strategic management of the project; (ii) document the results and lessons learned for internal use and for public dissemination on the achievements; and (iii) respond to the information needs of the Adaptation Fund, IFAD and the Government on the activities, immediate outcomes and impact of the project. An M&E manual that will describe a simple and effective system for collecting, processing, analyzing and disseminating data will be prepared in the first year of project implementation.

~~200.~~198. The project's MIS will be established to provide a comprehensive system of data collection, analysis and exchange. It will bring together physical and financial records with the main purpose of informing management decisions on programme matters. Quantitative measures of progress will be supplemented with qualitative information related to the acquisition of personal and shared skills, group behavior changes, target groups' perception, awareness and attitudes. The MIS will be the sole channel of programme monitoring material and form the basis of six-monthly and annual reports.

~~201.~~199. In order to ensure that a single and compatible system is implemented, the MIS will be set up centrally at project start-up and refinements will be introduced in the light of experience during the first project year. It will be based on the Logical Framework, which, together with the MIS, may be modified at Mid-term Review (MTR) to adjust the project to changing circumstances. The preparation of reporting formats for use by implementing agencies, particularly the participating communes, districts, and other partners will be part of the overall design of the MIS.

~~202.~~200. **Baseline**. The project baseline will be implemented in year one of the project. The added cost-benefit of partnership with IFAD will allow the Adaptation Fund to help mainstream climate change vulnerability assessments into the combined IFAD/AF baseline. Adaptation Fund indicators have already been specified in the PIM and will include climate change related indicators on the extent of climate vulnerability.

~~203.~~201. **Quarterly Progress Reports** will be also prepared by project implementing partners in the field, and submitted to the PMU to ensure continuous monitoring of project activities and identify challenges to adopt necessary corrective measures in due time.

~~204.~~202. **Thematic studies**: The PMU will contract or carry out thematic impact studies that will look at the impact of activities under project outcomes. Such impact assessment will include an analysis of the effectiveness of: poverty impact of co-management and financial incentive mechanism, mangrove related value chains, and mangrove management and climate change adaptation. The topics for these thematic studies will be identified in consultation with relevant government departments and other stakeholders during project

implementation, taking into account the forest policies. The Monitoring Framework provides the indicators, collection methods and the usage of the processed data.

~~205.~~203. **Annual Project Report (APR)**. The PMU will prepare an APR to reflect progress achieved in meeting the project's Annual Work Plan and assess performance of the project in contributing to intended outcomes through outputs and partnership work. The format of the APR will include but not limit to the following: (i) an analysis of project performance over the reporting period, including outputs produced and, where possible, information on the status of the outcome; (ii) the constraints experienced in the progress towards results and the reasons for these; (iii) the major constraints to achievement of results; (iv) AWP and other expenditure reports; (v) lessons learned; and (vi) recommendations for future orientation in addressing key problems in lack of progress.

~~206.~~204. **Supervision** will be by IFAD (under its direct supervision framework and guidelines), with a supervision mission conducted at least once per year. Additional implementation support from IFAD on specific identified issues will be mobilized if considered necessary by the Government and IFAD or recommended by the supervision mission. The composition of the supervision missions will be based on an annual supervision plan. The supervision plan will highlight, in addition to the routine supervision tasks (fiduciary, compliance and programme implementation), the main thematic or performance areas that require strengthening and would imply deployment of additional inputs for capacity building, in-depth analytical studies or review of existing policies.

~~207.~~205. **Mid-term Review** and Completion Review: IFAD and the Government will be responsible for carrying out two full reviews of the project achievements: the MTR during Programme Year 3 and the completion review after project completion. Key questions to be addressed during the reviews on the basis of the indicators contained in the Logical Framework will include: (i) have project investments enabled coherent planning for mangrove co-management and poverty reduction; (ii) has project targeting been successful; (iii) has the project assisted the underemployed in getting jobs and have innovative financial incentives for adaptation in wetland livelihoods been forged effectively; (iv) does the project have the expected financial service outreach; (v) has the market linked for value chains been promoted; (vi) has the project contributed good examples to the national policies related to mangrove; and (vii) how have changes in the external environment including climate change related challenges impacted on project beneficiaries.

~~208.~~206. **Project Completion Report** (PCR): At the end of the implementation period, a single, comprehensive PCR will be compiled by the PMU. The PCR will follow the AF guidelines and format for project completion reports. The assessment criteria will include: participation of the target groups, the project's strategies and approaches, relevance, finance management, efficiency, outputs delivery, effectiveness, impacts, sustainability, Innovation, scalability and replicability.

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

Ha Noi, August , 2022
Ref.No: /MONRE-2022

Dear Mr. Francisco Pichon
Country Director - IFAD Office in Viet Nam

On behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE), I would like to express its sincere thank to you and the United Nations International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) for your consecutive assistance to the Government of Viet Nam in achieving remarkable climate targets and results.

In response to IFAD's letter dated 6 July 2022, in my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, I confirm that the above project proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementation adaptation activities to build resilient and responsive capacity of coastal communities, economy, and coastal ecosystems against impacts of climate change, disaster risks and sea-level rise. The project will contribute to implementation of Viet Nam's updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project proposal will be implemented by IFAD and executed by MONRE in Viet Nam.

Sincerely,

Tran Hong Ha
Minister of Natural Resources and Environment
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

Address: No 10 Ton That Thuyet Street, Nam Tu Liem District, Ha Noi, Viet Nam
Tel: +824 3 7956 868- 1102, Email: vpc@monre.gov.vn, Website: www.monre.gov.vn

APPENDIX 1: National laws, regulations, standards, and technical guidelines for IFIA compliance during the implementation

Laws
Law on Environmental Protection No.55/2014/QH13 passed by the National Assembly on 23 June 2014 and took effect since 01 January 2015. This law enacts policies and regulations on environmental safeguards, and rights and obligations of organizations, households and individuals relating to environmental protection activities.
Construction Law No. 50/2014/QH13 issued on 18 June 2014 and took effect since 01 January 2015
Land Law No. 45/2013/QH13 passed by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on 29 November 2013 and took effect since 01 July 2014
Law on Planning No. 21/2017 / QH14 dated November 17, 2017
Law on Forestry No. 16/2017/QH14 dated November 15, 2017 of the National Assembly providing for management, protection, development and use of forests, and forest owners' rights and obligations.
Law on Occupational Safety and Hygiene No. 84/2015/QH13 dated 25 June 2015
Law on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control No.33/2013/QH13 of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam dated June 19, 2013 provides natural disaster prevention and control activities; rights and obligations of agencies, organizations, households and individuals engaged in natural disaster prevention and control activities; and the state management of, and assurance of resources for, natural disaster prevention and control.
Law on Water Resources No. 17/2012/QH13 passed by the National Assembly on 21 June 2012 provides on management, protection, exploitation and use of water resources, as well as the prevention of, combat against and overcoming of harmful effects caused by water.
Labour Law No. 10/2012/QH13 passed by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on 18/06/2012 provides labour standards; rights, obligations and responsibilities of employees, employers, employees' representative organizations and employers' representative organizations in industrial relations and other relations directly relating to industrial relations; and state management of labour.
Biodiversity Law No. 20/2008/QH12 passed by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on 11/13/2008 providing for conservation and sustainable development of biodiversity, rights and obligations of organizations, households and individuals in the conservation and sustainable development of biodiversity.
Law on Protection of People's Health No. 21/ LCT/HDNN ratified by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, adopted on 30/06/1989
Decrees
Decree No.40/2019/ND-CP dated May 13, 2019 of the Government on amending and supplementing a number of articles of the decree that provides detailing and guiding the implementation of the Law on Environmental Protection
Decree No. 37/2019/ND-CP dated 07/5/2019 of the Government detailing a number of articles of the Law on Planning.
Decree No.114/2018/ND-CP on safety management of dams and reservoirs enacted by the Government on September 4, 2018.
Decree No. 59/2015/ND-CP dated 18 June 2015 of the Government on construction project management
Decree No.18/2015/ND-CP dated 14 February 2015 of the Government on promulgating environmental protection planning, strategic environmental assessment, environmental impact assessment and environmental protection plan
Decree No. 19/2015/ND-CP dated 14 February 2015 of the Government detailing the implementation of some articles of the Law on Environmental Protection
Decree No. 38/2015/ND-CP dated 24 April 2015 of the Government on management of waste and scrap materials
Decree No. 43/2014/ND-CP dated 15 May 2014 of the Government detailing the implementation of some articles of the Land Law
Decree No. 44/2014/ND-CP dated 15 May 2014 of the Government regulating on land prices

Decree No. 45/2014/ND-CP dated 05/15/2014 of the Government regulating on collection of land use fees
Decree No. 47/2014/ND-CP dated 15 May 2014 of the Government regulating compensation, support and resettlement upon land acquisition by the State
Decree No. 80/2014/ND-CP dated 06 August 2014 of the Government regulating on drainage, and wastewater treatment
Decree No. 179/2013/ND-CP dated 11/14/2013 of the Government regulating on sanctioning of administrative violations in the field of environmental protection
Decree No. 25/2013/ND-CP dated 29 March 2013 of the Government regulating on charges of environmental protection for wastewater
Decree No. 667/QD-TTg dated May 2009 regarding sea dike maintenance and upgrading
Decree No. 147/2007/ND-CP dated 29 November 2007 of the Government regulating on charges of environmental protection for solid waste
Decree No. 59/2007/ND-CP dated 09 April 2007 of the Government regulating on solid waste management
Decree No. 149/2004/ND-CP dated 07/27/2004 regulating on the exploitation and use of water resources, discharging wastewater into receiving water bodies
Circulars
Circular No.25/2019/TT-BTNMT dated December 31, 2019 of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, detailing the implementation of the Government's Decree No.40/2019/ND-CP of May 13, 2019 of the Government amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Decree that provides detailing and guiding the implementation of the Law on Environmental Protection
Circular No. 27/2015/TT-BTNMT dated 29 May 2015 of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) on strategic environmental assessment, environmental impact assessment and environmental protection plan
Circular No. 36/2015/TT-BTNMT dated 30 June 2015 of MONRE on hazardous waste management
Circular No.30/2014/TT-BTNMT dated May 15, 2014 of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment stipulating documents on land allocation, land lease, change of land use purpose and land acquisition
Circular No. 32/2013/TT-BTNMT dated 25 October 2013 of MONRE on the issuance of national technical regulations on environment
Circular No. 19/2011/TT - BYT dated 06/6/2011 of the Ministry of Health guidelines occupational health management, health workers and occupational diseases
Circular No. 22/2010/TT-BXD of 03 December 2010 of the Ministry of Construction on labour safety in civil construction works
Decision No. 02/2009/TT-BTNMT dated 19 March 2009 of MONRE on the assessment of capacity to receive wastewater of water sources
Circular No.146/2007/TT-BQP dated September 11, 2007 of the Ministry of Defence guiding the implementation of the Prime Minister's Decision No.96/2006/QD-TTg dated May 4, 2006, on management and clearance of bombs, mines and unexploded ordinances
Legal Resolutions/Decisions
Decision 1163/QD-TTg dated 31/07/2020 of the Government on approval of planning tasks of Mekong Delta regional plan for 2021-2030 period, vision to 2050 (PTR). This is the most important legal basis for MRD regional planning
Decision No. 825 / QD-TTg dated June 2020 on the Regulations of the Mekong Delta Coordination Council (2020-2025).
Decision No. 324/QD-TTg dated 02/3/2020 of the Prime Minister on approving the Comprehensive Program on sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural development in Mekong Delta region to 2030, with a vision to 2045.
Resolution No. 120 / NQ CP dated November 17, 2017 of the Government on sustainable development of the Mekong Delta (Mekong Delta) to adapt to climate change
Decision No. 5528/QD-BNN-TCTS dated 31/12/2015 of MARD on approving the plan on developing brackish shrimp systems in Mekong Delta region to 2020, with a vision to 2030.
Decision No. 120/QD-TTg dated January 22, 2015, approving the project on protection and development of coastal forests to cope with climate change in 2015-2020 period

Decision No. 245/QD-TTg dated 12 February 2014 of the Prime Minister approving the master plan on socio-economic development of the Mekong delta key economic region through 2020, with orientations toward 2030
Decision No. 939/QD-TTg dated 19 July 2014 of Prime Minister approving the master plan on socioeconomic development of the Mekong river delta till 2020
Decision No.96/2006/QD-TTg dated May 4, 2006, on management and clearance of bombs, mines and unexploded ordinances
Decision No. 2623/QD-TTg in 2013 of Prime Minister on approval of the scheme "Viet Nam's urban development for response to climate change"
Decision No. 11/2012/QD-TTg dated 10 February 2012 of Prime Minister approving the master plan on development of transport in the Mekong river delta key economic region through 2020, with orientations toward 2030
Decision No. 1397/QD-TTg dated 25 September 2012 of Prime Minister approving irrigation planning in Mekong River Delta from 2012 - 2020 and orientations to 2050 in relation to climate change, high sea rise
Decision No. 1581/QD-TTg dated 9 October 2009 of Prime Minister approving construction plan on MKRD toward 2020 and vision to 2050

