



ADAPTATION FUND

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16 March 2026

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee
Thirty-seventh Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 7-8 April 2026

PROPOSAL FOR UGANDA



ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PROJECT/PROGRAMME CATEGORY: Regular-sized Project Concept

Country/Region: Uganda

Project Title: Strengthening Resilience of Women to Climate Risks in Rural Communities of Uganda

Thematic Focal Area: Food Security, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Ecosystem-Based Adaptation

Implementing Entity: Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE)

Executing Entities: Climate Change Adaptation Innovation (CHAI), and Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development

AF Project ID: AF00000471

IE Project ID:

Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): 5,000,000

Reviewer and contact person: Alexandra Munoz

Co-reviewer(s): Una May Gordon

IE Contact Person:

Technical Summary

The project “Strengthening Resilience of Women to Climate Risks in Rural Communities of Uganda” aims to strengthen the resilience of rural women in Uganda to climate-related risks and impacts, enhancing their adaptive capacity, food security, and economic well-being. This will be done through the three components below:

Component 1: Climate-Smart Agriculture and Improved Livelihoods (USD 2,000,000);

Component 2: Disaster Risk Reduction and Capacity Building (USD 1,170,520);

Component 3: Alternative Livelihoods and Economic Empowerment (USD 1,000,000).

Requested financing overview:

Project/Programme Execution Cost: USD 437,780

Total Project/Programme Cost: USD 4,608,300

Implementing Fee: USD 391,700

Financing Requested: USD 5,000,000

The proposal includes a request for a project formulation grant and/or project formulation assistance grant of USD 86,800.

	<p>The initial technical review raises several issues, such as the lack of an Initial Gender Analysis, the need for more detailed information on the Initial Stakeholder Consultations, and stronger alignment with the Adaptation Fund Results Framework, as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review.</p> <p><i>Please be advised that the findings of the AFB Secretariat's review of the funding proposal(s) do not reflect, indicate, or prejudge the outcome of the reaccreditation process currently underway. The Implementing Entity (IE) shall acknowledge that the funding proposal will not be approved by the Board if the IE's accreditation has expired, and reaccreditation has not been achieved at the time of the Board's decision. Notwithstanding this potential risk, the IE has elected to proceed with the development of the funding proposal.</i></p>
Date:	November 11, 2025

Review Criteria	Questions	1 st Technical Review Comments [November 11, 2025]
Country Eligibility	1. Is the country party to the Kyoto Protocol, and/or the Paris Agreement?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The country has ratified both the Kyoto Protocol (September 21, 2016) and the Paris Agreement (March 25, 2002).</p>
	2. Is the country a developing country particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Climate disaster risks in Uganda are significant and multifaceted, involving various types of natural disasters exacerbated by climate change. These include Flooding that have increased due to heavy rainfall that have increased the frequency and impact of floods.</p>
Project Eligibility	1. Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund endorsed the project/programme?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>As per the Endorsement letter dated August 25, 2025.</p>

		<p>CAR1: Please check the letter of endorsement box on page 1-cover page.</p>
	<p>2. Does the length of the proposal amount to no more than Fifty pages for the project/programme concept, including its annexes?</p>	<p>Yes. The concept note is 35 pages, including its annexes.</p> <p>CR1: On page 10 please review the project implementation timeline since MWE is going through re-accreditation and a PFG has been applied for which first has to be implemented before the full proposal.</p> <p>CAR2: Page 1 indicates that a PFG in the amount of \$86,800 is being applied for however, a PFG request form was not attached. Please see template at Request for Project Formulation Grant (PFG) (57 kB, DOC).</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 information is needed.</p> <p>The project activities aim to climate adaptation knowledge and agriculture related sector in Uganda. The proposed activities contribute to an integral perspective focus for rural women from 12 districts.</p> <p>While the outcome for each component is clear, more details are needed for the activities and outputs. In addition, no theory of change is presented, and it is not clear how these actions would lead to a substantial tangible outcome nor what AF strategic objectives are supported.</p> <p>CR2: Kindly review the main project's outcomes and outputs to ensure they are clearly and appropriately articulated. Additionally, please define the tangible outputs and outcomes with <u>measurable</u> whenever corresponds. Please also remember to number each</p>

		<p>outcome, and number their associated outputs and activities.</p> <p>CR3: Kindly include, under Part II.A, the Theory of Change (and its diagram) to clearly illustrate how the proposed interventions will lead to the intended long-term change, the assumptions being made, the potential constraints, the required inputs and how they link to the project components.</p> <p>Theory of Change use the form of “IF’ ‘THEN’” statements. This would clearly state how the project activities would lead to substantial tangible outcomes.</p> <p>CR4: Kindly indicate explicitly how the project supports one or more of the Adaptation Fund Strategic Objectives.</p> <p>CR5: The baseline assessment and training needs assessment may be included in the PFG request.</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>No.</p> <p>The proposal presents a broad overview of the project's potential economic, social, and environmental benefits, including the identification of vulnerable groups and communities. The project's proposal states the negative impacts to be mitigated through an Environmental and social impact assessment, a gender-responsive approach in the project's structure, and a grievance redress mechanism.</p> <p>However, it lacks both quantitative estimates to substantiate benefits and an initial gender analysis. Additionally, the concept note does not demonstrate how benefits will be equitably distributed.</p>

		<p>CAR3: Please outline economic, social and environmental benefits quantification in Part II.B, whenever possible. When exact figures are not available, kindly include estimates or proxies to support the identified project's impact alongside a brief explanation of the method used for these calculations.</p> <p>CAR4: Kindly include an Initial Gender Analysis in the concept note reflecting statistics that highlight differences and disparities between men, women, in areas such as education, employment, health, income, and political participation. This data is often broader and not necessarily tied to a specific project, focusing instead on national or sector-wide trends related to gender. A more in-depth analysis would be required in the proposal to highlight the different needs of women and men and/or identify how changing gender dynamics might drive changes.</p> <p>CR6: Kindly estimate the number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (gender-disaggregated) for each outcome whenever possible. Also, please specify if indigenous people will benefit from the project, including a description on how benefits will be equitably distributed.</p>
	<p>5. Is the project / programme cost effective?</p>	<p>Unsure.</p> <p>The concept note outlines the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project, including potential indicators and identifying the focus to enhance the analysis. However, it does not include the selected scope and approach nor the sustainability point of view of cost-effectiveness.</p> <p>CAR5: Kindly provide a sound justification for the project's cost-effectiveness. The justification should</p>

		include the selected measures, alternative options to these measures and quantitative estimates whenever possible, all from a sustainability point of view.
	<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 communications and adaptation programs of action and other relevant instruments?</p>	<p>Yes, but further information is required.</p> <p>The concept note outlines 13 national plans/instruments/strategies related to the proposed project, including NAP and NDC. However, broad information is provided for each. In addition, while the Uganda Agriculture National Adaptation Plan is included, it should be explored if any other sectoral plan/strategy should be also incorporated.</p> <p>CR7: Kindly include the identified plans/instruments/strategies in a table listing. The table should include at least the following columns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) specific name of the plan/strategy, (ii) years of implementation, (iii) goals/objectives, (iv) relevance with the proposed project, and (v) project's compliance status. <p>CR8: Please include any other sectoral plan/strategy related to the proposed project.</p>
	<p>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>	<p>Unsure.</p> <p>The concept note broadly outlines national technical standards relevant to the proposed project as well as some specific measures for compliance. However, it is required to provide a comprehensive list of the specific regulations and standards to comply with.</p>

		<p>CR9: Kindly provide a comprehensive table listing of all specific national technical standards applicable to the proposed project. These include agricultural codes/regulations, water quality standards, among others. The columns in the table should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) specific name/number of the standard/regulation, (ii) goals/objectives, and (iii) how it is related to the proposed project and the project's compliance status.
	<p>8. Is there duplication of project / programme with other funding sources?</p>	<p>Unsure.</p> <p>The concept note state no duplication of the proposed project with other funding sources, however, no other relevant information is included.</p> <p>CAR6: Kindly include a comprehensive table listing of all projects that are or have been implemented in Uganda and are related or complementary to the proposed project. For each, please include the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Project title, Donors/Funding Entity (ii) Main project interventions, (iii) Timeline and specific location within the country, (iv) Target population, (v) Implementing entity, (vi) Lessons learned (if applicable) (vii) Overlaps and synergies with the proposed project, including how proposed project will build upon an existing or previous project <p>The lack of overlap should be clearly justified (e.g. by indicating the distinct geographic locations and/or types of interventions) for each related project identified.</p>

	<p>9. Does the project / programme have a learning and knowledge management component to capture and feedback lessons?</p>	<p>Unsure.</p> <p>The proposal states that robust learning and knowledge management is crucial for lessons learned from the UWEP project. However, beyond the training activities, it remains unclear what specific actions will be carried out, under which project's component they will be implemented, and how the experiences will be monitored.</p> <p>CAR7: Please ensure the project reflects a Knowledge Management and Learning component or sub-component which will have a clear budget line. Kindly clarify or include details to respond to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • specific activities for Learning and Knowledge Management of the proposed project. • who will be responsible for tracking the experiences gained, how this will be done, and when the tracking will take place. • what type of information will be collected throughout this process and what and how will be disseminated. • how the knowledge generated will be sustained after the project concludes.
	<p>10. Has a consultative process taken place, and has it involved all key stakeholders, and vulnerable groups, including gender considerations in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?</p>	<p>Yes, but further information is required.</p> <p>As per Section H, pages 22-23, the proposed project states that initial consultations were conducted with government agencies, including Ministry responsible for gender, community groups, including the UWEP women groups, civil society, private sector, academia and development partners (including the Adaptation Fund) through focus groups, interviews and community workshops. However, no specific information is included in the concept note.</p>

