



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.36/14
15 September 2025

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee
Thirty sixth Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 7-8 October 2025

Agenda Item 4(l)

PROPOSAL FOR COTE D'IVOIRE

Background

1. The Operational Policies and Guidelines (OPG) for Parties to Access Resources from the Adaptation Fund (the Fund), adopted by the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board), state in paragraph 45 that regular adaptation project and programme proposals, i.e. those that request funding exceeding US\$ 1 million, would undergo either a one-step, or a two-step approval process. In case of the one-step process, the proponent would directly submit a fully-developed project proposal. In the two-step process, the proponent would first submit a brief project concept, which would be reviewed by the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) and would have to receive the endorsement of the Board. In the second step, the fully-developed project/programme document would be reviewed by the PPRC, and would ultimately require the Board's approval.

2. The Templates approved by the Board (Annex 5 of the OPG, as amended in March 2016) do not include a separate template for project and programme concepts but provide that these are to be submitted using the project and programme proposal template. The section on Adaptation Fund Project Review Criteria states:

For regular projects using the two-step approval process, only the first four criteria will be applied when reviewing the 1st step for regular project concept. In addition, the information provided in the 1st step approval process with respect to the review criteria for the regular project concept could be less detailed than the information in the request for approval template submitted at the 2nd step approval process. Furthermore, a final project document is required for regular projects for the 2nd step approval, in addition to the approval template.

3. The first four criteria mentioned above are:

- (i) Country Eligibility,
- (ii) Project Eligibility,
- (iii) Resource Availability, and
- (iv) Eligibility of NIE/MIE.

4. The fifth criterion, applied when reviewing a fully-developed project document, is:
(v) Implementation Arrangements.

5. It is worth noting that at the twenty-second Board meeting, the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the Fund was approved and at the twenty-seventh Board meeting, the Gender Policy (GP) of the Fund was also approved. Consequently, compliance with both the ESP and the GP has been included in the review criteria both for concept documents and fully-developed project documents. The proposal template was revised as well, to include sections requesting demonstration of compliance of the project/programme with the ESP and the GP.

6. At its seventeenth meeting, the Board decided (Decision B.17/7) to approve "Instructions for preparing a request for project or programme funding from the Adaptation Fund", contained in the Annex to document AFB/PPRC.8/4, which further outlines applicable review criteria for both

concepts and fully-developed proposals. The latest version of this document was launched in conjunction with the revision of the Operational Policies and Guidelines in November 2013.

7. Based on the Board Decision B.9/2, the first call for project and programme proposals was issued and an invitation letter to eligible Parties to submit project and programme proposals to the Fund was sent out on April 8, 2010.

8. The following project concept document titled “Strengthening Access to Drinking Water for Rural Communities in the Central Zone of Côte d’Ivoire to Reduce their Vulnerability to the Effects of Climate Change” was submitted for Benin by The Interprofessional Fund for Agricultural Research (FIRCA), which is a National Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund.

9. This is the fourth submission of the project concept using the two-step submission process.

10. The current submission was received by the secretariat in time to be considered in the forty-fifth Board meeting. The secretariat carried out a technical review of the project proposal, assigned it the diary number AF00000418, and completed a review sheet.

11. In accordance with a request to the secretariat made by the Board in its 10th meeting, the secretariat shared this review sheet with FIRCA, and offered it the opportunity of providing responses before the review sheet was sent to the PPRC.

12. The secretariat is submitting to the PPRC the summary and, pursuant to decision B.17/15, the final technical review of the project, both prepared by the secretariat, along with the final submission of the proposal in the following section. In accordance with decision B.25.15, the proposal is submitted with changes between the initial submission and the revised version highlighted.



ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW
OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PROJECT/PROGRAMME CATEGORY:

Country/Region: Côte d'Ivoire
Project Title: Strengthening access to drinking water for rural communities in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire to reduce their vulnerability to the effects of climate change
Thematic Focal Area: Water Management
Implementing Entity: Interprofessional Fund for Agricultural Research and Consulting (FIRCA)
Executing Entities: National Climate Change Program (PNCC) of Ministry of the Environment, Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition (MINEDDTE)
AF Project ID: AF00000418
IE Project ID: **Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): 10,000,000**
Reviewer and contact person: UnaMay Gordon **Co-reviewer(s):**
IE Contact Person:

<p>Technical Summary</p>	<p>The project "Strengthening access to drinking water for rural communities in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire to reduce their vulnerability to the effects of climate change. The project involves improving drinking water production and distribution infrastructure for rural communities, strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water, and knowledge sharing. This will be done through the three components below:</p> <p><u>Component 1:</u> Strengthening the capacity of rural communities to access drinking water (USD 7,416,977)</p> <p><u>Component 2:</u> Strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water for rural communities made vulnerable by climate change (USD 700,000)</p> <p><u>Component 3:</u> Knowledge sharing to promote learning of sustainable drinking water supply and management practices in a context of dwindling water resources due to climate change. (USD 300,000)</p> <p><u>Requested financing overview:</u> Project/Programme Execution Cost: USD 799,613 Total Project/Programme Cost: USD 9,216,590 Implementing Fee: USD 783,410 Financing Requested: USD 10,000,000</p>
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	<p>The initial technical review raised a few issues such as the need for more details on the project beneficiaries, project activities, the consultations process, and coordination with other relevant interventions in the project area, as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Request (CAR) raised in the review.</p> <p>The second technical review cleared some issues from the first technical review but still raises some issues on coordination with other relevant interventions; and on economic, social and environmental related issues as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Request (CAR) raised in the review.</p> <p>The third review finds that all the CARs an CRs mentioned in the second review are addressed, except for alignment with AF results framework, reviewing risk table and some editorial issues.</p> <p>The fourth (final) technical review finds that all the CARs and CRs have been addressed.</p>
Date:	September 9, 2025

Review Criteria	Questions	First Technical Review January 30, 2025	Second Technical Review July 16, 2025	Third Technical Review August 18, 2025	Fourth Technical Review September 9, 2025
Country Eligibility	1. Is the country party to the Kyoto Protocol, or the Paris Agreement?	Yes.	-	-	-
	2. Is the country a developing country particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?	Yes. Côte d'Ivoire is highly exposed to climate change due to rising temperatures, sea levels and changes in rainfall patterns. Over the period 1960-2010, temperatures increased by 1.6°C across the entire Ivorian territory. The current trend observed in Côte d'Ivoire is expected to worsen overall. Temperatures will continue to rise; projections show an increase of about 1.3°C by 2030, 1.8°C by 2050 and 2.1°C by 2070, compared to 1960. The observations of current trends indicate that the country will likely face continuous change in seasonal rainfall patterns, temperature, and exposure to drought.	-	-	-
Project Eligibility	1. Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund endorsed the project/programme?	Yes. As per the endorsement letter dated 09 January 2025.	Yes As per the endorsement letter dated 02 July 2025.	-	-
	2. Does the length of the proposal amount to no more than Fifty pages for the project/programme	Yes. The total length of the proposal, including annexes, is 45 pages.	CR1 NEW: 1. Since this is a re-submission, please check the appropriate box on page 1	CR1 NEW: Cleared. See p. 1 of CN, and the PFG form pp. 57-58.	CR1 New: cleared The concept note now includes: Table contents (pages 2-3_ List of acroymns (page 4)

	concept, including its annexes?		<p>and insert the last submission date.</p> <p>2. In the PFG submission form attached to the proposal, please amend the submission date, as well as the proposed start date.</p>	<p><u>New Note: To improve the quality, clarity and layout of the CN document, please consider the following:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add table of contents 2. Add lists of acronyms/ abbreviations and spell out abbreviation when first used. 3. Add lists of tables and figures and refer to them (also to refer to annexes at related text). 4. Add tables numbers and headings for all tables across the CN document. 5. In the description of components in part IIA, enter the 	<p>List of tables and figures All tables in document have headings Component outcomes (pages 25-29)</p>

				<p>component outcome title before the discussion on related outputs (apply for all components).</p> <p>6. The document needs a thorough round of professional editing and proofreading to improve its readability/ clarity of the presented materials.</p>	
	<p>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 build in climate resilience?</p>	<p>Yes, but further details are needed.</p> <p>This project will involve the installation of distribution networks to transport water from boreholes to the end beneficiaries in densely populated localities, as well as measures to preserve the water tables supplying water to vulnerable communities, and the optimization of water management in beneficiary localities, which are impacted by climate change-induced drought and variability. Additional details can be provided on the scope of the proposed adaptation actions, specifically.</p>			

	<p>CR1: As part of the background of the project, kindly consider adding further details about the different water uses that prevail in the targeted project area, including livelihood uses and the impact of climate change on local sustenance.</p> <p>CR2: Please clarify the analysis related to the third column in Table 2, page 8, regarding in the reference to “population increase that requires an <i>increase in suitable work</i>”. Please clarify the link between this and the proposed adaptation actions.</p> <p>CR3: In case that this information was gathered during the May 2024 scoping mission, kindly provide further detail on the technical specifications and number of equipment to be provided under Component 1, as part of part II.A. If this information was not collected, please confirm that it will be available at fully developed proposal stage.</p> <p>CR4:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kindly provide further details about the feasibility studies that are planned as part of Product 1.1, Component 1. 2. Please remember that the Environmental and Social Policy implies that all activities are identified to the level where adequate and comprehensive environmental and social risk assessment is possible by the time of submission of a proposal. Project 	<p>CR1: Cleared on page 11. A paragraph is included on the different water uses.</p> <p>CR2: Cleared, on page 8, table 2. Suitability measured based on population vs capacity on existing water infrastructure. Kindly consider revising column title to ‘<i>Number of villages</i></p>		
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		<p>activities that have not been formulated at the time of submission of a proposal to the extent that their environmental and social risks can be identified in line with the ESP are considered Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs). Please consult the USP guidance at Guidance Document for Project/Programme with Unidentified Sub-Projects (English, French and Spanish).</p> <p>CR5: Please describe in part II.A how the design of the proposed hard investments (e.g., water distribution points and supply networks etc.) will be adequate to face the climate change-related threats identified in the proposal. In other words, kindly describe how these investments will be made resilient to the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>CR6:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Output 2.1. is focused on the implementation of measures to preserve groundwater. Kindly clarify which activities will be funded by the project as part of the 'promotion of reforestation' and 'awareness raising' on phytosanitary practices. 2. Please clarify how the approach proposed for Output 2.1. will integrate 	<p><i>experiencing population growth that necessitates expansion or upgrading of water supply systems.'</i></p> <p>CR3: Cleared on page 14, a feasibility study is planned as part of the project activities as the scoping exercise however the status of water is covered in table 2 on page 8 that shows the villages with faulty pumps and those that need additional investment.</p> <p>CR4: Not cleared on page 14-15</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kindly include the information added to the response sheet on the 	<p>CR4: Cleared. The phrase "Preliminary Design Studies (APS) and Detailed Design Studies (APD)" has been added to the description of item (i) under Output 1.1 (see page 15).</p>	
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		<p>climate change considerations, including challenges of water quality, and how it links to the activities proposed as part of Component 1.</p> <p>CR7: Activities related to monitoring and evaluation should either be covered by the Implementing Entity fee and/or the Execution Costs. As a result, please remove M&E activities from the description of Component 3 output 3.1.</p> <p>CR8: The amount of financing requested is mainly focused on Component 1 (74%). While the emphasis on concrete (i.e., visible and tangible) intervention measures under C1 is clear, kindly explain if the amount for Component 2 (0,7%) will be sufficient to ensure the important aspects of Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of the infrastructure that will be rehabilitated and built, as well as to optimize local water governance, which are crucial to ensure sustainability.</p>	<p>conduction of ‘ Preliminary Design Studies (APS) and Detailed Design Studies (APD)’ in product 1 that mentions the feasibility study</p> <p>2. Cleared: A comprehensive evaluation of all activities to be implemented is to be conducted in the development of the full proposal</p> <p>CR5: Not cleared in page 14 Please include a theory of change</p> <p>CR6: page 14</p> <p>1. Kindly include the information provided in the response sheet ‘<i>The procurement of</i></p>	<p>CR5: Cleared. The theory of change has been developed and inserted into the concept note (see pp. 20-21)</p> <p>CR6: Cleared. The information provided in the response sheet has been inserted into the concept note under “output 2.1” (see page 16). Also, Component 2 and Outcome 2 titles have been modified as recommended (see pp. 13 &16).</p>	

			<p><i>seeds and cuttings of tree species adapted to local conditions and conducive to water infiltration.</i> •</p> <p><i>The organization of tree-planting activities with the active involvement of local communities.'</i></p> <p>To expound on the planned activities on reforestation and awareness.</p> <p>Kindly consider re-phrasing the language in component 2 and out come to from '<i>rural communities made vulnerable by climate change</i>' to '<i>climate-vulnerable rural communities</i>'</p> <p>2. Cleared on page 15.</p>	<p>CR7: Cleared.</p> <p>The phrase "through monitoring and evaluation" has been removed (see page 17).</p>	
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			<p>Impact of drought are worsened by deforestation and land degradation activities. The activities described in the response sheet to support the reforestation would help increase ground water recharge, reduce surface water run-off and reduce soil erosion.</p> <p>CR7: on page 16. Kindly delete <i>'through monitoring and evaluation'</i> in the first sentence in Product 3.1 that states <i>'The project will ensure that all actions initiated, the results obtained and the lessons learned are documented</i></p>	
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			<p><i>through monitoring and evaluation'</i></p> <p>CR8: Cleared on page 15, a cost of USD 0.1 per 25liters of water will be charged to the users so as to cater for the operation and maintenance of the infrastructure</p>		
	<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?</p>	<p>Yes. Project activities will benefit population in the regions of Bélier, Gbêkê, Iffou, Marahoué and N'Zi. Details are needed on the number of direct beneficiaries.</p> <p>CR9:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please indicate the total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries in the targeted project area. 2. Please explain the process and associated criteria for the selection of beneficiaries. <p>CR10: Kindly clarify if the economic impacts of the project include other aspects beyond the benefits linked to time savings by women from improved access to water points.</p> <p>CAR1: Please include in part II.B a preliminary gender analysis to determine</p>	<p>CR9: Not cleared on page 8.</p> <p>1. The direct beneficiaries have been estimated however and estimation of the indirect beneficiaries not included. Kindly estimate how many people will benefit indirectly from the project activities, including those who will benefit from the re-forestation</p>	<p>CR9: Cleared 1. Based on IE response. Related further details will be provided at the full proposal stage. 2. See pp. 8-9.</p> <p><u>Note: More details on the benefits supported be related statistics should be provided at full proposal stage.</u></p>	<p>-</p>

	<p>the different needs, capabilities, roles and knowledge resources of women and men, and identify how changing gender dynamics might drive lasting change. Please refer to the Guidance document for Implementing Entities on compliance with the AF Gender Policy, if necessary.</p> <p>CR11: Please explain how the project will ensure an equitable distribution of benefits across the target communities, households and individuals.</p> <p>CR12: Please i) describe any marginalized and/or vulnerable groups identified in the target areas and, ii) describe the benefits provided by the project to such groups.</p>	<p>activities indirectly.</p> <p>2. Kindly include the explanation given in the response sheet on the selection process in the concept.</p> <p>CR10: Not cleared on page 16. Kindly expound on the benefits mentioned in the response sheet into page 16 under '<i>Economic impact of the project</i>'</p> <p>CAR1: Cleared on page 17 An initial gender analysis was added into page 17 and the details included in the annex.</p>	<p>CR10: Cleared. See page 18.</p> <p>CR11: Cleared. Based on IE response.</p>	
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			<p>CR11: Not cleared on page 46-47 on Appendix 2</p> <p>The project will adopt inclusivity in the selection and management of the water committees. Kindly clarify, given that the water is to be provided to stakeholders at a cost, how the project will ensure women and youth will be able to benefit equally from the project?</p> <p>CR12: Cleared on page 14 and 17</p> <p>The proposal identifies women and youth as the most vulnerable groups and also</p>		
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		mentions persons with disabilities. The proposal will take into consideration persons with disabilities in the designs of the new water infrastructures.		
5. Is the project / programme cost effective?	<p>Yes. However further information is needed. Although the proposal provides a logical explanation of the selected scope and approach, including reference to different alternatives analyzed in the search for water access solutions in the targeted regions.</p> <p>CAR 2: In addition, please include cost comparison for the alternatives analyzed. This is best presented in a tabular format showing AF funded solution.</p>		-	-
6. Is the project / programme consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national	<p>Yes. The project is in line with several national and subnational development plans, programs and strategies, in particular with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the National Development Plan (NDP), the Integrated Water Management Plan (IWRM), the NDCs, the National Adaptation Plan, the Strategy for the Preservation, Rehabilitation and Extension of Forests (SPREF).</p>		-	-

	communications and adaptation programs of action and other relevant instruments?	CR13: Please confirm if there are any relevant provincial-level plans and strategies the project may align with.	CR13: Cleared on page 22.		
	7. Does the project / programme meet the relevant national technical standards, where applicable, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund?	<p>Unclear. Section E makes reference to Law No. 2023-902 of November 23, 2023 relating to the Water Code, which sets the general framework for legal and institutional texts relating to Water in Côte d'Ivoire. However, further details are provided regarding the way in which the project will comply with the regulation.</p> <p>CAR3: Kindly revise this section in order to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. provide a comprehensive list of all applicable national technical standards that will apply to the project (is there any additional regulatory guidance beyond the Water Code that needs to be considered?); and 2. describe in a logical manner how the project will comply with each of them (e.g., whether any of the proposed activities may trigger the need for an Environmental Impact Assessment, or how the project will comply with drinking water quality standards, etc.). National technical standards include not only those pertaining to a 	<p>CAR3: Not cleared on pages 22-24 The section has been revised to include a list of national technical standards. Kindly include compliance with national laws on gender and social inclusion.</p>	<p>CAR3: Cleared. The section has been completed with reference to compliance with national regulations on gender and social inclusion (see page 26).</p>	-

		<p>possible need to carry out Environmental Impact Assessments, but also any technical standards pertaining to building codes, water quality regulations, and sector-specific regulations.</p> <p>CR14: Please include Table 3 on the determination of the project's risk category in part II.K instead, as it should be substantiated by the findings of the ESP screening/assessment process.</p>	<p>CR14: Not cleared on pages 26-29</p> <p>Table has been moved to section J instead of section K. Kindly move the table to section K.</p>	<p>CR14: Cleared. The table (now Table 5) has been moved to Section K (see pages 37-39).</p>	
	<p>8. Is there duplication of project / programme with other funding sources?</p>	<p>Unclear.</p> <p>CR15.: Please provide more details on the project location of the government's social program 1 (PSgouv 1) to ensure synergies and a lack of duplication, for example to ensure coordination of capacity building activities/lessons learned.</p>	<p>CR15: Not cleared on page 30</p> <p>Kindly clarify how the proposal will avoid duplication if PS Gouv 1 targets all regions of the country in improving access to drinking water. Kindly add the explanation given in the response sheet onto the project document.</p> <p>CR13 (New): Kindly clarify the areas which are to be covered by the <i>The Agro-Industrial Pole</i></p>	<p>CR15: Cleared. The PS Gouv 1 project covered the 2019–2020 period and targeted all regions of Côte d'Ivoire. However, a second phase of the project was launched, in which the localities targeted in the present proposal were not included (see page 29).</p> <p>CR13 (New): Cleared, based on IEs response.</p>	-

		<p>CR16: Please provide more details on the coordination mechanism which will be employed to ensure coordination with other relevant projects in the target area.</p>	<p><i>Project</i> in the Béliér region (2PAI-Béliér) vs the areas to be covered under this project to show the lack of duplication.</p> <p>CR14 (New): Kindly elaborate on the duplication with the \$150 million '<i>Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Project</i>' by world bank, that is part of 'water for all' that is meant to Guarantee access to drinking water through the Water for All Programme to 97% of the population by 2025 and 100% by 2030 in urban and rural areas</p> <p>CR16: Not cleared on page 25. Kindly include information on the explanation on the coordination mechanism with the other relevant</p>	<p>"The 206 villages identified with the support of the regional water authorities in the target regions have not received any support for access to drinking water under the 2PAI-Béliér project, which ends on December 31, 2025".</p> <p>CR14 (New): Cleared. See p. 29 and IE response.</p> <p>CR16: Cleared. Information has been included in section F (see page 29).</p>	
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			projects into section F of the proposal.		
	9. Does the project / programme have a learning and knowledge management component to capture and feedback lessons?	Yes. As outlined in the activities under component 3.	-	-	-
	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>Partially. The consultative process conducted is outlined in Section H and in Annex 1. However, further details are needed on the feedback received through the consultation workshops, and their integration into the project's design.</p> <p>CR17: As part of Annex 1, please provide a consultations summary/report including a description of the consultation techniques (tailored specifically per target group) and the key findings (in particular suggestions and concerns raised by participants). Please describe in part II.H the extent to which the interests or concerns marginalized; vulnerable groups were taken into account when designing the concept note.</p>	<p>CR17: Not cleared on page 44</p> <p>Appendix 1 has been updated to give a summary of the consultative process and it includes consultations with women and youth. Kindly add the information on the engagement with women and youth included in Appendix 1 & 2 into part II.H to summarize the inclusivity and the gaps identified as indicated in the appendix.</p> <p>CR18: Not cleared on page 44</p> <p>Appendix 1 includes all stakeholders of which private sector representatives and universities/research centers have been consulted. Kindly include the explanation in the response sheet for further consultations ahead of the full</p>	<p>CR17: Cleared. Additional information has been added into part II section H (see page 32).</p> <p>CR18: Cleared. The explanatory text has been inserted</p>	

		CR18: Please kindly confirm the extent to which private sector representatives and universities/research centers have been consulted or will be consulted during the design of the fully developed proposal.	proposal development into the appendix.	into part II section H (see page 32).	
	11. Is the requested financing justified on the basis of full cost of adaptation reasoning?	Yes. The proposal provides information on the financing rationale with a focus on Component 1 of the project. An analysis of the funding impact compared to a baseline scenario (without funding) is provided. CR19: Please explain how taken solely with the AFs resources the project will be able to deliver on its outcomes.	CR19: Cleared on pages 34-35 Clean water will be provided at a cost to targeted communities, this cost will then be used for operation and maintenance of the new or renovated infrastructure	-	
	12. Is the project / program aligned with AF's results framework?	Yes. CAR4: Please ensure that the Table in Part III.A follows the template and instructions provided in the AF Operational Guidance. Please note that: i) project objective(s) indicator(s) have to be inserted in the "Project objective indicator(s)" column; ii) corresponding grant amounts have to be provided in the "Grant amount (USD)" columns (ensuring that the total figures equal the project activity cost); iii) the project outcomes have to be inserted in the "project outcome(s)" column and their corresponding	CAR4: Not cleared . Please amend the results framework alignment table as follows: 1. Please complete the second section of the table reflecting the Fund outputs alignment. 2. Ensure that each output/outcome indicator has their own grant amount assigned and that they are not lumped together as is currently presented 3.1, 3.2 and 3.5. 3. Please ensure that the grant amounts associated with the top part of the table (outcome) is the	CAR4: Not Cleared. 1. Please revise the alignment table with AF format and ensure the consistency between the upper part (outcome level) and the lower part (output	CAR4-Cleared Alignment table updated as per pages 57-58. There is consistency between outcomes and outputs. The amounts allocated total correctly. Reference is made to project alignment with framework on page 57

		<p>indicators provided in the “project outcome indicator(s) section; and iv) the corresponding grant amount should be provided for each Fund output listed in the “Grant Amount (USD)” column (ensuring that the total figures equal the project activity cost).</p> <p>Kindly ensure that the AF Outcomes and indicators included in the table correspond to those in the Guidance (currently the wording is a bit different). Please refer to the AF Results Framework: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Adaptation-Fund-Strategic-Results-Framework-Amended-in-March-2019-2.pdf.</p>	<p>same as for the bottom part of the table (outputs). Please consult the template at the link below.</p> <p>Results Framework: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Adaptation-Fund-Strategic-Results-Framework-Amended-in-March-2019-2.pdf.</p>	<p>level) regarding applicable AF outcomes. Template is available at Results Framework Alignment Table (Amended in March 2019) (77 kB, DOC)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Include amounts allocated for each outcome and each output. More importantly, the total at outcome level should add up to the total costs of components (same apply to the output level). 3. At Part II B please include a sentence 	
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				indicating how the proposal is aligned with the results framework of the fund.	
	13. Has the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes been taken into account when designing the project?	<p>Partially. The project identifies several actions aimed to ensure sustainability, related to maintenance of the infrastructure, optimizing water management and preserving the water tables. Further details can be provided regarding components 1 and 3.</p> <p>CR20: Please indicate if the project will prioritize the purchase of durable equipment (for infrastructure included in Component 1), as a way of contributing to technical sustainability.</p> <p>CR21: Please provide further details on the establishment of sustainable community financing mechanisms for the maintenance and upkeep of the infrastructure planned as part of Component 1.</p>	<p>CR(New1): Kindly move 'Table 5 : Environmental and social impacts and risks of the project' on page 29 from section J which is meant to be on sustainability to section K. (see CR14)</p> <p>CR20: Not cleared on page 29 Kindly add the explanation given on the response sheet on the compliance with national standards into section J on sustainability.</p> <p>CR21: Cleared on page 15. A cost of USD 0.1 per 25 liters of water will be charged and used for operation and maintenance.</p>	<p>CR(New1): Cleared. See CR14 above and Section K (pp. 37-39).</p> <p>CR20: Cleared. The explanatory text has been added to Section J (see page 34).</p>	-
	14. Does the project / programme provide an overview of environmental and	<p>Yes. The project has assessed the possible risks against the 15 AF principles, considering the impact of</p>	<p>CR22: Not Cleared. 1. Please relocate the risk table to section K and remove from the</p>	CR22: Not Cleared.	CR22: Cleared.