ANNEX 2. DESIGN MISSION PROGRAMME

AGENDA FOR THE AF DESIGN MISSION TO TRA VINH PROVINCE

Dates: from 28/02/2022 to 06/3/2022

Time	Location	Content	Participant
28 February 2022		Travelling Can Tho - Tra Vinh	Design team
01 March 2022			
8:00 – 9:30	PPC	- Meeting with PPC and relevant agencies (leader of the PPC chairs and discusses with the team): + Introduction about the participants of the team, AF and the AF design (representative of the IFAD team) + Introduction of overview, planning and policies related to management, cultivation and exploitation of coastal mangrove forests in Tra Vinh province (DARD)	- Leader of the PPC - Design team - Leaders of DPI, DONRE, DARD, Forest Protection Department, Protection Forest Management Board, Provincial Border Guard Command Board - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit
9:40 – 11:00	DPI	Meeting with DPI: - Discussing the SEDP mechanism - Understanding the budget allocation for coastal wetland, mangrove forest management	- Design team - DPI - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit
13:30 – 14:30	DONRE	Meeting with DONRE: - Discussing coastal wetland management including climate change risks and adaptation options - Discussing mangrove forest management and underwater resource management. - Discussing mechanisms, policies, and the budget allocation for forest land, sea and island management...	- Design team - DONRE and relevant units under the Department - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit
14:40 – 17:00	DARD	Meeting with DARD: - In-depth discussing planning and policies related to management, afforestation and exploitation of coastal mangrove forests. - Discussing livelihood activities of people living within and around mangrove forests including climate change risks and adaptation options - Discussing the budget allocation - Proposing activities for the above contents	- Design team - DARD (including Forest Protection Department, Protection Forest Management Board) - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit
02 March 2022			
8:00 – 9:30	Mua Vang Trading and Service Co., Ltd, Truong Long Hoa commune, Duyen Hai town	- Discussing with enterprise on their business. - Identifying potential for cooperation. - Discussing difficulties and challenges in implementing forest projects and field trip to afforestation areas. - Identify the functions of cooperation with the company.	- Design team - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit - Representative of the companies
10:15 – 11:30	MangLub VN	- Discussing the difficulties and challenges in implementing the project of afforestation - Discussing wetland co-management and adaptation to climate change	- Design team - Representative of MangLub - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit
13:30 – 15:00	Cuu Long Sea products Company	- Discussing with enterprise on their business. - Identifying potential for cooperation. - Discussing difficulties and challenges in implementing forest projects and field trip to afforestation areas. Identify the functions of cooperation with the company.	- Design team - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit - Representative of the companies
15:00 – 16:00	DOLISA	- Discussion on poverty, gender, social inclusion: data, issues, suggestions	- Design team - - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit (Rachele and Thin) - DOLISA

Time	Location	Content	Participant
03 March 2022			
7:30 – 10:00 10:00- 12:00	My Long Town Border Guard Station (Cau Ngang district)	- Discussing forest contracts to households and organizations to protect the forest (exploiting aquatic resources under the forest canopy) Discussing with 5-10 households on their farming/aquaculture practices relating to wetland and mangrove forest climate change risks and current adaptation practices - Field trip on forest management on the river from My Long town to Long Hoa commune	- Design team - Provincial/ District Forest Protection Department - My Long Town Border Guard Station - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit - Households/ organizations receiving forest contracts/ exploiting/farming aquaculture in mangrove and wetland areas
13:30 – 15:00	Tien Thanh Clam Farming Cooperative, Long Hoa commune, Chau Thanh district	Meeting with the Cooperative: - Discussing their operation and business - Discussing their recommendations, suggestions...	- Design team - CPC, District Division of Agriculture and Rural Development - Long Hoa Border Guard Station - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit - Leaders of the Cooperative
15:15 – 17:00	Community group for forest management of Con Chim river, Hoa Minh commune, Chau Thanh district	- Discussing mangrove forest co-management - Discussing their recommendations, suggestions...	- Design team - CPC, District Division of Agriculture and Rural Development - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit - Members of the group
04 March 2022			
Group 1			
8:00 – 9:30	Thong Thuan Seafood Joint Stock Company, Truong Long Hoa commune, Duyen Hai town	Meeting with Thong Thuan Seafood Joint Stock Company: - Discussing with enterprise on their business. - Identifying potential for cooperation.	- Design team - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit - Representative of the company
9:50 – 11:30	Truong Long Hoa commune, Duyen Hai town	Discussing with 5-10 households on their farming/aquaculture practices relating to wetland and mangrove forest climate change risks and current adaptation practices	- Design team - Provincial/ District Forest Protection Department - CPC, District Division of Agriculture and Rural Development - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit - Households / groups
14g00 – 15g30	Long Khanh commune, Duyen Hai district	Discussing with CGs/Cooperative (5-10 households) benefiting from the AMD project on their farming/aquaculture practices relating to wetland and mangrove forest	- Design team - Provincial/ District Forest Protection Department - CPC, District Division of Agriculture and Rural Development - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit - Members of the CGs/Cooperative
15g45 – 17g00	Long Vinh commune, Duyen Hai district	Discussing with CGs/Cooperative (5-10 households) benefiting from the AMD project on their farming/aquaculture practices relating to wetland and mangrove forest	- Design team - Provincial/ District Forest Protection Department - CPC, District Division of Agriculture and Rural Development - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit - Members of the CGs/Cooperative
Group 2 8:00 – 11:00	Project preparation unit	Discussion on project Financial Management aspects	- Design team - Financial Department - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit
05 March 2022			

Time	Location	Content	Participant
		Internal team discussion and report preparation	Design team
06 March 2022			
8:30 – 11:00		Brief meeting with Tra Vinh project preparation unit: findings, discussions, and agree on next steps	- Design team - Task force of the IFAD-funded project preparation unit
Afternoon		Travelling to Ben Tre	

AGENDA FOR THE AF DESIGN MISSION TO BEN TRE PROVINCE

Dates: From March 6 -12, 2022

Time	Venue	Working contents	Participants
March 6, 2022			
	Sao Mai Hotel	Travel from Tra Vinh to Ben Tre province.	IFAD Design Mission
6:00 pm	Ham Luong Hotel	Warmly dinner.	- Leaders of Provincial People's Committee - IFAD Design Mission - PSC Phase III
March 7, 2022			
8:00 - 9:30am	Office of the Provincial People's Committee	- Meeting with the Provincial People's Committee and relevant departments (The representative of the Provincial People's Committee will chair and discuss with the delegation): + Introduction: IFAD design mission, the Adaptation Fund (AF), the Project Design Framework (Representative of the IFAD Design Mission). + Introduction to overview, planning and policies related to the management, planting and exploitation of coastal mangrove forests in Ben Tre province (Department of Agriculture and Rural Development).	- Representatives of the Provincial People's Committee. - IFAD Design Mission. - Leaders of the Department of Planning and Investment, Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development; Forest Protection Sub-department; Farmer Association; Women's Union; Provincial Border Defense Force. - Leaders of People's Committees of Binh Dai, Ba Tri, Thanh Phu districts. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
9:40 - 11:00 am	Department of Planning and Investment	Working with the Department of Planning and Investment: - Discussing the provincial socio-economic development planning mechanism. - Discussion on budget allocation for mangrove management.	- IFAD Design Mission. - Department of Planning and Investment. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
1:30 - 3:00 pm	Department of Natural Resources and Environment	Working with the Department of Natural Resources and Environment: - Discussion on climate change adaptation coastal wetland management. - Discussion on mangrove management. - Discussing budget allocation.	- IFAD Design Mission. - Department of Natural Resources and Environment and its Sub-Departments. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.

Time	Venue	Working contents	Participants
3:10 – 5:00 pm	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Working with the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development: - In-depth discussion on planning and policies related to management, planting and exploitation of coastal mangrove forests. - Discuss the livelihood activities of people living in and around mangrove areas including climate change risks and adaptation options. - Discuss the budget allocation. - Proposing activities of the above contents.	- IFAD Design Mission. - Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and its Sub-Departments (DARD to invite the participation of the Forest Protection Sub-Department and the Management Board of Protective and Special-Use Forests, the Sub-Department of Fisheries and related units). - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
March 8, 2022: Fieldtrip in Binh Dai district			
08:00-9:30	Anfoods Joint Stock Company and Thanh Phuoc ecological seafood cooperative (Thanh Phuoc commune, Binh Dai district)	Working with Anfoods Joint Stock Company and Thanh Phuoc Ecological Fisheries Cooperative. - Discussion on their businesses. - Recommendations, suggestions. - Identifying potential cooperation.	- IFAD Design Mission. - Representatives of the District's Agriculture and Rural Development Department. - Representatives of the Commune People's Committee. - Representatives of the Border Defense Station. - Representatives of the Company and Cooperative. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
10:00 - 11:30 am	Hung Truong Phat Seafood Joint Stock Company (Chau Hung Commune, Binh Dai District)	Working with Hung Truong Phat Seafood Joint Stock Company. - Discussion on its businesses. - Identify potential cooperation.	- IFAD Design Mission. - Representatives of the District's Agriculture and Rural Development Department. - Representatives of the Commune People's Committee. - Representatives of the Company. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
3:00-5:00 pm	Ham Luong Hotel	Organization of the Results Validation workshop: Impact Assessment of the Adaptation to Climate Change Project in the Mekong Delta in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh Provinces (AMD)	- Leaders of the People's Committees of Ben Tre and Tra Vinh provinces. - IFAD Design Mission. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board of the two provinces. - Representatives of the two provinces Ben Tre and Tra Vinh.
March 9, 2022: Fieldtrip in Ba Tri district			
8:00 - 9:30am	People's Committee of Ba Tri district	Working with Ba Tri District People's Committee and related sectors: - Introduction to overview, planning and policies related to the management, planting and exploitation of coastal mangrove forests of the district.	- IFAD Design Mission - Representatives of the District People's Committee. - Representatives of the Forest Protection Department.

Time	Venue	Working contents	Participants
		- Discussing the assignment of forest contracts to households and forest protection (exploiting aquatic resources under the forest canopy).	- Representatives of the district subdivision (under the Management Board of Protective and Special-Use Forest). - Representatives of the Border Defense Station. - Representatives of the District Agriculture and Rural Development Department. - Representatives of District Department of Natural Resources and Environment. - Representative of District Farmer Association, Women's Union. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
10:00 - 11:30 am	A group of farmers participating in the EU Organic certified shrimp model funded by WB 9 (Bao Thuan commune, Ba Tri district)	- Meeting and discussing with 5-10 households participating in the EU organic certified shrimp model funded by WB-9 about farmers' farming practices related to climate change risks and adaptation current household. - Recommendations, suggestions	- IFAD Design Mission. - Representatives of District Agriculture Department. - Representatives of the district subdivision (under the Protective and Special-Use Forest Management Board). - Representative of the Commune People's Committee - Household Representatives. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
1:30 - 3:00 pm	An Thuy Clam Cooperative (An Thuy Commune, Ba Tri District)	Working with An Thuy Clam Cooperative: - Understanding about the field of operation and business of the cooperative. - Recommendations, suggestions.	- IFAD Design Mission. - Representatives of the district Agriculture and Rural Development Department. - Representatives of the district subdivision (under the Protection and Special-use Forest Management Board). - Representatives of the Commune People's Committee. - Representatives of the Cooperative. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
3:30-5:00 pm	Group of households in An Thuy commune, Ba Tri district	- Meeting and discussing with 5-10 households who are fishing/aquaculturing in mangrove and wetland areas about their current farming practices related to climate change risks and adaptation implementation. - Recommendations, suggestions	- IFAD design Mission. - Representatives of the district Agriculture and Rural Development Department. - Representatives of the district subdivision (under the Protective and Special-Use Forest Management Board).

Time	Venue	Working contents	Participants
			- Representatives of the Commune People's Committee. - Household Representatives. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
March 10, 2022: Fieldtrip in Thanh Phu district			
Group 1:			
8:30 - 10:00am	People's Committee of Thanh Phu District	Working with Thanh Phu District People's Committee and related sectors: - Introduction to overview, planning and policies related to the management, planting and exploitation of coastal mangrove forests of the district. - Discussing the assignment of forest contracts to households and forest protection (exploiting aquatic resources under the forest canopy).	- IFAD Design Mission. - Representatives of District People's Committee - Representatives of the District Forest Protection Department. - Representatives of the Protective and Special-Use Forest Management Board. - Representatives of the district Agriculture and Rural Development Department. - Representatives of District Department of Natural Resources and Environment. - Representatives of Farmers Union, District Women's Union. - Representatives of the Border Defense Station. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
10:30 - 13:30 pm	Group of households in Thanh Phong commune, Thanh Phu district	- Meeting and discussing with 5-10 households who are fishing/aquaculture in mangrove and wetland areas about their current farming practices related to climate change risks and adaptation implementation. - Recommendations, suggestions	- IFAD Design Mission - Representatives of the District Agriculture and Rural Development Department. - Representatives of the Protective and Special-Use Forest Management Board. - Representatives of the Commune People's Committee. - Household representatives. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
	Group of households in Thanh Hai commune, Thanh Phu district	- Meeting and discussing with 5-10 households who are fishing/aquaculturing in mangrove and wetland areas about their current farming practices related to climate change risks and adaptation implementation. - Recommendations, suggestions	- IFAD Design Mission. - Representatives of the district Agriculture and Rural Development Department. - Representatives of the Protection and Special-use Forest Management Board. - Representatives of the Commune People's Committee. - Household representatives.

Time	Venue	Working contents	Participants
			- Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
Group 2 8:00 - 11:00 am	Financial Department	Discuss the financial management of the project	- IFAD Design Mission. - Representatives of the Department of Finance. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
March 11, 2022			
All day		The Mission will work internally and write reports.	IFAD Design Mission
March 12, 2022			
8:30 - 11:00am	Office of the Provincial People's Committee	Meeting with Provincial People's Committee and relevant departments: The Design Mission will present the results, discuss and agree on the follow-ups for implementation.	- Representative of the provincial People's Committee. - IFAD Design Mission. - Leaders of the Department of Planning and Investment, Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development; Forest Protection Sub-department; Farmer's Association; Women Union; Provincial Border Defense Force. - Leaders of People's Committees of Binh Dai, Ba Tri, Thanh Phu districts. - Support team of Phase III Preparation Board.
11:00am	Ham Luong Hotel	Farewell lunch.	- Leaders of Provincial People's Committee - IFAD Design Mission - PSC Phase III
Afternoon		Delegation to Ho Chi Minh City, flying back to Ha Noi.	