		<p>CR10: Kindly provide detailed information on the consultative process described in the proposal, covering at least the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the participants of each meeting, including the total number of attendees disaggregated by sex, (ii) date and location for each meeting, (iii) brief summary of the subjects discussed, and any agreements reached, where applicable, (iv) explanation of the gender considerations (and those related to other vulnerable groups) addressed during the process, including how their interests were reflected in the proposed project. Please also clarify whether this information has been documented elsewhere. (v) Please confirm that a representative from the national gender machinery was presented at the consultations, as well as the youth groups.
	<p>11. Is the requested financing justified on the basis of full cost of adaptation reasoning?</p>	<p>Unsure.</p> <p>The proposal mentions a breakdown of costs and how adaptation actions will contribute to mitigating the scale of the problem. However, it does not clearly separate adaptation-specific costs from baseline development activities nor clear information about additional funding and sustainability. A number of the suggested outputs in table on page 7 can be undertaken within the PFG allocation.</p> <p>CR11: Please provide information about whether this project will meet its outcomes and outputs solely with the resources of the Adaptation Fund.</p>

		<p>CR12: Kindly clarify the link between costs and climate adaptation outcomes, strengthening how each cost type (e.g., infrastructure, capacity building, sustainability costs) directly reduces climate vulnerabilities of rural women in Uganda and including examples to support the rationale (e.g., citing climate impact statistics on rural women or lessons from similar adaptation initiatives). This aims to explain how the proposed project's objective will be achieved in regards adaptation.</p>
	<p>12. Is the project / program aligned with AF's results framework?</p>	<p>Unsure.</p> <p>The concept note includes a mapping of the proposed project's results and products to the Adaptation Fund Strategic Results Framework. However, revisions to the wording of the outcomes, outputs and indicators are required.</p> <p>CAR8:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please ensure that both project's outcome and output indicators are well presented and correspond to the ones presented in the Table: Project Components and Financing (pages 7-10). All indicators should be reviewed and amended, where necessary, to ensure that they are SMART. 2. In addition, kindly utilize the updated template and guidance for completing the Alignment with results framework table. Results Framework Alignment Table (Amended in November 2025) (77 kB, DOC)

	<p>13. Has the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes been taken into account when designing the project?</p>	<p>Yes, but further information is needed.</p> <p>The concept note briefly outlines arrangements for sustainability and indicates Monitoring and Evaluation activities to be performed during the project implementation. It provides roles and responsibilities for the main institutions, relevant KPIs to be tracked, and specific activities. However, the arrangements for the project's benefits sustainability are not included and more details are needed.</p> <p>CAR9: Kindly describe the arrangements required to ensure the sustainability of the project's benefits beyond its completion. This should include, but not be limited to, the regulatory, institutional, and financial resources needed to maintain outcomes.</p> <p>CR13: Capacity building activities are often event-based and may not translate into systemic institutional change. It is not entirely clear what will prevent communities from reverting to unsustainable practices. For social sustainability, please confirm what will be done to ensure participation is not tokenistic. While revolving loans are a good initiative, please ensure the sustainability plan reflects how issues of poor loan repayment and non-compliance will be addressed as this can impact sustainability.</p> <p>CR14: Please explain clearly how replication and scaling up of the proposed project activities and benefits will be achieved.</p>

	<p>14. Does the project / programme provide an overview of environmental and social impacts / risks identified, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?</p>	<p>Unsure.</p> <p>In Part II.K, pages 27-29, the concept note provides a list of environmental and social risks besides the table against the 15 Adaptation fund Environmental & Social Principles on page 30. However, the project classification (A, B or C) from the screening is not included as well as the compliance, risk level, and potential impacts for each assessed risk.</p> <p>CAR10: Please review table in Part II.K and state and expand, all potential impacts (direct, indirect, transboundary and cumulative), state whether the risk is low, medium or high, and include how it is planned to mitigate and manage each risk. Such risks should be described in the third column along with the corresponding mitigation measures. In addition, please take into account the following guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) In the third column, risks should be stated and properly write down for all relevant principles by starting the statement as “There is a risk of ...”. ii) If no risk is identified for a given principle, then state ‘no risk’ but a clear justification must be provided. iii) Whether the second or third column is marked depends on whether further assessment for compliance is required. Only one of the two columns should be marked. Column 2 should have a tick if no further assessment is required.
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Resource Availability	1. Is the requested project / programme funding within the cap of the country?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Country cap Balance for Uganda is \$22,744,400.</p>
	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. As per information provided in Table "Project/Programme Components and Financing", pages 7-10.</p> <p>All figures in the concept note are rounded to a whole number and add up and match across the tables and components. The Implementing Entity Management Fee is correct in size (around 8.5% of the total Project Cost). There is a PFG request that is correct in size, with a total amount of 86,800 USD.</p> <p>CAR14: Please ensure that the IE certification is completed before re-submission.</p>
	3. Are the Project/Programme Execution Costs at or below 9.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget (including the fee)?	<p>Yes. As per information provided in Table "Project/Programme Components and Financing", pages 7-10.</p> <p>All figures in the concept note are rounded to a whole number and add up and match across the tables and components. The Project Execution Costs are 9.5% and therefore are correct in size.</p>

Eligibility of IE	1. Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?	<p>No.</p> <p>The Ministry of Water and Environment is a NIE in process of re-accreditation. Last expiration date: March 14, 2024.</p> <p><i>Please be advised that the findings of the AFB Secretariat's review of the funding proposal(s) do not reflect, indicate, or prejudge the outcome of the reaccreditation process currently underway. The Implementing Entity (IE) shall acknowledge that the funding proposal will not be approved by the Board if the IE's accreditation has expired, and reaccreditation has not been achieved at the time of the Board's decision. Notwithstanding this potential risk, the IE has elected to proceed with the development of the funding proposal.</i></p>
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 for 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	n/a at concept stage

	sex-disaggregated data, targets and indicators, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?	
	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



ADAPTATION FUND

CONCEPT NOTE PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE COUNTRY

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme: Strengthening Resilience of Women to Climate Risks in Rural Communities of Uganda

Country: Uganda

Thematic Focal Area: Food Security, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Ecosystem-Based Adaptation

Type of Implementing Entity: National Implementing Entity

Implementing Entity: Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE)

Executing Entities: Climate Change Adaptation Innovation (CHAI), and Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development

Amount of Financing Requested: 5M (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

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

Amount of Requested financing for PFG: \$86,800 (in U.S 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: Click or tap to enter a date.

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

Project Background and Context

Uganda experiences moderate temperatures throughout the year, around 22.8°C, with monthly temperatures ranging between 21.7°C (July) and 23.9°C (February). During this period, total annual average precipitation is 1,197 mm, and mean monthly precipitation of the country varies from 39.6 mm in January to 152.7 mm in April. Projections indicate that Uganda's temperature could rise by up to 1.5°C in the next 20 years and up to 4.3°C by the 2080s (World Bank, 2021).

By 2080, temperatures are expected to increase between 1.5°C and 3.5°C. Compared to pre-industrial levels median climate model temperature increases over Uganda amount to approximately 1.4 °C in 2030, 1.7 °C

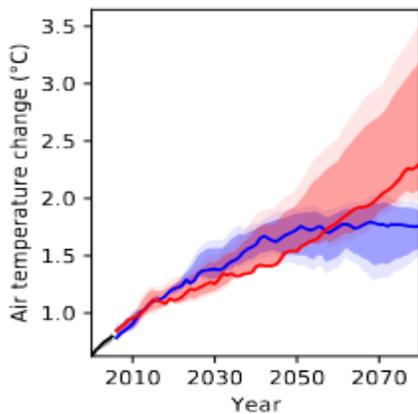


Figure 2: Air temperature projections for Uganda for different GHG emissions scenarios

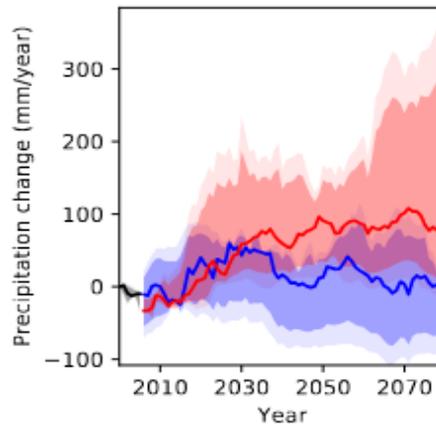


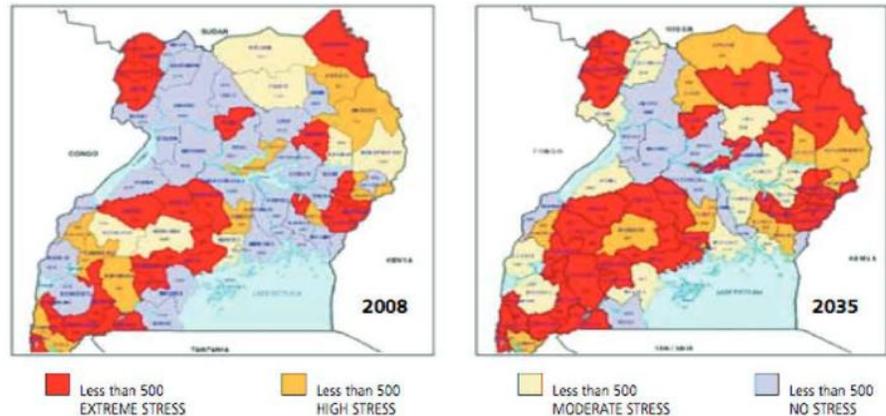
Figure 3: Annual mean precipitation for Uganda for different GHG emissions scenarios relative to the year 2000

in 2050 and 1.8 °C in 2080 under the low emissions scenario RCP2.6 (GIZ, 2021). Projections further indicate changes in rainfall patterns with an expected increase of about 10% to 20% over most parts of Uganda, except for a decrease in semi-arid regions like the cattle corridor (UNFCCC,2009).

