



ADAPTATION FUND

PRE-CONCEPT FOR A REGIONAL PROJECT/PROGRAMME

Title of Project/Programme:	Agricultural Climate Resilience Enhancement Initiative (ACREI)
Countries:	Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda
Thematic Focal Area ¹ :	Food security
Type of Implementing Entity:	UN agency
Implementing Entity:	World Meteorological Organization
Executing Entities:	Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
Amount of Financing Requested:	USD 5 Million

Project / Programme Background and Context:

The Greater Horn of Africa is extremely vulnerable to climate variability. Extreme precipitation changes over Eastern Africa such as droughts and heavy rainfall have been experienced more frequently during the last 30-60 years (IPCC, 2013). The risk of loss of rural livelihoods and income due to climatic hazards is particularly real in arid and semi-arid regions, largely habituated by communities engaged in agro-pastoral livelihood systems. These communities have limited access to information of and technical support and financing for adaptation options responding to local climate variability and predictions is very limited. Enhancing the capacity of communities to cope and adapt to climate variability will build the resilience of communities and livelihoods dependent on climate-sensitive resources.

The intervention will technically improve climate forecasts using a regional approach and build the capacity of communities to understand and appropriately use climate information and related agro-advisories in decision-making to climate-proof their livelihoods. The Agro-pastoralist Field School (APFS) approach, an adaptation of the well proven Farmer Field School approach will form a key delivery mechanism in this project building strongly on previous experiences .. Climate sensitive APFS interventions engaging communities in participatory group learning and experimentation will be coupled with Village Community Banking approach (VICOBA) to support community uptake of strategies and practices for resilient local food and income systems. Impact data from the region indicate substantial impact of Field Schools on productivity and poverty, especially among women² and the successful combination of technical, social and financial support through APFS/VICOBA³. The informal nature of the approach provides an entry point to also address social issues including HIV, gender, resource use conflicts, population growth as well as health and nutrition issues thus ensuring a holistic approach. The initiative will build on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) principles and field practices to incorporate more accurate and relevant localized climate services into extension and advisory services for agro-pastoralists. The content of technical and financial support to communities will include good agricultural practices, conservation agriculture, soil and water management, water harvesting and small-scale irrigation, improved rangeland and livestock management, farm and income diversification and improved storage and marketing of produce.

Project / Programme Objectives:

The goal of the initiative is to ***“Develop and implement adaptation strategies and measures that will strengthen the resilience of vulnerable smallholder farmers, agro-pastoralists and pastoralists in***

¹ Thematic areas are: Food security; Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems; Transboundary water management; Innovation in adaptation finance.

² Davis, K., Nkonya, E., Kato, E., Mekonnen, D.A., Odendo, M., Muro, R. & Nkuba, J. (2011). *Impact of Farmer Field Schools on Agricultural Productivity and Poverty in East Africa*. *World Development*, 40: 402-413.

³ Hoeggel and Mbeyale, 2014. *Impact Assessment of Pastoralist Field Schools in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda*. FAO, SDC and University of Bern.

the Horn of Africa to climate variability and change” in line with the IGAD Drought Disaster and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) programme. The overall objective is **“Improved adaptive capacity and resilience to current climate variability and change among targeted farmers, agro-pastoralists and pastoralist communities”**.

Project / Programme Components and Financing:

Project/ Programme Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Countries	Amount (US\$)
1.Community Adaptation practice	Enhanced productivity, production, livelihood diversification and income levels among 30 communities through application of collective adaptation strategies and practices for resilient local food and income systems (crop and livestock)	1.1 Season-long participatory field based learning and experimentation on adaptation options responding to local climate variability and predictions among 90 climate sensitive APFS groups. 1.2 Participatory community adaptation action planning processes resulting in 30 collective and climate informed community adaptation action plans. 1.3 Thirty technically sound community adaptation investment proposals funded through a community grant mechanism (average estimate of 60,000 USD/community). 1.4 Targeted population technically supported throughout their engagement in climate resilient farming and income generating livelihood enterprises that sustainably enhance their resilience to climatic shocks.	Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda,	3,325,414
2. Climate proofing of extension system	Enhanced capacity of development and extension actors to support community level climate adaptation strategies through integration of climate considerations, forecasts and projections in food security and resilience interventions.	2.1 Training curriculum developed for integration of climate considerations in community actions for climate resilient local food and income systems. 2.2 Community and APFS facilitators and other public or private field support actors trained on adaptation options responding to local climate variability and predictions. 2.3 Dissemination of timely information on climate-impact and weather forecasts in an understandable format through FM radio stations linked to community radio listening and dialogue groups. Enhanced institutionalization process of climate sensitive Field School and extension interventions in national and regional structures, line ministries and training institutions.	Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda,	1,215,467