ANNEX 3. LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTED

No.	Name	Organisation	Position	Gender
I	**March 01, 2022**			
I.1	**Provincial People's Committee (PPC) of Tra Vinh**			
1	Mr. Le Van Han	Tra Vinh PPC	Chairman	male
2	Mr. Dang Hong Quang	Provincial Border Guard	Deputy Commander	male
3	Mr. Hong Ngoc Hung	Department of Planning and Investment (DPI)	Deputy Director	male
4	Mr. Tran Van Dung	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD)	Deputy Director	male
5	Mr. Tran Thanh Nhan	Protection forest management unit	Deputy Director	male
6	Ms. Le Thi Hanh Chuyen	DARD	Chief of staff	female
7	Mr. To Ngoc Binh	PPC	Deputy Chief of Office of PPC	male
8	Mr. Nguyen Van Dut	Office of PPC	Deputy Head of Division for General Administration-External Relations	male
9	Ms. Nguyen Ngoc Bich Tram	Division for General Administration-External Relations	Principal Official	female
10	Mr. Nguyen Vu Phuong	Forest Protection Department (FPD)	Head of Department	male
11	Ms Nguyen Thi Ngoc Phuong	Office of PPC	Principal Official	female
12	Mr. Nguyen Quoc Tuan	Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE)	Deputy Director	male
I.2	**Department of Planning and Investment (DPI)**			
1	Mr. Hong Ngoc Hung	DPI	Deputy Director	male
2	Mr. Tu Chung Loc	DPI	Deputy Head of Division for General Administration	male
3	Mr. Duong Van Loi	DPI	Official	male
I.3	**Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE)**			
1	Mr. Tran Van Hung	DoNRE	Director	male
2	Mr. Nguyen Thanh Nghiem	DoNRE	Head of Division for Natural resources and Mining management	male
3	Mr. Duong Van Hiep	DoNRE	Head of Division for Environment management	male
4	Ms. Dinh Thi Nhanh	DoNRE	Chief of staff	female
5	Mr. Ngo Van Thanh Dien	DoNRE	Official of Division for Land management	male
I.4	**Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD)**			
1	Mr. Tran Van Dung	DARD	Deputy Director	male
2	Mr. Hua Chien Thang	Forest Protection Department	Deputy Head of Forest Protection Department	male
3	Mr. Tran Thanh Nhan	Protection forest management unit	Deputy Director	male
4	Mr. Tran Minh Phat	Forest Protection Department	Head of Division	male

5	Mr. Tran Minh Trung	Protection forest management unit	Head of Division	male
6	Ms. Ta My Hoa	DARD	Official	female
II	**March 02, 2022**			
II.1	**Mua Vang .Ltd Company (Truong Long Hoa, Duyen Hai town)**			
1	Mr. Phan Manh Hung	Mua Vang Company	Director	male
2	Mr. Nguyen Phuc Vien	Mua Vang Company	Technical staff	male
II.2	**VietNam MangLub Company**			
1	Mr. Truong Thanh Phi Long	Forest Protection Department	Deputy Head of Division	male
2	Ms. On Thi Kim Ngan	Manglub Company	PR staff	female
3	Ms. Pham Hai Thy	Manglub Company	Manager	female
II.3	**Cuu Long Aquaculture JSC company**			
1	Mr. Pham Song Ho		Deputy Director	male
2	Ms. Tran Thi Thuy Quyen		Saleswoman	female
II.4	**Department of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs**			
1	Mr. Ly Minh Dien	DOLISA	Head of Office staff	male
2	Mr. Ly Xuan Hoa	DOLISA	Deputy Head of Division for Labor, Jobs and Vocational Training	male
3	Mr. Thach Khaman	DOLISA	Head of Division for Social Welfare	male
III	**March 03, 2022**			
III.1	**My Long Border Guard Station**			
1	Mr. Hua Chien Thang	Forest Protection Department	Deputy Head of Forest Protection Department	male
2	Mr. Le Hong Son	Forest Protection Unit of Chau Thanh – Cau Ngang	Head of unit	male
3	Mr. Nguyen Van Linh	Forest Protection Unit of Chau Thanh – Cau Ngang	Forest ranger	male
4	Mr. Ly Thanh Nghi	My Long Border Guard Station	Deputy Head	male
5	Mr. Phan Thanh Sang	My Long Border Guard Station	Deputy Political Officer	male
6	Mr. Ngoc Thai Chau	My Long Border Guard Station	Scout captain	male
7	Mr. To Quoc Toan	Tien Dat Aquaculture Cooperative	Director	male
8	Mr. Pham Van Sanh	Dong Tien Aquaculture Cooperative	Director	male
9	Mr. Quang Quoc Binh	Thanh Cong Clam Cooperative	Cooperative member	male
10	Mr. Duong Van Dien	Doan Ket Aquaculture Cooperative	Cooperative member	male
III.2	**My Long town**			
1	Mr. Dang Minh Tu		Farmer	male
2	Ms. Tran Thi Hang		Farmer	female
3	Mr. Nguyen Minh Truong		Farmer	male
4	Mr. Nguyen Ke Nghiep		Farmer	male
5	Mr. Dang Minh Hai		Farmer	male
III.3	**Tien Thanh Clam Cooperative, Long Hoa commune, Chau Thanh district**			
1	Mr. Nguyen Van Nguyen	Hai Thu hamlet	Head	male
2	Mr. Nguyen Van Truyen	Long Hoa commune	Vice Chairman	male

3	Mr. Kieu Van Tri	Long Hoa commune	Officer	male
4	Mr. Thach Dien	Long Hoa Border Guard station	Officer	male
5	Mr. Pham Van Truong	Tien Thanh Clam Cooperative	Director	male
6	Mr. Nguyen Van Hue	Tien Thanh Clam Cooperative	Deputy Director	male
7	Mr. Tran Van Khiem	Tien Thanh Clam Cooperative	Cooperative member	male
8	Mr. Ho Hoang Thanh	Tien Thanh Clam Cooperative	Cooperative member	male
9	Ms. Dinh Thi Chien	Tien Thanh Clam Cooperative	Cooperative member	female
III.4	**Con Chim forest management community, Hoa Minh commune, Chau Thanh district**			
1	Mr. Phan Minh Thanh	Hoa Minh commune	Vice Chairman	male
2	Mr. Do Hoang Khai	Hoa Minh commune	Officer	male
3	Mr. Tran Ngoc Tuan	Hoa Minh commune	Officer	male
4	Mr. Nguyen Van Quoi	Con Chim hamlet	Head	male
5	Mr. Nguyen Tan Thanh	Con Chim hamlet	Deputy Head	male
6	Mr. Nguyen Van Pha	Con Chim forest management community		male
7	Mr. Tran Van Toan			male
8	Mr. Nguyen Van Luong			male
9	Mr. Nguyen Van Phuong			male
10	Mr. Le Minh Dac			male
IV	**March 04, 2022**			
IV.1	**Thong Thuan Aquaculture JSC company (Truong Long Hoa, Duyen Hai town**			
1	Mr. Le Van Bat		Director General	male
2	Mr. Tran Van Dong		Personel Director	male
3	Mr. Lam Van Ly		Head of Technical Division	male
IV.2	**Truong Long Hoa commune, duyen Hai town**			
1	Ms. Dang Thi Thuy	Con Tau hamlet	Farmer	female
2	Ms. Tran Thi Nuong	Con Tau hamlet	Farmer	female
3	Ms. Nguyen Thi Thao	Con Tau hamlet	Farmer	female
4	Mr. Tang Van Do	Con Tau hamlet	Farmer	male
5	Mr. Huynh Van Tuan	Con Tau hamlet	Farmer	male
6	Mr. Le Van Rai	Con Tau hamlet	Farmer	male
7	Mr. Pham Van Xe	Con Tau hamlet	Farmer	male
8	Mr. Pham Minh Ky	Duyen Hai Forest Protection Unit	Head	male
IV.3	**Long Khanh commune, Duyen Hai district**			
1	Mr. Lam Thai Hoang Dan	Long Khanh commune	Vice chairman	male
2	Mr. Do Thanh Truong	Long Khanh commune	Officer	male
3	Ms. Pham Thi Huyen Tran	Long Khanh commune	Officer	female
4	Mr. Pham Van Lanh	Long Khanh commune	Cooperative member	male
5	Ms. Nguyen Thi Nguyet Nga	Long Khanh commune	Cooperative member	female
6	Ms. Tran Thi Thuy An	Long Khanh commune	Cooperative member	female
7	Mr. Nguyen Trung Nghiep	Long Khanh commune	Farmer	male
8	Mr. Thach So Chiet	Long Khanh commune	Officer	male

9	Mr. Ngo Van Thien	Long Khanh commune	Cooperative member	male
V	**March 05, 2022**			
	My Lan Cooperation			
1	Mr. Nguyen Thanh My	My Lan Cooperation	President	male
2	Mr. Hong Quoc Cuong	My Lan Cooperation	Technical Director	male
3	Ms. Duong Ngoc Cam Tu	My Lan Cooperation	Maketing Development Officer	female
No.	Name	Organisation	Position	
I	**Provincial People's Committee (PPC) of Ben Tre**			
1	Mr. Nguyen Truc Son	Ben Tre PPC	Vice Chairman	male
2	Mr. Le Truong Han	DPI	Deputy Director	male
3	Ms. Nguyen Thi Dao Chi	DPI	Head of Division of Foreign Economy	female
4	Mr. Nguyen Thai Truong	DPI	Head of Division of Investment Management	male
5	Mr. Nguyen Van Thanh	DPI	Head of Division of Sector Management	male
6	Mr. Le Quang Duc	DARD	Deputy Director	male
7	Mr. Bui Minh Tuan	DoNRE	Director	male
8	Mr. Nguyen Minh Cuong	DoNRE	Deputy Head of Environment Management	male
9	Ms. Nguyen Thi Thuy Duy	Fund to support women for economic development in Ben Tre province	Deputy Director	female
10	Mr. Nguyen Quang Kiet	Forest Protection Department	Deputy Director	male
11	Mr. Nguyen Quoc Trai	Provincial Farmers' Association	Officer	male
12	Mr. Dao Cong Thuong	Thanh Phu district People Committee	Chairman	male
13	Mr. Nguyen Van Quang	Binh Dai district People Committee	Vice Chairman	male
14	Mr. Duong Van Chuong	Ba Tri district People Committee	Vice Chairman	male
15	Mr. Nguyen Huu Hoc	Ba Tri Agricultural division	Head	male
II	**Meeting with DPI**			
1	Mr. Le Truong Han	DPI	Deputy Director	male
2	Ms. Nguyen Thi Dao Chi	DPI	Head of Division of Foreign Economy	female
3	Mr. Nguyen Thai Truong	DPI	Head of Division of Investment Management	male
4	Mr. Nguyen Van Thanh	DPI	Head of Division of Sector Management	male
5	Mr. Nguyen Huu Cuong	DPI	Officer	male
III	**Meeting with Department of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs (DOLISA)**			
1	Mr. Quang Trong Vui	DOLISA	Head of Office of staff	male
2	Mr. Nguyen Van Chuong	DOLISA	Head of Division of Labor and Vocational Training	male
3	Mr. Nguyen Hoang Dan	DOLISA	Head of Division of Social Work Management	male
4	Mr. Nguyen Phuoc Dong	DOLISA	Officer	male
IV	**Meeting with DARD**			
1	Mr. Huynh Quang Duc	DARD	phó giám đốc	male

2	Mr. Le Dinh Tan Tai	DARD	Officer	male
3	Mr. le Van Xuan Truong	DARD	Officer	male
4	Ms. Nguyen Thi Binh Minh	Reserve and protection forest management unit	Deputy Director	female
5	Mr. Dao Van Hai	ban quản lý rừng phòng hộ đặc dụng	Officer	male
6	Mr. Nguyen Quang Kiet	Forest protection department	Deputy Director	male
7	Mr. Tiet Kiem Chieu	Forest protection department	Officer	male
8	Mr. Nguyen Chanh Binh	Agricultural Extension Center	Deputy Director	male
9	Mr. Vo Tien Si	Rural development department	Head	male
10	Ms. Tran Thi Kim Cuong	Aquaculture department	Head of Division	female
V	**Meeting with DoNRE**			
1	Mr. Vo Van Ngoan	DoNRE	Head of Division of Environment Management and Climate change	male
2	Mr. Nguyen Minh Cuong	DoNRE	Deputy Head of Division of Environment Management and Climate change	male
3	Mr. Nguyen Phan Nhan	DoNRE	Officer	male
4	Mr. Huy Le Duy Anh	DoNRE	Officer	male
5	Mr. Pham Thanh Hoang	DoNRE	Officer	male
6	Ms. Huynh Yen Van	DoNRE	Head of Division of Marine resources management and Hydro-Meteorology	female
VI	**Meeting at Ba Tri district People's Committee (DPC)**			
1	Mr. Duong Van Chuong	Ba Tri DPC	Vice Chairman	male
2	Mr. Nguyen Huu Hoc	District Agriculture Division	Head	male
3	Mr. Mai Van Tri	District Agricultural Division	Officer	male
4	Mr. Doan Kien Trung	Forest Protection Unit	Head	male
5	Mr. Ho Hoai Chinh	Ham Luong border guard station	Officer	male
6	Mr. Chu Van Phi	Forest Protection Unit	Officer	male
7	Ms. Tran Thi Kim Huyen	Woman Union	Member	female
8	Mr. Phan Thanh Dung	Division for Natural resources and Environment	Officer	male
VII	**Meeting with famers at Bao Thuan commune**			
1	Mr. Ho Hoai Chinh	Ham Luong border guard station	Officer	male
2	Mr. Le Van Tuan	Commune People's committee	Vice Chairman	male
3	Mr. Tran Van Dep		Farmer	male
VIII	**Meeting with An Thuy aquaculture cooperative**			
1	Mr. Tran Van Tho	An Thuy aquaculture cooperative	Deputy Director	male
2	Mr. Nguyen Van Trung	An Thuy aquaculture cooperative	Member	male
3	Mr. Nguyen Tan Loc	Protection forest management unit	Officer	male
4	Ms. Tran Thi Minh Chau	Commune People's committee	Vice chairwoman	female
5	Mr. Huynh Minh Nguyen	Commune People's committee	Member	male
6	Mr. Nguyen Van Nho	An Thuy aquaculture cooperative	Member	male
7	Mr. Tran Quang Tam	Commune People's committee	Member	male
8	Mr. Thai Quoi Duoc	Commune People's committee	Member	male
IX				