The precipitation trends remain uncertain with potential increases or decreases depending on the region (GIZ, 2021). However, over 72 % of the population is engaged in smallholder farming, heavily relying on agriculture for food security and livelihoods. Women contribute the highest percentage of smallholder farmers. Agricultural production in Uganda is primarily subsistence-based and rain fed. However, the length and intensity of the rain season is becoming increasingly unpredictable. Smallholder farmers suffer from the impacts of climate variability such as droughts, pests, and diseases affecting crops like maize, millet, and sorghum, reducing food supply and increasing the risk of hunger and poverty. Major export crops like coffee and tea have reduced in yields leading to combined economic losses of about US\$1.4 billion (ACODE, 2021; USAID, 2022). Furthermore, Per capita water availability is projected to decline significantly by 2080 mainly due to population growth rather than climate change itself (GIZ, 2021). In Uganda, female-headed households tend to be more vulnerable than male-headed ones due to limited asset ownership and adaptive capacity disparities (ACODE, 2021). The Youth face heightened vulnerability due to factors like poverty, unemployment, inadequate sanitation, which erode their resilience against climate impacts (CGIAR, 2023).

Climate disaster risks in Uganda are significant and multifaceted, involving various types of natural disasters exacerbated by climate change. These include Flooding that have increased due to heavy rainfall that have increased the frequency and impact of floods, affecting nearly 50,000 people annually and costing over \$62 million in losses (Relief Web, 2020a). From 1900 to 2018, the country encountered 20 floods, 40 epidemic, 9 drought, and 5 landslide events. The accumulative damages caused by those natural disasters amounts to over 200,000 deaths and at least \$80 million economic loss (World Bank, 2021).

In the Eastern Region, heavy rainfall has led to frequent flooding and landslides leading to extensive damage. In 2022, severe floods affected districts like Mbale, Kapchorwa, Sironko, and Bulambuli due to heavy rainfall causing rivers like Nabuyonga and Namatala to overflow (World Bank 2020, IOM). These floods resulted in significant casualties (at least 29 deaths) and damage to infrastructure such as homes (over 4,000 affected), education centers (9 damaged), bridges (14 damaged), with thousands displaced (World Bank, 2020).



Distribution of water stress in Uganda for 2008 and projected for 2035.

(Source: World Bank Knowledge Portal)

In Western Region, heavy rainfall has led to flash floods and mudslides. In September 2022, Bundibugyo District experienced flash floods resulting in fatalities and displacement. Several people were reported missing or dead with houses destroyed across Bundibugyo District (Relief web, 2020a). In the Northern Region, areas like Gulu District are prone to flooding during rainy seasons. This often leads to economic and social destruction due to infrastructure destruction affecting access to health facilities and schools (World Bank, 2020).

On the other hand, Karamoja Sub-region (North-Eastern) is highly susceptible to droughts due to its arid conditions. Over the past decades, it has experienced frequent drought events impacting agriculture significantly (World Bank, 2020). Droughts here lead to severe water shortages affecting both human consumption and agriculture.

The household structure in these areas consists of 41.7% children, 55.2% youth and adults, and 3.7% elderly. Under normal circumstances, this meant that the children and elderly (44.8%) depend on adults and youth as their labor force. Women and girls bear the burden of fetching water for their families, and spend significant amounts of their daily time hauling water from distant places. Thus, women and girls are more vulnerable to climate change impacts in the rural areas of these regions (Nagasha. J., et al, 2019).

To reduce on the climate change impacts, climate change adaptation is key. However, Climate change adaptation is challenging for rural populations in Uganda due to several factors including the following:

- **Limited Access to Information:** There is a general lack of knowledge among rural communities about climate change causes, effects, and adaptation measures. This limits their ability to implement effective strategies (Arkleton Trust).
- **Dependence on Agriculture:** The economy of rural areas heavily relies on agriculture, which is highly vulnerable to climate variability such as droughts and floods. This makes it difficult for communities to maintain stable livelihoods (FAO, IOM).
- **Poverty and Resource Constraints:** Rural households often lack the financial resources needed for implementing climate-resilient practices like irrigation systems or agroforestry methods (Arkleton Trust). Most women in rural areas of Uganda are unable to access financial credit from banks and other institutions because they do not have security for the loans. They are small farmers who own small businesses who are unable to qualify for financial credit. Northern and Eastern Regions of Uganda have the highest population living under poverty. Karamoja has the highest levels of multidimensional poverty, with an MPI of 0.58 and a poverty incidence of 85%. Poverty rates in Karamoja are extremely high across its sub-counties, with many exceeding 60%. The Eastern region has the highest overall poverty rate at 35.7%, significantly above the national average. Districts like Butaleja have particularly high poverty rates, reaching up to 48% for the general population and 51% for children (UBOS, 2019).
- **Environmental Degradation:** Deforestation and land degradation are common due to agricultural expansion and firewood demand, exacerbating vulnerability to landslides and floods (World Bank knowledge portal).

PROJECT RATIONALE

The prevailing climate-related hazards and disasters in Uganda, particularly in rural areas, have devastating impacts on the livelihoods of rural women. The increasing frequency and severity of floods, landslides, and droughts exacerbate the existing vulnerabilities of rural women, including limited access to climate-resilient technologies and practices, restricted mobility, and inadequate access to climate information and early warning systems. The lack of climate-resilient agricultural practices, inadequate disaster risk reduction measures, and limited alternative livelihood opportunities further compound the vulnerabilities of rural women. This perpetuates a cycle of poverty, food insecurity, and economic inequality, undermining the resilience and well-being of rural women.

In order to break this cycle, it is essential to adopt a comprehensive approach that addresses the interconnected challenges faced by rural women. This project aims to provide rural women with the necessary support, skills, and resources to enhance their resilience to climate-related risks and impacts. By promoting climate-resilient agriculture, strengthening disaster risk reduction measures, and empowering rural women entrepreneurs, this project seeks to improve the food security, economic well-being, and adaptive capacity of rural women in Uganda.

The project will be implemented in 12 districts across the 4 regions of Uganda, with 3 districts selected from each region. These components are designed to promote climate resilience, sustainable livelihoods, and economic empowerment among rural women in Uganda.

Component 1: Climate-Smart Agriculture and Improved Livelihoods

This component aims to enhance the adaptive capacity of rural women in Uganda by promoting climate-smart agriculture practices and technologies such as portable irrigation systems, nature-based initiatives including Agroforestry, Intercropping and Silvopasture, and other sustainable agricultural practices that improve crop yields, reduce water scarcity, and promote environmental sustainability. By adopting climate-smart agriculture practices, rural women will be better equipped to manage climate-related risks and improve their livelihoods.

Component 2: Disaster Risk Reduction and Capacity Building

This component focuses on strengthening the resilience and adaptive capacity of rural women in Uganda to climate-related hazards and natural disasters. Key interventions include capacity building, training, and awareness-raising on disaster risk reduction, dissemination of early warning systems information, and emergency response. By empowering rural women with the knowledge and skills to manage climate-related risks, this component aims to reduce vulnerability, improve emergency response coordination, and minimize loss of life and property during disasters.

Component 3: Alternative Livelihoods and Economic Empowerment

This component aims to empower rural women entrepreneurs in Uganda with alternative livelihood and value addition solutions. Key interventions include providing access to a revolving fund, business support services, and training in agro-processing, eco-friendly product development, and small-scale manufacturing. By promoting alternative livelihoods and economic empowerment, this component aims to improve the socio-economic status of rural women, enhance their resilience to climate-related shocks, and promote sustainable economic growth.

PROJECT SCOPE

Geographical Scope: The project will be implemented in 12 selected districts in the Central, Eastern, Northern, and Western regions of Uganda. 3 districts will be selected from each region, informed by a thorough analysis of relevant data, including climate vulnerability indices, poverty rates, and agricultural productivity indicators. The specific project districts will be selected based on a set criterion, prioritizing districts that:

- Align with the Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme (UWEP) target districts
- Exhibit high levels of vulnerability to climate-related hazards and disasters
- Have significant populations of rural women engaged in smallholder farming and climate-sensitive livelihood activities
- Demonstrate limited access to climate-resilient technologies and practices
- Show potential for scalable and sustainable project impacts

Contextual Scope: The project will focus on rural women, particularly those engaged in smallholder farming, livestock keeping, and other climate-sensitive livelihood activities. The project will also engage with local communities, community-based organizations, and local government authorities to ensure the project's interventions are context-specific and effective.

