



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 for farmers and pastoralists in the arid and semi-arid regions. Communities have 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 forecasts will be improved to 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 and to climate-proof their livelihoods. The Farmer Field School (FFS) approach (field-based participatory group learning and experimentation) will form a key delivery mechanism in this project along with adaptations to the approach such as Climate Field School (CFS) and Agro-pastoral Field School (APFS) approach. Participatory extension will be coupled with Village Community Banking approach (VICOPA) to 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 FFS on productivity and poverty, especially among women.² 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. 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 farmers..

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., Miiro, R. & Nkuba, J. (2011). *Impact of Farmer Field Schools on Agricultural Productivity and Poverty in East Africa. World Development*, 40: 402-413.

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. Supporting Adaptation Strategies	Improved adaptation strategies for resilient local food systems (crop and livestock) translate into enhanced productivity, production, livelihood diversification and income levels.	<p>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.</p> <p>1.2 Targeted population aware of predicted adverse impacts of climate change, and of appropriate response mechanisms.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda,	1,823,200
2. Climate Proofing 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 related field interventions.	<p>2.1 Modules and training material developed for integration of climate considerations in community efforts for resilient crop livestock and food systems.</p> <p>2.2 Community facilitators and support teams such as Field School facilitators and trainers, CMDRR facilitators, Government extension workers etc trained on how to respond to, and mitigate impacts of, climate-related events.</p> <p>2.3 Dissemination of timely information on climate-impact and weather forecasts in an understandable format through FM radio stations and facilitating community participation in thematic radio discussions and call in service.</p> <p>2.4 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).	3.1 Climate information, including the seasonal forecast and future climate projections, is downscaled by 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. 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. 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. 3.4 Evidence based policy dialogue on climate information and agriculture is facilitated in the region. 3.5 Annual regional farmers and pastoralist forums to share lessons learnt and good practices on integrating climate information in Agriculture decision making.	Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda,	1,128,000
4. Project/Programme Execution cost				441,628
5. Total Project/Programme Cost				4,608,295
6. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)				391,705
Amount of Financing Requested				5,000,000

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 Adaptation Strategies

This component, lead by FAO in close collaboration with relevant country ministries of agriculture, livestock and environment will support genuine dialogue and consultation with communities on climate change related trends, and link traditional mechanisms for climate information and implications on food and livelihood systems with 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 smart agricultural farming practices through participatory training and experimentation on appropriate technology and land use options. A total of 120 Field School groups will be established in the target localities, reaching 3000 households and 18,000 direct beneficiaries, 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. Members set up comparative studies on a group farm or site and undertake regular data collection and monitoring on climatic information, disease surveillance, livestock and vegetation condition, crop and pasture production to guide in selecting the most suitable/good adaptation practices to adopt at household or community level.. 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 on climate sensitive 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, 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. ICPAC, the Regional Climate Centre, will be the main provider for capacity building, 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.

A regional approach for the above three components is appropriate 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. The regional approach also allows 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. A designated space for sharing of program experiences and lessons will be opened on the 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. 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. 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. 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 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 builds on the IDDRSI strategy of IGAD (Pastoral risk management component) and 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. Analysis of existing similar initiatives has taken place to avoid duplication. 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.

The project preparation 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. On the basis of this consultation an initial results based framework will be drawn up for the project and a screening to identify potential environmental and social impacts and risks will be undertaken.
2. Community level consultations (focus group discussions, participatory rural appraisals and interviews with key informants,) in the target districts, focusing on vulnerable groups within the community such as female headed households to identify the implementation mechanisms that best would meet the needs of the community members. If applicable, traditional forecasters and users of traditional forecasts will also be consulted. Participatory 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 be 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. By focusing on existing extension staff, field workers and community focal points and building their capacity in climate adaptation, long terms sustainability 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. Past assessments of Field School projects and the VICOPA have demonstrated a high level of broad spectrum livelihood impacts, with enhancement of human, financial and social capital (management skill, 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 of rural livelihood 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.

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

- A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government¹** *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 annexes to the project/programme proposal.*

H.E. Mr. Kare Chawicha Debessa State Minister, Ministry of Environment and Forest	Date:
Dr. Richard Lesiyampe, MBS Principal Secretary Ministry of Environment, Water & Natural Resources	Date:
Mrs Ruhweeza, Joyce Kamanyire Ag. Assistant Commissioner Aid Liaison Department	Date:

- 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, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.	
 Mary Power, Director Office for Resource Mobilization and Development Partnerships (RMDP) Implementing Entity Coordinator	
Date: 3/8/15	Tel. and email: +41 22 730 8111; mpower@wmo.int
Project Contact Person: Jean-Paul Gaudechoux, Senior Programme Manager, RMDP Tel. And Email: +41 22 730 8311; jpgaudechoux@wmo.int	

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.