1	Mr. Nguyen Thanh Sa	District Agricultural Division	Officer	male
2	Mr. Pham Thanh Son	Thanh Phuoc Commune People's Committee	Vice chairman	male
3	Ms. Pham Thi Thanh Truc	Thanh Phuoc Commune People's Committee	Officer	female
4	Ms. Trinh Thi Ngoc Hien	Anfoods company	Director	female
5	Mr. Huynh Trung Dung	Cua Dai border guard station	Head	male
X				
1	Mr. Dao Cong Thuong	DPC	Chủ tịch	male
2	Mr. Le Van Tien	District Agricultural Division	Head	male
3	Mr. Phan Duy Tranh	District Agricultural Division	Officer	male
4	Mr. Tran Van Hien	Border guard sation	Deputy Head	male
5	Mr. Le Lam Vu	Forest protection unit	Acting Head	male
6	Ms. Nguyen Thi Binh Minh	Reserve and protection forest management unit	Deputy Director	female
7	Ms. Nguyen Thanh Hai	Farmer Union	Vice chairman	female
8	Ms. Bui Thi Duyen	Woman Union	Deputy Head	female
9	Mr. Do Ngoc Khai	DPC	Officer	male
10	Mr. Tran Nguyen Khiem	District Agricultural Division	Officer	male
XI	**Meeting at Anfoods JSC company, Thanh Phuoc commune, Binh Dai district**			
1	Mr. Ha Van Doi	Commune People's Committee	Chairman	male
2	Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu Ngan	Commune People's Committee	Officer	female
3	Mr. Nguyen Van Khang		Farmer	male
4	Mr. Nguyen Van Tong		Farmer	male
5	Ms. Nguyen Van Be Ba		Farmer	female
6	Ms. Huynh Thi Tich		Farmer	female
7	Mr. le Van Minh		Farmer	male
8	Ms. Le Thi Hong Thanh		Farmer	female
XII	**Meeting at Thanh Phu District People's Committee**			
1	Mr. Nguyen Khac Han	DoF	Officer	male
2	Ms. Do Thi Kim Loan	DoF	Accountant	female
3	Mr. Nguyen Thanh Quan	DoF	Deputy Head of Division	male
4	Mr. Nguyen Xuan Thien	DoF	Officer	male

Total stakeholders consulted during the design mission	**179**	**100%**
Male	144	80%
Female	35	20%

Additional vulnerable households surveyed for livelihood analyses in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh

	Name	Sex	Village	Commune	District	Province
1.	Ms. Phạm Thị Bích Thơ	female	Thạnh Quí	Bảo Thạnh	Ba Tri district	Ben Tre
2.	Ms. Trần Nguyễn Kim Thoa	female	Thạnh Quí	Bảo Thạnh		
3.	Mr. Lê Văn Giàu	male	Thạnh Quí	Bảo Thạnh		
4.	Mr. Nguyễn Văn Tuyển	male	Thạnh Quí	Bảo Thạnh		
5.	Mr. Nguyễn Văn Trắng	male	Thạnh Quí	Bảo Thạnh		
6.	Mr. Nguyễn Văn Niên	male	Thạnh Quí	Bảo Thạnh		
7.	Ms. Phạm Thị Lợt	female	Thạnh Quí	Bảo Thạnh		
8.	Mr. Nguyễn Văn Huệ	male	Thạnh Quí	Bảo Thạnh		
9.	Ms. Bùi Thị Thường	female	Thạnh Quí	Bảo Thạnh		
10.	Ms. Dương Thị Nuôi	female	Thạnh Quí	Bảo Thạnh		
11.	Mr. Bùi Văn Ron	male	Thạnh Quí	Bảo Thạnh		
12.	Mr. Thái Văn Truyền	male	Tân Thạnh Hải	Bảo Thuận		
13.	Mr. Mai Văn Biên	male	Thạnh Hải	Bảo Thuận		
14.	Mr. Võ Văn Đông	male	Tân Thạnh Hải	Bảo Thuận		
15.	Ms. Nguyễn Thị Bích Phượng	female	Tân Thạnh Hải	Bảo Thuận		
16.	Mr. Mai Văn Nam	male	Tân Thạnh Hải	Bảo Thuận		
17.	Mr. Mai Văn Lợt	male	Tân Thạnh Hải	Bảo Thuận		
18.	Ms. Mai Thị Chăng	female	Tân Thạnh Hải	Bảo Thuận		
19.	Ms. Nguyễn Thị Lé	female	Thạnh Hải	Bảo Thuận		
20.	Mr. Mai Văn Bìa	male	Thạnh Hải	Bảo Thuận		
21.	Mr. Trần Văn Dũng	male	Thạnh Hải	Bảo Thuận		
22.	Ms. Nguyễn Thị Hoàng Anh	female	Tân Long	Thạnh Phước	Binh Dai Tri district	
23.	Mr. Phạm Thị Thanh Trúc	male	Phước Bình	Thạnh Phước		
24.	Mr. Phạm Vũ Thanh	male	Tân Long	Thạnh Phước		
25.	Mr. Nguyễn Hồng Ngọc	male	Tân Long	Thạnh Phước		
26.	Ms. Huỳnh Thị Thắm	female	Tân Long	Thạnh Phước		
27.	Mr. Huỳnh Thanh Dương	male	Tân Long	Thạnh Phước		
28.	Mr. Nguyễn Văn Hòa	male	Tân Long	Thạnh Phước		
29.	Mr. Võ Văn Cưu	male	Tân Long	Thạnh Phước		
30.	Mr. Phạm Văn Hùng	male	Tân Bình	Thạnh Phước		
31.	Mr. Lê Đức Lợi	male	Tân Long	Thạnh Phước		
32.	Mr. Trần Văn Lực	male	Thừa Trung	Thừa Đức		
33.	Ms. Quách Thị Xương	female	Thừa Trung	Thừa Đức		
34.	Ms. Phạm Thị Tiết	female	Thừa Trung	Thừa Đức		
35.	Ms. Đặng Thị Lùng	female	Thừa Trung	Thừa Đức		
36.	Ms. Nguyễn Thị Tránh	female	Thừa Trung	Thừa Đức		
37.	Ms. Nguyễn Thị Thu Ngân	female	Thừa Trung	Thừa Đức		

38.	Ms. Nguyễn Thị Qua	female	Thừa Trung	Thừa Đức		
39.	Ms. Nguyễn Thị Nhiễn	female	Thừa Trung	Thừa Đức		
40.	Ms. Nguyễn Thị Cúc	female	Thừa Trung	Thừa Đức		
41.	Mr. Hồ Văn Công	male	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Hải		
42.	Ms. Lưu Thị Hiền	female	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Hải		
43.	Mr. Nguyễn Văn Lĩnh	male	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Hải		
44.	Mr. Hồ Văn Lên	male	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Hải		
45.	Ms. Trương Thị Sen	female	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Hải		
46.	Ms. Ms. Võ Thị Bé	female	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Phong		
47.	Ms. Mai Thị Ngọc Hân	female	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Phong		
48.	Mr. Nguyễn Văn Xê	male	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Phong	Thanh Phu district	
49.	Mr. Phạm Văn Bảy	male	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Phong		
50.	Ms. Lê Thị Cẩm Tiên	female	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Phong		
51.	Ms. Lâm Thị Chờ	female	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Phong		
52.	Mr. Trần Văn Kiên	male	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Phong		
53.	Ms. Nguyễn Thị Hằng	female	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Phong		
54.	Ms. Võ Thị Thúy Hằng	female	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Phong		
55.	Ms. Trần Thị Hương	female	Thạnh Lợi	Thạnh Phong		
56.	Ms. Tran Thi Bich Chi	female	5	My Long Nam		
57.	Mr. Tran Hoang Son	male	5	My Long Nam		
58.	Ms. Lu Thi Le	female	5	My Long Nam	Cau Ngang district	
59.	Ms. Tran Thi Nga	female	5	My Long Nam		
60.	Mr. Nguyen Minh Thim	male	5	My Long Nam		
61.	Mr. Nguyen Van Nhan	male	5	My Long Nam		
62.	Ms. Phan Thi Phuong	female	Dinh Cu	Long Khanh		
63.	Ms. Nguyen Thi Mau	female	Dinh Cu	Long Khanh		
64.	Mr. Nguyen Thanh Men	male	Dinh Cu	Long Khanh		
65.	Ms. Nguyen Thi Ung	female	Dinh Cu	Long Khanh		
66.	Mr. Pham Van Han	male	Dinh Cu	Long Khanh		Tra Vinh
67.	Ms. Nguyen Thi Thanh Nga	female	Dinh Cu	Long Khanh		
68.	Ms. Bui Thi Be	female	Dinh Cu	Long Khanh		
69.	Ms. Nguyen Thi Bich Thu	female	Dinh Cu	Long Khanh		
70.	Ms. Pham Thi Xuan	female	La Ghi	Long Vinh	Duyen Hai district	
71.	Ms. Nguyen Thi Hoang Yen	female	La Ghi	Long Vinh		
72.	Ms. Ngo Thi Thuy Quyen	female	La Ghi	Long Vinh		
73.	Mr. Nguyen Thanh Nam	male	La Ghi	Long Vinh		
74.	Mr. Nguyen Nam Luon	male	La Ghi	Long Vinh		
75.	Mr. Tran Nam Thong	male	La Ghi	Long Vinh		
76.	Mr. Nguyen Quoc Anh	male	La Ghi	Long Vinh		
77.	Ms. Nguyen Thi My Nhien	female	La Ghi	Long Vinh		

78.	Mr. Duong Van Chien	male	Hai Thu	Long Hoa		
79.	Mr. Nguyen Van Em	male	Hai Thu	Long Hoa		
80.	Mr. Nguyen Van Lay	male	Hai Thu	Long Hoa		
81.	Ms. Le Thi Xuyen	female	Hai Thu	Long Hoa		
82.	Mr. Nguyen Van Nguyen	male	Hai Thu	Long Hoa		
83.	Ms. Huynh Thi Tam	female	Hai Thu	Long Hoa		
84.	Mr. Nguyen Van Do	male	Hai Thu	Long Hoa		
85.	Ms. Tran Thi Son	female	Hai Thu	Long Hoa		
86.	Ms. Nguyen Thi Mai	female	Hai Thu	Long Hoa	Chau Thanh district	
87.	Ms. Nguyen Thi Ngoc Bich	female	Long Hung 1	Hoa Minh		
88.	Ms. Mai Thi Tam	female	Dai Thon B	Hoa Minh		
89.	Mr. Huynh Huy Canh	male	Long Hung 1	Hoa Minh		
90.	Mr. Huynh Van Nghi	male	Long Hung 1	Hoa Minh		
91.	Mr. Nguyen Van Tiep	male	Dai Thon B	Hoa Minh		
92.	Mr. Nguyen Van Tam	male	Long Hung 1	Hoa Minh		
93.	Ms. Le Thi Hien	female	Long Hung 1	Hoa Minh		
94.	Ms. Huynh Thi Dua	female	Long Hung 1	Hoa Minh		
95.	Ms. Le Thi Ven	female	Cay Da	Hiep Thanh		
96.	Mr. Tran Van Loe	male	Cay Da	Hiep Thanh		
97.	Ms. Nguyen Thi Hanh	female	Bao	Hiep Thanh		
98.	Ms. Nguyen Thi Bay	female	Bao	Hiep Thanh		
99.	Ms. Nguyen Thi My Van	female	Bao	Hiep Thanh	Duyen Hai town	
100.	Ms. Truong Thi Thanh	female	Bao	Hiep Thanh		
101.	Ms. Nguyen Thi Thuy Trang	female	Cay Da	Hiep Thanh		
102.	Ms. Nguyen Thi Lo	female	Cho	Hiep Thanh		
103.	Mr. Pham Van Huong	male	Cho	Hiep Thanh		
104.	Ms. Truong Thi Sau	female	Cay Da	Hiep Thanh		

Total stakeholders interviewed for gender-sensitive poverty and livelihood analysis	**104**	**100%**
Male	48	46%
Female	56	54%

ANNEX 4. GENDER AND YOUTH ASSESSMENT AND MAINSTREAMING

A. Gender assessment

1. According to the 2019 Population and Housing Census (PHC) in Viet Nam[71], women and girls make up for 50.2% of the total population. The 2019 female Human Development Index (HDI)[72] value for Viet Nam is 0.703, in contrast with 0.705 for males, resulting in a Gender Development Index (GDI)[73] value of 0.997, placing the country into Group 1 with high equality in HDI achievements between women and men. Viet Nam's Gender Inequality Index (GII)[74] value is 0.296, ranking it 65 out of 162 countries in the 2019 index[75]. By contrast, Viet Nam's Global Gender Gap Index (GGGI) has fallen 22 places over the past five years with a current value of 0.701[76] (see Table 16 below) due to the political empowerment sub-index, published ahead of the 2021 election cycle in Viet Nam, and the health and survival sub-index.

Table 171715: Viet Nam's GDI for 2019, relative to selected countries and groups[77]

Country	F-M ratio	HDI value		Life expectancy at birth		Expected years of schooling		Mean years of schooling		GNI per capita	
	GDI value	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Viet Nam	0.997	0.703	0.705	79.5	71.3	12.9	12.5	8.0	8.6	6,644	8,224
Philippines	1.007	0.720	0.715	75.5	67.3	13.5	12.8	9.6	9.2	7,843	11,694
Thailand	1.008	0.782	0.776	80.9	73.5	15.8	14.7	7.7	8.2	15,924	19,737

Table 181816: Viet Nam ranking in two global gender indices, 2016 - most recent year of data[78]

Index	2016	2018	2020	2021	Progress
Global Gender Gap Index, World Economic Forum (156 countries)	**65**	**77**	**87**	**87**	↓
Economic Opportunity and Participation	33	33	31	26	↑
Educational Attainment	93	101	93	94	=
Health and Survival	138	143	151	152	↓
Political Empowerment	84	99	110	121	↓

[71] 2019 Viet Nam Population and Housing Census. General Statics office (GSO), 2020
[72] The HDI is a summary measure for assessing long-term progress in three basic dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, access to knowledge and a decent standard of living.
[73] The GDI measures gender inequalities in achievement in three basic dimensions of human development: health (measured by female and male life expectancy at birth), education (measured by female and male expected years of schooling for children and mean years for adults aged 25 years and older) and command over economic resources (measured by female and male estimated GNI per capita).
[74] The GII reflects gender-based disadvantage in three dimensions: reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market. It shows the loss in potential human development due to inequality between female and male achievements in these dimensions. It ranges from 0, where women and men fare equally, to 1, where one gender fares as poorly as possible in all measured dimensions.
[75] Viet Nam Human Development Report 2020. UNDP, 2020
[76] Global Gender Gap Report 2021 - Insight Report March 2021. World Economic Forum, 2021
[77] Viet Nam Human Development Report 2020. UNDP, 2020
[78] Global Gender Gap Report 2021 - Insight Report March 2021. World Economic Forum, 2021, op. cit. in Country Gender Equality Profile Viet Nam 2021. Australian Aid, ADB, ILO and UN WOMEN, 2021

2. Overall, over the past few decades, Viet Nam has made significant progress in promoting gender equality in all sectors by endorsement or revision of legal frameworks and policies[79] on gender equality and the advancement of women, most notably the 2006 Gender Equality Law and the National Strategy for Gender Equality. Viet Nam is also signatory to numerous international instruments addressing gender equality, women's rights, and women's empowerment, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) [80], the Beijing Platform for Action, as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Notwithstanding, at an aggregate level, barriers and biases to women's empowerment, participation and security persist, especially for certain groups of women and girls, such as women from ethnic minority groups, women living with disabilities, rural or migrant women, and single mothers.