Time Scope: The project will be implemented over a period of 5 years, from July 2025 to June 2030. The project timeline will be divided into three phases:

- Phase 1 (Year 1-2, July 2026 - June 2028): Project inception, baseline studies, and establishment of project structures and partnerships
- Phase 2 (Year 2-4, July 2028 - June 2030): Implementation of project activities, including capacity building, climate-resilient agriculture, disaster risk reduction, and alternative livelihoods
- Phase 3 (Year 4-5, July 2030 - June 2031): Project scaling up, consolidation, and exit strategy

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The vulnerability of rural women in Uganda to climate-related hazards and disasters, coupled with their limited access to climate-resilient technologies and practices, necessitates a comprehensive approach to strengthen their resilience. To address these challenges, this project aims to strengthen the resilience of rural women in Uganda to climate-related risks and impacts, enhancing their adaptive capacity, food security, and economic well-being.

The specific objectives of the project are;

1. To promote climate-smart agriculture practices through establishment of portable irrigation systems and nature-based initiatives.
2. To enhance women's resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and disasters through capacity building programs.
3. To empower women entrepreneurs with alternative livelihoods and value-addition opportunities through a revolving fund and business support services.

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND FINANCING

Project Components	Expected Concrete Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Amount (US\$)
Component 1: Climate-Smart Agriculture and Improved Livelihoods Promote climate-smart agriculture practices and technologies among rural women in Uganda through implementation of portable irrigation systems and nature-based initiatives such as agroforestry, intercropping and silvopasture.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Baseline assessment report produced and disseminated. 2. No. of portable irrigation systems distributed to UWEP groups. 3. No. of women trained in the use and maintenance of irrigation technology. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adoption of new technologies: Beneficiary women consistently use portable irrigation systems to water crops, reducing reliance on rain-fed agriculture. 2. Adoption of new practices: Beneficiary women actively practice agroforestry, intercropping, and/or 	2,000,000

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. No. of Water User Committees formed and operational. 5. No. of women trained in CSA practices (agroforestry, intercropping, etc.). 6. No. of community-managed tree nurseries established and producing seedlings. 7. Area (hectares) of land actively managed using new climate-smart agricultural practices. 	<p>silvopasture on their farms.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Increased production: Crop yields and diversity per household increase due to reliable water access and improved soil health. 4. Improved water management: Women can now farm during dry seasons, leading to year-round production and income. 5. Enhanced knowledge: Women demonstrate improved knowledge of sustainable farming and water management techniques. 	
<p><u>Component 2: Disaster Risk Reduction and Capacity Building</u> Strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacity of rural women in Uganda to climate-related hazards and natural disasters through capacity building.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training needs assessment report produced, outlining specific learning objectives. 2. No. of women complete training in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation 3. No. of community-based adaptation plans developed, endorsed by local government, and disseminated. 4. No. of early warning systems sensitization and information 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhanced knowledge and skills: Women demonstrate improved understanding of climate risks and practical skills to mitigate them. 2. Improved preparedness: Communities and households actively implement their adaptation plans, leading to better preparedness for climate events like floods or droughts. 3. Informed decision-making: Women regularly access, understand, and use EWS information to make timely decisions 	1,170,520

	<p>dissemination sessions conducted.</p> <p>5. No. of knowledge-sharing forums organized across the target districts.</p>	<p>about their farms, livelihoods, and safety.</p> <p>4. Strengthened community action: UWEP groups take a leading role in local climate adaptation and risk reduction efforts.</p>	
<p>Component 3: Alternative Livelihoods and Economic Empowerment Empower rural women entrepreneurs in Uganda with alternative livelihood and value addition solutions, through a revolving fund and business support services.</p>	<p>1. Market research and value chain analysis report completed.</p> <p>2. A revolving fund is legally established, capitalized, and fully operational.</p> <p>3. No. of women trained in financial literacy and business development.</p> <p>4. No. of women entrepreneurs receiving loans from the revolving fund.</p> <p>5. No. of new market linkages formally established for women's products.</p> <p>6. No. of new, viable alternative livelihood enterprises initiated by women.</p>	<p>1. Diversified income sources: Beneficiary households have new and multiple sources of income, reducing their sole reliance on agriculture.</p> <p>2. Increased household income: Women participating in alternative livelihoods report a significant increase in their disposable income.</p> <p>3. Improved business acumen: Women demonstrate enhanced skills in managing finances, marketing products, and running a business.</p> <p>4. Sustainable financial access: The revolving fund is successfully managed with high repayment rates, ensuring its availability for future borrowers.</p> <p>5. Enhanced market participation: Women's enterprises are successfully integrated into local and regional value chains.</p>	1,000,000
4. Project/Programme Execution cost			437,780
5. Total Project/Programme Cost			4,608,300

6. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)	391,700
Amount of Financing Requested	5,000,000

Projected Calendar:

The following are proposed dates which are subject to change depending on the project start

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project/Programme Implementation	July 2026
Mid-term Review	January 2028
Project/Programme Closing	June 2031
Terminal Evaluation	June 2031

PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

OVERALL PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

The proposed project intends to improve the ability of women from rural vulnerable communities in Uganda to address the social and environmental threats posed by climate change to water security, food security, ecosystem services, and economic stability. The project will pick on the best practices from UWEP, an economic intervention programme targeting rural women empowerment to integrate climate resilience knowledge and coping with the impacts of climate change affecting the target population.

The project components align with Uganda's climate change policies, strategies and plans. The development of this proposal was initiated by the identification of key climate change issues and barriers that are evident in communities, which have been noted by local communities and organizations through Community Development Officers (CDOs) in their respective districts. In response to the identified climate-related challenges, the proposed project - **Strengthening Resilience of Women to Climate risks in rural communities of Uganda**, aims to:

- To promote climate-smart agriculture practices through establishment of portable irrigation systems and nature-based initiatives
- Enhance women's resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and disasters through capacity building programs.
- Empower women entrepreneurs with alternative livelihoods and value-added opportunities through a revolving fund and business support services.

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

COMPONENT 1: CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE AND LIVELIHOODS
PROMOTE CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE PRACTICES AND TECHNOLOGIES AMONG RURAL WOMEN IN UGANDA THROUGH ESTABLISHMENT OF MINI-IRRIGATION SYSTEMS AND AGROFORESTRY INITIATIVES.

This component aims to directly address food insecurity and low agricultural productivity by promoting climate-smart agriculture (CSA) practices and technologies among rural women. The focus is on strengthening local capacity to adapt to climate change by introducing portable irrigation systems and comprehensive nature-based initiatives, including agroforestry, intercropping, and silvopasture. This component will be implemented across 12 districts in Uganda's Central, Eastern, Northern, and Western regions, which are particularly vulnerable to climate variability and drought.

The initiative directly responds to Uganda's increasing climate challenges, which severely affect agricultural livelihoods. By providing reliable water access and improving soil health, these interventions align with Uganda's Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR) and the National Climate Change Policy, helping communities stabilize crop yields and build a more sustainable agricultural future.

Detailed Activities:

Activities will be implemented through the existing UWEP women groups with close support from the Community Development Officers (CDOs) in each district.

1. Mobilization & Planning

- Conduct baseline assessments: Collect data on existing agricultural practices, water resources, soil health, and the socio-economic conditions of beneficiary communities to produce a comprehensive baseline report.
- Identify and select beneficiaries: Formally identify and register the vulnerable UWEP women farmers and groups who will participate in the project.

2. Portable Irrigation System Rollout

- Procure and distribute portable irrigation systems: Provide appropriate technologies, such as micro solar pumps and treadle pumps, to support crop production during dry seasons.
- Train women on irrigation technology: Deliver hands-on training programs on the efficient operation, use, and maintenance of the irrigation systems.
- Establish Water User Committees: Form and train committees among group members to ensure the sustainable management and maintenance of the irrigation equipment.

3. Nature-Based Solutions Implementation

- Establish community nursery beds: Set up and manage nurseries to propagate diverse and climate-appropriate tree and crop seedlings.
- Train women in CSA practices: Develop and deliver training modules on agroforestry, intercropping, and silvopasture techniques.
- Support tree planting and CSA activities: Distribute seedlings and provide support to community groups for establishing demonstration plots and monitoring progress.

1. management techniques.

Ownership and Sustainability Strategy

The long-term success of Component 1 hinges on ensuring that the UWEP women's groups have a sense of ownership over the agricultural assets and the capacity to sustain the benefits long after the project's completion. The strategy is built on four key pillars: financial, social, technical, and environmental sustainability.

Financial Sustainability

The project ensures that the climate-smart agriculture interventions are not only productive but also financially self-sustaining.

- *Shared investment, shared ownership*: A cost-sharing mechanism will be used for the portable irrigation systems. By co-investing a portion of the cost (between 25% and 75%), women's groups move from being passive recipients to active owners of the equipment. This financial stake dramatically increases the incentive to maintain and protect their investment.
- *Accessible financing*: To ensure the co-payment is not a barrier for vulnerable women, the project links directly to the revolving fund in Component 3. This provides a clear and accessible pathway for groups to finance their contribution, making ownership achievable for all.
- *Market-oriented production*: The project will support groups in commercializing their surplus produce. By connecting them to markets and helping them add value, the irrigation systems and new practices become engines for profit. This profitability is the ultimate driver of sustainability, as it creates a continuous revenue stream to cover maintenance, repairs, and future investments.

Social and Institutional Sustainability

The project will utilize and strengthen existing community structures to ensure the interventions are managed effectively at the local level.

- *Community-based management*: The formation of Water User Committees within the women's groups is a critical step. These committees will be trained to manage the day-to-day operation of the irrigation systems, including developing fair usage schedules, overseeing maintenance, and resolving any potential disputes. This devolves management responsibility to the users themselves, fostering accountability and local governance.
- *Building on existing social capital*: The project's decision to work through established UWEP women's groups is intentional. These groups already possess social cohesion, trust, and internal governance structures. By strengthening these existing institutions rather than creating new ones, the project ensures that the management of project assets is integrated into the community's social fabric.