	<p>social impacts / risks identified, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?</p>	<p>such risks, and proposed measures to address them. However, the risks identification is generic, and can be more specific to the project activities. An environmental and social management framework aligned with FIRCA's internal procedures and the AF environmental and social policy will be developed and included in the full proposal development phase.</p> <p>CR22.: Kindly note that risks categorized as a medium would require further assessment during the full proposal development. Please revise the table to indicate this in the second column.</p> <p>CR23: Please indicate which project components or activities would lead to the identified risks. Considering the scope of activities planned under Components 1 and 2, in particular installation of water distribution points and water supply networks for rural social infrastructure, as well as the promotion of reforestation, kindly provide further details on any risks and mitigation related to involuntary resettlement, protection of natural habitats, lands and solid conservation.</p> <p>Please refer to the ESP guidance document and/or the ESP itself, as needed. Please consider all potential</p>	<p>sustainability section. See CR NEW1 above and CR 14)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Please ensure that where risks are identified in Table 5 that and where further assessment will be done at the fully developed proposal stage that comments such as “No impact on Natural habitats “ are removed from column 2. Where further assessments are required or will be done please mark column 2 with and X or a ckeck mark. <p>CR23: Not Cleared.</p> <p>Kindly show in table 5 the possible risks faced by activities under Components 1 and 2 on the installation of water distribution points and water supply networks for rural social infrastructure, as well as the promotion of reforestation to involuntary resettlement, protection of natural habitats, lands and solid conservation.</p>	<p>Corrigendum: S Please remove the X for the instances where further assessment is required noting that the title of the column is No further assessment required. Place the X only for the instances where further assessments are not required.</p>	<p>As per amendment to risk table.</p>
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		<p>direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts and risks that could result from the project; ensure that findings are evidence-based and substantiated; and acknowledge risks related to all 15 Principles.</p> <p>CAR5: An initial gender analysis is required at the concept note stage. Kindly provide it.</p>		<p>CR23: Cleared, based on IE response. No risks are anticipated.</p>	
			<p>CAR5: Cleared on page 43</p> <p>Appendix 2 with an initial gender analysis has been included</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?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The IE fee is at 8.5 % of the total project budget before the fee. An PFG is requested for US\$150,000, which is within the size allowed for Project size US\$5M and above.</p>	-	-	-
	3. Are the Project/Programme Execution Costs at or below 9.5 per cent of	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The Execution Costs are at 8.68%</p>	-	-	-

	the total project/programme budget (including the fee)?				
Eligibility of IE	1. Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?	Yes. The Interprofessional Fund for Agricultural Research (FIRCA) accreditation expires on April 28, 2025.	Yes The Interprofessional Fund for Agricultural Research (FIRCA) accreditation expires on 11 April 2030	-	-
Implementation Arrangements	1. Is there adequate arrangement for project / programme management, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?	n/a at concept stage			
	2. Are there measures for financial and project/programme risk management?	n/a at concept stage			
	3. Are there measures in place for the management of environmental and social risks, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	n/a at concept stage			
	4. Is a budget on the Implementing Entity Management Fee use included?	n/a at concept stage			

	5. Is an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs included?	n/a at concept stage			
	6. Is a detailed budget including budget notes included?	n/a at concept stage			
	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?	n/a at concept stage			
	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?	n/a at concept stage			
	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?	n/a at concept stage			

	10. Is a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones included?	n/a at concept stage			
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CONCEPT NOTE PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE COUNTRY

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAM INFORMATION

Title of Project/Program: **Strengthening access to drinking water for rural communities in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire to reduce their vulnerability to the effects of climate change**

Country: **Côte d'Ivoire**

Thematic Focal Area: **Water management**

Type of Implementing Entity: **National Implementing Entity**

Implementing Entity: **Interprofessional Fund for Agricultural Research and Consulting (FIRCA)**

Executing Entities: **- National Climate Change Program (PNCC) of Ministry of the Environment, Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition (MINEDDTE)**

Amount of Financing Requested: **10,000,000** (in US Dollars Equivalent)

Project Formulation Grant Request (available to NIEs only): Yes No

Amount of Requested financing for PFG: **150,000** (in US Dollars Equivalent)

Letter of Endorsement (LOE) signed: Yes No

NOTE: LOEs should be signed by the Designated Authority (DA). The signatory DA must be on file with the Adaptation Fund. To find the DA currently on file check this page: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/designated-authorities>

Stage of Submission:

- This concept has been submitted before
- This is the first submission ever of the concept proposal

In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date: 10/1/2025

Please note that concept note documents should not exceed 50 pages, including annexes.

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Project/Program Background and ~~Context:~~Context:

Provide brief information on the problem the proposed project/program is aiming to solve. Outline the economic social, development and environmental context in which the project would operate.

Geography and climate

~~Ivory Coast~~ Côte d'Ivoire, situated on the Gulf of Guinea in West Africa, shares its northern borders with Mali and Burkina Faso, its western borders with Liberia and Guinea, and its eastern border with Ghana, while its southern coastline opens onto the Atlantic Ocean. Côte d'Ivoire is a country in West Africa located along on the Gulf of Guinea. It is bordered to the north by Mali and Burkina Faso, to the west by Liberia and Guinea, to the east by Ghana and to the south by the ocean Atlantic Ocean.¹ The country's climate is influenced by the Intertropical Convergence Zone, which brings a wet season driven by monsoon rains and a dry season marked by the harmattan wind. The country's climate is shaped is crossed by the intertropical convergence zone, leading to two distinct seasons: and is therefore influenced by the monsoon during the wet season driven by the monsoon and a dry season characterized by the harmattan wind during the rainy season. dried.² According to the 2022 State of the Climate report prepared by SODEXAM (Airport, Aeronautical and Meteorological Operations and Development Company), the southern part of Côte d'Ivoire experiences two rainy seasons. The main season is longer and more intense, peaking in June with an average of 700 mm of rainfall in the Abidjan area, while a shorter season occurs from September to October. These are separated by a brief dry spell in August and September. Coastal areas also record significant rainfall in March, November and December, particularly in the west, with annual totals ranging from 1,500 to 2,500 mm. Inland regions receive between 1,200 and 1,500 mm annually, rising to 2,000 mm in mountainous areas. The northern part of the country has a single rainy season, peaking in August. Average temperatures vary from around 30°C along the coast to 32–34°C in the interior. The State of the Climate for the year 2022 established by SODEXAM (Airport, Aeronautical, and Meteorological Operations and Development Company Société d'Exploitation et de Développement, Aéroportuaire, Aéronautique et Météorologique) reveals that the southern part has two (02) rainy seasons. The primary rainy season is the longest and most intense, peaking The most intense and longest has a maximum in June (on average 700 mm of rain in the Abidjan area), while the shorter rainy season occurs from is centered on September to October. These two seasons are separated by a short dry lasting from small dry season from August to September. Along On the coast, the rainfall iss are also quite significant in other months, including abundant in March, and November and even in December on in the westernmost part areas. Annual precipitation in this coastal zone ranges They vary from 1,500 to 2,500 mm of rain per year. In contrast, On the other hand, inland regions receive less intense rainfall, with annual totals varying from the rains are generally less intense. They vary from 1,200 to 1,500 mm, though this per year and can reach 2,000 mm in the mountainous areas. The northern part of Côte d'Ivoire has only one a single rainy season, with its maximum peaks in August. Average temperatures range from approximately 30°C on the coast to between 32 to 34°C in the interior areas of Côte d'Ivoire.

Administrative and Territorial Organization of Côte d'Ivoire, Territorial distribution of Ivory Coast³

Côte d'Ivoire is administratively organized into two autonomous districts (Abidjan and Yamoussoukro), twelve districts, and thirty-one regions. Table 1 and Figure 1 present the distribution of these districts and their respective regions. Côte d'Ivoire is administratively divided. The Ivorian territory is organized

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¹National Environmental Policy, 2011
²Environmental Profile of Côte d'Ivoire, July 2021
³Decree No. 2013-294 of May 2, 2013 establishing thirty-one (31) regions, administrative districts, in regional local authorities.

into two autonomous districts (Abidjan and Yamoussoukro), twelve (12) districts and thirty one (31) administrative regions. Table 1 and Figure 1 present provide a breakdown of these the different districts and their respective of Côte d'Ivoire as well as their regions:

Table 1: District and Regions of Ivory Coast

Table 1 : District and Regions of Côte d'Ivoire

Districts	Geographical location	County town	Regions
Abidjan	South	Abidjan	
Yamoussoukro	Center	Yamoussoukro	
Lacs	Center-East	Dimbokro	Bélier, Aries, Iffou, N'zi, Morono
Comoé	South East	Abengourou	Indénié, Djuablin, Sud-ouest
Denguélé	Northwest	Odienné	Folon, Kabadougou
Goh-Djiboua	South-central	Gagnoa	Goh, Loh-Djiboua
Lagunes	South	Dabou	Agnébi-Tiassa, Mé, Grands-P
Mountagnes	West	Man	Tonkpi, Cavally, Guémon
Sassandra-Marahoué	Center-West	Daloa	Haut sassandra, Daloa, Marahoué, Bouafé
Savanes	North	Korhogo	Poros, Tchologo, Bagoué
Bas-Sassandra	Southwest	San Pedro	Nawa, San-Pedro, Gbôklé
Vallée du Bandama	Center	Bouaké	Hambol, Gbêkê
Woroba	Northwest	Séguéla	Bééré, Bafing, Worodougou
Zanzan	Northeast	Boandoukou	Boukani, Gbantougo

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Figure 1 : Administrative map of Côte d'Ivoire

Figure1:Administrative map of Ivory Coast

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Population distribution

In 2021, Côte d'Ivoire had a population of 29,389,150, including 14,044,160 women (47.8%) and 15,344,990 men (52.2%). Between 2014 and 2021, the annual intercensal growth rate was 2.9%. The population is distributed across 5,616,487 households, with an average size of 5.2 persons, and the national population density is 91 inhabitants per km². In terms of age structure, 38.2% of the population is under 15 years, 59.2% falls within the working-age group (15–64 years), and 2.6% is 65 years or older. In 2021, the population of Côte d'Ivoire was 29,389,150, comprising 14,044,160 women (47.8%) and 15,344,990 men (52.2%). The annual intercensal growth rate was 2.9% for the 2014–2021 period.

The population of Côte d'Ivoire was 29,389,150 inhabitants in 2021, including 14,044,160 (47.8%) women and 15,344,990 (52.2%) men, with an annual intercensal growth rate of 2.9% between 2014 and 2021. This population is divided into 5,616,487 households with an average size of 5.2 people. The national population density is 91 inhabitants/km². Regarding its age structure, 38.2% of the active population is under 15 years old, aged 15–64 is 59.2% is within the working-age group of 15–64 and, that of under 15 is 38.2% as well as 2.6% is aged over 65 or older years old⁴. The population is predominantly urban, with 52.5% (15,428,957 people) living in urban areas compared to 47.5% (13,960,193) in rural areas. This reflects a marked trend, as the urbanization rate increased from 32.0% in 1975 to 52.5% in 2021. The distribution of the population is predominantly urban, with 52.5% (15,428,957 people) residing in urban areas, compared to 47.5% (13,960,193) in rural settings. This reflects a significant trend, as the country's urbanization rate has risen sharply according to the place of residence reveals that more than half of the population resides in cities. Indeed, 15,428,957 (52.5%) people live in cities compared to 13,960,193 (47.5%) in rural areas. The urbanization rate increased from 32.0% in 1975 to 52.5% in 2021.⁵

The Autonomous District of Abidjan, the country's economic capital, is the most populous city, with 5,616,633 inhabitants and the highest population density at 2,994 inhabitants per km². It is followed by Bouaké with 832,371 inhabitants, Korhogo with 440,926, and Daloa with 421,879. Abidjan is not only the largest city in Côte d'Ivoire but also the second most populous city in West Africa, after Lagos in Nigeria.

As the economic capital, the Autonomous District of Abidjan, is the country's most populous city, with a population of 5,616,633. It also has by far the Ivorian economic capital, has the highest population density at concentration of inhabitants with 2,994 inhabitants/km², (with a total of 5,616,633 inhabitants, Abidjan is the most populated city). It is followed by Bouaké, the second largest metropolis in the country with a population of 832,371 inhabitants, then by Korhogo, which occupies third place with 440,926 inhabitants and finally by the city of Daloa with 421,879 inhabitants. Abidjan is the largest city in the country and the second most populous city in West Africa, surpassed only by after Lagos (Nigeria).

Environmental context and climate change

Côte d'Ivoire is highly vulnerable to climate change, particularly due to rising temperatures, sea-level rise, and increasing rainfall variability. Between 1970 and 2021, the average temperature rose by 0.5°C to 0.8°C (five-year moving average). Côte d'Ivoire is highly exposed to climate change due to rising temperatures, rising sea levels and changes in rainfall patterns. The average temperature increased between 0.5°C and 0.8°C between 1970 and 2021 (5-year moving average).⁶ Rainfall patterns have shifted, with more frequent precipitation during the dry season and longer dry spells within the wet season. Projections from institutions such as the UK Met

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⁴UN-Habitat Côte d'Ivoire Country Report, "A Better Quality of Life for All in an Urbanizing World", 2023

⁵General census of population and housing, 2021

⁶The 5-year average temperature increased from 26.29°C in 1970 to 27.22°C in 2021, an increase of 0.93°C.

If we consider only annual temperatures, which are more likely to have outliers, the increase during this period is 0.70°C.

Office, the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), and the World Bank indicate that by 2050 Côte d'Ivoire could face significant climate change impacts. Average temperatures are expected to increase by 1°C to 4°C, depending on greenhouse gas emission scenarios. Rainfall patterns have changed. Precipitation as rainfall has become more frequent during the dry season, while the wet season has experienced longer periods without rain. Projections from institution such as there have been more rainless periods during the wet season. Different studies from the UK Met Office, the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and the World Bank predict that by 2050, Côte d'Ivoire could face the combined effects climate change. A of warmer average temperatures are expected to rise by (between 1°C to and 4°C, depending on the GHG emissions scenario. The frequency of extremely hot days is projected to rise significantly, with an additional 20 days by 2030 and 60 days by 2060 under a moderate emissions scenario. Precipitation is also expected to become more variable, with decreases of up to 9% in May and increases of about 9% in October. At the same time, sea levels are projected to rise by up to 30 cm by 2050, increasing the risks of coastal flooding and erosion. Figure 2 illustrates temperature changes from 1980 to 2019. The an increase in the frequency of extremely hot days is also projected to increase significantly, (with 20 additional hot days by 2030 and 60 more by 2060 in a moderate emissions scenario. Furthermore, precipitation is expected to become more variable, with models showing decreases of up to greater variability in precipitation (9% in May and increases of + 9% in October). Concurrently, and a rise in sea level are forecast to rise by (up to 30 cm by 2050), heightening as well as the associated risks of coastal flooding and coastal erosion. The figure 2 shows temperature changes from 1980 to 2019.

The effects of climate change are already evident in Côte d'Ivoire and are expected to be exacerbated in the future with rising temperatures, greater variability in weather conditions and more extreme climate events. In the future, periods of drought and rain are likely to become more extreme, and more droughts and an increased risk of flooding are expected. The impacts of climate change are already visible in Côte d'Ivoire and are projected to intensify with rising temperatures, increased climate variability, and more frequent extreme events. Future conditions are likely to bring more severe droughts, heavier rainfall episodes, and a heightened risk of flooding.

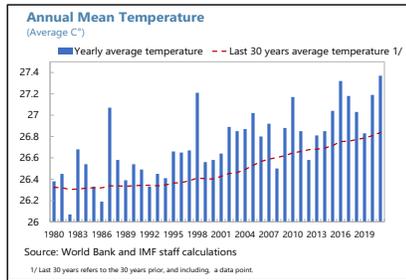


Figure 2 : Temperature assessment from 1980 to 2019

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Côte d'Ivoire's Climate Vulnerability and the Impact of Deforestation Côte d'Ivoire's vulnerability to climate change is exacerbated by deforestation.

Driven largely by the expansion of intensive agriculture, Côte d'Ivoire has faced severe deforestation.

³As average annual temperatures increase, the frequency of extremely hot days (with maximum temperatures (daily temperatures above 25°C) is expected to increase significantly, particularly in northern Côte d'Ivoire. In the SSP2 4.5 scenario (moderate emission reduction), it is predicted that by 2030 there could be 20 additional very hot days per year compared to 2000. This number is expected to reach 30 by 2050 and 60 more by 2080.

Forest cover, which represented 37% of the national territory in 1960, declined to 14% in 2010 and just 8% by 2019. While forests play a critical role in carbon sequestration, deforestation not only weakens this function but also heightens climate vulnerability by intensifying temperature increases, reducing rainfall likelihood, degrading land, and increasing the risks of floods and landslides. Driven by the expansion of intensive agricultural production practices, the country has experienced severe deforestation. Country's forest cover, which accounted for 37% of the nation's total land area in 1960, plummeted to 14% in 2010 and then to just 8% by 2019. While forests generally sequester carbon, deforestation reduces this effect. It also increases vulnerability to climate change by amplifying temperature increases, decreasing the likelihood of precipitation, and degrading land, increasing the risk of floods and landslides.⁸

Water resources⁹

The hydrographic network of Côte d'Ivoire is made up of: (i) From four (04) large hydrographic basins from West to East (Cavally, Sassandra, Bandama and Comoé), (ii) Small coastal rivers in the south of the country, the most significant of which are the Tabou, the Néro, the San-Pédro, the Niouniourou, the Boubo, the Agnéby, the Mé, the Bia, the Tanoé and the Néro, (iii) Tributaries of the Niger in the far North West extending over a watershed from West to East (the Gbanhala, the Baoulé, the Dégou, the Kankélabá and the Bagoué), (iv) Tributaries of the Black Volta in the North East (the Koulda, the Kolodio, the Gbanlou Binéda and the Kohodio).

The Bandama watershed is the only entirely national basin (apart from a few small coastal basins); the others are shared with neighboring countries, notably the Niger and Volta rivers. There are no natural lakes and ponds. The existing bodies of water, with large areas of water storage inland, are artificial, linked to hydroelectric and hydroagricultural dams. In total, the mobilizable surface water resources amount to 39 billion m³. Côte d'Ivoire's hydrographic network consists of four major river basins from west to east (Cavally, Sassandra, Bandama, and Comoé), several small coastal rivers in the south (including the Tabou, Néro, San-Pédro, Niouniourou, Boubo, Agnéby, Mé, Bia, Tanoé), tributaries of the Niger in the far northwest (Gbanhala, Baoulé, Dégou, Kankélabá, Bagoué), and tributaries of the Black Volta in the northeast (Koulda, Kolodio, Gbanlou Binéda, Kohodio). The Bandama is the only basin located entirely within national territory, while the others are shared with neighboring countries, notably through the Niger and Volta systems. Côte d'Ivoire has no natural lakes or ponds; existing water bodies are artificial reservoirs created by hydroelectric and irrigation dams. Mobilizable surface water resources are estimated at 39 billion m³.

National drinking water context¹⁰

Water is a renewable but limited and fragile resource, and a key driver of development. Although Côte d'Ivoire is endowed with a dense hydrographic network, this contrasts with the limited number of hydraulic stations. Since 1973, the government has undertaken measures to expand access to safe drinking water nationwide, ensuring both quantity and quality. More than 22,000 boreholes equipped with human-operated pumps (PMH) have been drilled, of which 18,000 function through village hydraulics to serve settlements of 100 to 1,000 inhabitants. The remainder operate under urban hydraulics (HU) or improved village hydraulics (HVA), supplying localities of 1,000 to 4,000 inhabitants. Water is a renewable resource, but also limited and fragile, and a key factor in development. The country is full of a dense hydraulic network, but this density contrasts with the lack of hydraulic stations. Since 1973, the government has taken measures to increase access to drinking water for the population throughout the territory by guaranteeing both quantity and quality. More than 22,000 boreholes equipped with human-operated pumps (PMH) have been drilled, of which 18,000 have been operated using village hydraulics to supply localities and agglomerations of 100 to 1,000 inhabitants. The rest is operated using urban hydraulics (HU) or improved village hydraulics (HVA) for localities of 1,000 to 4,000 inhabitants.

Despite these efforts, national drinking water coverage remains limited at 53% of localities and agglomerations. The capacities of the institutions responsible for water supply; particularly the

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⁸World Bank Group West and Central Africa, Côte d'Ivoire: National Report on Climate and Development, October 2023
⁹https://www.fao.org
¹⁰SECTOR MINISTERS' 2019 MEETING, The Ivory Coast, COUNTRY BRIEF, 2019

National Office for Drinking Water (ONEP), as well as local authorities and communities; are insufficient to ensure the deployment of infrastructure across the entire territory. Significant regional disparities also persist, as highlighted by the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS): the share of the population relying on surface water reaches 8.2% in the West, 14.8% in the Northeast, and 23% in the central zone. Despite these efforts, the national drinking water coverage rate is 53% for localities and agglomerations. The capacities of the national bodies responsible for drinking water supply, in particular the National Office for Drinking Water (ONEP), as well as those of local authorities and communities, remain insufficient to ensure the deployment of water infrastructure throughout the territory. Furthermore, very strong regional disparities persist: according to the MICS (multiple indicator survey), the proportion of the population consuming surface water reaches 8.2% in the West, 14.8% in the North-East and 23% in the central zone.

The impact of climate change on the Bandama watershed¹¹

Historical data indicate that between the 1980s and 2000, Côte d'Ivoire experienced a prolonged rainfall deficit of about 3% compared to the 1971–2000 baseline. Severe droughts occurred in 1983 and 1998 with deficits of 15% and 11% respectively. In the Bandama watershed, rainfall variability between 1981 and 2016 showed alternating dry and wet periods, with a generally deficient phase from 1981 to 1999 followed by a wetter phase from 2000 to 2016. From the 1980s to 2000, an analysis of historical data shows that from the 1980s to 2000, Côte d'Ivoire experienced a long period of rainfall deficit of around 3% compared to the 1971–2000 baseline normal. This period was punctuated by with periods of severe droughts, particularly notably in 1983 and 1998, which recorded rainfall deficits of 15% and 11% respectively against the same baseline compared to the same normal.

Generally, dry and wet periods of different amplitudes were observed over the period 1981–2016 in the Bandama watershed. An interannual fluctuation in rainfall was noted, characterized by a more or less deficient period from 1981 to 1999 followed by a wet period from 2000 to 2016.

During the dry season, water availability in the watershed decreases due to intensified drought and reduced rainfall. The decline in precipitation from January to March across the entire watershed mainly affects surface water resources, reducing the capacity to meet water demand in all sectors. The central part of the watershed is particularly exposed to drought risks since the main livelihood activities, including agriculture and livestock, depend heavily on water. This results in greater vulnerability to climate change in these regions. During the dry season, in the watershed there is a decrease in water availability marked by the intensification of drought and the decrease in rainfall. The downward trend in precipitation observed during the dry period from January to March across the entire watershed affects mainly surface water resources. This indicates a decrease in the rate of coverage of water needs during this period for all water use sectors. In the center of the watershed there is a high level of exposure to drought risks because the main activities of the populations in the center are linked to water (agriculture and livestock), which causes greater exposure to climate change in these regions.

In the city of Bouaké, water availability relies primarily on surface water and agro-pastoral dams. Strong anthropogenic pressure and inadequate land use around these dams increase their vulnerability and that of their users to climate change. Sensitivity analysis shows that irregular seasonal rainfall patterns affect both the availability and quality of water resources. The decline in rainfall volumes between 1981 and 1999 resulted in a widespread reduction in surface flows. Similarly, the absence of rainfall during the dry season leads to reduced water availability in these dams.

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¹¹PROJECT: CIV 10 0010310 "Strengthening the integration of adaptation to climate change in planning development in Ivory Coast » development of five sectoral reports on soil, agriculture, water resources, coastal resources and health. Sector report: water resources.

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city of Bouake for example, water availability depends on surface water and particularly on agro-pastoral dams. While the strong anthropogenic pressure and inadequate land use around these dams causes a particular sensitivity of these structures and their users to climate change. In addition, the sensitivity analysis shows that the irregularity of the seasonal distribution of precipitation is reflected in the availability and quality of water resources. Indeed, the decrease in the volumes of precipitated water over the period 1981-1999 was manifested by a generalized decrease in surface flows. Similarly, the lack of precipitation in the dry season induces a lack of water availability in these structures during these seasons.

Justification of the project

General

Water is one of the major challenges of the 21st century. Extreme events such as droughts and floods have severe consequences for water access and global food security. In Côte d'Ivoire, threats to water resources are multiple. While overall availability remains sufficient, resources are unevenly distributed across the southern, central, and northern regions of the country. Water is the major challenge of the 21st century. Extreme weather events, droughts and floods have devastating consequences for access to water and global food security. The threats to Côte d'Ivoire's water resources are diverse. Overall, the quantity of water is sufficient but resources are unevenly distributed between the southern, central and northern areas of the country.¹² While Côte d'Ivoire overall benefits from relatively abundant water resources, with annual rainfall between 1,000 and 2,500 mm and significant surface and groundwater reserves across 537 rivers including the Cavally, Sassandra, Bandama and Comoé basins, access remains highly unequal. Many surface water reserves that rural populations rely on for drinking water dry up during droughts. As a result, 42.2% of rural households lack access to water supply services, a figure that rises to 53% among the poorest households. These challenges are further compounded by climate change, which is altering temperature and rainfall patterns and increasing the frequency of water shortages. Indeed, the Ivorian territory is relatively well watered (1,000 to 2,500 mm/year) and has significant surface and groundwater reserves, with a hydrographic network comprising approximately 537 watercourses including four (04) main watersheds (Cavally, Sassandra, Bandama and Comoé). However, many surface water reserves, constituting the main sources of drinking water supply for rural populations, dry up during periods of drought. Thus, the proportion of rural households without access to water supply services stands at 42.2% in general and at 53% among the poorest households. The main manifestation of climate change is observed in the evolution of temperature and precipitation.