3. Climate informed decision making	Improved climate considerations, forecasts and projections in decision making by IGAD institutions and line ministries (Agriculture, livestock, land and water).	<p>3.1 Climate information, including the seasonal forecast and future climate projections, is downscaled by the Regional Climate Centre ICPAC together with National Meteorological Institutions and disseminated through national line ministries of agriculture and livestock to farmers and pastoralists.</p> <p>3.2 Improved feedback mechanisms from rural climate information users to NMHS and Government bodies about climate and weather information use and their impacts in food production.</p> <p>3.3 Agro-climate advisories for farmers and pastoralists in the region are packaged and disseminated in a way that makes them more actionable for the users.</p> <p>3.4 Evidence based policy dialogue on climate information and agriculture is facilitated in the region.</p> <p>3.5 Annual regional farmers and pastoralist forums to share lessons learnt and good practices on integrating climate information in Agriculture decision making.</p>	Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda,	1,128,000
4. Project/Programme Execution cost				598,400
5. Total Project/Programme Cost				5,668,881
6. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)				532,719
Amount of Financing Requested				6,800,000

Project Duration: Three years (36 months)

The project scope provides a highly innovative effort to link upstream and downstream climate information and services to ensure a more farmer, agro-pastoralist and pastoralist friendly approach to climate resilience in agriculture that blends scientific and traditional knowledge systems.

Component 1: Supporting Community Adaptation Practice

This component, led by FAO in close collaboration with relevant regional institutions and country ministries of agriculture, livestock and environment will support capacity building linked to financial support for implementation of locally adapted adaptation practices that enhanced food and income security. In depth consultation with communities will assist linking traditional mechanisms for assessing and predicting climate variation with the packaging and dissemination of localized down-scaled climate services (climate forecasts, analyzed historical climate information, assessment of local risks and vulnerabilities). Communities will be supported to apply climate informed farming practices through participatory training and experimentation on appropriate technology and adaptation options through 90 (30 per country) APFS groups reaching 13,500 direct beneficiaries over the project period, at least half of whom will be women. APFS groups set up comparative field studies, running over two rainy seasons, on a group farm or site to undertake regular data collection and monitoring on climatic information, disease surveillance, livestock and vegetation condition, soil quality and moisture conditions, crop and pasture production that guide decision making for selection of suitable adaptation practices to adopt at household or community level. Target communities (10 villages per country) will further be facilitated and supported to develop collective adaptation investment plans, informed by the APFS group study, that will (following review and approval) be funded by the program. Community investment financing will aim to support inputs, equipment, field supplies and technical support for communities to address priority issue related the sustainable and climate smart use of land, soil, water, forestry, animals and rangeland resources as

well as aim to diversify income sources through community savings and credit mechanisms and improved storage and marketing of produce.

Component 2: Climate proofing Extension system

This component, lead by FAO and IGAD, will support climate proofing of existing agricultural advisory services in the target countries and ensure a minimum level of climate awareness among development actors and advisory support service actors. Selected project and government technical staff from the participating countries will be trained on appropriate climate data collection/analysis tools through a combination of face to face and e-learning training processes. Through an initial season-long training of facilitators, run by experienced Master trainers sourced from the region, the capacity of community members, government and NGO field actors will be built for implementation of climate sensitive APFS. The institutionalization process and integration of participatory extension in government mainstream programs and funding streams started in the region will be enhanced, building on member countries and IGADs ongoing efforts.

Component 3: Climate Informed Decision Making

Under the leadership of WMO, and ICPAC, the Regional Climate Centre the capacity of the NMHSs in the target countries to produce the required climate services will be built through training, infrastructure development and other resource investment. This includes support provided by ICPAC, to improve climate modeling and down-scaling climate scenarios for application in agriculture.