Technical Sustainability

The long-term usability of the new technologies is secured through comprehensive capacity building and local support systems.

- *Hands-on training and capacity building*: Beneficiaries will receive extensive, practical training that goes beyond basic operation. The curriculum will cover routine maintenance, simple troubleshooting, and repair for the portable pumps. This empowers women to solve common issues independently, reducing reliance on external technicians and minimizing downtime.
- *Ongoing extension support*: The project will work closely with government CDOs and local agricultural extension agents. This partnership establishes a durable, local support system that women can turn to for advice and assistance long after the project's initial training period has concluded.

Environmental Sustainability

The project's design creates a self-reinforcing, resilient agricultural system that improves the environment

over time.

- ***Synergistic interventions:*** The portable irrigation systems and nature-based initiatives are designed to work in synergy. While irrigation guarantees water for crops, practices like agroforestry and intercropping build long-term soil health, improve the soil's capacity to retain water, and reduce the need for costly chemical fertilizers. This integrated approach ensures that productivity gains are environmentally sustainable and the natural resource base is enhanced, not depleted.

Contributions to Climate Resilience:

This project component will contribute to climate resilience in these communities in the following ways:

- ***Improved agricultural productivity & water management:*** The portable irrigation systems will provide a stable water supply, enabling women to farm year-round, diversify into high-value crops, and maintain productivity during dry seasons. This directly enhances food security and reduces crop failure due to drought.
- ***Enhanced soil health and ecosystem stability:*** Nature-based initiatives like agroforestry will prevent soil erosion, improve water retention in the soil, and act as buffers against extreme weather events. This contributes to more stable land and groundwater levels, crucial for both agriculture and drinking water.
- ***Diversified livelihoods and economic stability:*** The combination of year-round farming and products from agroforestry (like fruit, fodder, and fuel wood) will provide women with diverse income sources, buffering their households against climate-induced economic losses.
- ***Increased biodiversity:*** The integration of trees and diverse crops into the agricultural landscape will provide habitats for various species, enhancing vital ecosystem services that support agriculture and overall community well-being.

COMPONENT 2: DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CAPACITY BUILDING STRENGTHEN THE RESILIENCE AND ADAPTIVE CAPACITY OF RURAL WOMEN IN UGANDA TO CLIMATE-RELATED HAZARDS AND NATURAL DISASTERS THROUGH CAPACITY BUILDING.

This component aims to strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacity of rural women by equipping them with the essential knowledge, skills, and plans to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to climate-related disasters. The focus is on building human capacity to reduce vulnerability. Implementation will be carried out through the established UWEP women groups and CDOs playing a key facilitation role.

A critical aspect of this component is to bridge the gap between existing climate information systems and the women who need them most. Rather than establishing new infrastructure, the project will focus on sensitizing and training women on how to access, interpret, and utilize information from existing Early Warning Systems (EWS).

Detailed Activities:

The activities are designed to build a comprehensive understanding of climate risks and foster proactive, community-led adaptation strategies.

1. *Assessment & Planning*

- Conduct a training needs assessment: Identify specific knowledge gaps among rural women regarding disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation to develop a tailored training program.
- Facilitate community-based adaptation plans: Work with UWEP groups and local leaders to develop participatory plans that identify climate risks, prioritize adaptation strategies, and outline clear emergency response procedures.

2. *Capacity Building & Training*

- Develop and deliver targeted training programs: Design and conduct training workshops covering topics such as understanding climate impacts, practical disaster risk reduction measures, and implementing their community adaptation plans.
- Conduct sensitization on EWS: Implement campaigns to raise awareness and train women on how to access, understand, and act on alerts from existing national and local early warning systems.

3. *Knowledge Sharing & Dissemination*

- Organize knowledge-sharing platforms: Create opportunities, such as workshops and peer-to-peer forums, for women to share their experiences, successful practices, and lessons learned in climate adaptation.
- Disseminate accessible climate information: Support the sharing of simplified climate forecasts and warnings through trusted and accessible community channels.

Contributions to Climate Resilience:

This project component will contribute to climate resilience in these communities in the following ways:

- ***Enhanced knowledge and skills:*** Through targeted training, women will gain a practical understanding of climate risks and develop the confidence and skills to implement risk reduction measures for their households and farms.
- ***Improved preparedness and response:*** With community-based adaptation and response plans in place, communities will be better organized and more effective in their response to climate events, reducing potential loss of life and livelihoods.
- ***Informed, proactive decision-making:*** By learning how to use early warning information, women can make timely decisions; such as when to harvest, reinforce homes, or evacuate livestock—which significantly reduces their vulnerability and minimizes disaster impacts.
- ***Strengthened community leadership:*** The process will empower women to become active leaders in community-level climate action, ensuring that adaptation strategies are inclusive and address their specific needs.

COMPONENT 3: ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT EMPOWER RURAL WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS IN UGANDA WITH ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOOD AND VALUE ADDITION SOLUTIONS, ENHANCING THEIR ECONOMIC RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS.

This component aims to empower rural women economically by reducing their dependence on climate-sensitive agriculture. It will provide the financing and skills necessary to develop alternative, climate-resilient livelihoods and value-addition enterprises. By diversifying household income streams, this component is key to building a robust economic foundation that can withstand climate-related shocks like

crop failure, floods, and droughts.

The core of this component is a sustainably managed revolving fund paired with comprehensive business development support, ensuring women have both the capital and the knowledge to launch and grow successful enterprises.

Activities:

The CDOs will lead the implementation of these activities, working directly with the UWEP women's groups.

1. *Livelihood Identification & Training*

- Conduct market research: Identify viable and climate-resilient livelihood enterprises (e.g., beekeeping, mushroom farming, briquette making, food processing, poultry) with strong market demand.
- Deliver business and financial training: Offer comprehensive training to women entrepreneurs on essential topics, including financial literacy, business planning, enterprise management, and marketing.
- Provide skills-based training: Offer practical, hands-on training for the specific enterprises selected by the women's groups.

2. *Revolving Fund Establishment & Management*

- Design and establish the revolving fund: Develop the fund's operational guidelines, including clear eligibility criteria, loan terms, and repayment schedules, ensuring a transparent governance structure.
- Train fund managers: Equip CDOs and women's group committees with the skills for effective fund management, loan appraisal, and financial reporting.
- Disburse and manage loans: Oversee the loan application, disbursement, and repayment process to ensure the fund's sustainability and growth.

3. *Business Development & Market Linkages*

- Provide ongoing mentorship: Offer continuous business support and coaching to women entrepreneurs as they establish and grow their enterprises.
- Establish market linkages: Actively connect women's businesses with suppliers, local markets, and larger buyers to ensure a reliable customer base for their products and services.

Contribution to Climate Resilience:

This component will contribute to climate resilience by:

- ***Diversified and increased household income:*** By creating new income streams independent of traditional agriculture, women will be better able to manage financial shocks caused by poor harvests or extreme weather. This increased economic stability directly enhances a household's ability to cope with climate impacts.
- ***Improved business acumen and empowerment:*** Women will gain valuable business and financial management skills, enabling them to make informed decisions, adapt to changing market conditions, and confidently lead their enterprises.
- ***Sustainable access to finance:*** A successful revolving fund creates a lasting community financial resource that outlives the project, allowing women to continue investing in their businesses and adapting their livelihoods long into the future.

- **Enhanced community-wide resilience:** The growth of diverse, women-led local enterprises strengthens the entire community's economy, complementing the agricultural improvements in Component 1 and the risk reduction plans in Component 2 to build comprehensive, multi-layered resilience.

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

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

The project will build a strong foundation for sustainable economic resilience and prosperity for women entrepreneurs.

- **Increased and stabilized agricultural income:** By using portable irrigation systems, women will transition from rain-fed subsistence farming to year-round production, enabling them to cultivate high-value crops and secure a more stable income. This is complemented by nature-based initiatives (agroforestry, intercropping) that naturally boost long-term soil fertility and crop yields.
- **Diversified, climate-resilient income sources:** The revolving fund (Component 3) is central to reducing economic vulnerability. It empowers women to launch and expand non-agricultural businesses—such as beekeeping, briquette making, or food processing—creating diverse income streams that are not solely dependent on unpredictable weather patterns.
- **Enhanced market access and integration:** The project will move beyond production support to actively establish market linkages. By connecting women's groups to reliable buyers for both their agricultural surplus and new enterprise products, it ensures their economic activities are profitable and sustainable.

SOCIAL BENEFITS

The project is fundamentally about empowering women and strengthening the social fabric of their communities.

- **Empowerment and agency of women:** By exclusively targeting UWEP women's groups and placing them at the center of all activities; from managing irrigation systems to running businesses—the project directly enhances their decision-making power, leadership skills, and control over household income.
- **Improved food and nutrition security:** Increased and diversified food production from climate-smart agriculture will directly improve food availability and dietary diversity at the household level, contributing to better health and nutrition outcomes, especially for children.
- **Strengthened community resilience and cohesion:** The participatory development of community-based adaptation plans (Component 2) fosters collective action and shared responsibility. These plans, combined with knowledge-sharing platforms, strengthen social bonds and enhance the entire community's capacity to prepare for and respond to climate shocks together.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

The project promotes regenerative practices that heal and protect the local environment;

- ***Sustainable water resource management:*** The use of efficient portable irrigation technologies, such as solar pumps, promotes responsible water use, reducing pressure on scarce water sources compared to conventional, large-scale irrigation.
- ***Enhanced ecosystem health and biodiversity:*** The promotion of agroforestry, intercropping, and silvopasture does more than support agriculture; it actively restores the environment. These practices help sequester carbon, improve soil structure, prevent erosion, and create habitats that support local biodiversity.
- ***Reduced pressure on natural resources:*** By providing alternative livelihoods like briquette making and promoting energy-saving cookstoves, the project directly reduces the need for firewood and charcoal, helping to curb local deforestation and land degradation.