National agencies responsible for gender equality

The State agency responsible for gender equality is the Department for Gender Equality (Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs - MOLISA). In coordination with MOLISA, line ministries, like the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE), have the responsibility to ensure mainstreaming of gender equality into their sectors, including disaster management and climate change adaptation.

Another key institution promoting gender equality is the Viet Nam Women's Union (VWU), a mass organization of the Communist Party formed in 1930 to mobilize women for an independent Viet Nam.

3. According to the Country Gender Equality Profile Viet Nam carried out in 2021[81], existing gender gaps include:

1. Imbalance in the sex ratio at birth due to son preference and sex-selective abortion[82];
2. Gender stereotypes in the education and training system that stream young people into gender segregated fields of study and occupations;
3. Vulnerable, unprotected and low paid employment among women[83];

[79] **Key legislation for gender equality (General Statistics Office, 2020):**
- **Law on Gender Equality (2006)**, providing principles of gender equality in all fields and responsibilities of agencies, organizations, families, and individuals in exercising these principles.
- **Law on Domestic Violence Prevention and Control (2007)**, providing measures to prevent and combat domestic violence.
- **Constitution (2013)**, according to which "Male and female citizens are equal in all fields. The State has a policy to guarantee rights to and opportunities for gender equality. The State, society, and families create conditions for women's full development and promotion of their roles in society. Sex discrimination is strictly prohibited".
- **Land Law (2013)**, according to which certificates for land-use rights and ownership of houses and other assets must bear full names of both the husband and the wife. If either name is written on the certificate, written consent from the other spouse is required for only one name to be listed on the certificate.
- **Marriage and Family Law (2014)**, guaranteeing gender equality on ownership and inheritance of assets in cases of divorce and death. The law still has some provisions with gender discrimination, such as the different minimum age of marriage for women and men, and it still defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman. The law stipulates that marriage certificates should not be granted to partners of same-sex marriages.
- **Civil Code (2015), Art. 36 and 37**, legalizing sex change for transgender people and permit individuals who have undergone sex-change surgeries to change gender markers on their official documentation.
- **New Law on Elections of Deputies to the National Assembly and to the People's Councils (2015)**, introducing a gender quota for female candidates for elections, ensuring a minimum of 35% of the final list of candidates to National Assembly membership are female.
- **Revised State Budget Law (2015), Cl. 5 of Art. 8**, stipulating that one of the principles on state budget management is to "prioritize allocation of budgets for achieving gender equality objectives". Article 41 of the law also stipulates that one of the bases for annual state budgeting is the implementation of gender equality tasks.
- **Law on Promulgation of Legal Documents (2015)**, ensuring the gender mainstreaming in legal documents at the formulation and promulgation stage.
- **Revised Labour code (2019)**, reducing the age gap between retirement ages of men and women from 5 to 2 years. As of January 2021, the retirement age for female employees increased to 60 years, instead of the current 55 years. Provisions in the revised Labour Code also help address sexual harassment in the workplace, wage differentials between men and women, and better protect female workers while they are pregnant and breastfeeding. Many occupations or jobs that previously banned the use of female workers are now open to women.

[80] Signature: 1980, Ratification/Accession: 1982

[81] Country Gender Equality Profile Viet Nam 2021. Australian Aid, ADB, ILO and UN WOMEN, 2021

[82] The 2019 PHC reported sex ratio at birth to be 111.5 boys born for every 100 girls. The country is among the five lowest ranked countries globally. In 2020, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) estimated that 45,900 female births are missing every year in Viet Nam due its current high rates of sex-selective abortion (Australian Aid, ADB, ILO and UN WOMEN, 2021).

[83] The gender wage gap favoring men is currently 13.7% for formal workers. The GSO estimates the gender earnings gap to be 29.5%, with a gap of 21.5% in urban areas and of 35.2% in rural areas. Gender wage and earnings gap, together with the 5-year gap in the retirement age between men and women (which is to be reduced to two years by 2035 with the passage of the revised Labour Code 2019) leads to greater vulnerability and risk of poverty in old age.

4. Bias against women in leadership, especially for holding executive positions or in public office at the commune level[84];
5. High prevalence of intimate partner violence, alongside the low availability of support services[85], and sexual harassment;
6. Societal expectation that women are responsible for unpaid care work at home, and obliged to balance this with paid work - in the face of a limited child and elderly care infrastructure[86];
7. Limited understanding of the priorities, preferences and life circumstances of people with disabilities, especially women and girls[87];
8. Educational disparity at the graduate level in tertiary education, where women only account for 28% of doctoral degrees;
9. Pervasive gender stereotypes in the media and under-representation of women as subject matter experts;
10. Decreased likelihood for women to be the land/house owner than men, although the rate of LURCs titled solely to men dropped significantly from 2004 to 2014;
11. Patriarchal norms restricting women's life choices.

4. As of 2020, gender inequalities have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to a study conducted by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Viet Nam in 2021, Vietnamese women have left the labour market in larger shares than men since some of the hardest hit economic sectors, such as tourism, hospitality, retail and light manufacturing, are female-intensive industries. Younger and older women, typically holding the most unstable employment arrangements, are more likely to have left the labour force as they are typically regarded as secondary earners resulting in a new gender-based gap in the unemployment rate[88]. In addition, during COVID-19 there has been a registered increased in women's unpaid care and domestic work and domestic violence.

5. **Gender and climate change.** Climate change impacts on female and male individuals differ in terms of vulnerability[89], differentiated participation in climate decision-making, policy formulation & implementation action and differentiated benefit-sharing from climate policy and action. In Viet Nam, specifically, there are three main issues in terms of gender equality and climate change, notably[90]:

- **Inconsistent integration of gender into climate policy at the sectoral level**. While some climate-related policies do not include gender aspects by any means (e.g., water management and renewable energy sectors), others lack guidelines on gender mainstreaming and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation of gender integration (e.g., agriculture and waste management sectors). Under component 2, the project will promote integration of gender aspects into the supported policy reforms and programs that can institutionalize and complement the adaptation finance mechanisms to increase their outreach in an inclusive

[84] Gender stereotypes profoundly affect women's economic participation, including barriers to leadership and promotion based on the perceived primacy of their caregiver role, which fuels prejudice in relation to women's capabilities and knowledge. In Viet Nam there is still a pervasive notion of women being the 'secondary earner', while men are considered the primary income earners. With respect to agricultural production women are under-represented in planning and decision-making processes, with ethnic minority women being particularly marginalized. This is despite the fact that rural women outnumber men working in the agricultural labour force (Australian Aid, ADB, ILO and UN WOMEN, 2021).
[85] The second national prevalence study confirmed that 2 in 3 ever married women (62.9%) experience violence by their husbands/partners in their lifetime, and nearly 1 in 3 have experienced intimate partner violence in the past 12 months (31.6%) (Australian Aid, ADB, ILO and UN WOMEN, 2021).
[86] A new Prime Ministerial Decision was issued in 2020 to promote the national birth rate by providing tax reductions, social housing support, etc. to men and women who married before the age of 30 years and women who had their second child before the age of 35 years. This program discriminate people who opted not to marry or marry young or have two children and impact women's life choices and economic participation.
[87] Women and girls with disabilities have lower levels of access to educational and vocational training, labour force and rehabilitation services than men and boys with disabilities. Women with disabilities also experience higher levels of physical and sexual violence than women without disabilities, at 33% compared to 25.3%, respectively (Australian Aid, ADB, ILO and UN WOMEN, 2021).
[88] Gender and the labour market in Viet Nam. An analysis based on the Labour Force Survey (ILO, March 2021)
[89] Globally, the main reasons for women's increased vulnerability to climate change impacts (including reduced resilience and adaptive capacity) when compared to men include discriminatory, patriarchal laws, norms, customs and institutions that result in women's exclusion from participating in decision-making and community processes; limited awareness of legal rights; limited or no access to or control over resources and assets; unequal burden of unpaid domestic and care responsibilities; limited access to necessary sexual and reproductive health care (particularly in natural disaster situations); increased exposure to gender-based harassment and violence; and impoverishment, including when a male spouse migrates or otherwise leaves the household. FCCC/SBI/2019/INF.8 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
[90] Brief for Policymakers: The State of Gender Equality and Climate Change in Viet Nam. Institute of Strategy and Policy on Natural Resources and Environment (ISPONRE), UNEP, UN Women, 2021

manner (see project's proposed gender-responsive activities in Table 21: Gender, Youth and EM Mainstreaming in IFIA Components in Ben Tre and Tra VinhTable 2119: Gender, and Youth and EM Mainstreaming in IFIA Components in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh);

- **Limited participation of women in sectoral climate-related policy-setting and management practices.** Due to their double burden of having to fulfil both a productive and reproductive responsibility, women have less opportunities to participate in decision-making processes at all levels, particularly when it comes to issues related to climate change. As a result, their rights are overlooked in relevant labour laws that should offer them full protection. This is especially pronounced in the waste management sector where activities women are engaged in are considered part of the informal sector. Furthermore, there are still stereotypes regarding women and men's roles in Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)/ Disaster risk reduction (DRR), where women are often seen more as targets than actors in recovery and adaptation efforts although women make up the main workforce of agriculture, which is the sector that is likely to be hardest hit by climate change in Viet Nam, and, when offered full knowledge and equal participation, especially in needs assessment, women can be effective change-makers in CCA and DDR. The project will ensure that women are involved in relevant decision-making positions on adaptation actions through trainings and quotas within project teams and formed groups (see project's g proposed gender-responsive activities in Table 21: Gender, Youth and EM Mainstreaming in IFIA Components in Ben Tre and Tra VinhTable 2119: Gender, and Youth and EM Mainstreaming in IFIA Components in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh);
- **Limited data and technical capacity of government officials and practitioners hinder the implementation of sectoral gender strategies.** Implementation of gender strategies and action plans, including in relation to climate change, is weak also due to unclear policies, guidelines, and limited capacity of officials in translating policy direction into specific actions. For example, reporting on gender integration is absent in some sectors such as water management. At the same time, existing differentiated capacities and skills among men and women as resource users and contributors to implementation of climate policies are not presented as potential solutions in addressing climate risks[91]. The project will build on Women's Union's experience and wide networks as well as on the experience of other initiatives and continue strengthening capacity building at communal, district, provincial and central level on effective implementation of sectoral gender strategies. The collection of disaggregated data will be performed across all activities mentioned above (see project's g proposed gender-responsive activities in Table 21: Gender, Youth and EM Mainstreaming in IFIA Components in Ben Tre and Tra VinhTable 2119: Gender, and Youth and EM Mainstreaming in IFIA Components in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh).

6. In addition, there are immediate impacts of climate change effects (such as heat stress, extreme weather events and air pollution) on pregnant women and newborns' health. According to research studies, an increase of one degree Celsius in the week before delivery corresponds to a 6% greater likelihood of stillbirth[92]. In addition, climate related loss and change of livelihoods, as well as displacement and migration, increase risks of gender-based violence and harmful practices including child marriage[93].

7. In terms of water management, water security issues caused by climate change impact poor women more severely than men due to their traditional domestic roles and physiological needs (e.g.,

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[91] A new framework for national gender statistics was endorsed in 2019. The set of 78 indicators is aligned with the Viet Nam Sustainable Development Goals. Challenges remain in terms of data gaps, data access and sex-disaggregation across all ministries. Progress for the period includes the General Statistics Office (GSO) undertaking a second national violence against women prevalence survey, initiating a national time use survey and publishing a biennial Gender Statistics Book (Country Gender Equality Profile Viet Nam 2021. Australian Aid, ADB, ILO and UN WOMEN, 2021)

[92] UNFPA and the Climate Crisis. UNFPA, 2020.

[93] Beyond vulnerability to gender equality and women's empowerment and leadership in disaster risk reduction: critical actions for the United Nations system a United Nations joint study on the status of gender equality and women's leadership in DRR. UN Women, UNFPA, and UNDRR, 2021

clean water is critical during menstruation, pregnancy, and caregiving activities). Notwithstanding, as mentioned above, almost all existing policies on water management are gender blind, having the potential to exacerbate existing inequalities. Gender equality is treated mainly as an add-on component rather than an aspect addressed coherently with climate change and water issues. Because of this, there is also a lack of explicit guidelines to support local officials in implementing gender-sensitive water management programs. Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for gender mainstreaming in water management policies are non-existent.

8. In terms of waste management, while women are responsible for managing household waste, their participation in community decision-making about waste disposal is limited at the community level. Ninety per cent of street waste collectors and scavengers in Viet Nam are women who often live and work under dangerous and unhealthy conditions and suffer from extreme poverty and discrimination. In the plastic waste value chain, women often bear the brunt of the work and suffer from marginalization while making a fraction of what male workers earn. There is no particular reference to gender issues regarding waste collection and recycling in the Labor Law, especially since waste collection in some stages of the value chain is still considered an informal sector activity.

9. Gender norms heavily influence women's labour participation in the renewable energy sector too as most of manufacturing, construction, and engineering jobs are traditionally seen as suitable only for men. Shifting towards a carbon-friendly mix in the energy sector can lead to economic opportunities and strengthened livelihoods for women and men, contributing to improvements in health, safety, and overall quality of life. There remains a scarcity of sex-disaggregated data that can be used to identify the gendered differences in access to and control of renewable energy. Most renewable energy policies have been gender-blind. The lack of gender integration in energy sector policies implies no clear guidance on gender mainstreaming at the central, provincial and community levels, particularly when it comes to power generation projects. Finally, women are more vulnerable to unavailable clean energy solutions because of their traditional domestic roles. Their health is more adversely affected by indoor pollution; their opportunities to participate in other economic activities, education, community decision-making, and self-development are also limited.