A regional approach for the above implementation of three components is critical for a number of reasons. Firstly the main climate product used by farmers is the seasonal forecast, which is the outcome of a process that is lead by the regional climate centre and developed through the Greater Horn of Africa climate outlook forum which brings together users and producers of the forecasts biannually to come up with a consensus forecast. Improvements and adjustments to the forecast to more accurately meet community needs thus necessitates is needed, the inclusion of the regional climate centre as a central implementation actor. Secondly a regional approach will allow for a maximizing of lessons learning and sharing among the related actors and stakeholders. The adaptation measures being applied in this project will generate lessons learned, and validation of best practices to be documented and replicated in other areas. WMO, FAO and IGAD have significant experience and systems in place for knowledge management, documentation and dissemination. FAO have both national and field level offices and technical teams in place that will provide a critical role in capturing and sharing experiences. IGAD will utilize existing linkages with relevant national level sectors and other regional forums to share lessons and policy recommendations. A designated space for sharing of program experiences and lessons will be opened on the regional resilience partner sharing web platform www.disasterriskreduction.net. Face-to-face interactions through regional meetings and cross country exchange visits will also be facilitated. This will assist in streamlining currently scattered and sometimes duplicated efforts of integrating climate considerations in extension and Field School work. Thirdly the regional approach will enhance cost effectiveness of capacity development as well as ensuring a certain level of generic scope of tools and processes developed for future application beyond the target sites and countries. Further centralizing the capacity building of the Meteorological Agencies with the regional body, ICPAC, will enhance cost effectiveness. By using existing structures and staffing in the field already familiar or skilled in the Field School approach, start-up will be quick and costs reduced. Lastly, a regional approach will ensure close complementarities with the SDC financed Field School Institutionalization project started in 2016 that will support the ongoing uptake of APFS at extension policy level in the target countries. Learning from the three countries under this action will feed critical information regarding options for addressing climate adaption into the policy development processes at national and regional level facilitated through the SDC programme.

The project interventions are in line with the respective government and regional priorities as relates to the significant additional adaptation efforts needed to address the critical interface between climate, agriculture, disaster risk management and livelihoods at the community level. The project directly supports the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) as well as the Global Framework for Climate services (GFCS) implementation strategy, specifically components 1 and 3 (Developing the User Interface platform and strengthening climate services information systems). GFCS

has identified five pillars for building the user interface for agriculture, and this project is implementing three of those, namely: monitoring, data, tools and methods, managing risks of climate variability and change and contributing to food security information and emergency response. The project is designed within the framework of IGADs regional strategy for mainstreaming climate information into key socio-economic sectors for disaster risk reduction and sustainable development. Existing gender policy frameworks will guide project implementation, for example targeting women to access weather services is an IGAD policy imperative. Analysis of existing similar initiatives has taken place to avoid duplication. Close synergies are envisaged with the similar community grant mechanism developed under the IGAD-FAO Partnership Programme in cross-border areas, commencing in 2016. Further, in Kenya close collaboration is envisaged with the National Implementing Entity (NIE) National Environment management Authority-Kenya (NEMA) within the Food security and Knowledge Management components of the Kenya Climate Change Adaptation (KCCAP) program. All elements related to data and information on climate variability will be clearly linked with the relevant national authorities in the countries such as Ministries of Agriculture, Environments and Meteorological departments.

A project preparation is envisaged that will entail a three step process:

1. Consultations at regional level with the executing entities and national partners to determine the scope and focus of the project, including target districts within the countries, based on which an initial results based framework will be defined including a screening of potential environmental and social impacts and risks.
2. Comprehensive community level consultations in the target districts, including with vulnerable groups within the community such as female headed households and key informants such as traditional forecast providers and users will held defined the implementation mechanisms that best will meet community needs. The consultation will include application of participatory tools for gender sensitive community consultation and the FAO Self-evaluation and Holistic Assessment to Climate Resilience of Farmers and pastoralists (SHARP).
3. Finally, national consultations will be held in each of the target countries to obtain stakeholder support for the project and validate the final project design.