TARGETING VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES AND GROUPS

The project's partnership with UWEP ensures it reaches established groups of women who are already engaged in economic activities but remain vulnerable. Through a community-based validation process, the project will prioritize the most marginalized within these groups, including;

- Rural women with limited access to resources
- Women-headed households
- Women with disabilities

MITIGATING NEGATIVE IMPACTS

To comply with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy, the project will:

- An Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) will be conducted during the project formulation phase to systematically identify and create mitigation plans for potential risks, such as conflicts over water resources or negative impacts on local ecosystems.
- A gender-responsive approach is embedded in the project's structure. This includes ensuring women hold leadership roles in all committees, tailoring training schedules to their availability, and collecting gender-disaggregated data to monitor outcomes and ensure benefits are shared equitably.
- A transparent and accessible Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be established, allowing participants and their communities to voice any concerns or complaints, ensuring accountability and adaptive management throughout the project's lifecycle.

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

COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Cost-effectiveness refers to the relationship between the project's costs and its expected outcomes. A cost-effective project maximizes the benefits achieved per unit of resource invested.

Factors Affecting Cost-Effectiveness

Several factors influence the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project:

- **Scalability:** The project's potential for expansion and replication in other areas will increase its cost-effectiveness.

- Sustainability: The project's long-term sustainability and ability to generate ongoing benefits will impact its overall cost-effectiveness.
- Partnership and collaboration: Collaborations with other organizations and leveraging existing resources can enhance cost-effectiveness.
- Monitoring and evaluation: Effective monitoring and evaluation systems will help optimize resource allocation and improve project outcomes.

Potential Cost-Effectiveness Indicators

To measure the project's cost-effectiveness, the following indicators could be considered:

- Cost per beneficiary: The average cost of reaching and benefiting one woman.
- Return on investment: The ratio of the project's benefits to its costs.
- Cost-benefit ratio: Comparing the monetary value of the project's benefits to its total costs.
- Impact per dollar invested: Measuring the project's contribution to achieving its objectives per unit of expenditure.

Enhancing Cost-Effectiveness

To enhance the project's cost-effectiveness, we can focus on:

- Optimizing resource allocation: Prioritizing activities with the highest potential impact and cost-efficiency.
- Strengthening partnerships: Collaborating with other organizations to share costs and expertise.
- Utilizing existing infrastructure: Utilizing existing facilities and resources to reduce project costs.
- Building local capacity: Empowering communities to manage and sustain project activities.

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 aligns with several key national and sub-national development strategies in Uganda:

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP) IV (2025/26-2029/30)

- The project contributes to economic growth by improving agricultural productivity, creating employment opportunities, and enhancing women's incomes.
- The project focuses on women's empowerment and capacity building, aligning with the NDP's emphasis on human capital development.
- The project supports infrastructure development through the construction of mini-irrigation schemes and contributes to improved agricultural productivity.
- The project aligns with the NDP's focus on environmental sustainability through tree planting and natural resource management.

NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN (NAP)

- The project addresses key areas identified in Uganda's NAP, including agriculture and food security, water resources management, and disaster risk reduction.
- The project's activities contribute to building resilience to climate change impacts through improved water management, diversified livelihoods, and disaster preparedness.

UGANDA GENDER POLICY (2007)

- The project explicitly targets women, promoting gender equality and women's economic empowerment.
- The project aims to increase women's participation in decision-making processes at the community level.

UGANDA AGRICULTURE NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN: Uganda's Agriculture NAP notes the following as key strategies in addressing climate risks in the agriculture sector:

- Promote a gendered climate smart agriculture programme to reduce the vulnerability of women, youth and other groups
- Strengthen climate information, early warning and disaster preparedness mechanism for a better-informed agricultural planning and decision making.

UGANDA UPDATED NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION: Uganda's climate is highly variable and changing, according to the assessment, and the country is rated highly vulnerable, with a high degree of exposure, sensitivity, and low adaptive capacity. The vulnerability and risk assessment ratings are: Agriculture (crop and livestock): Vulnerability rating (4.07), and risk rating (4.18); Water sector: Vulnerability rating (4.63), and risk rating (4.75); and Forestry sector: vulnerability rating (3.25), and risk rating (4.25). An assessment of the economic impacts of climate change in Uganda indicated that adaptation inaction could result in annual costs rising in the range of USD 3.2–5.9 billion within a decade. Even if there were no further increases in climate impacts, the cost of inaction would rise over time because of other factors such as increase in population. Uganda's Updated NDC identifies the following priority sectors for adaptation in Uganda: ecosystems, water, agriculture, and forestry.

The strategic pillars identified to transform Uganda into a climate- resilient and low-carbon society by 2050 include:

- Promote climate-resilient and low-carbon agricultural development
- Increase availability and promote access to finance for climate-resilience, low-carbon investments and climate impacts recovery
- Promote climate-resilient water supply systems, increase water supply capacity and use efficiency.
- Promote sustainable management of ecosystems and the use of nature-based solutions, including through community engagement

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUB-SECTOR GENDER MAINSTREAMING STRATEGY 2016-2021: The project aligns with the strategy: “To promote equitable benefits sharing of environment and natural resource products by men and women and other disadvantaged groups”

TECHNOLOGY NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: The Technology Needs Assessment ranks Water, Agriculture, and Forestry sectors the highest. “Community-based irrigation schemes” is one of the key technologies prioritized for water and agriculture sector. Other technologies include: Construction of new and maintenance of old dams; and Promoting Forest based enterprises e.g., bee [keeping/apiary](#); butterfly farming, fruit trees production; ecotourism. These align with the project activities.

UGANDA THIRD NATIONAL COMMUNICATION: Page 134 of the Third National Communication points out that Climate change impacts particularly dry seasons and prolonged droughts affect the crop

physiology in Uganda. For example, Suitability levels for Robusta Coffee was predicted to reduce in most parts of Northern Uganda.

UGANDA CLIMATE CHANGE ACT: The Act also provides for climate change financing as well as incentives for those involved in implementing response measures for climate change adaptation and mitigation

THE UGANDA GREEN GROWTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2017/18 – 2030/31: The focus areas in UGGDS include: Sustainable agriculture production through upgrading the value chain of strategic commodities and enterprises with a focus on irrigation and integrated soil fertility management.

OTHER RELEVANT INSTRUMENTS

- Vision 2040: The project supports Uganda's long-term vision of a transformed society with improved livelihoods and a resilient environment.
- National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) policies: The project aligns with NEMA's mandate to protect and manage the environment.
- District Development Plans: The project can be integrated into district-level planning and implementation to address local needs and priorities.

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.

COMPLIANCE WITH NATIONAL TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The project will adhere to relevant national technical standards and regulations, including but not limited to:

- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations: Conduct EIAs where required, based on the project's potential environmental impacts.
- Water quality standards: Ensure that water quality standards are maintained throughout project implementation, particularly for irrigation schemes.
- Building codes and construction standards: Adhere to relevant building codes and construction practices for infrastructure development.
- Agricultural and forestry regulations: Comply with regulations related to land use, crop cultivation, and forest management.
- Gender and social inclusion standards: Adhere to national guidelines on gender equality and social inclusion.

COMPLIANCE WITH ADAPTATION FUND ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL POLICY

The project will be implemented in accordance with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy, which includes the following key principles:

- Participation and stakeholder engagement: Involve local communities in project planning, implementation, and monitoring.
- Gender equality and social inclusion: Ensure equal opportunities and benefits for women and marginalized groups.
- Environmental management: Minimize environmental impacts and promote sustainable resource use.
- Indigenous peoples' rights: Respect the rights of indigenous peoples and communities.
- Resettlement: Avoid involuntary resettlement, but if unavoidable, implement appropriate resettlement plans.

SPECIFIC MEASURES

To ensure compliance, the project will:

- Undertake environmental and social assessments: Conduct thorough assessments to identify potential impacts and develop mitigation measures.
- Develop an environmental and social management plan (ESMP): Outline specific actions to address identified environmental and social risks.
- Establish grievance redress mechanisms: Provide platforms for communities to voice concerns and seek remedies.
- Monitor and evaluate environmental and social performance: Track the project's impacts and take corrective actions as needed.
- Build capacity: Strengthen the capacity of project implementers and beneficiaries to understand and implement environmental and social safeguards.

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

There is no duplication of project with other funding sources. The project's focus on climate-resilient livelihoods and economic empowerment aligns with the Government of Uganda's development agenda, which prioritises promoting entrepreneurship and job creation, enhancing women's economic empowerment, and building resilience to climate change. It will greatly promote the achievement of UWEP's objectives by providing climate-resilient livelihoods and economic empowerment to women entrepreneurs, enhancing their resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related shocks and stressors, and supporting the development of sustainable and climate-resilient businesses.

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

A robust learning and knowledge management component is crucial for capturing and disseminating lessons learned from the UWEP project. This will ensure that the project's impact is maximized and that knowledge gained is shared for future adaptation efforts.