10. **Gender and access to finance.** In Viet Nam women enjoy the same rights as men to open bank accounts at formal financial institutions and to obtain credit, regardless of their marital status (Law on the State Bank of Viet Nam, 2010; Law on Credit Institutions, 2010). However, according to the International Finance Organization (IFC)[94], in 2017 the financing gap for women-owned enterprises was US$ 1.12 billion, representing a significant shortfall of capital which may hamper the growth of women-owned enterprises, and women-owned SMEs tend to have limited business planning and accounting systems, making it difficult for them to develop financial plans and qualify for loans. The IFC also found that commercial banks themselves do not consider women-owned SMEs as principal customers but rather as potential customers. There is, therefore, no significant immediate incentive to assist women-owned SMEs[95]. The IFIA project will address this issue under component 1.

11. The IFC study also highlighted several myths attached to women entrepreneurs. These myths included that, compared to men, women are more risk averse in seeking finance, have lower financial management skills, have other priorities and are less likely to pay back loans. While the study results negated this finding, interviewed women highlighted the complexity and length of bank application processes, that they were twice as likely as men to use a credit card for their business financing needs, but that the average value of loans for firms of equivalent size showed 10% difference. Around one third (37%) of women-owned SMEs in the study had accessed a loan in the previous two years, compared to 47% of men-owned SMEs. Furthermore, women tended to receive less than what they applied for

[94] International Finance Organization (IFC). 2017 Women-owned enterprises in Vietnam: Perceptions and Potential. Washington DC: IFC; UN Women. 2020. A Review of the Implementation of Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Support Legislation and the Capacity Building Needs and Training Services for Women-Owned SMEs and Women Entrepreneurs in Viet Nam. Hanoi: UN Women.

[95] International Finance Organization (IFC). 2017 Women-owned enterprises in Vietnam: Perceptions and Potential. Washington DC: IFC; UN Women. 2020. A Review of the Implementation of Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Support Legislation and the Capacity Building Needs and Training Services for Women-Owned SMEs and Women Entrepreneurs in Viet Nam. Hanoi: UN Women.

and lower than the average for men. Overall, the study found a favorable climate for women-owned businesses in Viet Nam, relative to regional peers.

12. A 2020 study on the benefits and challenges of transitioning to digital wage payments for 15 factories from the garment, seafood processing and electronics sector found that the majority of women workers were unbanked[96]. The primary barrier to uptake was lack of familiarity with and understanding of digital financial services. The CEDAW Committee has raised concerns about the limited access to financial resources faced by most women in the agricultural and informal sectors, as well as by older women and women from ethnic minorities. The discrimination faced by women in this regard is linked to the requirement under Decree No. 41/2010/ND-CP for land titles to be presented to obtain loans from credit institutions, as still many women do not have such titles[97].

13. **Gender and access to land and property**. Over the past decade Viet Nam has enacted provisions to improve the protection of women's land rights, including the Land Law 2003 & 2013, Marriage and Family Law (2014), Gender Equality Law (2006) and the Civil Code, and a series of decrees and decisions guiding implementation. In line with the revised Land Law (2013), both the husband and wife's full names are required to be on the LURC of commonly owned property, except where both parties gave consent to record only one name. The implementation guidance on the law, Decree 43/2014/ND-CP issued in May 2014, provided for the re-issuing of LURC with only one name to include both names (i.e., husband and wife). However, while from 2004 to 2014 the rate of LURCs titled solely to men dropped significantly, men are still more likely to be the sole land/house owner when compared with women. This has been attributed to gendered norms with respect to familial property and inheritance (preferring husbands and/or brothers), and intra-household power differentials[98]. It is finally worth noting that sex-disaggregated data on land use rights certificates is not available after 2014. As a major source of collateral for credit and business, and security in older age, this data is needed to gauge the outcomes of joint titling drives over the past decade.

14. **Gender and access to information and technology.** In Viet Nam, men outnumber women in science, technical, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) degrees, in part due to traditional beliefs that men are more capable and suited to performing technical roles[99]. According to the Gender Statistics in Viet Nam carried out by the GSO in 2018, on average, internet usage rates were higher for men than women aged above 25 years in both 2016 and 2018[100]. While there are no national statistics on smartphone use, an ADB fintech study (2020) which sampled 1,058 houses found that men tended to use smartphones more than women (67.5% and 60.6%, respectively).

15. **Gender assessment in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh.** Over half (51%) of the population in Tra Vinh and Ben Tre provinces is female. According to the Women's Unions in the two project provinces, women bear the burden for 80% of household tasks. Male farmers participate only minimally in childcare tasks, while non-farmer males (in trade or business, or employed) seldom share these tasks with their mates. Still, in recent years there is a clear trend where more and more women engage outside the home in community work, social activities, and political participation. The participation of women in community meetings is a form of empowerment, increasing their knowledge and access to information on issues that affect their daily lives and that of their family[101].

16. Based on the consultations held during the design mission, in ben Tre and Tra Vinh women's participation in aquaculture is below 20%, with fish farming being regarded mainly as man's work. Women are less directly involved in hatcheries than men, but support men during the grow-out and farming stages and play key roles in processing and marketing aquaculture products. Similarly, agricultural and livestock activities are mainly carried out by men, while women are mostly engaged in unpaid family work and informal retail, selling agricultural products harvested by the household, as well as in tourism-related activities (mainly hospitality). In terms of access to finance, no major gender gaps

[96] From Cash to Digital Payments in Vietnam: Win-Win for Enterprises and Women Workers. Women's World Banking and International Labour Organization:2020
[97] UN Women and IFGS. 2016. Cited in Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). 2019. Social Institutions and Gender Index: Viet Nam.
[98] Alvarado, G. and Khuat, TH. Et al. 2015. Women, Land and Law in Vietnam. Washington DC: International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) and Institute of Social Development Studies (ISDS).
[99] Chun, N. and Tang, H. May 2018. Do Information and Communication Technologies Empower Female Workers? Firm-Level Evidence from Viet Nam. ADB Economics Working Paper Series: No. 545. Manila: ADB.
[100] General Statistics Office (GSO). 2019. Gender Statistics in Viet Nam 2018. op.cit.
[101] Climate Smart Agriculture Transformation Project in the Mekong Delta (CSAT) -Project Design Report. ifad, 2021

were identified in the target area although men decision-power over usage of financing instruments resulted slightly higher than women's decision-power among the consulted male and female beneficiaries and stakeholders.

17. In terms of mangrove forest management, women are not as active as men in the management and use of local resources and have limited voice in managing these resources. They play rather a supporting role in fishing and aquaculture activities as well as in community activities. They are mostly involved in small business such as selling products harvested from the mangroves and in reproductive activities. Facing natural disasters, women are thus more vulnerable than men having reduced adaptive capacities due to the inequitable distribution of rights, resources and power as well as repressive cultural rules and norms.

18. Research[102] has shown that women's role in access to mangrove management and using its resources is often limited, overlooked or under-valued, so they are unable to bring into play their own capacity. Meanwhile, both men and women have unique perspectives on why mangroves are important and how to protect them. Therefore, when both men and women join in mangrove protection, it may lead to better results.

Table 191917: Gender-based activity framework (Viet Nam university Of Agriculture And Forestry, 2018)

Location	Activities	Gender	Time/duration
Mangroves	Fish trapping	Male	19-22h/day/year
	Fish netting	Male/Female	8-9h and 16-17h/day/year
	Electric fishing	Male	7-10h/day/sometimes
	Aquaculture	Male	3h/day and guard at night
	Food collection	Male/Female	3h/day
	Fodder harvest	Female	2 h/day/sometimes
	Fuel wood gathering	Female	In flood season

19. Based on the experience of the recently completely IFAD-financed Project for Adaption to Climate Change in the Mekong Delta in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh Provinces (AMD)[103], among others, and on the expert opinion of its Project Management Unit (PMU) climate and gender specialists, Table 22: Potential gender considerations of various environmentally sustainable technologies or practices in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh (~~Table 2220: Potential gender considerations of various environmentally sustainable technologies or practices in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh (~~ indicates the relative contribution (high, medium, low) of a given environmentally sustainable technology or practice to adaptation, mitigation, and food and nutrition security. It also indicates the gender impact (here measured as the degree to which women are likely to control the income from the practice) and the relative importance of various requirements for women to adopt the practice.

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20. On average, the level of women's participation is perceived as high/medium-high in both provinces for the following practices: tree nursery, crop rotation, intercropping, reduced use of plastic and collection of plastic waste, use of drought resistant crop varieties, adjustment of cropping calendars, integration of crop/fish/livestock farming to recycle nutrients and lower pest and diseases pressures through synergies and diversity, alley cropping, intercropping various tree species, beekeeping/honey production, efficient cooking stoves, handicraft and eco-tourism. Women's participation is perceived as low/medium-low in the following practices: soil protection, reduced erosion, permanent soil coverage, silvopasture, windbreaks, rainwater harvesting and storage in tanks, cisterns or other solar and hydro practices.

[102] Nguyen Thi Hong Mai & Dang Thai Hoang (2018). Gender role in mangrove resource management: case study in Trieu Phong district of Quang Tri province, Vietnam. Journal of Vietnamese Environment, 9(2):92-98.

[103] Out of 184,280 beneficiaries, AMD trained 54,165 women on climate smart agriculture, business development, and vocational training, and provided access to savings services to 25,190 women farmers (including 6,623 from ethnic minorities) and access to credit services to 24,666 women (including 5,431 from ethnic minorities). The project also had an impact on women in leadership roles, with nearly 40% of common interest group leaders in the two provinces being women.

21. The degree to which women are likely to control the income from the practices is mostly low to medium low (53% of practices), with the exception made for activities such as beekeeping/honey production, handicraft and eco-tourism, whose income is perceived as managed mainly by women.

22. The women in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh are perceived to have high /medium-high potential to benefit (e.g., increased productivity and income from new products) from riparian and upland forest buffers, alley cropping, use cleaning/recycling of water in aquaculture to avoid pollution of the surrounding water environment, biogas, solar technologies and eco-tourism, where female and youth labour availability is perceived as high. The women consulted during the project design process highlighted particular interest in eco-tourism as an alternative livelihood that would allow them to diversify and increase their household's income while preserving the environment and adapting to the effects of climate change in their area.

23. This type of assessment is subjective and based on expert opinion. During the implementation of IFIA, sex-disaggregated data will be gathered on these requirements and impacts to provide evidence-base on the differentiated climate change impacts on men and women and their differentiated capabilities to adapt to these in the Mekong Delta.

B. Youth assessment

24. **Youth**. There is no universally agreed definition of youth. The UN defines a young person as aged 15-24, while the Viet Nam Law No. 57/2020/QH14, dated 16 June 2020 defines youth as "Vietnamese citizens aged between full 16 years and 30 years"[104]. For the purpose of this project, we will use the Viet Nam Law definition.

25. Viet Nam has entered a period of "golden population structure"'. According to the 2019 PHC, in Viet Nam youth accounts for 22% of the total population. Vietnamese youth possess great creative potential as shown through the country's high ranking on the World Bank's Human Capital Index compared to others at the same income level[105], providing Viet Nam with a unique socio-economic development opportunity.

Table 202018: Population by age (2019 PHC. GSO, 2020)

Total population	96 208 984	1 288 463	1 009 168
Age	**Viet Nam**	**Ben Tre**	**Tra Vinh**
15-19	6 506 217	76 655	64 756
20-24	6 675 703	59 787	54 590
25-29	8 447 977	84 325	72 558
Total 15-29 yo	**21 629 897**	**220 767**	**191 904**
% youth (15-30)	**22%**	**17%**	**19%**

26. The total number of young people in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh aged 15-29 is 412,671. Youth account for 19% of the total population of Tra Vinh and 17% of Ben Tre's total population. In Tra Vinh province, youth who complete lower secondary school or higher levels – including Khmer youth - can find employment in nearby factories and plants, or if not, seek similar employment in neighboring Binh Duong or Long An provinces. For youth that remain in their villages, wages tend to be lower than those paid elsewhere, especially as compared to opportunities outside the province. In Ben Tre province in particular, in recent years, industrial zones have been established and attracted a large number of

[104] https://english.luatvietnam.vn/law-no-57-2020-qh14-dated-june-16-2020-of-the-national-assembly-on-youth-186274-Doc1.html

[105] "Human Capital Index (HCI) (Scale 0-1) - Viet Nam," Accessed January 27, 2021, https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/HD.HCI.OVRL?locations=VN. Cited by UNDP, 2021 in Special Report> Youth for climate action in Viet Nam.

laborers in the 18-35 age group; with more than 40,000 local youth having found employment in these zones. The PM Decree No. 74/2019/ND-CP sets policies to support job creation and provides incentives for hiring of ethnic minorities and disabled persons. It also provides for loans to allow contract workers to work abroad. Over 600 young people in Tra Vinh and over 1,500 in Ben Tre, who have the technical and foreign language skills needed to seek and obtain work, have gone abroad to work in Korea and Japan. Remittances are an important source of income and finance, especially amongst the poor, making such opportunities highly desirable[106].

27. The percentage of young people engaged in agricultural activities accounts for 25% of the total rural labor force in the provinces as per the 2019 census (GSO, 2020). This segment of the workforce is relatively better educated, having education attainments from lower secondary to upper high schools, as well as significant numbers who have graduated from college or university. Currently, due to job losses caused by the COVID–19 pandemic, more young people are returning to their homes and villages[107], where agriculture offers the major employment/livelihood opportunities; yet they generally lack practical farming skills. These more educated young people might bring a very positive dynamism into value chain and e-commerce development, given the opportunities to learn and apply new, and more sophisticated technologies. However, they would also be likely encounter difficulties/challenges in accessing financing formal credit services, should they be so motivated.

28. The transition to a market economy in Viet Nam has brought drastic changes to the labor and job markets. The positive results achieved from Doi Moi, both directly and indirectly, have greatly increased employment, equity and social welfare. Still, the increased employment and economic diversification has also meant job losses and layoffs for many workers. The transition places new pressures on young people, who find themselves caught between old and new social norms and values. Their expectations and perceptions of work diverge from what had previously been the norm. For them, a good job is not just a source of income, but also a source of self-esteem, status and social capital. Unless young women find good jobs, their bargaining power in marriage, and control over their fertility will remain limited. Thus, for these young people, their work lives have significant implications for their personal development and well-being.