The improved climate and weather services to be provided by this project will become part of the normal services provided by the NMHSs in the target countries thus ensuring continuity post intervention. Long terms sustainability if further ensured by focusing on existing extension staff, field workers and community focal points and building their capacity in climate adaptation, is. By taking advantage of FAOs global modalities for knowledge dissemination in agriculture the reach and spread of program outcomes will be enhanced. Building on local culture and traditional practices is central to this initiative. At farm level, low cost adaptation technologies and practices will be prioritized to enhance the potential for sustaining the promoted technologies/practices post intervention. The proven ability of Field Schools coupled with community financing mechanism to link technical advancement with enhanced social and financial capital will create a holistic foundation for enhanced and resilient rural livelihoods i. Since activities at local level are defined and led by the community the risk of culturally inappropriate practices are minimal. Tools for community based analysis of new technologies/practices in an agro-ecological perspective will be applied thus minimal negative environmental impact is expected (Category C).

The project will be implemented by WMO and executed by FAO and IGAD (ICPAC and ICPALD), and relevant government ministries in the target countries. WMO will lead in the management of the climate services while FAO will lead the agronomic, food security and natural resource aspects. IGAD (ICPAC and ICPALD) will coordinate the promotion of utilization of climate information in decision making (crop and livestock investment). The project will establish a Project Steering Committee (PSC) at the regional level or link into existing structures to monitor performance, provide technical oversight, advice on strategic challenges, and ensure systems exist to mitigate risks and disseminate best practice. National Project Leading Group (NPLG) will be set up at country level including representatives from NMHS, Ministry of Agriculture, regional/local authorities and civil society leaders.



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Countries:	Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda
Thematic Focal Area ¹ :	Food security
Type of Implementing Entity:	UN agency
Implementing Entity:	World Meteorological Organization
Executing Entities:	Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
Amount of Financing Requested:	USD 5 Million

Project / Programme Background and Context:

The Greater Horn of Africa is extremely vulnerable to climate variability. Extreme precipitation changes over Eastern Africa such as droughts and heavy rainfall have been experienced more frequently during the last 30-60 years (IPCC, 2013). The risk of loss of rural livelihoods and income due to climatic hazards is particularly real ~~in for farmers and pastoralists in the arid and semi-arid regions, largely habituated by communities engaged in agro-pastoral livelihood systems. These However, Communities the access by communities have limited access to for have limited information of and technical support and financing for adaptation options responding to local climate variability and predictions is very limited information about improved farming practices and socio-cultural and economic barriers often inhibit uptake of new technologies.~~ Enhancing the capacity of communities to cope and adapt to climate variability will build the resilience of communities and livelihoods dependent on climate-sensitive resources. ~~Adaptation can be enhanced through the appropriate use of climate information in decision-making for agriculture. This includes the time to plant, types of crops and varieties to plant, timing of other farming operations like weeding, fertilizer application, pest and disease management, harvesting and post-harvest handling for crop farmers, management and appropriate utilization of grazing resources, marketing of livestock, informed and conflict sensitive mobility, by livestock farmers.~~

~~Technical aspects of The intervention will technically improve climate forecasts will be improved using a regional approach and to build the capacity of make them more understandable and the capacity of communities will be built to enable them to understand and appropriately use climate information and related agro-advisories in decision-making to for and to climate-proof their livelihoods. The Agro-pastoralist Farmer Field School (APFFS) approach, an adaptation of the well proven Farmer Field School (field-based participatory group learning and experimentation) will approach will form a key delivery mechanism in this project building strongly on previous experiences from related intervention including FAO and WMO experience with along with adaptations to the approach such as Climate Field School, Climate sensitive APFS interventions engaging communities in participatory group learning and experimentation will be (CFS) and Agro-pastoral Field School (APFS) approach Participatory extension will be coupled with Village Community Banking approach (VICOPA) to support community uptake of strategies and practices for resilient local food and income systems enhance household savings, allowing for a client oriented extension services system that combined capacity building for enhanced farming knowledge and skills with the strengthening and building of rural institutions that are community based and gender inclusive. Impact data from the region indicate substantial impact of Field Schools FFS on~~

¹ Thematic areas are: Food security; Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems; Transboundary water management; Innovation in adaptation finance.

productivity and poverty, especially among women-² [and the successful combination of technical, social and financial support through APFS/VICOBA³](#). The informal nature of the approach provides an entry point to also address social issues including HIV, gender, resource use conflicts, population growth as well as health and nutrition issues thus ensuring a holistic approach. ~~The Technically the~~ initiative will build on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) principles and field practices to incorporate more accurate and relevant localized climate services into extension and advisory services for ~~agro-pastoralists~~farmers. ~~The content of technical and financial support to communities will~~ include good agricultural practices, conservation agriculture, soil and water management, water harvesting and small-scale irrigation, improved rangeland and livestock management, farm and income diversification and improved storage and marketing of produce.