KEY COMPONENTS

- Knowledge Management System (KMS): This could be a digital platform or a combination of digital and analog tools to store, organize, and share project-related information, including data, reports, best practices, and case studies.
- Documentation and Reporting: Regular documentation of project activities, challenges, successes, and lessons learned through reports, case studies, and success stories.
- Capacity Building: Training project staff and beneficiaries on knowledge management tools and techniques to ensure effective knowledge capture and utilization.
- Knowledge Sharing Platforms: Establishing forums, workshops, and conferences to facilitate knowledge exchange among project stakeholders.
- Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System: Integrating knowledge management into the M&E system to track project progress, identify lessons learned, and inform decision-making.
- Dissemination: Developing strategies to share project findings and lessons learned with a wider audience, including policymakers, researchers, and other practitioners.

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

- Baseline Assessment: Conducting a baseline assessment of existing knowledge management practices to identify gaps and opportunities.

- Knowledge Capture: Developing tools and processes for capturing project-related data and information, such as project documentation, monitoring and evaluation data, and success stories.
- Knowledge Organization and Storage: Organizing and storing knowledge in a user-friendly and accessible format, utilizing the KMS.
- Knowledge Sharing: Facilitating knowledge sharing through workshops, training sessions, and online platforms.
- Knowledge Utilization: Integrating lessons learned into project implementation and decision-making.

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.

CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

This project is grounded in a comprehensive, participatory, and gender-responsive consultative process, ensuring that its design and implementation are directly aligned with the needs and priorities of the target communities, particularly vulnerable women. The engagement is structured as a continuous dialogue throughout the project cycle.

PHASE 1: INITIAL CONSULTATIONS (CONCEPT NOTE DEVELOPMENT)

An initial round of extensive consultations was conducted to inform the development of this concept note. These engagements validated the project's core problem statement, confirmed the appropriateness of the proposed interventions, and affirmed the selection of UWEP women's groups as the primary beneficiaries.

Key Stakeholders Consulted

A wide range of stakeholders were engaged through methods including focus group discussions, key informant interviews, and community workshops:

- Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs):
 - Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE)
 - Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD)
 - Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED)
 - Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF)
 - Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD)
 - District Local Governments and Community Development Officers (CDOs)
- Community groups and Civil Society:
 - UWEP Women Groups
 - Farmer Cooperatives and Environmental NGOs
 - Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) and Water User Associations
- Other partners:
 - Private Sector (e.g., agricultural input suppliers)
 - Academic and Research Institutions
 - Development Partners, including the Adaptation Fund

Particular attention was paid to ensuring the voices of vulnerable groups—including women-headed households, youth, and persons with disabilities—were central to these discussions.

PHASE 2: IN-DEPTH CONSULTATIONS (FULL PROPOSAL FORMULATION)

The project will undertake a second, more intensive phase of consultation during the detailed project design stage, supported by the Project Formulation Grant (PFG).

The objectives of this next phase are to:

- Co-design specific activities with the beneficiary women's groups to ensure local ownership and relevance.
- Conduct detailed baseline and needs assessments in the selected districts.
- Formalize partnership agreements and clarify the roles and responsibilities of all executing entities and partners.
- Establish a participatory monitoring and evaluation framework with community-defined indicators of success.

CONSULTATION METHODS

A variety of consultation methods were employed to reach a diverse range of stakeholders:

- Focus group discussions: To gather in-depth insights from target beneficiaries and community members.
- Key informant interviews: To collect information from experts and community leaders.
- Surveys and questionnaires: To gather quantitative data on needs, priorities, and perceptions.
- Participatory rural appraisals: To assess local resources, knowledge, and practices.
- Community meetings and workshops: To build consensus and ownership among stakeholders.

GENDER CONSIDERATIONS

Gender considerations were mainstreamed throughout the consultative process. This included:

- Gender-disaggregated data: Collecting data on the differential impacts of climate change on women and men.
- Women's participation: Ensuring equal participation of women in all consultation activities.
- Gender analysis: Identifying gender roles, responsibilities, and power dynamics to inform project design.
- Addressing gender-specific needs: Tailoring project interventions to address the specific needs and priorities of women.

COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL POLICY

The consultative process adhered to the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy by:

- Involving affected communities: Ensuring that communities are informed about the project and have opportunities to participate in decision-making.
- Identifying potential impacts: Assessing potential environmental and social impacts through consultations.
- Addressing grievances: Establishing grievance redress mechanisms to address concerns and complaints.
- Promoting gender equality and social inclusion: Ensuring that women and marginalized groups have equal access to project benefits.

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

JUSTIFICATION FOR FUNDING REQUESTED: FULL COST OF ADAPTATION

The full cost of adaptation encompasses all expenditures necessary to implement concrete adaptation activities that address the adverse effects of climate change. The project requires the requested funding to fully address the identified climate vulnerabilities of rural women in Uganda.

BREAKDOWN OF COSTS

- Direct implementation costs: These include expenditures on infrastructure development (mini-irrigation schemes), capacity building, training, equipment, and materials.
- Indirect costs: These cover project management, monitoring and evaluation, financial management, and administrative expenses.
- Contingency costs: A provision for unforeseen circumstances and potential cost overruns.
- Sustainability costs: Investments in long-term sustainability, such as institutional strengthening, knowledge management, and replication.

RATIONALE FOR FULL COST FUNDING

- Scale of the problem: Climate change impacts on rural women are significant and require substantial investments to build resilience.
- Comprehensive approach: The project addresses multiple climate vulnerabilities through integrated interventions, necessitating adequate funding.
- Sustainability: Full cost funding ensures the project's long-term sustainability and avoids the risk of underfunding, which could compromise outcomes.
- Leverage additional resources: Sufficient funding can attract additional investments from other sources, maximizing the project's impact.
- Cost-effectiveness: Adequate funding allows for the implementation of cost-effective interventions and the achievement of optimal results.

DEMONSTRATING THE FULL COST OF ADAPTATION

To demonstrate the full cost of adaptation, the project will:

- Provide detailed budget breakdowns: Clearly outlining the costs associated with each project component and activity.
- Justify cost estimates: Using relevant data and market prices to support budget figures.
- Identify potential cost-saving measures: Exploring opportunities to optimize resource utilization and reduce costs.
- Demonstrate the link between costs and expected outcomes: Clearly articulating how the requested funding will contribute to achieving project objectives.

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

ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY OF PROJECT OUTCOMES

Sustainability of project outcomes is a core principle in the design of the project. The following strategies have been incorporated to ensure long-term impact:

Strengthening institutional capacity

- Capacity building: Enhancing the capacity of local government institutions, women's groups, and other relevant stakeholders to manage and sustain project activities beyond the project lifespan.
- Partnerships: Fostering partnerships between government agencies, civil society organizations, and the private sector to ensure continued support for project outcomes.

Financial sustainability

- Revolving fund: Establishing a revolving fund to provide ongoing financial support to women and promote financial inclusion.
- Income generating activities: Promoting income-generating activities linked to the project components (e.g., value addition for agricultural products) to create sustainable livelihoods.
- Cost-recovery mechanisms: Exploring opportunities for cost recovery through user fees or other mechanisms, where appropriate.

Environmental sustainability

- Sustainable land management practices: Promoting agroforestry, soil conservation, and water management practices to ensure long-term environmental benefits.
- Community-based natural resource management: Empowering communities to manage and protect natural resources.

Social sustainability

- Gender equality: Promoting gender equality and women's empowerment through continued capacity building and leadership development.
- Community ownership: Fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility among beneficiaries through participatory project design and implementation.

Knowledge management and learning

- Documentation and dissemination: Sharing project experiences and lessons learned to inform future interventions and scale-up efforts.
- Capacity building in knowledge management: Equipping project stakeholders with the skills to manage and utilize knowledge effectively.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) FRAMEWORK

The project will be guided by a robust M&E framework designed to ensure accountability, facilitate adaptive management, and systematically measure progress towards achieving the project's objectives and outcomes. The framework is participatory, involving beneficiaries and stakeholders at all levels.

M&E approach and activities

The M&E system will operate at multiple levels to track performance from daily activities to long-term impact.

- **Routine Monitoring:** Project staff and CDOs will conduct continuous monitoring of field activities. This will involve regular site visits, tracking the distribution of assets like irrigation pumps, and ensuring training sessions are conducted as planned. Simple tools like activity checklists and monthly field reports will be used.
- **Outcome Monitoring:** The project will conduct periodic assessments to measure progress toward the expected outcomes. This will be done through semi-annual surveys, focus group discussions with UWEP groups, and the collection of case studies to capture qualitative changes in resilience and empowerment. A detailed baseline study will be conducted at the project's inception to establish the starting point for all key indicators.
- **Evaluations:** Two formal evaluations are planned:
 1. A Mid-Term Review in January 2028 will assess progress, identify implementation challenges, and recommend corrective actions to ensure the project is on track to meet its goals.
 2. A Final Evaluation will be conducted at the end of the project (June 2031) to assess the overall effectiveness, impact, sustainability, and lessons learned.

Roles and Responsibilities

Clear roles will be established to ensure the M&E system functions smoothly:

- UWEP women's groups: Will actively participate in data collection, provide feedback on project activities through community meetings, and contribute to the development of success stories.
- CDOs: Will be the primary agents for field-level data collection, submitting monthly progress reports to the project management unit.
- CHAI: Will house the Project Management Unit (PMU), which is responsible for designing M&E tools, managing the M&E database, consolidating reports, and commissioning the mid-term and final evaluations.
- MWE: Will provide overall oversight, review quarterly and annual progress reports, and ensure that M&E findings are used to inform policy and strategic decisions.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Progress will be tracked against the following specific, measurable indicators, which are directly linked to the project components.

