



ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PROJECT/PROGRAMME CATEGORY: Regular-sized Full Proposal

Country/Region: **Sierra Leone**

Project Title: **Promoting climate resilience in the cocoa and rice sectors as an adaptation strategy in Sierra Leone**

Thematic Focal Area: **Multisector**

Implementing Entity: **International Fund for Agricultural Development**

AF Project ID: **SLE/MIE/Multi/2018/1**

IE Project ID:

Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): **9,916,925**

Reviewer and contact person: **Alyssa Gomes**

Co-reviewer(s): **Saliha Dobardzic**

IE Contact Person: **Amath Pathe Sene**

Review Criteria	Questions	Comments on April 30, 2019	Response to AFB Comments
Country Eligibility	1. Is the country party to the Kyoto Protocol?	Yes	
	2. Is the country a developing country particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?	Yes	
Project Eligibility	1. Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund endorsed the project/programme?	Yes. A letter of endorsement dated January 2019 has been appended to the project document.	
	2. Does the length of the proposal amount to no more than Fifty pages for the project/programme concept, including its annexes; or One hundred pages for the fully-developed project document, and one hundred pages for its annexes?	Yes	
	3. Does the project / programme support concrete adaptation actions to assist the country in addressing adaptive capacity to the adverse effects of climate change and	The amount of cocoa exported to strengthen the justification for the focus on cocoa (exports in 2017 amounting to US\$ 72.3 million) has been included in	

	build in climate resilience?	<p>paragraph 15.</p> <p>CR 1: The project/programme components and financing table (Table 2) now includes the breakdown per output. However kindly check for consistency the “expected outcome” and update accordingly. A couple of expected outcomes are numbered and others are not.</p> <p>CAR 1: In Table 2, kindly include in a separate row indicating the “Total Components/ Project funds” dollar amount and the “project execution cost”. Kindly refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AF OPG Annex 5 - https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/opg-annex-5/ - In case of the IE providing direct project services (DPS), kindly refer to the guidelines in AF OPG Annex 7 - https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/opg-annex-7-projectprogramme-implementation/ 	<p>CR1: Addressed. See table 2 revised.</p> <p>CAR 1: Addressed. See table 2 revised.</p>
	4. Does the project / programme provide economic, social and environmental benefits, particularly to vulnerable communities, including gender considerations, while avoiding or mitigating negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	Yes.	
	5. Is the project / programme cost effective?	Yes.	

	6. Is the project / programme consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications and adaptation programs of action and other relevant instruments?	Yes.	
	7. Does the project / programme meet the relevant national technical standards, where applicable, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund?	CR 2: The requirements for EIA, water regulations, land use and agricultural development inserted in Section E are well noted (paras 87-102). However, kindly also include the linkage with the specific project components/outputs that the technical standards will be applicable to during implementation.	CR 2: Addressed. Please see revised text in the related section.
	8. Is there duplication of project / programme with other funding sources?	Table 6 highlights the synergies/ complementarity with existing initiatives. The types of activities and the basis for continuation or upscaling efforts are included. CR 3: Table 6 mentions that the same partners will be shared by the GEF/IFAD Integrating Adaptation to Climate Change into Agricultural Production and Food Security (IACCAPFS) project and the proposed AF project. Kindly clarify the partners that will be involved.	CR 3: Addressed in Table 6. The said partners are the Environmental Protection Agency, the Meteorological Agency and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
	9. Does the project / programme have a learning and knowledge management component to capture and feedback lessons?	Yes. Additional information added to paragraph 110 and table 13 includes activities under sub-component 2 “studies and surveys for rehabilitation” of feeder roads and “studies	

		and surveys for construction” of climate proof farm tracks.	
	<p>10. Has a consultative process taken place, and has it involved all key stakeholders, and vulnerable groups, including gender considerations in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?</p>	<p>Yes. Reports of the consultative meetings have been added in Annex 2. As per Annex 2 - 8 Farmer Based Organisations (FBO) with 30 members per organization and 2 women groups were engaged.</p> <p>Meetings were also held with the Segbwema community cocoa farmer cooperative in Kailahun District and the meteorological department to explore possibilities for upscaling of the IACCAPFS GEF project.</p> <p>Outcomes of the meetings have been included in in the design of project interventions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The two local women groups requested support in the procurement of solar-powered cold storage for the storing of fish and meat, which had been included in the proposal under component 2. - The Segbwema community cocoa farmer cooperative in Kailahun District, which consisted of 846 members (552 male, 294 female) expressed their need for solar driers to improve the cocoa drying (addressed by component 2, output 2.1). They also explained they were open to the idea of planting new crops (addressed in component 1, 	

		<p>output 1.2).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with regards to the Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) under the GEF project, the Meteorological Department needed further support in further support in finalizing their installation and training for their maintenance and repair. 	
	11. Is the requested financing justified on the basis of full cost of adaptation reasoning?	Yes.	
	12. Is the project / program aligned with AF's results framework?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Core impact indicator on the number of beneficiaries, direct and indirect has been added to the Results Framework table, Part III, section E.</p>	
	13. Has the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes been taken into account when designing the project?	Yes, also previously addressed.	
	14. Does the project / programme provide an overview of environmental and social impacts / risks identified, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	<p>Yes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updated checklist is in compliance with AF ESP requirements - Project is now categorised as per AF ESP <p>Table 7 included an updated checklist. Based on the environmental and social risks screening against the 15 principles of the AF ESP, the project is categorized as a Category B project.</p>	
Resource Availability	1. Is the requested project / programme funding within the cap of the country?	Yes.	