Temperature evolution

Between 1960 and 2010, average temperatures across Côte d'Ivoire rose by 1.6°C. This upward trend is expected to continue, although with regional variations. Projections indicate an increase of about 1.3°C by 2030, 1.8°C by 2050, and 2.1°C by 2070 compared to 1960 levels. Under the RCP 4.5 scenario, which assumes stabilization of emissions before the end of the century at a relatively low level, temperatures could rise by up to 3°C across much of the country by 2100. Over the period 1960-2010, temperatures increased by 1.6°C across the entire Ivorian territory. The current trend observed in Côte d'Ivoire is expected to worsen overall, but to varying degrees depending on the location. Temperatures will continue to rise; projections show an increase of about 1.3°C by 2030, 1.8°C by 2050 and 2.1°C by 2070, compared to 1960. Under the RCP 4.5 scenario (Scenario with stabilization of emissions before the end of the 21st century at a level weak)¹³, temperatures could increase by 3°C across most of the country by 2100. In the north, in the eastern and central regions, temperatures are expected to increase more than in the southern and western regions. Northern, eastern, and central regions are expected to experience greater warming than southern and western areas.

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¹²SECTOR MINISTERS' 2019 MEETING, The Côte d'Ivoire COUNTRY BRIEF, 2019

¹³Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Scenarios for greenhouse gas concentrations, March 2015

Evolution of precipitation

Projections suggest that total annual precipitation could rise on average by 0.3% by 2050 and 1.2% by 2070, with the greatest increases expected in the northern and western regions. In contrast, the central part of the country may experience a decline of around 3%. Seasonal patterns are also expected to shift, with rains starting and ending earlier than historical norms. Under the RCP 4.5 scenario, daily rainfall could decrease by about 8% between April and July by 2100. In terms of precipitation, projections indicate that total annual precipitation could increase by an average of 0.3% by 2050 and 1.2% by 2070. The largest increase would occur in the northern and western regions. However, in the central part of the country, precipitation could decrease by about 3%. Seasonal rainfall patterns will continue to change, with rains starting and ending earlier than historical norms. Based on the RCP 4.5 scenario, by 2100, daily precipitation is likely to decrease by about 8% during the months of April to July¹⁴. The figure 3 shows the projected changes in temperature and precipitation in Côte d'Ivoire by 2070.

Figure 3 illustrates the projected changes in temperature and precipitation in Côte d'Ivoire by 2070.

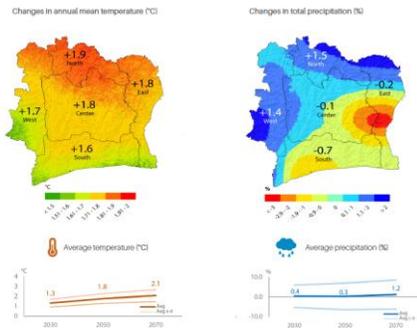


Figure 33: Projected changes in temperature and precipitation in Côte d'Ivoire by 2070¹⁵

Figure 3: Projected changes in temperature and precipitation in Côte d'Ivoire by 2070¹⁶

Project Scope

Recent climate trends show that several parts of Côte d'Ivoire have experienced significant variations, with rising temperatures, declining rainfall, and increasing extremes. These changes have reduced water resources, particularly surface water, which remains the primary source of drinking water for rural populations. Currently, only 58.8% of rural households have access to an improved water source, leaving many communities highly dependent on surface waters that are increasingly affected by climate change. The above mentioned climate information reveals that in recent years, some areas of Côte d'Ivoire have been subjected to strong climatic variations, which are mainly manifested by a greater increase in temperatures and a sharp decrease in precipitation. This climatic trend has led to a decrease in water resources, particularly surface water, which is the main source of drinking water for populations in rural areas. In fact, only 58.8% of rural households have access to a water source improved.¹⁷ This dependence heightens their vulnerability and creates serious challenges in accessing safe drinking water. The impacts are most severe for women, youth, and children, whose daily activities and livelihoods are directly constrained by water scarcity.

¹⁴BAD, National Climate Change Profile, 2018

¹⁵World Bank Group West and Central Africa, Côte d'Ivoire: National Report on Climate and Development, October 2023

¹⁶World Bank Group West and Central Africa, Côte d'Ivoire: National Report on Climate and Development, October 2023

¹⁷SECTOR MINISTERS' 2019 MEETING, The Côte d'Ivoire COUNTRY BRIEF, 2019

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This vulnerability reflects the cumulative effect of the climate challenges already identified, including rising temperatures, shifting rainfall patterns, more frequent droughts, and increasing pressure on water resources. The central region is particularly exposed, with projections showing temperature increases of up to 3°C by 2100 and rainfall decreases of about 3% by 2070, making access to drinking water especially precarious. Strengthening water supply systems for rural communities in this region is therefore essential to reduce vulnerability and build resilience to the adverse effects of climate change. Communities are therefore dependent on surface waters which are affected by these effects of climate change. This dependence therefore increases their vulnerability. Rural communities are thus faced with a real problem of access to water due mainly to the drying up of surface water sources. This difficulty affects the quality of life of rural populations, particularly on a socio-economic level, particularly for women, young people and children. The central area of the country, which according to projections concentrates both the highest probabilities of an increase in temperatures (+3°C) by 2100 and decreases in precipitation (-3%) by 2070, appears to be the most vulnerable, in relation to the supply of drinking water to its populations.

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In light of this situation, strengthening access to safe drinking water for rural communities in central Côte d'Ivoire is essential to reduce their vulnerability to the combined impacts of rising temperatures, declining rainfall, recurrent droughts, and other harmful effects of climate change. Faced with this situation, it is necessary to strengthen access to drinking water for rural communities in the central part of Côte d'Ivoire to reduce their vulnerability to the harmful effects of climate change.

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Projection to 2075 of the availability of water resources in the project area¹⁸

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Studies carried out in the Bandama watershed and in coastal basins confirm that the rainfall deficits recorded in Côte d'Ivoire since the 1970s have significantly reduced river flows. By contrast, projections under the RCP 4.5 scenario indicate a more favorable outlook for groundwater resources. Groundwater recharge is expected to increase from 172 mm to 304.8 mm by 2025, from 170.1 mm to 301.1 mm by 2050, and from 173.9 mm to 311.9 mm by 2075, accompanied by higher flow rates from June to August.

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Furthermore, under the same scenario, by 2050 and with constant abstraction levels, water exploitation and withdrawal capacity could at least be maintained. This suggests that groundwater will remain exploitable in the coming decades, making the construction of boreholes in the project area a relevant adaptation option to strengthen water security. Studies carried out in the Bandama watershed and in coastal basins are unanimously conclude that in saying that the rainfall deficits recorded in Côte d'Ivoire since the 1970s have negatively impacted significantly reduced river flows,

the quantity of water mobilized in rivers.

However, as regards groundwater resources, under the RCP 4.5 scenario, we will observe around:

2025: a significant increase in flow rates from June to August and an increase in groundwater recharge from 172 mm to 304.8 mm;

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¹⁸PROJECT: CIV 10 0010310 "Strengthening the integration of adaptation to climate change in planning development in Ivory Coast", development of five sectoral reports on soil, agriculture, water resources, coastal resources and health,

2050: a significant increase in flow rates from June to August and an increase in groundwater recharge from 170.1 mm to 301.1 mm;

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2075: a significant increase in flow rates from June to August and an increase in groundwater recharge from 173.9 mm to 311.9 mm.

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Furthermore, according to the RCP 4.5 scenario, by 2050, with a constant abstraction effort, the assumption is that we are at least able to maintain the levels of exploitation and abstraction of water resources. Based on the RCP 4.5 scenario, the construction of boreholes in the project area is an adaptation option to be considered because groundwater will still be exploitable in the coming decades.

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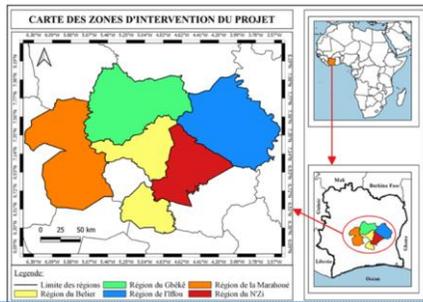
Presentation of the project area

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The project will be implemented in central Côte d'Ivoire (Figure 4), specifically in the regions of Bélier, Gbêkê, Iffou, Marahoué, and N'Zi. Water resources in these regions are highly vulnerable to climate-related hazards, creating major challenges for local populations. Rural communities in particular face recurring difficulties in securing sufficient water to meet their basic needs. The project will be implemented in the center (figure 54) of Côte d'Ivoire, particularly in the regions of Bélier, Gbêkê, Iffou, Marahoué and N'Zi. The water resources of these regions are vulnerable subject to climate related hazards. This poses a significant challenge for local populations, particularly those in rural areas, who often face thus leading to difficulties in securing sufficient accessing water to meet their basic needs.



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Figure 4: Area targeted by the project

Figure 4 : Area Target by the project

The project The selected areas were selected base on the significant because of the impacts of climate change on their surface water resources. Several villages in the targeted regions reported a decrease in surface water and difficulty in accessing drinking water.

A field mission in 18 villages, conducted in May 2024 as part of the project's preparation phase, of this project revealed critical gaps in water infrastructure. The mission found that some communities lacked

any improved water sources, while in others with existing systems, pumps were frequently non-functional or insufficient in number, in 18 villages in May 2024 determined that several villages in the targeted regions did not have means of water supply. For villages that had already benefited from the installation of a drinking water supply system, several pumps were faulty or were insufficient in number. The villages visited have an average population ranging from 200 to 1,500 inhabitants, and the density of pumps per number of inhabitants is often well below the communities' actual needs of the inhabitants. Therefore, (The populations communities are often forced to rely on unimproved sources such therefore resort to surface water or traditional hand dugartisanal wells. However, the sources are becoming increasingly unreliable due to impacts of climate change, with the advent of climate change, access to unimproved water sources is increasingly difficult, especially during periods of drought because backwaters, rivers and wells can dry up. Without an improved drinking water system, villagers acutely are therefore very vulnerable to the vagaries of climate change, a situation with and this has significant environmental and socio-economic consequences. Data collected during this field mission indicate that identified 206 villages within the project area that currently lack do not have access to an improved drinking water source. The total population affected population is estimated to be range between 41,200 and 309,000 peopleinhabitants. The final number of villages to be included, along with the corresponding number of direct beneficiaries, will be specified during the development of the full project proposal. The project areas were selected based on the significant impacts of climate change on surface water resources. Several villages in the targeted regions have reported declining water availability and growing difficulties in accessing safe drinking water.

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A field mission conducted in May 2024 across 18 villages during the project preparation phase confirmed critical gaps in water infrastructure. In some communities, no improved water sources exist, while in others, existing systems are either insufficient in number or frequently non-functional. The surveyed villages, with populations ranging from 200 to 1,500 inhabitants, revealed a density of pumps far below actual needs. As a result, many households are forced to rely on unimproved sources such as surface water or traditional hand-dug wells. These sources, however, are increasingly unreliable under the effects of climate change, as rivers, backwaters, and wells often dry up during droughts.

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Without improved drinking water systems, communities remain acutely vulnerable to climate change, with serious environmental and socio-economic implications, particularly for rural livelihoods. Data collected during the mission identified 206 villages in the project area that currently lack access to an improved drinking water source. The total population affected is estimated between 41,200 and 309,000 people. The final number of villages to be covered, as well as the corresponding number of direct beneficiaries, will be determined during the preparation of the full project proposal.

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The selection process for beneficiary villages or localities will be based on databases maintained by the Regional Directorates in charge of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH). These databases provide an exhaustive list of all villages within the project area in terms of drinking water supply infrastructure (number, operational status, and coverage of population needs). To carry out this entire process, a committee will be established using participatory and inclusive approaches. This committee will comprise : (i) Representatives of the administration (Prefect, Sub-Prefect, Regional Directorates of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene, Regional Directorates of the Environment), (ii) Representatives of the regional councils concerned by the project, (iii) Representatives of local communities (traditional leadership, youth representatives, women's groups or associations). Based on the criteria defined below, the committee will select the beneficiary villages. The detailed process will be finalized at the full proposal stage. The selection criteria will consider the level of vulnerability among populations in the project areas. Accordingly, these criteria will primarily focus on: (a) Drinking Water Coverage Rate in Localities: Identifying villages where access to drinking water is nearly non-existent and where vulnerability levels are highest. The greater the deficit, the higher the priority of the village, (b) Distance and Accessibility to a Drinking Water Source: Assessing the distance between the village and the nearest drinking water source. The longer (or more difficult) the journey, the more urgent the need,

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(c) Population Size: Villages with a large number of inhabitants exhibiting high vulnerability levels may receive priority support to maximize impact. However, the population size should range between 100 and 4,000 per locality. Additional specific criteria, where applicable, may be defined based on local realities in each beneficiary region of the project. The selection of beneficiary villages or localities will rely on databases maintained by the Regional Directorates of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene, which provide a comprehensive inventory of drinking water infrastructure, including the number of systems, their operational status, and their coverage of population needs. To ensure transparency and inclusiveness, a selection committee will be established through participatory approaches. This committee will include representatives of the administration such as the Prefect, Sub-Prefect, and Regional Directorates of Water, Sanitation, Hygiene, and Environment, representatives of the regional councils concerned by the project, and representatives of local communities including traditional leaders, youth, and women's associations. The committee will apply clear criteria to identify beneficiary villages, with final details to be confirmed during the full proposal stage. Selection will focus on the level of vulnerability of populations within the project areas. Priority will be given to villages with little or no access to drinking water and where vulnerability is most acute. Distance and accessibility to the nearest water source will also be considered, as longer and more difficult journeys signal greater urgency. Population size will be another criterion, with priority given to larger villages facing high vulnerability, provided their populations fall within the range of 100 to 4,000 inhabitants. Additional specific criteria may also be defined according to local realities in each region targeted by the project.

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The table below was prepared using data collected from the Regional Directorates of Hydraulics during the field mission. The observations presented in Table 2 are indicative and will be refined during the development of the full proposal. This table below was established on the basis of data collected from the Regional Directorates of Hydraulics (source: field mission)

~~These observations are listed in the table 2 below:~~ These data are approximate and may be refined in the full proposal.

Table 2: Distribution of pump needs in the area targeted by the project

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Table 2 : Distribution of pump needs in the area targeted by the project

Regions	Number of villages without access to drinking water	Number of villages with pumps that are faulty	Number of villages experiencing population growth that necessitates expansion or upgrading of water supply systems
IFFOU	57	12	10
RAM	23	N / A	18
GBEKE	48	13	16
MARAHOUÉ	51	9	N / A
NZI	27	N / A	N / A
Total	206		

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Presentation of the targeted regions The Gbêké region¹⁹

¹⁹Ivoirepolitics.Org/presentation-de-Gbêké

Located in central Côte d'Ivoire, about 350 km from Abidjan, the Gbêkê region covers an area of 9,136 km². Ecologically, it lies within the forest-savannah transition zone, characterized by a mosaic of savannahs, open forests, and dense semi-deciduous forests. Administratively, the region is divided into four departments: Bouaké, Béoumi, Botro, and Sakassou; which together comprise 20 sub-prefectures and 771 villages. According to the 2021 census (INS, RGPH 2021), the region has a population of 1,352,900 inhabitants, including 699,816 men and 653,085 women. Located in the centre of Côte d'Ivoire, 350 km from Abidjan, the Gbêkê region covers an area of 9,136 km². Ecologically, it lies within the forest-savannah transition zone, characterized by a mosaic of savannahs, open forests and dense semi-deciduous forests. It covers an area of 9,136 km². Administratively, the region is divided into four (04) departments namely: Bouaké, Béoumi, Botro and Sakassou. Together, these contain made up of twenty (20) sub-prefectures and 771 villages. Its total population is 1,352,900 inhabitants including 699,816 men and 653,085 women (INS, RGPH 2021).²¹ Hydrographically, the entire region is situated area falls within the Bandama watershed, and more specifically straddles two sub-basins: the Bandama Blanc to the northwest and the N'Zi to the south and east. Figure 5 shows a map of the Gbêkê region. Hydrographically, the region falls entirely within the Bandama watershed, straddling two sub-basins: the Bandama Blanc in the northwest and the N'Zi in the south and east. Figure 5 presents a map of the Gbêkê region.

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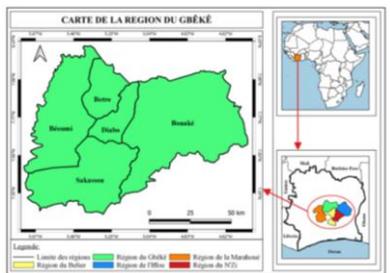


Figure 5 : Map of the Gbêkê Region

Figure 5: Map of the GBÊKÊ Region

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The Bélier region²²

The Bélier region includes both the Yamoussoukro Autonomous District (Yamoussoukro and Attiéouakro departments) and the Bélier Administrative Region (Didiévi, Djékanou, Tiébissou, and Toumodi departments). Located about 200 km north of Abidjan, it covers an area of 11,695 km². According to the 2021 census (INS, RGPH 2021), the region has a population of 702,341 inhabitants, including 353,812 men (51%) and 348,529 women (49%).

The topography is relatively flat, and the hydrographic network is formed by the Bandama River and its tributaries, the N'Zi and the Kan. These rivers flow through gentle slopes of 1 to 3%, with narrow basins and limited lateral contributions, and are marked by significant interannual variability and

²⁰<https://ivoirepolitique.org>

²¹National Institute of Statistics, General Population and Housing Census, 2021

²²Ivoirepolitique.Org/presentation-de-Bélier

pronounced low flows from January to April. Vegetation is typical of the V Baoulé transition zone between the southern forests and the northern savannahs, consisting of wooded and grassy savannahs interspersed with mesophilic gallery forests along watercourses. Figure 6 presents a map of the Béliér region.

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The Béliér region covers the Yamoussoukro Autonomous District (Yamoussoukro and Attiégouakro departments) and the Béliér Administrative Region (Diedievi, Djékanou, Tiebessou and Toumodi departments). Located approximately 200 km north of Abidjan, it covers 11,695 km². The Béliér Region has a population of 702,341 inhabitants, divided into 353,812 men (51%) and 348,529 women (49%) (INS, RGPH 2021). The region's topography is characterized by a relatively flat relief, crossed by a hydrographic network composed of the Bandama River and its tributaries, the N'Zi and Kan, features with gentle slopes (1 to 3%), narrow basins and reduced lateral contributions. The flow of these rivers are characterized by significant interannual variability and marked low water levels that appear from January to April.

As for its vegetation is typical of the "V Baoulé", transition zone between the country's southern forest and northern savannahs. It consists is composed of wooded and grassy savannahs, interspersed with grassy savannahs and gallery forests (mesophilic gallery forests along watercourses) characteristic of the "V Baoulé" (transition zone between the southern forest and the northern savannah of the country). Figure 6 shows a map of the Béliér region.

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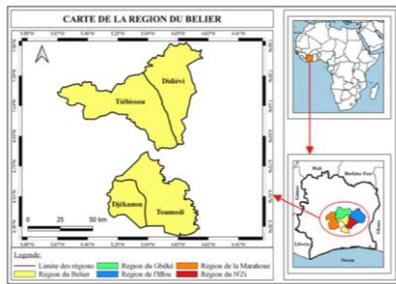


Figure 6. Map of the Béliér Region
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The N'Zi region²³

Located in the center-east of Côte d'Ivoire, the N'Zi region is bordered to the west by the Lacs region, to the north by the Iffou region, to the east by the Iffou and Moronou regions and to the south by the Moronou region. The population of the region is 254,623, including 129,386 men and 125,237 women. It is subdivided into three departments: Dimbokro, Bocanda and Kouassi-Kouassikro. The characteristic watercourse of the department is the N'zi. Its floods are relatively low due to low rainfall, the river is characterized by relatively minor flooding. The local vegetation of the region consists of patches of mesophilic forest and large meshes of savannah, interspersed with separated by gallery forests. Figure 7 shows a map of the N'Zi region. Located in the center-east of Côte d'Ivoire, the N'Zi region is bordered by the Lacs region to the west, the Iffou region to the north, the Iffou and Moronou regions to the east, and the Moronou region to the south. It has a population of 254,623 inhabitants, including 129,386 men and 125,237 women, and is administratively divided into three departments: Dimbokro, Bocanda, and Kouassi-Kouassikro.

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²³Ivoirepolitics.Org/presentation-of-NZI

The region's main hydrographic feature is the N'Zi River, which, due to low rainfall, is marked by relatively minor flooding. Vegetation consists of patches of mesophilic forest and extensive savannahs interspersed with gallery forests. Figure 7 presents a map of the N'Zi region.

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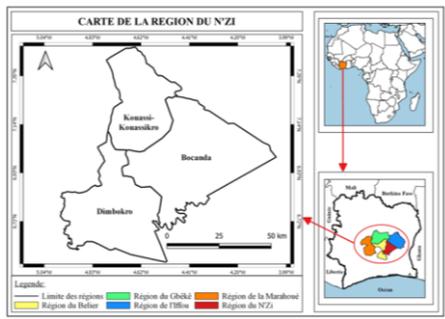


Figure 7: Map of the N'Zi Region
Figure 7: Map of the N'Zi region

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Iffou region²⁴

The Iffou region is located in the center-east of Côte d'Ivoire, within an area historically known as the "cocoa loop." It is bordered by the Hambol region to the north and the Moronou region to the south. Its eastern and southeastern boundary is formed by the Comoé River, beyond which lie the Gontougo and Indénié-Djuablin regions. To the west, it borders the N'Zi and Bélier regions, and to the northwest, the Gbêké region.

The region lies to the east of V Baoulé and covers an area of 8,955 km², representing 2.8% of the national territory. According to the 2021 census (INS, RGPH 2021), it has a population of 378,560 inhabitants, including 196,717 men and 181,843 women. Figure 8 presents a map of the Iffou region.

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The Iffou region is located in the center east of Côte d'Ivoire, an area historically know as the former "cocoa loop" in the center east of Côte d'Ivoire. The territorial constituency of the Iffou region is bordered by Hambol region limited to the north and the Moronou region by the Hambol region, to the south, by the Moronou region. Its to the east, to the eastern and southeastern boundary is, by a naturally formed border by (the Comoé River), and beyond which are, respectively by the regions of Gontougo and Indénié-Djuablin regions. To the west lie the by the regions of N'zi and Bélier regions and, to the northwest by the region of Gbêké region. Situated It is located in the center east of Côte d'Ivoire to the east of V Baoulé, it covers with an area of 8,955.05 km², which represents or 2.8% of the national territory. Its total population is 378,560 inhabitants including 196,717 men and 181,843 women (INS, RGPH 2021). Figure 8 shows a map of the Iffou region.

²⁴Ivoirepolitique.Org/presentation-de-Iffou

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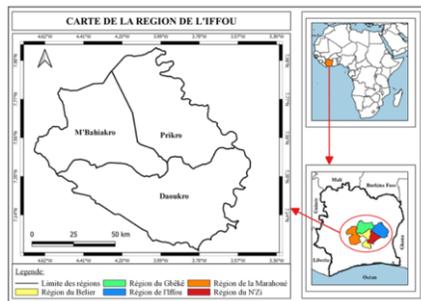


Figure 8 : Map of the Iffou Region
Figure 8: Map of the IFFOU Region

Marahoué region²⁵

The Marahoué region is located in the center-west of Côte d'Ivoire. It is bordered by the Béré region to the north, the Gôh region to the south, the Gbêkè and Bélier regions to the east, and the Haut-Sassandra region to the west. Straddling both the forest and savannah zones, the region covers 9,092 km², including 4,222 km² for the Bouaflé department, 3,252 km² for the Zuénoula department, and 1,618 km² for the Sinfra department. According to the 2021 census (INS, RGPH 2021), Marahoué has a total population of 981,180 inhabitants, including 521,475 men and 459,704 women.

The region is drained by the Red Bandama River, which forms a natural border to the east, as well as by the Marahoué River, which flows across much of the territory. Other rivers include the Baha, Ouréné, Bôlè, Zabré, Bouré, Dromonyi, Houda, and Tenéré. Figure 9 presents a map of the Marahoué region.

The Marahoué region is located in the center west of Ivory Coast. From an administrative point of view, the area is bordered to the north by the Béré region to the north, to the south by the Gôh region to the south, to the east by the Gbêkè and Bélier regions to the east, and the Haut-Sassandra region to the west by the Haut-Sassandra region. Straddling the forest zone and the savannah zone, the Marahoué region covers an area of 9,092.48 km², including 4,222.48 km² for the Bouaflé department, 3,252 km² for the Zuénoula department and 1,618 km² for the Sinfra department. Its total population is 981,180 inhabitants, including 521,475 men and 459,704 women (INS, RGPH 2021).

The Region is drained by the Red-Bandama River which acts as a natural border on the eastern side, then the Marahoué which crosses most of the study area, and the Baha, Ouréné, Bôlè, Zabré, Bouré, Dromonyi, Houda and Tenéré rivers. Figure 9 shows a map of the Marahoué region.