29. Low wages and participation in the informal economy are also concerns in youth employment, especially among ethnic minorities and youth in rural areas. Ethnic minorities, particularly ethnic women, persistently have the highest share of unpaid family workers. The least developed regions of the Mekong River Delta, the Northern Uplands and the Central Highlands experience much lower wages from employment than do the more developed regions of the Red River Delta and the South East, where labor-intensive industries are located.

30. The vocational education and training system (VET) in Viet Nam has significantly improved over the last decade, due to the greater consideration it has received from policy makers and increased public investment. Particularly in rural areas, the government has made substantial efforts to promote VET among youth and rural workers through preferential policies such as Project 1956 that provide financial subsidies and fee exemptions for VET students. The negative perception of VET is also slowly changing in Viet Nam thanks to the government's efforts to better communicate about VET via mass media and in lower secondary schools. VET is becoming increasingly accepted socially and seen as a viable option for many rural youths.

31. Although there has been great improvement in terms of VET quality, access and relevance, social norms (gender discrimination) around VET and employers' preference for untrained cheaper labor still prevail. Public investment in VET institutes increased and majors have become more diversified and

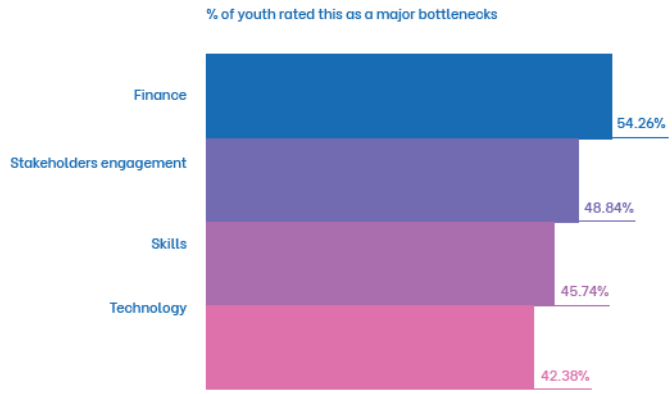
[106] IFAD, 2020
[107] As yet there are no official statistics on this trend, but anecdotal evidence suggests that it may be a somewhat common phenomena.

practical. However, many institutes lack modern equipment and facilities to adequately train their students to be employment-ready. The quality of VET programmes varies widely from one institute to another and less popular majors are largely underfunded with unqualified teachers. Students complained about VET programmes not having enough courses on agricultural production management, marketing and business development. As automation in manufacturing changes traditional manufacturing, it will become increasingly urgent for the VET system to also prepare students seeking what are today only low or semi-skilled factory jobs.

32. Youth also often face difficulties in transitioning from traditional agriculture to modern "smart" and sustainable methods of production. Although vocational training in agriculture provides some technical knowledge, given the challenges of limited access to productive land, and lack of financial resources for those that do not have access to productive lands, the demand or potential for exercising such skills may also be limited to the few who come from better off households, with adequate land and access to finance. It is here where agricultural policies to underpin local value chain development and cater to domestic markets can play an important role in both economic development and opening new employment opportunities for youth. The promotion of small and medium enterprises development within agricultural sector value chains, especially in the least developed areas, would be a boon to job creation for youth.

33. **Youth and climate change**. According to a 2021 report on youth climate action in Viet Nam[108], the four most bottlenecks encountered by youth in climate action are: (i) lack of the skills needed to put theoretical knowledge into practice in designing and managing climate projects; (ii) limited access to the technology needed for efficient implementation and innovation in climate projects; (iii) lack of/ limited support from stakeholders to execute climate projects, especially local authorities, scientists and school administrators, who question youth groups' capacity to implement effective, sustainable projects; and (iv) financial constraints as, without legal representation, many youth projects struggle to fundraise or apply for large grants. In addition, most youth lack experience in financial management, planning fundraising campaigns, researching and writing grant proposals.

Figure 15: Major bottlenecks for climate action according to youth survey respondents (UNDP Viet Nam, 2021)



[108] Special Report - Youth for climate action in Viet Nam. UNDP, 2021

34. More particularly, Vietnamese youth working on innovative climate mitigation projects, which is the thematic section in which they are most active[109], often possess technical literacy but lack experience and skills in communication, project management, and building viable business models. Young people also face difficulty raising awareness and inspiring behavioral change among different target groups (they mainly reach other youth). Compared to climate mitigation, youth face even more challenges in building sustainable projects for climate adaptation & disaster risk reduction. The effects of climate change are most evident in the rural and coastal areas of Viet Nam, where local youth face even more barriers to skills-building opportunities and support networks. In addition, youth from urban centers who want to operate locally face geographical, cultural and bureaucratic constraints. IFIA will aim to address these challenges by building or strengthening capacity among targeted youth, prioritizing youth from under-resourced communities and young women interested in taking active action in climate mitigation and adaption. Also, the project will aim at boosting recruitment of local youth volunteers and interns in IFIA related adaptation activities for youth to contribute and be empowered to build their own projects later on.

35. **Youth and climate policy**. According to the aforementioned report on youth climate action in Viet Nam[110], the two major barriers to policy mainstreaming among youth are: (i) lack of reliable, easily understandable sources of information and (ii) lack of a framework for youth climate advocacy (e.g., young Vietnamese do not engage in policy advocacy because they do not believe their voice will have an impact and there is no formal framework for youth climate advocacy efforts through policy dialogues or policy reviews). IFIA will ensure that youth representatives are included in policy dialogue. Their inputs will be considered while drafting policy documents that would affect Viet Nam's climate mitigation and adaptation capacity and enhance the youth for climate action network's outreach efforts to young people from under-resourced communities through local authorities.

C. Gender and youth – including EM - mainstreaming in IFIA components in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh (project area)

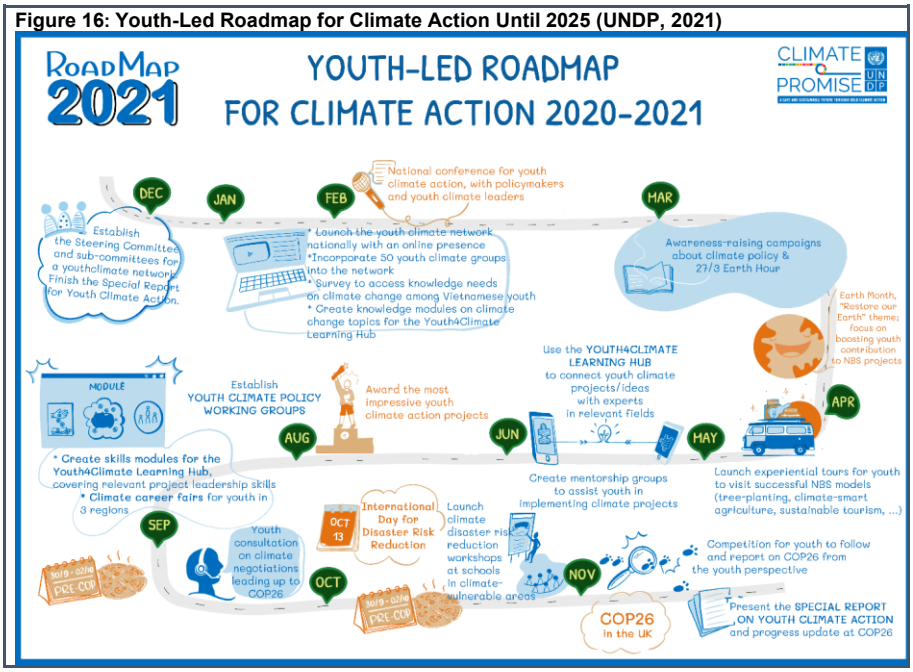
36. In line with national, AF and IFAD's gender, youth and IP policies[111] and in light of the premises described above, the project activities will address the differentiated climate change impacts on targeted men and women, boys and girls, and their differentiated capabilities to adapt to these, through the adoption of an inclusive gender-responsive approach. IFIA will utilize gender-sensitive and participatory appraisal methodologies in the planning, implementation and monitoring of project interventions (e.g., social assessment, consultations, etc.). IFIA will ensure that the differential experiences and intersecting vulnerabilities of both women and men are captured (e.g., through M&E disaggregated data, surveys, focus group discussions, etc.).

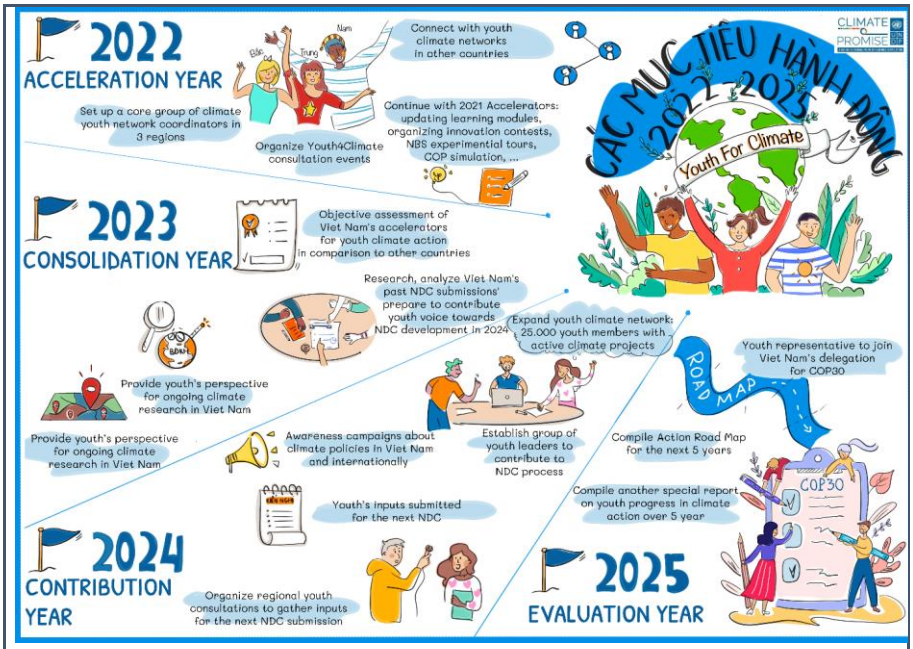
37. The IFIA project activities will aim at building further national and international efforts of "leaving no one behind", central principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. IFIA activities will aim at social equity, being fair to men and women, boys and girls, people with disabilities and people belonging to ethnic minorities, by recognizing the need for potential differential treatment that is fair and positively addresses a bias or historical or social disadvantage that is due to social or gender roles or norms. The process of social and gender equity leads to social and gender equality as a legal right and obligation. **Table 19** translates IFIA's social inclusion and gender strategy into concrete actions. The latter will be further detailed as a Gender and Youth Action Plan (GYAP) at project start-up and during

[109] According to the mentioned 2021 report (2021, UNDP) on youth for climate action, the majority of the youth climate advocates surveyed partake in mitigation activities (in order of popularity: waste management, renewable energy and air pollution reduction). This is a high-potential field for boosting youth climate action in Viet Nam.
[110] Special Report - Youth for climate action in Viet Nam. UNDP, 2021
[111] **Adaptation Fund**: Gender Policy and Action Plan (Mar 2016); Environmental and Social Policy (Mar 2016). **IFAD**: IFAD policy on gender equality and women's empowerment (Sep 2012); Framework for implementing transformational approaches to mainstreaming themes: environment/climate, gender, nutrition, youth (Dec 2019); for IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples (2009). For **national** gender policies, see footnote 56 on "Key legislation for gender equality (General Statistics Office, 2020)".

project implementation based on needs evolvement and in line with Government's new reforms and initiatives.

Figure 16: Youth-Led Roadmap for Climate Action Until 2025 (UNDP, 2021)





https://www.undp.org/vietnam/news/100-days-till-cop26

Table 212119: Gender, and Youth and EM Mainstreaming in IFIA Components in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh

Project component & sub-components	Gender, youth and EM-responsive activities	Target	Year of implementation	Means of verification	Responsibility
Both components: **C1 - Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in coastal wetland livelihoods** **and** **C2 - Component 2: Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programs**	**Activity 1 –** Set quotas at the outreach level to ensure women and men, girls and boys have equal opportunities to participate into project activities and receive comparable social and economic benefits.	- At least 50% of tot. beneficiaries are women - At least 30% of tot. beneficiaries are youth (among tot. youth, 50% are girls) - At least 30% of tot. beneficiaries are EM (Tra Vinh only)[112]	Year 1 to 5	- M&E system/Logframe - Annual Project Performance Report (PPR) with the Project Performance Report (PPR) Results Tracker using gender-disaggregated data - IFAD Supervision/Implementation Support/Completion Missions' Reports	- PMUs' social inclusion (gender, youth, EM, PwD) & environmental safeguards and climate adaptation specialists + consultant in case of budget availability for survey/research project.
	Activity 2 – Following the initial gender and youth (including EM and PwDs) assessment conducted at the design stage and in liaison with relevant research institutes and development partners, conduct a gender and youth assessment in the target area as a desk study or, based on funds availability, a survey/research focusing on the differentiated climate change impacts on men and women, boys and girls, and their differentiated capabilities to adapt to these for decision-making and policy purposes. Complementarity with other similar studies will be ensured.	- 1 gender and youth assessment on the differentiated climate change impacts on men and women, boys and girls in the target area and their differentiated capabilities to adapt to these completed	Year 1	- M&E system - Annual PPR - AF, IFAD, project websites - Mekong Delta WG - UN Viet Nam climate-related technical working group; - IFAD Research Series - IFAD Supervision/Implementation Support/Completion Missions' Reports	- PMUs' social inclusion (gender, youth, EM, PwD) & environmental safeguards and climate adaptation specialists + consultant in case of budget availability for survey/research project
	Activity 3 – Following finalization of activity 2 establish a data baseline at the project start and develop the project's Gender and Youth Action Plan (GYAP) to fine-tune gender mainstreaming across intervention	- 1 project baseline completed - 1 GYAP developed; - All special gender and youth activities	Year 1 - continued (GYAP is to be updated as needed during	- Annual PPR - AWPB	- PMUs' social inclusion (gender, youth, EM, PwD) & environmental safeguards and