	2. Is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee?	Yes.	
	3. Are the Project/Programme Execution Costs at or below 9.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget (including the fee)?	Not addressed. Project execution cost is missing from the project components table and the detailed budget. See CAR 1.	Addressed. See CAR 2 below.
Eligibility of IE	4. Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?	Yes.	
Implementation Arrangements	1. Is there adequate arrangement for project / programme management, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?	Yes.	
	2. Are there measures for financial and project/programme risk management?	Yes.	
	3. Are there measures in place for the management of for environmental and social risks, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	Yes. A revised Environmental and Social Management Plan has been included in Section III C in Table 9 of the project document that mentions the mitigation measures, significance, how risks will be managed and responsible party. Measures for a grievance mechanism and a complaint handling system has been included in paras 137 -139.	
	4. Is a budget on the Implementing Entity Management Fee use included?	Yes.	
	5. Is an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs included?	Not addressed. The breakdown of execution costs which should be included in the detailed budget may include expenses related to - National staff, Project manager, expenses for travel	CAR 2: Addressed. Only costs for local consultants will be requested. Other execution-related costs will be

		related to execution, missions, vehicles operations/maintenance, communication, office rent, office operations, office supplies and stationery CAR 2: Please include the breakdown of project execution costs in the detailed budget.	incurred by the baseline IFAD project (AVDP).
	6. Is a detailed budget including budget notes included?	CAR 3: Kindly include a detailed budget (titled "Project Disbursement matrix" in the project document) with all the planned outputs and activities under each sub-component for each year along with the dollar amounts.	CAR 3: Addressed.
	7. Are arrangements for monitoring and evaluation clearly defined, including budgeted M&E plans and sex-disaggregated data, targets and indicators, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?	Yes.	
	8. Does the M&E Framework include a break-down of how implementing entity IE fees will be utilized in the supervision of the M&E function?	Yes.	
	9. Does the project/programme's results framework align with the AF's results framework? Does it include at least one core outcome indicator from the Fund's results framework?	Yes.	
	10. Is a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones included?	Yes. Included in Table 14.	

Technical Summary	The resubmitted project intends to provide integrated solutions to the key issues from climate change in Lofa County (the breadbasket of the country) by testing integrated climate resilient rice and cocoa in partnership with all actors
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sitting along the value chain. The general objective of this project is to strengthen the resilience of the Government of Sierra Leone development investments on cocoa and rice sector.

The proposed AF project is complementary to other IFAD investments on food security and livelihood opportunities which is being supported by the IFAD -funded Agricultural Value Chain Development Project (AVDP). The AVDP focusses on three value chains, i.e.: (i) Cocoa, (ii) Nerica Rice, and Paddy rice. The current project aims at improving the organisation and performance of the selected value chains which includes the resilience of rural infrastructure to climate change impacts such as feeder road rehabilitation to connect producers to markets. The project will also build on past IFAD and GEF financed projects in the country such as the Rehabilitation and Community-Based Poverty Reduction Project (RCPRP).

The project will deliver the stated goal and objective through three components:

- Component 1: Climate-proofed agricultural production and post-harvest combined with livelihood diversification
- Component 2: Climate resilient rural infrastructure
- Component 3: Institutional capacity building and policy engagement

The initial review finds that the resubmitted project has addressed majority of the issues raised during the previous review cycle. However; a few corrective action requests (CARs) and clarification requests (CRs) need to be addressed:

Corrective action requests (CARs)

CAR 1: In Table 2, kindly include in a separate row, the “Total Components/ Project funds” amount and the “project execution cost”

CAR 2: Please include the breakdown of project execution costs in the detailed budget.

CAR 2: Kindly include a detailed budget (titled “Project Disbursement matrix” in the project document) with all the planned outputs and activities under each sub-component for each year along with the dollar amounts.

Clarification requests (CRs)

CR 1: Kindly check for consistency of numbering of the “expected outcomes” in the project components and financing table, and update accordingly.

CR 2: Kindly include the linkage with the specific project components/outputs that the technical standards will applicable for during implementation.

CR 3: Table 6 mentions that the same partners will be shared by the GEF/IFAD Integrating Adaptation to Climate

	Change into Agricultural Production and Food Security (IACCAPFS). Kindly clarify the partners that will be involved.
Date:	05/7/ 2019