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²⁵Ivoirepolitics.Org/presentation-de-Marahoué

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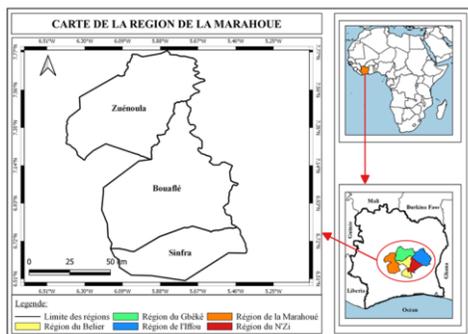


Figure 9. ; Map of the Marahoué Region

Figure 9: Map of the Marahoué Region

Vulnerability of selected communities to lack of drinking water

Interviews conducted during the field mission confirmed the high vulnerability of rural communities to climate change. The selected communities depend primarily on surface water sources such as rivers and backwaters for their needs. Water use in the project area spans three main categories: domestic consumption for drinking, cooking, and hygiene; economic activities, particularly the processing of agricultural products such as milling grain and cassava; and community services, including schools and health centers that require water for daily operations.

During the rainy season, women collect water from local backwaters and rainwater. However, in the dry season, backwaters dry up, forcing women to travel long distances; on average between 5 and 8 kilometers; to reach the nearest water point. These water points are often contaminated by animal waste and human activity, raising health risks. The shortage of safe water also affects the education and health sectors. State officials, such as nurses and teachers, are often reluctant to settle in villages without reliable water access. Students, including very young children, must sometimes travel long distances to attend school, while households in villages without clean water must walk several kilometers to access the nearest health center in case of illness. Small-scale agro-processing units are equally affected, as water shortages can force them to reduce or suspend activities.

Rainwater collection during the wet season partially mitigates the problem, but poor treatment and storage of this water increase the risk of disease. Beyond these practical challenges, the lack of drinking water undermines social cohesion and quality of life. Interviews revealed that in villages without water pumps, young men struggle to marry, as women refuse to live in areas where access to water requires exhausting daily efforts. In some cases, young spouses abandon their households within days of marriage. Women also reported reduced rest and sleep because of the need to wake up very early to fetch water before completing household and agricultural tasks. These conditions contribute to youth migration, as many prefer to relocate to areas with easier living conditions. However, such movements create competition over limited resources in host areas and can lead to tensions and conflict.

The interviews conducted during the field mission helped determine the vulnerability of rural communities to climate change. The selected communities depend on surface water (rivers, backwaters, etc.) for their needs. The different uses of water in the study area include: (i) domestic use, such as drinking, cooking, and daily hygiene; (ii) economic use, particularly for

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processing agricultural products (e.g., grain mills, cassava processing); (iii) community use, for public services such as schools and health centers that require water for their daily operations.

During the rainy season, women obtain water from the backwaters in their villages and from rainwater. However, during the dry season, the backwaters dry up and people, especially women, must travel long distances (on average 5 to 8 km) to find a water point. In addition, these water points are often polluted by animal waste and human activity. Sectors such as education and health are also greatly affected by this lack of water. State officials (nurses, teachers, etc.) are not ready to settle in villages that do not have adequate access to drinking water. Students, sometimes very young, must therefore travel long distances to attend school. In case of serious illness, people in villages without clean water must go to the nearest health centre, often located in a village several kilometers away. In the event of a water shortage, artisanal small-scale agro-processing units may be forced to reduce or stop their activities.

People collect rainwater during the rainy seasons. Poor treatment and storage of this water also increases the risk of illness.

The quality of life and well-being of villagers is also affected by the lack of water. Indeed, the populations interviewed revealed that in areas without drinking water pumps, young men have difficulty finding a partner to marry. Women who are responsible for supplying their households with water refuse to live in villages where they will have to go through an obstacle course to get water. Young spouses are therefore abandoned after a few days. Also, hours of sleep are limited because they have to get up very early to collect water and then have enough time to do the day's work. Finally, we are witnessing an exodus of the youngest who prefer to move to regions with less difficult living conditions. But any movement leads to a competitive effect and can lead to conflicts.

Vulnerability of women and youth to water scarcity

In rural areas, women and girls carry the primary responsibility for ensuring household water supply. They are tasked with fetching water from distant points, ensuring its availability at home, and performing the household activities that rely on it. These tasks are often physically demanding and require several trips each day. This heavy workload generates no income and reduces the time women and girls could otherwise dedicate to education or income-generating activities. The lack of adequate access to safe drinking water therefore reinforces gender inequalities, undermines women's empowerment, and negatively affects their health, education, and socio-economic opportunities.

In rural areas, women and girls are responsible for providing water to households. They are responsible for going to water points, collecting water, transporting it and carrying out household tasks that require water. Women have to travel long distances to get water. Then they have to do the same journey to get home. This is hard work that does not generate any income for them. On the contrary, by doing this task, they lose time that they could have spent studying or developing an income-generating activity. Thus, in the absence of adequate access to drinking water, women are even more likely to suffer from gender-related inequalities because the lack of drinking water impacts their health, their access to education and reduces their capacity for empowerment. Having to carry heavy loads sometimes several times a day over long distances has a significant impact on the health of women and girls who can develop diseases that cause disabling pain. Also, the lack of drinking water pushes populations in rural areas to use the first water they can get to meet their daily needs. The use of this often unsanitary water leads to diseases. However, in the event of illness in a household, it is women who are responsible for caring for the sick and replacing them in their household activities, thus leading to an increase in their burdens. Women are more often confronted with the negative health effects of poor water quality and untreated wastewater due to domestic roles such as cooking, cleaning and childcare. In addition, women are particularly affected by the lack of access to drinking water and sanitation, due to hygiene needs and increased vulnerability to infections during menstruation and reproduction. Difficulties in accessing clean water

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have deadly consequences for women in labor and newborns. Sometimes, simply having access to quality water could have made a difference. Unfortunately, in rural areas, health services also suffer from a lack of water. Women are therefore the most vulnerable to the lack of clean water and will be the first to benefit from the advantages of this project. Carrying heavy loads over long distances often leads to chronic pain and other health problems among women and girls. The lack of safe drinking water also forces rural households to use contaminated sources to meet daily needs, which increases the risk of waterborne diseases. In such cases, women not only face the health impacts directly, but also carry the burden of caring for sick family members while continuing their household responsibilities. Women are therefore disproportionately exposed to the negative health consequences of unsafe water and untreated wastewater due to their domestic roles, including cooking, cleaning, and childcare. Women's vulnerability is further heightened by their specific hygiene needs and their increased risk of infection during menstruation and pregnancy. Limited access to safe water also places women in labor and newborns at greater risk during delivery, as health centers in rural areas frequently lack reliable water supplies. In this context, women are among the most affected by the lack of clean water and will be the first to benefit from the interventions supported by this project.

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Project/Program Objectives:

The objective of the project is to strengthen access to drinking water for rural communities in the central part of Côte d'Ivoire to reduce their vulnerabilities to the effects of climate change. Specifically, this will involve: (i) Improving drinking water production and distribution infrastructure for rural communities in the context of climate change, (ii) Strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water for rural communities made vulnerable by climate change, (iii) Ensure the sharing of knowledge generated to promote the learning of sustainable drinking water supply and management practices to strengthen the adaptation capacities of rural communities in the face of the scarcity of water resources due to the lengthening of drought periods and the reduction in rainfall.

Project/Program Components and Financing:

The table 3 below shows the components of the project as well as the estimated cost of each component.

Table 3.: Components of the project as well as the estimated cost

Project/Program Components	Expected Concrete Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Amount (US\$)
1. Strengthening the capacity of rural communities to access drinking water	Infrastructures for access to drinking water are installed/rehabilitated (Drilling, PMH, HVA) Distribution networks are installed in the targeted areas to transport water from the boreholes to the final beneficiaries	Drinking water production and distribution infrastructure for rural communities is strengthened. The infrastructure for the production and distribution of drinking water for rural communities is strengthened	7,416,977
2. 2. Strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water for climate-vulnerable rural communities	Local technical capacities are strengthened for the maintenance of installed infrastructure and equipment Water management is optimized in beneficiary localities Measures to preserve groundwater supplies to vulnerable communities are being implemented	The sustainability of access to drinking water for climate-vulnerable rural communities is strengthened;	700,000
3. Sharing knowledge to promote learning about	Lessons learned from the actions taken and the good practices identified are capitalized on	Communities in regions prone to water scarcity due to climate change are equipped with	

sustainable drinking water supply and management practices in a context of water resource scarcity due to climate change	The knowledge generated by the project is shared for learning sustainable drinking water supply and management practices	knowledge on good practices for sustainable drinking water supply and management to improve their resilience	300,000
6. Project/Program Execution cost			799,613
7. Total Project/Program Cost			9,216,590
8. Project/Program Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)			783,410
Amount of Financing Requested			10,000,000

Projected Calendar:

The project will be implemented over a period of 4 years. The table 4 below shows the projected calendar of the project.

Table 4.: Projected calendar of the project

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of project/program implementation	January 2027
Mid-term review	December 2028
Project/Program Closure	December 2030
Terminal assessment	June 2031

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PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAM JUSTIFICATION

A. Describe the project/program components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities of the project, and how these activities contribute to climate resilience. For the case of a program, show how the combination of individual projects will contribute to the overall increase in resilience.

In order to effectively implement concrete adaptation actions that will benefit to rural communities in the central regions of Côte d'Ivoire subject to the scarcity of drinking water resources in the dry season and reduce their vulnerabilities to the effects of climate change, the project was designed to be implemented through three (3) key components: (i) Component 1: Strengthening the capacity of rural communities to access drinking water, (ii) Component 2: Strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water for rural communities made vulnerable by climate change, (iii) Component 3: Knowledge sharing to promote learning of sustainable drinking water supply and management practices in a context of dwindling water resources due to climate change.

Component 1: Strengthening the capacity of rural communities to access drinking water

In rural areas, drinking water supply traditionally relies on natural sources such as rivers, backwaters, and wells. These sources are increasingly drying up during the dry season, creating acute shortages. To address this, alternative solutions such as boreholes equipped with human-powered pumps (HMPs) and improved village hydraulics (HVAs) have been introduced to ease water collection.

This project will strengthen the rural drinking water supply system in the targeted regions through the construction of new infrastructure and the rehabilitation or extension of existing facilities, particularly HMPs and HVAs, in line with current standards. In rural areas, the supply of drinking water is traditionally ensured from water sources such as rivers, backwaters, wells, etc. These water sources have an increasingly marked tendency to dry up during the dry season. Alternative drinking water sources deployed to compensate for this insufficiency are boreholes equipped with human-powered pumps (HMPs) or improved supply systems that reduce the difficulty of collecting water, called Improved Village Hydraulics (HVA). This project will involve strengthening the drinking water supply system (DWS) in the targeted regions through the construction of new infrastructure, as well as the rehabilitation and extension of existing infrastructure, in particular HMPs and/or HVAs in accordance with current standards.²⁶

A PMH consists of: (i) a borehole equipped with a manual or solar pump; (ii) a safety fence; (iii) a soakaway pit for drainage and sanitation. An HVA consists of: (i) a borehole equipped with an electric or solar pump; (ii) a safety fence; (iii) a water storage tank; (iv) a supply and distribution network; (v) public standpipes. The expected Outcome of the component 1 is formulated as follows: "The infrastructure for the production and distribution of drinking water for rural communities is strengthened". The expected outputs and activities under component 1 are:

An HMP generally includes a borehole with a manual or solar pump, a protective fence, and a soakaway pit for drainage and sanitation. An HVA typically consists of a borehole with an electric or solar pump, a protective fence, a water storage tank, a supply and distribution network, and public standpipes.

The expected results and activities under Component 1 are presented below.

Outcome 1: Drinking water production and distribution infrastructure for rural communities is strengthened.

The expected products and activities under component 1 are:

Output 1.1 Infrastructure for access to drinking water is installed/rehabilitated (Boreholes, PMH, HVA)

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²⁶National standards for the type of drinking water supply system to be implemented according to the population size of the locality concerned

Surveys conducted in the project area have revealed not only a decrease in water resources, but also insufficient water supply infrastructure, making access to this resource difficult. To reduce the vulnerability of rural communities in central areas due to the scarcity of drinking water resources in the dry season, the project will strengthen drinking water access infrastructure in these localities. To achieve this, the activities to be carried out will focus on: (i) conducting feasibility studies to determine the type of structure (PMH/HVA) including Preliminary Design Studies (APS) and Detailed Design Studies (APD) to be carried out and (ii) the construction/rehabilitation of the structures selected at the end of the studies. To achieve this output, activities will include feasibility studies to determine the appropriate type of infrastructure (HMP or HVA), including preliminary and detailed design studies, as well as the construction or rehabilitation of the selected facilities based on the study results.

Output 1.2 Distribution networks are installed in the targeted areas to transport water from boreholes to the end beneficiaries

Water distribution in rural areas remains a concern even when a source of drinking water supply exists in the locality. Indeed, many constraints make it difficult to distribute water efficiently. These include, in particular, the distance between places of residence and the water source, the influx of users at water supply points during periods of high demand or the low flow rate of the borehole supplying the water supply points. In order to overcome the difficulties mentioned above and improve the conditions of access to water, distribution networks will be installed to transport water from boreholes to the end beneficiaries in densely populated localities. To this end, the project will (i) install or rehabilitate public drinking water distribution points and (ii) install drinking water supply networks for rural social infrastructure (schools, health centers). Water distribution in rural areas remains a challenge even when a source of drinking water exists in the locality. Several constraints limit efficiency, including the distance between households and water points, overcrowding at supply points during periods of high demand, and the low flow rate of some boreholes. To address these challenges and improve access conditions, the project will establish distribution networks to transport water from boreholes directly to end users in densely populated areas. This will involve the installation or rehabilitation of public drinking water distribution points, as well as the installation of supply networks to serve rural social infrastructure such as schools and health centers.

Component 2: Strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water for climate-vulnerable rural communities

The sustainability of access to drinking water is hampered by several constraints including: (a) the reduction of the quantity of water in aquifers and the pollution of infiltration water; (b) the weakness of local governance in terms of effective management of water resources and water access infrastructure and (c) the difficulties of maintaining the installed infrastructure. To ensure the sustainability of access to drinking water for rural communities made vulnerable by climate change, the project will ensure (i) implementing measures to preserve the water tables supplying water to vulnerable communities, (ii) optimizing water management in beneficiary localities and (iii) strengthening local technical capacities for the maintenance of installed infrastructure and equipment.

The expected Outcome of the component 2 is formulated as follows: "The sustainability of access to drinking water for climate vulnerable rural communities is strengthened". The expected outputs and activities under component 2 are: The sustainability of access to drinking water is constrained by several factors. These include the reduction of available groundwater and the pollution of infiltration water, weak local governance in the management of water resources and related infrastructure, and difficulties in maintaining installed systems. To address these challenges and ensure sustainable access to drinking water for rural communities vulnerable to climate change, the project will promote the preservation of aquifers supplying these communities, strengthen water management in beneficiary localities, and build local technical capacities for the maintenance of infrastructure and equipment.

The expected results and activities under Component 2 are presented below.

Outcome 2: The sustainability of access to drinking water for climate-vulnerable rural communities is strengthened

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The expected outcome of Component 2 is that the sustainability of access to drinking water for climate vulnerable rural communities is strengthened. The corresponding outputs and activities under this component are presented below:

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Output 2.1: Measures to preserve groundwater supplies to vulnerable communities are implemented

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The sustainability of the availability of groundwater in quantity and quality to supply rural households with drinking water is becoming increasingly problematic. Indeed, climate variability marked by the lengthening of drought periods, combined with the decline in precipitation, leads to difficulties in recharging groundwater tables. Similarly, the phenomenon of deforestation greatly reduces the capacity of soils to absorb rainwater, promotes rainwater runoff and increases the risks of soil erosion and evaporation of soil water.

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To contribute to the sustainability of groundwater supply and groundwater quality, the project will focus on (i) promoting reforestation in groundwater recharge areas supplying installed boreholes [through (a) the procurement of seeds and cuttings of tree species adapted to local conditions and conducive to water infiltration, (b) the organization of tree planting activities with the active involvement of local communities] and (ii) raising awareness among rural communities about good phytosanitary practices in these areas. The sustainability of groundwater availability, both in quantity and quality, for supplying rural households with drinking water is becoming increasingly problematic. Climate variability, characterized by longer drought periods and declining rainfall, reduces groundwater recharge. Deforestation further aggravates this situation by diminishing soil infiltration capacity, increasing runoff, accelerating soil erosion, and heightening the evaporation of soil water.

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To support the sustainability of groundwater resources, the project will promote reforestation in recharge areas that supply existing boreholes. This will include the procurement of seeds and cuttings of locally adapted tree species conducive to water infiltration, as well as the organization of community-based tree planting activities. In addition, the project will raise awareness among rural communities on the adoption of sustainable phytosanitary practices in recharge areas.

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Output 2.2: Water management is optimized in beneficiary localities

The consultation mission conducted with communities in the project's target localities highlighted significant shortcomings in the management of drinking water supply infrastructure and in knowledge of water resource management in the context of climate change. These challenges include the dysfunction or even inactivity of infrastructure management committees in certain localities that already have water supply systems, weak coordination between local communities, decentralized technical services, and local authorities responsible for water management, insufficient funding for the maintenance and upkeep of infrastructure leading to interruptions in supply, limited understanding of governance, technical and financial management mechanisms to ensure sustainability, and low awareness among rural populations of the need to adapt water use practices to a changing climate.

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To optimize water management in beneficiary localities, the project will establish village-level committees to manage drinking water infrastructure where they do not yet exist, and create regional committees for integrated water management. It will also put in place community-based mechanisms for sustainable financing of maintenance and upkeep through household contributions of 50 FCFA (0.1 USD) per 25-liter container, consistent with practices already applied in some villages. In parallel, the project will strengthen the technical and financial

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capacities of these committees to ensure sustainable management of infrastructure and mobilized resources, and it will raise awareness among local communities on climate change and the importance of efficient water management.

The information collected during the consultation mission carried out with the communities of the target localities of the project revealed shortcomings in community management of drinking water supply infrastructure and a poor knowledge of water resource management in a context of climate change. These shortcomings are reflected in particular by: (i) Dysfunctions or even the cessation of activities of infrastructure management committees in certain localities which have water supply systems, (ii) Low synergy between local communities, technical managers of the decentralized administration responsible for managing water access infrastructure and decentralized communities responsible for coordinating local development, to ensure the sustainability of water access infrastructure, (iii) The lack of funding for the maintenance and upkeep of installed infrastructure and equipment, which leads to the cessation of water supply in certain localities, (iv) Poor knowledge of governance, technical and financial management mechanisms to ensure the sustainability of installed infrastructure, (v) Low awareness among rural communities of the need to adapt their local water use practices to ensure sustainable water availability in the context of climate change.

To optimize water management in beneficiary localities, the project will support (i) the establishment of village committees for the management of drinking water access infrastructure in localities that do not have it, (ii) the establishment of regional committees for the integrated management of access to drinking water, (iii) the establishment of community mechanisms for sustainable financing of the maintenance and upkeep of drinking water access infrastructure through a household contribution of 50 FCFA (0.1USD) per 25 liter container, similar to the costs applied in villages already equipped with such systems, (iv) capacity building of committees set up for the sustainable management of infrastructure and financial resources mobilized by the community for this purpose, (v) raising awareness among local communities on climate change and the need for efficient water management.

Output 2.3: Local technical capacities are strengthened for the maintenance of installed infrastructure and equipment

Consultations with communities in target localities and discussions with technical managers of the decentralized administration responsible for managing water access infrastructure have revealed (a) a shortage of qualified local technicians for the maintenance and upkeep of infrastructure in the event of a breakdown, (b) the shutdown of certain PMH or HVA systems installed due to the lack of suitable tools for maintenance by available technicians and (c) irregular maintenance of installed equipment. To address these malfunctions, the project will strengthen local technical capacities for the maintenance of installed infrastructure and equipment through (i) training and equipping local repair craftsmen in the maintenance of installed infrastructure and equipment and (ii) deploying local services for the maintenance and upkeep of installed infrastructure and equipment.

Consultations with communities in the target localities and discussions with decentralized technical services responsible for water infrastructure management revealed several challenges. These include a shortage of qualified local technicians for maintenance, the shutdown of certain HMP or HVA systems due to the lack of appropriate tools, and irregular maintenance of installed equipment.

To address these issues, the project will strengthen local technical capacities by training and equipping local repair artisans in infrastructure maintenance and by deploying community-based services to ensure the regular upkeep of installed systems and equipment.

Component 3: Knowledge sharing to promote learning of sustainable drinking water supply

and management practices in a context of dwindling water resources due to climate change.

The implementation of the project will generate knowledge products on both water production and distribution systems in localities affected by increasing scarcity due to prolonged and intensified droughts, and on measures to ensure sustainable access to drinking water for rural communities vulnerable to climate change. This knowledge will be capitalized and shared with other communities facing similar water shortages in order to strengthen learning and promote resilience.

The expected results and activities under Component 3 are presented below.

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Outcome 3: Communities in regions prone to water scarcity due to climate change are equipped with knowledge on good practices for sustainable drinking water supply and management to improve their resilience

The expected outcome of Component 3 is that communities in regions affected by water scarcity due to climate change are equipped with knowledge and good practices for sustainable drinking water supply and management, thereby improving their resilience. The expected outputs and activities under this component are presented below.

The implementation of the project will generate knowledge products both in terms of water production and distribution systems in localities facing the scarcity of the "water" resource due to the lengthening and intensity of drought periods, and in terms of means to ensure the sustainability of access to drinking water for rural communities made vulnerable by climate change. The knowledge thus generated will be capitalized on and shared with other communities facing the problem of water shortages induced by the effects of climate change with a view to learning ways of resilience.

The expected Outcome of the component 3 is formulated as follows: "Communities in regions prone to water scarcity due to climate change are equipped with knowledge on good practices for sustainable drinking water supply and management to improve their resilience". The expected outputs and activities under component 3 are :

Output 3.1: Lessons learned from actions taken and good practices identified are capitalized on

The project will ensure that all actions undertaken, results achieved, and lessons learned are systematically documented, both during implementation and in the use of results. Capitalization workshops will be organized with the participation of beneficiaries, service providers, decentralized services responsible for water infrastructure management, and territorial authorities in the intervention areas. These workshops will make it possible to consolidate good practices and lessons learned, which will then be disseminated for broader uptake. The project will ensure that all actions initiated, the results obtained and the lessons learned are documented, both in the processes of implementing the actions and in the exploitation of the results obtained. Capitalization workshops bringing together beneficiaries, service providers, the decentralized administration in charge of managing water access infrastructure and the territorial administration of the intervention areas will be organized to retain good practices and lessons learned that will be disseminated.

Output 3.2: Knowledge generated by the project is shared for learning sustainable drinking water supply and management practices

The project will ensure broad dissemination of its interventions and achievements to promote learning on sustainable drinking water supply and management practices. To this end, audio-visual materials will be developed to share good practices and lessons learned. Exchange visits and experience-sharing sessions will be organized with other vulnerable communities and decentralized authorities facing similar climatic challenges. In addition, good practices will be widely disseminated through multiple communication channels to maximize outreach and impact. The project will ensure wide dissemination of its interventions and achievements, with a view to promoting the learning of sustainable drinking water supply and management practices. To this end (i) audio-visual media for the dissemination of good practices and lessons learned will be developed, (ii) exchange visits and sharing of experiences bringing together other vulnerable communities and decentralized authorities, subject to the same climatic hazards, will be organized and (iii) the mass dissemination of good practices learned will be ensured through all supporting channels.

B. Describe how the project/program provides 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/program will avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

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The project is aligned with the Adaptation Fund's results framework. It contributes to the fulfilment of the overall objective and, specifically, to the achievement of three outcomes (outcome 3, outcome 4 and outcome 5) and four outputs (output 3.1, output 3.2, output 4 and output 5) of the AF results framework (see table 8). It is the project aims to strengthen access to drinking water for rural communities in the central part of Côte d'Ivoire to reduce their vulnerability to the effects of climate change. The climate changes observed in recent years have had an impact on water resources in rural areas and on rainfall. Indeed, drought periods are becoming longer and more frequent, leading to a reduction in water availability. Rural communities that are dependent on rainwater and surface water therefore encounter difficulties in water supply. These difficulties lead to environmental, social and economic consequences because the income of the populations, particularly those of women, is reduced because of the time spent collecting water that could be used for a lucrative activity. The implementation of this project will generate benefits at three levels: economic, social and environmental.

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Recent climate changes have significantly affected water resources in rural areas, particularly rainfall patterns. Droughts are becoming longer and more frequent, reducing water availability. Rural communities that depend on rainwater and surface water are therefore facing increasing difficulties in securing their water supply. These challenges generate environmental, social, and economic consequences. Household incomes, especially those of women, are reduced as time spent collecting water could otherwise be invested in income-generating activities. The implementation of this project will deliver benefits at three levels: economic, social, and environmental.

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Economic impact of the project

Women will be the primary beneficiaries of this project to improve access to drinking water. According to the International Labour Organization (2019), access to water affects women and men differently because women remain most responsible for domestic work, including fetching water. In many African contexts, women spend several hours each day carrying heavy loads of water over long distances for household use. By bringing water points closer to homes, the project will reduce this burden and allow women to dedicate more time to income-generating activities, thereby diversifying household livelihoods. The benefits will extend beyond women themselves, positively affecting their families through increased purchasing power and improved living standards.

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The economic activities developed by women will generate broader positive impacts at both the local and regional levels, contributing to poverty reduction and enhancing community resilience. By reducing time spent on water collection, the project will promote additional productive activities for women and youth, fostering livelihood diversification.

The economic impacts of the project will go beyond time savings. Expected benefits include reduced household health expenditures due to fewer waterborne diseases, improved productivity resulting from better health, and new opportunities for economic diversification. Access to clean water will facilitate the development of small businesses and strengthen processing activities such as attiéké production and red palm oil extraction, leading to increased income and local job creation.