Project / Programme Objectives:

The goal of the initiative is to “**Develop and implement adaptation strategies and measures that will strengthen the resilience of vulnerable smallholder farmers, agro-pastoralists and pastoralists in the Horn of Africa to climate variability and change**” in line with the IGAD Drought Disaster and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) programme. The overall objective is “**Improved adaptive capacity and resilience to current climate variability and change among targeted farmers, agro-pastoralists and pastoralist communities**”.

Project / Programme Components and Financing:

Project/ Programme Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Countries	Amount (US\$)
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² Davis, K., Nkonya, E., Kato, E., Mekonnen, D.A., Odendo, M., Miro, R. & Nkuba, J. (2011). *Impact of Farmer Field Schools on Agricultural Productivity and Poverty in East Africa*. *World Development*, 40: 402-413.

³ [Hoeggel and Mbevale, 2014. Impact Assessment of Pastoralist Field Schools in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. FAO, SDC and University of Bern.](#)

<p>1. <u>Community Supporting Adaptation practice Strategies</u></p>	<p><u>Improved Enhanced production, livelihood diversification and income levels among 30 communities through application of collective adaptation strategies and practices for resilient local food and income systems (crop and livestock) translate into enhanced productivity, production, livelihood diversification and income levels.</u></p>	<p><u>1.1 Season-long participatory field based learning and experimentation on adaptation options responding to local climate variability and predictions among 90 climate sensitive APFS groups.</u></p> <p><u>1.2 Participatory community adaptation action planning processes resulting in 30 collective and climate informed community adaptation action plans.</u></p> <p><u>1.3 Thirty technically sound community adaptation investment proposals funded through a community grant mechanism (average estimate of 60,000 USD/community).</u></p> <p><u>1.4 Targeted population technically supported throughout their engagement in climate resilient farming and income generating livelihood enterprises that sustainably enhance their resilience to climatic shocks.</u></p> <p><u>1.1 New Field School groups in target sites established and actively engaged in season long group based field learning on climate smart agriculture that integrate climate information throughout the intervention cycle.</u></p> <p><u>1.2 Targeted population aware of predicted adverse impacts of climate change, and of appropriate response mechanisms.</u></p> <p><u>1.3 Land and resource users in target localities demonstrate an increased level of climate integration in applied agricultural field practices as well as enhanced management and capacity for collective action to address climatic threats on livelihoods.</u></p> <p><u>1.4 Targeted population engaged in climate resilient farming practices, income generating alternative livelihood enterprises to enhance their resilience to climatic shocks and ensure sustainability.</u></p>	<p>Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda,</p>	<p>3,325,4823,2</p> <p>Formatted Table</p> <p>Formatted: List Paragraph, Indent: Left: 0.05", Outline numbered + Level: 2 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5", Position: Horizontal: Left, Relative to: Margin, Vertical: 0", Relative to: Paragraph, Horizontal: 0.13", Wrap Around</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt</p> <p>Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering</p>
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2. Climate proofing of extension system	Enhanced capacity of development and extension actors to support community level climate adaptation strategies through integration of climate considerations, forecasts and projections in food security and resilience related field interventions.	<p>2.1 Modules and training material <u>Training curriculum</u> developed for integration of climate considerations in community actions <u>efforts</u> for <u>climate resilient local food and income systems, resilient crop livestock and food systems.</u></p> <p>2.2 Community <u>and APFS</u> facilitators and <u>other public or private field support actors support teams such as Field School facilitators and trainers, CMDRR facilitators, Government extension workers etc</u> trained on <u>how to respond to, and mitigate impacts of, climate related events adaptation options responding to local climate variability and predictions.</u></p> <p>2.3 Dissemination of timely information on climate-impact and weather forecasts in an understandable format through FM radio stations <u>linked to community radio listening and dialogue groups, and facilitating community participation in thematic radio discussions and call in service.</u></p> <p>2.4 <u>2.3</u> Enhanced institutionalization process of climate sensitive Field School and extension interventions in national and regional structures, line ministries and training institutions.</p>	Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda,	1,215,467
3. Climate informed decision making	Improved climate considerations, forecasts and projections in decision making by IGAD institutions and line ministries (Agriculture, livestock, land and water).	<p>3.1 Climate information, including the seasonal forecast and future climate projections, is downscaled by <u>the Regional Climate Centre ICPAC together with</u> National Meteorological Institutions and disseminated through national line ministries of agriculture and livestock to farmers and pastoralists. Where required this will involve investment in infrastructure to support the downscaling process, such as improved IT equipment and/or Automatic Weather Stations.</p> <p>3.2 Improved feedback mechanisms from rural climate information users to NMHS and Government bodies about climate and weather information use and their impacts in food production.</p> <p>3.3 Agro-climate advisories for farmers and pastoralists in the region are packaged and disseminated in a way that makes them more actionable for the users.</p> <p>3.4 Evidence based policy dialogue on climate information and agriculture is facilitated in the region.</p> <p>3.5 Annual regional farmers and pastoralist forums to share lessons learnt and good practices on integrating climate information in Agriculture decision making.</p>	Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda,	1,128,000
4. Project/Programme Execution cost				598,400,444,
5. Total Project/Programme Cost				628
6. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)				4,608,295.6
				68,8815
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Amount of Financing Requested	65,890,000
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Project Duration: Three years (36 months)