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The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST

ቀን 26/08/15
Date
ቁጥር 12/11/667
Ref.No.

The Adaptation Fund Board
C/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Email: Secretariate@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: 2025223240/5

**Subject: Endorsement of a Regional Project “Agricultural Climate Resilience
Enhancement Initiative (ACRED)” in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda**

As Designate Authority for the Adaptation Fund in Ethiopia, I confirm that the above Regional Project Proposal is an identified Regional initiative to improve adaptive capacity and resilience to current variability and change among the targeted vulnerable smallholder farmers, agro-pastoralists and pastoralists in the Horn of Africa in line with IGAD Drought Disaster and Sustainability initiative (IDDRSI) Program at an estimated cost of US \$5million. This intervention is within priorities of Ethiopia to build Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE). We expect this project will strengthen our weather and climate services for our communities at large.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the National Meteorological Agency of Ethiopia representing Ethiopia in Collaboration with appropriate partners.

CC:

- Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
- National Meteorological Agency
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Sincerely,

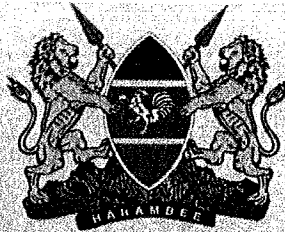

Kare Chawicha
State Minister

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**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**

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**N.H.I.F. BUILDING
RAGATI ROAD
P. O. BOX 30126
NAIROBI**

Ref. No: DENR/MET/1/VOL II

Date: 25 August, 2015

**The Adaptation Fund Board
C/O Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org**

Dear *PS*,

**ENDORSEMENT FOR A "REGIONAL PROJECT AGRICULTURAL CLIMATE
RESILIENCE ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVE (ACREI)" IN ETHIOPIA, KENYA, AND
UGANDA**

I have the honour to refer to the above mentioned subject.

In my capacity as the Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund in Kenya, I confirm that the above Regional Project Proposal is an identified Regional Initiative to improve adaptive capacity and resilience to current climate variability and change among the targeted vulnerable smallholder farmers, agro-pastoralists and pastoralists in the Horn of Africa in line with IGAD Drought Disaster and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) Programme at an estimated cost of US \$ 5 Million. This intervention is within priorities of Kenya's National Adaptation Plan of Action. It is expected that this project will strengthen our Meteorological Services and provide Farmer Field School approaches among other benefits.

The purpose of this correspondence is, therefore, to endorse the above mentioned project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) with FAO and IGAD as Executing Entities.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours

**Richard L. Lesiyampe, PhD., MBS
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**

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THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

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Economic Development
Plot 2-12, Apollo Kaggwa Road
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Kampala
Uganda

In any correspondence on
this subject please quote No. EDP79/251/02

30th July 2015

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

Subject: Endorsement for a Regional Project “Agricultural Climate Resilience Enhancement Initiative (ACREI)” in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda

In my capacity as Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund in Uganda, I confirm that the above Regional Project Proposal is an identified Regional Initiative to improve adaptive capacity and resilience to current variability and change among the targeted vulnerable smallholder farmers, agro-pastoralists and pastoralists in the Horn of Africa in line with IGAD Drought Disaster and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) Programme at an estimated cost of US \$5million. This intervention is within priorities of Uganda's National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA). We expect this project will strengthen our meteorological services and provide Farmer Field School approaches among other benefits.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) with FAO and IGAD as Executing Entities.

Sincerely,

Joyce Kamanyire Ruhweeza
Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund
Principal Economist
Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
Government of the Republic of Uganda

Copies: The Permanent Secretary/Secretary to the Treasury
Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
Kampala, Uganda

The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Environment
Kampala, Uganda

The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry & Fisheries,
Entebbe, Uganda

Mr. Paul Isabirye, Ag. Executive Director, National Meteorological Authority,
Kampala, Uganda

Mission

“To formulate sound economic policies, maximize revenue mobilization, ensure efficient allocation and accountability for public resources so as to achieve the most rapid and sustainable economic growth and development”