Women will be the first beneficiaries of this project for access to drinking water. Indeed, according to the International Labor Organization (2019), access to water and its use has different impacts on women and men. This is explained by the fact that women are the most concerned by most domestic work. The chore of water for consumption is one of these tasks carried out mainly by women, often including the transport of heavy loads of water over long distances (it is estimated that African women spend several hours a day transporting water for their households). By providing women with water points near their homes, they will be able to use the time saved to carry out additional activities that help diversify their sources of income. These activities will have an impact not only on the women themselves but also on their families who will benefit from a different source of income, thus increasing their standard of living and purchasing power.

The economic activities carried out by women will have positive impacts on the local and even regional economy. The targeted areas will indeed be able to observe a reduction in poverty and an improvement in the standard of living of rural communities. In summary, the project will reduce the time spent collecting water and will promote the exercise of additional activities that contribute to

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diversifying their sources of income for women and young people. This will have an impact not only on the women themselves, but also on the targeted families and communities.

The economic impacts of the project, beyond time savings, may include: (i) reduced healthcare costs (lower household expenditures on treating waterborne diseases), (ii) fewer water-related illnesses (decreased frequency of visits to health centers, improved productivity in daily activities), (iii) opportunities for economic diversification (particularly in trade) facilitated by access to clean water (development of small businesses that generate employment, optimization of operations in small processing units (such as attiéké production, red palm oil extraction, etc. leading to increased income).

Social impact of the project

The initial gender analysis conducted for this project shows that the responsibility for supplying drinking water to households falls primarily on women and young people in the beneficiary regions. Consequently, the scarcity or shortage of drinking water linked to climate change increases the vulnerability of these groups, who are disproportionately exposed to its adverse effects. These include heavier workloads due to longer distances and greater physical strain in fetching water, reduced time available for income-generating activities, and less time for social and community participation. The impacts are also reflected in heightened tensions and conflicts over water resources, increased incidence of waterborne diseases, and the deterioration of basic social services such as health and education as a result of inadequate water infrastructure.

The project aims to strengthen the adaptive capacity of women and youth in local communities by improving access to safe drinking water through the development of production and distribution infrastructure. It will also contribute to reducing their multidimensional vulnerability, including gender, age, and disability-related factors, by lowering the risks of waterborne diseases, reducing healthcare expenditures, and creating opportunities for income diversification. These opportunities include small-scale businesses enabled by reliable water access, such as petty trade, employment-generating activities, and increased productivity in local processing units for attiéké, crude palm oil, and other products, ultimately contributing to higher household income and improved resilience.

In doing so, the project is fully aligned with the Adaptation Fund Gender Policy by addressing the differentiated impacts of climate change on women and youth, promoting gender equality, and ensuring that both women and men can participate in and benefit equitably from project interventions.

The initial gender analysis conducted as part of this project shows that the workload related to supply of drinking water to households is devolved to women and young people in the beneficiary regions. As a result, the scarcity or shortage of drinking water due to climate change increases the vulnerability of this social group, which is increasingly exposed to its harmful effects. These effects are reflected in increased workloads (longer distances to access water sources, greater physical strain from carrying water), reduced time available for economic activities (such as income-generating initiatives), less time for social activities (including family well-being and community participation), the resurgence of conflicts due to pressure on water resources, increase in waterborne diseases and a deterioration in the provision of basic social services (health, education, etc.) due to limited access to water infrastructure.

The project therefore aims to strengthen the adaptive capacities of women and youth people in these local communities to climate change by improving access to drinking water through the development of infrastructure and equipment for production and distribution of drinking water. It will also contribute to significantly reduce the vulnerability of women and youth in their multiple dimensions (gender, age, and disability) by reducing the risks of waterborne diseases, reducing healthcare costs, and creating opportunities for income diversification. These include small-scale businesses enabled by access to drinking water (such as petty trade, employment-generating activities, and improved productivity in small processing units of attiéké, crude palm oil, etc.), ultimately leading to increased income.

Environmental impact of the project

The project will generate both direct and indirect environmental benefits in the targeted villages. By improving access to drinking water, rural communities will become less dependent on natural water sources, thereby reducing pressure on wetlands. Reforestation in groundwater recharge areas supplying boreholes will strengthen soil infiltration capacity, reduce runoff, limit erosion, and minimize water loss through evaporation. In parallel, awareness-raising on sustainable phytosanitary practices

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will help protect groundwater from pollution and enhance the quality of drinking water available to communities. Awareness campaigns will also equip rural households with the knowledge needed to manage drinking water more efficiently.

Together, these measures will improve the quality of life in the targeted villages while contributing to the preservation and restoration of surrounding ecosystems.

The project will directly and indirectly impact the environment of the targeted villages. By providing direct access to drinking water, rural communities can be less dependent on natural water sources, thereby reducing pressure on wetlands. Promoting reforestation in the groundwater recharge areas supplying the boreholes installed in the localities targeted by the project will ultimately contribute to strengthening the soil's capacity to absorb rainwater and reducing rainwater runoff, as well as soil erosion and evaporation of soil water. Furthermore, raising awareness among rural communities on good phytosanitary practices will help protect groundwater from pollution, thereby improving the quality of drinking water available to rural communities. In addition, rural communities will be better equipped to efficiently manage drinking water through awareness campaigns conducted under the project.

All these environmental benefits will result in an overall improvement in the quality of life in the villages and the preservation of the surrounding ecosystems.

Figure 10 presents the project's theory of change.

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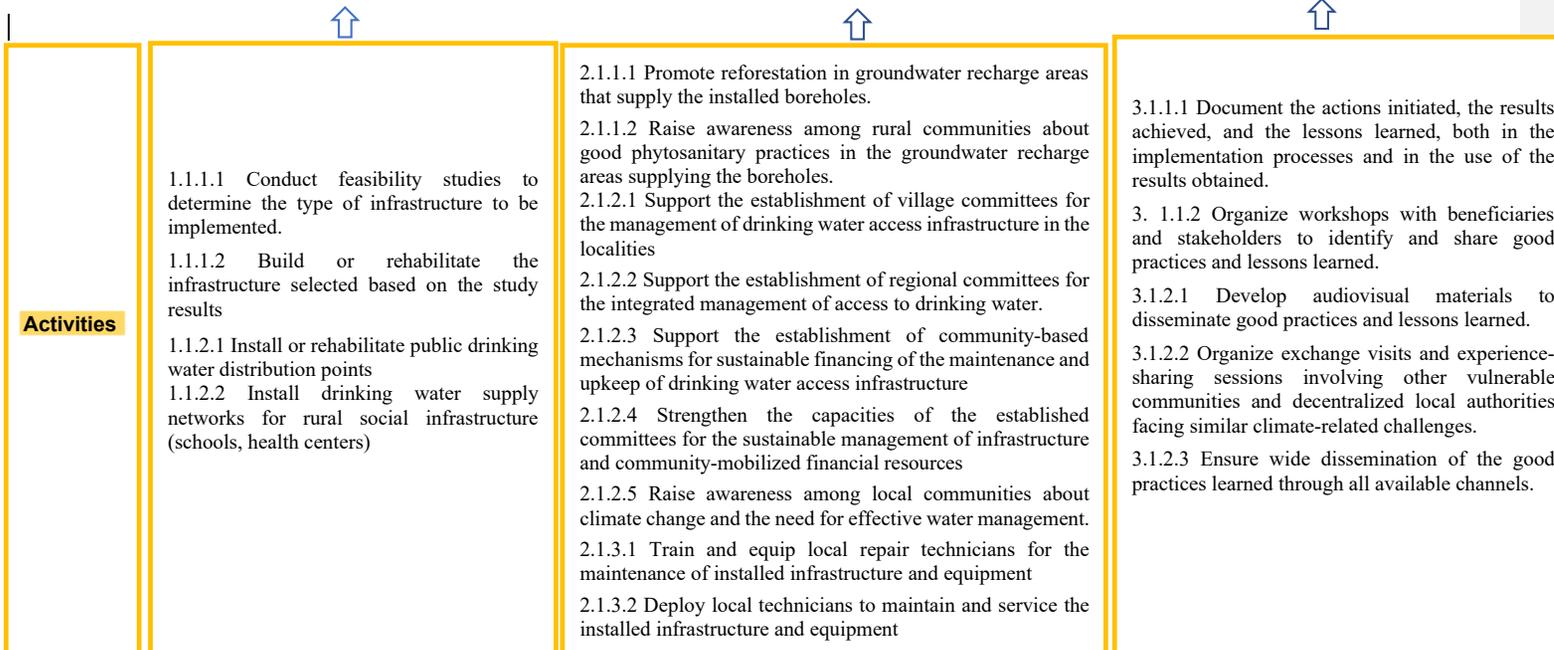
Theory of change

Impact	The climate vulnerability of rural communities in central Côte d'Ivoire has been reduced through improved access to safe drinking water.		
Components	1 Strengthening the capacity of rural communities to access drinking water.	2 Strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water for climate-vulnerable rural communities	3 Knowledge sharing to promote learning of sustainable drinking water supply and management practices in a context of dwindling water resources due to climate change.
Outcomes	1.1 Drinking water production and distribution infrastructure for rural communities has been strengthened.	2.1 The sustainability of access to drinking water for climate-vulnerable rural communities has been strengthened.	3.1 Communities in regions exposed to water shortages caused by climate change have gained knowledge on best practices for sustainable drinking water supply and management to strengthen their resilience.
Assumptions	Communities adopt and make use of the installed water infrastructure.	Strong community involvement in the management of the infrastructure	Strong community participation in learning and knowledge-sharing activities.
Output	<p>1.1.1 Drinking water access infrastructure is installed or rehabilitated (Boreholes, PMH, HVA)</p> <p>1.1.2 Distribution networks are installed in the targeted areas to transport water from boreholes to the final beneficiaries</p>	<p>2.1.1 Measures to preserve groundwater reserves for vulnerable communities are implemented.</p> <p>2.1.2 Water management is optimized in the beneficiary local</p> <p>2.1.3 Local technical capacities are strengthened for the maintenance of installed infrastructure and equipment.</p>	<p>3.1.1. Lessons learned from implemented actions and identified good practices are documented and capitalized.</p> <p>3.1.2. Knowledge generated by the project is shared to support the learning of sustainable drinking water supply and management practices..</p>

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Activities

1.1.1.1 Conduct feasibility studies to determine the type of infrastructure to be implemented.
 1.1.1.2 Build or rehabilitate the infrastructure selected based on the study results
 1.1.2.1 Install or rehabilitate public drinking water distribution points
 1.1.2.2 Install drinking water supply networks for rural social infrastructure (schools, health centers)

2.1.1.1 Promote reforestation in groundwater recharge areas that supply the installed boreholes.
 2.1.1.2 Raise awareness among rural communities about good phytosanitary practices in the groundwater recharge areas supplying the boreholes.
 2.1.2.1 Support the establishment of village committees for the management of drinking water access infrastructure in the localities
 2.1.2.2 Support the establishment of regional committees for the integrated management of access to drinking water.
 2.1.2.3 Support the establishment of community-based mechanisms for sustainable financing of the maintenance and upkeep of drinking water access infrastructure
 2.1.2.4 Strengthen the capacities of the established committees for the sustainable management of infrastructure and community-mobilized financial resources
 2.1.2.5 Raise awareness among local communities about climate change and the need for effective water management.
 2.1.3.1 Train and equip local repair technicians for the maintenance of installed infrastructure and equipment
 2.1.3.2 Deploy local technicians to maintain and service the installed infrastructure and equipment

3.1.1.1 Document the actions initiated, the results achieved, and the lessons learned, both in the implementation processes and in the use of the results obtained.
 3. 1.1.2 Organize workshops with beneficiaries and stakeholders to identify and share good practices and lessons learned.
 3.1.2.1 Develop audiovisual materials to disseminate good practices and lessons learned.
 3.1.2.2 Organize exchange visits and experience-sharing sessions involving other vulnerable communities and decentralized local authorities facing similar climate-related challenges.
 3.1.2.3 Ensure wide dissemination of the good practices learned through all available channels.

Constraints

- Drying up and depletion of water points and certain watercourses
- Insufficient water supply infrastructure, making access to this resource difficult
- Long distances to travel to reach water sources when they exist.

- Difficulties in aquifer recharge leading to a decline in groundwater levels
- Low awareness among rural communities of the need to adapt their local water use practices in the context of climate change.
- Technical, organizational, and financial shortcomings in ensuring the maintenance of installed water supply infrastructure.

Figure 10: Theory of change of the project

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C. Describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project/program.

In the targeted rural areas, communities face increasing difficulty in meeting their water needs. They depend primarily on rainwater harvesting and surface water sources such as rivers, streams, and backwaters. However, the effects of climate change are becoming increasingly evident, with rising temperatures, longer dry seasons, and a worrying decline in rainfall. As a result, these water sources often dry up during the dry season.

This situation has profound impacts on people's lives. Without sustainable solutions, traditional water supply methods will become increasingly unreliable, further exacerbating community vulnerability. Women and young people, who bear the main responsibility for water collection, spend long hours searching for water instead of engaging in income-generating activities or pursuing education. Conflicts over access to scarce water resources are emerging, undermining social cohesion. At the same time, waterborne diseases are on the rise, and pressure on fragile ecosystems continues to intensify.

In some villages, these challenges are already driving migration, as residents leave in search of better living conditions. If no action is taken, the costs of adaptation for these vulnerable populations will become unsustainable, and the absence of reliable water access could ultimately result in the loss of human life.

~~In the targeted rural areas, communities are struggling to meet their water needs. They rely mainly on rainwater harvesting or on surface water sources such as rivers, streams and backwaters. However, the effects of climate change are increasingly being felt. Temperatures are rising, dry seasons are lengthening and rainfall is decreasing alarmingly. These water sources tend to dry up during the dry season.~~

~~This situation is having a profound impact on people's lives. Without a sustainable solution, traditional water supply methods will become increasingly unreliable, increasing the vulnerability of communities. Women and young people, who are responsible for fetching water, spend long hours searching for water, when they could instead be engaged in activities that help diversify their sources of income or studying. Conflicts are breaking out over access to this scarce resource, undermining social cohesion. Health problems caused by water borne diseases are increasing, and pressure on local ecosystems is constantly increasing.~~

~~Faced with these challenges, some villages are beginning to empty of their inhabitants, who have left in search of better living conditions. If nothing is done, the adaptation costs for these vulnerable populations will become unsustainable, and the lack of water could, in the long term, cause loss of human life.~~

~~It is in this context that the project, whose financing is estimated at 10,000,000 US dollars, will support villages in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire, by allowing them to have access to public pumps, a better water distribution network and a management system adapted to local realities.~~

~~To achieve this, the project will implement resilient technologies. Thus, depending on the size of the communities, Human Powered Pumps (HMPs) or Improved Village Hydraulics (HVA) systems will be installed in the localities. The main objective will be to enable rural populations to have drinking water, and this, in a sustainable way, in order to reduce their dependence on surface water or rainwater, and therefore increase their resilience to the effects of climate change.~~

~~The financing to be mobilized will cover investment expenditure for water infrastructure and improve water distribution networks. The development of distribution networks and the increase in public distribution points as well as the strengthening of local capacities for (i) the maintenance of installed infrastructure and equipment, (ii) the optimal management of water in beneficiary localities and (iii) the implementation of measures to preserve water tables supplying water to local communities, will make it possible to meet the water needs of populations in optimal conditions in all seasons. In this context, the project, with an estimated budget of USD 10 million, will support villages in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire by providing access to public pumps, strengthening water distribution networks, and establishing management systems adapted to local realities.~~

To achieve these results, the project will deploy climate-resilient technologies. Depending on community size, Human Powered Pumps (HMPs) or Improved Village Hydraulics (HVAs) will be installed. The overarching objective is to ensure sustainable access to safe drinking water for rural

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populations, thereby reducing their reliance on rainwater and surface water and strengthening their resilience to the impacts of climate change.

The financing to be mobilized will cover investments in water infrastructure and improvements in distribution networks. Expanding these networks, increasing public water points, and building local capacities for the maintenance of infrastructure and equipment, the efficient management of water resources in beneficiary localities, and the protection of aquifers supplying rural communities will together ensure that water needs are met under optimal conditions throughout the year.

Adaptation Fund financing will play a catalytic role in expanding drinking water supply in central Côte d'Ivoire and in strengthening the adaptive capacity of rural communities vulnerable to climate change. It will also improve conditions in health centers and schools in the targeted localities, which will benefit from a reliable and sustainable drinking water supply. By addressing the social, economic, and environmental consequences of limited water access in the project area, this intervention will significantly enhance the quality of life of the target populations.

Specifically, the project will free up time previously devoted to water collection, enabling women and young people to engage in income-generating activities and diversify household livelihoods. It will reduce community conflicts over water access and improve social cohesion. Health outcomes will be strengthened through a reduction in waterborne diseases. Rural areas will become more attractive to state agents, improving the delivery of social services such as education and healthcare. School attendance and educational opportunities for children will increase. The project will also help limit rural exodus, particularly of young women, and support family stability in rural areas. At the same time, ecosystems will be preserved by reducing pressure on wetlands, and the availability and quality of groundwater resources supplying rural households will be strengthened.

In parallel, two alternative approaches were examined during project design: the construction of wells equipped with pulleys and the installation of gravity-fed water supply systems.

The financing of the Adaptation Fund will therefore play a catalytic role in the development of drinking water supply in the central part of the country and in strengthening the adaptation capacities of rural communities vulnerable to climate change. It will also improve working conditions in health centres and schools in the targeted localities, which will benefit from an efficient and sustainable supply of drinking water. This improvement in access to drinking water for households and social services, in view of the social, economic and environmental consequences induced by difficulties in accessing water in the project intervention area, should constitute a guarantee of improvement in the quality of life of the target populations. Indeed, the implementation of the project will make it possible to: (i) free up time, previously allocated to fetching water, to devote to activities that contribute to diversifying sources of income for women and young people; (ii) reduce the risks of community conflicts over access to water and improve social cohesion; (iii) improve the health status of target populations by reducing the risks of waterborne diseases; (iv) improve the attractiveness of rural areas, and promote the installation of State agents assigned to these localities, thus impacting the effectiveness of social services (health center, school); (v) improve the schooling and education rate in local communities; (vi) limit the exodus of young people, particularly young girls, to urban areas and promote the establishment and consolidation of rural couples; (vii) preserve ecosystems by reducing pressure on wetlands and (viii) strengthen the availability and quality of groundwater supplying rural households.

In parallel, two other alternatives were analyzed in the search for solutions to the problem of access to drinking water in the targeted regions. These are: (a) the construction of wells equipped with pulleys and (b) the installation of gravity water supply systems.

The construction of wells presents several advantages. Properly built wells, with walls lined with nozzles, offer durability and protection against collapse. Equipped with a lifting frame that can hold several pulleys, they facilitate water extraction. Protective structures are installed around the wells, along with covers to prevent dust, debris, and other contaminants from entering when not in use. The groundwater accessed is generally of good quality, as it is primarily derived from rainwater that has naturally filtered through soil and rock layers.

Nevertheless, this solution has important limitations. While groundwater may be free of bacterial contamination, it can sometimes contain natural chemical pollutants such as arsenic. Human activities near wells can also introduce chemical or bacteriological pollution. As a result, comprehensive chemical and bacteriological testing is required before water is deemed safe for consumption. Another weakness

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lies in the risk of contamination during water collection, as ropes and scoops may introduce impurities, undermining water quality. These constraints limit the effectiveness and reliability of wells as a long-term solution for the target populations.

There are significant advantages to constructing wells. These wells are designed with walls lined with nozzles, ensuring their durability and protection against collapse. They are also equipped with a lifting frame on which several pulleys can be mounted, thus facilitating drawing. A protection is built around the wells and a cover is installed to prevent contaminants, such as dust or debris, from falling inside when they are not in use. The groundwater exploited by these wells is generally of good quality, since it comes mainly from rainwater that infiltrates through the different layers of the ground, thus benefiting from a natural filtration process. However, this device can have limitations. Although the water may be free of bacterial contamination, it is sometimes affected by natural chemical contaminants, such as arsenic. In addition, human activities near the wells can also cause chemical or bacterial pollution. Therefore, a thorough analysis of the chemical and bacteriological quality of water is necessary before making it accessible for human consumption. Another potential problem lies in the risk of contamination during drawing. The ropes and scoops used can introduce impurities into the water, compromising its quality. These constraints limit the effectiveness and reliability of this solution to meet the long-term needs of the target populations.

Another alternative considered is the installation of gravity-fed water supply systems. These systems use gravity to transport water from the source to end users through a network of pipes. By bringing water closer to households, they reduce the time and effort required for collection, particularly for women and youth. In addition, because the water is transported within a closed network, it is protected from external contamination during conveyance.

However, this option presents significant challenges. It requires the presence of an elevated natural water source, such as a river, lake, or dam reservoir, capable of meeting the needs of the population. The regions targeted by the project do not have such sources. Moreover, constructing a dam to create the necessary elevation, combined with the installation of filtration and transport equipment, would entail high costs, making this solution financially unfeasible for the communities concerned.

Table 5 provides a comparative summary of the costs of the different alternatives analyzed.

Another option being considered is the installation of gravity fed water supply systems. These systems use gravity to transport water from the source to the users through a network of pipes. This process brings water closer to the population, reducing the time and effort required to collect it, especially for women and youth. In addition, the water transported through these networks is protected from external contamination during its transport. However, this solution is not without challenges. It requires the existence of an elevated water source, such as a river, lake or dam reservoir, capable of meeting the water needs of the local population. Unfortunately, the regions targeted by the project do not have such natural sources. In addition, the construction of a dam to supply a locality as well as the installation of water filtration and transport equipment are more expensive, making this option unviable for the communities concerned. Table 5 presents a comparative summary of the costs of the different alternatives.

Table 3: Costs of the different alternatives

Table 5 : Costs of the different alternatives

Project (PMH et HVA)		Construction of pulley wells	Installation of gravity water supply systems
PMH	HVA	Wells equipped with pulleys	Gravity water supply systems (water retention or dam)
14 000 000 FCFA (28,000 USD)	65 000 000 FCFA (130,000 USD)	+7 000 000 FCFA (+14,000 USD)	+ 400 000 000 FCFA (+800,000 USD)

A PMH is intended for populations of 100 people or fewer. For the same village, an additional PMH must be installed for every additional 400 people (in other words, for a population of 500, two PMHs are required). The average cost of installing a PMH is 14,000,000 FCFA (28 000 USD). An HVA system should be installed in villages with populations between 1,000 and 3,999 inhabitants. In an HVA system, one water distribution standpipe is installed for every 500 people (in other words, for a

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population of 1,500, an HVA system with three standpipes is required). An HVA system with three distribution standpipes costs on average 65,000,000 FCFA (130,000 USD).

Other alternatives include pulley-equipped wells and gravity water supply systems (such as reservoirs or dams). Considering that wells are supplied by groundwater, a well yields on average 1 m³ of water per day in the targeted central zones. A household of five people consumes an average of 100 liters of water per day. A single well can therefore serve 10 households per day, or about 50 people. For 100 people, two wells would be needed. The installation cost of a well is at least 7,000,000 FCFA (14,000 USD). However, due to the severity of the dry season, wells generally dry up during this period. Gravity water supply systems (reservoir or dam) use gravitational force to transport water from a source to users through a network of pipes. The source can be a lake, river, or a water reservoir created by a dam. The areas targeted by the project generally do not have permanent natural sources such as rivers or lakes (with water in the dry season). Therefore, in such zones, the most reliable source within this type of system remains the construction of a water reservoir through dam building. The cost of building a dam for drinking water supply in rural areas is estimated at a minimum of 400,000,000 FCFA (800,000 USD). Added to this cost are the water intake and filtration equipment, the piping system to convey the water to the villages, and the installation of standpipes for water distribution.

In summary, the drinking water supply solutions proposed by the project offer the best cost-benefit advantages for strengthening the resilience of beneficiary communities to the effects of climate change.

D. Describe how the project/programme is consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, including, where appropriate, national adaptation plan (NAP), national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications, or national adaptation programs of action, or other relevant instruments, where they exist.

The project to improve access to drinking water in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire is fully aligned with national and subnational development priorities as well as international commitments. It contributes directly to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 6 on clean water and sanitation and Goal 13 on climate action. At the national level, it supports the objectives of the National Development Plan (NDP), the Integrated Water Resources Management Plan (IWRM), the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP). It is also consistent with sectoral strategies such as the Strategy for the Preservation, Rehabilitation and Extension of Forests (SPREF).

The project on improving access to drinking water in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire is in line with several national and subnational development plans, programs and strategies, in particular with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the National Development Plan (NDP), the Integrated Water Management Plan (IWRM), the NDCs, the National Adaptation Plan, the Strategy for the Preservation, Rehabilitation and Extension of Forests (SPREF).

Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Access to safe drinking water is a fundamental pillar of sustainable development. Yet millions of people around the world are still deprived of this basic right. Without it, they are denied equal opportunities for good health, education, and economic security. Advancing progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 6 on clean water and sanitation, is therefore essential to ensure inclusive and resilient development. Access to water is an important pillar of sustainable development. Millions of people around the world are denied the basic right to clean drinking water. Failure to achieve this basic right means that people do not have equal opportunities for good health, education and financial security. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals (SDGs) can change this.²⁷

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²⁷WaterAid West Africa, July 2021, Climate change and water security in Burkina and Niger

As a member state of the United Nations since 1960, Côte d'Ivoire fully validates this approach and has articulated it with its own National Development Plan. Thus, improving access to water for populations is at the heart of the concerns of the Ivorian State, which is implementing policies and projects to ensure water for all. In this context, the project on improving access to drinking water in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire through its components and activities will contribute to progress towards achieving several SDGs.