The project scope provides a highly innovative effort to link upstream and downstream climate information and services to ensure a more farmer, agro-pastoralist and pastoralist friendly approach to climate resilience in agriculture that blends scientific and traditional knowledge systems.

Component 1: Supporting Community Adaptation Practice Strategies

This component, lead by FAO in close collaboration with relevant [regional institutions and country ministries of agriculture, livestock and environment](#) will support [capacity building linked to financial support for implementation of locally adapted adaptation practices that enhanced food and income security. In depth genuine dialogue and consultation with communities on climate change related trend will assist in, and link linking traditional mechanisms for assessing and predicting climate variation information and implications on food and livelihood systems with the packaging and dissemination of localized down-scaled climate services \(climate forecasts, analyzed historical climate information, assessment of local risks and vulnerabilities\) for decision making for sustainable food production and food security.](#) Communities will be supported to apply [climate informed climate smart agricultural farming practices](#) through participatory training and experimentation on appropriate technology and [land-use options/adaptation options through 90 \(30 per country\) APFS. A total of 120 Field School groups will be established in the target localities, reaching 3000 households and 138,500 direct beneficiaries over the project period, at least half of whom will be women. Each group will undertake a season-long learning \(half a day over 40 weeks\) curriculum focusing on location specific adaptation measures. APFS groups Members set up comparative field studies, running over two rainy seasons, on a group farm or site to and undertake regular data collection and monitoring on climatic information, disease surveillance, livestock and vegetation condition, soil quality and moisture conditions, crop and pasture production that guide decision making for selection of the most suitable/good adaptation practices to adopt at household or community level. Target communities \(10 villages per country\) will further be facilitated and supported to develop collective adaptation investment plans, informed by the APFS group study, that will \(following review and approval\) be funded by the program. Community investment financing will aim to support inputs, equipment, field supplies and technical support for communities to address priority issue related the sustainable and climate smart use of land, soil, water, forestry, animals and rangeland resources as well as aim to diversify income sources through community savings and credit mechanisms and improved storage and marketing of produce.](#)

~~Practices envisaged as focus for the Field School learning activities include conservation agriculture, water retention and harvesting, soil management, agroforestry, rangeland management, livestock management, farm diversification, improved storage and marketing of produce.~~

Component 2: Climate proofing Extension system

This component, lead by FAO and IGAD, will support climate proofing of existing agricultural advisory services in the target countries and ensure a minimum level of climate awareness among development actors and advisory support service actors. Selected project and government technical staff from the participating countries will be trained on appropriate climate data collection/analysis tools through a combination of face to face and e-learning training processes. Through an initial season-long training of facilitators, run by experienced Master trainers sourced from the region, the capacity of community members, government and NGO field actors will be built [for implementation of a climate sensitive APFS Field Schools.](#) The institutionalization process and integration of participatory extension in government mainstream programs and funding streams started in the region will be enhanced, building on member countries and IGADs ongoing efforts.