[112] Although not reflected in the Results Framework, EM data are going to be captured and monitored in the IFIA's M&E system

	activities. Ensure that the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) allocate resources for special gender and youth activities as needed.	are budgeted for in the AWPB as needed.	project implementation)		climate adaptation specialists
	Activity 4 – Discuss gender, youth and targeting challenges and opportunities at start-up workshops and community sensitisation meetings.	- at least 1 gender sensitization briefing provided per year to relevant stakeholders	Annually	- Annual PPR - M&E system	- PMUs' social inclusion (gender, youth, EM, PwD) & environmental safeguards and climate adaptation specialists
	Activity 5 - Inclusion of women and girls in all decision-making processes and capacity-building activities through quotas aiming for gender-balance and empowerment.	- at least 30% of all project related decision making bodies are women -at least~~and~~ 50% of trainees of all project-related capacity building activities are female - at least 30% of trainees of all project-related capacity building activities are youth (of which 50% are female)	Year 1-5	- Annual PPR - M&E system	- PMU - PMUs' social inclusion (gender, youth, EM, PwD) & environmental safeguards and climate adaptation specialists
C1 - Demonstrating innovative finance mechanism for adaptation in wetland livelihoods					
SC 1.1 - Adaptation research innovation fund	**Activity 6 –** Launch the call for proposal ensuring the (i) the communication platform used is accessible to all potential beneficiaries; (ii) the application procedures and record-keeping are simple and streamlined; (iii) application forms are written in the local language; (iv) free or co-paid technical assistance and capacity building for applicants is provided; (v) communication and sensitization campaigns take into consideration targeted	- at least 15~~11~~ gender-sensitive calls for proposals are launched	Year 1-5	- Annual PPR - M&E system - Innovation Challenge Fund guidelines	- PMUs' social inclusion (gender, youth, EM, PwD) & environmental safeguards and climate adaptation specialists

	women and youth specific needs; (iv) the procedures for handling complaints to the target communities are communicated.				
	Activity 7 – Include adequate gender expertise in the screening board of the Innovation Challenge Fund setting quota for representatives of the Women's Union (WU).	- Equitable number of the tot. members of the Innovation Challenge Fund's screening board are WU's representatives -at least 30% of the ARIF screening board members are women	Year 1-5	- Annual PPR - M&E system - Innovation Challenge Fund guidelines	- Project Director (MONRE) / PMUs
	Activity 8 – Ensure that the Adaptation Research Innovation Fund (ARIF) grants' selection criteria (e.g., climate vulnerability, livelihood options, commitment to co-finance, etc.) take into considerations gender aspects by prioritizing the following aspects in the selection process: i. Youth- and female-led MSEs; i. partnerships between small-scale producers or community groups, research institutions and private companies with higher percentage of women and/or youth holding decision-making positions and with gender-sensitive workplace conditions (e.g., workplace gender equality audits and action plans to support and to promote women's corporate leadership); ii. Research in areas where women and youth are predominant (e.g., Livelihood options - mangrove forest co-management; eco-tourism; financial incentive mechanisms including carbon	- 100%~~all~~ ARIF grants' selection criteria are in line with the project GYAP	Year 1-5	- Annual PPR - ARIF manual	- Project Director (MONRE) / PMUs

	financing, PES, green credit, and so on). Additionally, avoid requirements that prevent targeted beneficiaries from accessing microfinance (e.g., need for a land title or a woman's dependence on her husband's co-signature or an adult male guarantor) and make beneficiary contribution requirements (e.g., the provision of labour or cash) realistic, rather than inadvertently excluding some categories of resource-poor people.				
	Activity 9 – Based on the project gender and youth assessment, include gender and youth considerations/gender sensitive language in the ARIF manual that will be prepared during the project implementation to guide the applicant.	- 1 gender-responsive ARIF manual developed	Year 1-5	- Annual PPR - Innovation Challenge Fund guidelines	- Project Director (MONRE) / PMUs
Subcomponent 1.2: Innovations in financial incentive mechanisms	**Activity 10** – Provide financial literacy training programs to women and youth to empower their finance decisions/access to finance (following need and capacity assessment)	- at least 30% of people trained in financial literacy ~~people~~ are female - at least 30% of people trained in financial literacy ~~people~~ are youth (among tot. youth, 30% are girls)	Year 2-5	- Annual PPR - M&E system	PMU
	Activity 11 – Include the Women Development Fund (WDF) among the project's financing institutions that will be brought together to complement the AF resources and to finance the climate resilient agriculture activities. Capitalize on the experience of the WDF to support the development of innovative financial products tailored to meet the needs of female-headed SME's and small-scale	- WDFs of Ben Tre and Tra Vinh included among the project's financing institutions	Year 1-5	- Annual PPR	- Project Director (MONRE) / PMUs

	producers engaged in eco-aquaculture and eco-tourism driving wetland forest restoration and sustainable use[113].				
Component 2: Systematic learning and scaling through policies and programs					
Subcomponent 2.1 Learning and assessment of adaptation financing mechanisms	**Activity 12** - Gather, collect and analyse data disaggregated by age, sex and ethnicity through the IFAD household resilience scorecard tool and the project M&E system to join the national effort to close gaps in gender statistics nationwide. This is especially needed in relation to the impacts of the environment and climate change (use of resilience scorecard) on vulnerable groups (women, youth, EM, PwD)	- 1 gender and youth sensitive resilience scorecard is developed and implemented	Year 1-5	- Annual PPR - PIM - resilience scorecard	- PMUs' social inclusion (gender, youth, EM, PwD) & environmental safeguards and climate adaptation specialists - PMUs' M&E specialists
Subcomponent 2.2 Policy reforms and institutionalisation	**Activity 13** - Undertake an assessment or research in Mekong Delta on the gender impacts of climate change and disaster events in liaison with other relevant stakeholders conducting similar assessments.	- 1 assessment on the on the gender impacts of climate change and disaster events in Ben~~ben~~ Tre and Tra Vinh completed	Year 3	- Annual PPR - PIM - KM plan	- PMUs' social inclusion (gender, youth, EM, PwD) & environmental safeguards and climate adaptation specialists
	Activity 14 - Provide capacity-building within governments and civil society on the linkages between gender considerations and climate change to effectively integrate such considerations into policies, plans and actions to create an enabling environment for adaptation.[114]	- at least 5 trainings provided on the current main issues in terms of linkages between gender considerations and	Year 4-5	- Annual PPR - PIM - M&E system	PMU

[113] Previous IFAD funded projects generated impressive results for sustainable women economic empowerment, through dedicated women development funds (WDF) under the provincial Women Union (WU), which provided rural women with effective access to savings and loans on a commercial and sustainable basis. Investments were supported with effective technical support services that boosted women's access to technology and knowledge and lastly their socio-economic status and decision-making roles. A continued collaboration with the Women Union will enable a gender empowerment approach across the Mekong Delta.

[114] Currently the main needs, gaps and challenges in the context of understanding the differentiated impacts of climate change on women and men in Viet Nam, with a focus on local communities and indigenous peoples, are: (i) need for improved statistical infrastructure to collect and apply national-level data to better understand gender-differentiated climate impacts and inform national policy planning and implementation; (ii) need for improved institutional capacity to collect sex-disaggregated data on the impacts of climate change at the national level, with particular difficulties in gathering

		climate change provided			
	Activity 15 - Document lessons learnt, best practices and cases of success on gender and climate adaptation during project implementation (e.g., alternative livelihoods)	- at least 3 KM products on project's lessons learnt on gender and climate adaptation are produced and disseminated	Year 3-5	- M&E system - Annual PPR - AF, IFAD, project websites - Mekong Delta WG - UN Viet Nam climate-related technical working group; - IFAD Research Series - IFAD Supervision/Implementation Support/Completion Missions' Reports	- PMUs' social inclusion (gender, youth, EM, PwD) & environmental safeguards and climate adaptation specialists - PMUs' M&E and KM specialists
Project management	**Activity 16** – Include targeting and gender mainstreaming in the TORs of all PMU staff with overall responsibility for ensuring that these aspects are given sufficient attention and resources during project implementation. Responsibility for this lies with the project director. A targeting and gender/youth specialist or focal point for PMUs is appointed.	- 100% of ~~all~~ project staff TORs include targeting and gender mainstreaming - 1 targeting and gender/youth specialist or focal point for PMUs is appointed	Year 1 (as needed in case of staff rotation)	- PMU staff TORs - AWPB	- Project management
	Activity 17 – Ensure gender-sensitive language in KM products related to Fund-supported adaptation interventions, reflecting awareness of gender issues by including gender-disaggregated data and by using disaggregated rather than collective terms such as farmers, workers, society or families.	- all KM products are gender sensitive in terms of content and language	Year 1-5	- project related KM products	- PMUs' social inclusion (gender, youth, EM, PwD) & environmental safeguards and climate adaptation specialists

data at the local level in rural and remote areas; (iii) need for improved institutional capacity to undertake gender analysis and gender budgeting, and the related need for more gender and climate change experts, particularly local and national experts; and (iv) need for more capacity-building and awareness-raising within Governments and civil society on the multifaceted differentiated impacts of climate change and how understanding these differentiated impacts can make climate policy and action more effective.

					- PMUs' M&E and KM specialists
	Activity 18 – Report any form of gender-based violence and discrimination identified within the targeted communities to the relevant authorities and ensure it is addressed as needed. If confirmed, exclude the perpetrators of GBV from the project activities in liaison with relevant authorities.	- any identified perpetrator of GBV is excluded from the target group	Year 1-5		- PMUs' social inclusion (gender, youth, EM, PwD) & environmental safeguards and climate adaptation specialists

Table 222220: Potential gender considerations of various environmentally sustainable technologies or practices in Ben Tre and Tra Vinh (IFAD, 2022

Environmentally sustainable technologies or practices	To what extent the practise contibutes to: Use drop-down menu: High-medium-low			To what extent the practise has a gender Impact Use drop-down menu: High-medium-low		How important are the following requirements for the adoption of each practice? Use drop-down menu: High-medium-low					
	Climate Change Adaptation	Mitigation (Reducing GHGs)	Potential Household Food Security and Nutritional impacts	Level of women's participation in the activity/ implementing the practic	Degree of women's income control from practice	Relative amount of time until benefits are realized	Potential for women to benefit from the practice (e.g. increased productivity, income from new product	Female and Youth labour availability	Female access to and control of land	Female access to water for production needs	Female access to cash and ability to spend it
Reforestation/ Afforestation											
Practices to protect and or restore mangrove forest	medium-high	high	medium-low	medium	low	high	medium-high	medium	medium-low	medium	medium
Tree planting	medium	medium-high	medium-low	medium	medium-low	high	medium-high	medium	medium	medium	medium
Tree nursery	medium-high	high	medium	medium-high	medium	high	medium-high	medium	medium	medium	medium
Conservation farming											
Practices to protect soil and reduce erosion	medium	medium-high	low	low	low	medium-high	medium	medium-high	medium	low	medium-low
Permanent soil coverage	medium	medium-high	medium-low	medium-low	medium-low	medium	medium	medium	medium	low	low
Green manure / farmyard manure / composting	high	high	medium	medium	medium	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium-high
Crop rotation	high	medium-high	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium-high
Intercropping	high	medium-high	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium	medium-low	medium
Low tillage	medium-low	low	low	medium	medium-low	medium	medium	medium	medium-low	medium-low	medium
Increased incorporation of crop residue for mulching	high	medium-high	medium	medium	medium	high	medium	medium-high	medium	low	medium
Integrated pest management (IPM) practices to reduce the use of synthetic pesticides and fungicides	medium	high	high	medium	medium-low	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium-high
Reducing the use of plastic and ensure collection of plastic waste	high	high	medium	medium-high	medium-high	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium-high
Use of drought resistant crop varieties	high	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium-high
Adjustment of cropping calendars	medium-high	high	medium	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium-high
Integration of crop, fish, livestock farming to recycle nutrients and lover pest and diseases pressures through synergies and diversity	medium-high	medium-high	high	medium-high	medium-high	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium-high
Agroforestry practices											
Riparian and upland forest buffers	high	high	high	medium	medium	high	high	high	high	high	high
Silvopasture	medium	medium	medium-high	medium-low	medium-low	medium	medium-low	medium-low	low	low	medium-low
Alley cropping	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	high	high	high	medium-high	medium-high	high
Windbreaks	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium-low	low	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium
Intercropping various tree species	high	high	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	high
Beekeeping/honey production	high	medium-high	high	medium-high	medium-high	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium	medium
Water mobilization / conservation											
Rainwater harvesting and storage in ponds	high	medium-high	medium	medium	medium	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium
Small dams for mobilizing water for agriculture	high	medium-high	high	medium	medium-low	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium
Rainwater harvesting and storage in tanks, cisterns or other	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-low	medium-low	medium	medium	medium	medium-low	medium	medium
Boreholes	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium-low	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium-low
f water resources (drip irrigation, reduced flood irrigation time, etc..)	high	high	high	medium-high	medium-low	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium	high	medium-high
Reducing or avoiding the use of antibiotics in aquaculture	high	high	high	medium	medium-low	high	low	low	medium	low	medium
Avoiding over feeding in aquaculture increasing the pollution of the surrounding water environment	medium	medium	medium-high	medium	low	medium-low	low	medium	medium-high	medium-high	medium
eco-tourism	medium-high	medium-high	high	high	high	high	high	high	High	Low	high
Scale-up of alternative energy technologies											
Use cleaning/recycling of water in aquaculture to avoid pollution of the surrounding water environment	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium	low	medium-high	high	medium-high	medium-low	high	
biogas	high	high	medium-high	medium	medium	high	high	medium-high	medium	medium	medium-high
efficient cook stoves	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium-high	medium	medium-high	medium-high	medium	low	medium-low	medium
Hydro	medium	medium	low	low	low			medium	medium	medium	medium
Diversified food and income options											
carbon trading	medium-high	high	high	medium	medium	medium-high	medium	medium	medium	medium-low	medium-high
Payment for ecosystem services (PES)	medium-high	medium-high	high	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium-high
processing traditional medicine from plants and trees, NTFPs such as wild fruits	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium	medium	High	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-low	medium
mat and basket making	high	high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-high	medium-low	medium
solar	high	high	medium-high	medium-low	medium	high	high	medium-high	medium	medium	medium-high