Through Component 1, which focuses on strengthening the capacity of rural communities to access drinking water, the project will improve water quality and make it accessible to all. This will contribute to reducing poverty in the targeted regions (SDG 1), improving universal access to safe drinking water (SDG 6), enhancing public health (SDG 3), supporting education in local communities (SDG 4), increasing food security in the selected regions (SDG 2), and reducing inequalities (SDG 10). Access to safe drinking water is a fundamental determinant of quality of life, yet it often depends on household income. Low-income populations are typically those with the least access to drinking water, or they must make greater efforts to secure it, reducing the time available for education or income-generating activities. By addressing this gap, the project will also strengthen community resilience to climate change, advancing SDG 13 (climate action). Women, who are disproportionately burdened with water collection, will be the first to benefit from these interventions, gaining time to engage in income-generating activities and thereby reducing gender inequalities (SDG 5).

Through Component 2, which focuses on strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water for rural communities, the project will promote the sustainable management and rational use of natural resources (SDG 12). By supporting reforestation in groundwater recharge areas that supply boreholes, it will contribute to the preservation and restoration of terrestrial ecosystems (SDG 15) while reinforcing climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts (SDG 13).

Thus, through component 1, which concerns strengthening the capacities of rural communities to access drinking water, the project will initially improve water quality and make it accessible to all. It will contribute to reducing poverty in the targeted regions (SDG 1), improving access to drinking water for all (SDG 6), improving the health of populations (SDG 3), improving education in the target communities (SDG 4), increasing food security in the selected regions (SDG 2) and reducing inequalities (SDG 10). Indeed, drinking water is an essential element for the quality of life of populations. However, access to quality water depends largely on household income. Low income populations are often those who have the least access to safe drinking water or they must make greater efforts to gain access to it, which reduces the time they could spend on an income generating activity.

Also, the project will increase the resilience of populations to climate change, thus making it possible to move closer to SDG 13 (fight against climate change). Finally, the populations most vulnerable to climate hazards, i.e. women, will be the first beneficiaries of the project. At the end of the project activities, women will benefit from more time to carry out an income generating activity, thus leading to a reduction in gender inequalities (SDG 5).

Through component 2, which focuses on strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water for rural communities, the project promotes sustainable management and rational use of natural resources (SDG 12). By promoting the reforestation of groundwater recharge areas supplying boreholes, the project contributes to the preservation and restoration of terrestrial ecosystems (SDG 15) and contributes to the implementation of measures to combat climate change (SDG 13).

Alignment with the National Development Plan (NDP)

The Ivorian Government has articulated a national objective of guaranteeing universal and affordable access to drinking water throughout the territory, supported by the development of high-quality hydraulic infrastructure. Within the 2021–2025 National Development Plan (PND), access to drinking water has been established as a priority, with the aim of raising the national coverage rate to 95% by 2025. Achieving this target requires addressing several structural challenges, including the construction of modern hydraulic infrastructure incorporating technological innovation, the rehabilitation and maintenance of existing systems, the expansion of public drinking water distribution networks through structuring projects such as multi-village hydraulic systems, and the strengthening of human, technical, material, and financial capacities across the sector.

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Through the implementation of its first two components, the project on improving access to drinking water in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire will contribute directly to these national development objectives. Beyond expanding water access, the project constitutes a climate change adaptation measure that strengthens the resilience of rural communities. This aligns with the Ivorian Government's broader development policy, in which climate change adaptation and mitigation are recognized as central priorities.

The vision of the Ivorian Government is to ensure access to drinking water for all and at a lower cost, throughout the national territory, through the development of quality hydraulic infrastructures. With a view to increasing the rate of access to drinking water to 95% by 2025, the government has given priority to access to drinking water in the 2021-2025 PND. The government intends to address the following challenges, among others: (i) The construction of quality human hydraulic infrastructures taking into account the promotion of technological innovation, (ii) The rehabilitation, reinforcement and maintenance of human hydraulic infrastructures, (iii) The extension of the public drinking water distribution network with structuring projects such as hydraulic and multi-village boulevards and/or satellite accounts, (iv) Strengthening the human, technical, material and financial capacities of the sector.

Thus, thanks to the implementation of its components (component 1 and 2), the project on improving access to drinking water in the central zone of the country will contribute to the development objectives targeted by the Ivorian government in the area of drinking water. In addition to contributing to improving access to drinking water, the project is a climate change adaptation project. The fight against climate change is at the heart of the Ivorian state's development policy.

Alignment with the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) plan²⁸

Component 2 of the project, which focuses on strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water for rural communities, is consistent with the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). In this component, women will play a central role within the local management committees to be established. This reflects the third principle of IWRM, which recognizes that women are at the heart of water supply, management, and conservation processes. While women already play an essential role in ensuring household and, in many cases, agricultural water supply and preservation, their influence remains limited compared to men in the management, problem analysis, and decision-making processes related to water resources. The project seeks to address this imbalance by ensuring that women are meaningfully included in decision-making structures.

IWRM also emphasizes that water development and management should be based on a participatory approach that involves users, planners, and decision-makers at all levels. This is fully aligned with the project's approach, which will actively engage national, regional, and local authorities as well as beneficiary communities in all stages of project implementation, particularly in governance, decision-making, and infrastructure management.

Component 2 of the project, which concerns strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water for rural communities, is in line with the principles of IWRM. In this component, women have a key role in the local management committees that will be created, and according to the third principle of IWRM, women are at the heart of the processes of water supply, management and conservation. It is indeed indisputable that women play a key role in the supply and preservation of water for household and, very often, agricultural purposes, but that their influence is less than men in the management, analysis of problems and decision-making process related to water. The project will seek to remedy this by giving women an important place in the decision-making process. In addition, IWRM stipulates that water development and management should be based on a participatory approach involving users, planners and decision makers at all levels. This vision is consistent with that of the project, which aims to actively involve national, regional and local decision makers and beneficiary communities in the various stages of the project, particularly in decision making and infrastructure management.

Alignment with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

Côte d'Ivoire's NDCs aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30.41% by 2030. To this end, the

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²⁸Integrated Water Resources Management

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energy sector has been identified as a priority sector. Côte d'Ivoire wants to reduce the use of fossil fuels and move towards renewable energies. The project is aligned with this vision of the Ivorian state because the pumping system used in HVA systems for the production and distribution of water to populations will be partly powered by solar energy. It will therefore be a step forward for the country towards the use of renewable energies. In addition, the reforestation of groundwater recharge areas supplying the boreholes will contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gases.

Alignment with the National Adaptation Plan (NAP)

Water resources are identified as one of the priority sectors in Côte d'Ivoire's National Adaptation Plan (NAP). While the country benefits from a significant hydraulic system, this system remains highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The NAP therefore prioritizes both the control of water resources for multiple uses and the preservation and security of these resources.

The project to improve access to drinking water in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire is directly aligned with these priorities. By strengthening community capacities in optimized water management and promoting reforestation in groundwater recharge areas supplying the boreholes to be installed, the project will enhance the management, preservation, and long-term sustainability of water resources in the targeted localities.

Water resources are one of the priority sectors established by the PNA of Côte d'Ivoire. Côte d'Ivoire has a significant hydraulic system that is vulnerable to climate change. The PNA therefore aims to control water resources for different uses and to preserve and secure this resource. The project on improving access to drinking water in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire is in line with these two ambitions because through the strengthening of the capacities of communities on optimized water management and the reforestation of groundwater recharge areas supplying the boreholes to be installed, water resources will be better managed in the localities concerned.

The Strategy for the Preservation, Rehabilitation and Extension of Forests (SPREF)

Côte d'Ivoire has adopted an ambitious strategy to preserve, rehabilitate, and expand its forest cover, which has been severely degraded in recent decades. This strategy forms part of the national response to climate change, biodiversity conservation, and the pursuit of sustainable development. Among its key objectives, it seeks to increase national forest cover to 20%. Through the reforestation of groundwater recharge areas supplying the boreholes to be installed, the project will directly contribute to this objective.

Beyond national and international frameworks, the project is also consistent with technical standards and legal instruments, including the Water Code and the Sustainable Development Orientation Law. At the subnational level, the Regional Councils of the five target regions (Gbêkê, N'Zi, Marahoué, Bélier, and Iffou) have each adopted a Regional Spatial Planning and Development Scheme (SRADT). These frameworks provide territorial diagnostics, prospective scenarios, and strategic intervention priorities, all of which identify the fight against climate change as a priority. The project is fully aligned with these SRADTs.

Ivory Coast has implemented an ambitious strategy to preserve, rehabilitate and extend its forest cover, which has been severely degraded in recent decades. This strategy is part of the fight against climate change, the protection of biodiversity and sustainable development. Among other objectives, it aims to increase the forest cover of Ivory Coast to 20%. Through the reforestation actions of the groundwater recharge areas supplying the boreholes to be installed, the project will contribute to the achievement of this objective. In addition to national and international plans and strategies, the proposed project is aligned with national and regional technical standards: the Water Code and the sustainable development orientation law. The Regional Councils of the five regions covered by the project (GBEKE, N'ZI, MARAHOUÉ, BÉLIER, and IFFOU) have a Regional Spatial Planning and Development Scheme (SRADT). These documents present territorial diagnostics of each region, prospective scenarios, and strategic intervention frameworks. These plans identify the fight against climate change as a priority. The project will align with these SRADTs.

Alignment with the Water Code

The project takes into account Article 9 of Law No. 2023-902 of November 23, 2023 on the Water Code, which stipulates that the management and development of water resources in hydraulic developments and structures must involve at all levels: (i) planners, decision-makers and specialists

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in the field; (ii) operators; and users. In addition, Article 5 of the said law states that the right of access to water is a right common to all. Thus, by facilitating and improving the conditions of access to drinking water in rural communities, the project aligns with this law.

Law No. 2014-390 of June 20, 2014 on sustainable development:

This law serves as a key reference framework for the implementation of the project, as it directs all development actions in accordance with the principles of sustainable development. Its relevance is particularly significant in the area of citizen engagement, which seeks to ensure ownership of project activities by beneficiaries. By grounding the project in this legal framework, the rational and sustainable management of water resources, as well as of the hydraulic works to be constructed, will be reinforced and secured over the long term. This law constitutes a guide for the implementation of the project. It directs all development actions according to the principles of sustainable development. This law will be particularly highlighted in the context of citizen engagement which aims at the appropriation of the various activities of the project by the beneficiaries for a rational and sustainable management of water resources and the hydraulic works which will be carried out.

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Compliance with National Laws on Gender and Social Inclusion

Legal Framework on Gender Equality

The Constitution of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire guarantees equality of all citizens before the law, without distinction of sex. The project aligns with this vision by specifically targeting women—who are the most affected by the burden of water collection—in order to reduce existing inequalities. The project is fully in line with the National Policy for Equal Opportunity, Equity, and Gender (PNEEG), which aims to mainstream gender in all development actions. Women are identified as the "primary beneficiaries" of the project, which aims to ease their burden, allowing them to dedicate the time saved to economic activities or education. The project explicitly plans to give women a significant role in decision-making processes and within the management committees of water infrastructure. Consultations held during the project preparation phase ensured the inclusion and input of women (63 women out of 164 people consulted during the field mission), guaranteeing that their specific needs are central to the project design.

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Legal Framework on Social Inclusion

The project is aligned with Law No. 98-594 of July 10, 1998, which promotes the rights of persons with disabilities and seeks to ensure their social integration and equitable access to public infrastructure. In line with this law, the project will integrate accessibility considerations into the final technical design of water points, including hand pumps and standpipes. Adaptations will include features such as step-free access, appropriate crank height, and clear pathways to facilitate use by persons with reduced mobility. Furthermore, community consultations for the establishment of water management committees will be designed to ensure inclusiveness and prevent the exclusion or discrimination of any group, including households with persons with disabilities. The project is aligned with Law No. 98-594 of July 10, 1998, which promotes the rights of persons with disabilities and aims to ensure their social integration and access to public infrastructure. The project will ensure that, during the final technical design of water points (hand pumps and standpipes), specific adaptations are made to facilitate access for people with reduced mobility (e.g., absence of steps, appropriate crank height, clear access paths). It will also ensure that during community consultations for the establishment of management committees, no group (including households with persons with disabilities) is excluded or discriminated against.

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E. Describe how the project/programme 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.

The project will comply with all applicable laws, technical standards, and regulations in force in Côte d'Ivoire, as well as with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund. Adaptation actions, particularly the construction and rehabilitation of water infrastructure, will strictly adhere to the relevant legal frameworks.

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Compliance with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP)

In accordance with the ESP of the Adaptation Fund and FIRCA's internal procedures, the project has been classified as Category B (moderate impact). This classification recognizes that while the project's activities are expected to generate positive outcomes, they may also involve potential environmental and social risks that require mitigation measures. To address these risks, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) will be developed during the full proposal phase. This framework will detail the procedures for the selection, assessment, approval, and monitoring of outputs to ensure compliance.

⇒ **Compliance with the national legal framework**

- **Law No. 2023-902 of 23 November 2023 on the Water Code**

Law No. 2023-902 of November 23, 2023, on the Water Code constitutes the regulatory basis of the project. It defines the principles, rights, and obligations for any activities related to the mobilization, use, and protection of water resources. Its objective is to enable the integrated management of water resources, hydraulic developments and structures: (i) **Fundamental principles (Art. 6)**: The project must integrate in its design and management the core principles of precaution, prevention, participation, the user-pays principle, and the polluter-pays principle. The establishment of management committees with household financial contributions, as provided under Project Output 2.2 to ensure the maintenance of infrastructure, constitutes a direct and compliant application of the user-pays principle, (ii) **Authorization and declaration regime (Articles 30, 31, 33)**: The law stipulates that the location, construction, and operation of hydraulic structures (including boreholes, PMH, and HVA systems) are subject either to an authorization or a prior declaration. Article 31 specifies that structures likely to pose risks to health, public safety, or the environment require formal authorization, while others fall under the declaration regime. The types of infrastructure (PMH and HVA) have been identified and classified accordingly. The applicable administrative procedure will therefore be carried out with the Ministry in charge of Water Resources, (iii) **Protection of water abstraction points (Art. 49)**: The Code requires the creation of protection around water abstraction points intended for human consumption. Within these zones, all polluting activities are strictly prohibited. The project has planned for the installation of security fencing, as described in the specifications for PMH and HVA systems, to ensure the protection of these zones around each borehole, (iv) **Prohibition of waste and pollution (Articles 47, 50, 53)**: The Code prohibits any waste of water and any discharge or deposit of substances likely to pollute water resources. The project must therefore include measures for efficient water management and strict protocols to prevent contamination of groundwater (whether from construction activities (e.g., handling of oils, fuels, and drilling sludge) or from surrounding agricultural practices. Project Component 2, which includes an awareness of good phytosanitary practices in groundwater recharge zones, directly addresses this requirement for water quality protection, (v) **User Participation (Art. 9)**: The Water Code enshrines the principle of participatory management, stipulating that the management and development of water resources must involve users at all levels. The establishment of village and regional water management committees, as planned under Project Output 2.2, fully aligns with this legal provision and represents a key factor for ensuring the sustainability of project interventions.

- **Law No. 2023-900 of 23 November 2023 on the Environment Code**

Law No. 2023-900 of November 23, 2023, on the Environmental Code establishes the general framework for environmental protection in Côte d'Ivoire. It reinforces the obligations of project developers and serves as the legal foundation for the environmental assessment process: (i) **Fundamental Principles (Articles 6, 11)**: The Code affirms every citizen's right to a healthy environment and enshrines key guiding principles of environmental action, notably the precautionary principle. These principles justify the need for a rigorous analysis of potential risks and impacts before the start of any project activities, (ii) **Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) requirement (Art. 25)**: The Code stipulates that the State (and by extension, any project developer) must conduct an environmental and social impact assessment for all development plans, policies, programs, and projects. This provision embeds the obligation to carry out an ESIA within the framework law, making it a mandatory requirement for a project of this nature, (iii) **Obligation to Comply with Anti-Pollution Standards (Art. 60)**: The law stipulates that the State shall make technical anti-pollution standards mandatory in the areas of air, water, soil, and noise. This reinforces

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the requirement for the project to comply with water quality standards and to manage construction-related nuisances in accordance with established regulations.

- **Decree No. 2024-595 of June 26, 2024, establishing the rules and procedures applicable to environmental and social assessments**

This decree is the most relevant implementing regulation for the initial phases of the project. It defines the precise procedure the project must follow to obtain environmental clearance. It also specifies threshold values for water boreholes, which determine the type of environmental assessment required: (i) a Simplified Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (SESA) is required for boreholes with a discharge rate below 500 cubic meters per day (m³/day), (ii) a Comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (CESIA) is required for boreholes with a discharge rate above 500 m³/day. The decree formalizes the procedure, which involves the submission of file to the National Environmental Agency (ANDE), organizing a public consultation, obtaining technical validation from an interministerial commission, and securing final approval through a decree issued by the Minister in charge of the Environment.

- **Drinking Water Quality**

The Ivorian regulatory framework for drinking water quality operates at two levels. The primary reference is based on the WHO Guidelines for Drinking-Water Quality (4th edition, including the first addendum of 2017). These guidelines serve as the baseline standard for the project. They set guideline values for microbiological parameters (e.g., E. coli), chemical parameters (e.g., arsenic, nitrates), and organoleptic parameters (e.g., pH, turbidity). Specific standards also apply to social infrastructure, particularly hygiene in schools and health centers. These standards set detailed requirements not only for water quality but also for quantity (e.g., 400 to 750 liters per bed per day for a health center) and infrastructure specifications (e.g., type of storage tank, disinfection of the distribution system).

- **Infrastructure Development and Safety**

The construction activities related to boreholes and water distribution networks are governed by several technical regulations, including: (i) **Decree No. 2021-679 of November 3, 2021**, regulating easements for drinking water, sanitation and drainage infrastructure, as well as electrical, gas, and oil pipeline networks. For HVA systems, this decree sets specific and non-reducible easement widths for buried pipelines, based on their nominal diameter (DN). Network deployment plans must fully integrate these constraints during the execution of construction works. (ii) **Labor Code (Law No. 2015-532 of June 20, 2015)**. This code governs health and safety conditions on construction sites for boreholes and distribution networks. Article 41.1 and subsequent provisions impose a general duty of care on employers (in this case, construction companies contracted under the project). This obligation translates into specific requirements: the provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) adapted to site-specific risks (e.g., helmets, gloves, safety boots, harnesses), worker training on construction-related hazards, and the securing of the work site perimeter to protect third parties. The project will ensure that these requirements are explicitly stated and contractually binding in the specifications for all service providers.

F. Describe if there is duplication of project/program with other funding sources, if any. The proposed project and its interventions will avoid any duplication of actions and sources of funding present in its intervention area. During the identification and design of the project, consultations were conducted with all local stakeholders (administrative and customary authorities, local communities). No projects are underway in almost all of the villages visited. This ensured that there was no duplication of projects or sources of funding.

The National Office for Drinking Water (ONEP), whose mandate is to support the State and local authorities in ensuring nationwide access to drinking water, will be involved in all phases of the project's implementation in order to avoid duplication. ONEP will serve as a technical design and monitoring partner, ensuring that all activities planned by other projects in the targeted localities are taken into account and harmonized, particularly in relation to drinking water supply, thereby guaranteeing complementarity and efficiency. The National Office for Drinking Water (ONEP),

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whose main mission is to assist the State and local authorities in ensuring access to drinking water for the population throughout the country, will be involved in all phases of the project's implementation to avoid any duplication.
Thus, ONEP will participate in the project as a design and monitoring office, ensuring that all activities planned by other projects in the targeted localities in terms of drinking water supply are duly taken into account in order to avoid any duplication.

The table 6 below presents some projects related to the themes of drinking water in Côte d'Ivoire.

Table 4 : Project/Program in the drinking water sector

Table 6 : Project/Program in the drinking water sector

Project/Program	Objective Synergy/with the proposed project	Complementarity with the proposed project
The government's social program 1 (PS Gouv 1)	The programme aims to strengthen social action by identifying priority measures that guarantee immediate and lasting results for all. Axis 5 of this program is to improve the well-being of rural populations, in particular by promoting access to housing, drinking water, energy, transport and consumer goods. It targets all regions of the country. The PS Gouv 1 project covered the 2019–2020 period and targeted all regions of Côte d'Ivoire. However, a second phase of the project was launched, in which the localities targeted in the present proposal were not included	Possibility of complementarity with the proposed project because they both aim to improve access to drinking water for populations. However, the proposed project will not cover the same areas.
The Agro-Industrial Pole Project in the Bélier region (2PAI-Bélier)	It aims to establish the foundations of an agro-industrial hub to transform and modernize agriculture in the Bélier region through the restoration and development of productive capital, the modernization of means of soil cultivation and communication (ICT) and the promotion of the private sector and industrialization. One of the activities of this project is to build boreholes and pumps to facilitate access to drinking water for the project beneficiaries.	Possibility of complementarity The 2PAI-Bélier project does not target all regions of the country but only the Bélier region which is one of the beneficiary regions of the selected project. However, the proposed project will not cover the same areas.
Water and Sanitation Security Support Project (PASEA)	The project addresses the issue of access to drinking water. Its objective is to develop and strengthen integrated water resources management, improve governance and the sustainability of urban water supply and increase access to improved drinking water and sanitation services. It will be implemented over 6 years in 11 regions in the north of the country.	No duplication because the project is interested in the northern regions of the country while the target of the present proposal concerns the central area of the country.

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G. If applicable, describe the learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned.

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The challenge of drinking water supply in a context of climate change, which this project addresses in the central part of the country, also affects other regions of Côte d'Ivoire, where it is estimated that more than 41% of households still lack access to an improved water source. To respond to this wider challenge, the activities under Component 3 will ensure broad dissemination of the project's interventions and achievements, thereby promoting learning among local communities, local authorities, administrations, and partners involved in the production, distribution, and management of drinking water.

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Project implementation will be supported by a communication and knowledge management strategy designed to capture, capitalize on, and disseminate lessons learned. This strategy will target rural stakeholders, technical practitioners, and local authorities responsible for rural development, ensuring that the knowledge generated contributes to improved practices and wider replication.

The problem of drinking water supply in a context of climate change, which the project addresses in the central part of the country, affects a number of other regions of the country, especially since it is estimated that in Côte d'Ivoire, more than 41% of households do not have access to an improved water source. The actions of component 3 will therefore ensure a wide dissemination of its interventions and achievements, to promote learning by local communities, other local authorities and administrations and partners involved in the production, distribution and management of drinking water. The implementation of the project is accompanied by a communication and knowledge management strategy whose objective is to enhance the acquired knowledge by capitalizing on it and disseminating it to rural stakeholders, technicians and authorities in charge of the development of rural communities.

The strategy will be implemented through several complementary actions. First, capitalization workshops will be organized, bringing together beneficiaries, service providers, decentralized administrations responsible for water infrastructure management, and territorial authorities in the project areas to identify and document good practices and lessons learned. Second, audio-visual materials will be developed to facilitate the dissemination of these practices. Third, exchange visits and experience-sharing sessions will be organized with other vulnerable communities and decentralized authorities facing similar climate-related challenges. Finally, the project will ensure the wide dissemination of capitalized knowledge and good practices through multiple communication channels to maximize outreach and impact. This strategy can be broken down as follows: (i) capitalization workshops bringing together beneficiaries, service providers, the decentralized administration responsible for managing water access infrastructure and the territorial administration of the intervention zones will be organized to identify good practices and lessons that will be disseminated, (ii) audio-visual media for disseminating best practices and lessons learned will be developed, (iii) exchange visits and sharing of experiences bringing together other vulnerable communities and decentralized authorities, subject to the same climatic hazards, will be organized, (iv) the mass dissemination of capitalized good practices will be ensured through all supporting channels.

H. 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 and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

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During the identification and formulation of the project, a wide range of actors and stakeholders were consulted through an inclusive and participatory process. This process was carried out in two main phases. The first phase consisted of a diagnostic mission that combined consultations with communities and field visits to the targeted areas. The second phase was a national consultation and exchange workshop with stakeholders, which served to validate the project concept note. In the process of identifying and formulating the project, several actors and stakeholders were consulted in an inclusive and participatory process. The process took place in two main phases: (i) a diagnostic, consultation and field visit mission; (ii) a national stakeholder consultation and exchange workshop for the validation

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of the project concept note.

4. Diagnostic, consultation and field visit mission

A diagnostic mission was organized in April-May 2024 in five (5) regions of the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire: the Iffou Region in the Center-East, the N'Zi, Bélier and Gbêkè Regions in the Center, the Marahoué Region in the Center-West. This mission aimed to consult local communities in these Regions and carry out field visits. Conducted jointly by the accredited entity (FIRCA) and the Ministry of the Environment, Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition, this mission was supported by the Regional Directorates of the Ministries in charge of hydraulics and the Ministry of the Environment. A total of 164 people including 63 women (38.41%) and 101 men were consulted in 18 villages in the 5 regions. Figures 11, 12, and 13 show images from the field visits.