Component 3: Climate Informed Decision Making

Under the leadership of WMO, [and ICPAC, the Regional Climate Centre](#) the capacity of the NMHSs in the target countries to produce the required climate services will be built through training, infrastructure

development and other resource investment. ~~This includes support provided by ICPAC—ICPAC, the Regional Climate Centre, will be the main provider for capacity building, to including support for improved climate modeling and down-scaling climate scenarios for application in agriculture. Automatic weather stations will be installed in the selected locations to provide localized climate information. Where required this will involve investment in infrastructure to support the downscaling process, such as improved IT equipment and/or Automatic Weather Stations.~~

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A regional approach for the above ~~implementation of~~ three components is ~~critical for a number of reasons. appropriate~~ Firstly ~~tas~~ the main climate product used by farmers is the seasonal forecast, which is the outcome of a process that is lead by the regional climate centre and developed through the ~~the~~ Greater Horn of Africa climate outlook forum which brings together users and producers of the forecasts biannually to come up with a consensus forecast. Improvements and adjustments to the forecast to more accurately meet community farmers needs thus necessitates ~~as identified through the climate field schools is needed need to be made in this regional process, the inclusion of which is why it is not possible to undertake this work without including the the~~ regional climate centre as a central implementation actor, as the needs and gaps to be addressed are similar at both community and national level in the target countries. ~~By selecting countries and target areas of varied agro-ecological and climatic conditions the scalability and potential for expansion of the developed program concept/mechanisms to other regions of Africa or elsewhere will be enhanced.~~

~~Secondly a~~The regional approach will also allow for ~~–a~~ maximizing of lessons learning and sharing among the related actors and stakeholders. ~~–Sharing will be facilitated through regional mechanisms and processes and links to member countries of both FAO and IGAD. The adaptation measures being applied in this project will generate lessons learned, and validation of best practices to be documented and replicated in other areas. WMO, FAO and IGAD have significant experience and systems in place for knowledge management, documentation and dissemination. FAO have both national and field level offices and technical teams in place that will provide a critical role in capturing and sharing experiences. IGAD will utilize existing linkages with relevant national level sectors and other regional forums to share lessons and policy recommendations.~~ A designated space for sharing of program experiences and lessons will be opened on the regional resilience partner sharing web platform www.disasterriskreduction.net. Face-to-face interactions through regional meetings and cross country exchange visits will also be facilitated. This will assist in streamlining currently scattered and sometimes duplicated efforts of integrating climate considerations in extension and Field School work.

~~Thirdly –t~~The regional approach will also enhance cost effectiveness of capacity development as well as ensuring a certain level of generic scope of tools and processes developed for future application beyond the target sites and countries. ~~Further c~~Centralizing the capacity building of the Meteorological Agencies with the regional body, ICPAC, will enhance cost effectiveness. By using existing structures and staffing in the field already familiar or skilled in the Field School approach, start-up will be quick and costs reduced. ~~Lastly, a regional approach will ensure close complementarities with the SDC financed Field School Institutionalization project started in 2016 that will support the ongoing uptake of APFS at extension policy level in the target countries. Learning from the three countries under this action will feed critical information regarding options for addressing climate adaption into the policy development processes at national and regional level facilitated through the SDC programme.~~

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~~At farm level, low cost adaptation technologies and practices will be prioritized to enhance the potential for sustaining the promoted technologies/practices post intervention.~~

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The project interventions are in line with the respective government and regional priorities as relates to the significant additional adaptation efforts needed to address the critical interface between climate, agriculture, disaster risk management and livelihoods at the community level. The project ~~directly supports builds on~~ the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) ~~IDDRSI strategy of IGAD (Pastoral risk management component) as well as the nd~~ Global Framework for Climate services (GFCS) implementation strategy, specifically components 1 and 3 (Developing the User Interface platform and strengthening climate services information systems). GFCS has identified five pillars for building the user interface for agriculture, and this project is implementing three of those, namely: monitoring, data, tools and methods, managing risks of climate variability and change and contributing to food security information and emergency response. The project is designed within the

framework of IGADs regional strategy for mainstreaming climate information into key socio-economic sectors for disaster risk reduction and sustainable development. Existing gender policy frameworks will guide project implementation, for example targeting women to access weather services is an IGAD policy imperative. Analysis of existing similar initiatives has taken place to avoid duplication. Close synergies are envisaged with the similar community grant mechanism developed under the IGAD-FAO Partnership Programme in cross-border areas, commencing in 2016. –Further, in Kenya close collaboration is envisaged with the National Implementing Entity (NIE) National Environment management Authority-Kenya (NEMA) within the Food security and Knowledge Management components of the Kenya Climate Change Adaptation (KCCAP) program. All elements related to data and information on climate variability will be clearly linked with the relevant national authorities in the countries such as Ministries of Agriculture, Environments and Meteorological departments.