Component	Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Climate-Smart Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of women farmers with consistent access to water for irrigation. • No. of portable irrigation systems successfully distributed and operational. • Total land area (in hectares) managed under new climate-smart practices. • Increase in crop yield (%) and food production per household. • Survival rate (%) of trees planted for agroforestry.
Disaster Risk Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of women who demonstrate improved knowledge in DRR (measured via pre/post-assessments). • No. of community-based adaptation plans developed and being implemented. • % of women's groups that regularly access, understand, and use early warning information.
Alternative Livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of new, viable alternative livelihood enterprises initiated. • Increase in household income (%) for beneficiary women. • No. of women entrepreneurs who receive loans from the revolving fund. • Repayment rate (%) of loans from the revolving fund. • No. of new market linkages established for women's products.

Reporting and knowledge management

Data will flow from the field level (CDOs) to the Project Management Unit (CHAI) for consolidation and analysis. The PMU will produce Quarterly Progress Reports and Annual Performance Reports for MWE, the NDA, and the Adaptation Fund. The findings will be shared with stakeholders through workshops and community meetings to discuss progress and collaboratively solve challenges, ensuring the project remains a learning-driven initiative. A dedicated portion of the project budget will be allocated for all M&E activities.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS AND RISKS

The project has been carefully designed to minimize potential negative environmental and social impacts while maximizing positive outcomes. However, certain risks and impacts are inherent in any development project. The following table highlights the potential project risks, their likelihood and mitigation measures.

RISK CATEGORY	RISK	LIKELIHOOD	MITIGATION MEASURES	RESPONSIBILITY
Project Design & Implementation	Inappropriate technology selection or poor-quality irrigation systems.	Medium	Conduct thorough technical assessments and pilot testing. Implement a robust procurement process with clear quality standards. Provide comprehensive training to beneficiaries on proper use and maintenance.	CHAI, MGLSD, MWE, MAAIF, MEMD
	Low adoption rate of climate-smart agriculture (CSA) practices due to resistance to change.	Medium	Involve women's groups in the co-design of interventions. Use demonstration plots and peer-to-peer learning. Provide access to financing through the revolving fund for necessary inputs.	CHAI, MGLSD
	Revolving fund mismanagement, leading to non-repayment of loans and fund depletion.	High	Establish a robust management structure with a multi-stakeholder committee. Develop clear eligibility criteria and repayment schedules. Provide financial literacy training. Implement a transparent monitoring and reporting system.	MGLSD, CDOs
	Insufficient institutional capacity of implementing	Low	Conduct a capacity assessment at the outset. Provide targeted training and	MWE, CHAI

	and executing entities.		technical assistance. Recruit qualified project management staff.	
Environmental & Social	Unintended negative environmental impacts, such as groundwater depletion.	Low	Conduct an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA). Ensure irrigation systems are water-efficient and train beneficiaries on sustainable water management.	MWE
	Social and cultural barriers prevent women from participating or benefiting equally.	Medium	Ensure a gender-responsive approach throughout the project. Involve women in decision-making roles and conduct awareness campaigns on gender equality.	MGLSD
	Conflict over natural resources (e.g., water, land) among community members.	Low	Facilitate the formation of water user associations and community management structures. Engage community leaders in conflict resolution.	MGLSD, CDOs
Economic & Financial	Market saturation or low demand for products from new livelihoods.	Medium	Conduct thorough market research and value chain analysis during the PFG phase. Support women in establishing market linkages and diversifying products.	CHAI, MAAIF, MWE, MEMD
	Economic instability or price fluctuations make new ventures unprofitable.	Medium	Provide business support services that include market information and risk management strategies. Encourage diversification of crops and products.	CHAI, MAAIF
Political & Governance	Lack of political will or government	Low	Align the project with national and sub-national development	MWE, MoFPED

	commitment to support the project.		plans. Secure formal commitments from key government ministries.	
	Changes in government policies or regulations.	Low	Maintain close communication with relevant government ministries. Advocate for policies that support project goals.	MWE, MoFPED
External Factors	Recurrence of severe climate-related disasters that overwhelm the project's capacity.	Medium	Integrate disaster risk reduction and adaptation strategies. Develop and disseminate early warning information. Establish partnerships with humanitarian agencies.	MWE, MGLSD
	General security or political instability in project districts.	Low	Conduct a security risk analysis for target districts. Maintain flexibility in implementation plans and establish strong relationships with local authorities.	MWE, MGLSD

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>	Adherence to national environmental and social laws and regulations	No further assessment required
<i>Access and Equity</i>	Potential for unequal distribution of benefits	Further assessment required
<i>Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups</i>	Focus on women and other vulnerable groups	Further assessment required
<i>Human Rights</i>	Potential impacts on human rights, especially for women and marginalized groups	Further assessment required
<i>Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i>	Project specifically targets women	No further assessment required
<i>Core Labour Rights</i>	No direct labor component	No further assessment required
<i>Indigenous Peoples</i>	Not applicable	No further assessment required
<i>Involuntary Resettlement</i>	Not anticipated	No further assessment required
<i>Protection of Natural Habitats</i>	Potential impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems	Further assessment required
<i>Conservation of Biological Diversity</i>	Potential impacts on biodiversity	Further assessment required
<i>Climate Change</i>	Project aims to address climate change	No further assessment required
<i>Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</i>	Potential impacts from construction and project activities	Further assessment required
<i>Public Health</i>	Potential impacts on water quality and sanitation	Further assessment required
<i>Physical and Cultural Heritage</i>	Potential impacts on cultural heritage sites	Further assessment required
<i>Lands and Soil Conservation</i>	Potential impacts on soil quality and land use	Further assessment required

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

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

Project Objective(s)	Project Objective Indicator(s)	Fund Outcome	Fund Outcome Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
1. To promote climate-smart agriculture practices through the adoption of portable irrigation systems and nature-based initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total land area (in hectares) managed under new climate-smart agricultural practices Increase in crop yield (%) and food production per household compared to baseline. 	Outcome 4: Increased adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities to respond to the impacts and risks of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1: Percentage of targeted households/communities with increased adaptive capacity (measured by improved food security and resilient agricultural production). 	2,000,000
2. To enhance women's resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards through targeted capacity building programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of operational community-based climate adaptation plans developed and being implemented. Percentage (%) of women's groups that regularly access, understand, and use Early Warning System information. 	Outcome 4: Increased adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities to respond to the impacts and risks of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1: Percentage of targeted households/communities with increased adaptive capacity (measured by improved preparedness and use of climate information). 	1,170,520
3. To empower women entrepreneurs with alternative livelihoods and value-addition opportunities through a revolving fund and business support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in household income (%) for beneficiary women participating in alternative livelihood activities No. of new, viable alternative livelihood enterprises initiated and sustained. 	Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6.1: Percentage of targeted households with diversified and strengthened sources of income. 	1,000,000
Project Outcome(s)	Project Outcome Indicator(s)	Fund Output	Fund Output Indicator	Grant Amount

				(USD)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased and stable agricultural production. Widespread adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices. Improved and sustainable water management for farming. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in crop yield (%) per household. Total land area (ha) under new CSA practices. Survival rate (%) of trees planted for agroforestry. 	Output 4: Vulnerable physical, natural, and social assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of portable irrigation systems (solar/treadle) distributed and operational. No. of women trained in CSA and irrigation management. No. of community-managed nursery beds established. 	2,000,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced knowledge and skills in DRR and CCA among women. Improved community preparedness for climate disasters. Increased use of climate information for decision-making. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of women who demonstrate improved knowledge (pre/post-test scores). No. of community adaptation plans being actively implemented. % of women's groups using EWS information. 	Output 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of women trained on DRR and CCA. No. of community-based adaptation plans developed. No. of sensitization campaigns conducted on accessing and using existing Early Warning Systems. 	1,170,520
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversified and increased household income sources. Improved business acumen and financial literacy among women. Sustainable community-level access to finance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in household income (%). No. of new market linkages established. Repayment rate (%) of loans from the revolving fund. 	Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies are strengthened in relation to climate change impacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of new alternative livelihood enterprises initiated. No. of women entrepreneurs receiving loans from the revolving fund. No. of women trained in financial literacy and business skills 	1,000,000

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

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

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:*

<i>(Enter Name, Position, Ministry)</i>	<i>Date: (Month, day, year)</i>
---	---------------------------------

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

<p>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, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.</p>

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

<i>Name & Signature</i>	
Implementing Entity Coordinator	
Date: <i>(Month, Day, Year)</i>	Tel. and email:
Project Contact Person:	
Tel. And Email:	

References:

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Ministry of Finance,
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P.O Box 8147
Kampala, Uganda

25th August, 2025

The Adaptation Fund Board,
C/O Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat,
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org,
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

**ENDORSEMENT LETTER FOR THE PROJECT TITLED
“STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE OF WOMEN TO CLIMATE RISKS
IN RURAL COMMUNITIES OF UGANDA”**

In my capacity as the National Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund in Uganda, I confirm that the above regional project/ programme is in line with Uganda’s priorities in implementing adaptation actions to reduce the adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in Uganda.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above national project/programme proposal to be supported by the Adaptation Fund.

If approved, the project/ programme will be implemented by Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) and executed by Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MoGLSD) in close coordination with Climate Change Adaptation Innovation (CHAI).

Ramathan Ggoobi

PERMANENT SECRETARY/SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY

Copy to: Hon. Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic
Development
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Environment
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social
Development

Mission

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

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