~~Administrative authorities (Prefects, Regional Councils, Regional Directors of the Environment, Regional Directors of Hydraulics), customary authorities, communities as a whole (women, men and young people) were questioned on the current state of their water supply, their needs and their expectations. The consultations were conducted with respect for gender equality and gender issues were taken into account in the same way as environmental and social issues, in accordance with the environmental and social policy and the gender equality policy of the Adaptation Fund. The results of these consultations were used for the development of the draft of the concept note.~~

~~Visits to the communities' drinking water supply sources were carried out. They made it possible to observe the state of the wells, backwaters and watercourses used in these localities (image 2), which as a whole were in an advanced drying phase at the time of the visits. To ensure their drinking water supply during this period, these communities are forced to move to the nearest neighboring villages with sustainable water supply systems such as human-powered pumps or Improved Village Hydraulics systems. The nearest neighboring villages are generally located between 2 and 5 kilometers away.~~

~~To travel from their localities to these neighboring villages, the young people and women of the communities visited, in charge of the water chore, either walk, use bicycles or rent motorcycles or tricycles. When the populations move, the water collected from the neighboring villages is purchased at 50 FCFA (about 0.1 USD) per 25-liter can. On the other hand, the 25-liter can cost 200 FCFA (0.4 USD) in the case where it is offered for sale (by resellers) on site in the communities concerned. Each household uses on average 4-25-liter cans, or 100 liters of water per day.~~

Figure 11 : a. Discussions in the village of IFFOU; b. Discussion in the Kouréfla community in the Marahoué region

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Image 1: a. Discussions in the Discussion in the Kouréfla Marahoué region



village of IFFOU: b. community in the

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Figure 12: a. Well in the village of Amanikro in the Gbéké Region; b. Watercourse in the village of Blofonoud in the Gbéké Region



of Amanikro in the Watercourse in the Gbéké Region

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Image 2: a. Well in the village Gbéké Region; b. village of Blofonoud in the

Figure 13: a. Visit to the Prefect of the Gbéké Region b. Exchange with the Hydraulic Director of the Iffou Region

Picture 1: a. Visit to the

Region b. Exchange with the Hydraulic Director of the Iffou Region

Prefect of the Gbéké

Administrative authorities (Prefects, Regional Councils, Regional Directors of the Environment, and Regional Directors of Hydraulics), customary authorities, and community members, including women, men, and youth, were consulted on the current state of their water supply, their needs, and their expectations. These consultations were conducted with full respect for gender equality, ensuring that gender considerations were integrated alongside environmental and social issues, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund. The outcomes of these consultations informed the development of the draft concept note.

Field visits were also conducted to community water sources, allowing direct observation of the condition of wells, backwaters, and streams in the localities. At the time of the visits, most of these sources were in an advanced state of drying. To secure water during this period, communities were forced to travel to the nearest neighboring villages equipped with more sustainable water supply systems, such as human-powered pumps or Improved Village Hydraulics. These neighboring villages were typically located between 2 and 5 kilometers away.

Administrative authorities (Prefects, Regional Councils, Regional Directors of the Environment, Regional Directors of Hydraulics), customary authorities, communities as a whole (women, men and young people) were questioned on the current state of their water supply, their needs and their expectations. The consultations were conducted with respect for gender equality and gender issues were taken into account in the same way as environmental and social issues, in accordance with the environmental and social policy and the gender equality policy of the Adaptation Fund. The results of these consultations were used for the development of the draft of the concept note.

Visits to the communities' drinking water supply sources were carried out. They made it possible to observe the state of the wells, backwaters and watercourses used in these localities (image 2), which as a whole were in an advanced drying phase at the time of the visits. To ensure their drinking water supply during this period, these communities are forced to move to the nearest neighboring villages with sustainable water supply systems such as human powered pumps or Improved Village Hydraulics systems. The nearest neighboring villages are generally located between 2 and 5 kilometers away.

To travel from their localities to these neighboring villages, the young people and women of the communities visited, in charge of the water chore, either walk, use bicycles or rent motorcycles or tricycles. When the populations move, the water collected from the neighboring villages is purchased at 50 FCFA (about 0.1 USD) per 25-liter can. On the other hand, the 25-liter can cost 200 FCFA (0.4 USD) in the case where it is offered for sale (by resellers) on site in the communities concerned. Each household uses on average 4 25-liter cans, or 100 liters of water per day.

Extensive community level consultations in the targeted sites will be undertaken during the development phase of the full project proposal prior to the exact description of project activities.

2- National Stakeholder Consultation Workshop

On October 31, 2024, a national stakeholder workshop was organized held on October 31, 2024 in the conference room of the Prefecture in Bouaké, the capital of the Gbêkê region. This workshop brought together the various stakeholders including the prefectural body, the Gbêkê Regional Council, the Regional Directorates of Hydraulics, the Regional Directorates of the Environment, customary authorities, representatives of women and youth from the target communities, the Ministry of the Environment, Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition (MINEDDTE) and the FIRCA team. The workshop objectives were made it possible to present the different axes and actions proposed selected in the draft of the concept note and to collect observations from stakeholders. The workshop brought together was attended by a total of 63 people participants including 14 women (22%). Figure 14 shows images of the workshop.



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Image-Figure 14: National Stakeholder Consultation Workshop

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The initial consultations involved rural communities, administrative authorities, and local governments, particularly at the regional level. During the development of the full proposal, all relevant stakeholders will be consulted, including representatives from the private sector and universities/research centers. Consultations were conducted in the regions of Iffou, N'Zi, Gbêkê, Marahoué, the district of Yamoussoukro, and Béliér between April 24 and May 2, 2024. They involved technical and administrative services from the prefectures, the concerned municipalities, civil society organizations; —including youth and women's groups;—and other stakeholders. In total, 232 individuals were consulted, including 139 women (59.91%) and 93 men (40.09%), either individually or in groups (Appendix appendix 1). The initial gender analysis was based on primary data collected during field consultation missions between April and May 2024, as well as secondary data from reports by the regional technical services in the project's target areas. Data collection took place during the field mission and included sex-disaggregated data, as well as the aspirations and recommendations of women and youth gathered during public consultation sessions (focus groups) (Appendix appendix 2).

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

The funding requested from the Adaptation Fund will be used to strengthen community resilience by improving access to drinking water in rural areas of the Béliér, Gbêkê, Marahoué, N'Zi, and Iffou regions in central Côte d'Ivoire. Rural populations in these regions are already experiencing the impacts of climate change, particularly on water resources, and projections indicate that these impacts will intensify in the coming years. Without timely intervention, these communities risk facing emergency situations, and entire villages could be abandoned as inhabitants migrate in search of better living conditions. Adaptation Fund financing will ensure that water supply systems are made available in all selected villages. With this support, hydraulic infrastructure such as boreholes and pumps will be constructed, and local, regional, and national actors will benefit from enhanced capacities in sustainable water resource management. Renewable energy solutions, particularly solar power, will be used to operate pumps, while local repair artisans will be trained and equipped to ensure timely maintenance and sustainability of the systems. The project will also strengthen institutional capacities through workshops with state actors responsible for water resource management, enabling better coordination, clearer distribution of roles, and more efficient governance. In parallel, reforestation activities in recharge areas and awareness-raising campaigns on sustainable phytosanitary practices will contribute to the long-term preservation of groundwater resources and, consequently, to the sustainability of community water supply. Furthermore, the funding will improve conditions in schools and health centers by providing them with reliable and functional water supply systems. In sum, the grant provided by the Adaptation Fund will directly cover the costs of climate change adaptation for rural communities in the five target regions, safeguarding their access to safe and sustainable drinking water while enhancing resilience across multiple dimensions.

The funding requested from the Adaptation Fund will be used to strengthen community resilience by improving access to drinking water in rural areas of the Bélior, Gbêke, Marahoué, N'zi and Ifiou regions (central Côte d'Ivoire).

Rural residents in these regions are already subject to the vagaries of climate change, particularly in terms of their water resources. However, even more intense changes are predicted for the coming years. If nothing is done now, these populations risk finding themselves in an emergency situation and these villages could even disappear because the villagers will move to areas with better living conditions.

The AFA funding to strengthen the water access capacities of its populations will ensure that water supply systems are available in all selected villages. With the funding of the Adaptation Fund, hydraulic infrastructures such as boreholes and pumps will be built and local, regional and national actors will benefit from a strengthening of their capacity in sustainable water resource management. This funding will provide access to renewable energies such as solar energy for the operation of pumps. Thanks to this funding, repair artisans will see their capacities strengthened to intervene in the event of a breakdown of the installed systems, which will ensure their sustainability.

Workshops bringing together state actors in charge of water will be organized with a view to strengthening their capacities, better managing the resource, properly distributing roles and coordinating activities. Through the promotion of reforestation in recharge areas and raising awareness among rural communities of good phytosanitary practices in said areas, the financing of the AFA will contribute to establishing the sustainability of groundwater supply, and therefore the sustainability of water supply to the targeted communities. The funding obtained will also improve the working conditions of schools and dispensaries by installing functional pumps. In short, the grant provided by the Adaptation Fund will be used to cover the cost of adaptation to climate change of rural communities in the five (5) target regions.

As noted above, each rural household in the targeted localities consumes an average of 100 liters of water per day, mainly from surface water sources. During the dry season, households are forced to fetch this water from the nearest neighboring villages, which have sustainable water supply systems, traveling 2 to 5 kilometers per day over the 4 to 5 months of this period. The 25-liter can purchased for 50 FCFA, like the populations of the host villages, costs 200 FCFA when taking into account the costs of transporting this water back home. Thus, to ensure its daily supply, each household in the target villages spends an average of 800 FCFA (1.6 USD).

With the project, the installation of sustainable water supply systems in the target localities will enable households to meet these daily [drinking water](#) needs. To ensure the management and maintenance of the system installed with the support of the project, in order to ensure its sustainability, a contribution of 50 FCFA per 25-liter [container, a rate consistent with tariffs already in place in other](#) ~~can will be requested, similar to the costs charged in villages that already have such with similar~~ systems. Thus, to cover their daily water needs, each household will have to pay 200 FCFA (0.4 USD). The adaptation cost, assessed by taking the difference between the situation without the project and the situation with the project, therefore amounts to 600 FCFA (1.2 USD) per household per day. Assessed over the 5-month drought period at a rate of 30 days per month, the adaptation cost will amount to 90,000 FCFA (180 USD) per household per year. It is this financial cost that the FA grant will help to support, with a view to ensuring the adaptation of communities in target localities to the harmful effects of climate change in order to guarantee their supply of drinking water.

Furthermore, by investing in drinking water supply infrastructure in the targeted localities, the project will improve public health by reducing the incidence of waterborne diseases associated with the consumption of unsafe surface water, which currently constitutes the main source of supply for many communities.

In parallel, these investments will bring drinking water sources closer to households, thereby reducing the time and physical burden of water collection, a responsibility that falls primarily on women and young people. The time saved can be redirected toward social and economic activities for women and toward education, study, and recreation for young people, contributing to improved well-being and greater opportunities for empowerment.

by investing in drinking water supply infrastructure in the target localities, the project will improve the health situation of the population by reducing water borne diseases linked to the consumption of

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generally unsanitary water from surface water sources, which constitutes the source of water supply for the populations in the absence of the project.
In addition, these investments, which bring drinking water sources closer to the population communities, will lead to significantly a reduction reduce in the time and physical burden of water collection effort spent on water supply, mainly for women and young people responsible for fetching water. This time saved can be reallocated used to engage into other social or economic activities for women, and translates in more time for education, study learning time, school and recreational activities for young people.

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

The sustainability of the project is linked to the impact it will have on the quality of life of the populations in the targeted areas and the benefits of this project in the long term. The sustainability aspect has been taken into consideration by involving the main stakeholders from the design phase. This is demonstrated by the involvement of administrative authorities, who have a legal mandate to supervise the project activities in the target localities in addition to the beneficiaries. Furthermore, several actions are planned to ensure the sustainability of the project results. First, the equipment to be used under the project will be identified and provided in close collaboration with the National Office for Drinking Water (ONEP), the agency responsible for defining and implementing the national drinking water strategy in Côte d'Ivoire. This approach will ensure the acquisition of durable and sustainable equipment. In addition to the installation of water supply infrastructure, it is planned to strengthen local technical capacities for the maintenance of infrastructure and equipment. To this end, actions will focus in particular on the training and equipment of local repair artisans and their deployment. Then, emphasis will be placed on optimizing water management in beneficiary localities through the establishment or strengthening of village and regional committees for managing access to drinking water, strengthening the capacities of the committees set up, as well as raising awareness among local communities on climate change and the need for efficient water management and the establishment of sustainable community financing mechanisms for the maintenance and upkeep of infrastructure. A key focus of the project will be to ensure the financial sustainability of the new water infrastructure. This will be achieved by establishing an affordable water tariff for the local population, with the revenue specifically allocated to finance the ongoing maintenance and repair of the installed systems. Particular attention will be paid to establishing an economic cost to be paid by the populations for access to water that can help finance the maintenance of the installed devices.

Furthermore, Finally, the project will implement provides for the implementation of measures to preserve ensure the environmental sustainability of water tables supplying supply by protecting the groundwater resources on which the communities depend. vulnerable communities with water. Key actions in this area will include by promoting reforestation of critical borehole recharge zones to improve aquifer replenishment and raising in the water table recharge areas supplying the installed boreholes and raising awareness among rural communities regarding about good phytosanitary practices in these areasto prevent groundwater contamination. These actions aim to designed to safeguard the long term viability of the aquifers in terms of both ensure the sustainability of the water table supply in terms of quality and quantity. The sustainability of the project is closely linked to its long-term impact on the quality of life of the populations in the targeted areas and to the lasting benefits generated by its interventions. Sustainability has been considered from the design phase through the active involvement of key stakeholders, including administrative authorities with a legal mandate to oversee project activities in the target localities, alongside direct community beneficiaries.

Several measures are planned to ensure the durability of project results. First, all equipment will be identified and procured in close collaboration with the National Office for Drinking Water (ONEP), the national agency responsible for defining and implementing drinking water strategies in Côte d'Ivoire. This approach will ensure that the infrastructure installed meets national standards and is both durable and sustainable.

In addition to infrastructure development, the project will strengthen local technical capacities for the maintenance of systems and equipment. This will include training, equipping, and deploying local

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repair artisans. Water management in beneficiary localities will also be optimized through the establishment or reinforcement of village and regional water management committees, capacity building for these committees, awareness-raising on climate change and efficient water management practices, and the creation of sustainable community-based financing mechanisms for infrastructure upkeep.

Financial sustainability will be supported by the establishment of affordable water tariffs, with revenues specifically allocated to cover maintenance and repair costs of the installed systems. Environmental sustainability will be ensured through measures to protect groundwater resources, including reforestation of critical borehole recharge zones to enhance aquifer replenishment, and awareness-raising on sustainable phytosanitary practices to prevent groundwater contamination. These actions are designed to safeguard the long-term viability of aquifers in terms of both water quality and availability.

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

In accordance with FIRCA's Environmental and Social Policy, the identification and analysis of potential risks associated with project implementation will be undertaken through an environmental and social screening procedure. This will ensure that appropriate mitigation measures are applied. To this end, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), aligned with FIRCA's internal procedures and the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy, will be developed during the full proposal phase. The ESMF, which will include an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), will identify all potential project impacts and define the corresponding risk mitigation measures. Given the nature of the planned activities, the project is expected to be classified as **Category B**, with potential risks considered limited, site-specific, and manageable through mitigation measures. Sub-projects will be assessed in accordance with FIRCA's Environmental and Social Policy, which is fully aligned with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy, following three steps: (i) screening or preliminary selection; (ii) environmental and social risk and impact assessment; and (iii) preparation and implementation of an Environmental and Social Management Plan.

Table 7 below outlines the potential risks and impacts, together with the additional assessments and management measures required to ensure compliance with the Adaptation Fund's fifteen principles. In accordance with FIRCA's environmental and social policy, the identification and analysis of potential risks arising from the implementation of the project will be carried out through the environmental and social screening procedure to ensure the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures. To this end, an environmental and social management framework aligned with FIRCA's internal procedures and the Adaptation Fund's environmental and social policy will be developed and included in the full proposal development phase. This framework, which includes the environmental and social management plan, will specify all the impacts associated with the project and the associated risk mitigation plan.

Due to the nature of the activities identified, the project may be classified as Category B. Sub-projects will be assessed in accordance with FIRCA's environmental and social policy, which is aligned with the Adaptation Fund's environmental and social policy, in the following stages: (i) screening or preliminary selection; (ii) environmental and social assessment of risks and impacts; and (iii) adoption of an environmental and social management plan.

The table 7 below sets out the potential impacts and risks as well as the additional assessment and management required to comply with the Adaptation Fund's fifteen principles. The table below presents the potential impacts and risks and the additional assessment and management required to comply with the fifteen principles of the Adaptation Fund.

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Table 5 : Environmental and social impacts and risks of the project

Table 7: Environmental and social impacts risks of the project

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
<i>Compliance with the Law</i>	X	Risk: Failure to comply with all applicable national and international laws and regulations. Probability: Low Potential impact: High Measures: The IE will ensure that the project complies with applicable national and international law, as well as a description of the legal and regulatory framework for any project activity that may require prior authorization.
<i>Access and Equity</i>	X	Risk: Failure to ensure and monitor fair and equitable access for all community members. Probability: Low Potential impact: Low Measures: IE will ensure that the project provides all members of the community with fair and equitable access to the benefits of the project, and is designed and implemented in a way that does not prevent any group from accessing essential services and rights referred to by: 1) carrying out stakeholder mapping to identify potential beneficiaries, rivals, protesters, marginalized or vulnerable people. 2) Using risk analysis to identify and assess the risk of impeding access to essential rights and services and exacerbating existing inequalities
<i>Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups</i>	X	Risk: Imposing any disproportionate negative impact on marginalized and vulnerable groups. Probability: Low Potential impact: Moderate/High Measures: 1) identify and quantify marginalized, minority and vulnerable groups; 2) describe the main findings and characteristics of marginalized, minority and vulnerable groups; 3) identify the negative impacts that each marginalized, minority and vulnerable group is likely to experience; and 4) identify the monitoring mechanism that may be necessary during the implementation of the project.
<i>Human Rights</i>	X	Risk: occurrence of human rights violations Probability: Low Potential impact: Moderate/High Measures: The project will comply with national and international human rights standards, policies, rules and regulations, including the UDHR. EI will ensure that human rights issues are part of stakeholder consultations during project identification and/or formulation, provide an overview of relevant human rights issues (if any) and monitor implementation.
<i>Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i>	X	Risk: Unequal access between men and women to water and decision-making. Probability: moderate Potential impact: Moderate/High Measures: Gender will be mainstreamed into all components of the project. IE will assess the current situation, potential risks and the legal and regulatory context and proactively take measures to promote gender equality to ensure equal access to benefits and that there are no disproportionate negative impacts.
<i>Core Labour Rights</i>	X	Risk: Project activities do not comply with core labour standards due to limited knowledge of labour rights standards.

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Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
		Probability: Low Potential impact: High Actions: The project will respect fundamental labour rights and integrate ILO standards into design and implementation, as well as raise awareness of how the standards can be applied.
<i>Indigenous Peoples</i>	X	In accordance with the guidelines of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) on the definition of indigenous peoples, we confirm that there is no indigenous population in Côte d'Ivoire and therefore in the targeted areas of the project.
<i>Involuntary Resettlement</i>	X	Risk: Population displacement due to site exploitation Probability: Low Potential Impact: Low Actions: The project will prioritize the use of community designated sites for the construction of basic social infrastructure to minimize the risk of population displacement as much as possible
<i>Protection of Natural Habitats</i>	X	Risk: Destruction of natural habitats Probability: Low Potential Impact: Low Actions: The project will apply FIRCA' s environmental and social policy. Accordingly, any project financed or implemented by FIRCA systematically excludes any site that may host natural habitats.
<i>Conservation of Biological Diversity</i>	X	Risk: Introduction of new species Probability: Low Potential Impact: Low Actions: The project will prioritize local or native species for reforestation activities to ensure compliance with this principle.
<i>Climate Change</i>	X	Risk: Increased greenhouse gas emissions Probability: Low Potential impact: High Measures: The project will contribute to climate change adaptation measures. No GHG emissions expected. The project will demonstrate compliance by conducting a qualitative risk assessment for each of the climate change drivers mentioned, as well as any impacts of the project on carbon capture and sequestration capacity.
<i>Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</i>	X	Risk: Increased pollution and resource inefficiency Probability: low Potential impact: high Measure: The project will comply with established national and international pollution standards, and will minimize all sources and forms of energy, water and other resources in a reasonable and cost-effective manner, as well as the production of waste and the discharge of pollutants.
<i>Public Health</i>	X	Risk: negative impact on public health Probability: low Potential impact: high Measures: The project design will ensure that public health is not negatively affected by conducting screening and health impact assessment in accordance with WHO recommended practices.
<i>Physical and Cultural Heritage</i>	No impact on physical and cultural heritage	No risk
<i>Lands and Soil Conservation</i>	X	Risk: Soil degradation Probability: Low Potential Impact: Low Actions: The nature of the project activities does not present any

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Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
		major risk to land and soil conservation. However, the project will strictly adhere to the protocol for the installation of borehole sites and distribution networks to ensure compliance with this principle

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PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

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

Table 8 demonstrates the alignment of the project with the Adaptation Fund's results framework.

Table 88 : *Alignment of the project with the Adaptation Fund's results framework*

Project Objective(s) ²⁹	Project Objective Indicator(s)	Fund Outcome	Fund Outcome Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
1. Strengthening access to drinking water for rural communities in the central part of Côte d'Ivoire, to reduce their vulnerability to the effects of climate change	Number of villages equipped with drinking water supply infrastructure	Outcome 4: Increased adaptive capacity within relevant development sector services and infrastructure assets	4.2. Physical infrastructure improved to withstand climate change and variability-induced stress	7,416,977
2. Strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water for climate-vulnerable rural communities	Number of community management frameworks for drinking water access infrastructure established	Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level	3.1. Percentage of targeted population aware of predicted adverse impacts of climate change, and of appropriate responses	60,000
			3.2. Percentage of targeted population applying appropriate adaptation responses	440,000
	Area of reforested groundwater recharge zone	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	200,000
3. Sharing knowledge to promote learning about sustainable drinking water supply and management practices in a context of water resource scarcity due to climate change	Number of people (women/men) participating in knowledge dissemination activities	Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level	3.2. Percentage of targeted population applying appropriate adaptation responses	300,000

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²⁹ The AF utilized OECD/DAC terminology for its results framework. Project proponents may use different terminology but the overall principle should still apply

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Project Outcome(s)	Project Outcome Indicator(s)	Fund Output	Fund Output Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
1. Drinking water production and distribution infrastructure for rural communities is strengthened. The infrastructure for the production and distribution of drinking water for rural communities is strengthened	Number of boreholes, PMH, HVA rehabilitated and/or installed	Output 4: Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	4.1.2. No. of physical assets strengthened or constructed to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability and change (by sector and scale)	7,416,977
	Length of installed water distribution network			
	Percentage of population with access to installed infrastructure			
2. The sustainability of access to drinking water for climate-vulnerable rural communities is strengthened	Number of local communities made aware of climate change and the need for efficient water management	Output 3.1 Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities	3.1.1 No. of news outlets in the local press and media that have covered the topic	60,000
	Number of village committees for the management of drinking water access infrastructure installed and/or operational	Output 3.2 Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning	3.2.1 No. of technical committees/associations formed to ensure transfer of knowledge	180,000
	Number of regional committees for integrated management of drinking water access established			
	Number of people trained and equipped to maintain infrastructure			
	Number of village communities with endogenous financing mechanisms for infrastructure maintenance	Output 5: Vulnerable ecosystem services and natural resource assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	5.1. No. of natural resource assets created, maintained or improved to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability and change (by type and scale)	260,000
	Number of trees planted in groundwater recharge areas			
	Number of people made aware of good phytosanitary practices			
3. Communities in regions prone to water scarcity due to climate change are equipped with knowledge on good practices for sustainable drinking water supply and management to improve their resilience	Number of documents on lessons learned from the project	Output 3.2: Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning	3.2.1 No. of technical committees/associations formed to ensure transfer of knowledge	160,000
	Number of exchange and experience sharing visits organized			3.2.2 No. of tools and guidelines developed (thematic, sectoral, institutional) and shared with relevant stakeholders

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Project objective(s) ³⁰	Project objective indicator(s)	Fund-Result	Fund-performance indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
Impact: Strengthening access to drinking water for rural communities in the central part of Côte-d'Ivoire, to reduce their vulnerability to the effects of climate change				
1. Strengthening the capacity of rural communities to access drinking water	Number of drillings, PMH, HVA installed	Outcome 4: Increased adaptive capacity within relevant development sector services and infrastructure assets	4.2. Physical infrastructure improved to withstand climate change and variability-induced stress	7,416,977
	Number of boreholes, PMH, HVA rehabilitated			
	Length of the distribution network in linear meters	Output 4: Vulnerable development sector services and infrastructure assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	4.1.2. Number of physical assets strengthened or constructed to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability and change (by sector and scale)	7,416,977
	Percentage of population with access to installed infrastructure			
2. Strengthening the sustainability of access to drinking water for climate-vulnerable rural communities	Number of local village management committees created/strengthened	Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level	3.1. Percentage of targeted population aware of predicted adverse impacts of climate change, and of appropriate responses	60,000
	Number of people trained and equipped for the management and maintenance of structures			
	Number of regional committees established	Output 3.1 Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities	3.1.1 Number of news outlets in the local press and media that have covered the topic	60,000
			3.2.1 Number of technical	

³⁰ The AF utilized OECD/DAC terminology for its results framework. Project proponents may use different terminology but the overall principle should still apply

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		Output 3.2 Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning	committees/associations formed to ensure transfer of knowledge	180,000
			3.2.2 Number of tools and guidelines developed (thematic, sectoral, institutional) and shared with relevant stakeholders	260,000
	Area of reforested groundwater recharge area	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	200,000
	Number of trees planted in groundwater recharge areas			
	Number of people made aware of good phytosanitary practices	Output 5: Vulnerable ecosystem services and natural resource assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	5.1. Number of natural resource assets created, maintained or improved to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability and change (by type and scale)	200,000
3. Sharing knowledge to promote learning about sustainable drinking water supply and management practices in a context of water resource scarcity due to climate change	Number of exchange and experience sharing visits organized	Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level	3.2. Percentage of targeted population applying appropriate adaptation responses	300,000
	Number of documents on lessons learned from the project			
	Number of people (women/men) participating in knowledge dissemination activities	Output 3.2: Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning	3.2.1 Number of technical committees/associations formed to ensure transfer of knowledge	160,000
			3.2.2 Number of tools and guidelines developed (thematic, sectoral, institutional) and shared with relevant stakeholders	140,000

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¹The AF utilized OECD/DAC terminology for its results framework. Project proponents may use different terminology but the overall principle should still apply

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

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A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government² *Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement. If this is a regional project/programme, list the endorsing officials all the participating countries. The endorsement letter(s) should be attached as an annex to the project/programme proposal. Please attach the endorsement letter(s) with this template; add as many participating governments if a regional project/programme:*

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Colonel YAO Marcel	
Primary contact point of Adaptation Fund National Designated Authority Director International Cooperation and Financing Mobilization Directorate of International Cooperation and Financing Mobilization	Date: July 2, 2025

B. Implementing Entity certification *Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator*

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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 (.....list here.....) and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender 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.