~~The pilot adaptation measures being tested in this project will generate lessons learned, and validation of best practices to be documented and replicated in other areas. The engagement, assessment, planning, and action stages in each community provide opportunities to build experience and knowledge on community-based climate change resilience. WMO, FAO and IGAD have significant experience and systems in place for knowledge management, documentation and dissemination. FAO have both national and field level offices and technical teams in place that will provide a critical role in capturing and sharing experiences. IGAD will utilize existing linkages with relevant national level sectors and other regional forums to share lessons and policy recommendations.~~

~~A~~ The project preparation is envisaged that will entail a three step process:

1. Consultations at regional level with the executing entities and national partners to determine the scope and focus of the project, including target districts within the countries, based on which. ~~On the basis of this consultation an~~ initial results based framework will be defined including a drawn up for the project and a screening of to identify potential environmental and social impacts and risks ~~will be undertaken.~~
2. Comprehensive cCommunity level consultations ~~(focus group discussions, participatory rural appraisals and interviews with key informants,)~~ in the target districts, including with focusing on vulnerable groups within the community such as female headed households and key informants such as traditional forecast providers and users will held defined to identify the implementation mechanisms that best ~~would~~ meet community the needs ~~of the community members.~~ If applicable, traditional forecasters and users of traditional forecasts will also be consulted. The consultation will include application of pParticipatory tools for gender sensitive community consultation and the FAO ~~developed~~ Self-evaluation and Holistic Assessment to Climate Resilience of Farmers and pastoralists (SHARP) ~~tool will applied.~~
3. Finally, national consultations will be held in each of the target countries to obtain stakeholder support for the project and validate the final project design.

The improved climate and weather services to be provided by this project will become part of the normal services provided by the NMHSs in the target countries thus ensuring continuity post intervention. Long terms sustainability if further ensured byBy focusing on existing extension staff, field workers and community focal points and building their capacity in climate adaptation, long terms sustainability is will be ensured. By taking advantage of FAOs global modalities for knowledge dissemination in agriculture the reach and spread of program outcomes will be enhanced.

~~Existing gender policy frameworks will guide project implementation, for example targeting women to access weather services is an IGAD policy imperative.~~ Building on local culture and traditional practices is central to this initiative. ~~Pastoralism as a livelihoods system is uniquely adapted to the vulnerable environment of the drylands, and therefore supporting communities in continuing this livelihood will have long term positive environmental impacts for the region.~~ At farm level, low cost adaptation technologies and practices will be prioritized to enhance the potential for sustaining the promoted technologies/practices post intervention. ~~The proven ability of Field Schools coupled with community financing mechanism to link technical advancement with enhanced social and financial capital will Past assessments of Field School projects and the VICOBA have demonstrated a high level of broad-spectrum livelihood impacts, with enhancement of human, financial and social capital (management skill,~~

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~~confidence, group cohesion and networking, change in gender relations etc.) and economic empowerment (through diversification and village savings and credit systems) alongside building productive capacity (agriculture and livestock), thus creating~~ a holistic foundation ~~for~~ enhanced and resilient rural livelihoods improvements. Since activities at local level are defined and led by the community the risk of culturally inappropriate practices are minimal. Tools for community based analysis of new technologies/practices in an agro-ecological perspective will be applied thus minimal negative environmental impact is expected (Category C).

The project will be implemented by WMO and executed by FAO and IGAD (ICPAC and ICPALD), and relevant government ministries in the target countries. WMO will lead in the management of the climate services while FAO will lead the agronomic, food security and natural resource aspects. IGAD (ICPAC and ICPALD) will coordinate the promotion of utilization of climate information in decision making (crop and livestock investment). The project will establish a Project Steering Committee (PSC) -at the regional level or link into existing structures to monitor performance, provide technical oversight, advice on strategic challenges, and ensure systems exist to mitigate risks and disseminate best practice. National Project Leading Group (NPLG) will be set up at country level including representatives from NMHS, Ministry of Agriculture, regional/local authorities and civil society leaders.