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

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

	
N'DIAYE Oumar N'Gor Implementing Entity Coordinator	
Date : 10 th January 2025	Tel. and email: +225 2722528160 ndiayeo@firca.ci
Project Contact Person : AYEMOU Djatin Edmond	
Tel. and email: +225 0707880380 ayemou@firca.ci	

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,
OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
AND ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION

DIRECTORATE OF INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION AND FUNDING
MOBILIZATION

N° 0011/MINEDTE/CAB/DCIMF/ld

REPUBLIQUE OF COTE D'IVOIRE
Union - Discipline - Work



Abidjan, the 02 JUL 2025



ADAPTATION FUND

Letter of Endorsement by Government

To: **Adaptation Fund Board**
1818 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20433 USA
Tel : 202.522.3240/3245
Email : afbsec@adaptation-fund.org

Subject: Endorsement of the concept note for the project "Strengthening access to drinking water for rural communities in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire to reduce their vulnerability to the effects of climate change".

In my capacity as Director of International Cooperation and Financing Mobilisation, the designated entity for the Adaptation Fund for the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, I confirm that the above national project proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in Côte d'Ivoire.

Indeed, the present project is fully in line with the National Adaptation Plan, which identifies water resources as one of the sectors most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. The project, which is part of the country allocation, aims to improve access to drinking water for rural communities in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire, in order to reduce their vulnerability to the effects of climate change.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by Fonds Interprofessionnel pour la Recherche et le Conseil Agricoles (FIRCA) and executed by the National Climate Change Program (PNCC).

Sincerely



Colonel YAO MARCEL
Director of International Cooperation and Financing
Mobilisation
Entity designated by the Adaptation Fund
Tel: +225 07 07 79 15 04
Email: crsmarcel@yahoo.fr

Directorate of Environment, of Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition
Abidjan-Plateau-Cité Administrative, Tour A, 4^{ème} étage, 27 20 23 99 00

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APPENDICES

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Appendix 1	<u>Summary of stakeholder consultation</u>
Appendix 2;	<u>Initial gender analysis</u>
Appendix 3;	<u>Project Formulate Grant submission</u>

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Appendix 1: Summary of stakeholder consultation

1.1. Engagement plan

Stakeholder mobilization was carried out through several channels: (i) communication via phone calls, emails, and written letters and (ii) information dissemination through local radio stations and traditional communication systems.

1.2. Stakeholder engagement

To ensure that information is easily accessible to relevant stakeholders and that all groups are adequately represented and involved in the process, the project team adopted various methods and techniques based on a stakeholder needs assessment. These included: (i) communication via phone calls, emails, and written letters, (ii) holding public meetings, (iii) focus group discussions, (iv) individual interviews, (v) announcements through local radio stations and town criers in the project areas.

1.3. Information disclosure strategy

As part of the public consultations, multiple information disclosure methods were adopted depending on the target groups. For formal meetings with technical and administrative authorities, presentation materials were used to provide an overview of the project and its associated impacts. For larger groups of beneficiaries, the project team was assisted by a local language translator, adapted to each region.

1.3.1. Objective of consultation

The overall objective of stakeholder consultations under the project is to involve communities, groups or individuals potentially affected, as well as other concerned parties, in the final decision-making process regarding the project. The specific objectives of this approach are to: (i) first, provide stakeholders with accurate and relevant information about the project. Its purpose, detailed description, associated positive and negative impacts, and related mitigation measures; (i) invite stakeholders to share their opinions and suggestions on the proposed solutions and foster constructive dialogue, (ii) lay the foundations for the coordinated and sustainable implementation of the project's planned actions.

1.3.2. Approach adopted and stakeholders Consulted

The Consultations were conducted in the regions of Iffou, N'Zi, Gbêkê, Marahoué, the District of Yamoussoukro, and Béliér between April 24 and May 2, 2024. These consultations involved technical and administrative services of the prefectures, the communes concerned, civil society organizations including youth and women's groups and other stakeholders. A total of 232 individuals were consulted, including 139 women (59.91%) and 93 men (40.09%), either individually or in groups. To gather public feedback on the project, the following topics were presented and discussed after a project overview was provided by the field team:

- perception of the project;
- key barriers to accessing drinking water in the target areas;
- potential positive and negative environmental and social impacts;
- local conflict resolution mechanisms;
- stakeholder and community participation and engagement;
- vulnerable groups;
- concerns and apprehensions regarding the project;
- suggestions and recommendations for the project.

The table below provides the dates and locations of the consultations, along with the stakeholders engaged.

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INFORMATION COLLECTION MISSION FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE CONCEPT NOTE FOR THE SUPPORT PROJECT FOR STRENGTHENING ACCESS TO WATER FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS IN THE CENTRAL ZONE OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE (Tuesday 23 to Friday 3 May 2024)

Region	Locality	Date of consultation	Actors met	Number of people met	Women	Men
IFFOU	DAOUKRO	April 24, 2024	- Regional Directorate of the Environment - Regional Hydraulic Directorate	09	01	08
	KOUAKOU KOUADIOKRO		-Women's President -Youth President - Village chief and inhabitants	06	02	04
	AMANI KOUAKOUKRO	April 25, 2024	- Village chief and inhabitants - President of Women -Youth President	18	08	10
	DAOULEBO		- Influential village executive	05	01	04
NZI	DIMBOKRO	April 25, 2024	- Regional Directorate of the Environment - Regional Hydraulic Directorate	02	00	02
	ADI KOUAKOUKRO		Camp resident	02	01	01
GBEKE	BOUAKE	April 26, 2024	- Prefecture - Regional Directorate of the Environment - Regional Hydraulic Directorate	04	00	04
	DEKRETA	April 26, 2024	- Village Chief - President of Women - Youth President - Community Member	29	10	19
	BLAFONOU		- Village Chief - President of Women - Youth President - Community Member	20	16	04
	AMANIKRO		- Village Chief - President of Women - Youth President - Community Member	05	03	02
MARAHOUE	BOUAFLE	April 27, 2024	- Regional Directorate of the Environment - Regional Hydraulic Directorate	02	00	02
	TAAFLA	April 28, 2024	- Village Chief - President of Women - Youth President Community Member	10	04	06
	KOUREFLA		26	10	16	
	YOBOUET	April 29, 2024	- Village Chief	20	6	14

Region	Locality	Date of consultation	Actors met	Number of people met	Women	Men
	N'GUESSANKRO		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - President of Women - Youth President - Community Member 			
YAMOOUSSOUKRO DISTRICT	YAMOOUSSOUKRO	April 30, 2024	Regional Hydraulic Directorate	05	00	05
RAM	TOUMODI	02 05 2024		07	01	06
TOTAL				232	139	93

1.3.3. Consultation Results

At the end of the consultations and meetings, there was a general endorsement of the project. According to the stakeholders, the project offers significant benefits, the most important being: improved access to drinking water, the fight against poverty and unemployment, and the empowerment of youth and women. The discussions and exchanges also helped to identify key actions to be undertaken in response to the concerns raised by the stakeholders.

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Topics	Recommendations
Recommendations on information, education, and communication (IEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop and implement an information and communication plan for the project in the intervention areas; - Conduct IEC campaigns on hygiene and sanitation; - Conduct IEC campaigns on gender-based violence; - Raise stakeholder awareness on the sustainable management of water resources; - Disseminate project-related information through community radio stations; - Inform and raise awareness about national water management regulations.
Recommendations on capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Train and educate rural populations on the management of drinking water access infrastructure; - Build stakeholder capacity on gender-based violence (GBV); - Enhancing the skills of Train-actors stakeholders in conflict management and mediation resolution mechanisms; - Strengthen the capacities of associations and NGOs involved in environmental protection and water resource management; - Enhance the technical and human capacities of MINHASS and implementing agencies in supporting beneficiaries in the project areas; - Strengthen the capacities of rural land conflict management committees; - Train stakeholders on conflict resolution mechanisms; - Provide training to beneficiaries on topics related to climate change
Institutional Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a framework to facilitate communication between beneficiaries and project managers; - Set up a recruitment mechanism based on citizen participation of households; - Establish a mechanism for managing conflicts and disputes; - Involve all relevant stakeholders in project implementation; - Promote the recruitment of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable individuals in sub-projects; - Implement an effective monitoring and quality control system to ensure that infrastructure meets required standards; - Ensure the systematic involvement of women in project implementation; - Establish a project management committee that includes all stakeholders; - Create a local labor recruitment mechanism during construction phases; - Support women's organizations and associations in creating small businesses linked to the project; - Set up a capacity-building mechanism for local labor; - Establish a general conflict and dispute resolution mechanism in the project areas;

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- Involve the Regional Directorates of MINHASS at all stages of the project;
- Involve administrative and traditional authorities throughout the implementation process;
- Engage the Ministry of Environment in raising awareness on environmental protection, as well as the Ministries responsible for Water and Forests, Agriculture, and Animal and Fishery Resources;
- Involve social services in the project's implementation.

NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION WORKSHOP FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE CONCEPT NOTE FOR THE PROJECT “STRENGTHENING ACCESS TO CONSUMPTION WATER FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES IN THE CENTRAL ZONE OF COTE D’IVOIRE TO REDUCE THEIR VULNERABILITIES TO THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE”

(Thursday October 31, 2024 in Bouaké)

Organization	Number of people met	Women	Men
Ministries			
1 Ministry of the Environment, Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition (Cabinet; Focal Point Adaptation Fund, DLCCTE, DCIMF, PNCC, Gender and CC)	6	0	6
2 Ministry of Hydraulics, Sanitation and Health (DR of the 5 regions concerned)	DR IFFOU	1	0
	DR N’ZI	1	0
	DR BELIER	1	1
	DR MARAOUHE	1	0
	DR GBEKE	2	0
3 Gbêkê Region Administration	Ministry of Water and Forests (DR Gbêkê)	1	0
	DR Environment	1	0
	DR Agriculture	1	1
	DR Animal and Fisheries Resources	1	0
	DR Family, Women and Children	1	0
	DG SODEXAM	1	0
	DR SODECI Bouaké	1	0
	DE FIRCA (2 UFA, 2 SERGEN, Consultant, CP Cola, DE)	8	4
Prefectural Corps	Prefect of the Gbêkê Region	1	0
	Sub-Prefects of Gbêkê	4	1
Local Authorities	Gbêkê Regional Council	3	1
Rural communities	Water management committees of 7 localities (Village chief + 1 member + 1 women's representative) chosen in the 5 regions targeted by the project	29	8
GRAND TOTAL		64	16
		48	

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Appendix 2: Initial gender analysis

1. Project information

Project title	<i>Strengthening access to drinking water for rural communities in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire to reduce their vulnerability to the effects of climate change</i>
Project grant amount (USD)	10 000 000
Location (régions / country)	Gbêkê, Iffou, Bélier, Marahoué, Nzi / Côte d'Ivoire
Implementing entity	FIRCA

2. Project objective

The project aims to strengthen the resilience of rural communities in the central region of Côte d'Ivoire by facilitating access to drinking water. More specifically, it seeks to: (i) improve water production and distribution infrastructure for rural communities in the context of climate change; (ii) enhance the sustainability of access to drinking water for rural communities made vulnerable by climate change; and (iii) ensure the dissemination of knowledge generated by the project to promote learning and the adoption of sustainable drinking water supply and management practices, thereby strengthening the adaptive capacities of rural communities facing increasing water scarcity due to prolonged droughts and reduced rainfall.

3. Objective initial gender analysis

The objective of the initial gender assessment is to demonstrate how gender considerations were integrated into the project design. This analysis is based on primary data collected during field consultation missions conducted between April and May 2024, as well as secondary data gathered from reports issued by the regional technical departments in the project's target areas. It will be further developed during the full proposal stage through a more detailed gender analysis. The data collection process took place during the field mission and provided sex-disaggregated data, along with the aspirations and recommendations of women and youth gathered during public consultation sessions (focus groups).

4. General situation of gender equality in the country

In Côte d'Ivoire, despite legislative and policy advances in support of gender equality, significant disparities between women and men persist across several key sectors. Women represent approximately 49% of the population but remain underrepresented in political and economic decision-making spheres. Access to education, healthcare, land ownership, and productive resources remains limited for many women, particularly in rural areas. Women also spend more time on domestic tasks, which increases their burden of unpaid labor. The Ivorian government has established a legal and institutional framework to promote gender equality, notably through the National Policy for Equity, Equality, and the Empowerment of Women (PNEEAF). However, its implementation continues to face sociocultural and structural barriers. In this context, any infrastructure project, such as drinking water supply systems, represents a strategic opportunity to reduce gender inequalities and strengthen women's participation in local development.

4.1. Methodology

The analysis began with the collection of sex-disaggregated data, using a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods. These included: (i) household surveys to assess the time spent collecting water, its various uses (domestic, agricultural, hygiene, commercial, etc.), and the means of access to water infrastructure, (ii) focus group discussions, conducted separately with women and men, to explore genuine perceptions, priorities, and expectations of stakeholders, (iii) individual interviews with community leaders, local authorities, women's associations, youth groups, etc. Following data

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collection, gender roles were analyzed in relation to water management (access to and control over resources, decision-making power). This analysis helped identify inequalities and opportunities and led to the formulation of recommendations to better integrate specific needs and ensure the effective participation of all stakeholders. The findings were also incorporated into the project design, allowing for the adaptation of the logical framework using a gender-sensitive approach and the establishment of a gender-responsive monitoring and evaluation system.

4.2. Participation and role of gender subgroups

Table 2 : Water use by men and women

Tasks completed	Men	Women
Domestic use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drinking - Food preparation - Cooking - Bathing and personal hygiene 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drinking - Food preparation - Cooking - Bathing and personal hygiene - Laundry - Dishwashing - House cleaning
Community use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School (hygiene, canteens) - Health centers - Markets - Public standpipes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School (hygiene, canteens) - Health centers - Markets - Public standpipes
Agricultural use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crop irrigation - Livestock use - Processing of agricultural products 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crop irrigation - Processing of agricultural products
Artisanal use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Production of goods (beverages, soap, setc.) - Artisanal activities (dyeing, pottery, etc.)

Source: field mission, April–May 2024

4.3. Control over access to resources

This section summarizes insights from discussions on women’s access to key resources (natural, physical, human, and financial). Table 3 below provides a synthesized overview of the findings.

Table 3 : Structure of decision-making authority

Type of decision	Who makes the decisions ?			
	Women only	Men only	Youth only	Men and women
Household management decisions	X			
Decisions related to household income management				X
Decisions related to income from agricultural activities				X

Decisions regarding the choice of activities practiced				X
Decision-making within women's groups	X			
Decision-making within youth groups		X	X	
Decision-making within the community				X

Source: field mission, April–May 2024

At the household level, women are generally dependent on their husbands for decisions related to the home and the activities they undertake. Sociologically, the man is considered the head of the household. As such, he is responsible for managing household expenses and allocating financial resources according to the family's needs. However, the target populations belong to matriarchal societies, which supports the involvement and consultation of women in decision-making processes. Decisions concerning children (such as schooling and activities) are typically made by the "father," who retains full authority in this area. Women, in turn, play an advisory role. When it comes to income management, women have full autonomy over the income generated from their own activities. As a result, they often support their husbands in covering household expenses, particularly those related to the well-being of children. There is a relative autonomy among women in choosing which crops to grow and in managing the income derived from their own plots. In line with the social context, young people are expected to remain under the guidance of older men in order to learn household and family management skills.

5. Concerns expressed by vulnerable groups, recommendations, and integration into project design

Table 5: The constraints expressed by the populations

CONSTRAINTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excessive workload related to water collection for women and girls; - Increased risk of violence due to long distances traveled to fetch water, especially in remote areas, which exposes women and girls to harassment and violence; - Rural exodus caused by extreme water shortages, with populations leaving their villages in search of better living conditions; - Tensions between communities: water scarcity leads to disputes and conflicts between neighboring villages over access to available water sources; - The specific needs of vulnerable groups (persons with disabilities, widows, unskilled youth, and destitute families) are not adequately considered in the design of water infrastructure; - High risk of waterborne diseases due to the consumption of unsafe water, resulting in a high incidence of illness; - Elevated healthcare costs from treating water-related diseases, placing a financial burden on households; - Water scarcity hinders the establishment of basic infrastructure such as schools and health centers.

An analysis of these constraints led to the formulation of recommendations and the identification of ways to integrate them into the project through targeted actions before, during, and after project implementation.

Table 6: Recommendations and their integration into the project design

Issues	Recommendations	Integration into the project design
Conflict management	Design a water access management system that minimizes congestion and	Differentiated or priority access hours: Explore the possibility of establishing specific time slots or priority access for the elderly, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, and individuals with limited mobility. This could be managed through community-based organization.

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Issues	Recommendations	Integration into the project design
	waiting times, while taking into account the specific needs of vulnerable groups.	<p>Rotation or Quota Systems : If demand exceeds the capacity of the pumps, establish a fair and transparent rotation system, ensuring that vulnerable individuals are informed and supported in complying with the arrangements.</p> <p>Community Mediation: Integrate a conflict resolution mechanism within the water management committee, including representatives from vulnerable groups, to promptly address tensions related to water access.</p>
Cost of water	Establish a fair and affordable financial contribution system, taking into account the payment capacity of the poorest households and individuals without stable income.	<p>Social Tariffing: Consider a progressive pricing structure or exemptions for households identified as the most vulnerable. The criteria for identifying such households should be defined through a participatory process with the community, led by village water management committees.</p> <p>Subsidies or Solidarity Funds: Explore the possibility of establishing a community solidarity fund or seeking external subsidies to support the most disadvantaged families in covering the costs of water access.</p> <p>Transparency and Cost Justification: Clearly and transparently communicate to the entire community the rationale behind any associated costs (maintenance, repairs) and how the funds will be managed.</p>
Management and Community Ownership	Establish a pump management and usage system that ensures the participation and fair representation of all segments of the community, with particular attention to vulnerable groups.	<p>Inclusive Management Committee: Establish a water management committee that reflects the diversity of the community, with meaningful representation of women, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups, and ensure their active participation in decision-making processes.</p> <p>Inclusive Usage Rules: Collectively develop pump usage rules that take into account the specific needs of all community members (e.g., access arrangements adapted for persons with reduced mobility).</p> <p>Training and Capacity Building: Organize targeted training sessions for members of the management committee, including representatives of vulnerable groups, focusing on management, basic maintenance, and conflict resolution related to water access.</p>
Infrastructure Accessibility	Select pump installation sites that ensure safe and easy access for all segments of the community and adapt the infrastructure to meet specific needs.	<p>Participatory Site Selection Consultation: Actively involve vulnerable groups in the process of selecting pump installation sites to ensure geographic accessibility and safety.</p> <p>Specific Adaptations: Provide infrastructure adjustments to facilitate access for persons with reduced mobility (access ramps, stabilized surfaces, and pump height adapted to user needs).</p> <p>Lighting and Safety: Ensure adequate lighting around water points, particularly if they are used during late evening or early morning hours, in order to enhance safety, especially for women and girls.</p>
Equitable representation	Adopt an inclusive approach at all stages of the project, ensuring the participation of vulnerable groups and the integration of their perspectives throughout the process.	<p>Adapted Consultation Methods: Use consultation methods that enable vulnerable individuals to express themselves easily (such as individual interviews, dedicated focus groups, and visual materials for non-literate participants).</p> <p>Participation quotas (if necessary and appropriate): Consider establishing quotas to ensure the representation of vulnerable groups in the project's decision-making and management bodies.</p> <p>Awareness-raising and mobilization: Conduct community awareness campaigns on the importance of inclusion and the consideration of everyone's needs.</p>
Fight against waste of water resources	Conduct awareness campaigns on the proper use of water resources.	<p>Establish an inclusive committee structure with clearly defined roles (awareness-raising, monitoring, information relay), provide training and support to committee members, allocate an operational budget, and ensure coordination with the water management committee.</p> <p>Implement a continuous awareness program tailored to the various community groups to promote the responsible and efficient use of water resources and prevent waste.</p> <p>Include awareness modules from the project's outset, involve influential community members, use diverse communication channels, focus on youth education, and incorporate practical demonstrations.</p>

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Appendix 3: Project Formulate Grant submission



**Revised PFG Submission Form¹
Project Formulation Grant (PFG)**

Submission Date: 2nd July 2025]

Adaptation Fund Project ID:

Country/ies: Côte d'Ivoire

Title of Project/Programme: Strengthening access to drinking water for rural communities in the central zone of Côte d'Ivoire to reduce their vulnerability to the effects of climate change.

Type of IE (NIE/RIE/MIE) : NIE

Implementing Entity : FIRCA (Fonds Interprofessionnel pour la Recherche et le Conseil Agricoles)

Executing Entity/ies: FIRCA

A. Project Preparation Timeframe

Start date of PFG	1 st January 2026
Completion date of PFG	31 st December 2026

B. Proposed Project Preparation Activities (\$)

List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	US\$ Amount	Budget note ²
Field visits to the project area to validate the project design and obtain information for a complete project proposal.	Validated project design	20,000	Expert missions (hydraulics, gender, environment, project set-up) in the 5 target regions.
Development of the environmental and social management framework (ESMF)	ESMF report	5,650	Mobilization of environmental study experts for ESMF drafting
Initial gender analysis	Gender Action Plan	4,800	Mobilization of gender experts for the drafting of the Gender Action Plan
Geophysical survey for borehole location	Localities validated and sites identified for drilling and pump installation in each selected locality	56,800	Mobilization of geophysical experts for the study

¹ As presented in AFB/PPRC.33/40 Annex 1.

² The proposal should include a detailed budget with budget notes indicating the break-down of costs at the activity level. It should also include a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use.

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Workshops to develop a complete project proposal and take into account the Adaptation Fund Secretariat's comments on the proposal before approval (Detailed analysis of project components; Development of project log frame and results framework; Detailed project budget development)	Well described and detailed Project components Detailed Project Logframe and Results Framework developed. Detailed and concrete project budget Full Project Proposal developed	30,000	3 workshops planned: Preparation of the full proposal Consideration of comments from the first AF review Consideration of comments from the second review of the AF
Stakeholders' workshops for validating the project design and inputs for full proposal development	Workshop reports, validated project design, improved design, inputs to the design process	20,000	Final stakeholder consultation workshop
FIRCA Management fees	PFG execution report	12,750	Supervision of the preparation of the full proposal Reporting on the implementation of the PFG
Total Project Formulation Grant		150,000	

Field visits to the project area to validate the project design and obtain information for the preparation of full proposal: Field visits to the project area are essential to gather additional data and information to finalize the project design. These visits will mobilize a multi-disciplinary team of experts including gender, environmental, hydraulic and project management specialists. During these visits, consultations with local communities, administrative authorities and other stakeholders will be carried out to deepen the exchanges initiated during the elaboration of the concept note. Activities during this mission will focus on (i) data collection on the vulnerability of populations to the effects of climate change, (ii) the division of tasks in the supply of water to communities, (iii) the monitoring of local natural resources, (iv) the collection of environmental and social data, and so on.

Preparation of the environmental and social management framework for the full proposal. Based on the data collected during field missions, this phase will consist of drawing up the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework document.

Initial gender analysis: Based on data collected during field missions, this phase will involve drawing up the project's Gender Action Plan.

Geophysical survey: Expert geophysicists will be mobilized to carry out preliminary studies, enabling us to identify localities with groundwater resources capable of ensuring water supply in each area targeted by the project. In each locality, potential drilling sites and pump locations will also be identified. This study will make it possible to identify potential localities to be equipped with permanent drinking water supply systems.

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Preparation of the full proposal: This will take the form of three technical workshops, bringing together all the project's technical experts to consolidate the results of the various consultations. The first of these three workshops will consist of a quality review, consolidating and integrating all the data collected and the results of the studies into the final technical proposal to be submitted to the stakeholders for validation at the validation workshop. The next two workshops will involve taking into account the various observations made by the Adaptation Fund Secretariat during the two technical reviews that are carried out before the complete proposal is submitted to the AF Board.

Workshop to validate the full proposal. This workshop brings together all project stakeholders to validate the final technical proposal and the institutional arrangement for implementing the project before its first submission to the Adaptation Fund Secretariat.

C. Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures and meets the Adaptation Fund's criteria for project identification and formulation

Implementing Entity Coordinator, IE Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
N'DIAYE Oumar N'Gor		2 nd July 2025	AYEMOU Djatin Edmond	+225 0707880380	ayemou@firca.ci

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